REPORT ON ICEHO HARARE REGIONAL WORKSHOP
HOSTED BY DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC HISTORY
UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE

Department head: Dr Ushehwedu Kufakurinani

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT:
Subsequent to the decision of ICEHO to fund regional workshops where appropriate, the Department of Economic History at the University of Zimbabwe, Harare, put forward a proposal to hold a regional workshop in Harare with the support of the African Network of Environmental Humanities and its head, Dr John Agbonifo.

After various edits and improvements to the proposal (recorded in previous emails), ICEHO allocated $500 (USD) to this workshop.

- Date: 27 to 29 June 2019.
- Organisers: Dr Ushehwedu Kufakurinani and his team; livestreaming via video, excellent handouts, technical support, and computer management; refreshments; all professionally very well done. The help of Ms Caroline Kaseke, the Administrator of the Department, was invaluable.
- Venue: Venue: Llewellyn Lecture Theatre, University of Zimbabwe see: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Zimbabwe
- Programme and keynote speakers: See attached PDF. It was a pleasure to have Prof. Vimbai Kwashirai in attendance, visiting from Europe and thus able to contribute to the gathering. On the programme there was a mix of university personnel, government agencies relating to the environment, keynote interventions, and student discussion. It was disappointing that, apart from members of the Gender Commission (Ms Sibongile Mauye and Ms Naome Chimbetete), the government invitees did not attend although they had accepted the invitation: Environmental Management Agency; Environment Lawyers Association; Ministry of Environment, Hospitality and Industry. Their views would have been very useful.
- The meeting benefited from the energetic contribution of Dr A.K.B. Chigwada of Zimplats who spoke about synergy and community-building in the mining industry – particularly in relation to safely and occupational health – and how these might be translated into academic action. The African philosophy of ubuntu was important in this regard. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ubuntu_philosophy
- Attendance: Owing to the doubling of taxi fares overnight, attendance at the workshop ranged from about 45 to 70 over the three days. 78 people had registered, and a list was maintained.
- Zimbabwe context: Zimbabwe is in economic crisis and Harare, the capital, is in dire straits. The economic growth rate is around minus 3%; total population c.15 million, Harare 1.5 million. Although figures are unreliable, unemployment is estimated to be as high as 90% and there are as many as 5 million Zimbabwean economic migrants in South Africa, let alone elsewhere in the world. At the time of the workshop, electricity blackouts were instituted for 18 hours every day (power was available
from 22:00 to 04:00 if at all); the currency was in free fall and foreign currency suddenly declared illegal and accounts in these currencies frozen immediately. Foreign currency, particularly ZAR and USD is widely in use for having real value in contrast to the Zimbabwe bond or dollar, which now has to be used in all transactions; prices doubled for goods and services overnight (taxi fares and conference dinner for example); municipal water is undrinkable. For many educated Zimbabweans the future seems bleak. Despite all, basic education in Zimbabwe remains very satisfactory and continues to follow the British pattern of O and A levels. Although the University of Zimbabwe is not highly ranked, it contains nodes of excellence in teaching and research. Many Zimbabwean academics with degrees from the University of Zimbabwe obtain important scholarships and positions abroad. Degrees are also composed along British lines of 3-year undergraduate Bachelors degree; 1 year Honours; MA/MSc; and PhD.

Funding for this workshop therefore energised many students and their lecturers at the University of Zimbabwe and they exhibited professionalism, a high degree of articulate contributions and suggestions, engagement with the material, and with the speakers. It was fun and interactive as well as intellectual, and the social side of the workshop worked well too. The organisation and structure of the programme is to be commended with its mix of academic input, formal and informal discussion, social time, and student participation. The students who acted as facilitators and MCs were absolutely terrific and there were many interventions from the students by way of questions and panels that were innovative, feasible, and interesting.

The initial proposal had suggested that two degrees in environmental history would be discussed and perhaps even finalised at the workshop: an undergraduate and post-graduate degree. However, in preliminary discussion with the Deans and the Vice-Chancellor of the University this was considered to be too ambitious and it seemed likely that instituting the Bachelors programme would not be approved by the university. Therefore, the workshop programme focussed on a feasible Masters programme in Environmental History, composed in the same flexible manner as an MBA.

