

WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR CLIMATE ADAPTATION TO BE EQUITABLE?

Equity is understood as **ensuring that everyone has their basic needs met** and equal access to public services, resources and other wellbeing opportunities. As such, **equity in adaptation involves recognising and addressing structural vulnerabilities and marginalisation**. It means adaptation responses must be sensitive to local contexts, ensure meaningful inclusion of vulnerable and marginalised populations, and involve empowering bottom-up processes which are supported by top-down resources and institutions.

REQUIRES POLICYMAKERS TO CONSIDER THE VARIOUS... DIFFERENT AND UNIQUE CHALLENGES (E.G., INFORMALITY, RISKY PHYSICAL LOCATION, LOW INCOME, DIVERSE POPULATION MAKE UP, CHALLENGING POLITICS, LIMITED SYSTEMS, POOR HEALTH AND SANITATION SYSTEMS AND SO ON)

– Lorraine

CARRYING THE BURDEN TOGETHER

– Martha

LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND AND REMOVE BARRIERS THAT PREVENT COMMUNITIES / GROUPS FROM THRIVING IN THE FACE OF NEW CLIMATE REALITIES

– Funmi

ADAPTATION THAT WORKS FOR THE POOREST AND MOST VULNERABLE WILL WORK FOR SOCIETY

– Gilbert

SOME OF THE TOP MENTIONED THEMES:



EXAMPLES OF RESPONSES THAT ADDRESS STRUCTURAL VULNERABILITY

It means it takes into consideration **historical, existing and potential differences which often result in vulnerable groups** being worse off or locked out of potential benefits. It also takes into consideration **'within' group societal differences such as gender, youth or elderly**.

My understanding is that in being equitable, we provide access to resources and opportunities to everyone appropriately and allow **those vulnerable sectors and individuals to get more resources and opportunities** in efforts to elevate their status as we work to bring them closer to their more privileged counterparts.

To put the socioecological **needs of the most vulnerable at the fore, striving to redress historical inequalities**.

For it to be equitable will require that additional support and resources be offered to, and inclusive of **the most vulnerable communities** and their opinions; who within their own capacity may not be able to make the necessary adjustments.

Too often, because decisions related to climate adaptation are being made by those in power, the decisions benefit those in power (more due to blindness than deliberately). We are now left with very few win-win-win solutions. We are living in a world of trade offs. **Equitable adaptation ensures that those that lose, are not the most vulnerable.**

Equitable adaptation prioritises the needs of those who have been oppressed or marginalised - it places their needs at the very core of these shifts.

Making sure that marginalised groups are part of assessing climate risks, designing and deciding on the adaptation strategies and actions, and ensuring that the outcomes of the adaptation strategies and actions reduce the risk of those **most socially, economically and politically marginalised**.

