

Flood, Famine and Fire: Building a Climate Justice Analysis in Philanthropy

Oct. 14, 2021



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Moderator

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Kenneth Jones

Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation



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How to Participate

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- Look for the fully captioned webinar recording and summary at disasterphilanthropy.org.
 - ▣ Live captioning is available now via Zoom. Click on Closed Caption/Live Transcript to access it.
- Submit questions using Q & A box at the bottom of your screen.
- Use **#CDP4Recovery** to tweet along during the webinar.
- Complete the survey upon leaving webinar.

Land Acknowledgement

“Acknowledgment is a simple, powerful way of showing respect and a step toward correcting the stories and practices that erase Indigenous people’s history and culture and toward inviting and honoring the truth.”

<https://usdac.us/nativeland>



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Climate Change Statistics

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- “A disaster related to a weather, climate or water hazard occurred every day on average over the past 50 years – **killing 115 people and causing US \$202 million in losses daily.**”
- \$210 billion in damage in 2020 -- \$95 billion in the U.S., nearly double the losses in 2019.
- In 2020, 82.4 million people were forcibly displaced, more than at any point in human history.
 - 30.7 million due to climate and extreme weather - 3x more than those displaced by conflict.



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From Climate CHANGE to Climate JUSTICE

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“Climate change is happening now and to all of us. No country or community is immune. And, as is always the case, the poor and vulnerable are the first to suffer and the worst hit.”

~ *UN Secretary-General António Guterres*

Sources: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2019/05/climate-justice/>
and <https://oldmedia.ifrc.org/ifrc/world-disaster-report-2020/>

Understanding Climate Justice

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“Climate Justice links human rights and development to achieve a human-centred approach, safeguarding the rights of the most vulnerable and sharing the burdens and benefits of climate change and its resolution equitably and fairly. Climate justice is informed by science, responds to science and acknowledges the need for equitable stewardship of the world’s resources.”

~ Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice

Sources: <https://www.mrfcj.org/> and <http://www.ejnet.org/ej/bali.pdf>

Donors of Color Network

Climate Funders Justice Pledge

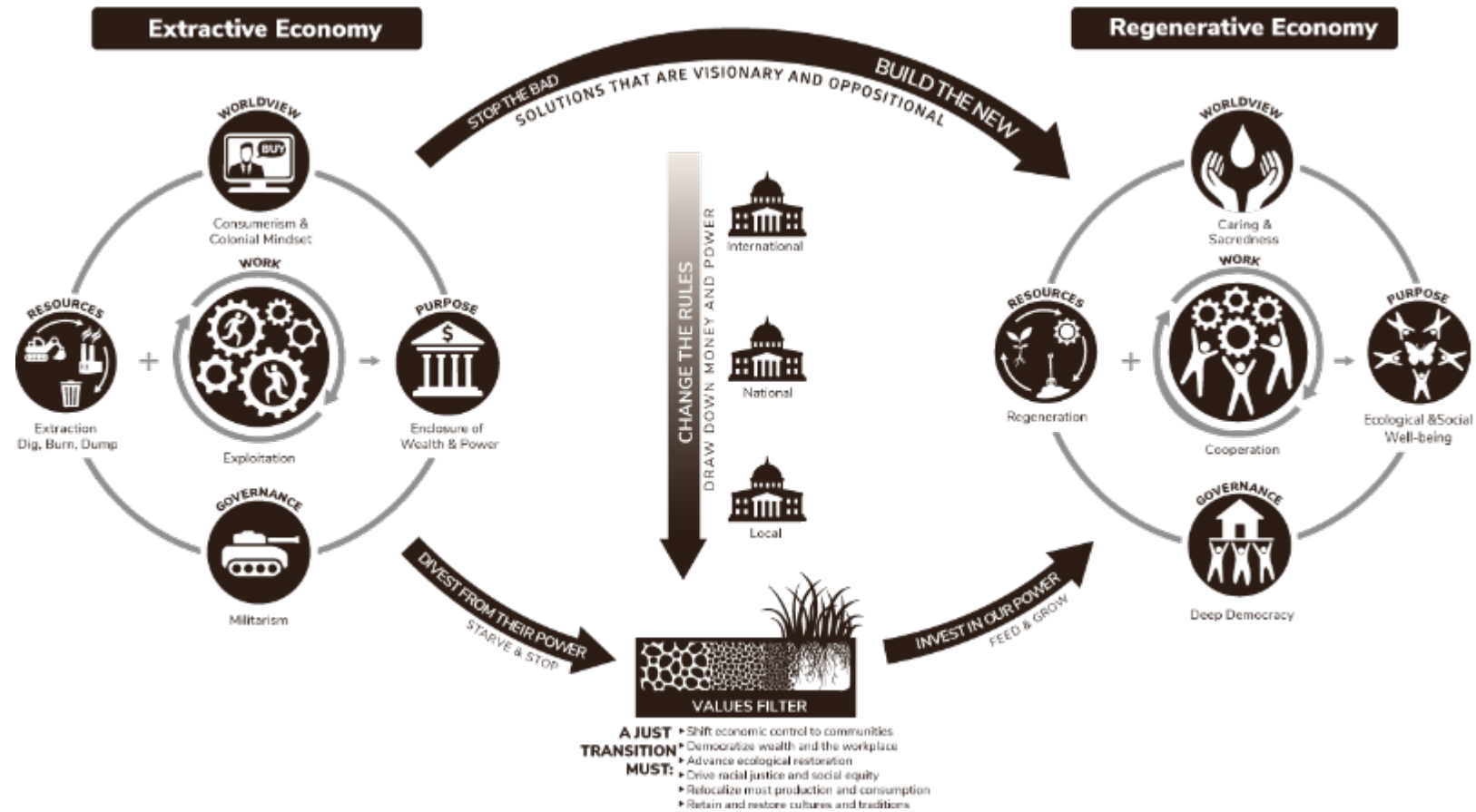
9

- ❑ **Step 1** – Take the Pledge: <https://climate.donorsofcolor.org/take-the-pledge/>
- ❑ **Step 2** – Upload data to Candid eReporter portal
- ❑ **Step 3** – Enumerate funding to BIPOC led and serving organizations
- ❑ **Step 4** – Within 2 years dedicate 30% of climate funding to BIPOC led and serving organizations

Source: <https://climate.donorsofcolor.org/>

Just Transition

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Source: <https://climatejusticealliance.org/just-transition/>



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Speakers

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Alex Gray

Director, International Funds
Center for Disaster Philanthropy



Dr. Alan Kwok

Director of Climate
and Disaster Resilience
Philanthropy California



Dr. Julie Maldonado

Associate Director
Livelihoods Knowledge Exchange Network (LiKEN)



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Alex Gray

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How climate changed the disaster landscape

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- ❑ Increased recognition that climate accounts for majority of disasters (90%).
- ❑ More attention and funding given to Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation.
- ❑ Increased focus on prevention, preparedness and capacity building.
- ❑ Greater focus on the most vulnerable people and settings.
- ❑ Increase in locally-led adaptation and resilience - those most affected by climate change are a key resource and a greater part of the solution.
- ❑ More anticipatory and early action to reduce the impacts of rapid and slow onset climate-related shocks.
- ❑ Environmental sustainability is promoted more within the humanitarian sector.



Dr. Alan Kwok

Director of Climate and Disaster Resilience
Philanthropy California



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Racial Equity is our North Star

Issues



Philanthropic Approaches



Policy and
systems change



Political capital
and leadership



Community
organizing and
leadership
development



Education and
knowledge



Strengthening
organizations
and networks

Credit: Sierra Health Foundation

Changing the narratives

Who's telling the story? How will this shift power?

Credit: Climate Justice Alliance

From...



CNN

Coming hours are make or break for Lake Tahoe resort city, fire officials say

Caldor, which ignited on August 14, has already destroyed 544 homes and 12 businesses, according to Cal Fire. ... At least five people were...

1 month ago



San Francisco Chronicle

Is California's wildfire season already winding down?

... latest forecast from the National Interagency Wildfire Center suggests that fire potential in California will linger through November.

7 hours ago



To...



Inside Climate News

Fires Fuel New Risks to California Farmworkers

As climate change amplifies the health risks of extreme heat and pollution from wildfires, researchers scramble to protect farmworkers. Liza...

2 weeks ago



The Guardian

'Fire is medicine': the tribes burning California forests to save

...

For more than 13,000 years, the Yurok, Karuk, Hupa, Miwok, Chumash and hundreds of other tribes across California and the world used small...