The warm welcome from the Dean, Prof Itai Muhwati, who read a message from the Vice-Chancellor, indicated enormous support from the management structures of the University for this initiative. A Masters programme can be instituted as early as the start of the academic year in August 2020 and the university and the senate would approve it, provided it met the requisite administrative requirements. This is the plan.

A number of Departments within the University already engage with topics related to, or around, environmental history and it was extremely interesting – and rewarding – to witness the synergy that developed over the three days among colleagues who were in the same institution but had not appreciated the similarities of their work let alone the help they could be to one another. It was clear that although there were strong connections among the Economic History Department, the History Department (Dr Ivan Marowa) and its Archaeology Section, Dr Ancila Nhamo), the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences (Prof. Willis Gwenzi), the Institute of Environmental Studies (Prof. Sara Feresu) and the Faculty of Education (Mr Crispin Dirwai) these had never been exploited. During the course of the
workshop, a number of intra-university silos were broken or breached and friendships and partnerships developed quickly.

A major aim of the workshop was to discover the various nodes within the University that deal with environmental matters relevant to history. The Economic History Department is particularly strong in this regard, with 11 staff members, 15 special honours students and about 25 Masters students. However, as indicated above, there are other nodes of expertise within the university that can be tapped, and it was recognised that there might be more that could be brought on board, e.g. the Institute of Mining and the Department of Geography.

Although all partners are vital for the success of the programme, the contribution from Crispin Dirwai, environmental education specialist, will be indispensable in framing the educational value of the degree to the satisfaction of the university and its council. Issues such as the SDGs must be considered as well as the University’s priorities.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE CURRICULUM: MASTERS COURSE IN ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY

The vibrant discussions on the themes to be covered in the taught components and to be researched for dissertations concluded with the following preliminary suggestions:

**Focus** = Zimbabwe and Africa in global context. Dissertations would, of necessity (sources etc.) be on Zimbabwe and/or Africa/southern Africa. Precolonial period and IKS would be emphasised.

Taught courses would include historiography to give a sense of the contours and history of the discipline within and outside of Africa.

**Overarching ideas** that will infuse all aspects of the programme and its themes and need to be factored into the research dissertation:

- Historiography and history of science
- Environmental justice, values and ethics
- Decolonisation
- Environment and conflict
- Gender
- Change over time (history)
- Link between culture and nature
- Comparisons
- Research methodology

**BROAD THEMES** – these may well change, and sub-themes be elevated or vice versa (catchy titles are required):

- Environmental national and international geopolitics (e.g. policies, NGOs, IUCN, governance, unequal power relations etc.)
- Natural resource conservation and management (e.g. exploitation, land, agriculture, biodiversity, mining, energy, water, conservation/national parks etc.)
- Energy and industrialisation (e.g. justice, timber, minerals, labour)
- Urban (e.g. planning, labour, economics, waste management, public health)
- Rural (e.g. access to land; land-use changes; settlement; food and food security)
• Crisis and disaster (e.g. drought, floods, cyclones, climate change, adaptation, resilience)
• Human animal relations/conflict and environmental psychology (e.g. African psyche, attitudes to sacred sites; rock art)
• Environmental science (e.g. rise of ecology, use of GIS, information technology for environmental history; neuro-environmental/psychology and history)

WAY FORWARD:
Firm ideas for the Masters programme need to be taken further and refined. University administrators would have to approve the majors that permitted entry to this multi-disciplinary Masters in Environmental History.

