



PRE-CONFERENCE INSTITUTE JULY 10, 2013

Adapting to Climate Change

July 10, 2013
1:15 – 2:45pm

Facilitator:

- Peter Kostishack, Director of Programs, Global Greengrants Fund

Panelists:

- Patricia Cochran, Executive Director, Alaska Native Science Commission
 - John Crump, Senior Advisor on Climate Change, GRID-Arendal; Coordinator, Many Strong Voices
 - Rachel Harris, Advocacy Coordinator, Women's Environment & Development Organization (WEDO)
-

Patricia Cochran of the Alaska Native Science Commission opened the session with an invocation. She noted that the Institute is taking place on land that once belonged to native communities, and she paid tribute to our collective elders as sources of wisdom.

Peter Kostishack of Global Greengrants Fund introduced the panelists by sharing the key questions that frame this discussion:

- What is community-based adaptation and how has this approach been effective at protecting the rights of affected peoples and communities?
- What is needed to protect the rights of peoples and communities who are forced to leave their traditional homes as a result of climate change (climate-induced displacement and relocation)?
- What actions can be taken to support women and other vulnerable groups given that they often lack the resources, power and opportunities to adapt?

Cochran began her remarks by explaining that indigenous Alaskans have been aware of climate change since the 1960s. Many changes in their environment led to a collective realization that there were broader changes taking place. Cochran said that while Alaska is seen as “developed” due to its inclusion in the United States, high poverty rates and environmental challenges particular to the state’s climate, among other factors, create “developing” conditions for many Alaskans.

Cochran noted many of the damaging environmental impacts of climate change that are affecting native Alaskan lifestyles. These included:

- Permafrost melt and sea ice melt both cause flooding and erosion of land.
- Increased tundra wild fires are due to the increased incidence of lightning strikes.
- Winter rain icing, which occurs when temperatures alternate between very hot and very cold, builds an ice layer which animals can't break through to find food.
- Food security is impacted when temperatures and weather conditions are atypical for long periods of time.
- Increased incidence of major storms which used to happen every few hundred years and now happen almost every decade.

Cochran then moved to discuss the diverse ways native Alaskans have learned to adapt to the impacts of climate change. Because 80% of these communities are coastal-dwelling, the impacts are massive. Their adaptation mechanisms included:

- Building sea walls to hold back encroaching waters
- Developing alternative energy sources, such as wind farms, geothermal power plants, and solar power
- Developing better fire management systems
- Building subterranean homes
- Finding different uses for traditional medicine
- Practicing erosion control
- Relocation

Cochran noted that the town of Newtok is probably the most well-known case of community relocation, since it is widely thought to be the source of the first climate refugees in the United States. She highlighted that it is often difficult for communities like Newtok to find the financial resources needed to implement their adaptation strategies, as state agencies and others question the benefit of funding a community that may not exist in a few years.

Cochran also emphasized that native Alaskan communities are bringing traditional knowledge and science to bear on issues related to climate change. For example, a seal-tagging project initiated by native communities uses an online database to track seal groups, leading to a greater understanding of how climate change is impacting this species that is integral to indigenous communities. She also mentioned the website www.teachersdomain.org, through which a curriculum has been developed that gives teachers tools to discuss climate change through the lens of Alaskan native culture. Another partnership between the Alaska Native Science Commission and the University of Alaska at Fairbanks draws on traditional knowledge to help native communities better survive the impacts of climate change.

John Crump, of GRID-Arendal and Many Strong Voices, then spoke on relocation and forced displacement as an adaptation strategy. He noted that it is important for communities to be involved in decision-making around their relocations from the start; when governments decide this, he said, the outcomes for the community aren't as positive.

Crump said that Arctic and small island developing states (SIDS) are among most vulnerable to climate change, while they also have some of the lowest levels of emissions, driving home the point that the impacts of climate change are not evenly, or fairly, distributed.

There are many similarities between the Arctic and SIDS, Crump continued, including:

- Traditional food sources are intimately connected to the environment, so food security is at risk
- Traditional cultures and languages are at risk of disappearing
- Ecosystems are similarly at risk
- The right of native communities to speak for themselves and be heard is a human rights issue in both areas

Crump stated that how we manage this ethical problem will say much about the world in which we will inhabit in the future. He stressed that this must be a multi-generational effort. He described Many Strong Voices as a collaborative effort between indigenous communities and NGOs involved in the Arctic and SIDS regions on issues of climate change. There is no membership fee, and he emphasized that though participants in Many Strong Voices come from vastly different regions, their stories are similarly impacted by climate change. He discussed the fact that Many Strong Voices sees climate change as both a human rights issue and a human security issue. Recently, Many Strong Voices brought together individuals from Alaska and some SIDS in Papua New Guinea, where they met and shared their respective strategies and perspectives on adapting to climate change. These alliances, Crump said, are the key to progress.

Finally, Rachel Harris of the Women's Environment & Development Organization (WEDO) spoke on WEDO's work around climate change legislation. She highlighted case studies from Ghana, India, Mexico, Niue, and Suriname, exploring their stories within a framework of women's rights and climate adaptation. She gave several examples as to how climate change exacerbates existing inequalities.

Adaptation policies, Harris said, have addressed women's rights and gender equality to varying degrees, and often not at all. Gender equality is addressed more from a framework of thinking of women as victims rather than giving women a place in decision-making process. This was the conclusion of WEDO's analysis of many country case studies. Harris emphasized that the focus must be on how women can be involved in process, and in monitoring and evaluation, with all climate-change related initiatives. For example, some least developed countries (LDCs) recently created guidelines around their own national plans. It is crucial that women be at the table in these discussions, Harris said.

She then turned to discussing several country case studies on how women are impacted by climate change, and how they are innovating and participating in adaptation strategies.

- Suriname: Women have no land rights or land tenure, particularly indigenous women. Climate change impacts agriculture because of seasonal changes, so women are using their own

knowledge to decide when to plant seeds. Their climate change policy is gender neutral and doesn't recognize the role of women, so women's adaptation strategies are not resourced.

- Ghana: Women were not consulted prior to a government intervention through which families were given livestock. The program ultimately failed because women did not have enough resources to care for the livestock. This is an example of the importance of hearing women's perspectives before implementing policies.
- Niue: Women are expected to act as caretakers. The current climate change policy is primarily focused on addressing infrastructural issues, so there are no social, economic, or gender implications considered.
- India: Dalit women were able to make arid land fertile through the use of indigenous seeds. They used the crops for food and profit. Currently, the project is expanding to 75 villages, reaching 5,000 women.
- Mexico: The first state in Mexico to create an agenda for gender and climate change is Tabasco, which is a small success story. They have a climate change policy but haven't developed more comprehensive way of looking at climate change and its impacts, which remains to be done.

One common thread from the case studies is that governments aren't recognizing the rights of groups, Harris said. In order to address this, governments must create an enabling environment to better incorporate gender mainstreaming into overall climate change policies, focusing on adaptation in particular.

The group then broke into three smaller groups to focus on gender, indigenous perspectives, and migration as lenses through which to view climate change.

Small Group: Climate-Induced Migration

Facilitator:

- John Crump, Senior Advisor on Climate Change, GRID-Arendal; Coordinator, Many Strong Voices

The group discussed a range of concerns, strategies, and legal frameworks surrounding climate-induced migration. Participants noted that there is often no difference between forced and voluntary migrations: communities seldom have any choice but to leave their land in the face of climate change. Moving has been characterized as both an adaptation strategy and a failure to adapt by the international community.

Participants also discussed the different challenges inherent in cross-border and internal migrations. Many communities, such as those from small island developing states, are forced to move abroad as their land is overtaken by rising seas. International migration falls under the scope of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, but questions of sovereignty arise as nations push back against incoming refugees.

Internally-displaced persons (IDPs) are often fall into the gaps, as it is unclear whether their protection falls to the state or the international community. Participants raised the question of disproportionate impacts: smaller, developing nations and island states are expected to bear the costs of problems caused by developed nations.

Participants also discussed the limitations of international mechanisms. There are protections in place for political refugees, but no international framework exists for economic or environmental refugees, and the community has seen resistance to expanding the definition of refugees. Participants also pointed to the Nansen Principles: while a positive development, they are voluntary and not enforceable.

Funders noted an overall gap in responses to slow-onset change, like climate change. Financing for adaptation comes from international development agencies, but it is difficult to ensure that funds reach the communities in need. Increasing access within existing structures is one avenue of engagement for philanthropists.

The group discussed other strategies for funders, including low-tech solutions like mangrove trees and marshes to create buffer zones in vulnerable communities. While there is a big price tag associated with moving a displaced community, participants agreed that it isn't the role of a funder. Rather, funders said that opportunities lie in empowerment: helping communities engage and developing tools to guide them through the process of relocation.

Small Group: Indigenous Perspectives on Climate Change

Facilitator:

- Patricia Cochran, Executive Director, Alaska Native Science Commission

Cochran said that native communities are leading the way in terms of finding strategies and interventions to build their resiliency to climate change. She discussed some issues and challenges native communities face when developing strategies to react and adapt to climate change. These include:

- Coastal communities were often originally migratory communities, and were moved to the coast by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. For some of the elders in these communities, then, moving due to climate change isn't problematic but rather aligns with the community's original lifestyle.
- Whenever native communities can convene together and share strategies, it is extremely helpful but this is very difficult given the vast distances between communities.
- The impact of increased attention on the Arctic, including increased numbers of visitors, is that it changes the dynamics within communities. In Cochran's home community, there were often more visitors than residents, and the village eventually shut down access for visitors. To address this, dynamic leadership is needed to facilitate respectful access.

- Traditional knowledge is dynamic, not static, in that it builds upon every individual's experience. This approach helps native communities remain resilient in the face of massive adaptation challenges.
- The bureaucracy around finding governmental assistance with climate change impacts – such as housing shifts, energy costs, etc. – is very difficult to navigate.
- Local groups taking on grants can be problematic due to the reporting burden.
- Cochran emphasized that funders should not fund groups that want to speak for indigenous communities, but rather fund the communities themselves.

Small Group: Gender and Climate Change

Facilitator:

- Rachel Harris, Advocacy Coordinator, Women's Environment & Development Organization (WEDO)

The following key points emerged from the discussion:

- The gender aspect in climate change is a much bigger challenge than is usually conveyed. There's a general understanding, but almost no traction.
- Climate change policies can be a way to also address women's rights, if implemented correctly.
- Unfortunately, adaptation sometimes means being backing away from the problem (i.e. relocation).
- The women's movement and climate change movement seem to be separate and not working together. However, according to one participant, this depends on the region (not in Latin America, for example).
- We must target policy-makers, funders and stakeholders differently and specifically according to their nature and workings. Each requires specific diagnosis.
- Funders must conceptualize the intersectionalities of what is happening on the ground and they must have local approaches that meet the needs of the local population. This includes acknowledging and integrating local and everyday realities with the larger women's movement.
- The concept of "gender washing" is being used by many organizations to give the impression that they are incorporating gender as a framework, when in reality they are not.

