Loss and Damage Report Card: A Civil Society Perspective on the Progress of the Warsaw International Mechanism

WIM REPORT CARD

2017-2022
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Introduction

Since the international community last met to discuss climate action at COP26 in Glasgow, countries all over the world have experienced unprecedented levels of losses and damages, the impacts of climate change not avoided by efforts to reduce emissions (mitigation) and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

A recent report by the scientific body on climate change, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) confirms that losses and damages from climate change are escalating, hitting vulnerable developing countries and the vulnerable households and communities within them particularly hard. Global average warming has already increased by up to 1.3°C compared to pre-industrial levels.

The growing urgency of climate change has led over 2,000 jurisdictions in 35 countries to declare climate emergencies. The lack of action to avoid the impacts of climate change impacts by reducing emissions and supporting adaptation to climate change has also led to the rise of a third pillar in the UN climate negotiations alongside mitigation and adaptation: Loss and Damage.

Background

Over two decades after developing countries sounded the alarm on climate change-induced loss and damage owing to delayed action on climate change, the Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM) was established in 2013 at COP 19 in order to fulfill the role of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on Loss and Damage, which is to promote the implementation of approaches to address loss and damage.

The WIM has three main roles:

1. Increase knowledge and understanding of Comprehensive Risk Management (CRM) approaches,
2. Strengthen dialogue, coordination, and synergies between relevant actors; and
3. Enhance action and support -including finance, technology, and capacity building- to address loss and damage.

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1 https://www.ipcc.ch/ar6-syr/
3 Loss and damage have been described as the policies required to address loss and damage or the manifestation of the impacts of climate change not avoided by mitigation and adaptation efforts.
4 Paragraph 5 of 3/CP.18.
Overview

The mandate of the WIM is to address loss and damage associated with climate change adverse impacts, including extreme weather events and slow-onset climatic processes,\(^5\) in vulnerable developing countries.

In 2015, at COP 21 it was also decided that the WIM would be subject to the authority of the Conference of the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA).

The WIM was initially guided by an interim ExCom which developed its initial two-year work plan. In 2017, the five-year rolling work plan was developed which will be carried out until 2022. The WIM has been reviewed twice since it was established at COP 19 in late 2013.

The first review took place at COP 22 in 2016 in which developing countries called for more focus on the third function of the WIM: enhancing action and support.

Several recommendations were made to the ExCom in this first review, including strengthening collaboration with other bodies and entities both with and outside the UNFCCC and establishing additional groups or committees to support the work on enhancing action and support.\(^6\)

The second review took place at COP 25 in late 2019 where once again, developing countries called for more focus on enhancing action and support. The outcome of the review included several provisions to strengthen the WIM and its capacity to deliver on its mandate. ExCom and its expert groups were requested to develop technical guides on risk assessments, approaches to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage, resources available for implementing these approaches and systems for monitoring their effectiveness.

The ExCom was also requested to collaborate more effectively with the Standing Committee on Finance, the oversight body on finance under the UNFCCC. The outcome of the review also included the establishment of the Santiago network for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage (hereafter referred to as the SNLD) to catalyze technical assistance for the implementation of approaches at all levels in vulnerable developing countries.\(^7\)

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\(^5\) The UNFCCC uses the language “extreme events” and “slow onset events”. To denote the incremental nature of climate change we prefer the term “slow onset climatic processes”.

\(^6\) Paragraph 4 of 4/CP.22.

\(^7\) Paragraph 43 of 2/CMA.2
Because ExCom has completed the majority of the WIM-related work to date, this study specifically evaluates the performance of ExCom. This report analyzes ExCom’s performance in addressing L&D as outlined in its formal agenda and objectives, utilizing three evaluative dimensions (effort, progress, and participation).

To evaluate the progress of individual workstreams, the initial two-year and five-year rolling work plans, a detailed review was conducted by the UCL team which studied the two work plans alongside one another to determine how the WIM’s activities and priorities have changed over time. A comparative study on how expert groups established by ExCom have varied in terms of progress and outputs was also undertaken. Finally, the WIM’s original mandate was analyzed to assess what ExCom has done to achieve its broader aims.

To assess the progress of the ExCom, and based on the Practical Action 2021 report the Loss and Damage Youth Coalition undertook an internal process to rank the progress reported as more easily understandable scores.

