

11-12 November 2017  
Bonn, Germany

# Event report



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Cover photo: BANGLADESH Khulna Division. A farmer further inland, on the road to Sathkira.  
Before the high tides and the cyclone, the islanders used to have rice fields as they still have inland.  
Photographer: Espen Rasmussen/PANOS/IIED

This year's event was organised by a partnership between the [Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre](#); IIED; the [International Development Research Centre \(IDRC\)](#); the [Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery \(GFDRR\)](#); the [Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice \(MRFJ\)](#); [We Mean Business \(WMB\)](#); the [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations \(FAO\)](#); and the [German Development Institute/Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik \(DIE\)](#).

Contributing partners to this year's event were [Action on Climate Today](#), [Oxford Policy Management \(ACT, OPM\)](#); the [International Fund for Agricultural Development \(IFAD\)](#); the [Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research \(NWO\)](#); the [Adaptation Network](#); the [NAP Global Network](#); the [Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development \(BMZ\)](#); and the [Women's Environment and Development Organization \(WEDO\)](#).



Development &  
Climate days

Global ambition.

Local action.

Climate resilience for all.

#DCdays17

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## Acronyms

<b>ACT</b>	Action on Climate Today
<b>BRACED</b>	Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters
<b>BSR</b>	Business for Social Responsibility
<b>CAF</b>	Climate Adaptation Fund
<b>CCMCC</b>	Conflict and Cooperation in the Management of Climate Change
<b>CDP</b>	Carbon Disclosure Project
<b>COP22</b>	UN Climate Change Conference 22nd Conference of Parties
<b>COP23</b>	UN Climate Change Conference 23rd Conference of Parties
<b>D&amp;C Days</b>	Development and Climate Days
<b>DFID</b>	Department for International Development
<b>DIE</b>	German Development Institute/Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik
<b>FAO</b>	Food & Agriculture Organization
<b>GEF</b>	Global Environment Facility
<b>GFDRR</b>	Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery
<b>ICCCAD</b>	International Centre for Climate Change and Development
<b>ICRC</b>	International Committee of the Red Cross
<b>IDRC</b>	International Development Research Centre
<b>IFAD</b>	International Fund for Agricultural Development
<b>IIED</b>	International Institute for Environment and Development
<b>ITAD</b>	Information, Training And Development
<b>MRF-CJ</b>	Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice
<b>NOW</b>	Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research
<b>OPM</b>	Oxford Policy Management
<b>RCRCCC</b>	Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre
<b>SDI</b>	Slum and Shack Dwellers International
<b>UNFCCC</b>	UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
<b>UNV</b>	United Nations Volunteers
<b>WEDO</b>	Women's Environment and Development Organization

## 1

# Introduction

This report captures highlights from the 2017 Development & Climate Days (D&C Days) “Global ambition, local action. Climate resilience for all”. The event took place 11-12 November 2017 during the middle weekend of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Conference of Parties (COP23)<sup>1</sup> in Bonn. It was organised by lead partners of D&C Days with contributing partners alongside. Over 450 people took part, representing grassroots organisations, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), businesses, donors, policy makers, negotiators, scientists and development practitioners.

This year’s programme reflected the dynamic format that D&C Days are known for. It was designed to actively engage and challenge participants, foster new relationships, incubate ideas, and ultimately lead to concrete shared next steps.

Over the two days participants explored four evidenced themes around climate resilience – resilience through empowerment and access; valuing lived experience and local knowledge; transparency and downward accountability; and shared resilience. These themes emerged from the D&C Days at COP22 in Marrakech 2016, and formed the backbone of the programme in Bonn. Through plenaries and interactive sessions, they were debated and shaped into messages to disseminate at targeted events during the second week and beyond. To capture these messages in a compelling way, an artist created “real-time” graphic illustrations throughout the event.

“The best element was the opportunity to spend time within each of the sessions working with and learning from each other.”

D&C Days 2017 delegate

Plenary sessions were informal and participative, with panellists representing different sectors and regions, and directly interacting with the audience. Day 1’s opening panel gave panellists the opportunity to share their one-minute stories that powerfully illustrated the evidenced themes. Day 2 included an opening session on “Taking Stock” looking ahead to the coming week at COP23, followed by “Out of the Box” sessions exploring creative approaches to listening and communicating on climate change. The day ended with an inclusive high-level panel chaired by Mary Robinson reflecting on the themes and culminating in a Q&A session. *Section 4* summarises the plenary sessions.

Fifteen interactive sessions linked to the themes enabled participants from local to global spheres of influence, to reflect, discuss and share experiences. The participative format sparked lively debates and open dialogue, culminating in the opportunity to reflect and draw out aggregated messages on the four evidenced themes. *Section 5* offers highlights from these sessions

A unique aspect of D&C Days is the focus on experiential learning approaches and sharing stories of resilience from those living on the frontline of climate change. This approach has a profound impact on participants and contrasts starkly with the official climate talks where these voices and accounts of personal experience are often lacking. Spaces were also dedicated to networking and valuable interaction between delegates where opportunities for collaboration were explored.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/cop23/>

## 2

## D&C Days – a unique space for learning and dialogue

Over the last 15 years, D&C Days has built a reputation for providing stimulating and interactive debate of critical issues at the interface of development and climate change. D&C Days were initiated by IIED's [Saleemul Huq](#) in 2002.

D&C Days provides a forum at COP that links policy, knowledge and practice in ways that enable substantial learning and dialogue – all in an atmosphere designed to encourage participants from different regions and sectors to define problems and seek common solutions. It offers opportunities to propose and explore practical ways to embed resilience into climate change policies and practices.



Delegates at D&C Days 2017 join in an interactive game to understand more about listening to communications around climate change (Photo: Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre/Flickr)

Host partners are now developing the ambition and influence of D&C Days by having a more strategic approach that goes beyond COP meetings. This year host partners prepared a strategic plan aiming to contribute to the Paris Ambition by bringing evidence on climate and development into dialogues to influence key stakeholders – the private sector, the climate negotiators and the climate adaptation community. The strategy sets out to disseminate D&C Days messages more widely by focusing on specific evidenced themes and targeting these messages at key events. D&C Days partners have identified strategic audiences to reach out to, including the private sector, UNFCCC negotiators, and in-country stakeholders in the climate adaptation community in countries.

In 2018, D&C Days partners will participate in the Talanoa Dialogue – a year-long process facilitating an inclusive dialogue to feed into the formal climate change processes. It encourages discussion between a range of non-state actors – cities, local communities and regions, businesses, civil society groups and international institutions – to build ambition and trust between them and to strengthen countries' commitment to the Paris Agreement. The roadmap for the Dialogue opens the door to meaningful participation from these actors. A new online portal has been established for submissions of analysis and policy recommendations. The submission in the Appendix to this report will feed into the Dialogue. There will also be opportunities to present the D&C Days methodology, closely reflecting the Talanoa Dialogue vision, at key events during 2018..

Looking further ahead, D&C Days is poised to make timely contributions to realising the ambition of the Paris Agreement. Partners plan to harness the wealth of expertise and know-how represented at D&C Days to influence the 'ambition mechanism' processes under UNFCCC.

## 3

## Objectives of D&C Days

The UN Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC) binds almost 200 countries to tackle climate change. The Conference of Parties (COP) is the supreme decision-making body of the convention, and all parties meet each year to review progress.

Amid these formal negotiations, D&C Days provides an informal space for policymakers, scientists and development practitioners to come together to explore common concerns and discuss strategic action.

### **D&C Days are designed to:**

- Bring together practitioners, negotiators, scientists and policymakers to explore key issues related to adaptation to climate change in developing countries
- Share best practices in development and climate change
- Provide opportunities to disseminate scientific news, literature and reports, and
- Promote linkages between development and climate.

**The 2018 D&C Days will take place during COP24 in Katowice, Poland in December 2018.**

## 4

## Highlights from Plenary Sessions

### DAY ONE

#### Opening session

##### Opening remarks by Imme Scholz,

German Development Institute/Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE)

We're proud to co-host this event. D&C Days is evolving into an influential partnership for cooperation: sharing experience, evidence and insights to help achieve the Paris Ambition. I'd like to express deep thanks to Saleemul Huq who founded this event. His great vision was to bring together development and climate – policy areas that cannot be disassociated. Advancing global warming threatens our survival and the fabric of society. COP23's focus on vulnerability underscores the need to connect the dots between climate action, sustainable development and humanitarian action; interconnections that are at the centre of our work. The four evidenced themes for this morning's session express the deep transformation that is needed. They also express the challenges and opportunities. We need international cooperation and solidarity to be successful. We are glad to contribute over these two days to joint thinking and action for a just transformation. Thank you.

Each person was invited to tell a personal one-minute story  
(Photo: Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre/Flickr)



## Evidenced themes storytellers panel

Plenary contributors were asked to tell a personal 1-minute story on a theme that resonated strongly with their own experience.

The D&C Days discussions were strategically linked to the following themes:

- Resilience through empowerment and access
- Valuing lived experience and local knowledge
- Transparency and downward accountability
- Shared resilience.

The themes provided a framework for the shared values that host partners, speakers and contributors would adhere to during D&C Days. In addition, they provided categories of work, be that action-research, development and/or advocacy, that could be shared as examples, bringing continuity of discourse throughout the event.

Plenary contributors were asked to tell a personal 1-minute story on a theme that resonated strongly with their own experience.

### Resilience through empowerment and access

**Nonthuko Xaba**, South Africa

*I'm from Kwazulu Natal. My experience is that people don't talk about climate change in our communities and they are not aware of what's happening globally. Local people should be participating in climate change adaptation. We need to have dialogue with these communities so they're engaged, so they can respond and start to recognise the changes happening around them. People are farming, surviving, they are not educated on climate change.*

### Valuing lived experience and local knowledge

**Felipe Nainoca**,  
Director, Fiji Red Cross Society

*In 2012 Fiji was hit by a powerful cyclone. When Fiji Red Cross spoke to people, the elders said "we didn't see this coming". We asked what they meant. "We're used to cyclones, we prepare every year because we know the signs – the bees build their nests closer to the ground, the breadfruit trees bear fruit in pairs rather than singly... But this time it didn't tell us it was coming. Even the signs are getting confusing". This time the rain came to a different region, so the Red Cross had to respond differently. Climate change is here whether we like it or not and we can't predict what's coming.*

**“because we know the signs – the bees build their nests closer to the ground, the breadfruit trees bear fruit in pairs rather than singly... But this time it didn't tell us it was coming.”**

## Transparency and downward accountability

**Munina Bonay,**

Kenya Adaptation Consortium,  
Kenya

*I work in Kenya on devolved climate finance. My story is about transparency and downward accountability in government planning and budgeting. The counties are required by constitution to consult citizens about their planning and budgeting every year. The process hasn't been very meaningful: more of a formality. This year they went to the local communities and asked: "what should be included in our plans for climate change action? What are the priorities?" A man stood up in the meeting and said "you asked us the same questions last year but what happened with the priorities we gave you then? Have you exhausted everything we asked for? How much money is available for us?" The community stopped the meeting and demanded to know what had happened to the money the previous year, calling for greater accountability.*

## Shared resilience

**Edward Cameron,**

Business for Social  
Responsibility (BSR)

*Six years ago I was in Bonn for COP and feeling powerless to change things. Soon after I met a business leader who told me her company had decided to spend billions of dollars making their supply chains low carbon. I realised that if I focused on getting businesses to take climate change seriously I could have a real impact. I began mobilising the private sector. A year later at a meeting with grassroots organisations I felt drawn back to this world. But I realised these groups needed me to speak to Wall St and private sector leaders. We may not always agree with each other but we have to listen and learn from each other. That's what these D&C Days are about – different communities coming together and forging partnerships.*

## Closing remarks from Day 1

**Andy Norton,** Director of IIED

The four themes we've chosen recognise the value of bottom up knowledge and the lived experience of people on the frontline of climate change. We need these local perspectives to get our planning, policies and ethics right.