This discussion also raised the following questions:

- Initially, women's rights organizations were not necessarily active in the policy/climate debate. Can we say that they are now?
- How many initiatives and organizations working on climate change issues initially incorporated the gender debate?
- How can we make sure that the women's movement and the climate change movement are working collaboratively everywhere?

International Human Rights Funders Group Indigenous Peoples' in a Changing World



Patricia Cochran
Executive Director
Alaska Native Science Commission

www.nativescience.org

ARCTIC REGION



Arctic+ Issues

- Erosion
- Permafrost
- Loss of Sea Ice
- Storms
- Glaciers
- Fires
- Increased Temps
- New/invasive species
- Food Security
- Open Arctic waters



Sea Ice - Safety



**Large permafrost melt – Thermakarst
Selawik River**



USFWS Photo

Tundra wild fire – Noatak River



Jim Dau Photo

Winter rain icing

Jim Dau photo

Food Security



Fires - Temperatures



Storms



Methane bubbles



Adaptation in the Arctic – Ancient Wisdom & Modern Solutions



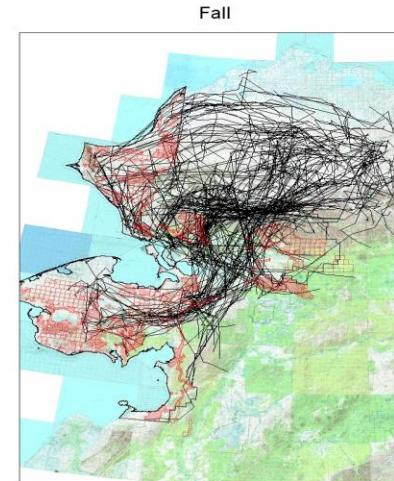
Coastal Erosion and Permafrost Responses

- Relocation, protective seawall,
- Escape road, evacuation plan
- Communities affected- Shishmaref, Kivalina, Newtok, Shaktoolik, Unalakleet, Point Hope.....
- Resources – State, Federal, Borough, and local governments
- Immediate Action Work Groups
- Hazard mapping, hydrological data, stream flow & precipitation records, geotechnical data
- Health effects – food, water, diseases, mass population movements & shelter



Incorporating Traditional Knowledge & Science

- Kotzebue IRA Bearded & Ring Seal Tagging Project- a partnership between local hunters & marine mammal scientists
- Western Arctic Caribou Working Group Satellite tagging program – A partnership between users groups, land managers, caribou biologist
- Alaska Native Science Commission Traditional Knowledge Project
- Indigenous Peoples Council for Marine Mammals
- Use of Satellites, GPS



Alternative Energy

- **Kotzebue Electric Association Wind Mill Project** – 18 wind generators – saves 100,000 gpy diesel-computer integrated for maximum efficiency
- **Chena Hot Springs Geothermal Power Plant**
- **Bering Straits Native Corporation Solar Power Project**



Adaptive Strategies – Using TKW

- Fire Management
- Subterranean Homes
- Traditional Medicine
- Erosion Control
- Dog teams
- Education systems
- New crops/species



www.teachersdomain.org

teachers' domain Digital Media for the Classroom and Professional Development

TD Home → Alaska Native Perspectives on Earth and Climate

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ALASKA NATIVE PERSPECTIVES ON EARTH AND CLIMATE

TRADITIONAL WAYS OF KNOWING

- Spirit
- Air
- Fire
- Water
- Earth

EARTH AS A SYSTEM

- Atmosphere
- Biosphere
- Cryosphere
- Hydrosphere
- Lithosphere

We have much to learn from both the traditional knowledge of Native peoples and ongoing scientific research. This collection uses both of these tools to provide complementary perspectives on Alaska's unique geology and the impact of development and climate change. As the environmental, economic, and political consequences of climate change are felt in Alaska, the Arctic, and throughout the world, Alaska Native scientists are working toward solving the challenges of survival using these two methods of observing nature.

Funding for this collection was provided by The Opportunities for Enhancing Diversity in the Geosciences (OEDG) Program of the Directorate for Geosciences, National Science Foundation.

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International Indigenous Initiatives

- Indigenous Peoples Global Network on Climate Change and Sustainability
- Many Strong Voices
- Arctic Alliance



Community Partnership for Self-Reliance & Sustainability
Alaska Native Science Commission & University of Alaska Fairbanks
Community Partners – Igiugig, Koyukuk, Newtok, Nikolai



University Partners

- Agriculture and Forestry Experiment Station
- Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Policy
- Alaska Center for Energy and Power
- Alaska Native Knowledge Network
- Alaska Native Language Center
- Alaska Sea Grant
- Alaska SeaLife Center
- Center for Alaska Native Health Research
- Center for Cross-Cultural Studies
- Cold Climate Housing Research Center
- College of Rural and Community Development
- Cooperative Extension Service
- Institute for Social and Economic Research
- Resilience and Adaptation Program
- Resilience and Adaptive Management
- Scenarios Network for Alaska Planning
- United Campus Ministry

Igiugig – Priority Projects



- *Comprehensive energy planning.* Igiugig and the university are developing a comprehensive energy plan to reduce energy use and to integrate several energy sources to reduce diesel consumption and maximize the use of renewable energy.
- *Water and land rights.* Igiugig, the ANSC and the university are finding information about land and water rights so that Igiugig can better protect its environment.
- *Strengthening culture and language.* After evaluating the cultural strengths of the community, the Village Council is working with the school to promote Yup'ik language learning and use of healthy and traditional foods in school lunches.

Newtok – Priority Projects

- *Removing barriers to relocation.* Newtok was actively moving forward with relocation before the CPSS collaboration began. The CPSS partnership is assisting in communication with lawyers and the Corps of Engineers to help remove barriers.
- *Long-term planning for sustainability.* Over the longer term (the next five years) the university will assist in designing an energy-efficient community with less dependence on diesel fuel, for example by building energy-efficient housing.
- *Maintain strong culture:* One Yupik elder said she would like to write a book in Yupik that tells Newtok's traditional values and stories. It was decided to postpone the recording of traditional stories until later, because of the high priority given to village relocation.



Koyukuk – Priority Projects



- *Get off the list of flooding-vulnerable communities.* The CPSS collaboration documented the flood history for the community over the past 75 years, showing how the community has responded to reduce flood risk. This information can be used in grant applications.
- *Become self-sufficient in energy use.* Discussions are ongoing between the community, CPSS, the Denali Commission, and AEA to determine how to make the powerhouse more fuel-efficient and easy to use.
- *Protect fish, hunting and trapping on traditional lands.* The community is very involved in the management of openings for the fishing and opening a winter hunt. New regulations by ADF&G should make it easier to arrange these hunts.

Nikolai – Priority Projects

- *Food security and subsistence.* CPSS is helping determine better ways for Nikolai to influence fish closures. Nikolai wanted a workshop to discuss why Chinook salmon are declining in the Kuskokwim and Yukon Rivers. UAF organized the workshop.
- *Reducing fuel costs.* After discussions of weatherization, the Interior Regional Housing Authority was invited to come to Nikolai. They placed the village on their weatherization list and the village is working to set up the grant. The community also got a grant to study the feasibility of using woody biomass for fuel. These could be components of a comprehensive energy plan.
- *Feedback on self-reliance ideas.* The greatest usefulness of CPSS to Nikolai may have been the chance to bounce off ideas and concerns that the Village Council had been thinking about.



Nikolai Takes Action to Shape Its Future Participation in the Community Partnership for Self-Reliance and Sustainability (CPSS)

The Problem:

- Rising costs of food and fuel.
- Climate change
- Outmigration
- Decreased state budgets



What is CPSS?

A partnership of Alaskan communities with the Alaska Native Science Commission (ANSC) and the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF).

The goal of the Community Partnership for Self-Reliance and Sustainability (CPSS) is to implement each community's long-term vision for self-reliance and sustainability.

Community Concerns:

1. Energy costs & efficiency
2. Keeping school open (importance of local housing and jobs for young families)
3. Language and Culture
4. Infrastructure (road to dump, tribal office)



Community Solutions:

1. Maintaining a strong culture
 - Read Athabascan in school
 - Host cultural events (Denakkanaaga in June 2012)
 - Teach fishing and trapping to young people
2. Improve local government relationships.
3. Energy
 - Install smart meters and subsidize energy costs.
 - Program to pay people to cut wood for elders.
 - Pursuing grants for home weatherization and for a wood boiler to heat community buildings

"I've been impressed with the groups willingness to listen to community priorities on self-reliance" - Nikolai Participant



Benefits of Participation in CPSS:

- Feedback on self-reliance ideas.
- Networking with other communities, University and agencies.
- Help with a tangible concern (see below).



CPSS Ongoing Project

Food security and subsistence.

- Determine better ways for Nikolai to influence fish closures.
- Nikolai suggested a workshop to figure out why Chinook salmon are declining in the Kuskokwim and Yukon Rivers.
- UAF will help to organize one in February.

Nikolai Community Partners:
Nancy Gagné & Michael Tolson

Nikolai Community Leader:
Suzanne Hall

Alaska Native Science Commission:
Hannah Colleen & Lucy Marshall
(907) 268-2572

University of Alaska Fairbanks:
Tracy Chaple (907) 474-7020
Carrie Aspby (907) 474-7346



UAF
UNIVERSITY OF
ALASKA FAIRBANKS

Climatic Change Journal - March 2013
Indigenous frameworks for observing and responding
to climate change in Alaska

1. Engage communities in designing climate-change solutions.
2. Create an environment of mutual respect for multiple ways of knowing.
3. Directly assist communities in achieving their adaptation goals.
4. Promote partnerships that foster effective climate solutions from both western and indigenous perspectives.
5. Foster regional and international networking to share climate solutions.