• **Action**: Ushe Kufakurinani and team: A draft will be circulated for comment to the departments involved; to be finalised within 3 months.
• **Action**: Ushe Kufakurinani and team: An internal UZ Environmental History Working Group will be formed; students and lecturers to be involved.
• **Action**: all. A formal division/section of Environmental History will be negotiated within the AEHN or Southern African Historical Society. Partnerships will be investigated with the Water History Association etc.
• **Action**: Once ideas have crystallised, Vimbai Kwashirai, Willis Gwenzi and Jane Carruthers will form an advisory group to devise a reader of sources for students, e.g. RCC perspectives, journal articles, book lists etc. Ideas are welcome. Please send to wgwenzi@agric.uz.ac.zw; wgwenzi@yahoo.co.uk; j.carruthers@mweb.co.za;
• **Action**: Percy Madhuku (nee Muguti) and Taringana Takesure to host and edit the Alumni page and solicit comment and ideas. Please send ideas to percymadhuku@gmail.com; and ttaringana@gmail.com

IDEAS FOR THE FUTURE: timelines will be needed
• Compile reading lists and literature sources for the themes.
• Welcome and request assistance from scholars, via H-Net lists, environmental history courses taught elsewhere and other avenues of communication.
• Obtain reading lists from all sources.
• Arrange visiting lecturers and contact the Zimbabwe academic diaspora for help.
• Source student funding.
• Form debating/reading groups.
• Debate case studies.
• Arrange field trips (museums, sites etc.).
• Find and arrange attachments (internships).
• Consider podcasts and live streaming.
• Insert regular features and updates in the ICEHO Bulletin and ICEHO website.
• Incorporate theatre, drama and music.

It was an honour for me to be invited to this workshop and to appreciate so directly the wealth of talent, enthusiasm, and intellectual capacity in Zimbabwe. I thank all involved and a delighted that ICEHO has made a major contribution in Zimbabwe.

Jane Carruthers 5 July 2019.
ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY WORKSHOP

Date: 27-29 July 2019
Venue: UZ
Llewellyn Lecture Theatre

FACULTY OF ARTS
ECONOMIC HISTORY DEPARTMENT

ICEHO
INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM OF ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY ORGANIZATIONS
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<th>ACTIVITY/THEME</th>
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<td>Welcome Remarks</td>
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<td>Opening Remarks</td>
<td>10:30-11:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. U Khakhumali (Chairperson, Economic History)</td>
<td>11:00-11:45</td>
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<td>PANEL DISCUSSIONS (10 min presentations on the day, what is your angle? Envisaged Environmental Agenda)</td>
<td>12:30-13:00</td>
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<td>ProF. David, ProF. Zimbabwe</td>
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<td>Lunch Break</td>
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<td>ProF. Jane Carthenns</td>
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<td>Professor versus Environmental: FA and Zimbabwe</td>
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<td>Panel Discussions</td>
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<td>ProF. Jane Carthenns, ProF. Raymond and ProF. Kwashtini</td>
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<td>Workshop Objectives</td>
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<td>DAY END</td>
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<td>Dinner</td>
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<td>NB DINNER only for registered participants</td>
<td>Report back on possible measures and understand the outcomes</td>
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<td>Panel Discussion on the topics</td>
<td>A case for environmental history teaching</td>
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<td>Lunch Break</td>
<td>Discussions in groups with lecturers to lead each group in</td>
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<td>Free Speech</td>
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<td>Dr. C. Chibweza (ZIMPLAS)</td>
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<td>Dr. L. Marwaha, History Department, UZ</td>
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<td>Dean, R. S. Uganda National University</td>
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<td>Professor, Research Institute for Environmental Studies</td>
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**ECONOMIC HISTORY DEPARTMENT**

**FACULTY OF ARTS**

**UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE**
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>09:00-10:15</td>
<td>Day 3, First Speaker, &quot;Experiences in Sustainable Tourism and Hospitality&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15-10:30</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<td>11:30-11:35</td>
<td>Second Speaker, &quot;Endangered Environment, the Zimbabwe Wildlife Authority&quot;</td>
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<td>11:35-12:35</td>
<td>Panel Discussion (Dr. Mike, Dr. Nyumbu, Dr. Nkudya)</td>
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<td>12:00-13:30</td>
<td>Interactive Panel Discussions</td>
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<td>13:30-14:00</td>
<td>Feedback from Groups</td>
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<td>14:00-15:00</td>
<td>Vote of thanks</td>
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<td>15:30-18:00</td>
<td>Cocktail and Brains at Mutonsi Cave</td>
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<td>Way Forward by Dr. Kulukuhumai</td>
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<td>VOT by Panel Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:00-18:00</td>
<td>Workshop on Environmental Ethics, Policies and Law</td>
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**ECONOMIC HISTORY DEPARTMENT**  
**FACULTY OF ARTS**  
**UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE**
professor J. Carruthers