**Theme 1** "resilience through empowerment and access" is all about agency and poor people having access to assets and information to be able to assess risks and know how best to prepare for climate change.

Human rights bridges theme 1 and **theme 2**, "valuing lived experience and local knowledge". We can use this lived experience as a guide to secure the rights of future generations. We're no longer talking about a distant future – projections are for a 3-degree world in 2100. This year has focused on how the world is struggling to cope with a 1-degree world and extreme weather. It's not only about headline-grabbing hurricanes and floods. It's also chronic impacts like heat stress and sea level rise that affect large populations and impact on health and livelihoods in profound ways.

Indigenous knowledge was a strong theme today. When I worked in Mali in the 1980s, farmers were already talking about changes in weather patterns affecting their crops. They compared with how things were in the 50s and 60s. We need to capture this lived experience.

**Theme 3** “transparency and downward accountability” is about aligning power structures so people in communities directly affected by climate change can have their views hard wired into decision making.

**Theme 4** “shared resilience” is about linking up the climate change frontline at different scales and how resilience is not just about local communities but also affects local and global supply chains.

Thoughts looking ahead to Day 2:

- Significance of human rights perspective for climate change – biggest social injustice of our generation.
- How can we take local resilience initiatives to scale and impact?
- Which communication tools can link climate change frontline with decision making? What are messages for effective action and social justice? Can we get shared narratives from D&C Days?
- If indigenous knowledge matters in these debates, how can we record this before it disappears?
- We may intend to listen to the global South but do we have the capability? Must examine our values and assumptions.
- How does D&C Days relate to other events? Where and how can we make a difference as individuals and as a collective?

Andrew Norton, Director, IIED closes Day 1 of D&C Days 2017 (Photo: Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre/Flickr)



## In conversation – is transparency and downward accountability working in Kenya?

**Agnes Leina,**

Executive Director of Illaramatak  
Community Concerns, Kenya  
and **Honorable Francis  
Chachu Ganya,** National  
Assembly of Kenya

“Local women  
don’t have empty  
minds, they have  
the experience  
and want  
to participate.  
That’s what we’re  
asking for.  
Everything  
is decided  
by the men.”

**Honorable FCG:** I live in a pastoral community with a very arid environment where drought is normal. Local peoples’ knowledge of drought is important to understand. It will help us manage drought cycles and make better decisions. Drought is part of their life - they prepare for it, over time their lifestyle has adapted to it. Cows, camels, sheep are like livestock insurance. They are mobile communities, so livestock is part of their strategy for managing the droughts. If we recognise their knowledge on how to adapt it will help us prepare for climate change. My responsibility is to use their knowledge to inform our national laws.

**AL:** I am a pastoralist from Northern Kenya. There are still challenges in having our perspectives heard at the policy level. Women’s voices are not heard. When there’s a meeting about drought and how to prepare, women are not there. We don’t make the decisions. We have to wait for the men to tell us when we are moving to another place. It’s only legislators and policymakers that are listened to. There is no framework to discuss these issues at county level. But it’s women who endure the impact of climate change most – we have to walk long distances to fetch water, wood. It’s getting worse. Now girls and women have to get lifts from truck drivers and so many bad things happen to them – HIV, pregnancy...

**Honorable FCG:** Yes, we have [decision-making] meetings that are all men but we have a good legal framework and constitution. We are trying to involve more women by having a quota of seats for women. It will take time, but I’m sure we can do better.

**AL:** It’s true that in Kenya we have some of the best laws but implementation is a major challenge. This is not the framework I’m talking about. The simplest way to reach grassroots women is by having consultations in the community. The communities are not informed enough about what’s happening at government level; there is still a lack of accountability. We may have National Action Plans but you have to go to the village women to find out what action they need. They don’t have empty minds, they have the experience and want to participate. That’s what we’re asking for. Everything is decided by the men.

**Honorable FCGa:** in Kenya public participation is mandatory, we are required to engage local communities at all levels. We do have a framework for involving civil society and coming up with strategies and programmes to address climate change.

## DAY TWO

### Poem – Remembering Day 1

*Yesterday kicked off with powerful stories.  
The kind that make the sense of urgency increase  
In a minute to tell what was on their mind  
The story-tellers were able to find  
Ways to turn complex issues into touching pitches  
With insights that will only enrich us*

*Sharply phrased how traditional signs  
Are now confusing peoples' minds  
By no longer warning them in good time,  
birds not nesting as histories define*

*A strong story followed with a key message for all  
To embrace private sector engagement, an urgent goal  
So speak to those outside your sector,  
Speak each other's language as connector  
Convince companies to engage in local discussions on risk & vulnerability  
Private sector contributions to Paris just need to be*

*Parallel sessions then filled the day  
Compiling stacks of key messages along the way*

*I've learned how 'shared values' are key  
Together with the communities and SME.  
Microsoft hinted that "The limits are our own imagination"  
And FAO and IFRC stressed the need of early action formulation  
Businesses come in and need to better understand risk  
and then build a tailored strategy brisk  
for resilience that speak to continuity.  
This will encourage them to mobilize their own money  
in support of climate-vulnerable populations  
on whom they depend upon right across their supply chains.  
Rethink procurement, tackle smallholders' financial illiteracy  
try to find a model for resilience which creates that cashflow abundantly  
And stop talking now about those needed billions,  
Move away from project pipelines, start talking about the trillions*

*Multiple things said on conflicts then  
With caution about assuring climate funding doesn't heighten tension*

*On adaptation it elaborated on transparency  
And, moreover, downward accountability*



Fleur Monasso, Red Cross  
Red Crescent Climate Centre  
opens Day 2 with a poem.  
(Photo: Red Cross Red Crescent  
Climate Centre/Flickr)

*Clearly still emphasis on how community participation  
Needs to be included in measuring impact of adaptation.  
And also hints at benefits of new technology  
Empower communities' ability  
to enforce that accountability.*

*Then provocative pitches started to argue and seek  
To know: Is resilience just 'development with a tweak'?  
Long-term thinking and foresight needed, says ILED.  
Development must be done faster and differently  
Everything is inter-related, so don't treat adaptation  
In isolation,  
See resilience as transformation  
regardless the bottle, old or new – yes both are fine  
I will take that glass of wine!*

*BRACED claims resilience building requires different thinking,  
But also in doing, reflecting and linking.  
6 principles for them are key  
Projects without these principles cannot be  
So for these thorny problems  
probe, sense and then response*

*Partners for Resilience talked about development plus-plus-plus  
And their efforts to bring together sectors, and thus  
an integrated risk management approach with communities vocal,  
Connecting global to local*

*Alexandria University stated it is not all about shocks and extremes  
Slow and gradual change go unnoticed, so we need to scream  
To avoid turning those into unmanageable risk.  
Unfortunately this already happens at a pace that's brisk*

*And for the National Adaptation Plan process  
Aim to go beyond awareness  
invest in people's capacity to engage  
Avoid consultations with special-interest groups,  
but instead look at their inclusiveness.  
Removing barriers by using jargon less*

*Yesterday we saw packed sessions in full swing,  
We saw a sharp agenda – so organizers of this thing:  
Well done! This will be taken to the UNFCCC next week  
And today more on social justice we seek*

*Fleur Monasso, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre*

## Opening plenary

### Taking Stock: progress so far and what to expect from Week 2

Half way into COP23 with ministers due to arrive for the high-level discussions, the session reflected on progress. With resilience and the four evidenced themes in mind, Dr Maarten van Aalst (Director, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre) asked panellists whether they believe we are on track to meet the political ambition.

**Dr Saleemul Huq**, Director, International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), Bangladesh

We made major achievements with the Paris Agreement. COP23 is about putting us on track to implement it – the emphasis has shifted from negotiation to implementation. The most powerful country in the world has decided to withdraw from negotiations but the American people have not. Al Gore and other leaders are here; they plan to meet their targets despite Mr Trump.

The implementers should now be centre stage: that's what we are. It's time for us to step up and make it a more inclusive process. Maybe D&C Days 2018 can be the adaptation dialogue? We have in this room everyone that matters – people from grassroots, practitioners, businesses, funders, governments – right here.

**Achala Abeyesinghe**, Principal Researcher, Climate Change, IIED and Legal and Technical Advisor to the Chair of the Least Developed Countries Group of UNFCCC

This COP is important – first one hosted by an LDC, with greater involvement from LDCs. Our focus areas are to make sure there's progress on the Fiji Momentum for Implementation guide, including transparency and accountability, and guidance to LDCs. In 2018 the Facilitated Dialogue (Talanoa Dialogue) will take stock of where we are on our temperature goals. It will address three aspects – where we are, where we have to be and how we get there. We want to design and agree that process here through stakeholder engagement. We will also push for the Gender Action Plan to get done here, and make progress on the Indigenous and Local Communities Platform. Adaptation fund discussions are extremely interesting: how do we ensure it has the resources to deliver the Paris Agreement?

We are trying to make the Facilitated Dialogue manageable, and not just a talk shop. We can look at progress in mitigation, adaptation, supporting LDCs. We are focusing on temperature goal rather than mitigation. Need transparent, inclusive discussions without blaming each other.

“We have coalitions of the willing to push things forward. We have the people that can do the adaptation, and can make it work.”

“If we can do it as a small island state with limited resources through dedication and hard work, then others can too.”

**Michelle Winthrop**, Development Specialist, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ireland

I have listened to many negotiations here and see a big difference in atmosphere between the two locations and mood – NGOs are very dynamic and positive; in contrast official talks are like 10 years ago. The more we get done here, the less we have to do next year. There are no quick wins; there are still intractable issues and old wounds. But non-state actors are playing an important role. There are grounds for optimism, the negotiated text has much more about action. Ten years ago we would not have expected an agreed action plan, but the negotiations are still difficult.

**Ruth Spencer**, National Coordinator, GEF Small Grants Programme, Negotiator Antigua & Barbuda

I'm here as local community representative and the government has brought us in to their delegation. We've been very active, we submitted text for the Gender Action Plan, are active on the Local Community and Indigenous People's Platform. We're also seeking cohesion with biodiversity convention which has opened up important opportunities for us. Last week I spoke at the adaptation fund. We are a small country with limited resources but have been accredited to the fund. I shared how our project is impacting marginalised groups and how local people have strong coping strategies. They don't wait for the government to come and help. My message is, if we can do it as a small island state with limited resources through dedication and hard work, then others can too. NGOs and local communities bring so much value; we want to open doors for more participation.

Dr Maarten van Aalst (Director, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre) asked panellists whether they believe we are on track to meet the political ambition. (Photo: Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre/Flickr)



## Discussion on ‘loss and damage’:

- Money is the thorny issue. It’s there but not reaching communities affected.
- LDCs are saying clearly “we can’t access the money; never mind what you put in the text, that’s what matters to us”.
- Loss & damage is happening already but there’s no financing for it – need to go beyond insurance into innovative financing.
- Developed countries need to support loss & damage and not just insurance.
- The suffering is so great - refugees, displacement, limited transport capacity, people can’t rebuild their lives. Need to find mechanism to fund these impacts.
- We push for loss & damage every year at COP, but are there other forums where it can be discussed?

Day 2 high-level closing panel. Panellists speak about which evidenced theme and message resonated most with their own experience (Photo: Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre/Flickr)



## DAY TWO – High-level closing panel

In this closing session the chair **Mary Robinson** (President, Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice) invited panellists to speak about which evidenced theme and message resonated most with their own experience.

## Resilience through empowerment and access:

- Indigenous knowledge is vital to build resilience, and for robust project design
- We must hear from indigenous people – through participation at high level events and in policy discussions
- The voices consulted on climate change should include women and youth
- Consultation and risk mapping work allow communities to choose the projects that suit them best.

“Our communities know what resilience means, they adapt by moving from one place to another.”

**Agnes Leina**, Executive Director, Illaramatak Community Concerns, Kenya

“Participation and stakeholder engagement make for more sustainable outcomes and better projects.”

