**Synergies from climate change adaptation resilience to inform an earth centred world and governance culture.**

**Jules Livingstone**

Abstract

This paper explores the convergence between the goals of earth jurisprudence and those of fostering resilience as an effective strategy to adapt to our changing climate. It explores the theories underlying the approaches to both these challenges and proposes some pathways that climate change adaptation thinking has created which may inform and support Earth Law Principles.

Adapting to climate change presents a unique challenge to problems on a scale not yet experienced by humans, that requires new approaches to thinking about and conceptualising our place in and affect upon, the planet. From various climate change impacts such as changing weather patterns and disasters it is becoming impossible to ignore our dependence on ecosystem services, our interconnectedness with nature or the precariousness and fragility of the conditions under which society as we know it thrives. The dual aspects of global responses to climate change; mitigation and adaptation have already started us, however sporadically and reluctantly, down the path towards rethinking the role and relationship between people and the natural environment, in profound ways.

Mitigation has served as a first step towards a system-wide accounting of previously externalised environmental costs, through the implementation of carbon markets, accounting and trading. Adaptation presents different challenges, less easily quantified, more iterative, requiring continuous learning and responding to change. This mode of adaptation, Resilience, eschews a human centred framework and dependence on the structures and systems of the past, as a model for a radically changed future. Here lies the convergence with the principles and goals of earth jurisprudence.

Lasting resilience requires that we accept that we are part of an interconnected system with all life on the planet, that our wellbeing is dependent on the wellbeing of the Earth and that other life forms have a right to their own health and habitat, which is our responsibility to protect.

Speaker Biography

Jules is an independent consultant specialising in strategy for climate change adaptation and finance. An experienced presenter with a background in change management and communications, his interests concern mobilising public and private finance for adaptation, changes to leadership cultures and adult learning which will support the transition to a more resilient and earth centred society. He as a BA / LLB from UNSW, a research Masters in climate adaptation policy from the ANU and Certificate IVs in Carbon Management and Training and Assessment.