

CLIMATE JUSTICE



Over due but
n o t IMPOSSIBLE!!

CLIMATE CHANGE → CLIMATE CRISIS



Climate change presents a fundamental threat to human health. It affects the physical environment as well as aspects of both natural and human systems.



The health impacts of climate change are highly inequitable, the 6th Assessment Report of the IPCC estimates that up to 3.6 billion people live in contexts that are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.



In recent years, the ways in which we view climate change and the climate crisis has changed considerably - it is now acknowledged that the climate crisis can't be viewed in the silo of the environment lens, it is also very much a human crisis and planet health can't be separated from human health



With this paradigm shift, we are aware that our responses to the climate crisis can't just be purely scientific, but a political one too - our adaptation and responses need to take into account inequalities, inequities, vulnerabilities, power dynamics, access to resources and social justice



CLIMATE IMPACTS ON HEALTH



DIRECT IMPACT

Increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events, that can lead to physical injuries, death and mental health challenges



ECOSYSTEM MEDIATED IMPACT

Air pollution, shifting temperatures or precipitation patterns that alters prevalence and distribution of vector, water or food-borne diseases and/or impact health outcomes related to nutrition



SOCIALLY MEDIATED EFFECTS

Occurs via impacts on social and human systems, like increased poverty, migration or conflict which can impact the ability to access or negatively influence care seeking behaviour



**Respiratory
illness**

**Heat-
related
illness**



**Malnutrition
and food-
borne
diseases**



**Effects on
health
systems**



NCDs

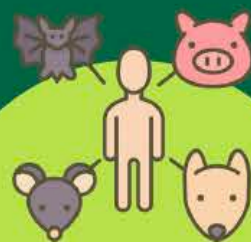
**Injury &
mortality
from
extreme
weather
events**



HEALTH OUTCOMES

HEALTH SYSTEMS & FACILITIES OUTCOMES

**Water-borne
diseases and
water-related
health
impacts**



Zoonoses



**Vector-
borne
diseases**



**Mental &
psychosocial
health**



**Impacts on
healthcare
facilities**

A young girl in a blue school uniform is crouching in a flooded area, drinking water from a public tap. The background shows a flooded street with some greenery. The image has a green tint overlay.

THE CLIMATE CRISIS IS A HEALTH CRISIS

**HOW AND
WHY?**



Climate change threatens to push millions of people into extreme poverty, particularly in the poorest countries

All members of community will feel the effects of climate change, but the poorest, most marginalised and most vulnerable will bear the biggest brunt



CLIMATE CRISIS IS A HEALTH CRISIS!

Climate affects health through direct, ecosystem-mediated and indirect pathways



Climate change weakens and compromises health systems



Climate change is increasingly undermining every pillar of good health and compounding the health impacts of multiple crises

A person living in Asia-Pacific is
6 times more likely to be
affected by disaster events
than someone living outside
the region.



CLIMATE CHANGE

WHO DOES
IT MATTER TO
THE MOST?



Vulnerability to climate change does not exist in isolation from the wider social, political, and economics of resource use. Vulnerability is driven by **inadvertent or deliberate human action** that reinforces self-interest and the distribution of power, in addition to interacting with physical and ecological systems.



Existing inequalities

related to age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, and economic or other status increase vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events.



Gender discrimination

heightens climate-associated risks for women and girls, including the risk of food insecurity, poverty, gender-based violence, and early and forced marriage.



CLIMATE VULNERABILITY

The impacts of climate change are often exacerbated by the vicious cycle of inequalities, thus disproportionately affecting the most vulnerable and marginalised populations. Marginalised communities, who are least equipped to cope with the effects, often bear the brunt of these impacts

- women and children (especially girls)
- the elderly
- people with disabilities
- people living with HIV
- persons with pre-existing/chronic medical conditions such as tuberculosis (TB)
- indigenous and tribal people
- outdoor and informal workers
- people living in poverty
- people in remote locations
- migrants & displaced populations

A background image showing a group of people at a climate strike. In the foreground, a young woman with dark hair is smiling and looking to the left. Behind her, another person is holding a cardboard sign that says "#CLIMATESTRIKE". To the left, a person is wearing a blue shirt with a red "X" on it. In the bottom left corner, a large black letter "A" is visible on a white surface. The entire image has a green and blue color overlay.

WHY IS A CLIMATE JUSTICE APPROACH IMPORTANT TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE?

WHY IS CLIMATE JUSTICE IMPORTANT IN DEALING WITH CLIMATE CHANGE?



Climate justice means putting equity, human rights, gender and community at the core of decision-making and action on climate change



Climate justice means recognising the existing imbalance between causation and harm and the unequal historical responsibility that countries and communities bear in relation to the climate crisis



Climate justice advocates for appropriate action to correct this imbalance in developing solutions for climate mitigation and adaption



Climate justice recognises that the responsibilities in addressing climate change should be divided according to who is contributing most to the problem, while addressing systemic, socioeconomic, and intergenerational inequalities



Climate justice is not a new concept. Over the years, it has been used to discuss the moral and ethical dimensions of climate change, and from the social justice lens, it was seen as crucial to seek justice for populations and communities who have **contributed least to the problem but are suffering its most intense impacts.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO?



1. IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS VULNERABILITIES

2. APPLY THE PRINCIPLES OF CLIMATE JUSTICE, EQUITY AND DIFFERENTIATED RESPONSIBILITIES

3. PUT PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES AT THE CENTER OF CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE

4. BUILD RESILIENT SYSTEMS FOR HEALTH

5. ENSURE AN INTERSECTIONAL APPROACH TO CLIMATE SOLUTIONS AND ADAPTATION

6. ADDRESS BARRIERS TO THE ONE HEALTH APPROACH

7. BREAK THE HIERARCHY OF KNOWLEDGE AND INFORMATION

8. INVEST IN RESEARCH BASED ON LIVED REALITIES AND LOCAL EXPERIENCES

9. DIVERSIFY CLIMATE FINANCING

10. ACCOUNTABILITY



Philippines



Pakistan



Indonesia



ASIA-PACIFIC : HOPE AND SOLUTIONS FROM LIVING AT THE EDGE OF THE CLIMATE CRISIS



Mongolia



Cambodia





THANK YOU

