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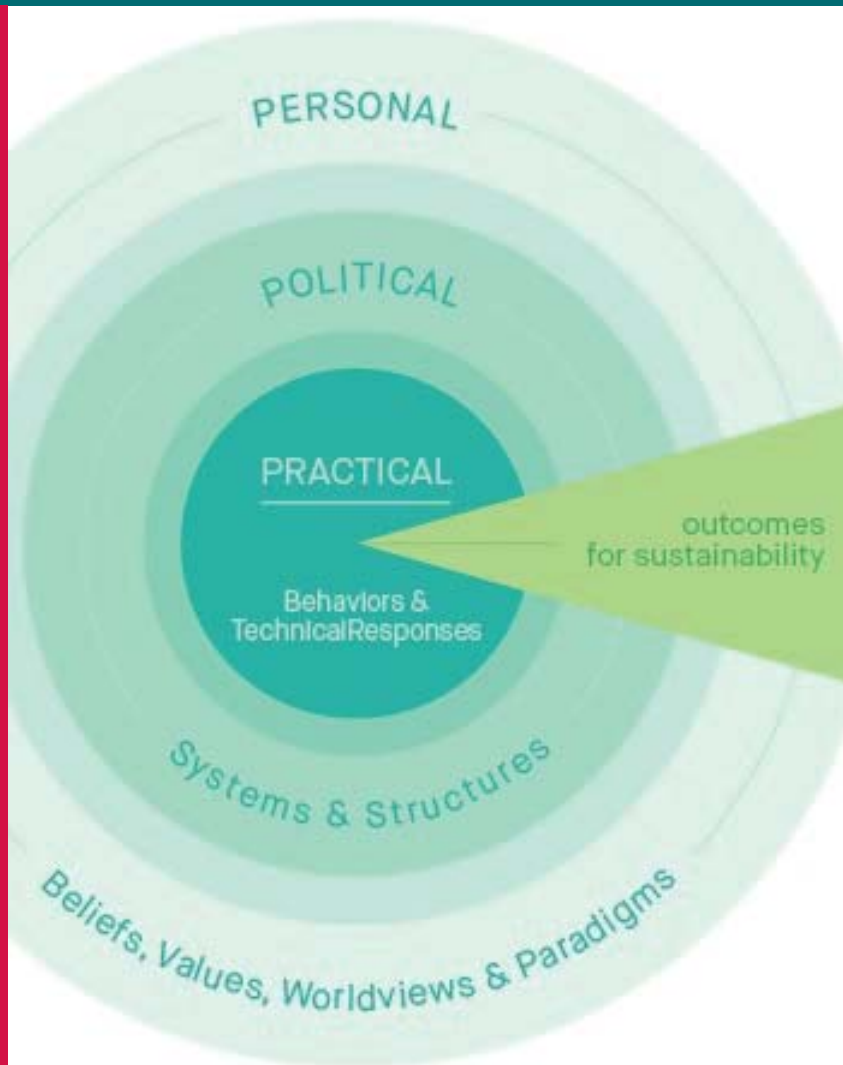
# CLIMATE CHANGE

SPEAKER SERIES

## KAREN O'BRIEN

### *Is the 1.5 °C Target Possible? Exploring the Dynamics of Deliberate Social Transformations*

Carbon roadmaps and pathways are important for describing, planning and tracking the technical, managerial and behavioral changes that are consistent with the Paris Agreement. Nevertheless, roadmaps and pathways for decarbonization often gloss over a fundamental question: 'How do deliberate social transformations happen?' In particular, the social complexity of transformation processes tends to be downplayed or ignored in favor of technical solutions and behavioral approaches. In this talk, I explain why they are dangerously incomplete hence unlikely to 'bend the curves' in alignment with the Paris Agreement. I first discuss the difference between technical and adaptive challenges. Then I present and describe the dynamics of social change in relation to three related and interacting 'spheres' of transformation: the practical, political, and personal spheres. Finally, I explore how the three spheres can be used to identify leverage points for transformations that contribute to the 1.5°C target.



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