

Second Conference on Attribution Science and Climate Law

June 10-11, 2026 • Columbia University

Draft Agenda + Potential Speakers

Wednesday, June 10

9:00 am Welcome and Opening Remarks

9:15 am Keynote Presentations and Expert Roundtable (15 min talks, 30 min Q&A)

- Dr. Michael Oppenheimer (Princeton) – significance of attribution science, reflections on current political climate
- Dr. Kate Marvel (NASA GISS/Columbia) – perspectives on science and communication
- Michael Gerrard (Sabin Center) – legal context

Moderator: _____

10:30 am Break

10:45 am Status of Research + Key Insights from the Field (10 min talks, 30 min Q&A)

Landscape-level overview re: status of research in different areas of attribution:

- Possibly: Dr. Benjamin Santer – trend / mean state attribution (e.g., unequivocal evidence of human influence; current GMST increase and other global trends)
- Dr. Joyce Kimutai – risk-based/probabilistic attribution
- **Dr. Kevin Reed (Stonybrook) – development of “storyline” approach for extreme event and impact attribution, relevance to planning/adaptation as well as discussions about responsibility/damages (“[Extreme Event Storylines: From quantifying the past to informing the future](#)”)
- Dr. Kris Ebi (U Washington) – health impact attribution
- Dr. Justin Mankin (Dartmouth) – end-to-end attribution and damage estimation

Moderator: _____

12:00 pm Lunch

12:50 pm Introduction to Afternoon Panels (10 min)

- Introduce the afternoon panels on impact attribution, briefly touch on legal significance of different research areas, provide instructions for breakouts

Commented [JW1]: Note to Committee: We have not yet sent invitations to keynote speakers or anyone else without ** next to their name. We welcome your suggestions on these and other invited speakers.

Jessica Wentz

2026-03-09 10:52:00

- 1:00 pm** **New Frameworks for Extreme Event, Impact, and Source Attribution**
(10 min talks, 15 min Q&A)
- ****Dr. Alex Gottlieb** (Dartmouth), "[Continuous Global Storylines for Extreme Event and Impact Attribution](#)" (co-authored with Kevin Reed and Justin Mankin)
 - ****Dr. Michael Wehner** (LBNL), "[Data driven extreme weather event attribution using Granger causal inference](#)"
 - ****Dr. Carly Phillips** (UCS), "[Attributing Climate Change to Its Sources: Methods, Milestones, and the Next Steps](#)"
- Moderator: _____
- 1:45 pm** **Quantifying Climate Damages** (10 min talks, 20 min Q&A)
- ****Dr. Justin Mankin** (Dartmouth), "[The economic burden of American floods](#)"
 - ****Dr. Mireia Ginesta** (Oxford), "[Economic damages attributable to climate change in New England from 2011 storm Irene](#)"
 - ****Dr. Chris Callahan** (Indiana), "[On the proportionality of climate damages to emissions from fossil fuel producers](#)"
 - Possible invite: **Dr. Dim Coumou** (Vrije Universiteit) (see: [How can event attribution science underpin financial decisions on Loss and Damage?](#)) Or co-author: **Dr. Paola Andrea Arias Gomez** (University of Antioquia)
- 2:45 pm** **Break**
- 3:00 pm** **Health Impacts** (10 min talks, 20 min Q&A)
- Potential topics and speakers:
- Development of "[transdisciplinary practical guidance](#)" on health attribution – **Dr. Andy Haines** (guidance author; also the editor of AR5 Health Chapter), **Dr. Rupert Stuart-Smith** (Oxford) (guidance co-lead) [or could be covered in Kris Ebi's landscape-level talk]
 - [Global Heat Attribution Project](#) – **Dr. Cathal Walsh**; **Dr. Matthew Chersich**, **Dr. Nicolas Brink**, **Dr. Coralie Adams**
 - [Lancet Countdown](#) - **Dr. Marina Romanello** (UCL) or **Dr. Maria Walawender** (UCL)
 - **Dr. Dann Mitchell** (Uni of Bristol) – Extreme events and health attribution
- Moderator: _____
- 4:00 pm** **Impacts on People, Resources, Food Security, and Livelihoods**
(10 min talks, 20 min Q&A)
- ****Gillian Moon** (UNSW), "[International standard time? A science-based framework to quantify fossil fuel harms](#)" (exposure to extreme heat; coral bleaching)
 - ****Dr. Emily Williams** (UC Merced), "[Carbon Emissions Exacerbating the Western US Water Crisis](#)" (drought)

