

# 6<sup>TH</sup> EUROPEAN CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: SEA LEVELS RISE: TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE

“Transformational change  
The scale of the realignment challenge at the coast”

21ST JUNE (WEDNESDAY)  
@ 11:30 - 12:15  
CROWN JEWELS ROOM,  
BEDFORD HALL

## WHY ATTEND

Coastal communities face an unprecedented challenge in responding to sea level rise and associated changes. This session will ask:

*Is re-location a necessary and viable strategy, financially, technically, and socially?*

Join us to discuss the scale of the challenge and how best to respond.

## BACKGROUND

For many coastal communities responding to sea level rise through incremental adaptation may be appropriate (although not without

limits). This may include progressively raising defences, nourishing beaches, and other conventional management measures. Such actions are well supported by existing governance structures and investment vehicles.

For others however, continuing to provide protection from erosion may not be technically feasible or financially viable. For these communities, transformational adaptation such as realignment or relocation will be needed. Implementing such change, however, is difficult and requires

clarity of long-term planning and a means of supporting communities to take early action in making this transition. This Panel session will discuss the issues and present live examples of where such discussions are ongoing and draw lessons from international experience.



## SESSION OUTLINE

TIME (DURATION)	TOPIC
11.30 – 11:45	Two short talks providing the latest insights <b>Exploring the scale of the challenge in England – Dr Ing Paul Sayers</b> <b>A global perspective climate-induced relocation: Opportunities and Challenges in achieving socio-environmental justice - Charmae Pyl Wissink-Nercua</b>
11.45 – 12:10	<b>Plenary debate</b> Moderated by Dr. Carme Machi Castaner
	<b>Audience questions</b> Questions, examples and the insights
	<b>Panel responses</b> Charmae Pyl Wissink-Nercua Paul Sayers
12:10 – 12:15	Wrap up and concluding statements

## SPEAKER AND PANEL BIOGRAPHIES

**Dr. Carme Machi Castaner**, ICLEI Europe and CoCliCo Project: Carme joined ICLEI Europe at the beginning of 2022, where she plays a role in targeted advice on green & blue solutions and nature-based solutions. Previous to this, she worked with design of green infrastructure for the Peruvian's Authority coastal watershed restoration program, collaborated in watershed restoration projects in Brazil, highlighting consultancy service with Toyota Foundation of Brazil on nature-based strategies (nbs) and the North Lakes Program co-founded by the World Bank in north-east Brazil.

**Dr. Ing Paul Sayers**, SPL and CoCliCo project member: Paul leads the applied research consultancy Sayers and Partners focused on developing strategic approaches to managing coastal and river systems. In recent years Paul lead the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment future flood assessment and the quantified assessment of the increasing pressure on coastal communities. Paul has a global perspective on coastal issues through numerous projects across Europe, Africa, and Asia.

**Charmae Pyl Wissink-Nercua:** Specialist in Urban Land, Housing Development and Capacity-Building and SCORE Project. Nercua is part of the Urban Socio-Spatial Development Department at IHS. Her expertise is in urban land and housing development, focusing on governance, sustainability, and resilience. Charmae has more than 15 years of professional experience in the field across Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe with direct experience of relocation issues in the Philippines and East Timor.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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