Abstract

Global biodiversity loss and climate change are parts of intensifying poly-crises that result from a single source – the excessive conversion of nature for economic growth and financial gain. Balancing the relationships between nature, economy and society will be necessary to 'bend the curves' of the multiple crises. A critical foundation for success is to focus on maintaining healthy and sufficient nature at local scales, supporting biodiversity and human outcomes. This addresses equity among people, drivers of decline, and provides tangible opportunities to restore financial capital into natural capital.

In this talk I will link my background in coral reefs, climate change and small scale fisheries in the Western Indian Ocean to the frameworks and approaches of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) to show how balanced responses across nature, economy and society are needed to achieve global goals, and point to the differentiated responsibilities and actions required among and within countries.