

GLOBAL CLIMATE ASSEMBLY FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

PARTICIPATORY CLIMATE GOVERNANCE FROM THE FRONTLINES

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BACKGROUND

Current global climate governance remains deeply unequal. Those most impacted by the climate crisis—frontline communities, Indigenous Peoples, women, youth, and environmental defenders—are systematically marginalized from decision-making processes. Existing participation frameworks, including under Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE), remain fragmented and largely inaccessible. The Global Climate Assembly (GCA) emerges in response. It is a locally-rooted, regionally-coordinated, globally-presented process, led by local and frontline communities and environmental defenders. GCA moves beyond calls for inclusion, focusing on reshaping the very content of negotiations: just transition, loss and damage, reparations, adaptation, rights, and finance.

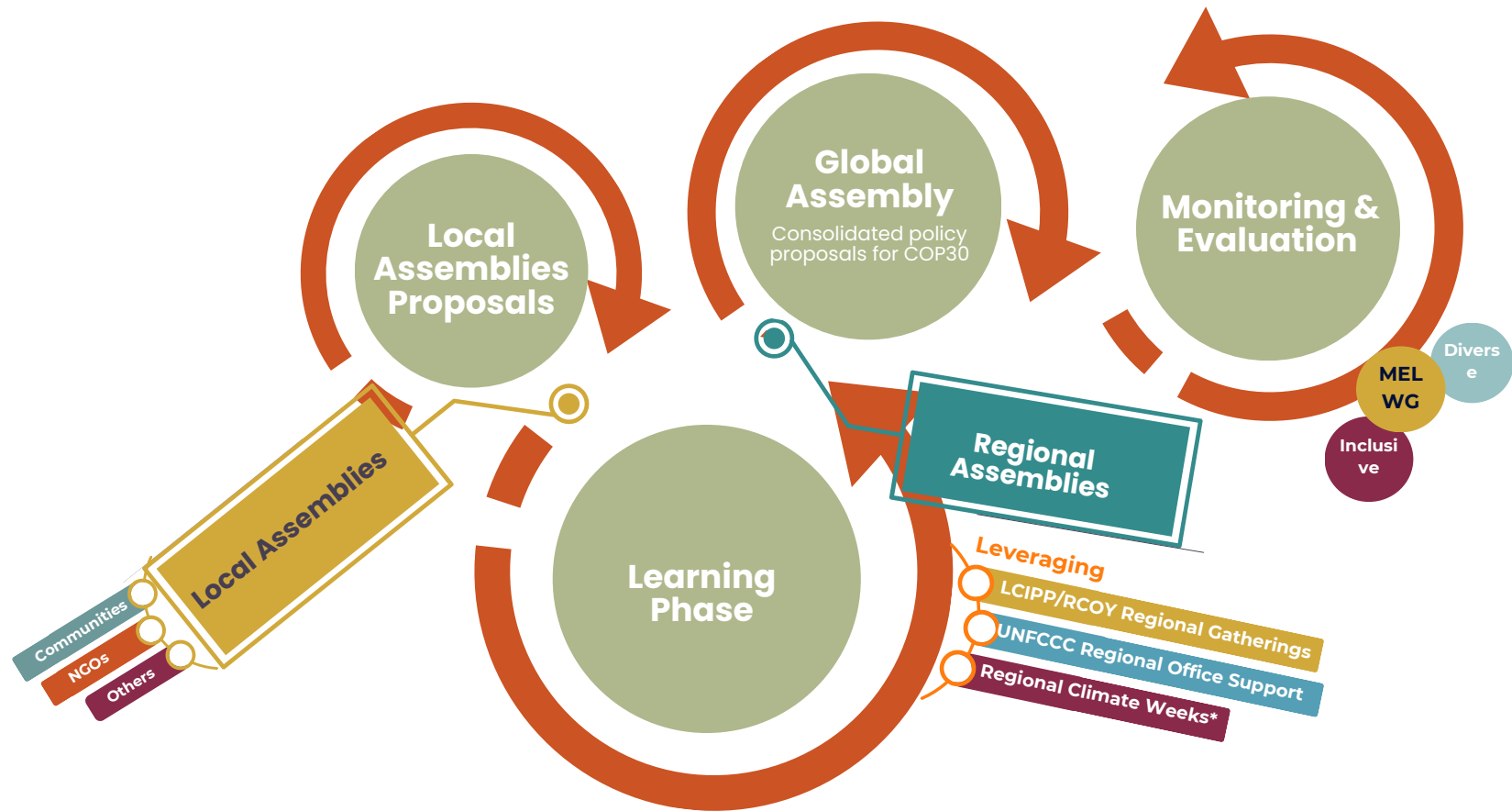
OBJECTIVES

- Empower communities and defenders to define climate justice priorities through local deliberations.
- Channel local mandates to regional and global levels to influence multilateral negotiations.
- Produce a People's Declaration on Climate Justice to guide outcomes at COP30 and beyond.
- Develop a model for replicable, community-led participation within global climate governance.

KEY PARTNERS



STRUCTURE



ASSEMBLIES IN ACTION

	PUERTO RICO	CATALONIA
Participant Recruitment	Participatory, cultural and equity-focused outreach to disadvantaged communities to ensure socio-economic, generational, geographic and grassroot-driven participant selection.	Stratified random sampling to achieve demographic representation, ensuring balanced participation across age, gender, and socioeconomic groups.
Focus	Holistic community-led Nationally Determined Contribution and influencing the Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience Plan	Addressing dilemmas in renewable energy deployment and agri-food systems
Methodology	12 sessions, transformative facilitation, deep decolonial focus and cultural integration (e.g., storytelling, music, relational approaches).	6 sessions, deliberative small-group processes integrating participants values, expert integration, random sampling for inclusion.
Data and Expertise	Combined grassroots and local knowledge with science technical expertise identified by Co-ordination Committee	Diverse expert presentations, data analysis, identified by Oversight Group
Follow up & Impact	Emphasis on citizen monitoring tools, public scorecards, and transparent permitting systems to hold institutions accountable.	Political commitment and institutional support to integrating outcomes into existing governance and legal structures

PLACE-BASED INFORMATION

Puerto Rico

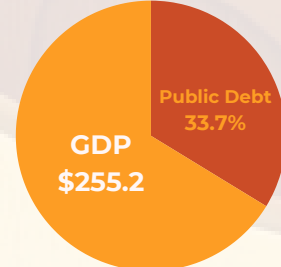


3.2 million
3.4 mt CO2e (per capita)
Colonial territory



8.0 million
5.4 mt CO2e (per capita)
Autonomous community
Self-determination movement, aligned with EU goals
Open Government commitments related to gender, open data, anti-corruption, and participation

Catalunya



Austerity + sovereignty and autonomy challenges fueling separatist sentiments
Compliance issues of transparency and open data laws. Participation barriers due to bureaucracy, exclusionary practice, and narrow judicial interpretation

CONCLUSION

The GCA represents a paradigm shift in global climate governance by embedding structured community participation as a core, complementary element to party-driven processes. It offers a new model for integrating the knowledge, experiences, and priorities of frontline communities and environmental defenders into multilateral dialogues in a transparent and organized manner.

It is not a consultation, but a political intervention designed to embed justice, reparations, and rights into multilateral climate processes. At COP30 and beyond, the GCA will not just ask for a seat at the table; it will bring the table and set the agenda.

REGISTER TO ENGAGE IN OR HOST A LOCAL ASSEMBLY

We invite policymakers, researchers, and community actors to engage with the Global Climate Assembly initiative to explore how participatory approaches can enrich existing multilateral frameworks and expand pathways for meaningful engagement.

