

Climate change and social justice  
Gender differentiated vulnerability to climate change

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# Climate Change: Social justice is an issue.

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# Outline

- What is social justice in the context of climate change
- Shared Responsibilities for social Climate Justice
- Social justice issues and climate change governance
- Inclusion and accountability in climate change related decision-making



- Climate emergency affects us all:
- Drought in Namibia & cyclones in Mozambique,
- Forest fires in Central Africa,
- Flooding in the Zambezi region and the Cuvelai
- Challenging to protect all communities and their properties to the same standard

# What is meant with social justice

- Social Justice is about **equitable allocation** of resources, capital, and wealth between developed and developing countries, between governments, communities and individuals, in the context of climatic emergency.
- Social justice becomes a climate change issues because some countries, communities and individuals benefit from **climate emergency protection measures** whereas others are not.

# Shared Responsibilities for social Climate Justice

- Developed countries are the **biggest greenhouse emitters**, however developing countries are being impacted the most.
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- Developed countries have the resources and means to adapt and mitigate to the impacts of climate change.
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- Developing countries requires huge sums of fund to mitigate the impact of climate change.
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- The economic and social costs of climate impacts should be a **shared responsibility** between developed and developing countries.

# Activism is important

- Pressure from Activist and NGOs **transformed climate change debates** from pure technical and scientific issues to social issues.
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- The **activist lobbied and advocated** for more women representation, inclusion of minority group, during climate change negotiations and related policies.
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- It is through lobbying that climate change become a **social justice issue**.
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- Allocation of climate change funds **remains contested.....**
- Climate change should become a **cross cutting issues** as we negotiate with investors.

# Social justice issues and climate change governance

- Developed countries availed Climate finance to support developing countries through:
- **Global Environmental Facility (GEF)**, enabling developing countries to invest in nature, and supports the implementation of biodiversity, climate change, and desertification.
- **Climate Change Fund (CCF)**, to support the efforts of developing countries in responding to the challenge of climate change.
- **Least Developed Country Fund** preparation and implementation of national development such as water, agriculture and food security, health, disaster risk management and prevention and infrastructure.



- **Adaptation Fund** set aside US\$ 60 million for regional projects and 20 million for Enhanced Direct Access projects in fiscal year 2022, as well as increase readiness support package grants to a maximum of US\$ 150,000 per country

# Inclusion and accountability in climate change related decision-making.



- As developing countries we should be aware of the **power imbalance and representation of our voices** during climate change negotiations.
- What is clear during these negotiations is a repetition of history, whereby the global North is causing harm to Africa through GHG emissions.
- Yet, we expect solutions to **climate injustice to come from these negotiations**,
- In addition we expect the global North to **fulfil its responsibilities voluntarily**.
- As African policy makers, leaders and decision makers what is our role in ensuring that climate justice is attained for Africa?



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# Gender walk exercise

- Assume the following identities: Take 2 steps ahead if you are able to participate or qualify as a beneficiary
  - An unemployed and unskilled 30 years male
  - A 58 years old Marginalised woman and grandmother of 4 children under 8 years old
  - A 52 years old Marginalised man, farmer and entrepreneur
  - A 49 years old disabled female
  - A 45-year, old male with a car and good financial standing
  - A 48 years old female head of household with a career and income
  - A 25 year old female without an income and living with grandparents
  - A 25 year old male migrant in Windhoek and land-owner in Okatjemute
- There is a meeting at the constituency office to introduce a climate change adaptation project focusing on smart-agriculture and aiming at improving farmers' output
- An NGO working with MEFT is giving 5 tractors to the constituency, the drivers will be sourced from the constituency and should have a driver license and be under 55 years.
- The government is giving food parcels for marginalized women and children
- There is a meeting at the Regional council to select beneficiary for irrigation and aquaculture grants for local farmers. The training will follow a month after they have been selected.
- Ngoya Green energy is distributing subsidized solar panels to the community through constituency development committee (CDC) sufficient for lightning, a couple of electricity appliances and to do a small business as well. Interested households are required to pay a once-off N\$5, 000-00 only.