

Webinar Series – Human Rights Due Diligence for Climate Change Impacts
Episode 1 – Corporate Due Diligence for Climate Change Impacts: The Status Quo

Speaker Biographies

David R. Boyd was appointed as the UN Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment for a three-year term commencing August 1, 2018. He is an associate professor of law, policy, and sustainability at the University of British Columbia. David has a PhD in Resource Management and Environmental Studies from UBC, a law degree from the University of Toronto, and a business degree from the University of Alberta. His career has included serving as the executive director of Ecojustice, appearing before the Supreme Court of Canada, and working as a special advisor on sustainability for Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin. He has advised many governments on environmental, constitutional, and human rights policy and co-chaired Vancouver's effort to become the world's greenest city by 2020. He is a member of the World Commission on Environmental Law, an expert advisor for the UN's Harmony with Nature Initiative, and a member of ELAW, the Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide. David is also the author of nine books and over 100 reports and articles on environmental law and policy, human rights, and constitutional law.

Stuart Bruce is a senior associate in the International Arbitration Practice Group at WilmerHale, where he focuses on international commercial and investment arbitration, and public international law matters, across various sectors, and with a particular interest in environment-related issues. In addition to his practice as counsel, Stuart is an Expert Reviewer for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's forthcoming Sixth Assessment Report, and Vice Chair of the International Chamber of Commerce UK Energy and Environment Committee. Previously, Stuart was a research associate to (now Judge) James Crawford at the Cambridge Lauterpacht Centre for International Law and he worked with the UNFCCC Secretariat during the early stages of designing the Paris Agreement.

Shona Hawkes is a Senior Global Policy Advisor – Forests at Global Witness. Shona has over a decade's experience working in support of communities protecting their land, forest and water rights and has led policy and advocacy work at local, national and international levels at the nexus between human rights and safeguarding the environment. At Global Witness she advises on strategies to address the financing behind forest destruction and its role in the climate crisis.

Clotilde Henriot is Trade lead and Senior Law and Policy Advisor. After working for several years in a French private law firm, Clotilde joined ClientEarth in 2013. Since then, she has been working on the implementation of legal instruments to reduce the drivers of deforestation, particularly on the implementation of the EU Timber Regulation. For the last year she has been working on EU initiatives that aim to regulate imports of forest risk commodities. Finally, she has also been developing legal analysis of the type of legal instruments needed to strengthen corporate accountability in global supply chains.

Caroline Sloan has a special research interest in business, human rights and sustainability with a focus on the finance and energy sectors. She also teaches courses on environmental sustainability and the social responsibility of business at Oxford Brookes Business School. Caroline's interest in the field of business and human rights developed during her time as a lawyer in the Oil and Gas industry where she specialised in oil and gas finance. She has worked with the IFC and commercial banks on the funding of international oil and gas developments in sub-Saharan Africa. Caroline qualified as a lawyer in Scotland in 2001 and has an LLB from Aberdeen University. She qualified as a lawyer in England and Wales in 2005 and has an MSc in Corporate Governance and Business Ethics from Birkbeck, University of London.

Jaap Spier graduated from Erasmus University (Rotterdam) in 1973. He was attorney at the Rotterdam Bar, lecturer of private law, Leyden university, company lawyer Unilever and professor of private law, Tilburg University. Between 1997- 2016 he served as Advocate-General in the Supreme Court of the Netherlands. He held honorary chairs at Maastricht University, and the University of Amsterdam and currently an extraordinary chair at the University of Stellenbosch. Jaap is senior associate of the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership, senior fellow Global Justice Program, Yale University, and Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of ClimLaw (University of Graz). He received a PhD, Leyden University. Jaap is founder and honorary President of the European Group on Tort Law, co-founder and reporter of an expert group that issued the Oslo Principles and co-founder of the Expert group on Principles on Climate Obligations of Enterprises (reporter and author of the commentary); he is currently working in an update of the Principles on Climate Obligations of Enterprises. Jaap has extensively published on tort law and legal aspects of climate change.