

Sustainable and equitable solutions to the climate crisis

Research to support far-reaching, far-sighted and socially just
climate action



In brief

Global responses to the climate crisis lag behind essential action as climate impacts are powerfully felt in the world's poorest nations. The countries responsible for driving climate disruption must act urgently to curb emissions — exceeding anthropogenic global warming of 1.5°C will spell disaster. At the same time, more climate finance is crucial to support poorer countries to build resilience and effect their own green transitions. We are working with policy and research partners to redress the balance by helping vulnerable communities in low- and middle-income countries to achieve climate resilience and development. And we will push hard through all our work for ambitious global climate action.

Our objectives

The 2015 Paris Agreement provides a universal, legally-binding climate deal to address the effects of climate change. Combined with the SDGs, it offers unprecedented opportunities for the world's most vulnerable people to set their lives on a more resilient and prosperous path.

Researchers at IIED work with these people, who have less voice and power in climate decision making, to co-create solutions that shape these pathways and drive action for a just and sustainable future.

We are committed to securing that future, making sure it delivers for people who are most at risk from climate change - young people, women and men living on the margins of society and in extreme poverty. We work with partners to develop and promote action that is:

Far-reaching

Strengthening the national and local institutions, policies and capabilities needed to address root causes of marginalisation, redress inequalities and make sure no one is left behind in efforts to tackle climate change.

Far-sighted

Supporting citizens and communities to address the inherent complexities and uncertainties associated with climate change. Building our collective understanding of how future effects may create new opportunities for livelihoods and enterprise or constrain existing ones.

Socially just

Delivering fair outcomes and making sure that the lived experiences of people on low incomes are valued and inform decision making. Building accountability down to citizens for climate action locally, nationally and globally.

Our aims

Step up global ambition to stay below 1.5°C

Supporting the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in their climate diplomacy and domestic planning to push for rules that will deliver commitments to keep us below a 1.5°C rise in global temperatures. And enabling rapid learning about what will transform national policy, investment and the economy to make that happen.

Promote effective risk management

Creating an enabling environment for risk-aware responses to climate change, based on inclusive decision making and pro-poor action. This includes strengthening equitable governance of risks and finding ways to combine investment and policy so that households and local economies can step up and out of poverty and climate vulnerability.

Mobilise money to where it matters

Making sure climate finance flows to support poor communities' priorities and local action by fostering decision-making processes that involve all interested parties. And mobilising private and domestic funds, as well as international investment, for local action and enterprise that promotes climate resilience and low CO₂ emissions.

Strengthen long-term capabilities

Recognising, convening and enhancing systems, institutions and skills to absorb shocks better, adapt to change and transform societies. This includes investing in new capabilities for future analysis and learning; developing 'climate competent' investment pipelines and supporting networks of innovators and innovation in the global South.



Our recent achievements

Supporting negotiators to make a stronger case

Our legal and research support to the LDC group of climate negotiators has seen their confidence and visibility grow. Our new guides for negotiators have received strong endorsement: two of them are recommended reading for UK climate diplomats and US legal advisers. And building networks with lawyers, parliamentarians and training young negotiators is helping strengthen the depth of expertise in the LDC countries.

www.iied.org/global-climate-law-policy-governance

Finding better ways to manage risk

Our work with partners in India and Mozambique has looked at how governments can manage increasing risks to the population from climate shocks, providing opportunities for people not only to adapt but also transform their livelihoods to be climate resilient. We are providing evidence that a range of synchronised interventions combine to be most effective: such as cash-for-work to improve landscape management and reduce risk. And we are engaging with local and national governments, civil society and donors to explore how social protection schemes can be layered with communities' climate planning.

www.iied.org/introduction-supporting-public-policy-delivers-climate-resilient-development

Showing the difference local climate finance can make

Our 2019 issue paper *Money where it matters: designing funds for the frontier* reimagines the climate finance system to suggest a new framework for getting money to local institutions to tackle the drivers of poverty, resource degradation and climate change. It was downloaded almost 1,000 times in its first six months.

Our support to four African countries to set up devolved climate change funds has received positive recognition, with emerging evidence in Kenya that communities are becoming more resilient to drought.

Money where it matters: designing funds for the frontier

<https://pubs.iied.org/10199IIED>

Building shared approaches to reach scale

Our support to the Myanmar government and the Myanmar climate change alliance helped to formulate a new national climate change policy and a strategy and action plan for its implementation. It is one of the first sets of policies to go through participatory design. Through Development and Climate Days (D&C Days) at the UNFCCC COP and the community-based adaptation events held in the south each year, we are supporting growing communities of practitioners to reflect critically on their lived experience of what works and to build shared approaches for reaching scale.

www.iied.org/development-climate-days-history



Our vision of success

Over the course of the next few years we want to see:

- The LDC 2050 vision on climate action driving greater ambition in other countries and a marked increase in just solutions for a whole of society response informing the global stocktake in 2023
- An increase in the flow of global climate finance targeted at the local level from 10% to 70% and a wider use of just and inclusive delivery mechanisms by LDCs and other countries to achieve that
- Reforms of the enabling environment, including planning and budgeting systems incentivising climate action and being prioritised across LDC institutions
- Women, young people and other excluded groups represented more effectively in climate decision-making forums locally, nationally and internationally
- Better monitoring systems and dialogue to assist with rapid learning about the most effective climate action and opportunities for raising ambition through the Paris Agreement.
- A vibrant network of participants from the Least Developed Countries' Consortium on Climate Change (LUCCC), the Community-Based Adaptation community (CBA), and Development and Climate Days (D&C days) where learning and dialogue can take place.



Get involved

We are always looking for new ways to learn and new people to learn from. Get in touch if you would like to know more about IIED's climate change work, are keen to collaborate, or simply want to share your experience in supporting equitable climate action.

Contact

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IIED applies original thinking to sustainable development issues, linking local priorities to global challenges. We work with marginalised people around the world to amplify their influence.

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Page 3: Pastoralists in Isiolo
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Page 4: Delegates from the
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