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Book review in French and translated to English

Ecotheology and Environmental Crisis in Africa: State of Affairs – Challenges and Perspectives, published by Editions CLE in 2026, edited by Tom Sverre Bredal-Tomren, Marcel Ngrinshuti, and Olivier Randrianjaka, is a 438-page volume.

Écothéologie et crise environnementale en Afrique

Cet ouvrage collectif explore la rencontre entre foi chrétienne, durabilité et justice sociale. À travers des contributions de chercheurs européens et africains, il propose une réflexion interdisciplinaire sur l'écothéologie, la mission de l'Église et la responsabilité éthique face aux défis climatiques. Un regard africain unique enrichit le débat, offrant des perspectives issues de contextes marqués par la vulnérabilité écologique et la résilience communautaire.

Ce livre est particulièrement adapté pour l'enseignement auprès des étudiants en théologie, en sciences religieuses, en pédagogie, ainsi que pour toute personne souhaitant comprendre comment les acteurs religieux répondent à la crise climatique et environnementale.

Le livre contient des contributions de chercheurs et d'universitaires renommés dans le domaine de l'écothéologie du Cameroun, du Ghana, de Madagascar, d'Éthiopie, du Rwanda et de Norvège.

Tom Sverre Bredal-Tomren, originaire de Norvège, est missionnaire, chercheur et professeur de théologie à l'université spécialisée VID, Stavanger. Conférences annuelles à l'Institut luthérien de théologie de Meiganga (LITM) et à (UPAC).

Marcel Ngrinshuti, originaire du Rwanda, est enseignant-chercheur en théologie pratique et écothéologie à l'université protestante d'Afrique centrale de Yaoundé (UPAC) au Cameroun, où il dirige le Centre de recherche interdisciplinaire sur l'environnement et la religion (CRI-ERE).

Olivier Randrianjaka est professeur associé et vice-doyen en études de l'Ancien Testament à la faculté de théologie luthérienne malgache (SEL), à Fianarantsoa, Madagascar.

Ce livre est essentiel pour quiconque souhaite comprendre le fonctionnement des Églises en Afrique à l'ère de l'Anthropocène, abordant des thèmes tels que le climat, les problèmes environnementaux et le développement durable. Il est vivement recommandé aux prêtres, aux enseignants, aux chercheurs et à tous ceux qui étudient la manière dont l'Église chrétienne fait face à la crise écologique.

De Louk Andriano, Consultant du Conseil œcuménique des Églises (COE) sur la sauvegarde de la création, la durabilité et la justice climatique.

Tom Sverre Bredal-Tomren
Marcel Ngrinshuti
Olivier Randrianjaka

Écothéologie et crise
environnementale en Afrique

CLE

Tom Sverre Bredal-Tomren, Marcel Ngrinshuti
et Olivier Randrianjaka
(sous la direction)

Écothéologie et crise environnementale en Afrique

État des lieux - enjeux et perspectives



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FRENCH:

Courte présentation du livre:

sous la direction de Tom Sverre Bredal-Tomren, Marcel Ngirinshuti et Olivier Randrianjaka, offre une analyse interdisciplinaire de la crise écologique sur le continent africain. À travers des approches théologiques, bibliques et sociales, il éclaire le rôle des communautés religieuses dans la sauvegarde de la création et propose des pistes d'action concrètes adaptées aux réalités africaines.

Revue sur le livre:

Cet ouvrage constitue une contribution remarquable au développement de la pensée écothéologique africaine contemporaine. En articulant avec rigueur les dimensions théologiques, bibliques, sociales et environnementales de la crise écologique, les auteurs offrent une analyse approfondie des défis auxquels le continent africain est confronté tout en mettant en lumière des pistes d'action concrètes inspirées par la foi et l'engagement des communautés religieuses.

Originaire de Madagascar et consultant du Conseil œcuménique des Églises sur les questions de justice climatique et de protection de l'environnement depuis plus d'une décennie, je recommande vivement cet ouvrage aux étudiants en écothéologie, aux chercheurs, aux responsables ecclésiaux ainsi qu'aux acteurs engagés dans la sauvegarde de la création, tant en Afrique qu'en Europe du Nord et dans d'autres régions du monde. Ce livre favorise un dialogue fécond entre contextes culturels et ecclésiaux différents et offre de précieuses opportunités d'échange d'expériences, de connaissances et de bonnes pratiques en matière de protection de l'environnement.

Par son approche interdisciplinaire, sa richesse documentaire et son ancrage dans les réalités africaines, ce livre s'impose comme une référence incontournable pour toute personne souhaitant approfondir les liens entre théologie, justice climatique, développement durable et sauvegarde de la création.

Dr Louk Andrianos

*Consultant du Conseil œcuménique des Églises (COE)
en Justice climatique, Biodiversité, Développement durable
et protection de l'environnement*



ENGLISH:

Short presentation of the book:

The work «Ecotheology and Environmental Crisis in Africa: State of Affairs – Challenges and Perspectives,» published by Editions CLE in 2026 under the direction of Tom Sverre Bredal-Tomren, Marcel Ngirinshuti, and Olivier Randrianjaka, offers an interdisciplinary analysis of the ecological crisis on the African continent. Through theological, biblical, and social approaches, it sheds light on the role of religious communities in safeguarding creation and proposes concrete actions adapted to African realities.

