Climate Change and Information Integrity Masterclass

Pre-Event: September 29, 2026 | **Venue:** Orchid | **Time:** 09:00–17:00

Background: Climate disinformation is growing in nature and scope, yet the producers and purveyors of reputable/ reliable climate information, such as journalists, bloggers and Civil Society Organisations (CSOS), lack the capacity to effectively fact-check and counter the disinformation. On the other hand, media, activists and human righst defenders working on climate-related issues including environment, land and extractives, face stark information gaps that threaten the narratives that should inform public understnding of climate change concerns – especially in African countries.

Climate and conflict often and increasingly overlap inducing the forced displacement of women, children and men either as internally displaced persons, refugees or trafficked persons or all three. The responses to disinformation and misinformation must be both community based and State led to protect by debbunking through giving voice to the comunities with agency, to inter governmental tasked with saving lives on land and at Sea. These are the people on whom negative influencers and disnformation prey.

Thus, concerns around surveillance, disinformation, and misinformation campaigns are on the rise in the climate change ecosystem, compounded by tech enablers due to einformation gaps. How well aware are we of these concerns? What are the intersecting points of this discussion with areas such as gender and displacement? What are the latest developments rom an Afrian Union in reagsrd to the topic of climate change and disinformation?

Overarching goal: This workshop aims to spark discussions and alternative ways of thinking about climate change. It aims to equip participants with general trends shaping climate change disinformation as well as to identify, verify, expose and counter climate mis/disinformation in African digital ecosystems with the goal of documenting and reporting on climate change with accuracy ahead of COP31 (Ankara, November 2026) and COP32 (Ethiopia, 2027).

Programme			
Time	**Session**	**Speaker**	**Objectives**
08:30 - 09:00	Registration and networking		Check in
09:00- :09:10	**Opening**	**Juliet Nanfuka**	Introductions
09:10 - 10:00	**Session 1: Setting the scene**	**Dr. Wakabi Wairagala**, Executive Director, CIPESA	Why information integrity is a climate change issue; the Declaration on Information Integrity on Climate Change, the partnership, housekeeping.
10:00 - 10:15	**Session 2: Understanding the climate change information ecosystem in Africa**	**Juliet Nanfuka**	Open discussion about the landscape: rapid internet growth, platform dependence, shrinking space for environmental journalism, surveillance and harassment of climate journalists; why Africa is a frontline for climate mis/disinformation.

10:15-10:25	**Session 4: Right to Access Information is a Boost for A Healthy Environment in Africa**	**Raymond Amumpaire, Member,** Digital Rights Alliance Africa (DRAA)	Insights on the recent African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (African Commission) pronouncement on the importance of access to information in the realisation of the right to a healthy environment - resolution, ACHPR/Res. 657 (LXXXVI) 2026,
10:25-10:45	**Session 5: Highlighting the Status of civil society in Africa and Climate Change Efforts in Africa**	**Lister Rikhotso,** Program Manager, Moxii Africa	Highlights on the work and efforts by Moxii Africa aimed at understanding how civil society is engaging with climate change, online discourse and information integrity.
10:45 - 11:00	Tea break		
11:00 - 12:30	**Session 6: Q&A: Climate Change, Displacement and the paths of false narratives**	**Raj Mohabeer** - Officer in Charge at the General Secretariat of the Indian Ocean Commission **Senai Terrefe** - Deputy Representative of UNHCR's South Africa Multi Country Office **Kashif Imambaccass** – Legal Advisor, Passerelle **Juliet Nanfuka -**Moderator	The conversation will explore the intersection of climate change, displacement and information integrity across Africa. UNHCR and the Indian Ocean Commission will discuss how climate-related hazards can compound displacement and protection risks, including influencing onward movement and tensions over scarce resources. The conversation will examine how misinformation, rumours and disinformation can distort perceptions of climate risks, movement and access to resources. Drawing on the IOC's regional expertise in climate information, forecasting, early-warning systems and disaster-risk reduction, the discussion will consider how trusted, timely and accessible information can support safer decisions, reduce tensions and strengthen resilience.
12:30 - 13:30	**Session 7: Demonstration on tracking narratives**	**Jean Le Roux**, Senior Investigator Graphika	Presentation on the work of Graphika including on information mapping and analysis. It will also highlight how its various tools can be used to help journalists, civil society in tracking climate disinformation.
13:30 - 14:30	Lunch		
14:00 - 16:00	**Session 8: Documenting and Reporting climate with integrity** (Working tea break)	**Purity Mukami** Investigative and Data Journalist, Lighthouse Reports **Joy Kirigia** Editorial Design and Production Lead, Africa Uncensored	A practical and interactive session on the tools and tricks that can support the development of climate-sensitive editorial and advocacy. It will discussion and debate on data (what's available and what isn't), what needs to be done to avoiding false balances, covering uncertainty, framing stories of loss and damage.
16:00-16:30	**Session 9: Statement**	All	A collaborative statement will be developed by the participants as an output of the Masterclass.

Supporting materials

- CIPESA–UNESCO project announcement CIPESA
- CIPESA report: *Disinformation Pathways and Effects — Case Studies from Five African Countries* PDF
- UNESCO *Declaration on Information Integrity on Climate Change* UNESCO
- United Nations *Global Principles for Information Integrity* UN
- Climate Justice in Action: Activism and Adaptation in Eastern Africa Open Access Book
- Earth Journalism Network: *Climate Misinformation in East Africa* report PDF
- PesaCheck climate fact-check series PesaCheck
- Africa Check training offerings & fact-checks Africa Check
- Resolution on Access to Information and the Right to a Healthy Environment - ACHPR/Res.657(LXXXVI) 2026
- The Right to Access Information is a Boost for A Healthy Environment in Africa – Digital Rights Alliance
- Graphika website