

## **Nature, crisis stories and the politics of repair**

Panel session at the event [Pathways to sustainability: knowledge, politics and power](#)  
8 December 2021 at 13.00-15.00 UTC

*This event will not be recorded.*

Over the past fifteen years, the STEPS Centre's work on the politics of natural resources, climate and environmental change has shown how dominant framings of crisis and urgency have given rise to a contested politics and economics of global sustainability. Drawing on this legacy and wider engagements with political ecology, critical geography and related fields, this session explores the role of stories and imaginaries of crisis, sustainability and development, in the contested and rapidly evolving politics of global sustainability and repair at the current juncture.

What work do discredited and racist degradation myths, northern imaginaries of eco-catastrophe and related '[ghastly futurisms](#)' do in legitimising the intensifying push for exclusionary restoration regimes rooted in logics of enclose-control-and-repair (e.g., the HAC / 30x30, Half-Earth and the 'Global Safety Net')? What is their role in managing the (in)visibility of contemporary processes of violence, dispossession and ecological harm in the production of new economies and ecologies of repair at different scales? How can we push back and create more effective counter-narratives?

The session will begin with a brief introduction to the theme by the chair, and then hear interventions from three speakers. The session will then invite discussion and debate from other participants. The meeting will take place on Zoom and will not be recorded.

### **Speakers**

**Anwasha Dutta**, Senior Researcher at the Chr. Michelsen Institute in Bergen, Norway

**Jevgeniy Bluwstein**, Senior Lecturer in Human Geography, Department of Geosciences, University of Fribourg, Switzerland

Chair: **Amber Huff**, Institute of Development Studies/ESRC STEPS Centre