

Special Session [Road to COP27]

Integrating Human Rights into Local Adaptation Planning

Oct 11, 2022 (Wed) 9:30-12:00

Organizers: Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI)

Background

The IPCC WGII Sixth Assessment Report states, "In all cities and urban areas, the risk faced by people and assets from hazards associated with climate change has increased." Rising global temperatures intensify extreme weather events and increase the potential spread of tropical diseases. Climate-induced disasters have also caused rural-urban displacement. These trends pose an immense challenge to cities' basic services, infrastructures, environment, housing, and livelihoods. Against this backdrop, it is strikingly clear that cities are the first responders to climate change and will in turn play a central role in developing and implementing climate change adaptation policies and programmes. Cities will, therefore, become important actors to ensure that adaptation is grounded in human rights, which is a precondition to protect and empower groups that are disproportionately affected by climate change, and frequently excluded from climate change adaptation policies and programmes.

Glasgow Adaptation Imperative sets out action and progress required on the pathway to COP27 for an inclusive climate-resilient future. It recognised that a more inclusive, equitable and effective locally led adaptation is the most significant opportunity to address the fundamental drivers of climate vulnerability. Here human rights can support local governments and stakeholders to put people at the center and ensure their active and meaningful participation in policymaking.

Building on RWI's research on NAP and handbook for cities, this event will closely examine how local governments can integrate human rights into their local climate change adaptation work, including local adaptation plans.



Objectives

1. Increase awareness of the mutually reinforcing relationship between human rights and climate change adaptation nationally and locally.
2. Facilitate the exchange of experiences, challenges, and best practices on integrating a rights-based approach local climate change adaptation policies, plans and programmes.

Main agenda

1. Discussing the connection between human rights and climate change adaptation.
2. Sharing regional experiences, challenges, and best practices on integrating a rights-based approach to climate change adaptation policies, plans and programmes.
3. Reflecting on how cities can collaborate, in the lead up to COP 27, to promote human rights in climate change adaptation contexts.



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