



SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE
NEW YORK CITY
JULY 12-13, 2011

***Climate Justice Rights: Funding Resiliency in the Face of
Disasters***

Wednesday, July 13, 2011, 9:00- 10:30pm

Session Organizers:

Katherine Zavala, International Development Exchange (IDEX); Karen Ashmore, Lambi Fund of Haiti

Facilitator:

Katherine Zavala, International Development Exchange (IDEX)

Panelists:

Elvira Sanchez Toscano, Executive Director, Institute to Overcome Urban Poverty; Marie Marthe Saint Cyr, Executive Director, Lambi Fund of Haiti

Sponsors:

International Development Exchange (IDEX), Grassroots International, The Lambi Fund of Haiti and IHRFG Working Group on Human Rights and the Environment

Climate justice is a vision and strategy for dissolving and alleviating the unequal burdens created by climate change. Climate justice advocates are working up from the grassroots to create solutions that ensure the right of all people to live, work, play, and pray in safe, healthy, and clean environments. This session highlighted the experiences of organizers in Guatemala and Haiti who are applying a human rights framework to climate justice efforts in cities and rural communities. Session participants reflected on their own strategies for supporting this work, explored what questions funders should ask themselves in building long-term funding strategies to tackle climate change, and examined the policies and conditions that have increased communities' vulnerabilities to climate change. Participants also learnt from rights-based solutions that community-based organizations in the Global South have developed to respond to disasters and climate change.