

ADVANCING CLIMATE JUSTICE: TRANSFORMING THE ECONOMY, PUBLIC HEALTH & OUR ENVIRONMENT

January 29 – 30, 2009

Pope Auditorium

Fordham University Lincoln Center Campus
113 West 60th Street, New York City



Confirmed Conference Guests & Speakers

Hon. Charles Rangel (*Invited*), US House of Representatives
Comm. Lisa Jackson (*Invited*), Former New Jersey DEP Commissioner
Dr. Robert D. Bullard, Environmental Justice Resource Center at Clark-Atlanta University
Dr. John M. Balbus, Environmental Defense Fund
Luke Cole, Center for Race, Poverty and the Environment
David Doniger, Natural Resources Defense Council
Omar Freilla, Green Worker Cooperatives
Dr. Howard Frumkin, Centers for Disease Control
Bill Gallegos, Communities for a Better Environment
Peter Goldmark, Environmental Defense Fund
Dr. James Hansen, NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies
Dr. Tyrone Hayes, University of California – Berkeley
Oran Hesterman, Fair Food Foundation
Eric Mann, Labor/Community Strategy Center
Dr. Manuel Pastor, University of Southern California
Gil Quinones, New York Power Authority
Dr. Cynthia Rosenzweig, NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies
Mark Rossi, Clean Production Action
Ernest Tollerson, Metropolitan Transit Authority
Dr. Beverly Wright, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice at Dillard University
Elizabeth Yeampierre, UPROSE
And many more!

Call to Action

We come together as a Climate Justice Movement on these January days to raise our voices and lead our communities and country down the path toward achieving a *just, responsible* and *sane* climate-changed future by advocating for policies and programs that protect the most vulnerable communities of our country and demanding action to create a just transition to a clean, renewable energy economy and future.

For more information, contact:

(212) 961-1000, extension 333, climatejustice@weact.org
www.weact.org/conference

SPONSORS



Women's Environment & Development Organization



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WE ACT for Environmental Justice is a non-profit, community-based, environmental justice organization dedicated to building community power to improve environmental health, protection and policy in communities of color.

AGENDA AT A GLANCE

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THURSDAY

January 29, 2009

8:00 AM	Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00	Welcome Address
9:15 – 9:30	<i>Opening</i> Climate Crisis Vignettes
9:45 – 11:00	<i>Plenary Session</i> Climate Justice: Framing the Climate Crisis
11:00 – 12:00	<i>Plenary Roundtable</i> Climate Justice Advocacy in Light of the Climate Crisis
12:00 PM	LUNCH
1:15 – 2:30	Workshop Sessions: Climate Justice and Public Health <i>6 Workshops Examining the Public Health Impacts of Climate Change and the Need to Incorporate a Climate Justice Perspective Into Public Health Advocacy</i>
2:45 – 4:00	Workshop Sessions: The Economics of Climate Justice <i>5 Workshops Examining the Impacts of Climate Change on the Economy and the Economic Opportunities that Climate Justice is Advancing</i>
4:15 – 5:00	<i>Closing Plenary</i> Advancing Climate Justice: Conversations with Climate Justice Advocates

FRIDAY

January 30, 2009

8:00 AM	Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome Address
9:45 – 10:45	<i>Plenary Session</i> Climate Justice Advocacy: National Leadership on Climate Justice
10:45 – 11:00	BREAK
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Plenary Session</i> The Politics of Climate Change: Federal Advocacy for Climate Justice Policies
11:30 – 12:00	<i>Plenary Roundtable</i> The Politics of Climate Change: Steps to Achieving Just Climate Change Solutions
12:00 – 1:00 PM	LUNCH
1:15 – 2:30	Workshops Sessions: Climate Justice Policies and Opportunities <i>6 Workshops examining the Politics of Climate Justice, including local policy initiatives and advocacy pathways for climate justice through policy, and Climate Justice Adaptation and Opportunities, looking at needs and opportunities for change created in environmental justice communities by climate change</i>
2:45 – 4:00	<i>Town Hall Meeting</i> Speaking Up for Climate Justice
4:15 – 5:45	<i>Closing Plenary</i> Climate Justice: Art as Activism <i>Featuring Rocky Perez photography and a performance by climbing poeTree</i>

THURSDAY

AGENDA

Jan. 29, 2009

WELCOME AND OPENING PLENARIES

8:00 AM

9:00 – 9:10

9:15 – 9:30

Registration and Continental Breakfast**Welcome Address****Opening:****Climate Crisis Vignettes**

Residents facing local impacts and environmental crises created by or based in climate change will provide brief dramatic interpretations of how those impacts have affected their lives and communities.