Nov 21, 2019



PHILANTHROPY CA




Dr. Julie Maldonado

Associate Director

*Livelihoods Knowledge Exchange Network
(LiKEN)*



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- Our collective responsibility
 - Accounting for root causes and historical context
 - Example of Hurricane Ida in Southeast Louisiana
 - Indigenous and Local Knowledges and wisdom of First Peoples and place provide direction for adaptation actions
 - What people think of their own lives, place, and culture matters
 - Centering Indigenous and Local Knowledges and wisdom, in working to build a climate justice analysis in philanthropy



Fragile Contexts, Climate and Disasters

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- ❑ Disasters and crises are much more frequent in fragile settings (areas affected by political instability, conflict and violence).
- ❑ In 2020, before the coronavirus (COVID-19), fragile contexts were home to 23% of the world's population and also to 76.5% of all those living in extreme poverty globally.
- ❑ Coping capacities and resilience of people, institutions and systems is already weak and strained – amplifying impact of disasters and affecting ability to recover.
- ❑ Most deaths from disasters (58%) occur in (top 30) fragile and conflict affected states.

Humanitarian Impacts of Climate Change in Lake Chad Basin

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- From 1960, Lake Chad has lost 90% of its surface water.
- 30 million people in Nigeria, Chad, Niger and Cameroon are competing over shrinking water source and increasingly frequent droughts, heatwaves, floods.
- **Humanitarian Impacts:**
 - ▣ Displacement, hunger and malnutrition; has also led to increased conflict and rights violations.
 - ▣ 10 million people in need of humanitarian assistance.
- E.g., Northern Nigeria - Trend of growing organized violence between pastoralists and settled farmers, representing a similar dynamic to the Darfur war. This has caused 300,000 people to flee their homes.
 - ▣ Roots of the conflict lie in climate-induced degradation of pasture and increasing violence in the country's far north, which have forced herders south.
- **Responses:** direct material assistance (shelter, food, water), cash transfers, livestock purchase programs, improved agricultural practices, alternative livelihoods.

Lessons Learned and Expanded Focus

Philanthropic Practices

- Unrestricted funding
- More responsive funding
- Capacity building
- Advocacy support

Expanded Focus

- Wildfire resilience (e.g., policies and technology)
- Climate justice, funding with a climate lens, climate financing
- Public-private partnerships



- Funding mechanisms as a form of extraction, within a transactional, colonial-driven framework
- Support the critical time for relationship building and timeline from which communities work, function, and thrive
- What is our responsibility in this process, who are we accountable to, and whose voices and lived experiences are being either suppressed or uplifted?
- Reducing barriers, enhancing flexible approaches
- Reporting requirements
- Community-level, not confined to geographic boundaries
- Innovative kinds of funding
- Participatory budgeting processes
- Center communities' agency, leadership, and self-determination



How to better support localization in frame of climate justice


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- ❑ Fund more mitigation and preparedness at local level.
- ❑ Build and strengthen relationships with and capacity of local first-responders and nonprofits.
- ❑ Support local coalitions, task forces and cross-sector partnerships.
- ❑ Fund locally-led adaptation, resilience, preparedness and response programs.
- ❑ Listen to and learn from your grantee partners and communities
- ❑ Focus on the most vulnerable, at-risk people and settings.



- Context of layered and accumulating environmental and social crises
- A diversity of knowledge systems and ways of knowing for innovative actions
- Example in southeast Louisiana of community-led wetlands restoration
- Actions to enable a sustainable and justice-centered adaptation process and a regenerative future based on human and environmental rights with full participation in the wellbeing of community
- Creating space for capacity sharing
- Who is driving the questions and framing? Who and where holds the expertise, knowledge, and wisdom?



- 
- What are the tensions, challenges, power dynamics, existing injustices and inequities, and histories brought into a funder-granting partner collaboration?
 - There is no one-size-fits-all approach
 - Moving from a transactional framework to one that is relational and relationship-based, grounded in mutual trust, respect, commitment, reciprocity, and accountability
 - Process over product
 - Agreed values and principles
 - Centering communities, justice, and equity in philanthropy



Integrating a climate-lens in philanthropy

- **Examine** intersections between your funding issue and climate change (past, present, and future)
- **Learn** from your peers and your grantees
- **Resist** Western models of success and framing of issues/priorities
- **Act** by investing intersectionally and in coordination with other funders



Credit: Climate Justice Alliance

Q and A

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- Submit questions using the Q & A box at the bottom of your screen.
- Use **#CDP4Recovery** to tweet insights.