**Hartwig Schafer**, Vice President of Global Themes, World Bank

## Valuing lived experience and local knowledge:

- We need to combine indigenous and scientific knowledge to develop resilient communities
- One way to capture traditional knowledge is to transfer it from elders to young people
- Donors must consult and listen to local people who have the knowledge and coping strategies.

“No amount of international conferences can bring that traditional knowledge back once it’s gone.”

**Michelle Winthrop**, Development Specialist, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ireland

“I just wish that funders would listen to local people before they make their decisions!”

**Esther Nabuti**, Youth Representative, Kiribati Red Cross Society

## Transparency and downward accountability:

- Local people and planners need appropriate and timely information for accountability to work
- Combining local and technical knowledge through consultation can help to reach appropriate decisions on climate impacts
- People in grassroots communities need a role in decision making; their perspectives are valuable in assessing vulnerability to climate risk
- We need innovative and inclusive tools for collecting data that reflects local people's needs.

“Collective action to reduce risk from climate change impacts works best when you combine local knowledge with technical expertise and budget transparency.”

**Mumina Bonaya**, Coordinator Climate Adaptation Fund (CAF) at Kenya Adaptation Consortium

“Our most powerful instrument is poor women mapping informal settlements to find out who has toilets, drainage, who is being evicted, and then we present this data to the city authorities for their planning.”

**Sheela Patel**, Chair of Board, Slum and Shack Dwellers International

## Shared resilience:

- Building climate resilience of communities along the supply chain is a business imperative
- Smallholder farmers have no insurance against climate risks; when droughts hit them they cannot survive
- To cope with climate change impacts and build their resilience farmers need more support from government and private sector through access to markets and procurement.

“Climate change action is not just about cutting emissions but about building resilience and improving farmers’ crop yields. As a global food company, if we’re not working on the resilience of communities on which we rely for our ingredients then we don’t have a business.”

**Diane Holdorf**, Chief Sustainability Officer, Kelloggs

“COP23 is giving us the opportunity to talk about partnership with private sector which could be key to our survival as smallholder farmers. We don’t have insurance against climate risks and people are leaving rural communities for the city.”

**Makgale Pokwane**, Rural Green Development, South Africa

## Valuing lived experience and local knowledge

Story and Poem by **Esther Nabuti**, Youth Representative, Kiribati Red Cross

*This is what I have learnt about valuing lived experience and local knowledge. We were hit by a tropical cyclone two years ago. Two islands were destroyed. The worst affected island was one of the smallest and most isolated. I helped with the response. We got funds from overseas and the donors chose the designs and materials for rebuilding the houses. When I went to visit the island communities the people were complaining. Their houses are built on sand, not soil and the building material they received was hardwood timber – very big and heavy. If you build your house with it, they said, it will fall down. The people tried to combine these materials with local materials but it didn’t work. They decided to build two houses – one using the donor’s design and materials, and one using theirs. The local one is still standing. The donor one lasted about a month – and that was without any strong winds or rains. I just wish they would listen to the local people before they make their decisions!*

*My Beloved Island*

*My beloved island  
The land of my ancestors  
You may be small and full of scars  
But you are strong*

*You are blessed by the rays of the sun  
You are comforted by the light of the stars*

*My beloved island  
The land of my children  
You are full of love and peace  
Filled with hope as deep as the ocean*

*My beloved island  
The land of my dreams  
You are my one  
You are my only*

## OUT OF THE BOX SESSION

### Are we listening?

### Rethinking narratives and context for communication from climate frontlines

“Out of the Box” sessions aim for inclusive dialogues in innovative formats. This session, facilitated by **Dr Pablo Suarez** (Associate Director for Research and Innovation, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre), combined presentations, participatory activities, silent reflection, and group work to explore ways of listening more, and listening differently. The session brought a fresh lens to the four themes of D&C Days.

Dr Pablo Suarez, Associate Director for Research and Innovation, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, brings a participatory game to D&C Days 2017 to explore ways of rethinking climate narratives (Photo: Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre/Flickr)



### Are we listening? Lessons from neuroscience

Participants were given a simple task: ‘write what you hear’. Half of them were asked to turn away from the screen, and a five-second video of someone talking to camera was shown. When they compared what they had written with their neighbours, they discovered that they had heard entirely different things. No one could explain why. The phenomenon, known in behavioural science as “the McGurk effect”, highlighted the importance of context. Evidence of the complexity of listening was shared through neuroscience: images of the human brain illustrated how the act of listening stimulates different layers of brain function – with implications for how we communicate climate and development issues.

## A year without a winter

Nature speaks to us, and we need to listen. **Dehlia Hannah** (*Laboratory for Past Disaster Science, Aarhus University*) shared insights from “[A year without a winter](#)”, an initiative that brings together scientists, philosophers, artists, science fiction writers and humanitarian workers to address the cognitive and imaginative challenges posed by climate change. Two hundred years ago, a volcanic eruption in Indonesia blocked out the sunlight, leading to “a year without a summer”. Now a changing climate is shifting the seasons: while natural cycles used to imply ‘the return of the familiar’, we now expect the unprecedented. Participants were invited to share their stories of a season gone missing. They discussed the implications for humanitarian and development work, particularly in relation to the four evidenced themes. This was followed by a moment of reflection.

## The listener’s perspective: lessons from media

How do we communicate with the public? **Laurie Goering** shared her insights as climate editor for Thomson Reuters Foundation News, highlighting the gap between the interests and preferences of audiences versus the style of delivery of researchers and practitioners. Eye-opening examples illustrated how climate messages consistently fail to convey clarity and urgency. When a bus is about to run over a child, everyone can see the need to stop that bus – by heroic measures if needed. Today much of humanity is that child, and climate change is that bus but the response does not measure up to the challenge.

## Silent typhoon preparedness

What would you do if a lethal storm were about to hit your community, but your nation’s early warning systems were designed in a way that excludes you – and hundreds of thousands of others? **Rommel Lo** (Philippine Dumaguete Effata Association for the Deaf) shared insights on challenges faced by people with disabilities when confronting extreme weather events. With half a million people with disabilities in the Philippines, Rommel emphasised that systems need to be adapted to work for everyone. During a simulation activity he illustrated this by ‘turning off’ his sign language translator and sending an early warning for a typhoon. Since no one could understand sign language, in a real disaster the entire room of 300 people would have been wiped out. Rommel shared an award-winning initiative on typhoon preparedness for the deaf, and called for inclusive approaches to climate risk management.

## Pacific poetry and satellite art in virtual reality

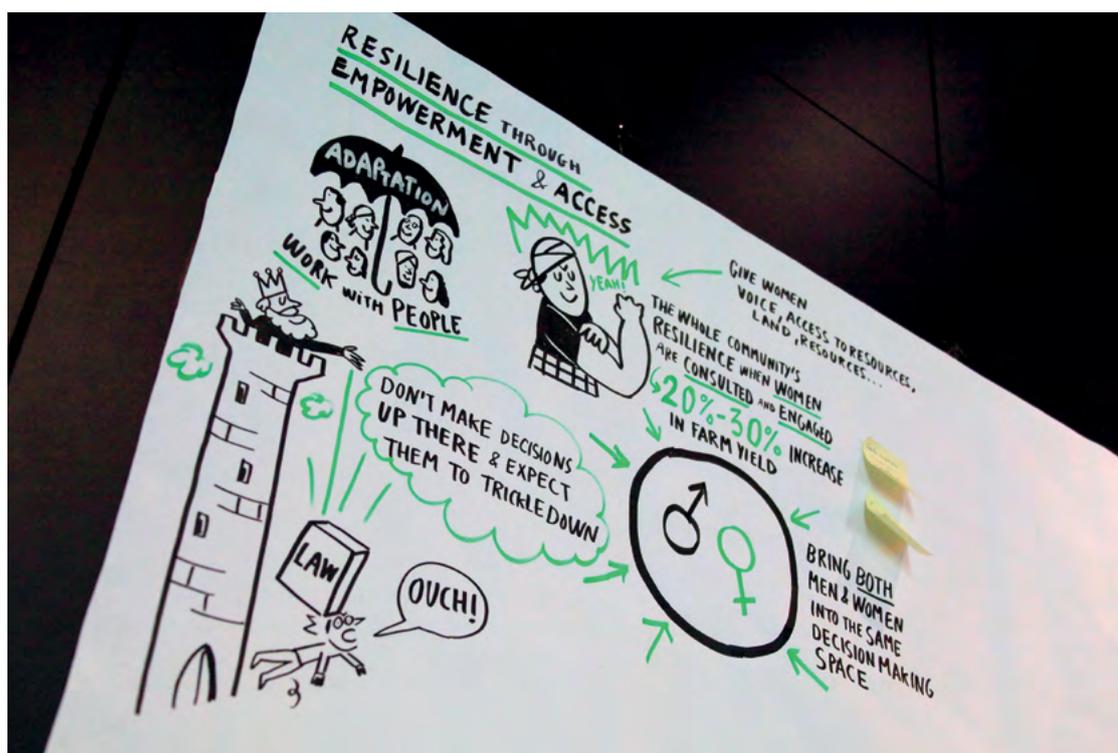
Poetry, music and art can help us tackle perplexing questions, and provoke people to ‘listen’ differently to the signals around us. The closing session aimed to inspire creative and innovative approaches to climate communication. A powerful, immersive virtual reality experience was created through a collaboration between Marshall Islands poet **Kathy Jetñil-Kijiner** and [satellite artist Santiago Espeche](#), in partnership with Pacific Red Cross youth, the Climate Centre, virtual reality company Visyon and others. This virtual reality experience was an invitation to put meaningful listening at the core of our ideas and actions.

# 5 Highlights from Interactive parallel sessions

## 5.1 Theme 1: Resilience through empowerment and access

Climate resilience can be a route to achieving sustainable development of communities. As people are more vulnerable to climate risks when they are poor, marginalised and disempowered, building adaptive capacity can strengthen their resilience. Building resilience also empowers people to anticipate, manage and adapt to stresses and shocks, whether the stresses are climatic, economic or social. Key elements of climate resilient pathways include poverty reduction, empowerment, human rights, gender equality, participation in decision-making and access to information. A resilient society is a fair, inclusive and sustainable society.

Building the visual report of D&C Days 2017. (Photo: Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre/Flickr)



## Co-hosts:

- Mary Robinson Foundation - Climate Justice (MRF-CJ),
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC),
- Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR),
- Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) and
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

## 2A How can gender responsive climate action lead to resilient communities?

### Context

To achieve low carbon, climate resilient development, climate change mitigation and adaptation processes need to be responsive to the needs of women. Evidence shows that, in situations of poverty, women bear the greater burden of climate change impacts – they have to travel longer distances for water and firewood for example. But rather than see women as vulnerable, it is important to recognise that in many communities, women are agents of change. Supporting women's empowerment is essential to increase resilience of communities threatened by climate change. Evidence also shows that women's inclusion in leadership positions results in improved outcomes. When women lead in managing and protecting a community resource, such as a forest, there is better conservation and regeneration.

The Paris Agreement calls on parties to respect and promote gender equality and women's empowerment when taking climate action. The COP23 Presidency announced the States Parties had finalised the first-ever [Gender Action Plan](#), which aims to increase the participation of women in all UNFCCC processes. It also seeks to increase awareness of and support for the development and effective implementation of gender-responsive climate policy at the regional, national and local levels.

The panel focused on women as agents of social change and what we can learn from gender responsive climate action. Examples were shared of how the meaningful participation of women has benefitted not just women but the wider community, thereby increasing climate resilience.

Interactive parallel sessions  
D&C Days 2017  
(Photo: Red Cross Red Crescent  
Climate Centre/Flickr)



## Facilitator:

- **Tara Shine**, Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice (MRF-CJ)

## Panellists:

- **Winnie Lichuma**, African Working Group on Gender and Climate Change
- **Japheth Muli**, Resilience Programme Officer, Trócaire Kenya
- **Ilaria Firmian**, Environment and Climate Knowledge and Capacity Development Officer, IFAD
- **Mailes Zulu Muke**, CEO, SEPA Zambia

## Method

The session opened with a panel discussion about what is meant by gender responsive climate action and how this relates to resilience. The panellists brought examples from the agriculture sector in different contexts including Zambia and Kenya.