Climate Change, Relocation, Human Rights

John Crump
Senior Advisor - Climate Change
GRID-Arendal Polar Centre
www.grida.no/polar

IPCC 4th Assessment Report (2007)

+Arctic and SIDS among the regions most vulnerable to climate change



Unjárga, Norway (Photo: Annelaila Smuk)



Laucala Island, Fiji (Photo: Nichole Tavo)

IPCC 4th Assessment Report (2007)

+Effects not evenly distributed



Unjárga, Norway (Photo: Annelaila Smuk)



Laucala Island, Fiji (Photo: Nichole Tavo)

IPCC 4th Assessment Report (2007)

+SIDS, Arctic among the lowest emissions



Unjárga, Norway (Photo: Annelaila Smuk)



Laucala Island, Fiji (Photo: Nichole Tavo)

There is an urgent Need To respond to climate change in the Arctic and SIDS

- + Ecosystems and the animal, plant and human life they support are vulnerable
- + Climate change is a human rights and human security issue - affects culture, language, survival as distinct peoples and societies
- + People in the Arctic and SIDS have a right to have their voices heard
- + How we manage this ethical problem will say much about the world we wish to inhabit in the future

Many Strong Voices

an alliance of Indigenous Peoples, NGOs, researchers, policymakers, community organizations and others in the Arctic and SIDS



Different regions Similar Stories



Tuvalu (Photo: Christine Germano)

Shishmaref, Alaska (Photo: Theresa Olanna)



Sea Level Rise and Coastal Erosion



Shishmaref, Alaska (Photo: Alan Kuzuguk)



Tuvalu (Photo: Peter Harry)

SIDS Infrastructure



Kiribati sea wall (photo: Christine Germano)



Fiji coastline (photo: Andrew Sheehy)

Arctic Infrastructure



Shishmaref (Photo: Miizuk Nayokpuk)



Shishmaref (Photo: Lawrence Hislop)

Renewable resources



Shishmaref (Photo: Lawrence “Miizuk” Nayokpuk)



Seychelles (Photo: Lawrence Hislop)

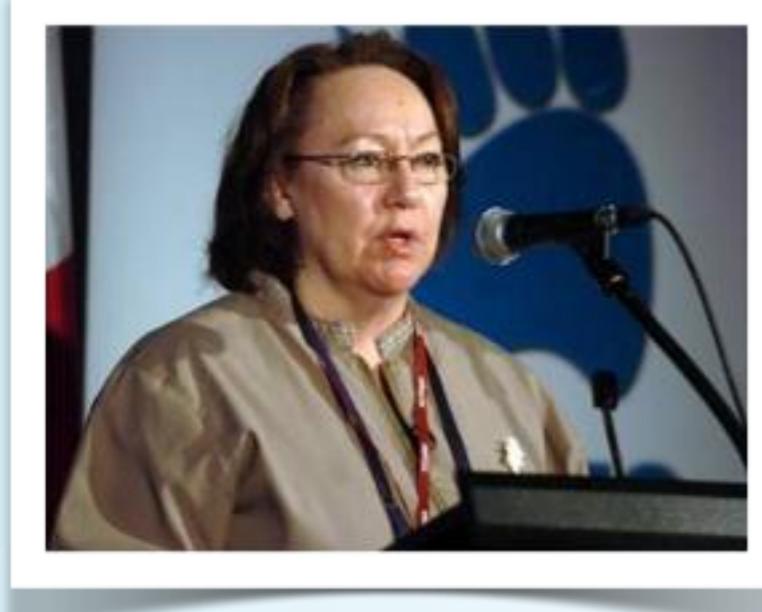
Climate change is a human rights and human security issue



“The fight against climate change is a fight based on our undeniable human right to exist, and not just as nation states, but as peoples and communities.”

Hon. Ronald Jumeau, Seychelles
Ambassador to the UN , 29 Sept. 2009

Climate change is a human rights and human security issue



“Climate change in the Arctic is a human issue, a family issue, a community issue, and an issue of cultural survival. The joining of circumpolar peoples with Pacific Island and Caribbean States is surely part of the answer in addressing these issues.”

Sheila Watt-Cloutier, Inuit Advocate and 2007 Nobel Peace Prize Nominee

Why worry about Effects of Relocation?

The results of more than 25 studies around the world indicate without exception that the relocation, without informed consent, of low-income rural populations with strong ties to their land and homes is a traumatic experience. For the majority of those who have been moved, the profound shock of compulsory relocation is much like the bereavement caused by the death of a parent, spouse or child.

Canada. Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples
1996

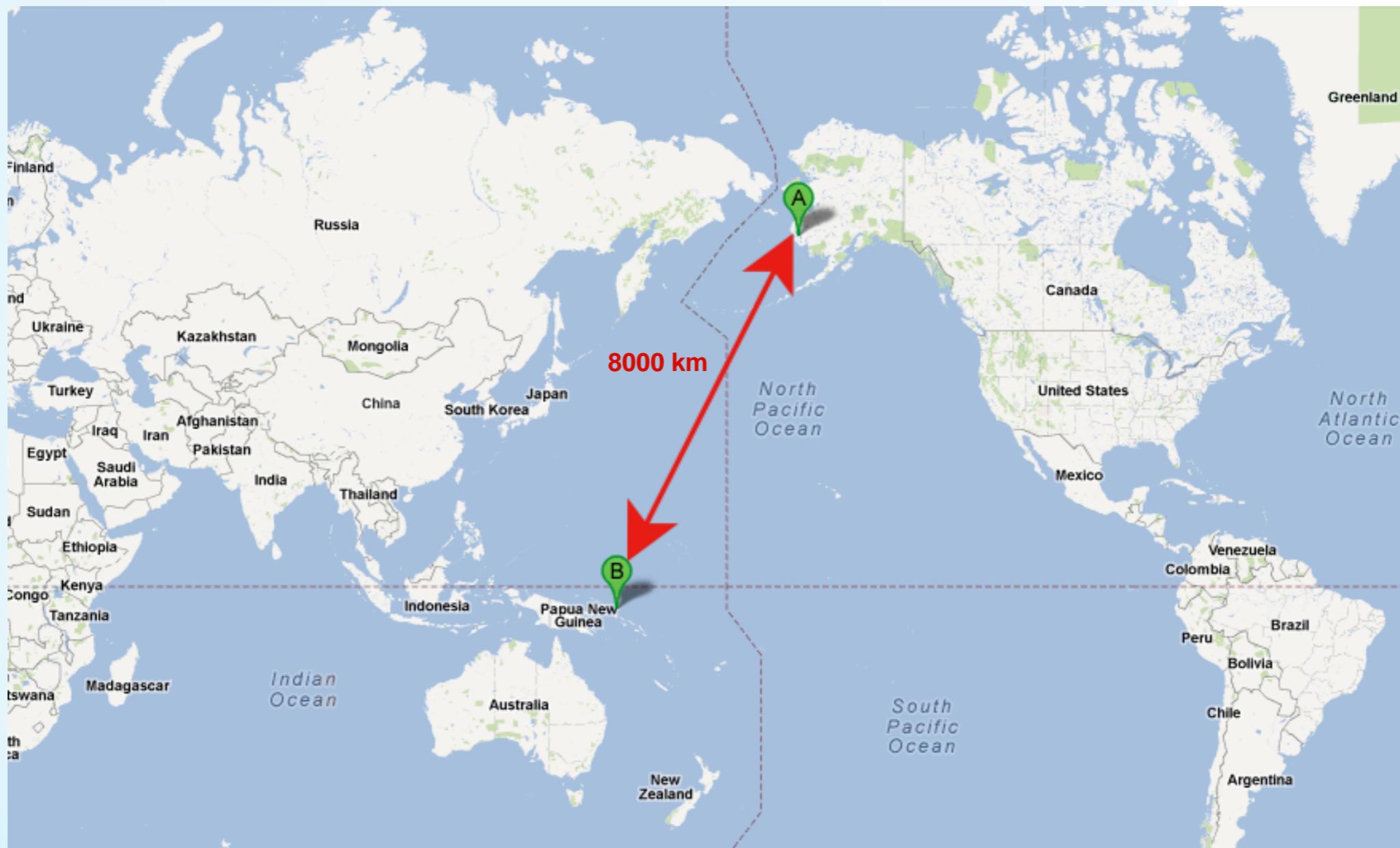
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*Canada. Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples
1996*

An Example

Climate Change and Community-Based Relocation in the Arctic and SIDS: Supporting Adaptation, Protecting Human Rights



Climate Change and Community-Based Relocation in the Arctic and SIDS: Supporting Adaptation, Protecting Human Rights



Climate Change and Community-Based Relocation in the Arctic and SIDS: Supporting Adaptation, Protecting Human Rights



Seychelles



Kivalina, Alaska

Relocation: Guiding Questions

What is the relationship between human rights, indigenous rights and relocation (i.e. what are the potential rights implications)?

What happens to individual and collective rights to land, culture, identity, and citizenship when they are relocated?

What criteria/guidelines need to be developed to protect peoples' rights?

How is it possible to ensure that communities are involved in making relocation decisions that will affect them?

Climate Change and Community-Based Relocation in the Arctic and SIDS: Supporting Adaptation, Protecting Human Rights



Phase 2

Working group of people from affected regions
Continue to assess community needs
Side event and other activities at the UNFCCC COP 19
Develop guidelines based on community experience and expertise

Relocation guide soon

Repeka Nasiko

Saturday, July 06, 2013



[+ Enlarge this image](#)

Esala Nayasi. Picture: www.brisvaani.com

A RELOCATION guideline will soon be launched by the climate change unit to assist line ministries in terms of moving communities away from natural disaster prone areas.

Confirming the new project, head of the climate change unit Esala Nayasi said the project would be used as part of Fiji's efforts to address climate change in the country.

The government of Vanuatu has been confirmed as a country that would use Fiji's relocation guideline to formulate its own policy on relocation.

