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## **Call for Presentations: Conference on Social Justice and Customary Law, 25 August 2021**

The Law Trust Chair in Social Justice at Stellenbosch University is hosting a one-day conference entitled “Customary Law, Culture and Social Justice: Has Transformative Constitutionalism Advanced Equality and Other Human Rights in Customary Law” **and hereby invite interested parties to submit proposals for presentations.**

The **purpose** of the conference is to provide a platform for engaging with developments in social justice and customary law. The conference further aims to assess the impact of transformative constitutionalism on advancing social justice, including gender justice in the implementation of customary law, while mainstreaming the Chair’s quest for systematising social justice conscious law and policymaking in customary law.

### **Key objectives:**

1. Taking stock of customary law and culture reform and impact on advancing equality and reducing poverty since the interim Constitution of 1993.
2. Reflecting on the equality impact of court jurisprudence on land, succession, marriage and other dimensions of customary law.
3. Documenting challenges and good practices.
4. Place holding for the Social Justice Impact Assessment Matrix (SIAM).

The **outcome** of the conference will be to emerge with a social justice research, teaching and collaboration agenda to accelerate transformation in the area of customary law.

We invite **presentations** from everyone with an interest in the transformation of the customary law sphere, including government officials, the judiciary, the legal profession, administrators, academia, traditional leaders and civil society, around the following themes:

1. The Anatomy of Customary Law: Separating Customary Law from Colonial and Contemporary Distortions
2. Social Justice Dimensions of Land and Other Property Rights Under Customary Law Lens
3. Gender Equality and Customary Marriages
4. Impact Conscious Law Making: Can A Social Justice Assessment Instrument Make a Difference
5. Human Rights Dimensions of Ukuthwala and Other Girls’ Rights
6. Equality and Succession / Inheritance Challenges in Traditional Leadership and the Family
7. Finding Spaces to Move the Needle on GBV and Other Gender Challenges in Traditional Communities

8. Good Practices on Transformative Constitutionalism for Advancing Equality under Customary Law: Kenya, Malawi, India

If you are interested in presenting, kindly contact [mlourens@sun.ac.za](mailto:mlourens@sun.ac.za) with your proposed topic and abstract by no later than **10 August 2021**. The **abstract** should be between a minimum of 250 and a maximum of 350 words, describing the topic you would like to present at the **conference**.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- Abstracts should reach the organisers by **10 August 2021**.
- Abstracts selected for presentation will be made known by **12 August 2021**.
- Draft copies of presentations should be submitted by **24 August 2021**.