There were four “learning circles” to identify lessons learnt and to address issues raised by the panel discussion. These brought small groups of participants together at a round table where they could participate as equals in a safe space for constructive and open dialogue. Each learning circle had: a moderator to guide the discussion with prepared questions; a rapporteur; and resource people who contributed from different perspectives such as a grassroots representative, policy expert and climate negotiator.

To end the session, the moderators presented outcomes from each learning circle to the group and these were formulated into key messages.

## Outcomes

- Empowerment of women should start at home - both genders must be empowered to make a more resilient community.
- Meaningful participation must become the norm by providing spaces for women to participate in decision-making and appropriate training and capacity building.
- Women need to be met where they are – this means reaching women in their daily lives and speaking a “language” that is appropriate to their situation.
- Access to resources is critical – women need access to resources, information, finance and markets to build resilient communities.
- Empowering women builds the resilience of future generations – women are designers of resilience.

**Host:**

- International Fund for Agricultural Development

## 4B How can communities access financial support for strengthening resilience?

### Context

\$100 billion per year by 2020 is committed by the developed countries to climate finance in developing countries. The challenge is how to transfer the funds to sub-national governments so it reaches vulnerable communities.

The session explored the barriers communities face in accessing climate finance and how to overcome them. With over 50 funds providing finance for climate adaptation, mainly through national governments, the participants discussed the importance of making different types of finance accessible to local communities, and to what extent funding is responding to local needs. A range of experiences were shared: providing access to climate finance for poor rural communities; using participatory approaches (such as participatory mapping and planning) to build capacity and facilitate smallholders' access to natural resources; supporting access to small-scale renewable energy and other adaptation technologies; and mobilising private sector funding.

### Method

The session kicked off with a video on climate finance to stimulate discussion. In response, participants were asked to write on post-it notes what they thought were the main challenges that communities face in accessing climate finance. They were then encouraged to move around the room, and when a bell rang they had a short exchange with the person nearest them about these challenges and posted their notes on a board. To guide the discussion, five boards were prepared with the main barriers – policy, capacity, institutional, financial, technological. A quick summary of the main challenges and opportunities emerging was presented. This was followed by short contributions by respondents, each focusing on a key challenge and how it could impact on implementation of climate financing. Space was provided for others to share their experiences of communities accessing climate finance. The audience were invited to raise a green or red card depending on whether they agreed or disagreed, to help spark debate. A plenary discussion reflected on whether the examples shared offer real solutions or not; identified how they could be made more effective; and explored synergies between the different examples.

To close the session, participants were divided into groups of four and each group developed one key message.

## Outcomes

- Public institutions, especially local governments, require massive capacity building in order to set up the right policies and frameworks and design programmes that help their communities access climate finance.
- Local communities have to participate in this process so that governments understand their diverse needs; including gender needs.
- Financial institutions such as Green Climate Fund, Global Environment Facility, IFAD should set up effective mechanisms to channel financing to communities – we need to share lessons from existing mechanisms.

### Host:

- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

## 4D How can local-to-national linkages facilitate inclusiveness in National Adaptation Plan (NAP) processes

### Context

The National Adaptation Plans (NAP) process helps countries conduct comprehensive medium- and long-term climate adaptation planning. It is a flexible process that builds on each country's existing adaptation activities and helps integrate climate change into national decision-making. Though nationally driven, NAP processes are intended to be participatory and gender-sensitive while considering vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems, in line with key principles identified under the UNFCCC.

The session focused on how local to national links can make NAP processes more inclusive. One approach highlighted was vertical integration – the creation of strategic and intentional links between national and sub-national adaptation processes. Using consultation processes can result in more rigorous policies and stronger buy-in by sub-national governments and stakeholders. Although these approaches challenges – they are resource-intensive, can unearth conflicts and competing priorities, and take longer – the pay-offs are invaluable, and lead to more sustainable outcomes.

## Facilitator:

**Angie Dazé**, NAP Global Network and **Shaban Mawanda**, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre

## Panellists:

- **Maggie Mgwira**, Civil Society Network on Climate Change, Malawi
- **Aditya Bahadur**, Regional Programme Manager, Action on Climate Today, India
- **Asrat Yirgu Senato**, Climate Change Adaptation Advisor, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Ethiopia
- **Dr. Sudhiani Pratiwi**, Deputy Director for Environmental Affairs, Ministry of National Development Planning, Indonesia

## Method

A panelsession included speakers from the Ethiopian and Indonesian governments, and a Malawian activist working to empower women to participate in NAP processes. This was followed with participatory table discussions on how to make NAP processes more inclusive. The session was closed by Angie Daze, the NAP Global Network's secretariat.

## Outcomes

- For NAPs to be truly inclusive, they need to move beyond 'awareness raising' with subnational/local actors to enable their participation and citizen engagement in the process.
- Meaningful participation is difficult to organise and make happen in any policy space; it requires dedicated investment into people's capacity to engage (rather than just soliciting their views).



Interactive parallel sessions D&C Days 2017 (Photo: Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre/Flickr)

## Table conversations:

### How to make NAP processes more inclusive

- **Remove barriers to inclusion:** Technical language can be a barrier; need to make language accessible
- **Know *who* to include:** Need to understand which groups/populations need to be included in NAP processes, not just “women” and “vulnerable groups”; use stakeholder mapping
- **Participation** of vulnerable groups/integration of gender need to be addressed structurally in NAP processes, eg dedicated working groups
- **Prevent misrepresentation/ensure authentic representation & participation:** Ensuring groups that represent populations/vulnerable groups in NAP processes are truly representative of these groups
- **Make vertical integration issue-specific and clearly guided to be meaningful:** NAP processes need to be specific and provide clear guidance on which issues are suitable for meaningful integration/participation, so subnational/local actors can contribute
- **Manage expectations regarding funding availability for local adaptation plans:** NAP consultations at local level can raise expectations that funding will be provided for local adaptation plans
- **Need to build on people’s shared experiences of climate change** to harness their energy for change: climate change affects many people very tangibly and therefore provides opportunity to do participation and inclusion differently.

## Co-hosts:

- Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)
- Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice (MRF-CJ)
- German Development Institute/Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE)

## 6C How can human mobility be an adaptive and resilience building response to climate change?

### Context

Future migration and human displacement patterns will be deeply influenced by climate change. Climate change has been recognised as a driver of human mobility and migration by many global platforms including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Agenda for Humanity and 2016 UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants.

The session explored whether human mobility can be an adaptive, risk-reducing and resilience building response to climate change that can empower individuals in cases where it is preferred or necessary. With climate change likely to intensify, there is a limited opportunity to prepare by adjusting, facilitating, and amplifying migration and human mobility. However, we need to develop policies and measures that are inclusive and involve local communities in decision-making: protecting poor and vulnerable populations against the potential negative effects of migration.

### Method

This session included a panel session with contributors sharing their experiences of climate vulnerability and mobility as adaptive responses across different continents. This was followed by an interactive game called “Shocks and Shields” which acted as an ice-breaker. Participants were given various scenarios of communities vulnerable to climate change and developed a resilience package around each scenario. Each group presented their solutions to the panellists who responded based on their own perspective.

### Outcomes

- Mobility is a part of traditional livelihoods for many communities around the world – and in the face of climate change, their survival depends on their ability to move freely.
- Migration and other forms of mobility can be a positive, anticipatory adaptation response to climate change.
- In instances where moving communities is the preferred adaptation strategy, communities should lead the process, in partnership with local and national authorities.
- Traditional knowledge, culture, and livelihoods should be valued and utilised in order to plan in advance for movement, and to design smart settlements that improve people’s welfare.
- Climate change impacts affect men and women differently, including when it comes to capacity and making decisions whether to move or stay.
- Support should be available, not only for people on the move, but also the communities that will receive them.

## THEME 1 MESSAGES

### Resilience through empowerment and access

This theme explored effective pathways to address poverty and climate vulnerability and manage climate risk, and considered how engagement in decision making, equitable access to resources, and the provision of goods, services and innovation can be enhanced.

Meaningful and equal participation in decision making processes of both men and women must become the norm. Access to resources for both genders – data, information, finance and markets – is critical for citizen engagement and ownership.

Empowerment of women must begin at home, reaching women in their daily lives and speaking a language tailored to their situation. Meaningful participation will require appropriate training and capacity building. Empowering women builds the resilience of future generations.

Social protection needs to look beyond weather shocks to respond to other climate impacts (e.g. slow onset extremes and health). High transaction costs of aligning social protection and adaptation could be alleviated through shared planning, monitoring and evaluation and local governance processes/structures etc. – creating synergies and leading to better impact.

In the face of climate change, many communities' survival will depend on their ability to move freely. Communities should lead the process, in partnership with local and national authorities. Climate change impacts affect men and women differently, including in decisions and capacity to move or stay. We must move beyond implementing "projects" and find ways to embed action in existing processes and practice.

We must get finance into the hands of people at community level working with financial institutions and the climate funds, to set up effective mechanisms to channel financing directly to communities.

## Theme 1

### Maurice Sadlier,

Mary Robinson Foundation –  
Climate Justice (MRF-CJ)

### Did 'resilience through empowerment and access' resonate in COP23 outcomes?

This year Fiji became the first LDC and small island state to be president of a COP. This in itself demonstrates meaningful participation in decision making processes. Fiji's leadership on issues of human rights and gender equality contributed to concrete outcomes - the UNFCCC's first Gender Action Plan and the first Local Communities and Indigenous People's Platform.

Adoption of the Talanoa Dialogue also reflects the growing emphasis on participation and listening. Although some negotiations were closed to civil society observers, hindering meaningful participation, the voices of grassroots and indigenous people from frontline communities were far stronger in this COP than in the past.

The adoption of the Gender Action Plan will contribute to women's empowerment and meaningful participation in climate policies and planning through training and capacity building in particular.

There was increased emphasis on resilience, evident in the high-level day on resilience held by the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action. A key message from the discussion was "climate resilience starts with people, within their local contexts and environments. Progress on the global goal on adaptation must capture efforts from the ground up, and attract equal attention as mitigation". This resonates strongly with D&C Days discussions on resilience through empowerment.

<sup>1</sup> [http://unfccc.int/files/paris\\_agreement/application/pdf/cop\\_23\\_outcome-resilience\\_final.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/paris_agreement/application/pdf/cop_23_outcome-resilience_final.pdf)

## 5.2

## Theme 2:

## Valuing lived experience and local knowledge

Climate resilience can be a route to achieving sustainable development of communities. As people are more vulnerable to climate risks when they are poor, marginalised and disempowered, building adaptive capacity can strengthen their resilience. Building resilience also empowers people to anticipate, manage and adapt to stresses and shocks, whether the stresses are climatic, economic or social. Key elements of climate resilient pathways include poverty reduction, empowerment, human rights, gender equality, participation in decision-making and access to information. A resilient society is a fair, inclusive and sustainable society.

Building the visual report of D&C Days 2017. (Photo: Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre/Flickr)



**Co-hosts:**

- Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO)
- International Development Research Center (IDRC)
- International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC)
- Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters (BRACED)
- United Nations Volunteers (UNV)

## 2C How can we build resilience in fragile and conflict affected contexts, where many of the world's most vulnerable people live?

### Context

Climate change and development pressures are making it clear that we live in a limited space, relying on finite resources. Scarcity and degradation of land and water can undermine the stability of communities and drive conflict – particularly in fragile states. At the same time the abundance and economic value of resources such as minerals and timber can result in further pressures. A changing climate may function as an added catalyst in these potentially volatile contexts.

Recognising that conflict and the escalating pressure on resources are interrelated may be a first step towards better management of those resources. It may also help de-escalate or even prevent conflicts, particularly in fragile or vulnerable contexts. Programme and policy developers need to be equipped with better tools to avoid exacerbating tensions through their climate interventions.

The session set out to question existing ways of working and build awareness of the importance of incorporating conflict-sensitive approaches in planning and programming climate change interventions. It aimed to share experiences and generate new ideas for dealing with conflict in different contexts and at different scales, exploring why this is important for the UNFCCC. Recognising that climate policies and finance mechanisms may introduce new power dynamics that could generate conflict themselves, the session also considered how UNFCCC could do things differently to ensure the wealth of knowledge from working in conflict regions is used appropriately for the most vulnerable at national and international levels.

### Method

IDRC started the session by framing the discussion with key concepts and conflict trends. Following this, panellists introduced three projects in two-minute “lightening talks”. NWO talked about what to consider when doing conflict-sensitive programming.

At the heart of the session was a “World Café” with small groups facilitated by the presenters. The format was designed to be informal and participative, with facilitators drawing out experiences and using questions to generate new insights and ideas. Each group focused on a topic such as geography, vulnerability, conflict or legitimacy. Discussion points included – what drives vulnerability? How do we establish and maintain legitimacy in these settings without taking sides? How do we promote cooperation around climate change interventions? What actions and mechanisms are needed in contexts of combined vulnerabilities to conflict and climate change?

To end the session, a respondent from each group fed back insights to everyone, participants reflected on these and captured the key messages.

## Facilitator:

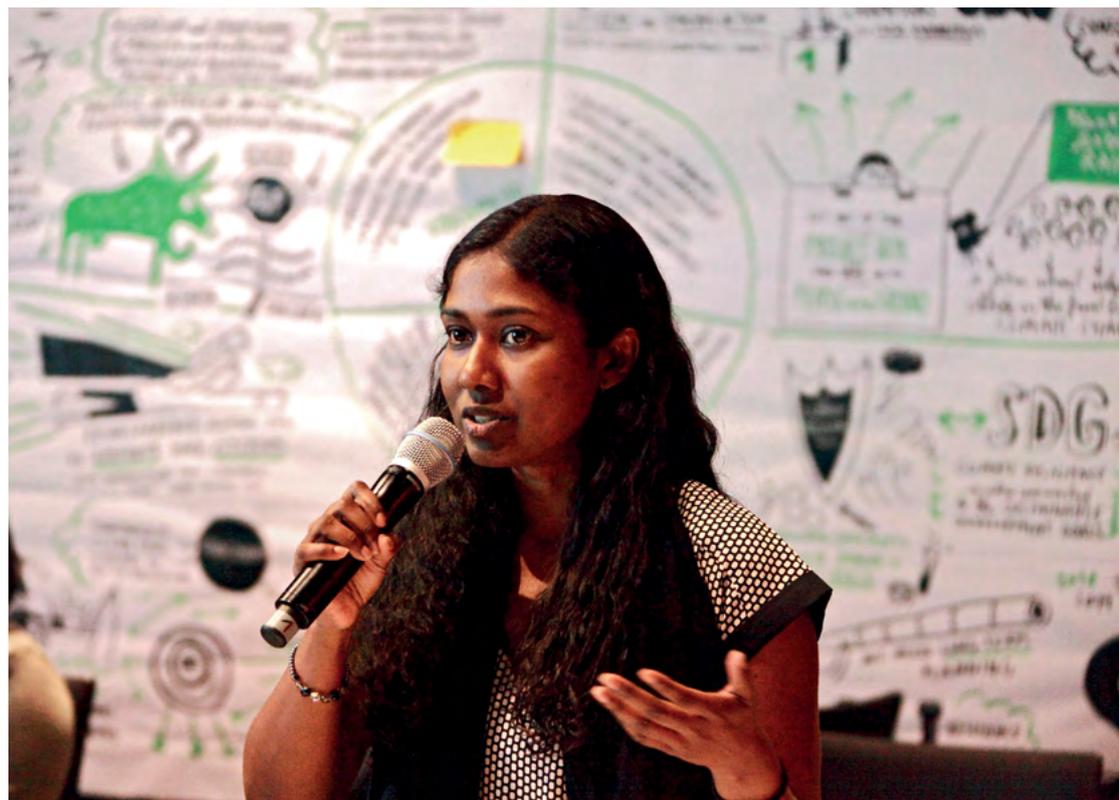
- **Claire Mathieson**,  
DFID/NOW

## Panellists:

- **Bruce Currie-Alder**,  
Program Leader for  
climate adaptation in  
Africa & Asia, IDRC
- **Amanda Mukwashi**,  
Chief of Volunteer  
Knowledge and Innovation,  
UN Volunteers
- **Charlotte Bennborn**,  
Economic Security  
Coordinator, ICRC
- **Sebastian Soeters**,  
Researcher, NWO
- **Margaret Arnold**, Senior  
Social Development  
Specialist, World Bank.

## Outcomes:

- Conflict is difficult but not always negative; it can be an opportunity or a driver of change and address issues of vulnerability.
- Communities are not homogeneous; diversity must be recognised.
- Drivers of conflict may be external to the observed level of conflict eg local conflicts may be driven by national or international factors.
- cooperation may not be a community's preferred approach, when it is not inclusive or representative.
- Collective action requires representative leadership: actors need social agency to engage in or address conflicts.



Interactive parallel sessions  
D&C Days 2017  
(Photo: Red Cross Red Crescent  
Climate Centre/Flickr)

## Co-hosts:

- Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice (MRF-CJ)
- Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre
- German Development Institute/Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE)
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

## 3A Listening to local voices: How can local actors inform national and global decisions so that they prioritise the needs of the most vulnerable?

### Context

Involving local people in relevant decisions is critical for building resilience and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and climate justice. We can learn a great deal from people living on the frontline of climate, development and humanitarian challenges. Local communities often identify the most effective solutions and tend to adopt the integrated approaches that practitioners and policymakers seek across global frameworks such as the Paris Agreement, and national planning processes, such as NAPs.

In 2015 at COP21 the Paris Agreement decided to establish a platform for local communities and indigenous peoples to exchange experience and share best practices on mitigation and adaptation. This is now being operationalised. May 2017's multi-stakeholder dialogue identified three interlinked functions for the platform – knowledge sharing; facilitating the integration of indigenous and local knowledge systems into climate change actions, programmes and policies; and building the capacities of indigenous and local communities to engage in and support the UNFCCC process, including the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

The session explored examples of how policy makers can include local knowledge and indigenous people's knowledge in policy and programme development. It also provided the opportunity to learn from the lived experience of people in communities most affected by climate change.

### Method

The session opened with a dialogue between a climate negotiator and a grassroots representative, discussing their challenges in relation to climate decision making. A climate negotiator from The Netherlands, Pieter Terpstra facilitates the participation of grassroots representatives in climate policy. Agnes Leina, Executive Director of Illaramatak Community Concerns in Kenya shared their experience in including local and indigenous knowledge in Kenya's climate policy. Climate change is a major threat to indigenous communities but also an opportunity for them to be involved in national decision making. An example she gave was how large-scale energy developments can be situated right next to villages without any electricity.

This was followed by two moderated "learning circles" where participants identified lessons learnt and best practices in relation to listening to local voices. Participants sat at round tables to participate as equals in a safe space for constructive and open dialogue. Each circle had a chair and rapporteur to guide the discussion with prepared questions. After these discussions the moderators fed back key points which formed the basis for the session messages.

## Outcomes

- A holistic combination of traditional, indigenous and scientific knowledge is crucial to understand climate change impacts and inform successful autonomous adaptation.
- Lived experience of communities can be more important than academic reports in creating partnerships, policies and plans for autonomous adaptation.
- To connect communities to multiple-scale policy, information flow, governance, networking and partnership are crucial. Information is power.
- Local knowledge and perspective must be included in political processes for democracy to work.
- Dialogue, mentoring and experience sharing can build the capacity of policymakers to respond to local needs.
- We need to recognise that a combination of traditional, indigenous and scientific knowledge is crucial to understand impacts and inform successful autonomous adaptation.
- Communities are not homogeneous – their diversity must be recognised in order to address issues of resilience and vulnerability.
- Social agency to participate meaningfully in decision making has to be resourced.

### Co-hosts:

- International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
- Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)
- Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre

## 6B How can community-owned adaptation solutions reach scale?

### Context

There is growing recognition that successful adaptation solutions to the impacts of climate change are often conceived and designed in local communities. By drawing on this lived experience, we can learn more about how to support autonomous adaptation and bring it to scale. However, achieving a balance between reaching scale and retaining community relevance can be a challenge.

Bringing community-owned adaptation initiatives to scale – either to influence national policies, plans and strategies or to multiply their positive impacts on more people – will require better understanding of the coping strategies communities are already implementing in response to climate change and increasing disaster risk. Expanding these solutions will ensure enduring, transformative impacts for the benefit of the whole society.

## Facilitator:

- **Robert Hofstede**, IDRC

The session addressed compelling questions: What counts as scale up? What are the tools and strategies for successful scale up? What is needed to make a locally contextualised solution applicable to multiple, diverse contexts? What are the enablers and barriers to scale out and replication? Discussion focused on how to connect communities to higher level policy, technical assistance and information for effective adaptation support.

## Panellists:

- **Paula Ellinger**, Regional Climate Change Manager, Avina Foundation Climate Change programme
- **Daniel Morchain**, Global Adviser, Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience, Oxfam
- **Irene Appeaning Addo**, Researcher, University of Ghana
- **Madan Pariyar**, Program Development and M&E Director, iDE/BRACED

## Method

Participants were asked to reflect on the extent to which we are bringing solutions to scale. To illustrate this, they were invited to stand along a gradient – with one end of the room representing low scale and the other end representing high levels of scale up. The facilitator asked a few people to share with the group why they had chosen their position.

A TV-style panel session involved four presenters who are involved in implementing community climate adaptation projects. They were invited to answer questions in punchy one-minute pitches, aiming to be stimulating and provocative, and focusing on transferable project findings. These were followed by lively two to three-minute round table discussions on each question. The facilitator asked each table to share their views on each question in turn. Questions included: what are innovative models for scaling up community adaptation solutions; scaling out: what are the specific enablers and barriers to particular contexts; how do you measure success in scaling initiatives?

Based on the previous discussion a mini forum formulated key messages for donors funding large scale programmes on adaptation and resilience. Each table focused on one donor type, exploring ways to support connections and collaboration between local communities, governments and other stakeholders. The eight table facilitators reported back to the group at the end and a wrap up session developed the key messages from the session.

## Outcomes

- Achieving community-owned adaptation at scale requires moving from a last-moment concept to a truly scaling mind-set: scaling starts from the preparation, including authorities and agents from day one. Get out of project box and work with governance of actors there in the long haul.
- Adaptation solutions can only be relevant to wider scales when enabling institutions, networks of stakeholders and local-level activities are supported by and integrated into multiple scale efforts. Scale up the process, but specific solutions might remain local. Funders should themselves adopt “adaptive management”; cannot encourage innovation without learning about failures.
- To engage communities in policy making requires technical assistance, information and partnership.

## THEME 2 MESSAGES

### Valuing lived experience and local knowledge

This theme explored the importance of creating space and voice for those at the development and climate frontlines in all discussions related to climate and development.

A combination of traditional, indigenous and scientific knowledge is crucial to understand impacts and inform successful autonomous adaptation. Local knowledge is invaluable and must be shared across generations, nations and continents before we lose it.

Communities are not homogeneous. They should not be approached as being the same; diversity must be recognised. Local solutions can be brought to scale but community empowerment and ownership must be maintained. Cooperation is not necessarily the preferred status if it is not inclusive or self-selected.

Collective action requires representative leadership, allowing grassroots people to participate meaningfully in decision making and conflict resolution, giving social agency to the full range of development actors.

Funders must adopt “adaptive management” ways of working. We cannot encourage learning and innovation without being able to talk about failures and accommodate changes in design and implementation of resilience building interventions.

Policies, information flows, governance, networking and partnerships are crucial for connecting communities to decision making at local, national and international scale. Making these connections will ensure that actions on the ground truly consider local needs and realities.

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## Theme 2

**Sandra Gagnon**, IDRC

### Did 'valuing lived experience and local knowledge' resonate in COP23 outcomes?

A major COP23 outcome was the operationalisation of the Local Communities and Indigenous People's Platform to strengthen their participation and input into the UNFCCC process. Elements of this important COP decision strongly reflected messages discussed at this year's D&C Days, particularly valuing lived experience and local knowledge.

The role of local communities and other non-state actors in developing and applying solutions to the climate change crisis is increasingly being recognised. For D&C Days, the participation of local communities in decision making goes beyond climate policy and action to social justice. Local communities and indigenous people need to connect to decision making at local, national and international scale, so that actions on the ground truly consider local needs and realities.

A top priority at COP23 was the design of the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue, also called the Talanoa Dialogue, due to take place during the April-May 2018 Bonn Climate Change Conference and COP24. Based on empathy, trust, understanding and consensus building, and with provisions inviting Parties and non-Party stakeholders to submit inputs to the dialogues, the guidance for the Dialogue resonate well with the messages emerging from this D&C Days theme.

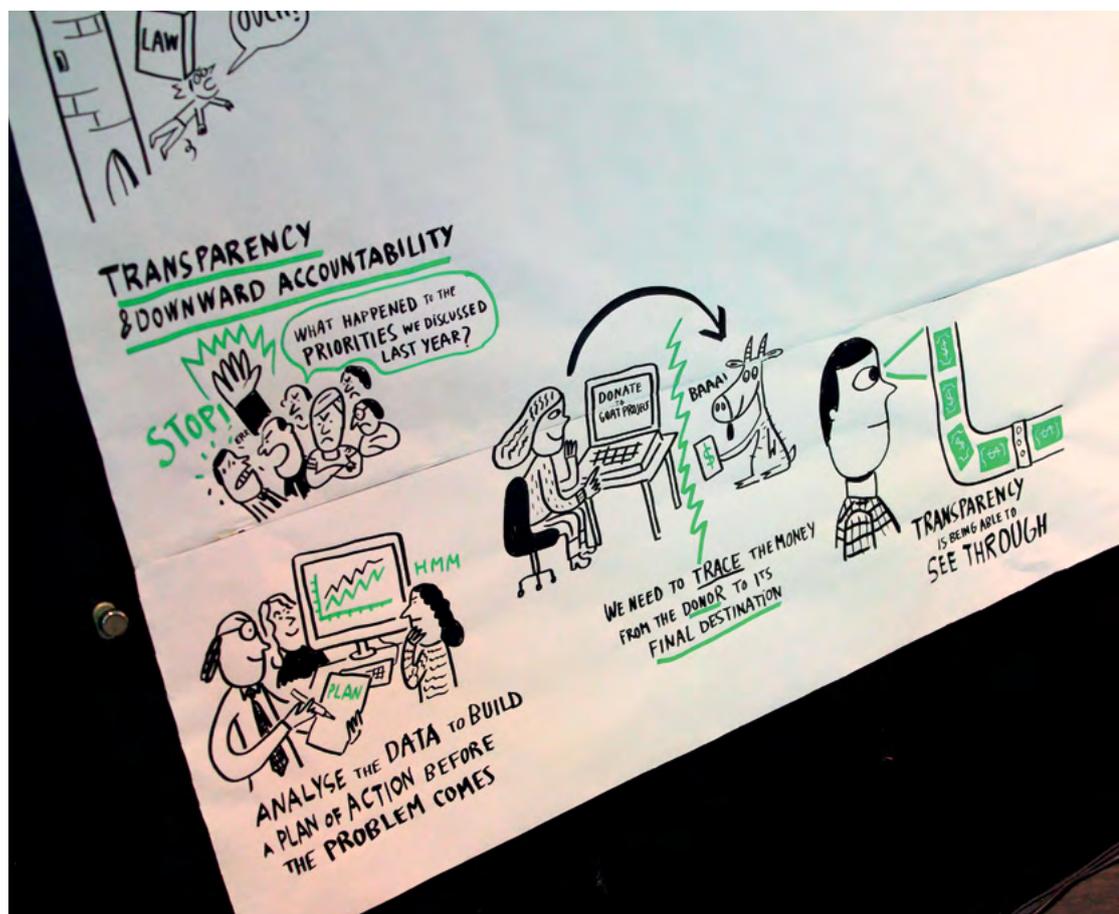
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### 5.3

## Theme 3: Transparency and downward accountability

Transparency and accountability are arguably two of the most important yet complex elements to be negotiated under the Paris Agreement. The Agreement seeks to establish an international transparency framework for climate change action and support, to guide national reporting. Developing countries have large disbursements to support adaptation through bilateral support or from international climate funds. However, technical and institutional blockages are emerging, preventing adaptation finance from having an impact on the ground. Attention has now turned to developing mechanisms, tools and approaches to hold governments to account for ensuring that this finance delivers the intended benefits to vulnerable populations.

Building the visual report of D&C Days 2017. (Photo: Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre/Flickr)



## Co-hosts:

- Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre
- German Development Institute/Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE)

## Facilitator:

- **Donna Lagdameo**, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre

## Panellists:

- **Henry Neufldt**, Senior Researcher, UNEP DTU Partnership
- **Sara Jane Ahmed**, Energy finance analyst, Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities/Climate Smart Network
- **Dr Pablo Suarez**, Associate Director, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre

## 2D From seeing to influencing: How can we embed transparency and accountability in reporting and finance?

### Context

This session explored three questions around transparency and accountability, focusing particularly on the importance of data, and sharing examples:

Firstly, how can we develop globally comparable metrics to help report and track progress towards the global goal on adaptation? Data is important to support implementation of the Paris Agreement - identifying various modalities, procedures and guidelines for reporting and review. Rethinking the role of data for transparency and downward accountability can lead to new ways to support adaptation, mitigation and development, for example through 'forecast-based financing'.

Secondly, how best can we target climate finance at the most vulnerable? The session had short presentations on innovative climate finance initiatives such as the Vulnerable 20 Group (V20) and Bangladesh.

Thirdly, can we use new technologies and financial tools to ensure that information leads to action in support of downward accountability? Dr Suarez shared examples of the use of digital technology and art were shared briefly from East Africa, Peru and Togo. Existing and emerging financial instruments were explored, that can help manage climate risk, as well as institutional architectures, incentive structures and other approaches to systematise the links between data, people, and financing.

### Method

Innovative case-studies on transparency and downward accountability in climate risk financing were presented as discussion points. These included the use of smart technologies in Togo to reach vulnerable communities in response to a hydropower dam overflow; and how technology was used to expose corruption in pharmacy supplies in East Africa through enhanced reporting. These and other examples were then explored with the presenters in small interactive learning circles, eliciting ideas for the potential application of risk financing innovations.

### Outcomes

- Transparency enables us to see through things, specifically to be able to look through structures and to see what's going on behind or within them.
- It is important (and also difficult) to link locally relevant adaptation information with an aggregated global assessment & stock-take.

- Paris Agreement adaptation goal remains a moving target, as long as key parameters are still under negotiation. Therefore it is hard to tell whether we're on track.
- Consider potential trade-off between ensuring sufficient transparency for indicators and methods to be understood by everyone at the local level while at the same time being suitable for aggregation and analysis at global level.
- Transparency is also required horizontally at local level: what makes for an enabling environment?
- Accountability reporting needs to be consistent, comparable and comprehensive and must not be an end in itself (e.g. consider "reporting burden").
- Having the right kind of information in a timely manner is required to make accountable decisions.

### Co-hosts:

- Action on Climate Today (ACT)
- Oxford Policy Management (OPM)
- IIED

## 3C Adaptation finance hackathon: What are the emerging and innovative solutions for enhancing accountability and transparency?

### Context

The session set out to crowdsource innovative tools and approaches for a) enhancing downward accountability of international adaptation finance and b) tracking the quantity and benefits of domestic spending on adaptation.

The session looked at case studies from Kenya, Pakistan, Afghanistan and India. It focused in particular on some of the adaptation finance mechanisms being implemented, such as Kenya County Climate Change Fund and Financing Frameworks for Resilient Growth. These are new ways of devolving adaptation finance at local level and tracking public expenditure. The approaches are not only effective in allocating public budgets for adaptation but are also monitoring budgetary allocation to ensure transparency and accountability for funding spent on climate resilience investments.

Insights and messages arising from the session were collected to share at major forthcoming processes which will consider "new innovations in climate finance" – including the 2018 Talanoa Dialogue and Global Stock Take.

## Facilitators:

- **Aditya Bahadur**, Action on Climate Today, OPM
- **Ed Humphrey**, Portfolio Manager, Climate change, OPM

## Panellists:

- **Mumina Bonaya**, DCF
- **Ced Hesse**, Principal Researcher, IIED
- **Dr Saleemul Huq**, Director, ICCCAD, Bangladesh
- **Maracela Tarazona**, Knowledge Leader, Climate Change, OPM
- **Cristina Rumbaitis del Rio**, Regional Programme Manager, ACT
- **Vidya Soundarajan**, Head of India Programme, ACT

## Method

This was an engaging, interactive ‘hackathon’ designed to provoke intensive collaboration between experts and stakeholders. Participants were divided into four groups, facilitated by an expert on that subject. Each expert presented one approach/tool/mechanism for enhancing accountability for climate adaptation finance. Through structured interactions, participants were asked to critically analyse then suggest improvements or changes to each approach. A high-level panel of ‘judges’ (policy makers engaged in UNFCCC processes) reviewed and rated results in a plenary. They distilled the lessons to be communicated into the UNFCCC Facilitative Dialogue in 2018.

## Outcomes

- Ensure fine tuning of climate finance approaches to track the qualitative outcomes and impact of domestic adaptation budgets on vulnerable communities.
- Customise the approaches to different political contexts and local planning processes based on the existing decentralised structures of different countries.
- Institutionalise the approaches within government systems for long term and ongoing monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) of adaptation spending.
- Link the sub-national and national approaches to UNFCCC frameworks on transparency and accountability.



Interactive parallel sessions  
D&C Days 2017  
(Photo: Red Cross Red Crescent  
Climate Centre/Flickr)

**Co-hosts:**

- IIED
- German Development Institute/Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE)

**Facilitator:**

- **Simon Anderson**, IIED

**Panellists:**

- **Dorji Tshewang**, lead for Least Developed Countries Group on Transparency, Bhutan
- **Dr Saleemul Huq**, ICCCAD, Bangladesh
- **Titi Soentoro**, Conflict and Cooperation in the Management of Climate Change (CCMCC) programme, Indonesia
- **Michelle Winthrop**, Development Specialist, Department for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ireland

**6A** What do Least Developed Countries expect of the global system and what does the system expect of them?**Context**

This session addressed transparency and downward accountability from the Least Developed Countries' (LDC) perspective, and how these perspectives will inform the global negotiations. In the current UNFCCC negotiations, the accountability discussion is mainly linked to markets, financial support and mitigation activities. However, downward accountability is key to ensuring that citizens are informed by their governments on policy and strategy decisions regarding climate change responses – both mitigation and adaptation – and what resources are being invested.

Some of the contentious issues around transparency include: how to ensure a common global transparency mechanism with built-in flexibility for the less capable countries; what are the modalities, procedures and guidelines for reporting and review; what capacity building, financial and other support will be available for transparency-related activities for LDCs?

Messages from the session were fed back to the LDC Group of negotiators and the EU delegation through Ireland.

**Method**

Tshewang provided an overview of the LDC Group position on transparency and accountability issues related to climate mitigation and adaptation. There were presentations from Bangladesh and Indonesia on their progress in relation to transparency and accountability including the Climate Finance Transparency Mechanism programme in Bangladesh. The LDCs presented a special case for interpreting how transparency and downward accountability can be put in place. Poverty reduction priorities, more pressing than adaptation needs, and tendencies to parachute in solutions can be problematic. The session ended with a lively Q&A.

## Theme 3

### Transparency and downward accountability

This theme explored transparency and downward accountability in the ways decisions are made, climate responses are prioritised and the flow of climate finance is directed.

We can create a “stakeholders’ transparency ecosystem” where accountability arises as an emergent property. To do this, we need tracking of where climate finance goes to and what it is used for. International agencies and national and local governments should be accountable to local communities by showing where and how climate finance is spent and how local priorities are addressed.

Local communities and individuals must be able to provide feedback on the effectiveness of climate related interventions through active participation. Increasing the use of information and communications technology (ICT) allows real time feedback through crowdsourcing methods.

Local climate adaptation (and other) planning is an opportunity for local people to generate, map and enumerate data and evidence that is the basis for prioritisation, planning, implementation and assessment of investments in adaptation. The provision and sharing of data and evidence allows local people to be able to take effective and timely action in response to climate risks.

We need to establish ways to link locally relevant adaptation information with the global stocktake. To do this well, we need to devise transparent indicators that work for everyone at the local level but still support a thorough analysis at the global level. The trade-offs in local to local, and local to global evidence flows need recognising and addressing.

We must build an enabling environment for transparency and accountability upwards, downwards and horizontally between national and local levels.

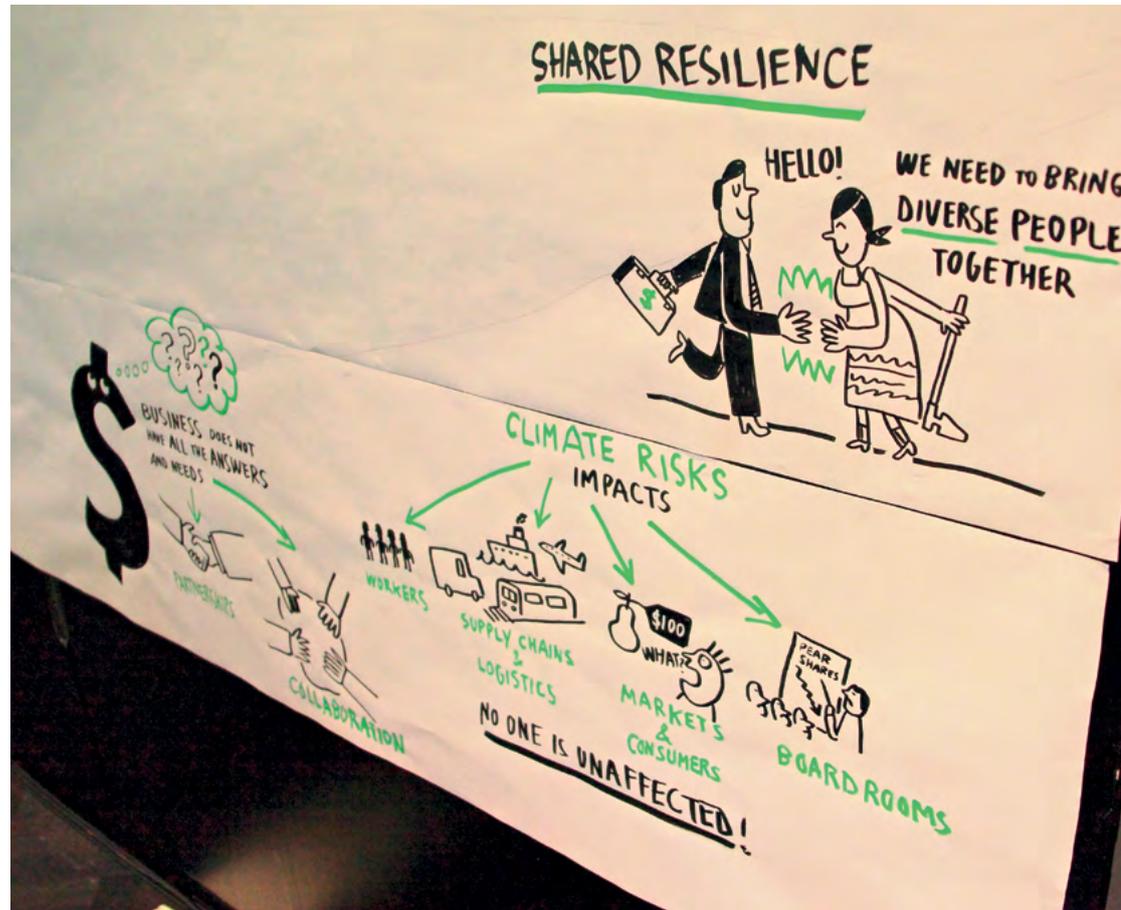
Accountability and reporting needs to be consistent, comparable and comprehensive enough without burdening under-resourced institutions.

## 5.4

### Theme 4: Shared resilience

Addressing climate risk is becoming a shared experience; building climate resilience must also be shared. As we seek to anticipate, avoid, accommodate and recover from climate impacts we need a greater emphasis on public-private partnerships. We need a new vision of how to work with the private sector to enable resilience within companies, across complex supply chains, and within frontline communities. Climate change represents a material and escalating risk to the private sector, yet it is currently ill-equipped to manage that risk and therefore poorly positioned to contribute to broader shared resilience. Leveraging the power of the private sector purse could offer massive potential to bolster climate resilience through investments in capital assets, financial capital and foreign direct investment flows.

Building the visual report of D&C Days 2017. (Photo: Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre/Flickr)



**Host:**

- We Mean Business

**Facilitator:**

- **Dr Edward Cameron**, BSR (Business for Social Responsibility)

**Panellists:**

- **Yvan Biot**, Director of Research & Development, Farm Africa
- **Diane Holdorf**, Chief Sustainability Officer and VP of environmental stewardship, health and safety at Kellogg's
- **Sylvie Wabbles**, Operations Officer, Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- **Makhegu Amelia Mabunda**, Sustainability Specialist, Woolworths

## 2B What actions can companies take to reduce vulnerability and enhance resilience in the communities along their supply chains?

**Context**

Global supply chains run through many of the most vulnerable countries. Business continuity and success increasingly requires communities that are resilient to climate impacts. To build that resilience, local communities can benefit from partnering with the private sector – gaining access to markets, access to finance and fair pricing among other benefits. Climate change is a real risk to the private sector with profound implications across the supply chain on strategy, finances, operations, marketing, compliance and human resources. And yet, companies have the capacity to be powerful agents of climate resilience if properly equipped with a sound diagnosis of climate risk and tailored strategies for enhancing adaptive capacity.

The goal of this session was to foster common understanding of supply chain management, climate risk and resilience, and both the needs and agency of vulnerable populations and the private sector.

**Method**

The panel discussed topical scenarios around their areas of expertise. These had been shared in advance. Following this a lively discussion and other “what if?” scenarios were put to the panel by the audience. The audience represented actors from across the value chain to provide their perspectives and debate with diverse stakeholders.

These conversations were then taken into roundtables discussions to formulate ideas about what collaboration is needed. Finally these were fed back to everyone and further questions and comments were taken.

## Engaging business on climate resilience at COP23

We Mean Business has been building momentum on climate resilience among the private sector as a contribution to the Paris Ambition. As a result, 100 companies attending COP23 shared policy recommendations with governments calling for adaptation action to follow a country-driven, gender-responsive, participatory and fully transparent approach. This should also pay attention to vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems, and should be guided by the best available science and local knowledge systems. The companies pledge to promote assessments of climate change risks within their companies, right across complex supply chains.

During the second week of COP23 the coalition took messages from this session into bilateral meetings with governments.

## Co-hosts:

- German Development Institute/Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE)
- Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre

## Facilitator:

- **Carina Bachofen**, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre

## Panellists:

- **Robbie Gregorowski**, Associate Director, ITAD
- **Prof Mohamed Abdrabo**, Alexandria University and Lead Author IPCC Working Group II to Fourth Assessment Report
- **Donna Lagdameo**, Senior Policy Office and Asia Pacific Regional Focal Point, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre

## 3B Old wine in new bottles: Is resilience and risk management just good development 'with tweaks'?

### Context

Resilience and development are not fundamentally different. Both demand urgency, long-term planning and tackling the root causes of vulnerability, along with systems thinking. To build resilience the development sector needs to: recognise that resilience-building is already happening in communities (possibly under a different heading); focus on bottom-up processes that recognise the diversity of values and risks; and be flexible in how projects are set up in order to include new insights and priorities.

### Method

The panel incited participants to interrogate - what makes resilience building different in practice to 'good development'? It focused on the implications for the design and delivery of climate-smart development programmes.

### Outcomes

- Climate change adds urgency and uncertainty to development action. There is greater impetus to integrate different sectors, stakeholders and forms of knowledge. Building resilience into development programmes can help to manage climate risk but this needs to be done through bottom-up processes, recognising the diversity of values and risks within a community.
- We should focus less on the label - which might change again in the future - and more so on the content of the bottle. That is, focus less on wording and concepts and more on what we want to achieve, how to transform the concept into practice.
- Development projects are driven by funding which in turn determines the time frames of these projects and their resources for capacity building. When we talk about building resilience, that is an issue because long-term engagement is needed for this process to be successful.
- Resilience building also involves behavioural change which is hard to bring about and needs strong drivers (both with regard to people and governments). How do we bring about tipping points towards more resilient practices?
- Instead of asking whether resilience is just good development with tweaks, maybe we should ask whether it isn't just good governance with tweaks, since resilience is specifically not just an issue for developing countries. Instead, resilience should be embedded into any kind of policy effort, anywhere.

**Co-hosts:**

- We Mean Business
- IDRC

**Facilitator:**

- **Dr Emilie Prattico**, BSR

**Panellists:**

- **Dhanush Dinesh**, Global Policy Engagement Manager – CGIAR Research Programme on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security
- **Maria Paz Cigaran**, Co-founder, Sistema B Peru
- **Dr Edward Cameron**, Senior Advisor, BSR
- **Stephen Nicholls**, Head of Environment and Finance at National Business Initiative

**4C** How do we mobilise the financial power of the private sector in support of climate resilience?**Context**

The session explored innovative ways to mobilise private sector investment for climate resilience using the broadest definition of investment – all money put to use by companies by expenditure, procurement, allocation of investment capital and management of risk – to stimulate new thinking. The discussion considered how to leverage private finance into climate resilience – from global supply chains, to equity, debt financing, insurance and even financial markets. This expands scale of finances from billions to trillions of dollars available within the global economy. But in order to shift these trillions of dollars, we will need to find innovative ways to create and scale-up partnerships and collaborations – ways that involve all private sector actors, from multinationals to smallholder farmers and all levels of government.

The session drew lessons from private sector initiatives such as Morgan Stanley, The Coca-Cola Company, and T-Mobile; and from research conducted on behalf of IDRC; IFAD, Sistema B and Avian.

We Mean business is working with hundreds of the world's largest firms and investors, and the discussions at D&C Days on adaptation finance will feed in to advising them on how to invest in capital assets.

**Method**

The session used the interview-based presentation format.

**Outcomes**

- We can make private sector finance for resilience a “new” issue by looking at it more broadly.
- We need new thinking to increase scale, broaden financial flows, and expand access.
- Strengthening partnerships between big companies and B-corps can scale up innovation.
- Non-financial instruments such as procurement, government engagement, guaranteed offtake, and disclosure can drive climate finance.
- We need resilience to be associated with a cash flow, not a deferred cost.
- We need to overcome vocabulary and informational blockages through education.
- Collaboration can overcome the multiplicity of stakeholders and the need to create buy-in.

**Host:**

- We Mean Business

**Facilitator:**

- **David Wei**, Director of Climate Change, BSR

**Panellists:**

- **Sara Law**, VP Global Initiatives, CDP
- **Kevin Rabinovitch**, Global Director of Sustainability, Mars
- **Pankaj Bhatia**, Deputy Director of WRI's Climate Program and Director of GHG Protocol

**6D What would a science-based target on resilience look like?****Context**

The We Mean Business coalition has persuaded nearly 700 companies to make over 1200 climate commitments on mitigation, mainly related to reducing emissions. In the past 18 months, seven partners have worked together to design a science-based approach to resilience, aiming to mobilise these companies in support of adaptation. The session discussed the idea of a corporate resilience commitment – backed by a strong business rationale; evidence-based and ambitious; covering the full value chain; and sequenced and conditional. Companies adopting the commitment would be expected to conduct a science-based assessment of their climate risks; create a strategy for resilience; and report on their climate risks and strategy.