The grading scheme applied was:

A - Excellent / exceeding expectations
B - Good / Did well but room for improvement
C - Just meeting expectations
D - Not meeting expectations
F - Failing

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8 https://infohub.practicalaction.org/bitstream/handle/11283/622860/Assessing%20the%20performance%20of%20WIM%20ExCom.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y
9 https://unfccc.int/documents/9607
10 https://unfccc.int/documents/202059
11 i.e. action towards accomplishment, the degree of completion and the extent of representation respectively
The WIM has established five work streams in line with the strategic workstreams of the five-year rolling workplan including:

a) Enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to slow onset events;

b) Enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to non-economic losses;

c) Comprehensive risk management approaches (including assessment, reduction, transfer, retention), to address and build long term resilience of countries, vulnerable populations, and communities to loss and damage, including in relation to extreme and slow onset events, inter alia, through: Emergency preparedness, including early warning systems; Measures to enhance recovery and rehabilitation and build back/forward better; Social protection instruments including social safety nets; and Transformational approaches;

d) Enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to human mobility, including migration, displacement, and planned relocation; and

e) Enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to action and support, including finance, technology, and capacity-building, to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change.

Overall the WIM’s effort has failed to match the scale of the need to address loss and damage on the ground. The work of the ExCom has been dominated by its workplan - with many of these activities having been implemented; but when looking at the bigger picture, the mandate and the resulting workplans have been implemented in a very limited way and must go much further and be more ambitious to respond to the needs on the ground. Particularly, it appears that the WIM is under-resourced, which makes it challenging to undertake the scale of activities that would allow delivery on its mandate.

The report found the ExCom to have a number of shortcomings. For example, it was found that activities mandated by the COP and CMA were carried out more quickly than other activities but there was a significant delay in establishing expert groups. In addition, many of ExCom’s activities were carried out by external organizations rather than the ExCom itself. Furthermore, stakeholder engagement is limited mainly to existing UNFCCC participants, and official ExCom timelines are frequently indicative of start times and ambiguous. The report concluded that more research on the political context is required to understand why some of these issues persist with ExCom. Given this, overall we must give the ExCom a failing grade as it has failed to meet its mandate to promote implementation of approaches to address loss and damage in vulnerable developing countries.
OVERALL PROGRESS

Overall, the report found that the WIM has not made sufficient progress on implementing its mandate to address loss and damage. While the ExCom, in guiding the work of the WIM, has taken some steps to enhance knowledge and cooperation around Loss and Damage, this has failed to be translated to promote action is taken on the ground, or to ensure support is available to communities most affected by loss and damage.

OVERALL PARTICIPATION

While ExCom has made efforts to include various stakeholders at meetings and on expert groups, in practice this participation has mostly been limited to members of UN agencies and intergovernmental bodies. Little has been done to meaningfully include a diverse range of stakeholders from civil society, particularly from the global South, and the WIM’s activities included almost no members of frontline communities. This epitomizes a more general problem of participation within the UNFCCC: as no funding is provided for civil society organizations (or frontline communities), the organizations that end up participating are those that have the resources -typically those from the global North.

In 2017, the ExCom produced a draft compendium of knowledge related to slow-onset processes, which are referred to as slow-onset events under the UNFCCC and organized a special issue in a journal on SOEs, which was published in 2021. Progress has been made to enhance knowledge in three areas: SOEs, CRM, and TFD. In 2016, the ExCom, with the support of the UNFCCC secretariat, launched a database of organizations working on SOEs, which currently has 162 entries and is still being maintained. However, a joint technical guide between the NELs Expert Group and the Task Force on Displacement is delayed.

ExCom participated in public events as part of the UNFCCC process to disseminate WIM work and promote L&D discussions. It also co-hosted a stakeholder engagement workshop with ExCom10, participated in the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), Research Dialogue, and Suva Expert Dialogue, and hosted a virtual event about the ExCom’s work at the Climate Dialogues during the 2020 pandemic.

In addition, the ExCom and TEC hosted an expert dialogue on coastal L&D. However, the participation of different observer constituencies in the expert groups is limited with these dominated by UN bodies as well as academia, research centers, government representatives, international governmental organizations, and financial initiatives, etc.
Summary: Overall Effort, Progress, and Participation

The WIM needs additional resources to do its work. It is important to note that the work of the WIM is far beyond the work plans of ExCom. The WIM must be expanded, including by operationalizing the SNLD which was established at COP 25 in Madrid. In addition, ExCom must focus more of its work on enhancing action and support. Discussions on finance for L&D have been slow to advance. The SCF must also take up work on finance for L&D, responding to requests by the COP and CMA.

