Network Session Human Rights Activists Workshop

Climate Change and Human Rights : The African Climate Activist's Perspective

Esther Oluwatoyin Agaja [Project Coordinator of Fridays for Future Nigeria] Africa is the most affected by the effects of climate change and the people contribute the fewer emissions, although climate change poses a threat to the entire human race, many people are affected so is the case of Africans – the most economically weak nations are and will be hardest hit by climate change.

The climate crisis directly threatens several human rights; it is already impacting human health, food, water, housing, and the right to life. Whatever poses a threat to human life is potentially a violation of human rights. This paper therefore explores various experiences of human rights activists and aims to share the current status and activities related to the regional climate crisis, the direct impacts of climate change in various African countries, and the responses of human rights activists to this crisis. The authors intend to emphasize the direct impacts of climate change and the actions of local activists in handling the climate crisis.

This paper considers the extent of the direct impacts of climate change on people in Africa from a human rights perspective. The sections explore climate change's effects on human rights in Africa with insights from Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and Uganda, and the human rights approach to climate change from an African perspective.