**Method**

This was a scenario-based panel discussion based on the proposal that business should adopt a “science-based strategy on climate resilience”. Each panellist addressed this proposal from their professional perspective, highlighting the challenges and opportunities. Other event participants were also invited to propose additional scenarios to the panel. A set of questions around the challenges and opportunities emerging were posed for the following discussions.

**Outcomes**

- Science-based targets (SBTs) are useful because based on an objective need, feasible for companies to implement, meets shareholder demands and resilience targets are difficult to measure.
- Companies can deploy capital assets to make investments in resilience.
- General framework should be: assess, measure, set targets/mobilise initiatives and track progress.
- Companies need to set ambitious targets and not ‘business as usual’.
- There is a difference between SBTs for emissions reductions and resilience.
- Need to be clear on what needs to be standardised across companies and what doesn't – leave the ‘how’ for companies to innovate and make it happen.
- Use an evidence-based approach to strive for an objective standard.
- Finding SBT on resilience challenging because highly locally dependent and difficult to measure.

## THEME 4 MESSAGES

### Shared resilience

This theme explored how we live in an interconnected world with complex intercontinental supply chains, global financial flows, and decision making shared between the international, national and local levels. It highlighted that risk must be shared by all and strategies for resilience must be designed and implemented together.

The private sector can assist local communities in many ways – expanding access to markets; supporting access to finance and fair pricing; advocating jointly to government; providing access to information and data; democratising technology, leading on capacity development – are just a few.

Resilience, development and enterprise risk management aren't fundamentally different. They all demand long-term planning, tangible rewards and action to tackle the root causes of vulnerability. In the context of climate change, they also require urgency, ambitious targets, and practical steps to implementation.

The development, climate and private sectors use different language. We must learn each other's language and, more importantly, share common concepts for diagnosing risk to build a shared vision for resilience. This new vocabulary must be clear, rooted in science and in local knowledge.

We need new thinking to increase scale, broaden financial flows, and expand access. Non-financial instruments such as procurement, government engagement, guaranteed offtake, and disclosure can move money in the real economy. Innovative financial instruments can be built by fostering partnership between multinational corporations, financial services companies, and at the local level.

Preferential procurement is a key instrument for encouraging enterprise risk management across supply chains, the uptake of best practice on resilience, and the mobilisation of private sector financing in support of frontline communities.

All of these activities must factor in fairness and equity while leveraging the local knowledge and unique needs of communities. Improved education and collaboration with the private sector will build a shared vocabulary and improved information exchange.

## Theme 4

**Samantha Harris,**  
BSR (Business for  
Social Responsibility)

### Did 'shared resilience' resonate in COP23 outcomes?

One of the themes during D&C Days focused on “shared resilience,” which embodies the concept that no one actor can tackle this complex issue alone: We must work together. Sessions on supply chain risk and resilience, adaptation finance, and building a science-based approach to corporate resilience provided a platform for collaboration between the private sector and other stakeholder groups. Climate risk is no longer thought of as something only impacting small island nations, but something that affects businesses, the global economy, and developed nations. We have seen this in particular this year, with natural disasters in the United States and extreme weather events around the world, such as the flooding in South Asia. All stakeholders must collectively work to create successful, lasting partnerships and initiatives that boost climate resilience.

Adoption of a COP decision that increases the participation of non-state actors, including the private sector, in the Technical Examination Process on Adaptation will help to ensure that all actors are involved and able to participate in discussions with policymakers on technical issues related to adaptation. Helping vulnerable communities and groups through shared resilience and partnerships was a common theme. An inclusive and participatory Talanoa Dialogue will also ensure all voices, including businesses from across regions and sectors, whether multinationals or Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) will be heard.

Two blogs ([here](#) and [here](#)) were produced in relation to the “Shared Resilience” theme – both discussing ways that the private sector can boost societal and community resilience by enhancing the adaptive capacity throughout their entire value chain. Messaging from D&C Days is interwoven in the blogs – disseminated to the business community in newsletters, social media, and picked up by online news platforms like Huff Post. Shared Resilience messaging was further iterated by Eric Olson, Senior Vice President of BSR, at BSR’s joint side event with CDP and Climate-KIC, “Unstoppable and irreversible: innovation, non-state actors and the Paris Agreement.” The event focused on building Innovation, leadership and partnership by non-state actors to accelerate the pace and scale of the transition to a low carbon and resilient economy.



# APPENDIX

## Sharing the Development and Climate Days model with the Talanoa Dialogue

### Introduction

Across the Pacific region “Talanoa” is a process of inclusive, transparent dialogue, when people share stories, listen to each other, and respect each other’s perspectives to make wise decisions towards the collective good. Based on this ethos, in May 2018 the Conference of Parties (COP) will convene a “Talanoa Dialogue” to take stock of progress towards the goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as set out in the Paris Agreement. Under leadership of the outgoing Fijian COP Presidency and the incoming Polish COP Presidency, the Talanoa spirit aims to guide a year-long process to assess progress by countries and identify opportunities to ratchet up ambition and action.

The Development & Climate Days partners welcome the spirit of cooperation expected to underpin the dialogue and the commitment to a strong evidence base that will anchor discussions on galvanising ambition to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build resilience to climate change.

**Development & Climate Days (D&C Days)**, an unofficial side-event taking place during the middle weekend of COP, **have a fifteen-year history promoting these Talanoa principles and practices at COP**. Convening diverse actors to share experience and expertise; amplifying voices from the grassroots in discussions; and ensuring sessions are based on evidence from around the world are hallmarks of the partners’ approach to D&C Days. In addition, innovative approaches to learning and dialogue encourage participants to challenge existing thinking and generate new ideas and solutions in a spirit of cooperation.

In this document, we offer some of the highlights of this experience as an input to the Talanoa Dialogue question, “How do we get there?”. We believe that in addition to the technical expertise required to advance ambition, it is critical to pay attention to the process elements of discussion, which can help to resolve differences, reduce conflict and find common ground.

## Bringing actors together

D&C Days offers an opportunity for those attending the annual UN climate talks to meet informally to explore critical issues and develop ideas for future action. In 2017 more than 450 policymakers, researchers, private sector representatives and development practitioners came together for this purpose. The event was anchored in four evidenced themes, to which all sessions were linked:

*Resilience through empowerment and access:* exploring the effective pathways to address poverty and climate vulnerability and manage climate risk, and to consider how engagement in decision making, equitable access to resources, and the provision of goods, services and innovation can be enhanced.

*Valuing lived experience, and local knowledge:* highlighting the importance of creating space and voice for those at the development and climate frontline in all discussions related to climate and development.

*Transparency and downward accountability:* examining the ways in which decisions are made, climate responses are prioritised and climate finance is directed.

*Shared resilience:* recognising we live in an interconnected world with complex intercontinental supply chains, global financial flows, and decision making shared between the international, national and local levels, strategies for managing risk and building resilience must be designed and implemented together.

D&C Days provides a unique space where development professionals can meet climate change experts and where high-level policymakers can meet the practitioners implementing climate change action on the ground. Over the years, D&C Days has attracted an increasingly diverse audience to engage with others alongside the global climate change negotiations.

D&C Days also brings together a wide-ranging group of partners – think tanks, grassroots organisations, governments, donors, humanitarian agencies and the private sector.

Bringing grassroots participants into the dialogue is core to recognising the ambition of the Paris Agreement. At D&C Days, grassroots representatives speak alongside negotiators, helping shape climate change discussions by describing what's needed on the ground, sharing what's working and what's not, and helping shape climate change policies.

The theme of lived experience and listening to local knowledge ran through D&C Days 2017, highlighting the importance of taking account of traditional knowledge and listening to those living in communities on the climate frontline.

The diverse participation at the heart of D&C Days reflects UNFCCC priorities and results in rich conversations which focus on finding common understanding and translating global ambition to local action.

## Bringing D&C Days lessons into the Talanoa Dialogue

D&C Days 2017 reflected the new “Talanoa” approach and developed it further. Throughout the two days, there were engaging panels, stimulating discussion, and interactive sessions where participants interrogated topics further in small dynamic spaces. Panels were selected to achieve gender and regional balance, and to include different sectors. Participants from frontline communities affected by climate change were also given prominence in the programme – both formally and informally.

Each session title was phrased as a question, as a deliberate attempt to invite participants to contribute their expertise and viewpoints to an open conversation where the outcomes or answers were co-defined rather than pre-defined. For example, in the session ‘*How can gender-responsive climate action lead to resilient communities?*’ a short panel discussion framed the dialogue and the remaining time was spent in ‘learning circles’ where participants sat together as equals, sharing challenges, opportunities and good practices around the question posed. This approach could benefit other platforms seeking to invite different points of view and genuinely search for common ground.

Similarly, our closing panel departed from traditional high-level sessions and instead paired a policymaker with a grassroots representative, who together reflected on the preceding days’ discussions, and shared experiences that resonated with the participants and their challenges, rather than delivering prepared remarks. Most panelists participated throughout the two days.

## Storytelling motif

True to the Talanoa spirit, the D&C Days programme emphasised storytelling as a way to build empathy and generate trust between participants. The opening plenary introduced the event’s four themes through 1-minute stories that connected each theme to a human face and personal experience. The stories included a Kenyan community’s experience of holding government to account through devolved climate finance; an activist who decided to dedicate himself to convincing the private sector to act on climate change; and how Fiji islanders are struggling to read the traditional signs of cyclones as climate change alters their way of life.

In the spirit of inclusivity and diversity, non-traditional storytelling featured when Rommel Lo from the Effata Association), a non-profit organisation in the Philippines, shared his experiences working with disabled people and how their voices need to be heard.

The spoken word, another powerful story-telling format, was also woven in to the event. Day two began with a poet summing up the previous day’s conversations in an engaging poem. And the event ended with a young Kiribati Red Cross volunteer reciting her poem, ‘My Beloved Island’, her reflections on how the global climate discussions are fundamentally linked to people’s lives on the ground.

## Innovation sparks learning and dialogue

To offer a space conducive to listening and sharing, partners planned each session carefully, using innovative approaches to dialogue. Methods ranged from an interactive 'hackathon', a way to crowdsource ideas on how to improve accountability and transparency; to a game where participants became migrants displaced by climate events; and scenario planning by private sector and grassroots representatives on how to strengthen resilience along supply chains.

On the event fringe, a virtual reality installation gave participants the chance to experience sea ice melting in the Arctic and a hydropower dam. Using poetry and satellite art from the Pacific, this technology brought home climate change messages in a fresh and compelling way.

Over the course of the two-days the collective wisdom of participants was distilled into messages and captured in real time by illustrator, Jorge Martin. Generating this graphic version of the event has become a tradition at D&C Days, providing a record of outcomes and a tool to engage external audiences with the emerging messages. The graphic report from 2017 was presented to Ovais Sarmad, Deputy Executive Secretary of UN Climate Change and now hangs in the UNFCCC offices in Bonn.

## Inclusive dialogue

"Out of the Box" sessions are designed to stimulate inclusive dialogues in untraditional ways. At D&C Days 2017 the session included games, role play, silent reflection, and small group work to explore ways of listening more, and listening differently. Participants explored cognitive and imaginative challenges posed by climate change, and diverse ways of interpreting reality informed by neuroscience evidence, hearing from scientists, philosophers, artists, writers, musicians, journalists and humanitarian workers. These imaginative approaches invited participants to see the four themes of D&C Days through a fresh lens, inspiring solutions and opportunities they may not have considered.

## Climate resilience for all

D&C Days continues to play a proactive role in pushing for inclusive, participatory, transparent and ambitious dialogue in spaces alongside the climate COP, and supports the delivery of a Talanoa dialogue culminating in a more ambitious result.

**"I will give greater attention to forms of local knowledge and be more aware of the global ramifications of my own consumption habits."**

Out of the Box session participant



