



# Fatima Denton. PhD.

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## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES

- 1. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change:** Lead Author - AR4 Co-ordinating Lead Author -AR5, Co-ordinating Lead Author – AR6, Co-ordinating Lead Author - Special Report on Climate and Land, Lead Author - Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources
- 2. IPCC AR6: Working Group III – Mitigation of Climate Change**
- 3. Commissioner** - Commission on Global Economic Transformation- Institute for New Economic Thinking (INET)
- 4. Fellow** – The Earth League
- 5. Future Earth** - Scientific Advisory Committee
- 6. Climate Crisis Advisory Group** - Inaugural Member

- Accomplished director with extensive experience in research and policy development as well as programme management.
- Political scientist with expertise in climate change adaptation and mitigation, energy planning, deployment of renewable energy resources, green finance and low-carbon development. Recent research focuses on stranded assets and the future of hydrocarbon resources and just transitions in developing countries, particularly in Africa.
- World-leading IPCC climate scientist with more than 20 years of experience in providing thought leadership and climate policy advice, producing scientific reports.
- Mobilised more than \$30 million for climate change and managed \$65 million programmes on minerals and extractives. Managed the largest climate change and adaptation in Africa programme of close to \$80 million.
- Proven track record of building development programmes (climate change and development, energy poverty, stranded assets, green transitions)
- Excellent people manager and high-level communicator.
- Led the largest annual intergovernmental conferences on sustainable development and led the largest climate change conference in Africa (respectively African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development and Climate Change and Development in Africa for four consecutive times)
- Named by Apolitical as one of the 100 most influential people in gender policy.

## EDUCATION

### Ph.D – Political Science

The University of Birmingham

1994 - 1998

### Diplôme d'Etudes de 3ème Cycle - M. Phil Equivalent

Centre d'Etudes des Relations International

1993 - 1994

### Diplôme des Etudes de Relations Internationales - Masters Equivalent

Ecole des Hautes Etudes International

1991 - 1993

### Etudes des Lettres Modernes - Littérature – Civilisation, Anglais,

Université de Paris IV – La Sorbonne, Paris, France.

1990 - 1994

### Diplôme d'Université de Traducteur (DUT)

Université de la Franche Comte – Besançon, France

1988 - 1990

### Diplôme de 3ème Degré

Université de Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Sénégal

1986 - 1987

### Diplôme de 2ème Degré

Université de Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Sénégal

1985 - 1986

### A-level

Gambia High School

1983 - 1985

## KEYNOTE LECTURES (selected)

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1. **Climate change - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions** – Model International Union Conference, Ghana International School- Accra, November 2019.
2. **Protecting the world from crisis – new fields of engagement for a sustainable foreign policy, April 2019**- Adelphi, Berlin, April 2019
3. **Intersections between climate change and security – beating the climate change odds** – Institute for Security Studies – Pretoria, June 2017
4. **Walking together towards climate action** – Walker Institute, Reading, January 2017
5. **2016 Borlaug Dialogue Speakers – World Food Prize**, - October - De moines, Iowa, USA.
6. **Generation Science: 'empowering Africa's future scientific leaders'** – Planet Earth Institute - London, July 2016
7. **Breaking out of development silos** – IIED Development and Climate Days – COP21, Paris 2015
8. **Paris Agreement and what it means for Africa** – University College London, London, March 2015
9. **Moderated several high level panels including Delhi Sustainable Development Summit 2014** – Moderated discussion with Nobel Laureat Professor Yuan Tseh Lee – Delhi, February 2014
10. **Adapting to a warmer world** – Stanford University, April 2012
11. **Berlin Summer Dialogue 2011 – Adaptation to Climate Change** – New Structures of International Cooperation- Berlin 2011
12. **Adaptation, Mitigation and low carbon development** - Africa Adapt, Addis Ababa - March 2011

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### United Nations University – Institute for Natural Resources in Africa

**Position:** Director

**Duty Station:** Accra, Ghana

**Period:** September 2018-to date

As an accomplished senior manager in the UN system, and Director of UNU-INRA, I am the chief administrator and chief intellectual officer responsible for designing the institute's programmatic work and providing intellectual coherence across its portfolio. UNU-INRA is one of the fourteen institutes and is the only one with an Africa-wide mandate, hence is located in Africa.