J. Carruthers is an Emeritus Professor in the Department of History at UNISA and a Research Associate of the Centre for African Science at the University of Stellenbosch. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of South Africa, Member of the Academy of Science of South Africa, and Fellow of Clare Hall, Cambridge. She has held leadership positions in a number of societies and editorial boards and was founding President of the International Consortium of Environmental History Organizations based at Duke University, Chair of the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society in Munich and is past president of the American Historical Society. In 2018 she was the recipient of the Distinguished Scholar Award of the American Society for Environmental History, the first non-American to be given this distinction.

She is internationally acknowledged for her work on the history of South African nature conservation, ornithology, botany and mycology, and has published widely on these topics, as well as on land reform and environmental justice. Her doctoral thesis, The African National Park: A Social and Political History (1995), has become a standard reference work worldwide. Her most recent book project has resulted in a work entitled, National Park Science: A Century of Research in South Africa (Cambridge University Press, 2017). She has authored seven books, co-authored a further one, contributed chapters to 29 edited books and published 61 journal articles.

She has held various visiting Fellowships abroad and has been the recipient of numerous academic prizes, including runner-up time achiever for the South African National Science and Technology Forum (2015) and for the Human Sciences Research Council medal (2017), the only person to have been recognized in this way by the sciences as well as the humanities.

professor K. Kwashirai

Kholele Kwashirai is a researcher and lecturer in modern African studies at Durham University in the United Kingdom. He is a MPhil and a DPhil from Linacre College at Oxford University, as well as a BA (Hons.) and an MA from the University of Zimbabwe. Dr. Kwashirai is on the editorial board for the journal Global Environment, and he has published articles in various journals, such as the Journal of Historical Geography, Conservation and Society, and Global Environment.

Kholele Kwashirai is a Zimbabwean and Oxfordian scholar. His research interests are in economic and environmental issues, critically in modern Zimbabwe, and Africa more generally. The author of Green Colonialism in Zimbabwe, 1890–1980, he has published extensively on these themes as well as on the social and political developments of Zimbabwe. He has taught at several universities in Zimbabwe and the United Kingdom, including Durham and Liverpool. Professor Kwashirai has a number of academic awards and fellowships in the UK and Germany. His forthcoming book with Cambridge University Press is called Ballot or Bullet—Election Violence in Zimbabwe, 1980–2015. It is a leading expert on aboriginal human rights, land rights, poverty, and ecological transformations, he has successfully carried out wide-ranging projects with various governments, churches, private companies, and non-governmental organizations on the big questions arising in contemporary Zimbabwe. Currently, he is working on the corruption of the lobola culture and women's rights in Africa.

professor W. Gwenzai

W. Gwenzai is an Associate Professor of Biosystems and Environmental Engineering in the Department of Soil Science & Agricultural Engineering, Faculty of Agriculture. Willis earned the following qualifications: (1) PhD (Biosystems and Environmental Engineering, University of Western Australia, Perth), (2) M.Sc. (Water Resources Engineering and Management, University of Zimbabwe/UNESCO-IHE, Netherlands), (3) first class B. Sc. Honours (Soil Science, University of Zimbabwe), and (4) an MSc in Agricultural Engineering (Agricultural Engineering, University of Zimbabwe). He has published extensively in his areas of expertise as evidenced by over 50 articles in international journals, 5 chapters in books, and numerous conference papers. He has worked in the field of biosystems and environmental engineering, having worked for various environmental agencies, funding agencies, private sector and international agencies, to whom he has provided expert advisory services. In this talk, Willis will present an overview of environmental history from a non-historian's perspective.

