



Book of Proceedings

8th WAACLALS International Conference 2025

Theme

**Eco-Cultural Dynamics of African Environmental
Discourses in the Global Politics of Climate
Governance: Rethinking Actionable Commitment
to Policy in 21st Century Africa**

University of Bamenda Cameroon

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ASSOCIATION FOR COMMONWEALTH LITERATURE AND
LANGUAGE STUDIES 2025**

**Held at
University Of Bamenda, Cameroon**

Theme

**Eco-Cultural Dynamics of African Environmental Discourses in the
Global Politics of Climate Governance: Rethinking Actionable
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NOTES

We are delighted to present the **Book of Proceedings for the 8th West African Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (WAACLALS) Conference**, an enriching academic gathering that took place at the vibrant **University of Bamenda, Cameroon, from 7th to 11th May 2025**. This comprehensive volume encapsulates the profound discussions, innovative research, and diverse perspectives shared by scholars, researchers, and practitioners during this significant event.

The conference was anchored by the critically relevant theme: **"Eco-Cultural Dynamics of African Environmental Discourses in the Global Politics of Climate Governance: Rethinking Actionable Commitment to Policy in 21st Century Africa."** In an era dominated by escalating climate crises and the urgent need for sustainable solutions, this theme provided a vital platform for deep engagement with environmental challenges through an African lens. It encouraged participants to explore the intricate interplay between ecological concerns and cultural narratives, recognizing that effective climate governance must be deeply rooted in local contexts and traditional knowledge systems.

The papers compiled in this book represent a rich tapestry of thought, reflecting the multifaceted nature of the conference theme. They delve into how African environmental discourses, often marginalized in global conversations, offer unique insights and strategies for addressing climate change. Contributions range from analyses of indigenous environmental philosophies and traditional ecological practices to examinations of contemporary African literature and media representations of climate change. Several papers also critically assess the efficacy of current climate policies

and explore pathways for more actionable and equitable commitments in the 21st century.

A central focus of the conference, and consequently this publication, was the imperative to move beyond theoretical discussions to **actionable commitment to policy**. Scholars presented compelling arguments for integrating African perspectives into global climate governance frameworks, emphasizing the importance of community-led initiatives, sustainable resource management, and climate justice. The discussions highlighted the need for policies that are not only environmentally sound but also culturally sensitive and socio-economically inclusive, ensuring that the burden of climate change is not disproportionately borne by vulnerable communities.

This Book of Proceedings underscores the vital role of African agency in shaping global environmental narratives and policy. It showcases the intellectual depth and innovative spirit within African academia, demonstrating how African scholars are actively contributing to rethinking approaches to climate governance. The papers advocate for a paradigm shift that recognizes Africa not merely as a victim of climate change but as a powerful source of solutions, knowledge, and leadership in the global effort to combat environmental degradation.

We believe this volume will serve as an invaluable resource for policymakers, researchers, students, and environmental advocates worldwide. It offers fresh perspectives, robust analyses, and practical recommendations for fostering a more sustainable and equitable future. The insights contained within these pages will undoubtedly inspire further research, inform policy development, and stimulate critical dialogue on the urgent need for collective action in the face of climate change.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all the contributors, reviewers, and the organizing committee for their dedication and hard work in making the 8th WAACLALS Conference a resounding success and this Book of Proceedings a significant academic contribution.

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