As Director, I manage an interdisciplinary team at the Accra headquarters, as well as the teams and coordinators of UNU-INRA's five Operating Units: notably including the Institut de Technologie Alimentaire (ITA) at University of Cheikh Anta Diop; the Sam Nujoma Marine and Coastal Resources Research Centre at University of Namibia; the Mineral Resource Unit at University of Zambia; the Centre Ivoirien de recherche economique et sociale at the Ivorian Centre of Economics and Social Sciences (CIRES) at the University of Cocody; and the Department of Computer Science at the University of Yaounde.

#### Key responsibilities and achievements:

- Leading and coordinating the production of major high impacts strategic reports and foresight analyses on stranded assets and green transitions towards low-carbon development
- Providing managerial and intellectual support to the UNU-INRA team and the units on the ground across Africa
- Identifying strategic policy directions for mainstreaming knowledge into natural resource planning.
- Leading institutional efforts in resource mobilisation strategy and identifying partnership opportunities to leverage support for UNU-INRA's research.
- Representing UNU and UNU-INRA in key international conferences on sustainable development and natural resource management.

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### United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

**Position:** Director - Special Initiatives Division (SID)

**Duty Station:** Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

**Period:** March 2013– September 2018

As former Director of the largest substantive division at UNECA, I led high-impact programmes and worked closely with key policy constituencies across Africa to facilitate policy mainstreaming and implementation in areas such as climate change, minerals and extractives, the green transformation and sustainable development.

In addition to conducting research and supporting member states in key operations work on natural resource management, I also led three strategic annual international conferences: Climate Change and Development in

Africa (CCDA), African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD) and Africa Mining and Development Conference.

**Key responsibilities and achievements:**

- Mobilised multi-million dollar grants - \$65 million towards the work co-ordinated by the African Minerals Development Centre – (Canada and Australia main funders)
- Mobilised more than \$30 million towards the work conducted at the African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC- funders: former DFID, EU, Norway, Sweden and the Nordic Development Fund)
- Provided managerial as well as intellectual and research support at the Special Initiative Division of the UN Economic Commission for Africa, a division comprising of two Centres, the African Climate Policy Centre, the African Minerals Development Centre, covering respectively the Green Economy and Natural Resources and New Technologies and Innovations sections.
- Coordinated and led support to African Small Island Developing States in the provision of numerical weather predictions and climate data.
- Led responses of member states on mainstreaming climate change in national development plans and provided advisory services on how countries can make the transition towards inclusive green economies.
- Identified and leveraged work on strategic policy spaces and designed implementation strategies through which climate change opportunities and green economy transitions can be retailed to African governments within the context of UN ECA's flagship conference, such as the Conference of Ministers, Climate Change and Development in Africa, African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, African Union Summits and policy engagement workshops.
- Supported policy-making constituencies in governments across Africa, including serving as technical support to the African Group of Negotiators on Climate Change.
- Took the intellectual lead in the design and coordination of climate change, agriculture and trade initiatives in East African Communities (EAC) and Economic Communities of West African States (ECOWAS).

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**United Nations Economic Commission for Africa**

**Position:** Co-ordinator: African Climate Policy Center (ACPC)

**Duty Station:** Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

**Period:** October 2012–June 2016

At ACPC I spearheaded multiple initiatives that were instrumental in mainstreaming climate change into development policies across Africa, including creating strategic convening spaces to formulate response strategies for climate change.

I also provided intellectual leadership for several knowledge products on low-carbon development, green economy, partnership with the BRICS, and green infrastructure, notably a unique product documenting Africa's evolving position over 20 years of climate change negotiations.

**Key responsibilities and achievements:**

- Initiated Young African Lawyers (YAL), a capacity-building programme to provide technical backstopping to the African Group of Negotiators, including critical support services in negotiating text on climate change related to loss and damage, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and means of implementation.
- Initiated and coordinated an operational early warning and infrastructure for the delivery of climate information services in African Small Island Developing States.
- Provided intellectual leadership and capacity-building support to Weather and Climate Information Services, a UK-funded initiative to transform the use of climate information to support socioeconomic

development.

- Spearheaded an initiative to assess the economic value of climate information and related services for various sectors and to develop a common pan-African framework.
- Oversaw the training and capacity-building of parliamentarians, the African Group of Negotiators on Climate Change, policy-makers and legislators on climate information services.
- Launched an ACPC pan-African fellowship programme, conceived and coordinated the ClimDev Africa Youth Platform (ACLYP), a regional platform for interactions between African youth networks on climate change.
- Led the implementation of Climate Research for Development (CR4D), an initiative to support climate research in Africa.
- Supported the development of a methodological framework for Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs), and aided in preparing the INDCs for several African countries.
- Conceived and provided intellectual leadership to strategic conferences such as African Climate Talks, with the aim of creating a policy space that would enable Africa to put forward a robust defense on critical issues at COP21.
- Provided coordination and managerial support to the African Climate Resilient Investment Facility, a joint initiative with the World Bank on climate-proofing investments in infrastructure in climate-sensitive sectors.

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### **International Development Research Centre (IDRC)**

**Position:** Team leader

**Duty Station:** Dakar, Senegal – managerial co-ordination for regional offices in Dakar (West Africa), Cairo (North Africa), Nairobi (Eastern and Southern Africa), HQ - Ottawa (Canada)

#### **Key responsibilities and achievements:**

- Managed the largest climate adaptation programme in Africa valued at US\$75–80 million.
- Designed a complex research portfolio that encompassed multiple themes and sectors to meet regional needs related to environment and natural resource management.
- Delivered high-quality research outputs, including more than 50 peer-reviewed articles, books and several reports.
- Supervised a multidisciplinary team of 12 professional and 11 administrative staff members.
- Provided intellectual leadership to and supervised more than 100 projects and research initiatives across 35 countries in Africa.
- Fund-managed the programme, authorizing and approving the disbursement of funds.
- Led on managing public relations efforts and identifying knowledge dissemination channels for research products and policy strategies.
- Led several capacity-building initiatives, including a continent-wide knowledge-sharing platform and fellowship programme on climate change.

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### **United Nations Environment Programme – Risoe Centre (UNEP-RISOE)**

**Position:** Senior Energy Scientist

**Duty Station:** Roskilde, Denmark

**Period:** March 2004–August 2006

#### **Key responsibilities and achievements:**

- Led on analytical work supporting the uptake of energy policies in African countries through the African Rural Energy Enterprise Development (AREED) project.
- Provided intellectual leadership on the design of decentralised energy system initiatives as a conduit to increase the deployment of renewable energy technologies in African countries.

- Reviewed policies of Small and Medium Energy Enterprises (SMEEs) as a means to broaden energy access and encourage the uptake of new technologies. Provided power sector advisory services to countries in Africa.
- Provided critical policy support and analysis on policy uptake for expanding energy access in rural and peri-urban areas in East and West Africa.
- Developed a Global Environment Facility (GEF) project on river basin adaptation, focusing on ways in which the degradation of water resources in three rivers basins – the Senegal River, Lake Chad and the Gambia River Basin- can be arrested.
- Produced an analysis of National Adaptation Action Plans for more than ten African countries.
- Was instrumental in developing a mapping exercise to identify climate hotspots and potential adaptation plans.
- Responsible for the research adaptation portfolio on building resilience in climate-sensitive sectors in several countries in Africa and Asia.

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### **Enda Tiers Monde**

**Position:** Program Manager

**Duty Station:** Dakar, Senegal

**Period:** October 1999–2004

#### **Key responsibilities and achievements:**

- Responsible for coordinating Enda's policy analysis in its work on energy and the environment.
- Initiated the first climate change and gender programme in Africa. Developed indicators and tools for a gender and energy policy compendium and tool kit.
- Provided research and analytical support to a number of policy initiatives related to the adoption of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) in Africa.
- Led the implementation of adaptation initiatives in the Sahel, emphasising a nexus approach between agriculture, energy and water.
- Designed and operationalised the implementation of waste-to-energy projects in Senegal and Kenya.
- Developed a sustainable energy project on the conservation of solid waste to reduce urban poverty.
- Worked on an Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) project on the links between climate change and sustainable development in West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) countries.

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### **University of Birmingham**

**Position:** Lecturer

**Duty Station:** Birmingham, UK

**Period:** January–August 1997

- Taught political science and international relations to postgraduate students.
- Mentored and coached undergraduates.
- Developed study materials and delivered presentations to enable good learning delivery and the understanding of complex abstract information.

