

The Chinese University of Hong Kong  
Department of Geography and Resource Management

will present a seminar

by

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**Environmental Impact Assessment as a Tool for  
Climate Change Mitigation**

**Abstract:**

Environmental impact assessments (EIAs) are established in most countries as a procedural tool to ensure that administrative authorities are aware of the environmental impacts likely to result from the activities they approve. While EIAs typically focus on local environmental concerns, many countries have moved towards including consideration for transboundary and, although to a lesser extent, global environmental issues. This article explores how and why different jurisdictions have or have not included consideration for climate change mitigation in EIA processes. It suggests that the practice of integrating climate change considerations in EIAs is progressively being recognized as a norm of customary international law binding upon all States. Exploring practices and guidance documents from around the world, this article identifies effective ways of using this well-established regulatory tool to address the greatest environmental impact of our societies.

**About the Speaker:**

Mr. Benoit Mayer is an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He worked previously at the Research Institute in Environmental Law in the School of Law of Wuhan University, China. He studied in Sciences Po Lyon, the Sorbonne University, McGill University and the National University of Singapore. His research focuses on the international law on climate change, in particular with regard to human mobility, loss and damage, and adaptation. He is the author of *The International Law on Climate Change* (Cambridge University Press, 2018) and of *The Concept of Climate Migration: Advocacy and its Prospects* (Edward Elgar, 2016). He is also the co-editor of the *Research Handbook on Climate Change, Migration and the Law* (Edward Elgar, forthcoming in 2017) and of *Critical International Law: Postrealism, Postcolonialism, and Transnationalism* (Oxford University Press, 2014).

**Language: English**

**Date: 31 January 2019 (Thursday)**

**Time: 4:30-6:00pm**

**Venue: Room 221**

**Chen Kou Bun Building  
Chung Chi College**

**~All are Welcome~**

For any inquiries, please contact Prof. Li Jing (Tel. 3943 6537 or Email: [victorli@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:victorli@cuhk.edu.hk)).