**UNRISD input to the OHCHR Report on Human Rights and Climate Change**

The climate crisis is not only an environmental crisis but a crisis of social justice, as people who are least responsible for it have the least resources to cope with it and face the greatest impacts. In addition, they are often least able to influence climate policy making and as a result can be further disadvantaged by climate change responses which reproduce or exacerbate existing inequalities. This climate injustice impacts the full and effective enjoyment of human rights of people in vulnerable situations in a variety of ways.

UNRISD research has highlighted the uneven impacts of both climate change and climate policies in a number of context, most recently in the context of coastal city adaptation and just transitions to low-carbon development.

**Coastal cities, adaptation and human rights**

In the case of urban flooding in developing coastal cities, our research has highlighted that approaches to urban upgrading and resettlement of households in highly-exposed informal settlements has taken place without appropriate participation of the affected and removed poor people from their livelihoods and main sources of income so that their general vulnerability to shocks was increased. The synthesis report of the project has highlighted the need to adopt a right-based approach and center human rights and social justice in adaptation planning (Tran and Krause 2020).

**References to relevant reports and examples:**

* Adelekan, Ibidun. 2021. Adaptation and Social Justice in Lagos, Nigeria. UNRISD Think Piece. https://www.unrisd.org/adaptation-lagos.
* Huynh, Thi Phuong Linh, and Hong Quan Nguyen. 2020. *Transformative Adaptation and Social Justice in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam*. Geneva: Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung and UNRISD. https://www.unrisd.org/transformative-adaptation-hcmc.
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* Simarmata, Hendricus Andy, and Gusti Ayu Ketut Surtiari. 2020. *Adaptation to Climate Change: Decision Making and Opportunities for Transformation in Jakarta, Indonesia.* Geneva: Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung and UNRISD. https://www.unrisd.org/transformative-adaptation-jakarta.
* Tran, Minh, and Dunja Krause. 2020. *Transformative Adaptation to Climate Change and Informal Settlements in Coastal Cities. Entry points for Jakarta and Ho Chi Minh City.* Geneva: Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung and UNRISD. https://www.unrisd.org/transformative-adaptation-synthesis.
* UNRISD. 2021. *Bringing Social Justice into Climate Change Adaptation in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam.* Research and Policy Brief 35. Geneva: UNRISD. www.unrisd.org/rpb35.
* UNRISD. 2021. *Transforming Adaptation Planning and Governance in Jakarta, Indonesia.* Research and Policy Brief 36. www.unrisd.org/rpb36.

**Just transitions to low-carbon development**

UNRISD research on just transition has provided an overview of how different framings and worldviews that underpin mitigation policies and action have very different implications for justice and rights, in particular with regard to labour rights and social protection. It has highlighted how the pursuit of climate policy that does not consider social justice increases the risk of land grabs and potential impacts on indigenous peoples, for example in Brazil (JTRC 2018), and illustrated frontline communities’ localized struggles against environmental and climate injustices including adverse health impacts from oil and gas industries, for example at the US Gulf Coast and the Niger Delta (JTRC 2019). Our work has further highlighted how human rights principles could contribute to a more transformative and egalitarian just transition (JTRC 2019).

**References to relevant reports and examples:**

* JTRC (Just Transition Research Collaborative). 2019. *Climate Justice from Below. Local Struggles for Just Transition(s).* Geneva: Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung and UNRISD. www.unrisd.org/jtrc-report2019.
* JTRC (Just Transition Research Collaborative). 2018. *Mapping Just Transition(s) to a Low-Carbon World.* Geneva: Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung and UNRISD. www.unrisd.org/jtrc-report2018.