

Just Resilience: Just Transitions towards a more equal and climate resilient society

UNFCCC Side Event: The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Climate Strategies and Stockholm Environment Institute

Date: **Monday 11 November, 2024**

Location: **Side Event 7, Blue Zone, Baku Stadium, Baku, Azerbaijan**

Time: **18:30-20:00 (local time Azerbaijan)**

Just resilience, a new concept, centres justice in adaptation to avoid unintended consequences like increased vulnerabilities and inequalities. **Including perspectives from the global majority is key to make policies effective and reflective of the realities of those most affected by climate change.**

Agenda

Time (Local time Azerbaijan)	Session	Speaker
18:30	Welcome and Introduction	Adriana Chavarría-Flores , Sr. Programme Manager, Climate Strategies
18:35	Keynote speech	Kishan Kumarsingh , Head of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements Unit of the Ministry of Planning and Development, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
18:45	Research Presentation: <i>Justice and equity in climate change adaptation: an emerging agenda</i>	Katherine Browne , Research Fellow, SEI
18:55	Panel discussion: <i>connecting Just Transitions and adaptation through the concept of Just Resilience</i>	Tawonga Mbale-Luka , Environment Affairs Department, Republic of Malawi Mbulaheni Mbodi , Labour Commissioner, South Africa Presidential Climate Commission Satya Tripathi , Secretary-General of the Global Alliance for a Sustainable Planet Jiten Yumnam , Secretary of the Centre for Research and Advocacy and Indigenous

		Peoples leader from Manipur, India
19:30	Moderated Q&A and closing remarks	Adriana Chavarría-Flores , Sr. Programme Manager, Climate Strategies

Background:

The concept of a Just Transition is as relevant to achieving resilience as it is to reducing emissions. Climate disasters are becoming more intense and more frequent, and their costs are growing. These challenges are compounded by pre-existing structural inequalities, including uneven capacities and resources between and within countries. ‘Just resilience’ is a novel concept that draws on existing Just Transition frameworks to address these justice concerns in adaptation action.

Just Transitions recognise that climate action can either increase or reduce vulnerability and inequality. Just resilience similarly highlights that adaptation policies may have unequal impacts, potentially creating new vulnerabilities or redistributing existing risks onto already marginalized groups. If adaptation measures ignore these issues, they can lead to unfair and ineffective outcomes, making societies less climate resilient (maladaptation). In addition to managing the impacts of future adaptation policies, just resilience seeks to rectify the existing unequal distribution of climate impacts and adaptive capacity, as many communities are already facing unfair climate burdens with few resources.

Research and discussions about just resilience are urgently needed to support the evidence-based development of national adaptation plans and to secure international funding for adaptation. Countries aiming to boost their adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience, and reduce climate vulnerability need new frameworks to manage the distributional and procedural effects of adaptation and resilience policies.

The Global South experiences a disproportionately high burden of climate change impacts, with comparatively fewer resources. In response, policymakers, researchers, and civil society in the Global South have developed innovative measures to boost resilience and leverage adaptation policies for sustainable development. Yet the development of just resilience theories has been mainly led by developed countries. It is imperative to include perspectives from the global majority to ensure that this new concept reflects the realities and needs of the communities most affected by climate change. Understanding different contexts, patterns of exposure and vulnerabilities will help create more inclusive and effective frameworks.

This event aims to explore the connection between Just Transitions and adaptation through the new concept of Just Resilience. In addition to exploring this new concept, we will consider approaches to shift from theory to practice, such as indicators for climate justice, exploring just resilience at the subnational level, integrating just resilience in National Adaptation Plans, and creating linkages between the Global Goal on Adaptation and the Just Transition Work Programme. Taken together, these activities will support adaptation policies that are consistent with a just transition to a climate-resilient global society.

Official side event at COP29

Just Resilience: Just Transitions towards a more equal and climate resilient society

 Monday 11 November, 2024

 18:30-20:00 (AZT)

 Side Event 7, Blue Zone, Baku
Stadium, Baku, Azerbaijan