The Bottom Line, Humanly Speaking

Climate Change is “the moral challenge of our generation ... the situation is so desperately serious that any delay could push us past the tipping point, beyond which the ecological, financial, and human costs would increase dramatically”

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon at the
UNFCCC Bali Conference, 2007

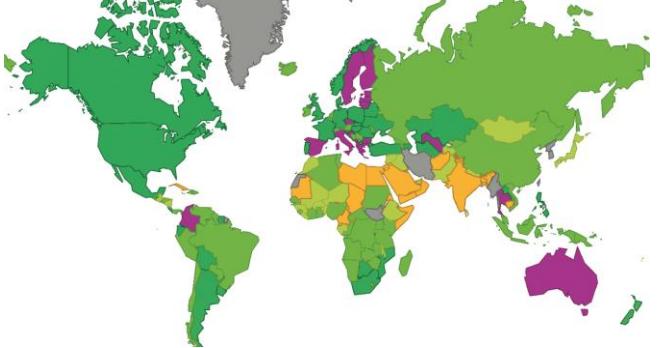


WE DO

The Women's Environment and Development Organization



For a just world that promotes and protects human rights, gender equality and the integrity of the environment



July 10, 2013

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Women's rights, gender equality and climate change adaptation: Advocacy Stories for Solutions

Rachel Harris





Stories from Ghana, India, Mexico, Niue and Suriname

Women's rights and climate change

Climate change impacts exacerbate existing inequalities

GENDER GAPS AROUND THE WORLD

POVERTY

OVER 50% OF THE 1.5 BILLION PEOPLE LIVING ON \$1 A DAY OR LESS ARE WOMEN [SOURCE: UNFPA]

WATER

ON AVERAGE WOMEN AND CHILDREN SPEND 8 OR MORE HOURS PER DAY COLLECTING WATER [SOURCE: UN WOMEN]

GOVERNANCE

GLOBALLY, WOMEN ARE 16.7% OF GOVERNMENT MINISTERS; 19.5% OF PARLIAMENTARIANS; AND 9% HEADS OF STATE [SOURCE: IPU]

FOOD

WOMEN PRODUCE OVER 60% OF FOOD IN SOME COUNTRIES [SOURCE: FAO]

LITERACY

TWO THIRDS OF THE 774 MILLION ILLITERATE ADULTS WORLDWIDE ARE WOMEN [SOURCE: UNSTATS]

LAND

WOMEN OWN JUST 2% OF THE WORLD'S LAND [SOURCE: UN WOMEN]

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS

CROP FAILURE



FUEL SHORTAGE



WATER SCARCITY



NATURAL DISASTER



DISEASE



DISPLACEMENT



CONFLICT



IMPACTS EXACERBATE GENDER INEQUITIES

Women experience increased agricultural work and overall household food production burden

Many women in developing countries can spend between 2-9 hours a day collecting fuel and fodder, and performing cooking chores

Increased burden on women walking further distances to access safe water, impacts the education and economic stability

Women have a higher incidence of mortality in natural disasters ; women can suffer from an increased threat of sexual violence

As caregivers women often experience an increased burden for caring for young, sick and elderly as well as lack of access to health care facilities

Forced migration could exacerbate women's vulnerability

While men are more likely to be killed or injured in fighting, women suffer greatly from other consequences of conflict, such as rape, violence, anxiety and depression

Women's Rights and Adaptation

- Adaptation policies have addressed women's rights and gender equality to varying degrees or not at all
- International Policies:
 - National Adaptation Programmes of Action
 - National Adaptation Plans
- Illustrative Stories

Women's Rights and Adaptation:

Indigenous Women in Suriname

- No land rights or tenure
- Climate change causing seasonal changes impacting agriculture
- Women are adapting
 - using traditional knowledge to decide for seeds
 - established their own processing factory
- Still not considered actors in climate change



Women's Rights and Adaptation: Experiences from Women's Groups in Ghana

- Africa Adaptation Programme policy on gender mainstreaming
- While policies are gender mainstreamed, when it comes to implementation women's rights and gender equality are often afterthoughts
- Women's groups to work with livestock as one adaptation measure
 - Not given enough resources to manage livestock
 - Handed job over to the men
- Project was not successful because women had never been consulted

Women's Rights and Adaptation: Gender roles in Niue



- Women are expected to prioritize caretaking
- No social protection measures
- Climate change impacts threaten women's livelihoods
- Current climate change policy in Niue on adaptation is primarily addressing sector and structural issues, leaving out socio-economic losses that will have a disproportionate impact on women

Women's Rights and Adaptation:

Dalit Women in India

- Considered outcasts and of low social status in India
- Were able to make arid and degraded land fertile using indigenous seeds
- Using crops for the household as well as for profit
- Currently 5000 women in 75 villages adopting this method of agriculture



Local Action on Gender and Adaptation:

Tabasco, Mexico

- Tabasco is first state in Mexico to have an action agenda for gender and climate change
- The state produces key information on gender and climate change and seeks expert assessments on how to implement their gender and climate change agenda
- Invests in developing information and empowering key actors through several training workshops
- Their gender and climate change agenda provides a framework for the development of locally based projects that address adaptation

Several Obstacles to Women's Rights in Adaptation

- Governments don't recognize the rights of certain groups
- Policies are insufficient to address a women's rights/gender equality approach to adaptation
- Current approach to adaptation is sector and structure-centered, not human-centered
- When policies do recognize rights the implementation of adaptation measures that ensure rights are not consistent

Integrating Women's Rights and Gender Equality in Climate Change Adaptation Requires:

- ✓ An enabling environment for adaptation with the elements of the 'Triple Yes' framework
- ✓ Gender sensitive policies and political will
 - ✓ Policies need to have human rights as a basis to comprehensively serve both structural and social adaptation issues
- ✓ Women's networks (grassroots and professional)
 - ✓ Consultations, participating and decision-making are key for effective policies and programs
- ✓ Technical knowledge and capacity among governments and key stakeholders
 - ✓ Comprehensive adaptation measures must be adopted and promoted by key actors

Questions

- What are practical ways to get policy-makers, funders and other key stakeholders to promote women's rights as a foundation to adaptation measures?
- How can the innovative adaptation measures of women's organizations be recognized and scaled up?
- What types of tools are needed to ensure that women's rights are being mainstreamed in adaptation policies and actions?



many thanks

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PRE-CONFERENCE INSTITUTE JULY 10, 2013

Climate Finance

Wednesday, July 10, 2013
3:00 – 4:15PM

Facilitator:

- Tom Kruse, Program Officer, Democratic Practice-Global Governance, Rockefeller Brothers Fund

Panelists:

- David Hunter, Professor of Law, American University
 - Liane Schalatek, Associate Director, Heinrich Böll Foundation North America
 - Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Founder and Executive Director, Tebtebba Foundation (Indigenous Peoples' International Center for Policy Research and Education)
-

Tom Kruse with the Rockefeller Brothers Fund opened by asserting that the nature and direction of current and future money flows are critical to how successful we are in addressing climate change. This raises several questions: How much money is needed? Who should pay to fix this? What's fair? Who manages the money and who are they accountable to?

Liane Schalatek with Heinrich Böll Foundation North America then provided an overview of the global climate finance architecture. The three largest components are:

1. Carbon markets
2. Private sector investments
3. Public finance. This includes bilateral and multilateral climate financing instruments and climate-related official development assistance

One problem is that there is no common reporting format and no clear understanding about how much money is available and exactly how it is being spent. The Climate Policy Initiative estimates that there is approximately \$97 billion USD spent per year. Almost three fourths of that comes from the private sector.

Funds available for climate change generally go to mitigation efforts; there is little money available for adaptation. It is important to talk about both the quantity and quality of climate finance. It shouldn't all be framed as "climate aid," but as "climate debt," mandatory and compensatory transfer payments North to South. It should be delivered as grants, not loans. The Green Climate Fund is a new funding mechanism currently being established.

David Hunter from American University explained the intersection of climate finance and human rights. He used black carbon as an illustration. Black carbon has a significant impact on the urban poor and the right to health. Human rights are an important frame when considering how to spend the limited available resources. We need to prioritize supporting the communities that face the gravest threats to their rights. This is a proactive approach. It is also important to think defensively, how to prevent funding for climate action in mitigation and adaption from violating human rights.

Currently this isn't an opening to discuss human rights at the World Bank. However the climate agenda does offer a space. One example is ensuring that adaptation funds do not support projects that do not respect human rights. Another example is ensuring participation by affected groups in the design, implementation and monitoring of climate projects and programs and their early and comprehensive access to information, as well as accountability instruments in climate financing mechanisms. Hunter concluded by recommending that civil society engage with all relevant institutions, e.g. influence World Bank and UN policies, as it is all interrelated, even though the systems may be different.

Vicky Tauli-Corpuz from Tebtebba Foundation examined the role of the private sector in climate finance. The private sector would like to use this issue to shape their businesses and to generate profits. There is a need to include safeguard and redress mechanisms. She cautioned not to forget existing human rights standards during climate discussions; sometimes it feels as though they aren't included.

She also voiced the need to convince states that in the long run, they will spend more than if they do things right now. The private sector has already learned this lesson: if they don't secure free and prior informed consent, their projects will fail and they will spend more. It is both a moral and business argument. Tauli-Corpuz ended by cautioning about the large and powerful role of corporations in climate finance.

Schalatek explored the gender dimensions of climate finance:

- Women are the majority of the more than one billion poorest worldwide ("feminization of poverty").
- Women are often disproportionately affected by climate change due to persisting gender norms and gender-based discriminations.
- Men and women contribute to climate change responses in different ways and have different capabilities to mitigate and adapt – woman as key actors and "agents of change," not just victims.
- Recent UNFCCC decisions acknowledge gender equality and effective participation of women as relevant for all climate actions.
- Gender-responsive climate financing instruments are needed urgently because:
 - Using scarce public resources in an equitable, efficient and effective way -- relevant experience of development finance.
 - Climate finance decisions are not made within a normative vacuum -- acknowledge and honor women's rights as basic human rights.

She believes there is a need for voluntary investment guidelines for all bilateral and multilateral climate funding mechanisms with an exclusion list with the following mandates:

- Do not invest in largely business-as-usual fossil fuel projects.
- Do not invest in nuclear power generation.
- Do not invest in export production of biofuels and plant oils.
- Do not invest in the building of large hydro dams.
- Do not support monoculture reforestation efforts under REDD.
- Do not invest in a “new green revolution” based on GMOs.

She sees the new Green Climate Fund (GCF) as an opportunity for gender responsiveness. The GCF governing instrument makes five references to gender and it is the first climate fund to integrate gender considerations from the outset.

Key principles for gender-responsive climate financing:

- Gender equality is a guiding principle and a cross-cutting issue.
- Gender-responsive funding guidelines and criteria for each thematic funding window or sub-fund.
- Explicit gender criteria in performance objectives and evaluation of funding options need to include mandatory gender analysis of the proposed project or program, a gender budget, some clear gender indicators measuring how projects and programs contribute to gender equality objectives, as well as the systematic collection of sex-disaggregated data.
- Gender-balance and gender-expertise in all Fund decision-making bodies as well as in the Fund Secretariat to ensure that gender equality principles are considered in program and project review and approval and the monitoring, reporting, verification and evaluation of the GCF’s funding portfolio.
- Special efforts to seek and financially support the input and participation of women as stakeholders and beneficiaries in the planning and preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of a program or project (at both fund and domestic levels).
- A regular audit of the gender impacts of funding allocations in their overview and reporting in order to ensure balance between mitigation and adaptation activities and a gender-responsive delivery.
- A “best practice” set of social, gender and environmental safeguards and guidelines that guarantee gender equality, women’s rights and women’s full participation – need to comply with existing int’l obligations, including on human and women’s rights, labor standards, environmental law.
- An independent evaluation and recourse mechanism and regular reporting requirements -- allow negatively impacted women to seek redress.