Progress of the WIM Workstreams

Evaluation Area 1: ExCom’s Performance on Slow Onset Events

The first of five strategic workstreams of ExCom’s five-year rolling working group aims to improve collaboration and facilitation in the face of SOEs. At the time of the evaluation, this workstream had made very little progress; some activities had been completed, but most tasks had begun far behind schedule. It has created a database of organizations working on SOEs, as well as a compendium of SOE knowledge and a special issue on SOEs, demonstrating the scale of progress over the past 7+ years.

The five workstreams of the current five-year rolling workplan - slow onset events, non-economic losses, comprehensive risk management, displacement and migration, and finance, action, and support were considered as evaluated by independent researchers commissioned by Practical Action. They were graded on effort (action towards accomplishment), progress (the degree of completion), and participation (the extent of representation).

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The SCF must also take up work on finance for L&D, responding to requests by the COP and CMA.

Effort [C]

It took two years to form the technical expert panel, on Slow Onset Events, which was initially tasked with organizing a joint technical meeting with TEG-CRM at ExCom 8 and ExCom 9, as well as facilitating the development of tools for information integration at national levels at ExCom 10 and ExCom 11.

12 Glacial retreat and related impacts, desertification, land and forest degradation, biodiversity loss, rising temperatures, ocean acidification, and sea level rise.
Progress [D]

Both the two-year and five-year work plans established workstreams on SOEs. ExCom made progress in this area, producing a database of 162 organizations involved with SOEs in accordance with the two-year workplan, but it was completed with some delays. As part of assessing and developing recommendations for improving understanding and capacity building, the ExCom 13 produced initial recommendations in the final year of the 5-year workplan. Furthermore, a collection of information on the topic was published in 2017 and a journal special issue was published this year, although how this will be disseminated to communities facing slow onset events is still to be discussed.

Participation [D]

The collaboration of the SOEs expert group with the TEG-CRM in organizing the joint technical meeting has been continually delayed; it was supposed to take place in 2018 and then 2019, but the activity had not yet begun by the time the five-year workplan came to an end. Furthermore, relevant organizations were invited to collaborate in 2016 on making SOE information available. Only a COP side event on risk financing has been organized, and the SBSTA Research Dialogue has been used to establish or strengthen dialogue, as mandated in the two-year workplan.

Summary:

ExCom has developed a database of organizations working on SOEs and oversaw a special issue in a journal on SOEs.

However, there has been very little coordination amongst stakeholders and no effort to enhance action and support to address L&D from SOEs. Therefore, the WIM could develop pilot initiatives on addressing SOEs within CRM frameworks, something that Parties suggested at COP 18. This could be done under the SNLD in a few vulnerable developing countries facing different types of SOEs.

Evaluation Area 2: ExCom’s Performance on Non-Economic Losses

The second strategic workstream of the WIM 5-year rolling workplan is to improve cooperation and facilitation in relation to non-economic losses (NELs). ExCom’s activities on NELs include establishing the expert group; but, this was significantly delayed. The NELs expert group contributes to the development of inputs and recommendations to improve data on and knowledge of reducing the risk of and dealing with NELs, including how to incorporate these into the planning and development of measures to address loss and damage caused by extreme weather events due to climate change.

Effort [F]

The ExCom made early progress in the area of Non-Economic Losses (NELs) by completing both of the two-year workplan’s planned activities. It established the first NELs expert group, which met after a delay in September 2016; originally scheduled for 2015 but only became operational in 2016 and was re-established in 2020 after being disbanded after holding only one meeting.

13 NELs are the climate change related losses that are not recognized by monetary systems and not generally traded in markets. NELs inflict a wide range of impacts on communities and on the environment in general.
Summary:

The expert group on NELs was established and then disbanded and then re-established again following a request from the COP and the CMA at COP 25. Very little substance has resulted from the work on NELs. A technical paper was developed in 2013 and a side event in 2016 but since then very little. Hence, as with SOEs, the WIM could develop pilot initiatives on addressing NELs within CRM frameworks in a few vulnerable developing countries facing different types of SOEs. The ExCom could also develop a compendium of approaches on NELs and perhaps consider another special issue publication.