PRESENTERS JUDY BONDS

KIM WASSERMAN

DR. BEVERLY WRIGHT

Coal River Mountain Watch

Little Village Environmental Justice Organization

Deep South Center for Environmental Justice at
Dillard University

9:45 – 11:00

Plenary Session #1:**Climate Justice: Framing the Climate Crisis**

Discuss climate science, impacts and responses, panelists will provide an overview of the public health impacts of climate change, the disparate climate impacts experienced by environmental justice communities and the intersection between the global demand for climate justice and the traditional Environmental Justice Movement. While examining the urgency of implementing immediate and drastic responses to climate change, panelists will discuss the international implications of a domestic climate response and the opportunity to create global climate justice action.

11:00 – 12:00

MODERATOR

DR. CYNTHIA ROSENZWEIG

NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies

PRESENTERS

TOM ATHANASIOU

EcoEquity

DR. HOWARD FRUMKIN

Centers for Disease Control

DR. JAMES HANSEN

NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies

DR. DORCETA TAYLOR

University of Michigan

Plenary Roundtable:**Climate Justice Advocacy in Light of the Climate Crisis**

Environmental justice advocates will discuss the efforts being undertaken to address climate change in vulnerable communities and promote climate justice as a necessary element of any policy mechanism addressing climate change, ranging from greenhouse gas regulations to economic development and sustainable land use planning.

MODERATOR

ERROL LOUIS

The Daily News

PRESENTERS

MARTHA ARGUELLO

Physicians for Social Responsibility

NICOLA CODDINGTON

New York Interfaith Power and Light

CECIL CORBIN-MARK

WE ACT for Environmental Justice

BILL GALLEGOS

Communities for a Better Environment

ERIC MANN

Labor/Community Strategy Center

Workshops Sessions: Climate Justice and Public Health

1:15 – 2:30 PM

Achieving Climate Justice: Climate Change and Public Health

Focusing on the public health of vulnerable populations, panelists will discuss the broad disparate impacts that climate change has on low-income and communities of color, the particular vulnerability of certain segments of these communities and the opportunity for public health advocacy arising out of these impacted and energized communities.

MODERATOR

DR. PATRICK KINNEY

Columbia University

PRESENTERS

DR. JOHN M. BALBUS

Environmental Defense Fund

DR. EBONY BOOKMAN

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

JEI FONG

Beyond Ground Zero Network

DR. SABRINA MCCORMICK

University of Pennsylvania

NSEDU OBOT WITHERSPOON

Children's Environmental Health Network

THURSDAY

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Jan. 29, 2009

Workshops Sessions: Climate Justice and Public Health (cont.)

1:15 – 2:30 PM

Achieving Climate Justice: The Role of Youth in the Fight for Climate Justice

Around the country, from campuses to communities, young people are leading the fight for Climate Justice. This panel highlights the work of three amazing youth activists working to organize and mobilize their communities. This panel is part of a student track of panels organized by the Environmental Justice and Climate Change Initiative (EJCC).

MODERATOR	NIA ROBINSON	Environmental Justice and Climate Change Initiative
PRESENTERS	MARISOL BECERRA	Little Village for Environmental Justice
	KARI FULTON	EJCC National Campus Climate Challenge
	MICHON GWEN	Indigenous Environmental Network

Climate Justice Adaptation: Public Health and Emergency Preparedness

Emergency preparedness for climate disasters is an increasingly essential and immediate element of climate change adaptation. Panelists will examine how municipalities are preparing for imminent climate disasters and the need to protect communities from displacement, disinvestments and disempowerment in the immediate aftermath of climate disasters.