Question & Answer Session

A participant commented that oil companies are engaging more and more with human rights in Africa and Asia. On one hand they are becoming popular by funding social projects, on the other hand, they

are making huge profits and are often the source of rights violations. It is a confused playing field. The participant echoed Tauli-Corpuz's concern with the level of private sector involvement in climate financing.

A participant provided two relevant examples from Honduras, where civil society has played an important role in denouncing corporate abuse. In the first example, companies have received subsidies to produce ethanol and don't pay taxes. The agricultural chemicals they use have caused many illnesses in southern Honduras. The second example relates to oil palm. Honduras has little productive agricultural land, but the government promotes the cultivation of palm oil as biofuel. With their government incentives and private bank credit, corporations have been taking over land used for crops or ranching to cultivate palm oil, including mangrove areas. There is an association of six women's indigenous organizations working to preserve the mangroves, but their work is not having much positive impact because the corporations keep using the mangroves for palm oil.

A participant asked if civil society is engaged in any way in drawing attention to the hypocrisy of private financing to mitigate climate change.

Panelists replied that the private sector doesn't want to talk about this issue in terms of legal responsibility or liability, only portrays corporate action on behalf of local communities as acting "out of the goodness of their hearts". They are trying to control that message, but they should not be allowed to get away with "greenwashing" their actions. If we use adaptation funding to address impacts caused by climate change, that is the same question that we ask in lawsuit. If something is eligible for adaptation funding, it is also eligible for legal action, as causation is proven for both.

Also, be careful not to view the private sector as a monolithic block. Engagement by some private actors can be helpful (i.e. local micro, small and medium-sized businesses), while private sector engagement by large corporations without ties to the communities and the host countries might be less desirable (e.g. Shell). How can "better" private sector actors be encouraged to join? And how can encouraging their engagement not take time away from climate financing conversations? The private sector has a profit-seeking outlook and will focus on mitigation, leaving out adaptation.

Another participant stated that in discussions about resources, the main focus seems to be on money. Can we prompt bolder ideas around building new kinds of resources?

The panelists replied that the financial crisis was spurred by speculation, we need to address this "financialization" issue and look at other sources of capital – ecosystems, social capital, and human resources. Another issue is the need to move from a big decentralized way of dealing with this. Bring decisions back to affected communities and away from big governments. This is something funders could support, in addition to supporting research to disprove theories put forth by companies.

A current opportunity: The World Bank has a new draft energy policy that calls for decentralized locally appropriate alternatives to be climate smart, but at the same time is financing huge coal fired projects.

Funders and advocates can raise this hypocrisy and show where community solutions work. Rockefeller is interested in having funder partners support this.

Patricia Cochran, of the Alaskan Native Science Commission, shared that indigenous communities in Alaska have difficulty accessing funding, as they are located in the United States and often don't qualify for funding programs for indigenous peoples, even though they struggle with similar challenges.

A participant commented that even within the funding community there are big players who aren't part of this conversation, such as the Packard Foundation. Also, is the new climate change fund a positive new opportunity?

Panelists responded that there should be more engagement with the climate fund to help shape it in a way that addresses some of our concern. We have about a year of opportunity for this, but there is no existing funding for civil society engagement. Information provision about what is going on is essential. In the absence of a formalized information disclosure policy at the Green Climate Fund (GCF), it is up to civil society observers to share information timely and analyze what is going on in the GCF Board. Schalatek pointed out that her organization, the Heinrich Böll Foundation, is currently one of the few sources of information for sharing the findings of board meetings publicly.

Financing for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation – Needs and Realities

International Human Rights Funders Group (IHRFG) Institute
New York University, New York, NY
July 10, 2013

Liane Schalatek, Heinrich Böll Foundation North America
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www.boell.org
www.climatefundsupdate.org



Climate Finance – what for?



Introduction -- What is Climate Finance?

Global Climate Finance:

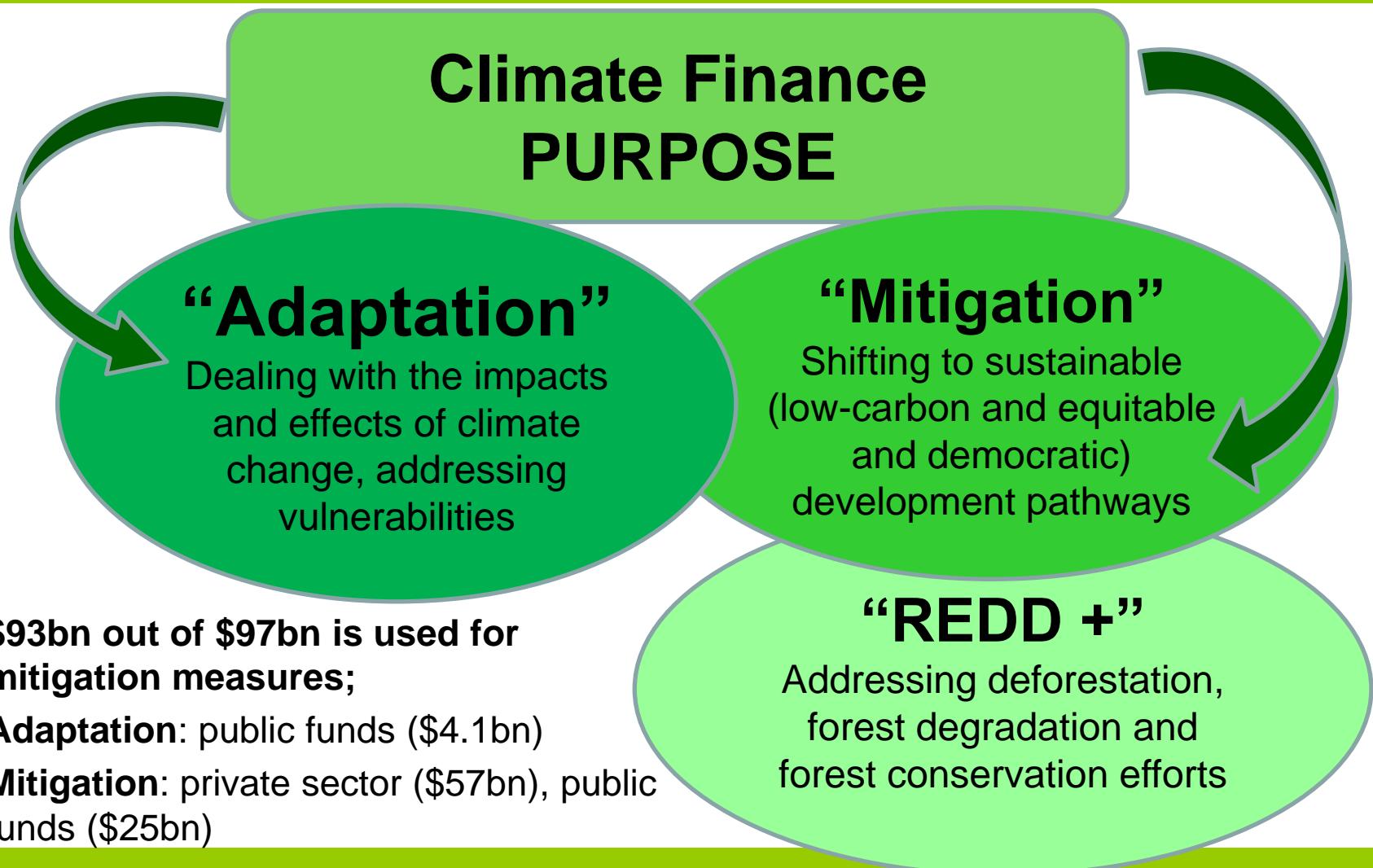
- **Carbon Markets** – Clean Development Mechanism, voluntary market, EU EU Emission Trading System → dependent on carbon price, mitigation focused
- **Private Sector** Investments, primarily in cleaner/low-carbon technologies
- **Public Climate Change Finance**
 - **Bilateral and Multilateral Dedicated Climate Financing Instruments** (Volume of 22+ main funds and initiatives = US\$ 35 billion pledged)
 - **Climate-Relevant Bilateral and Multilateral Official Development Assistance, ODA** (measured roughly through OECD “Rio Marker” Classification) → 2011: US\$17.1 billion for climate change (13 % of total aid; 2/3 for mitigation, roughly 1/3 for adaptation)

What is climate finance? continued

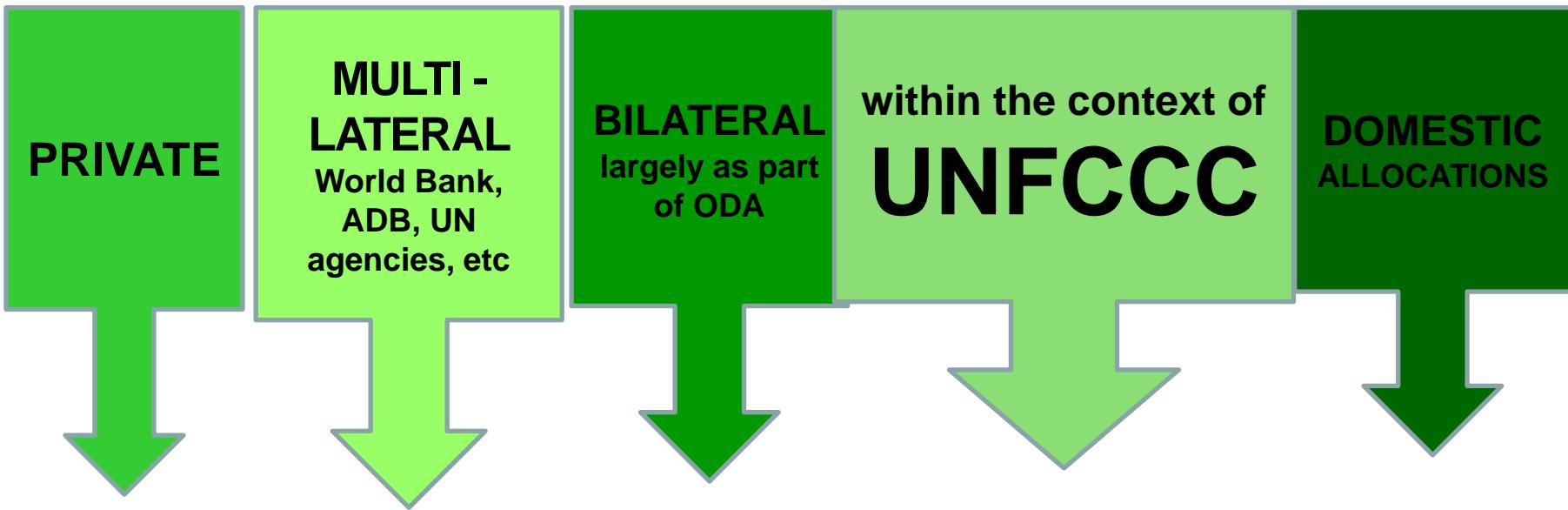
- No uniformly accepted definition
- Public Climate Change Finance

One commonly used definition: *funds deriving from governments or agencies and institutions acting on their behalf, including national budgetary contributions and innovative financing sources (for example such as auctioning of emission permits, taxes, levies)*

- PROBLEM: no Common Reporting Format, no reliable Measuring, Reporting, Verification (MRV)
- No clear understanding how much money is available
- Climate Policy Initiative estimate (2012): roughly \$97 billion per year
 - Private: \$ 55 bn direct, with additionally \$20 bn leveraged
 - Public: \$21 bn
 - Other: Voluntary carbon markets and philanthropic institutions, < \$3 bn



Climate Finance FLOWS



Recipient Countries
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Climate Finance Obligations under UNFCCC

ARTICLE IV, UNFCCC:

“Developed country parties shall provide such financial resources, including for the transfer of technology, needed by the developing country Parties to meet the agreed full incremental costs of...”