Evaluation Area 3:
ExCom’s Performance on Comprehensive Risk Management

According to the report, activities under the workstream on comprehensive risk management (CRM) were generally completed behind schedule, although delays can largely be attributed to the Covid pandemic. The WIM’s workplan activities were outsourced to TEG-CRM. Furthermore, the Suva expert dialogue and the Fiji Clearing House (both of which were mandated by COP decisions) were completed on time.
Progress [C]

In 2017, ExCom established and launched a clearinghouse for risk transfer on time. In 2018, ExCom hosted an expert dialogue on how to improve technical and financial support, and the Suva Expert Dialogue was held later that year during SB48. In 2019, the technical paper elaborating on the various sources of finance for dealing with Loss and Damage was completed for SB50.

Participation [C]

Stakeholders such as G7 entities, Climate Action Network (CAN), Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE) International, Loss and Damage Network, World Food Programme (WFP), Vivid Economics Munich Climate, International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) and the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF) were engaged on financial instruments for the collection of Comprehensive Risk Management (CRM) approaches. The SCF subsequently focused its 2016 Forum on financial instruments addressing the risks of Loss and Damage. The side event ‘Breaking new ground: Risk financing for slow-onset events’ continued this work.

Summary:

Of all the thematic areas of the WP, the work on CRM has advanced the most by ExCom itself. A technical expert group on CRM has been established which has been fairly active. In addition, a compendium of CRM approaches was developed. However, more needs to be done to understand how combinations of CRM measures can be developed and implemented. In addition, there is a lot of room for improvement in strengthening coordination and synergies on CRM. There has been no effort to enhance action and support on CRM - something which must be addressed urgently.

Pilot initiatives on combinations of CRM measures in vulnerable developing countries could be implemented under the SNLD. More guidance is needed also on how to finance these measures and implement them once developed. In addition, capacity building is needed -this could also be provided by the SNLD.

Evaluation Area 4:
ExCom’s Performance on Displacement and Migration

In general, the evaluation report showed that significant progress was made on some activities under the workstream of displacement and migration, particularly in relation to the Paris Agreement-mandated TFD, which produced numerous outputs. The most significant ExCom outputs were on the issue of climate change-related displacement. It released a report on best practices, key challenges, and lessons learned.
Effort [D]

In July 2016, ExCom convened a technical meeting on climate change-related displacement and produced several reports with relevant recommendations. Task Force on Displacement (TFD) was established successfully at COP21 and became operational with the first meeting. The TFD produced seven reports containing information on the policy and research context and made recommendations to the ExCom, UNFCCC bodies, and parties on how to move forward on the issue of climate-change-related displacement. TFD worked with key stakeholders, but ExCom has yet to send formal invitations. Some activities were completed as part of TFD’s new plan of action in collaboration with other organizations (ILO, IDMC), while others are still ongoing. The report, on the other hand, revealed that ExCom is highly reliant on TFD members providing resources to provide input and elaborate reports.

Progress [C]

The ILO produced e-learning modules on disaster displacement and the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre conducted workshops with national governments and regional organizations in the Pacific on disaster displacement risk assessment. By April 2021, the TFD had already completed a lot of activities within the scope of the Plan of Action, such as scientific studies, policy briefs, capacity-building activities for national governments, and stakeholder workshops. ExCom successfully completed the activities outlined in the two-year workplan, such as inviting relevant organizations to collaborate and compile data on climate change-related displacement, but these activities were largely undertaken under existing organizational mandates and were not directly part of the TFD’s work.

Participation [C]

Stakeholders were engaged in the development of the report on best practices, key challenges, and lessons learned. Two engagement meetings and a technical meeting with national policymakers, practitioners, and relevant experts were organized in 2016. Another stakeholder meeting with experts from governments, regional organizations, civil society, international organizations, and academia was organized in 2018. Few activities in the 2019-2021 Plan of Action specifically addressed working with relevant stakeholders to identify capacity needs and support developing countries’ efforts to address climate change-related displacement.

Summary:

The TFD, which was established in response to a request at COP 21 in Paris, has helped to advance work on human mobility. The TFD has its own workplan and has produced recommendations and hosted several events and workshops. However, most of the work is done by the UN and international organizations. In addition, more work is needed to strengthen coordination across organizations working on human mobility, including in the global South, and to enhance action and support, including implementing the recommendations of the TFD.
**Evaluation Area 5:**

ExCom’s Performance on Finance, Action and Support

**Effort [D]**

ExCom launched the Action and Support Expert Group (ASEG) at the same time as it launched the expert group on SOEs and NELs in late 2020. However, the ASEG group was the last to meet and only had its first meeting in May 2021. The ASEG is still establishing its plan of action. ExCom has not yet engaged stakeholders in order to develop knowledge and raise awareness.