MODERATOR	AARON MAIR	Arbor Hill Environmental Justice Corporation
PRESENTERS	PAM M.W. GRAYBEAL	University of California – Berkeley
	DR. THOMAS MATTE	New York City Department of Health
	JENNIFER MILLER	Bioethics International
	ALEXANDRA NOLEN	University of Texas Medical Branch
	DR. MATTHEW STANFORD	University of Texas Medical Branch

Climate Justice & Public Health: Food Justice and Climate Change

The emerging food justice movement presents an opportunity for the advancement of environmental justice communities. Speakers will discuss this as well as the global ecology of climate change, the changing food economy and the impacts of climate change on access to and availability of food.

MODERATOR	ORAN HESTERMAN	Fair Food Foundation
PRESENTERS	NELSON CARRASQUILLO	CATA – The Farmworkers Support Committee
	MARIAN FEINBERG	For a Better Bronx
	SAVI HORNE	Land Loss Prevention Project
	JAMES SUBUDHI	WE ACT for Environmental Justice

Climate Justice & Public Health: Green Chemistry and Sustainability

Green chemistry is an essential pillar to our transition to a clean, green economy. Speakers will examine the wide range of areas that green chemistry impacts, including sustainable building, energy and green jobs.

MODERATOR	DR. TYRONE HAYES	University of California - Berkeley
PRESENTERS	JOSE BRAVO	Just Transition Alliance
	KATHY CURTIS	Clean New York/Just Green
	DR. KEN GEISER	University of Massachusetts Lowell
	MARK ROSSI	Clean Production Action
	NEIL SELDMAN	Institute for Local Self-Reliance

Climate Justice & Public Health: Gender and Climate Justice

Through limited access to information and resources, social roles, systemic poverty and oppression, women and women of color are disproportionately affected by climate change. Panelists will speak about the intersection of gender and climate change and the opportunities to advance our communities at the local, national and international level.

MODERATOR	AIMEE THORNE-THOMPSEN	Pro-Choice Education Project
PRESENTERS	SHANA GRIFFIN	Women's Health and Justice Initiative
	RACHEL HARRIS	Women's Environment & Development Organization
	DANA PAREDES	Asian Communities for Reproductive Justice

THURSDAY

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Workshops Sessions: The Economics of Climate Justice

2:45 – 4:00 PM

Achieving Climate Justice: The Economics of Climate Change

Looking broadly at the disparate economic impacts of climate change and the opportunities for economic growth and advancement created by climate change, panelists will lay the groundwork for an understanding of the Economics of Climate Change.

MODERATOR	DENNIS DERRYCK	Milano New School for Management & Urban Policy
PRESENTERS	PAUL BAER	EcoEquity
	DR. JAMES K. BOYCE	University of Massachusetts
	DR. DALE JAMIESON	New York University

The Economics of Climate Justice: Green and Affordable Urban Transit

Speakers will consider the opportunity for increased transportation equity in a climate-changed future. Topics covered will include transportation as an economic right, transportation access needs of environmental justice communities, and transportation policy opportunities available to prepare for and mitigate against climate change impacts.

MODERATOR	CECIL CORBIN-MARK	WE ACT for Environmental Justice
PRESENTERS	GERRY BOGACZ	New York Metropolitan Transportation Council
	RICH KASSEL	Natural Resources Defense Council
	FRANCISCA PORCHAS	Labor/Community Strategy Center
	ERNEST TOLLERSON	Metropolitan Transit Authority

The Economics of Climate Justice: Energy Use and Dependence in the Old Energy Economy

Energy use, dependability and source opportunities are a critical component of any dialogue on climate change. Panelists will examine the impact of maintaining low-cost, reliable power to sustain increasing national demand for energy in communities located near traditional energy sources, focusing on the Southeast and Southwest. In addition, panelists will discuss the shifts in energy sources occurring throughout the country and the elements necessary to encourage, support and accelerate this shift to alternative energy sources.

MODERATOR	CHRISTIAN PARENTI	The Nation
PRESENTERS	MARY ANNE HITT	Sierra Club
	JIHAN GEARON	Indigenous Environmental Network
	GIL QUINIONES	New York Power Authority

The Economics of Climate Justice: Sustainable (re)Development & Economic Growth in the New Energy Economy

While economic growth is already impacted by climate change, it also represents an opportunity for communities to take advantage of the green sector. Panelists will consider the links between climate change and sustainable development or redevelopment in vulnerable communities and what opportunities exist for businesses, communities and workers to advance the Climate Justice Movement.