(= *climate costs over and above a business-as-usual approach*)

- implementing measures to reduce emissions
- management and conservation of sinks
- preparing for adaptation
- integrating climate change into other national policies
- promote cooperative research, exchange of information and education and awareness-raising
- developing inventories and reporting on emissions and sinks

Copenhagen Accord (2009)/Cancun Agreements (2010) – Climate Finance Commitments under the UNFCCC

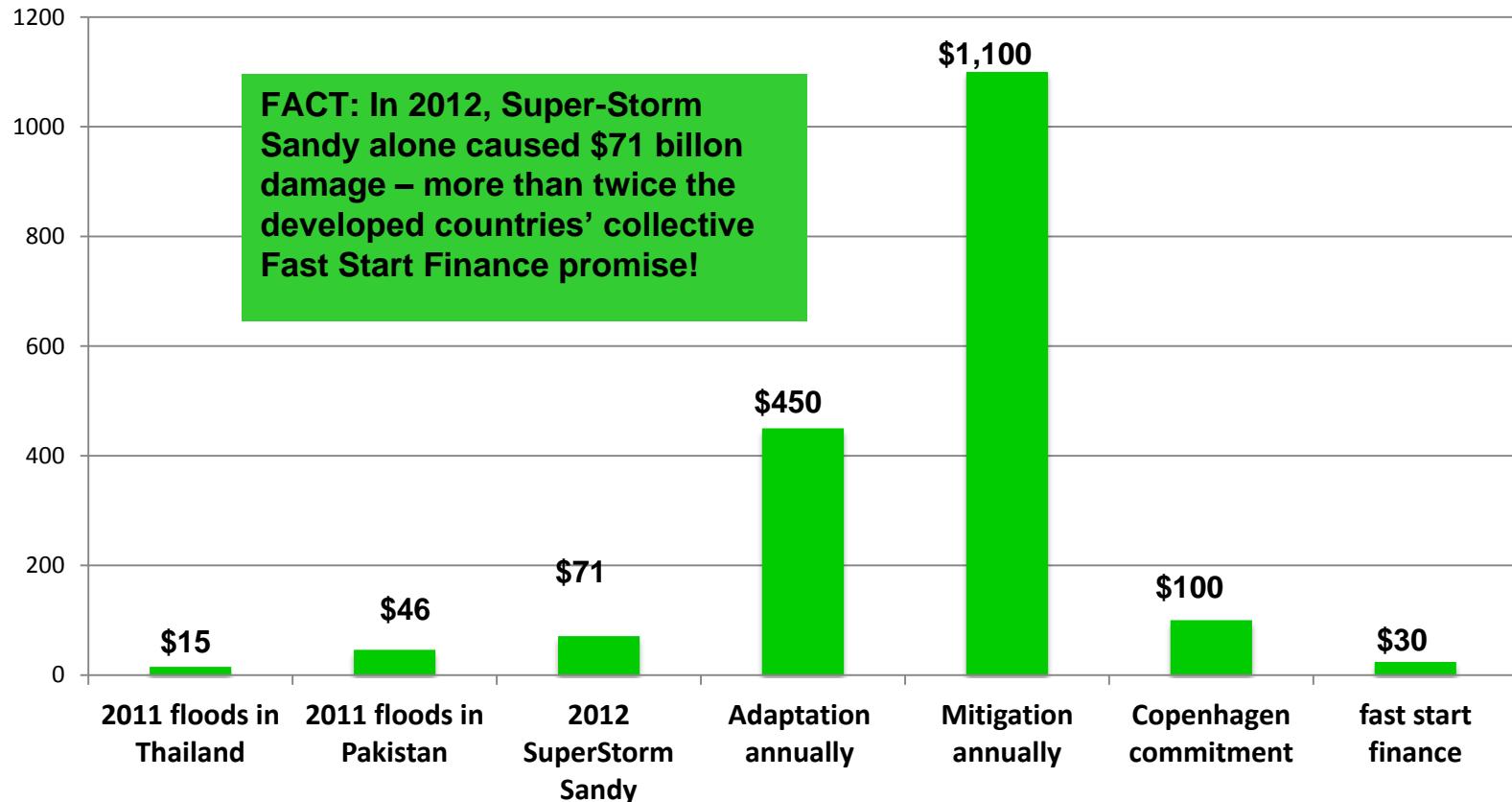
Developed countries pledges

- **New and additional resources up to \$30 billion 2010–2012** (Fast Start Financing); future post-2012 uncertain
- Jointly mobilize **\$100 billion per year by 2020** (from variety of public, private, bilateral, multilateral, and ‘alternative’ sources) → PROBLEM: no pathway for scaling up; composition unclear

Green Climate Fund (GCF)

- Established 2010; currently being operationalized
- Channel significant share of new multilateral funding for adaptation

The Need: How much will climate change cost globally? In US\$ billion...



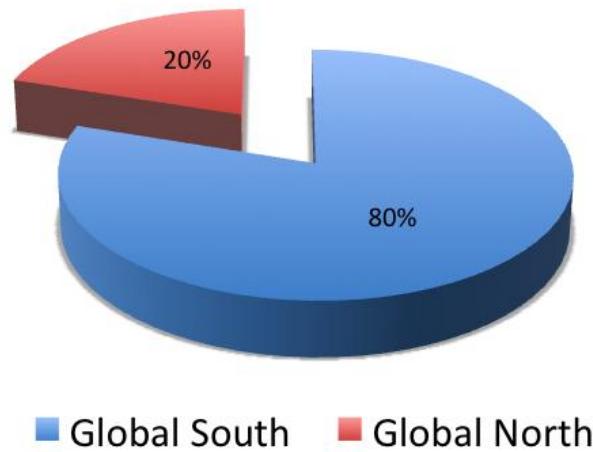
Not just quantity, quality of climate finance matters...

- UNFCCC FINANCE CRITERIA (Bali Action Plan 2008): **adequate, predictable, sustainable, new & additional** (= no uniform definition; civil society: on top of development assistance & recognized ODA goal of .7% of GNI)
- Needs to address linkages between sustainable development, poverty eradication and necessary climate action by **financing low-carbon, climate-resilient and gender-equitable measures** in developing countries
- Not “climate aid” but “climate debt” = **mandatory and compensatory transfer payments North to South** (UNFCCC preamble: “*common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities...*”)
- Should be delivered as **grants** (minimum for adaptation, community-based action, LDCs & SIDS) → reliance on loans hurts vulnerable & women most
- Democratic core principles (**accountability, transparency, public participation in decision-making**) key to make CF more (gender-)equitable (Rio Principle 10)
- CURRENTLY: reliance on **mostly voluntary payments, often as loans** with contributions and disbursements lagging far behind pledges

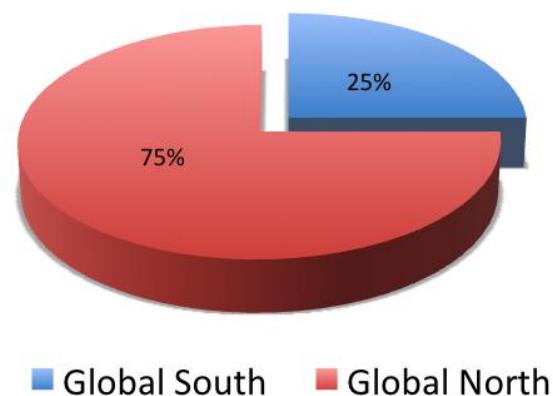
Climate Debt

→ Applying the polluter-pays-principle (Rio Principle 16)

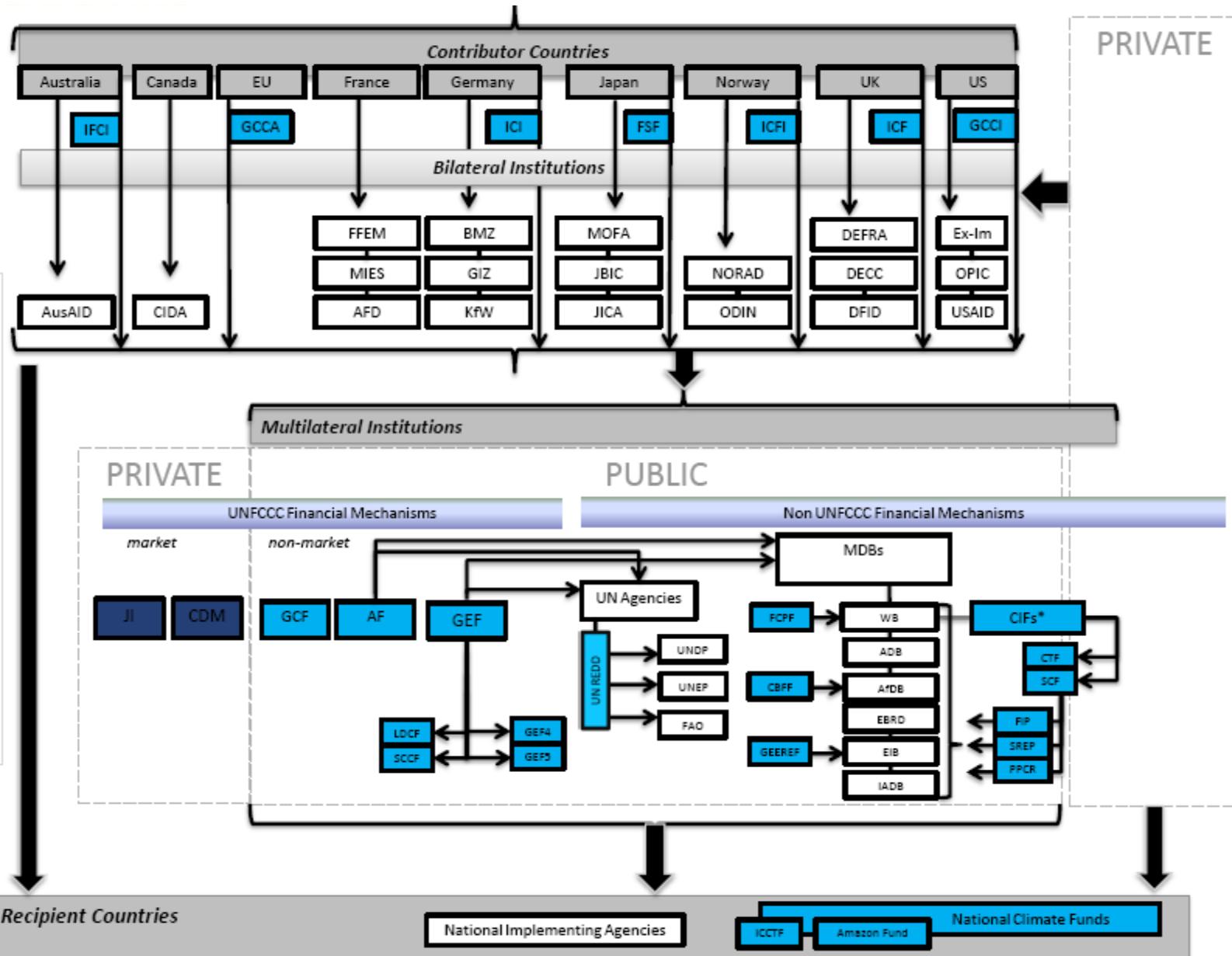
Population



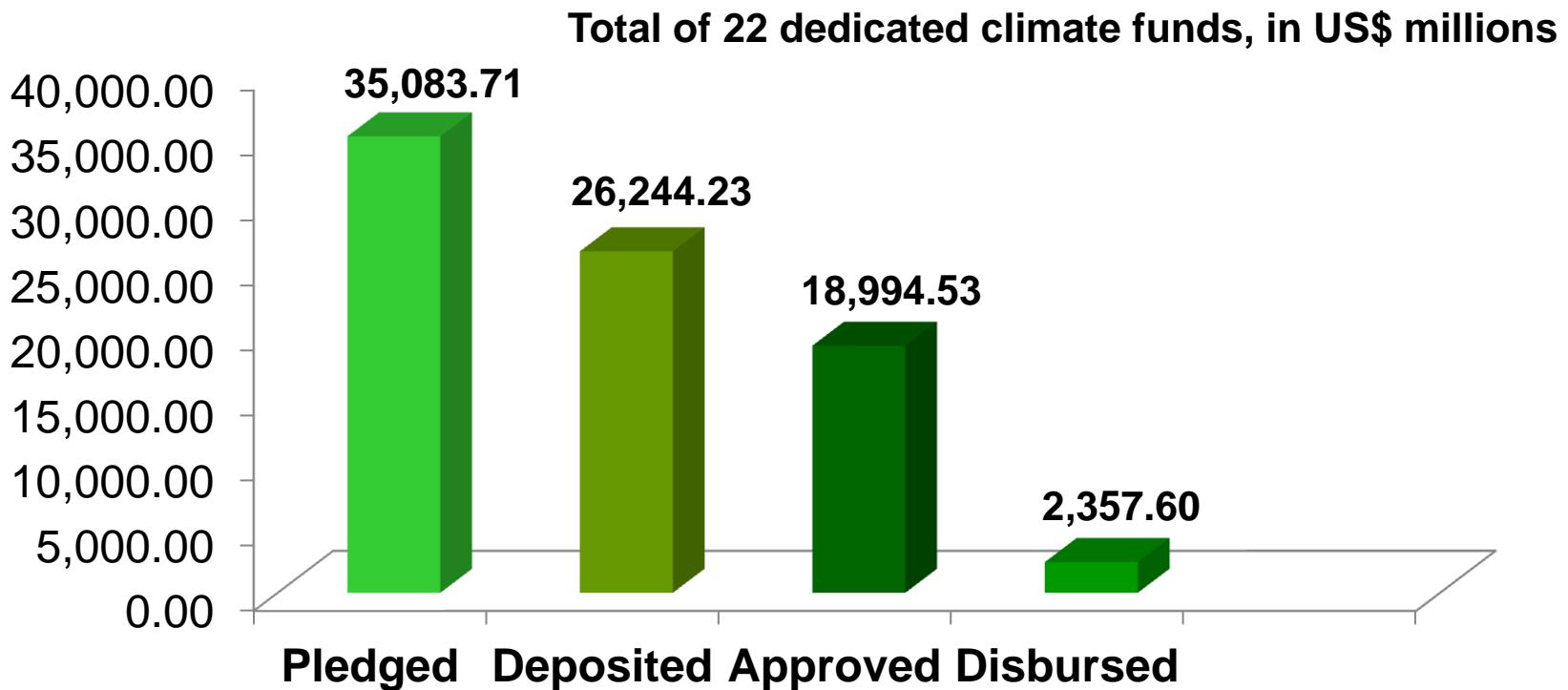
Historical Greenhouse Gas Emissions



PRIVATE



Current Funding Globally: Pledged vs. Deposited vs. Approved vs. Disbursed



Source: www.climatefundsupdate.org; July 8, 2013

New Green Climate Fund (GCF)

- New multilateral climate fund under the UNFCCC currently set up
- Independent Secretariat to be in Songdo, South Korea
- New Board (24 members, 12 from developed, 12 from developing countries) started work to operationalize the GCF by early 2015 → BUT: no guaranteed funding source = developed country budgetary contributions will be voluntary only!
- Is supposed to channel a large amount of long-term financing commitment (US\$100 billion), especially for adaptation finance (“balanced allocation” mandated)
- Will start with mitigation and adaptation window and Private Sector Facility
- Will allow recipient countries **direct access** (= not needing to go through multilateral bank or agency) via new national implementing entities NIE, on country level
- **“country-driven approach”** = importance of national planning processes and documents (NAPA, NAPs, NAMAs, national development or energy planning)
- First multilateral climate fund mandating **“gender-sensitive approach”** from the outset, but **no recognition of human-rights approach**

Further Information:

- Heinrich Böll Stiftung North America: www.boell.org
- Climate Funds Update: www.climatefundsupdate.org
- Information on Climate Finance and the Green Climate Fund
<http://www.boell.org/web/140.html>
- Information on Gender and Climate Change/Financing
<http://www.boell.org/web/141.html>

THANK YOU !

Climate Financing for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Challenges and Opportunities

International Human Rights Funders Group (IHRFG) Institute
New York University, New York, NY
July 10, 2013

Liane Schalatek, Heinrich Böll Foundation North America
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www.climatefundsupdate.org



Climate change and finance are not gender-neutral

- Women are the majority of the more than one billion poorest worldwide (“feminization of poverty”)
- Women often disproportionately affected by climate change due to persisting gender norms and gender-based discriminations
- Men and women contribute to climate change responses in different ways and have different capabilities to mitigate and adapt – woman as **key actors and “agents of change”**, not just victims
- Recent UNFCCC decisions acknowledge gender equality and effective participation of women as relevant for all climate actions
- Gender-responsive climate financing instruments are needed urgently
- **REASON 1:** using scarce public resources in an **equitable, efficient and effective** way → relevant experience of development finance
- **REASON 2:** climate finance decision are not made within normative vacuum → acknowledge and honor **women's rights as basic human rights**

Human-rights based approach

Human choices influence pace of climate change and policy responses to it

- Not just a technological-scientific phenomenon
- Focus on human impacts and capabilities
- Compatibility of UNFCCC and UN human rights treaties confirmed by legal experts
- Coherent implementation necessary – **without consideration of human rights' impacts in funding adaptation and mitigation action, human rights violations are likely**

EXAMPLES:

- Right to Adequate Food – biofuel production might exacerbate food insecurity
- Rights to Water and Sanitation – prioritization of domestic over industrial needs
- Rights of Indigenous Peoples – apply free, prior and informed consent to REDD actions
- Gender Equality and Women's Rights -- inclusion of gender-differentiated mitigation and adaptation capabilities to prevent gender discrimination

Policy Coherence

“Do no harm” = yardstick against which all climate funding decisions need to be judged

Importance of **policy coherence between traditional lending portfolio of MDBs/national development institutions and their dedicated climate funding**

Avoidance of certain climate finance investments with at best dubious benefits for climate and harmful impacts for sustainable development and human rights

Missing: universal, enforceable investment restrictions for scarce public climate funding

Need voluntary **investment guidelines for all bilateral and multilateral climate funding mechanisms with an exclusion list** with the following mandates:

- Do not invest in largely business-as-usual fossil fuel projects
- Do not invest in nuclear power generation
- Do not invest in export production of biofuels and plant oils
- Do not invest in the building of large hydro dams
- Do not support monoculture reforestation efforts under REDD
- Do not invest in a “new green revolution” based on GMOs

Climate Finance Reality

- ▶ So far, dedicated climate finance mechanisms with limited benefit for LDCs and poorest and most disadvantaged within countries;
- ▶ Women as a group generally least considered by climate financing mechanisms
- ▶ SINCE 2008: proliferation of several dozen new bilateral and multilateral instruments and funds → no systematic consideration of gender, only as an “afterthought” unevenly in bits and pieces
- ▶ CHALLENGE: to ensure that gender-responsiveness is addressed in ongoing climate finance negotiations and in fund operationalization and disbursement
- ▶ NEEDED: **Double Mainstreaming of sustainable development = mainstreaming of climate and gender equality considerations into sustainable development policy**

Climate-relevant ODA and gender equality

- Despite dedicated climate funds, including GCF, **climate-relevant ODA** (bilateral and multilateral delivery) important → significant share of total
- OECD-DAC: bilateral climate-aid was US\$17.1 billion in 2011 (13% of total ODA) with 2/3 for mitigation, 1/3 for adaptation
- Opportunity and challenge for gender-responsive climate aid (example of IDA 16 & 17 – focal areas climate change AND gender equality); many development agencies (bilateral & multilateral) have gender (mainstreaming) policies and mandates
- BUT: **more and better efforts needed** (staff training; change in incentive and promotion structures; overcoming isolation of too few gender experts; focus of gender mainstreaming efforts insufficient in sectors and policies of climate relevance such as energy, transportation infrastructure, agriculture, macroeconomics policy setting)

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) as an opportunity?