- ****Shouru Dasgupta** (CMCC), "[Spatial and temporal attribution of changes in food security to climate change](#)" (food security)
- ****Dr. Paula Romanovska** (Potsdam Institute), "[Source attribution - from national emissions to global loss in working hours due to heat](#)" (heat exposure and labor impacts)

Moderator: _____

5:00 pm **Adjourn**

Thursday, June 11

9:00 am **Opening Remarks for Day 2**

- Introduce the afternoon panels on impact attribution, briefly touch on legal significance of different research areas, provide instructions for breakouts

9:10 am **From Evidence to Action - Attribution Science, Law and Policy**
(15 min talks, 20 min Q&A)

Possible speakers:

- ****Dr. Wim Thiery** [remote only] (Vrije Universiteit) – how attribution research can inform discussions about climate justice (see: [Intergenerational Inequities in Exposures to Climate Extremes](#))
- ****Petra Minnerop** (Durham University) – attribution science as evidence in litigation, overview of different types of claims (see: "[Climate Causality: From Causation to Attribution](#)")
- Other potential speakers: **Dina Lupin** (University of South Hampton), **Dr. Marlies Hesselman** (University of Groningen), **Dr. Maria Antonia** (Sabin Center), **Dr. Ben Franta** (Oxford), **Jonathan Adler** (William & Mary)

Moderator: _____

10:30 am **Break**

10:45 am **Breakout Sessions: Law and Policy Applications**

Session 1 **Legal Narratives about Causation, Harm, and Responsibility**

- ****Elisabeth Schill** (Lund University) "[Climate change litigation and intersectionality: what role for attribution science](#)" / ****Emily Boyd** (Lund University), "[See it, Feel it, Speak it: When Suffering Counts - Evidence, Narrative, and the Legal Visibility of Non-Economic Loss in Climate Litigation](#)" (co-authors submitted 2 abstracts for same project)

Commented [JW2]: Again, we welcome suggestions on invited speakers for this legal plenary.
Jessica Wentz
2026-03-09 10:54:00

- ****Jameela Joy Reyes** (Grantham LSE), "[Attribution science, causal chains and the construction of narratives in 'Polluter pays' climate litigation](#)"
- ****Paul Rink** (Seton Hall), "[Moving Beyond Temperature Targets for Ensuring Climate Rights](#)"
- ****Juan Sebastián Villamil Rodríguez** (Attorney, Colombia), "[Best Available Science and the Precautionary and Preventive Principles under International Human Rights Law in the Context of the Climate Emergency](#)"

Session 2 Climate Change Adaptation, Risk Management, and Disaster Planning

- ****Alessandra Lehmen** (Attorney, Brazil and New York), "[Attribution Science in Climate Disaster Litigation](#)"
- ****Ju-Ching (Wendy) Huang** (Attorney, IUCN member), "[When Exceedance Becomes Foreseeable: Attribution Science, Residual Flood Risk, and the Legal Vulnerability of Flood Adaptation Governance](#)"

Session 3: Comparative Law Perspectives and Case Studies

- ****Omondi Owino** (Attorney, Kenya), "[Attribution Evidence and Corporate Climate Liability in Africa: Legal Challenges and Emerging Jurisprudence](#)"
- ****Rafaela Santos Martins Da Rosa** (Judge, Brazil), "[Could attribution sciences be decisive in recognizing that the new Brazilian Environmental Licensing Law, by violating the climate legal regime, is unconstitutional and contradicts the recent advisory opinions of the ICJ and the Inter-American Court of Hu](#)"
- ****Mariana Barbosa Cirne** (Brazilian Institute of Education, Development, and Research), "[Lessons from Brazilian Post-Decision Contextualization Hearings: Institutional Design and the Use of Attribution Evidence in Climate Litigation](#)"
- ****Jie Liu** (American University), "[The Admissibility of Climate Attribution Science in Climate Change Litigation in China](#)"

12:00 pm Lunch

*Possible poster session from 12:30 to 1:15 pm (see list of abstracts at end of agenda)

1:15 pm Climate Displacement (10 min talks, 20 min Q&A)

- ****Gabriela Nagle Alverio** (Duke), "[Modeling Climate Mobility](#)"
- ****Yumna Kamel** (Earth Refuge), "[From Attribution to Accountability: Legal Strategies for Climate \(Im\)mobility](#)"
- ****Gamal Basha** (Qore Legal), "[Climate-Attributed Asylum and Human Rights Claims: Practical Lessons](#)"
- ****Katarina Velkov** (University of Padova), "[From Probabilistic Harm to Shared Obligation: Attribution Science and the Legal Architecture of Climate-Induced Displacement](#)" (separate submission)

Moderator: Lauren Grant (Beyond Climate Collaborative)

Commented [JW3]: We would probably need to add a third speaker.

If we want to limit the breakouts to 2 parallel tracks, we could move this to the 1:00 pm timeslot (as a breakout alongside Climate Displacement). We could potentially add a scientific talk to make it an interdisciplinary panel.

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2026-03-05 14:45:00

Commented [JW4]: Currently scheduled as a plenary, but could have parallel breakout sessions, e.g.: (i) Climate Displacement, (ii) Climate Adaptation and Risk Management

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2026-03-05 14:45:00

2:15 pm Break

2:30 pm Afternoon Plenary – Reflections and Future Directions

Could address some issues raised by advisory committee members, e.g.: (i) the new IPCC assessment and the lack of attribution experience; (ii) the changing situation with the UNFCCC and questions about how attribution science will inform future climate negotiations and agreements; and (iii) the current political climate and questions about how both scientist and lawyers can work together to continue making progress in this climate.

Commented [JW5]: Speakers and topics TBD. We could even consider an alternate format (more discussion oriented?) All suggestions welcome.

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2026-03-09 10:55:00

4:00 pm Adjourn

List of Abstracts for Potential Poster Session

The following is a list of all abstracts that were responsive to the public call (and not AI-generated) that we did not assign to any of the oral sessions above. This includes all of the submissions from PhD students. Please let us know if you think any of these belong in an oral session.

General perspectives / uncategorized

- ****Dr. John Doherty** (ELI), "[Detection and attribution: A stocktake of the field and its application to climate governance](#)" (work-in-progress / preliminary findings) ******only available on June 11
- ****Dr. Marc Alessi** (UCS), "[Next Phase of Climate Attribution](#)" (work-in-progress)
- ****Nicholas Petkov** (Grantham LSE), "[Scientists and Climate Law: Barriers to Engagement – A Survey of Attribution Scientists and Impacts Experts](#)"

Extreme event attribution

- ****Huanping Huang** (LSU), "[Anthropogenic Influence on the Category 5 Hurricane Milton \(2024\)](#)"
- ****Dr. Marc Alessi** - "[Using Artificial Intelligence to Create a Gridded Climate Extremes Dataset](#)" (2nd proposal; work in progress)
- ****Jared Trok** (PhD student, Stanford), "[Extreme event attribution for fractional shares of global emissions](#)"
- ****Olivia Vashti Ayim** (PhD student, University of Oxford), "[How Reliably Can We Estimate Changes in Extreme-Event Probabilities? A Reforecast Ensemble Approach](#)"

Impact attribution

- ****Christina Paz Barrios Arguello** (MSc student, Oxford), "[Slow Inflammation: Expanding Climate Attribution Science to Chronic Autoimmune Disease](#)"
- ****João Tadeu Alves dos Santos** (PhD student, University of São Paulo) - "[Climate-Related Urban Power Outages: Attribution of Social Impacts in São Paulo's Electricity System](#)"

GHG emissions accounting

- ****Leehi Yona** (Cornell Law), "[What \(and Who\) Counts? Greenhouse Gas Accounting Gaps](#)"

Legal applications

- ****Asma Mamud** (Senior Civil Judge, Bangladesh; MPhil Fellow, University of Rajshahi)- "[The Role of Attribution Science in Proving Causation: Opportunities and Limits for Courts](#)"
- ****Robin Happel** (Attorney, New York), "[Attribution Science & Loss of Chance Doctrine](#)" (indicated preference for poster)
- ****Riccardo Aquilini** (Attorney, Italy) – "[Climate Litigation, Banks and Money: towards a new trend](#)"
- **Amina Bold** (MPhil student, Oxford), "[From Attribution to Adjudication: How Courts Construct Climate Harm and the Public Interest](#)"
- **Nehir Arslan** (PhD Student, Sciences Po), "[Rethinking the “False Dichotomy”: Hybridism and the Risk of Diluted Responsibility in the Climate Change Regime](#)"
- ****Nolwen Guilleman** (PhD student, University of Geneva), "[The use of scientific materials by courts in climate litigation, through the lens of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#)"
- ****Fernand Guevara Mekongo Mballa** (PhD student, Catholic University of Central Africa), "[Loss and Damage in Africa and the Science of Attribution: An Opportunity for Reparations and/or Compensation under the Law of State Responsibility?](#)"
- ****Mathumitha Karunanathan** (Attorney, Sri Lanka), "[From Data to Rights: Using AI and Attribution Science to Translate Climate Impacts into Human Rights Claims](#)"