MODERATOR	VERNICE D. MILLER-TRAVIS	Maryland State Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities
PRESENTERS	ROSHANI DANTAS	Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice
	ROBERT GOUGH	Native Wind
	SHAWN KIMMEL	Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice
	RACHEL SMOLKER	Global Justice Ecology Project
	BILL WALSH	Healthy Building Network

The Economics of Climate Justice: Sustainability and Just Transitions

As actors working to advance sustainability through projects and initiatives, panelists will engage in a dialogue on how to incorporate an environmental justice framework into sustainability efforts and how those efforts advance climate justice.

MODERATOR	SUSANA ALMANZA	People Organized for the Defense of the Earth and her Resources
PRESENTERS	DR. MANUEL PASTOR	University of Southern California
	DR. JENICE L. VIEW	George Mason University

THURSDAY

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Workshops Sessions: The Economics of Climate Justice (cont.)

2:45 – 4:00 PM

Achieving Climate Justice: Youth Advocacy Brainstorming Session

Our communities and our Earth are at the tipping point. It is up to us to develop the strategies to save ourselves. We must reframe the climate debate and ensure that it includes the issues that are affecting our people. If you can't stand the heat and want your voices and ideas heard, come to this session. This session is the second part of a youth track of panels organized by the Environmental Justice and Climate Change Initiative (EJCC).

Closing Plenary

4:15 – 5:00 PM

Achieving Climate Justice: Conversations with Climate Justice Advocates

Leading environmental justice advocates throughout the United States will discuss in depth the actions that communities are engaging in to respond to climate change, as well as the opportunities and difficulties that these responses create for affected communities.

MODERATOR PEGGY SHEPARD

WE ACT for Environmental Justice

PRESENTERS GARY GRANT

Concerned Citizens of Tillery

BURT LAUDERDALE

Kentuckians for the Commonwealth

DR. BEVERLY WRIGHT

Deep South Center for Environmental Justice at
Dillard University**Conference Reception**

5:15 – 6:30 PM

FRIDAY

AGENDA

Jan. 30, 2009

WELCOME AND OPENING PLENARIES

Pope Auditorium

8:00 AM

9:00 – 9:30

Registration and Continental Breakfast

Welcome Address

DR. ROBERT D. BULLARD *Environmental Justice*
Resource Center at Clark-Atlanta University

9:45 – 10:45

Plenary Session #1: Climate Justice Advocacy: National Leadership on Climate Justice

In light of the economic and public health impacts of climate change, policy solutions must protect current and future populations – particularly the most vulnerable communities. Panelists at the forefront of the U.S. Climate Justice Movement will present the national demand for just climate solutions through introducing the national Environmental Justice Leadership Forum on Climate Change and introduce the Forum's 10 Climate Justice Principles.

MODERATOR PEGGY SHEPARD *WE ACT for Environmental Justice*
PRESENTERS JOSE BRAVO *Just Transition Alliance*
 CECILIA MARTINEZ *Center for Earth, Energy and Democracy*
 ROGER KIM *Asian Pacific Environmental Council*
MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE LEADERSHIP FORUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE

11:00 – 11:30

Plenary Session #2: The Politics of Climate Change: Federal Advocacy for Climate Justice Policies

A leading advocate for the environmental justice communities of New York City for more than 30 years, Congressman Charles B. Rangel will speak on the pressing need for immediate federal policies addressing climate change and promoting equity, justice and economic opportunity in the most vulnerable communities throughout the U.S.

PRESENTERS REP. CHARLES RANGEL (D-NY), *Invited*

11:30 – 12:00

Plenary Roundtable: The Politics of Climate Change: Steps to Achieving Just Climate Change Solutions

Policymakers and advocates working to advance national climate justice policies will discuss current federal climate change proposals, whether those policies incorporate the Climate Justice Principles, and the potential impact of federal climate change policy on environmental justice communities

MODERATOR DEEHOHN FERRIS *Sustainable Community Development Group*
PRESENTERS DAVID DONIGER *Natural Resources Defense Council*
 HOWARD LEARNER *Environmental Law & Policy Center*
 AMY O'DONNELL *Chief of Staff Office of Rep. John B. Larson*

Workshop Sessions: Climate Justice Policies and Opportunities

1:15 – 2:30 PM

The Politics of Climate Change: Filling the Void and Crafting Climate Policies and Initiatives at the Local, State and International Levels