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Key Takeaways

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- ❑ Fund locally, work locally.
- ❑ Embed a climate equity lens into your grantmaking.
- ❑ Use your funding to its best ability.
- ❑ Fund preparedness and mitigation.
- ❑ Support Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) led organizations.



Photo credit: Judy Reynolds, Post Hurricane Ida



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CDP Resources

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- CDP has a [California Wildfires Recovery Fund](#), [Colorado Wildfires Recovery Fund](#), [Atlantic Hurricane Season Recovery Fund](#), [Global Disaster Recovery Fund](#), [Disaster Recovery Fund](#) and [COVID-19 Response Fund](#).
- Detailed [Issue Insights](#).
- Regularly updated [Disaster Profiles](#).
- For more information, visit www.disasterphilanthropy.org.



Photo credit: Fremont United Way



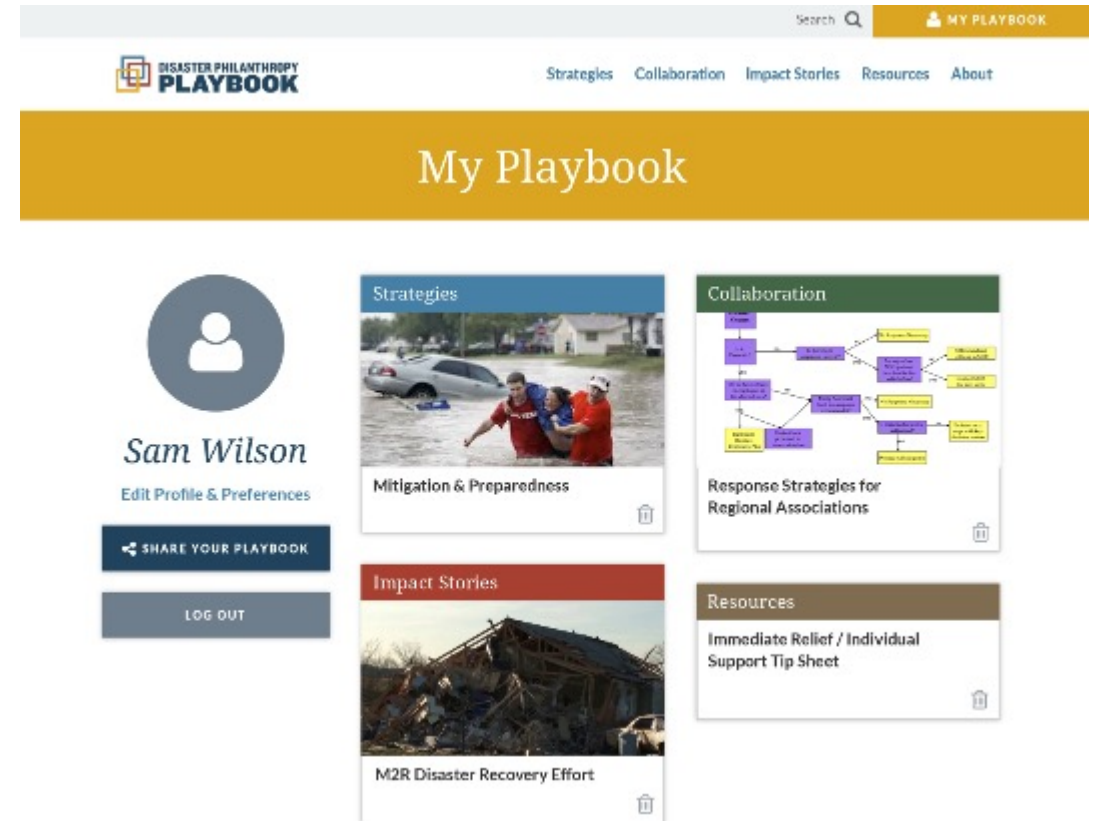
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DISASTER PHILANTHROPY PLAYBOOK

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- The Disaster Playbook has a number of toolkits and resources to guide the philanthropic community in responding to future disasters.
- Learn more at www.disasterplaybook.org



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Our Next Webinar

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Photo credit: Denis Onyodi IFRC/DRK/Climate Centre

Join us **Nov. at 18 p.m. ET** for our next webinar: **Money, Money, Money. Beyond Disaster Philanthropy: The Role of Public Dollars**

Questions?

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