

## Climate Justice Day at COP23: 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017



### Climate Justice

Climate Justice links human rights and development to achieve a people-centred approach, safeguarding the rights of the most vulnerable and sharing the burdens and benefits of climate change and its resolution equitably and fairly.

Climate Justice is guided by [core principles](#):

- Respect and Protect Human Rights
- Support the Right to Development
- Share Benefits and Burdens Equitably
- Ensure that Decisions on Climate Change are Participatory, Transparent and Accountable
- Highlight Gender Equality and Equity
- Harness the Transformative Power of Education for Climate Stewardship
- Use Effective Partnerships to Secure Climate Justice

Climate change impacts people and impacts their rights – their rights to food and safe water, health, education and shelter. For this reason, a human-rights approach is essential in taking climate action. [Video: Why climate change is a threat to human rights.](#)

### Climate Justice at COP23

A Climate Justice COP means a people-centred COP with a focus on the impacts of climate change on people and their rights and the role of people and communities in shaping climate actions. In order to avoid the worst impacts of climate change and achieve the ultimate goal of the Paris Agreement – to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above preindustrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above preindustrial levels – world leaders must act in solidarity.

The COP Presidency, Fiji, brings a unique Climate Justice approach to this year's COP. It is the first Small Island Developing State to hold the COP Presidency and was also the first

Compiled by the Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice

country in the world to ratify the Paris Agreement. Never before has a country so evidently on the frontlines of climate change steered the global climate negotiations. This provides an unprecedented opportunity for the realities of climate impacts, the urgency of action and the benefits to be brought to the fore.

A Climate Justice approach to the negotiations ensures decision making is participatory, transparent and accountable. With this in mind, COP23 can shine a light on the leadership being given by the most vulnerable countries, whose voices often go unheard, and encourage the international community to support this leadership. The COP Presidency has facilitated the first Open Dialogue, which was mandated by Parties, in an attempt to bridge Party and non-party actors in meaningful dialogue. This reflects the Pacific spirit and the Fijian tradition of Talanoa, a traditional approach to engage in an inclusive, participatory and transparent dialogue. Such opportunities help to bring the focus to the lived experience of people on the front lines of climate change.

### [Climate Justice Day](#)

Climate Justice Day at COP23 is a special celebration in the spirit of listening and learning that is being encouraged by the COP Presidency. Climate Justice Day provides a space for the engagement of many different constituencies seeking the promotion of people-centred climate action. It is an opportunity for the social dimensions of climate action to be further explored while celebrating and enhancing the spirit of cooperation and solidarity that led to the Paris Agreement.

The Fiji COP Presidency is setting the tone for Climate Justice Day by hosting an event on integrating human rights in climate action. This aims to inform decision makers at COP on the need to observe human rights obligations in the context of climate change and to highlight the human dimension of climate change.

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# Climate Justice Day

Agenda

16<sup>th</sup> November 2017

## **Capacity Building Day (Various organisations, including UNDP, GIZ, LDC group, IIED)**

9.00 – 17.00 GIZ GmbH office, Heinrich-von-Stephan-Straße 9, 53175  
Presentations and discussions on capacity-building initiatives that enhance the implementations of NDCs.

## **Law and Governance Reforms for Climate Vulnerable Countries (LSE/CISDL)**

11.30-13.00 Meeting Room 9  
Overcoming barriers for highly climate vulnerable countries with innovative legal tools and governance frameworks towards mitigation, resilience and SDGs.

## **Faith and Community Approach to Climate Action (ICE/INEB/WRST)**

11.30-13.00 Meeting Room 4  
Adaptation and resilience models through community organization.

## **High-Level Event: Education Day (UNFCCC Secretariat)**

11.30-13.00 Meeting Room 6  
Event promoting the driving role of education in moving forward with the implementation of the Paris Agreement and SDGs.

## **COP23 Presidency Briefing: Integrating Human Rights in Climate Action (COP Presidency)**

13.15-14.45 Meeting Room 2  
Event highlighting the human dimension of climate action. Aims to inform decision-makers at COP23 on the need to observe human rights obligations in the context of climate change and to highlight the human dimension of climate action.

## **Rights and Responsibility: Climate Litigation in Post-Paris World (Heinrich Böll Foundation)**

13.15-14.45 Meeting Room 4  
Exploring the potential of climate litigation in a Post-Paris world.

## **Dreaming Big in Education! The partnerships we need for scaled up adaptation and mitigation (UNITAR)**

13.15-14.45 Meeting Room 6  
Demonstrating the tangible contribution that education and training is already making to adaptation and mitigation.

## **Making NDCs gender-responsive and human-rights based to maximize the co-benefits of climate action (UN Women)**

15.00-16.30 Meeting Room 11, Bonn Zone  
Demonstrating how addressing gender equality and human rights in NDCs bring multiple co-benefits.

**Innovating Approaches to Climate Change, Education and Youth Empowerment for Climate Action (Various)**

15.00-16.30 Meeting Room 6

Education and youth engagement in climate action.

**Attributing climate impacts to major fossil fuel companies (UCU)**

15.00-16.30 Meeting Room 12

Questions of climate responsibility have mostly focused on countries but are increasingly turning to fossil fuel producers.

**Youth of the Mediterranean for Climate and Social Justice (CDP/FTDES)**

16.45-18.15 Meeting Room 7

The integration of social and climate justice frameworks into the development realm.

**Human Rights and Climate Change: The role of communities, activists, NGOs and National Human Rights Institutions in the climate crisis (BHRRRC, CIEL, GP, GANHRI, Germanwatch)**

17.00-21.00 GSI

Event to highlight the momentum community activists have built and discuss how to grow and expand in the coming years.

**The Integration of Climate Change, Disaster Risk Management and its links to Sustainable Development (Government of Kiribati)**

18.30-20.00 Meeting Room 9

The successes and challenges on climate change and disaster risk management and the SDGs.

**Economic diversification, just transition of workforce and global value chain in context of SD (UNFCCC Secretariat)**

18.30-20.00 Meeting Room 4

Led by UNCTAD, high-level delegates and experts will share insights on the impacts of mitigation actions on economy, jobs and its interaction with global value chains.