**Progress [D]**

The ASEG was launched quickly following the request and produced a plan of action during the COVID-19 pandemic. The SCF dedicated its 2016 Forum to Loss and Damage and these provided the input for a technical paper expounding on sources of finance that was shared in 2019. However, enhancement of action and support has been lacking. Nothing was led by ExCom until 2020 despite the 2016 and 2019 reviews highlighting action and support as critical barriers to progress on action to avert, minimize and address loss and damage. It took 7 years to agree on the terms of reference and to establish the working group under the ExCom, this limited any substantive discussion of work on action and support under the ExCom until 2020.

**Participation [F]**

ExCom contacted the SCF and invited it to host its 2016 Loss and Damage Forum. The side event at COP23 was organized as part of ExCom’s task to disseminate information to relevant stakeholders. Since its establishment, ExCom has finally formed a working group on Action and Support. However, the expert group only has one representative from CSOs, but 4.5 from financial institutions and 5.5 from UN institutions. Worryingly this makeup suggests the focus will be on Business as usual (BAU) rather than exploring innovative or alternative (non-neoliberal) approaches to financing for L&D.

**Summary:**

Despite a number of meetings, workshops, and the 2019 technical paper this is the area where the ExCom and the WIM have delivered the least and yet is the area in which progress is most critically needed. Therefore, ASEG must be equipped to do its work and there must be the political willingness of developed countries rather than blocking. ExCom must also have the resources to do its work. Importantly the SNLD must also be operationalized to provide technical assistance to vulnerable developing countries and the vulnerable households and communities within them.
The research found that ExCom tends to rely on the resources of external organizations to move the work forward. This is particularly true of the work to enhance knowledge and understanding of Loss and Damage and means that the production of knowledge is largely dependent on the willingness of external organizations to engage. The report proposes that this raises questions of ownership of the outputs. We also believe this raises the question of the influence of these organizations in shaping knowledge on Loss and Damage, most of which are based in the global North. The role of Indigenous, local and traditional knowledge was recognized in the last review of the WIM. Yet, thus far there has been no effort by ExCom to highlight the role of Indigenous, local and Indigenous knowledge in the work on Loss and Damage. This is a gap that must be addressed.

The report concluded with several key findings. The activities which were implemented the most readily and most successfully were those originally mandated by COP or CMA decisions. That said, in some cases, the ExCom needed to be asked to undertake an activity in a second COP or CMA decision. For example, at COP 22 in 2016 the ExCom was asked to establish a group focused on supporting work on action and support. However, this was not done and the ExCom was thus again requested to establish an expert group on action and support during the review of the WIM at COP 25. The report concludes that more research is needed to understand how COP and CMA decisions influence the work of the ExCom and the WIM. It would also be important to understand why some areas progress faster than others. There seems to be significant resistance to undertake work on enhancing action and support despite the fact that it is inscribed as a function of the WIM and the ExCom has been requested to strengthen its focus on action and support in both subsequent COP and CMA decisions.

The UCL-led study also found a significant delay overall in the establishment of expert groups. The TFD was established much faster than other experts groups; perhaps because it was a response to a request by a decision in the COP decision accompanying the Paris Agreement. It is unclear why it took so long to establish the other expert groups. The expert group on NELs has been plagued by difficulties, having been finally established in 2016 only to be disbanded and re-established in 2020. This delays progress in not just enhancing understanding, but of strengthening coordination and enhancing action and support to address NELs.

**Conclusion**

Engagement in ExCom meetings and the work of the WIM has been largely limited to those who participate in the UNFCCC process according to the UCL-led-team. In particular, those who engage in meetings and the work of the expert group largely represent UN agencies or international organizations. ExCom’s current workplan indicates that it will host local and regional events but these have yet to be held.
Call to Action/Recommendations

It is clear that there is significant room for improvement for the WIM. As the Loss and Damage Youth Coalition, we gave it an overall grade of D for progress, F for effort, and F for participation. We provide below concrete recommendations for how ExCom could address these shortcomings to fulfill its functions and achieve its mandate of addressing loss and damage in vulnerable developing countries.