professor S. Feresu

S. Feresu's core competencies include leading multi-disciplinary teams in carrying out baseline studies, monitoring and assessments to generate knowledge for use in coming up with science-based policies and programming. She has been team leader of the Zimbabwe Human Development Report 2017 whose theme is Climate Change Building a Resilient Nation; shocks and resilience (urban and rural) issues including development of Ward and District Resilience Plans; climate change adaptation where she led the development of the Zimbabwe Climate Change Response Strategy; poverty; environmental assessments
(being one of the lead authors of the Global Environmental Outlooks 4 and 5 Atmosphere Chapters and chief author and editor of Zimbabwe Environment Outlooks 3 and 4) and environmental policy formulation at local (National Environment Policy and Forest Policy) and international levels; environmental pollution including solid and liquid waste (Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan), and air pollution (World Bank and USEPA White Paper on Air Pollution in Developing Countries); energy needs assessment (UNICEF Sustainable Energy for Children Study), coordination of networks (e.g. the Air Pollution Information Network for Africa) as well as building the capacity of students, government and private sector personnel and communities.

Professor Feresu quality controls the execution of all projects and the resultant outputs of the IES. She has been the team leader for all the projects carried out by IES since 2000. She also spent two years as a Research Officer at Veterinary Research Laboratory (1981-1982) and 37 years of experience at the University of Zimbabwe (1982 to date) as a Lecturer, Professor, Director of IES since 2000 and has been a researcher and team leader who has coordinated and directed many baseline assessments, monitoring and evaluation of projects similar to the GCF National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Readiness project as well as SADC level projects such as the Air Pollution Information Network (APINA) and the Southern African Network for Research and Training on the Environment (SANTREN) and Global assessments such as the Global Energy Assessment and Global Environment Outlooks. Academically, she has the following qualifications PhD in Microbiology (1980) from Leicester University (UK); Postgraduate Course in Development Policy, Planning and Management (2002) University of Birmingham (UK); and BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences from Wolverhampton Polytechnic (UK) (1977).

Dr U. Kufakurinani
Dr Kufa is a senior lecturer in, and current chairperson of, the Department of Economic History at the University of Zimbabwe. He did his DPhil in African Economic History at the same institution. He has published and presented papers on various themes and research areas which include gender; urban histories; migration; musical arts; political economy of development; and resource management and governance. Kufakurinani has co-edited a book on women and Zimbabwean music and another forthcoming on how institutions and individuals have negotiated and survived the Zimbabwean economic crisis. He has also published a monograph titled Elasticity in Domesticity: White Women in Rhodesian Zimbabwe 1890 to 1979.

Ms Sibongile Mauye
She is a Gender expert and development practitioner for over 17 years. She has written unpublished papers on Gender and service delivery; Gender based violence and Social Justice. She did her masters her Masters in Gender and Development at the University of East Anglia UK; BA honours in Economic History (University of Zimbabwe). Currently she is a PHD student in the Department of Economic History at the University of Zimbabwe.

Dr A. Chigwada
Abednego. K. B. Chigwada is currently the Group Safety, Health, Environment and Quality (SHEQ) Manager for the largest mining company in Zimbabwe - Zimplats. Before joining Zimplats, he worked for several group of companies in the Mining Industry with underground and open pit mines, Concentrators and Smelter operations. Abednego is currently responsible for ensuring that the Zimplats Group operates according to vigilant SHEQ management practices.

As the Group SHEQ Manager, he is responsible for the development of a strong and well-informed SHEQ management culture within the company, enabling sound business decisions that balance risk and reward. More to that he assist management in complying with applicable statutory, regulatory and supervisory requirements and coordinating the overall operational risk management system. I am also a Global speaker at global international leaders' forums e.g. (Perth- Australia, LondonUK, Las Vegas- USA and African region). Academically, he has the following qualifications, PhD in Management of Technology, Innovation and People emphasis on operational Risk management. Recommended for an excellence award, MSC in Strategic Management. Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science, National Diploma in Mining Engineering, Full Blasting Certificate: endorsed for Fiery Mines. Further qualifications include Project Risk Management, Enterprise Wide Risk Management, Accounting, Marketing, SHEQ Management Systems and Lead Auditing (ISO 14001, ISO 9001, ISO 45001 formerly OHSAS 18001& NOSA).