

VOICE SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE LEARNING SESSION



Introduction to Climate Justice

Understanding Climate Justice and its Nexus with Social Justice



What We Will Learn...

01 Definition of Climate Justice

02 Difference between Climate Justice and Climate Change

03 Nexus between Climate Justice and Social Justice

04 Facets of Climate Justice

05 Key Concepts of Climate Justice

- Environmental racism
- Climate Change Adaptation
- Climate Change Mitigation
- Climate inequality

What is Climate Justice?

- Climate justice is a term used for framing global warming as an ethical and political issue, rather than one that is purely environmental or physical in nature. This is done by relating the effects of climate change to concepts of justice, particularly environmental justice and social justice and by examining issues such as equality, human rights; collective rights, and the historical responsibilities for climate. **(Wikipedia)**
- Climate justice connects the climate crisis to the social, racial and environmental issues in which it is deeply entangled. It recognizes the disproportionate impacts of climate change on low-income communities around the world, the people and places least responsible for the problem. **(University of California)**
- Climate justice is the moral and ethical principle that seeks to address the disproportionate impact of climate change on vulnerable communities and future generations. **(United Nations)**



Climate Change vs Climate Justice

While Climate change is the term used to describe long term shifts in temperature and weather patterns, Climate justice is rooted in recognising that climate change is causing a multitude of detrimental social, economic, health, and other impacts on vulnerable communities who have contributed the least to the climate crisis



How Climate Justice Relates to Social Justice



What is Social Justice

Social justice refers to a fair and equitable division of resources, opportunities, and privileges in society. It is a concept that holds all people should have equal access to wealth, health, well-being, privileges, and opportunity. (Investopedia)



Climate justice and social justice: Two sides of the same coin

Climate justice means putting equity and human rights at the core of decision-making and action on climate change. Essentially, Climate change is a human rights issue. All people should have the agency to live life with dignity. However, the climate crisis is causing loss of lives, livelihoods, language, and culture, putting many at risk of food and water shortages, and triggering displacement and conflict.

The climate crisis impedes the right to good health as well.



Facets of Climate Justice

Structural Inequality

Even within the same country, the impacts of climate change may be felt unevenly due to structural inequalities based on race, ethnicity, gender, and socioeconomic status.

Gender Inequality

Women are more severely affected by climate change impacts, because they have access to fewer resources to adapt and cope with abrupt changes.

Socioeconomic Inequality

The impacts of climate change and the resources needed to address climate change impacts are distributed unequally around the world. Low-income countries, and vulnerable populations within those countries, are more susceptible to climate-induced loss and damage.

Intergenerational Inequality

Children and young people today have not contributed to the climate crisis in a significant way but will bear the full force of climate change impacts as they advance through life. Because their human rights are threatened by the decisions of previous generations





KEY CONCEPTS OF CLIMATE JUSTICE



Environmental Racism

The phrase environmental racism was coined by civil rights leader Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr. He defined it as the intentional siting of polluting and waste facilities in communities primarily populated racially marginalized groups and low-income workers. It is cheaper for corporations to pollute these communities than the more privileged communities.



KEY CONCEPTS OF CLIMATE JUSTICE



Climate Change Mitigation

Mitigating climate change means reducing the flow of heat-trapping greenhouse gases into the atmosphere to prevent the planet from warming to more extreme temperatures. This involves cutting greenhouse gases from main sources such as power plants, factories, cars, and farms. Forests, oceans, and soil also absorb and store these gases, and are an important part of the solution.



KEY CONCEPTS OF CLIMATE JUSTICE



Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation refers to adjustments in ecological, social or economic systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli and their effects. It refers to changes in processes, practices and structures to moderate potential damages or to benefit from opportunities associated with climate change. In simple terms, it means altering our behavior, systems, and—in some cases—ways of life to protect our families, our economies, and the environment in which we live from the impacts of climate change.

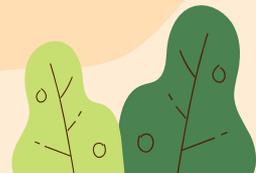
Adaptation can range from building flood defenses, setting up early warning systems for cyclones, switching to drought-resistant crops, to redesigning communication systems, business operations and government policies. Many nations and communities are already taking steps to build resilient societies and economies.

KEY CONCEPTS OF CLIMATE JUSTICE



Climate Inequality

The impacts of climate change are not evenly distributed across society. Political, social, economic and environmental conditions, both now and in the past, shape a community's vulnerability to these challenges. As a result, the consequences of climate change will be more severe for some communities than for others.



Thanks!

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