

Climate change, fisheries, and environmental justice

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The interaction of multiple stressors; overfishing, climate change impacts, and anthropogenic threats drive the overexploitation of fisheries. In the Pacific, the long-term sustainability of tuna and coastal fisheries requires increased investment in social and environmental sustainability at the scale of the production geography. Some tuna fleets, driven by the relentless pressure of global demand for cheap seafood, participate in illegal trafficking networks to supply cheap labor at the expense of vulnerable populations, low standard operations that value volume and profit over sustainability— enabled by regulatory failure to effectively sanction human rights abuses. Conservation International (CI) is dedicated to achieving sustainability in Pacific fisheries, supporting sustainable production practices that support thriving ocean ecosystems and human wellbeing. This session aims to provide an analysis of human rights violations in the seafood sector- including institutionalized inequality, the undermining of food and livelihood security, and loss of access rights under changing climate conditions. Session participants will engage with CI's strategy to integrate social responsibility accountability practices into tuna fishery supply chains in the Pacific, driving best practices for climate adaptation, for increased transparency and for adoption of social safeguards to systematically reduce social inequality and abuse, Pacific-wide.

Juno is Conservation International's Director of Human Rights and Oceans. Within the Center for Oceans, Juno supports CI's global effort to address human rights violations in the fishing industry. A development practitioner and political ecologist, Juno has over a decade of experience in international development, implementing natural resource governance projects on the ground and on the water in Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and the Pacific. Juno is a Senior Advisor to the Institute for Climate and Peace. She has an MSC from UC Berkeley's College of Natural Resources and is based on O'ahu, Hawai'i.

