

Climate Change, Adaptation and Mitigation - *Require timely collaboration and dispute resolution*

*“There is ... strong evidence that **climate change acts as a threat multiplier**, indirectly **escalating the risk of conflict** through mechanisms such as food insecurity, economic shocks, and migration.”*

United Nations and World Bank, *Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict*, Washington, DC: World Bank. doi:10.1596/978-1-4648-1162-3. <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/28337 p. 67>.

Resolving Differences: Climate-related disagreements need to be addressed early and resolved efficiently, effectively and in a manner that can be sustained over time. By using skilled impartial mediators to support dispute resolution processes, successful resolution of climate change-induced disputes can occur sooner, more peacefully and with broad based support.

Collaboration: Collaborative approaches to address climate impacts and reduce greenhouse gas emissions are essential to meeting climate goals. However, well-intentioned collaborators often face barriers due to the complexity of the climate crisis, involvement of large numbers of stakeholders and organizations, and differing institutional and personal perspectives. These barriers can be overcome with mediators and third-party facilitators who:

- understand the complexities of the climate crisis
- are experts on dialogue, dispute management and collaborative governance
- guide analyses, and develop culturally and contextually appropriate processes
- have experience building capacity in countries for peacebuilding and dispute resolution



Members of the Climate Change Project (CCP), a project of Mediators Beyond Borders International (MBBI), encourage Parties and non-state actors to build collaborative dispute resolution and problem-solving capacity. The CCP is an official observer at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations. Mediators Beyond Borders International (MBBI) builds local capacities for peace and promotes mediation worldwide.

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Taking Action

1. Address Dispute Management in climate planning



In their first **Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)** document (November 2016), the Republic of Indonesia lists “*conflict prevention and resolution*” within its measures to increase social resilience (Section 9 page 13.) Chile’s 2020 NDC commits to “*Generate citizen empowerment processes for active participation in the resolution of climate change related problems.*” (Section 7.3.d)

<https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NDCStaging/Pages/All.aspx>

2. Use Collaborative Governance to build cooperation

Launched in February 1999 the **Nile Basin Initiative (NBI)** is a partnership among the nine Nile riparian states. It is a collaborative forum of the water ministers that share the river. NBI’s objectives are to develop the Nile Basin water resources in a sustainable and equitable way to ensure prosperity, security and peace for all its peoples. NBI has been supported by external partners, including the World Bank.

<https://nilebasin.org/index.php/documents-publications/73-nile-basin-initiative-an-overview/file>

3. Use Mediation and Consensus Building for climate action

Mexico faced a challenge in 2012 — to speed up the production of its **National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report** from every four-to-five years to a two-year cycle. External facilitators assisted 18 key stakeholders from ten sectors to engage in an initial planning session. Following a year’s work, processes were agreed to that now produce the inventory with greater ease and frequency.



4. Engage communities at all levels with Talanoa and other forms of Dialogue

Effective response to climate change requires collaboration among and within groups of people from the international to the local levels. Internationally, Fiji introduced the process of Talanoa Dialogues. The Cities and Regions **Talanoa Dialogues** linked the experiences of local and regional governments directly to the international climate negotiation process.

“... In Japan, for example, there exists the Japan Climate Initiative, which as of October 2018 comprised 158 different subnational actors, from major corporations to city governments. Japanese actors have also found ways to directly include multi-stakeholder components into various initiatives and have reaped considerable climate benefits as a result.”

[Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues: Leveraging subnational action to raise climate ambition.](#)