Review of the book: Ecotheology and Environmental Crisis in Africa: State of Affairs – Challenges and Perspectives

This book is a remarkable contribution to the development of contemporary African ecotheological thought. By rigorously articulating theological, biblical, social, and environmental dimensions of the ecological crisis, the authors provide an in-depth analysis of the challenges facing the African continent while highlighting concrete courses of action inspired by faith and the commitment of religious communities.

Originally from Madagascar and consultant to the World Council of Churches on climate justice and environmental protection for over a decade, I highly recommend this work to students in ecotheology, researchers, church leaders, and all those engaged in the preservation of creation, both in Africa, Northern Europe, and other regions of the world. This book fosters fruitful dialogue between different cultural and ecclesial contexts and offers valuable opportunities to share experiences, knowledge, and good practices concerning environmental protection.

Through its interdisciplinary approach, rich documentation, and grounding in African realities, this book stands as an essential reference for anyone wishing to deepen their understanding of the links between theology, climate justice, sustainable development, and the protection of creation.

Dr Louk Andrianos

Consultant to the World Council of Churches (WCC)

*Climate Justice, Biodiversity, Sustainable Development,
and Environmental Protection*





Report from the eighth international conference of the European Forum for the Study of Religion and the Environment (EFSRE):

Telling a Different Story – Religion, Extractivism and (Green) Colonialism in Europe, 7 to 9 May 2026, at University College Stockholm.

Approximately 60 persons gathered for the conference. The last day had a so-called Business Meeting, that elected Petra Carlsson Redell as the new EFSRE chair; she was also the host of the Conference. Assisting in the planning were Marion Grau, MF Norwegian School of Theology, Oslo, Norway, and Lovisa Mienna Sjöberg, VID Specialized University, Tromsø, Norway. Information on other conferences, journals and networks relating to ecotheology were also shared.

The conference started with a film screening of “The Offspring Resembles the Parent”, focusing on the colonial heritage and financial depression of the 20th century. It included an interesting conversation with the filmmaker, Lina Selander.

In addition to two panels, titled Under the Rule of Mammon: Religiosity and Extractivism & Unpacking (Green) Colonialism in Sápmi – Critical Indigenous Perspectives, there were three parallel paper sessions. A total of 10 paper sessions were held, with three presentations in each. The interactions between the participants gave rich and new insights. Highly interesting paper presentations were given by students from Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University.

As a final programme element, a workshop was facilitated by three young researchers, making a coffee table session, with three themes: extractivism, theology, and epistemology (“what do we not know”). Allowing



conversations and core messages around small tables was a successful way to frame the session Navigating Religion, Extractivism and (Green) Colonialism.

The Ninth conference will be held in 2028, hosted by Ruhr-Universität Bochum, with Prof. Dr. Julia Enxing as main host.

Hans Morten Haugen
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Conference Report: Ecotheology and Intercultural Learning in Stavanger (November 2025)

In November 2025, an international conference on ecotheology was held in Stavanger as part of the AktTeo project and the European Christian Ecotheology Network. The event gathered a broad range of scholars, educators, and practitioners working at the intersection of theology, sustainability, and education.

The conference featured a distinguished lineup of keynote speakers, reflecting the global and interdisciplinary scope of the field. These included Cécile Dumond, who addressed ecotheology as an academic discipline, Christine A. Nellist, Niels Henrik Gregersen, Heinrich Bedford-Strohm, Martin Palmer, and Ernst M. Conradie. Together, the keynotes provided theological, ethical, and institutional perspectives on the development of ecotheology in contemporary academia and church life.

In addition to the keynote lectures, the programme included multiple parallel sessions with presentations from researchers across Europe, Africa, and beyond. A central theme throughout the conference was the role of ecotheology in addressing the ecological crisis, with particular attention to sustainability, interreligious dialogue, and the integration of perspectives from the Global South.

The conference also highlighted innovative pedagogical approaches, including student-active learning and international collaboration between institutions in Norway and Madagascar. These contributions demonstrated how theological education can integrate academic reflection with practical engagement in environmental and social challenges.

Overall, the Stavanger conference contributed significantly to strengthening international networks in ecotheology and to advancing the field as an established and globally relevant area of theological research and education.



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Institutional Partners

Ecothe collaborates with a network of academic, ecumenical, and research institutions that support its mission and development:



European Christian Ecotheology
Research Network (ECErN)



ZRS Science and Research
Centre (Slovenia)



Volos Academy for Theological
Studies (Greece)



SOFTE

La Société Œcuménique et Francophone
de Théologie de l'Écologie (SOFTE)



Le «Centre Hélène et Jean
Bastaire» (France)



CWCR – The Centre for World Christianity
and Religion (VID Stavanger)



Institute of Theology and Ecology,
Orthodox Academy of Crete

CRI-ERE

Centre for Integrated Research in Environmental Education
(CRI-ERE), Protestant University of Central Africa (Cameroon)

WCC

World Council of Churches



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