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## **LINGUISTICS SKILLS**

**English:** Fluent (native language)

**French:** Fluent (written and spoken)

**Spanish:** Basic understanding

## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Climate change and Development	Natural Resource Management	Gender and Development	Organisational leadership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Climate policy – science-practice interface</li> <li>- Energy poverty and renewables</li> <li>- Adaptation and mitigation interrelationships</li> <li>- Green economy and green transitions</li> <li>- Climate vulnerability and resilience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Land degradation</li> <li>-Sustainable land management</li> <li>-Minerals and extractives</li> <li>- Resource governance</li> <li>- Stranded Assets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gender and Energy</li> <li>- Gender and Climate Change</li> <li>- Intersections between Gender, Agriculture and Sustainable Development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Managerial and administrative leadership</li> <li>- Programme design and development</li> <li>- Resource mobilisation</li> <li>- Problem solving</li> <li>- Project development</li> <li>- Communications</li> </ul>

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

1. Managing the odds: stranded assets as a catalyst for regional integration and green development transitions - Fatima Denton - April 2023 - Edward Elgar Handbook
2. 'Weaning the world off fossil fuel: what is holding up progress on the transition to carbon neutrality, and what must we do to speed it up?' UN – Publications, June 2021
3. Beyond Opportunism: The UN Development System's Response to the Triple Planetary Crisis– UN Publications - David Passarelli, Fatima Denton and Adam Day, June 2021
4. 'Will COVID-19 leave fuel-rich African countries gasping for breath?' – IIED Economics and Natural Resource Management – April 2020
5. SEI, IISD, ODI, E3G, and UNEP. The Production Gap Report: 2020 Special Report.
6. <http://productiongap.org/2020report>, Chapter 4 - Aisha Al- Sarihi, Fatima Denton, Sivan Kartha, Greg Muttit, Claudia Strambo, 2020
7. 'Challenges and priorities for delivering on the Beijing declaration and platform for action 25 years on' – Pascal Allotey and Fatima Denton, The Lancet, September 2020
8. Agricultural Productivity and Food security using digitalization – upcoming South South co-operation edited book - Denton, Fatima and Das, Mousumi et al., Routledge , 2021
9. Framing and Context. In Climate Change and Land: an IPCC special report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems (pp. 1-98). Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change(IPCC). Cambridge University Press, 2019.Arneth, A., Denton, F., Agus, F., Elbehri, A., Erb, K. H., Osman Elasha, B., Rahimi, M., Rounsevell, M., Spence, A., Valentini, R., & Debonne, N. , 2019
10. 'Who controls the climate change narrative? Can Africa be in the driving seat?' – Our World, 2019
11. 'Africa, Katowice, and Climate Equity: The Dragon That Will Not Be Slayed!' – January 2019
12. 'Can Africa afford to strand its fossil fuels assets?' – BRINK March 2019
13. 'Framing sustainable water management from the vantage point of climate resilient infrastructure and green economy' in A better World – Actions and Commitments to the Sustainable Development Goals Volume 3 - Denton, F. Paulos, M. and Amha,Y. , Tudor Rose, 2018
14. 'Water, Energy and Infrastructure Nexus – Better World,' Volume 3 - 2018
15. Pathways to transformational change in the face of climate impacts: an analytical framework – climate and Development, Volume 9 - 2017
16. 'Climate change and conflict: the tail wagging the dog or new cascading tensions and inequalities,' UN Chronicle - February 2016
17. Regional economic communities and climate change adaptation in Africa – background paper on lessons learned from CCAA – IDRC publications - Denton,F. Kituyi, E. Lo, H. and Wouapi, H., 2016
18. Africa's Journey in the Global Climate: A summary for policy makers, 2015