While climate change policies are being discussed at the federal level, they have already been implemented in localities throughout the country. The implementation of local policies to mitigate and adapt to climate change creates an opportunity for the climate justice advocacy. Panelists will discuss the climate change initiatives their localities have implemented and the inclusion of climate justice within these policies

MODERATOR DR. DAVID MCKEOWN *Chief Medical Officer City of Toronto*
PRESENTERS ROHIT AGGARWALA *New York City Mayor's Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability*
 PAULA DIPERNA *Chicago Climate Exchange, Inc.*
 DR. PAOLO GALIZZI *Fordham University School of Law*
 DR. JULIE SZE *University of California – Davis*

FRIDAY

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Jan. 30, 2009

Workshop Sessions: Climate Justice Policies and Opportunities (cont.)

1:15 – 2:30 PM

The Politics of Climate Change: Evaluating Climate Change Policies

As governments move forward aggressively with implementing policies to address climate change, debate continues about effective and just climate change policies. Panelists will discuss the range of climate change policies that have been set forth, the perceived and experienced outcomes of these policies and the justice position of each policy.

MODERATOR CHARLES KOMANOFF *The Carbon Tax Center*
PRESENTERS DR. DANIEL FABER *Northeastern University*
 PETER GOLDMARK *Environmental Defense Fund*
 DR. RACHEL MORELLO-FROSCH *University of California – Berkeley*
 J. TIMMONS ROBERTS *The College of William and Mary*
 DR. NICKY SHEATS *Thomas Edison State College*

The Politics of Climate Change: Innovative Legal Climate Justice Advocacy

Traditional tools of advocacy including regulation and litigation are influencing the politics of climate change. Looking at these tools, panelists will assess the opportunities for the advancement of climate justice in government agencies, programs and the legal arena.

MODERATOR DR. SHEILA FOSTER *Fordham University School of Law*
PRESENTERS LUKE COLE *Center for Race, Poverty and the Environment*
 PETER IWANOWICZ *NYS Department of Conservation*
 MICHELE ROBERTS *Environmental Advocates for Human Rights*

Climate Justice Opportunities: Green Jobs and a Climate Changed Workforce Roundtable

An essential pillar of the Climate Justice Movement is taking advantage of the opportunities created by climate change and the global shift toward sustainable to create clean, green, safe jobs and funnel those jobs toward traditionally under- and unemployed communities. Panelists will examine who has been involved in the policy groundwork structuring the green job workforce and what are the opportunities and necessary steps to ensure that climate justice is included in the green job economy.

MODERATOR DAVID LEVINE *Green Harvest Technologies*
PRESENTERS IBRAHIM ABDUL-MATIN *Green for All*
 JAMES FINE *Environmental Defense Fund*
 OMAR FREILLA *Green Worker Cooperatives*
 ELIZABETH YEAMPIERRE *UPROSE*

Climate Justice Opportunities: Community Responses to Climate Change

As public awareness about climate change and climate justice grows, communities are seeking opportunities to educate residents on individual responses they can take to adapt to and mitigate climate change. Panelists will examine what people can do in their homes, schools, workplaces and communities to address climate change and the advocacy opportunities that are available to increase awareness of these individual community responses.

MODERATOR YOLANDE CADORE *WE ACT for Environmental Justice*
PRESENTERS DR. GIOVANNA DI CHIRO *Mt. Holyoke College*
 JULIAN DRIX *Rising Tide North America*
 SUZANNE MARSH *Community Church of New York*

Climate Justice Opportunities: Crafting a Youth Call to Action

Youth will take the ideas and concepts developed in the Thursday youth track sessions to craft a call to action in preparation for the Town Hall Meeting. This session is the third and final part of a youth track of panels organized by the Environmental Justice and Climate Change Initiative (EJCC).

FRIDAY

AGENDA

Jan. 30, 2009

Closing Plenaries

Pope Auditorium

2:45 – 4:15

Conference-Wide Town Hall

Conference attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a conference-wide Town Hall Meeting to call forth for climate justice in their communities. The Town Hall will be recorded and broadcast globally in culmination of the Conference and as documentation of the demand for just and equitable solutions to climate change.

4:30 – 5:30

Climate Justice: Art as Activism

*Featuring **Rocky Perez** photography and a performance by **climbing poeTree***