



Presenter

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Climate justice in cyberspace: Can the internet amplify and connect marginalized voices?

"We don't need to know what survivors of this hurricane are doing, we need to know what survivors of Hurricane Katrina would do differently." This quote, from a survivor of Hurricane Matthew in 2016 illustrates the potential for peer-to-peer learning to enhance resilience to acute environmental change across otherwise disconnected communities. The advent and broad dissemination of social media and citizen science platforms and the widening use of internet-enabled personal devices present new opportunities to "scale-up" the knowledge sharing that has been occurring under the guidance of environmental justice activists for decades. Yet whether and how technology can be used to amplify and connect marginalized voices remains a relatively underexplored challenge to making change. This "Connecting the Dots/ Ask the Audience" presentation will begin by proposing a framework for thinking about the promise and peril of using the internet and social media-based communication technologies to build climate justice before asking the audience to contribute their experiences with resilience planning in local communities, citizen science, and internet-based engagement. The goal will be to identify a network of researchers, professionals, and community leaders willing to contribute to a larger shared vision for capturing and translating local knowledge through cyberspace.