19. Climate change adaptation stories – IDRC publications - Fatima Denton, Alioune Badara Kaere, Henri Lo and Ibrahima Paul Thiao, 2015
20. 'Climate Finance: Implications for Africa's Transformation,' UN ECA, March 2015
21. 'But what is the Africa position?' "Climate Change and COP21, IIED 2015
22. Development and sustainability in a warming world: measuring the impacts of climate change in Africa - Development in Africa: Refocusing the lens after the Millennium Development Goals, Policy Press, - Denton, F. Besada, H and O'Bright, Benjamin in (edited book – H. Besada, George Karachi and Timothy Shaw) Bristol, 2015
23. 'Pathways to Transformational Change,' Elsevier, 2015
24. Climate change in the African Small Island Developing States: From Vulnerability to Resilience – The Paradox of Small – UN – ECA Publications, September 2014
25. Climate-resilient pathways: adaptation, mitigation, and sustainable development. n: Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability. Part A: Global and Sectoral Aspects. Contribution of Working Group II to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change, Cambridge University Press - Denton, F. et al., 2014
26. 2014 Barbara Ward Lecture: "Rewriting the narrative on Africa and Climate Change- A case of standing knee deep in the river and dying of thirst" A new paradigm for African Development, IIED - November 2014
27. 'Adaptation Mitigation and Climate Resilient Pathways,' IPCC 5th Assessment Report, Cambridge University Press - 2014
28. Unlocking full potential of blue economy – are African SIDS ready to embrace the opportunities –UN-ECA publications - 2014
29. 'Climate Change in the African Small Island Developing States: From Vulnerability to Resilience,' UNECA - 2014
30. 'Climate adaptation,' in The State of Development Thought, – Oxford University Press - B. Currie Alder et al. (eds.), 2013
31. Accelerating adaptation in Africa – insights from African Adaptation experts – CDKN - January 2011
32. 'Getting African climate change recognised' - IIED publications - Fatima Denton, Simon Anderson and Jessica Ayers, November 2011
33. IPCC Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change, Chapter 19, Climate change, renewable energy and sustainable development - 2011
34. 'Should Africa take the renewable energy path?' Joto Afrika 8 - 2011;
35. "To build gendered adaptive capacity – or not'- Joto Africa Special Issue, in Adapting to Climate Change in Africa - November 2011
36. 'Financing adaptation in Least Developed Countries in West Africa: is finance the real deal?' Climate Policy - 2010
37. 'Challenges for evaluating climate change evaluation within the context of Africa,' World Bank Series - 2009
38. Using monitoring and evaluation to strengthen climate adaptive capacity- Evaluating Climate Change and Development, Routledge - Nathalie Beaulieu, Fatima Denton, Victor Orindi, Simon Carter and Simon Anderson, 2009.
39. Adapting to climate change in Africa, World Bank Publications - Denton, F. O'Neill M. and Stone, J, 2008
40. 'Interrelationships between adaptation and mitigation' - Chapter 18 IPCC IV; IPCC, 4th Assessment Report; Oxford University Press, 2008
41. 'Gender and Climate Change: giving the latecomer a headstart,' IDS - 2005
42. Communities on the Margins of Development – Real Life Stories of Gender, Energy and Poverty, Enda Publications - 2005
43. 'Gender: A Forgotten Element' - 47, 27-28, - Denton, F and Parikh, J. Tiempo, 2003.
44. Climate change and vulnerability, impacts and adaptation: why gender matters in R. Masika (ed.) Gender, Development and Climate Change, Oxfam publication - Denton, F., 2002
45. 'Climate change and sustainable development in the making,' OECD - 2001

46. 'Climate change impacts: can Africa cope with the challenges?' Climate Policy - 2001
47. 'Gendered impacts of climate change: a human security dimension', Energia News 3 (3) - 2000
48. Manure and adoption of modern seeds in cereal based systems in West African drylands: Linkages and non-complementarities - Ricardo Kpadonou, Bruno Barbier, Tom Owiyo, Fatima Denton, Franck Rutabingwa in Natural Resources Forum Journal, December , 2018

## **REPORTS**

### **– Conceived, Coordinated and Led.**

1. Bridges of Opportunity: Partnering for Africa-Europe Green Development - UNU Publications, Discussion Paper - May 2021.
2. Building Forward Better Towards Africa's Green Transformation – Prospects for Africa-Europe Collaboration, Briefing Note, UNU Publications - May 2021.
3. Africa's Development in the Age of Stranded Assets – Discussion Paper – UNU Publications - 2019
4. 'Greening Africa's Industrialization' – Economic Report for Africa, ECA publications - 2016
5. BRICS/Africa Partnership for Development – Driving Inclusive Growth and Transformational Change,' UN ECA Publications - September 2014
6. Keeping Climate Impacts at Bay – A 6-Point Strategy for Climate Resilient Economies in Africa, UN ECA Publications - September 2014

### **Forthcoming**

1. Africa's climate leadership in a post carbon economy – Springer publications – December 2023
2. Is Just Transition a Pipe Dream? Africa's stranded hydro-carbon resources – March 2024.
3. Accelerating the transition to sustainable development (IPCC 6th Assessment Report – Climate Change Mitigation) Cambridge University Press