Provide more avenues for the participation of frontline communities and CSOs from the Global South:

The mandate of the WIM is to address loss and damage in developing countries particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. To fulfill its mandate, ExCom must understand the experiences of the vulnerable households and communities on the frontline of climate change. There must be provisions for increasing the participation of both frontline communities and CSOs from the Global South including sponsoring participation and holding meetings in vulnerable developing countries.

Scale up efforts to mobilize action and support

At COP 18 in 2012 Parties to the UNFCCC discussed the needs of vulnerable developing countries and how they can be addressed which is inscribed in decision 3/CP.18. One of the recommendations made was the implementation of pilot initiatives on CRM. The ExCom could develop and implement pilots to test combinations of CRM approaches in developing countries. Alongside these efforts, the SNLD, which is part of the infrastructure of the WIM but not guided by the ExCom, must be operationalised in a way that ensures it provides concrete support to frontline communities in vulnerable developing countries. The ExCom must also engage more constructively in efforts to mobilize finance to address loss and damage, including through collaboration and cooperation with the SCF. These efforts have thus far been inadequate.
Provide guidance on including loss and damage in NDCs:

Mobilizing action and support will require understanding the needs of vulnerable developing countries for addressing loss and damage, both now and in the future. Many developing countries have indicated that they would like to include information on loss and damage in their NDCs but lack the capacity to do so. The ExCom should develop guidance for including loss and damage in NDCs and the SNLD must provide technical advice for assessing loss and damage from the local to the national level.

Provide the secretariat and the ExCom more resources to do its work:

The secretariat has a limited budget to support the ExCom in its work to carry out the five-year rolling workplan and guide the work of the WIM. The budget of the ExCom must be increased significantly to allow it to increase focus on enhancing action and support to address loss and damage.

Enhance participation, diversity and inclusion especially from the global south:

It is clear from our rapid assessment that who is in the room shapes what is being discussed. It is vital that all stakeholders are active and involved in shaping knowledge on Loss and Damage, currently it appears this is dominated by organizations which are based in the global North. The role of Indigenous, local and traditional knowledge was recognized in the last review of the WIM, however there has been little obvious efforts by the ExCom to highlight the role of Indigenous, local and Indigenous knowledge in the work on Loss and Damage. This is a gap that must be addressed.

Lastly, there must be more avenues for the participation of southern-based CSOs in the work of the TFD. Also, there must be provisions to provide support for vulnerable developing countries to implement the recommendations of the TFD.
Quotes from LDYC Members

• “Loss and Damage is the big climate injustice for our generation. Global leaders should take responsibility in addressing L&D. Addressing L&D is neither a charity nor a development opportunity for vulnerable communities, it is a means to ensure that we have access to a stable future. History knows who broke the harmony of our planet, so today we simply claim and demand climate justice for all.” – Ineza Umuhoza Grace, Co-Director of LDYC, Rwanda

• “Rising sea levels driven by anthropogenic global warming is causing irreversible damage to low-lying small island developing states. Pacific Islanders suffer forced displacement with little recourse under international law and limited means for resettlement. In the interests of climate justice, they are entitled to compensation for climate-related Losses and Damages.” – Raeed Roshan Ali, Communications and Storytelling Associate, Fiji

• “Human-induced Loss and Damage disproportionately affects already vulnerable and oppressed communities that have contributed the least to the escalating climate crisis. It is high time developed countries address their long-standing climate debt to the Global South, and provide finance and technology support on Loss and Damage. Frontline communities cannot wait any longer—we need action on Loss and Damage now.” – Lam Quynh Vo, Advocacy and Training Associate, Vietnam/Finland

• “The injustice of the climate crisis means that the Global South countries, which have done the least to cause the climate crisis, are hit the hardest by climate change impacts and driven deeper into vulnerability, poverty, and debt. The financial support and action towards climate change mitigation and adaptation are too little to respond to the climate emergency and in increasing climate-related Loss and Damage.” – Kevin Mtai, Member of LDYC, Kenya

• “Climate change is also a justice issue, and in any court case, there are perpetrators and victims. It is clear now that those who suffer the most from the adverse effects of climate change are countries that contribute far less to the causes of the climate crisis. As youth activists, we stand with countries from the Global South and invite world leaders to provide Loss and Damage finance now.” – Mamadou Sylla, Member of LDYC, Sénégal
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