

Climate change loss and damage: what is it, where are we now and where are we headed?

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Outline

What is loss and damage from climate change impacts?

What is the current state of play in the UNFCCC?

What are some new insights into the loss and damage debate?

What is Australia's role?



Loss and damage from climate change impacts

1. Concept under the UNFCCC

- Losses and damages that are related to climate change
- Relevant since the inception of the climate change convention
- Developing countries are disproportionately affected
- Contentious, politicised and sensitive



1991-1995: UNFCCC
establishment and COP1



UNFCCC and COP1 without L&D
considerations

COP19
2013



WIM and
Excom
established

COP21
2015



Paris
Agreement
and Article 8

COP24
2018



Katowice
Climate
Package

COP26
2021



Glasgow
Climate Pact



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2. Different types of loss and damage

- Extreme weather events
- Slow onset events



Photo: Ben Bohane



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2. Different types of loss and damage

- Extreme weather events
- Slow onset events
- Human mobility and displacement
- Non-economic losses





Where are we now?

COP24: Katowice Climate Package

- New and enhanced transparency framework



COP25: Madrid

- Launch of Santiago Network for Loss and Damage (Decision 2/CMA.2)



COP26: Glasgow Climate Pact

- Agrees on the functions and process of the Santiago Network
- Fund the Network but no dedicated L&D fund
- An initial two-year dialogue on L&D finance
- COP25 and COP26 missed to identify a funding stream for L&D specifically



Looking ahead to COP27

Bonn intersessional and COP27 in Cairo in 2022:

- The role of the Santiago Network will be clarified and agreed upon:
 - What will action under this Network look like?
 - What from will it take?
 - What are the institutional arrangements?
 - Will L&D continue to sit under the umbrella of adaptation?
 - How are funds being dispersed if they are made available?
 - What does it mean to fund the Santiago Network?
 - Who will run the Network?

- Finance for “action and support” and to “address” loss and damage



Australia's role, opportunity and responsibility

- Engage internationally with L&D financial support
- Build and continue to foster strong relationships with Pacific neighbours
- Targeted assistance through existing arrangements
- Meaningful migration pathways
- Exploration of options to address and finance L&D
- Share knowledge and lessons learnt
- Set a global example on action for L&D



Research insights

- Mitigation and adaptation is crucial
 - Change contentious language away from compensation
 - Role of the GCF
 - Innovative sources of finance
- Make use of existing arrangements, be pragmatic and follow practical approaches

Financing loss and damage from climate change impacts in Small Island Developing States

by

Melanie Pill

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Thank you!

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Publications and resources

Publications

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