Contributors

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Dewald van Niekerk is the director of the African Centre for Disaster Studies at North West University in South Africa. Although trained in social science, he has been focusing his research on various issues relating to disaster risk reduction, including disaster management policies and legislation. Van Niekerk has been involved in the drafting of the South African policy and legislation on disaster risk reduction since 1999 and has published extensively on management of climate and other environmental disasters. Recent publications include ‘Denial, Rhetoric or
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Action: Are South African Municipalities Planning for Climate Change?’ (Development Southern Africa Journal, Vol. 29, No. 2, 2011) and (with other authors) ‘National Planning and Disaster’ in Wisner et al., Routledge Handbook of Natural Hazards and Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (Routledge 2011).


Tim Stephens is an international lawyer and human geographer at the University of Sydney’s School of Law and Co-Director of the Sydney Centre for International Law. He has published widely on issues of public international law, national and international environmental law and the law of the sea. He is Co-Editor in Chief of the Asia Pacific Journal of Environmental Law. In 2010, Dr Stephens was awarded the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law Junior Scholarship Prize for his contribution to environmental law scholarship. Recent publications in the field of climate law include: (with other authors) Climate Change and Australia: Warming to the Global Challenge (Federation Press 2011) and The International Law of the Sea (Hart 2010), and the book chapter ‘A Slow Burn: The Emergence of Climate Change Law in Australia’ in Birch (ed.), Water, Wind, Art and Debate: How Environmental Concerns Impact on Disciplinary Research (Sydney University Press 2007).
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