- GCF governing instrument approved at COP17 in Durban
- Contains five key references to gender -- **first climate fund to integrate gender considerations from the outset**
 - “**gender-sensitive approach**” in section on objectives and guiding principles (Art.3)
→ anchoring gender-responsiveness as cross-cutting issue
 - **gender-balance** as goal for Board and Secretariat staff (Arts. 11 and 21)
 - **gender aspects of stakeholder involvement** to develop fund priorities (Art.31)
 - **women as crucial group** for input and participation of strategies and activities of the Fund (Art. 71)
- “bare-bone” structure to be fleshed out during ongoing operationalization until 2015 → Business Model decided now; priorities: safeguards development; stakeholder participation mechanism; direct access modalities
- KEY CHALLENGE: political and funding support for GCF – **gender-responsive, fully funded GCF as important hold for equity in climate process**

Gender as “afterthought” in existing funds

- Dedicated funds rely mostly on voluntary payments, not budget assessments = unpredictability of funding; delay in disbursements (see graph)
- Many have only started recently (2-3 years) to implement programs
- **Gender equality was NOT a consideration** in the set-up of these funds; **HR approach is missing**
- Retroactive, but not systematic integration of some gender aspects.
 - WB **Clean Technology Fund (CTF)** has no gender-integration
 - WB **Pilot Program on Climate Resilience (PPCR)** does not include gender in operational principles, but has some gender dimensions in project proposals
 - WB **SCREP** requests the inclusion of “social and gender co-benefits”
 - REDD programs (WB **FIP and UN-REDD**) have guidelines targeting women in consultations
 - **Adaptation Fund** – revised operational guidelines in July 2011, making inclusion of gender consideration an important review criterion for application
 - **GEF (LDCF and SCCF)** – only 1/3 of NAPAs with gender integration; but GEF with new gender mainstreaming policy and improved gender expertise since 2011

Key principles for gender-responsive climate financing

Experience of existing global funds such as **GAVI** or **Global Fund** is instructive:

- Gender equality as a **guiding principle and a cross-cutting issue**
- **Gender-responsive funding guidelines and criteria** for each thematic funding window or sub-fund.
- Explicit **gender criteria in performance objectives and evaluation of funding options** need to include mandatory **gender analysis** of the proposed project or program, a **gender budget**, some clear **gender indicators** measuring how projects and programs contribute to gender equality objectives, as well as the systematic collection of **sex-disaggregated data**.
- **Gender-balance and gender-expertise** in all Fund decision-making bodies as well as in the Fund Secretariat to ensure that gender equality principles are considered in program and project review and approval and the monitoring, reporting, verification and evaluation of the GCF's funding portfolio.

Key principles continued

- Special efforts to seek and financially support **the input and participation of women as stakeholders and beneficiaries** in the planning and preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of a program or project (**at both fund and domestic levels**).
- A **regular audit of the gender impacts of funding allocations** in their overview and reporting in order to ensure balance between mitigation and adaptation activities and a gender-responsive delivery.
- A “best practice” set of **social, gender and environmental safeguards and guidelines** that guarantee gender equality, women’s rights and women’s full participation → need to comply with existing intl obligations, including on human and women’s rights, labor standards, environmental law
- An **independent evaluation and recourse mechanism** and regular reporting requirements → allow negatively impacted women to seek redress

Closing the accountability gap thru gender audits

- Accountability and transparency in global climate finance flows lacking → quantity, quality of flows and beneficiaries not tracked sufficiently
- REASON: no common reporting format, no mandatory reporting guidelines
- NEED: **regular gender audit of climate-relevant spending** to show improvement – or lack thereof – over time
- POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENT – further development of OECD-DAC marker system → could be win-win for gender-responsive climate financing
- OECD-DAC system has markers for both gender equality and for climate spending (“Rio Markers”) → correlation of both markers and regular analysis of and reporting on results is technically feasible and desirable
- EXAMPLE: sample for 2009 data (at request of author) showed roughly 800 projects worth US\$1.5 billion were marked as contributing to gender equality and having a mitigation focus (=17 % of all climate-relevant aid)

Further Information:

Heinrich Böll Stiftung North America: www.boell.org

Climate Funds Update: www.climatefundsupdate.org

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THANK YOU !



PRE-CONFERENCE INSTITUTE JULY 10, 2013

Tools for Pursuing Climate Justice

July 10, 2013
3:00 – 4:15pm

Facilitator:

- Ellen Dorsey, Executive Director, Wallace Global Fund

Panelists:

- Gloria Dei Filippone, Youth Plaintiff, TRUST Campaign
 - Jonathon Kaufman, Legal Advocacy Coordinator, EarthRights
 - Kelly Matheson, Program Manager for the Americas, WITNESS
-

Ellen Dorsey of Wallace Global Fund began the session by asking several questions of the audience and panelists. She posed the following: if every site of environmental damage is a crime scene, then who are the criminals and how do funders hold them accountable? She noted that the very nature of the business model is rooted in exploiting resources and externalizing costs. Dorsey explained that for the past 20 years, funders have tried to bring about change through changing policy, but there have ultimately been few instances of successfully passing good legislation in our divisive political environment. So then, how can we find new strategies to do this if our old strategies are failing?

Dorsey remarked that despite this somewhat bleak picture, in recent times there has been an incredible show of people standing up around the world to resist exploitation and the overall effects of climate change. She said she believes a human rights framework brings a moral imperative to this issue. Finally, Dorsey noted that funding resources are minimal compared to immensity of climate change and justice issues. She posed the question: how do we use our resources to most effectively collaborate on corporate accountability in particular?

Gloria Dei Filippone spoke next about her involvement with the TRUST Campaign as a youth plaintiff. She said she noticed the pollution from factories from a very young age, and that her parents had explained how CO₂ damages the environment. She explained that she joined the lawsuit because she sees the need to take broad action. Filippone noted that she sees herself as a human rights, climate change, and youth activist, since the issues are so interrelated. The suit is currently being brought against the U.S. and Ukrainian governments, she said, and argues that the atmosphere is a shared resource and should be protected in trust for future generations. The suit also calls for an actionable

plan to be implemented based on currently available scientific research. The next step is to bring the case to trial in other countries.

Kelly Matheson of WITNESS then spoke about how trust litigation is a unifying doctrine, since public trusts can be brought against a local or federal government. The TRUST Campaign and related advocacy is part of the commons movement, she said, which centers on protecting common spaces. In this case, commons theory is being viewed from a human rights perspective, Matheson noted, so this work is very relevant to the human rights community.

Matheson and Filippone ended their remarks with a call to action, emphasizing that the youth are being successful in court but need more support. Introductions to lawyers willing to represent youth, signing post cards for the campaign, and submitting amicus briefs are all ways individuals can help their effort.

Jonathon Kaufman then spoke about how Earthrights has used the alien torts statute to hold companies and governments accountable for their environmentally unsound actions. The alien torts statute, he explained, allows individuals from other countries to be tried in the United States when a principle of international law has been violated. Some principles of international law are shaping in ways that can enable organizations to use the statute to try climate-related issues. He noted that international negotiations around climate change are in a deadlock because all societies are dependent on oil. However, companies are responsible for not sharing information with the public about the causes and consequences of climate change, and this is where the alien torts statute can be useful. Suits can be used to collect documents and channel new information to activists who can use it to win.

Kaufman said that countries that have the capacity to regulate companies must do it. For example, companies going into Burma must report to the U.S. government on human rights and other issues in order to build accountability. He emphasized that regulation is the government's job.

Various comments from the audience included other strategies funders can take, including:

- Funders can be public about the standards they have for companies in their portfolios. The Norwegian Bank has a public vetting process, and foundations can use this strategy, too.
- The Children's Investment Fund bought a minority of shares in a company called Coal India and used their shareholder power to bring a minority shareholder suit. This strategy can open many new legal avenues.
- The climate change movement can take cues from the civil rights and same-sex marriage movements, as they both successfully utilized legal action to further their causes.
- Dorsey noted that one of the most successful movements she has seen is the anti-apartheid movement. The movement utilized classic civil and political rights advocacy, but also asked for country sanctions. When the United States wouldn't implement sanctions, a divestment strategy developed from inside the country, which called on investors to pull out of businesses profiting from apartheid. Currently, 350 campuses in the Untied States have campaigns to divest from companies profiting from fossil fuels. Funders who have investments in fossil fuels should see

their investment portfolios as a mechanism for change. This approach can help break down silos, not only between the human rights and environment spheres but between grants and assets.

Resources:

Video from TRUST Campaign: <http://www.witness.org/Videos/Calling-for-Climate-Recovery>



PRE-CONFERENCE INSTITUTE JULY 10, 2013

Wrap-Up and Evaluation

4:15 – 5:00 pm

Facilitators:

- Peter Kostishack, Director of Programs, Global Greengrants Fund
 - Alyssa Johl, Senior Attorney, Climate & Energy Program, Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)
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The facilitators asked participants to focus on three questions to assess the day:

1) What are the most important things you learned today, and what questions remain unresolved?

Funders mentioned climate finance and strategic litigation tools as important issues covered today. More broadly, funders learned that solutions lie in communities, so donors should engage and empower them.

A number of questions remained unresolved: funders sought more specific strategies and opportunities for engagement at the intersection of climate change and human rights. Many participants asked how they could break down silos or better incorporate communities into their funding approach. Participants also noted the absence of some voices, asking where the major funders are in this conversation.

2) What are some opportunities and resources that would expand your learning on these issues?

In keeping with the unresolved questions, participants sought strategies to support movements and communities around the world as they confront the impacts of climate change. Participants also suggested bringing the conversation to other grantmaking associations (such as the Environmental Grantmakers Association) to engage other funders.

3) How do you plan to translate this learning into action?

After hearing about the need for collaboration among funders, participants said they would look for common denominators to speak with a more unified voice. Funders also mentioned specific actions, such as funding local voices in implementation of the Green Climate Fund, divesting assets from environmentally destructive markets, and continuing the dialogue through a primer or webpage with climate resources for human rights funders.