

**Climate equity and justice for a post-1.5°C world**

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**Background**

Current projections based on Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) are not aligned with Paris Agreement aims of keeping warming below 1.5°C (i.e. 'well below' 2.0°C) above pre-industrial norms and thus may be unmet (1–3). Without a very rapid and momentous reduction in emissions at the global scale (5), the window for pursuing a climate equity and justice agenda within the 1.5°C aim will close. Further complicating the picture, emerging political changes in the United States show a clear preference for policies hostile to the acknowledgement of climate change, existing mitigation and adaptation measures, as well as the main multilateral and scientific institutions used to address environment and social equity and justice issues. Under these conditions, the future of the normative multilateral global climate equity and justice regime (e.g. SDGs, CBDR-RC)<sup>1</sup> is uncertain at best. Indeed, debate exists about whether equity and justice should even be a part of climate policy research given the urgency of climate change (4). Therefore, the alternative must be to develop a comprehensive programme of research on climate justice and equity under conditions of extreme ecological shifts and associated projections of loss and damage from unmitigated 1.5°C+ global temperature increases.

**Research agenda**

Significant questions for research thus begin with exploring the meanings, principles, and dimensions of equity and justice under severe short to long-term future impacts of 1.5°C+ warming scenarios (6–10).

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<sup>1</sup> Sustainable Development Goals, Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities