



November 2025

Preamble

In the spirit of synodality (or journeying together), 157 participants including frontline communities, grassroots organizers, indigenous people, faith actors, activists and civil society from 44 countries¹ came together to participate in two online CIDSE Systemic Change Dialogues in July and September 2025 to reflect and dive deeper into the current climate crisis from a systemic perspective as they journeyed towards COP30. With 2025 marking the Jubilee Year, under the theme *"Pilgrims of Hope,"* we've embarked on a collective journey of faith and a renewed moral and spiritual commitment to safeguarding our common home. Since the adoption of the Paris Agreement, we see that notable strides have been made, but significant gaps remain. Multilateralism is under strain, climate denial and misinformation are resurfacing, and existing global structural inequalities and asymmetric power dynamics both between and within countries continue to exacerbate the impacts of the climate crisis on the most vulnerable and poor. To keep the 1.5°C goal of the Paris Agreement within reach, we must confront the root causes of the crises and accelerate a just and equitable transition grounded in equity, nature, human rights, care, and solidarity. Genuine restoration and reconciliation can only occur when policymakers and societies accept their moral and ecological responsibilities.

Guided by the principles of human dignity, solidarity, and the common good, we reaffirm that:

1. We are one human family and that climate change is, at its core, a matter of justice, dignity, and equity.
2. As integral part of the web of life, it is our moral imperative to act and bear responsibility for its well-being, both now and for generations to come.
3. The deepening threats posed by the climate crisis call for renewed solidarity, accountability, courage, and systemic transformation.
4. A just transition requires transformation by rethinking consumption and restructuring economies towards local, democratic, community-rooted, ecological, and ethical alternatives.
5. We need to transform the current paradigm by confronting extractivism and tackle ecological and climate debt from the roots and break away from the dominant paradigm of extractivism and uncontrolled consumption that exploits people and nature for profit and privilege.
6. In the context of shrinking civic space caused by government funding cuts and restrictions, it is critical to strengthen the capacity of CSOs to amplify community voices, foster inclusive participation, and ensure that climate policymaking reflects the needs, knowledge, and agency of those most affected.
7. Multilateralism from below and international cooperation for Ecological Justice grounded in the collective power of grassroots movements, Indigenous knowledge systems, and ethical values can strengthen North–South and South–South cooperation critical for advancing ecological justice and driving systemic change, uniting movements across regions to compel governments and industries toward just and decisive climate action.
8. Education and the Protection of rights & Sovereignty of People and Nature is essential in building collective resistance and fostering sustainable alternatives that legally protect the ecological and human rights of Indigenous territories of ancestral lands, the defence of Indigenous defenders, and the denunciation of activists' violence and the criminalization.
9. Youth and women, as agents of transformation, must be meaningfully engaged from a place of truth, dignity, and hope so that awareness of ecological destruction becomes a catalyst for collective action rather than despair.

¹ Algeria, Argentina, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, France, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nigeria, Palestine, Philippines, Portugal, Russia, Rwanda, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Tanzania, The Netherlands, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

10. Communities displaced, dispossessed, and dislocated by extractivism, deforestation, and environmental degradation carry not only ecological but also historical and emotional burdens that must be acknowledged and redressed.
11. Reparative justice is more than compensation; it demands the restoration of dignity, land, and livelihoods, as well as the recognition of ecological debt owed to affected peoples and ecosystems.
12. Ecological conversion requires a profound transformation of our moral, spiritual, and political consciousness to heal the wounds inflicted upon people and the planet and its peoples.

We **strongly urge governments and international institutions** to:

- Support alternative strategies, policies, and practices that align economic and social systems with ecological limits and long-term planetary boundaries, and are democratic, serve local communities and reduce unsustainable production and consumption such as sufficiency, energy sovereignty, and agroecology.
- Financially support civil society organizations to further engage communities to co-create climate policies that tackle structural power imbalances and advance justice.
- Place grassroots knowledge and ancestral wisdom at the centre of short-, medium-, and long-term climate and socioecological planning to enable meaningful participation and decision-making of local communities especially youth, women and indigenous people.
- Uphold commitments under instruments such as the ILO Convention No. 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, which guarantees Indigenous peoples' rights to land, culture, and self-determination.
- Strengthen mechanisms that hold corporations accountable for human rights violations and environmental harms, particularly in the extractive sector to ensure that corporations operating in the Global South adhere to coherent, rights-based, and environmentally responsible policies that eliminate double standards between the Global North and South.
- Enforce policies that promote transparency and accountability from both public institutions and private actors, while supporting cross-border collaboration among affected communities to monitor practices, seek redress, and advance conflict-sensitive governance of mineral resources.
- Ensure the full implementation of international legal frameworks that protect Indigenous peoples and environmental rights. Recognize and enforce the Right to Say No for communities facing extractive projects, uphold the Rights of Nature, and safeguard community sovereignty over territories to protect vulnerable and historically exploited populations for present and future generations.
- Integrate environmental education into school curricula to foster awareness to nurture ecological consciousness and teach future generations alternative, sustainable ways of living that transcend exploitative economic models, affirming that protecting nature is both a moral and economic imperative.
- Foster inclusive dialogues that honour cultural, faith-based, and Indigenous perspectives on restoration.

We **urge communities**, as well as **faith actors** and **CSOs** to:

- Build alliances both locally and internationally to raise awareness on the harms of extractive industries, and exchange strategies on alternatives such as taking transformative local action, nurture visionary thinking, and cultivate initiatives that guide sustainable and regenerative practices which empower and protect communities and their livelihoods.
- Demand and hold accountable governments especially Global North states and transnational corporations to acknowledge and address their ecological and climate debt and ensure governments uphold and empower agencies tasked with protecting biodiversity and conserving ecosystems.
- Integrate ecological education and awareness into youth programs, ensuring the next generation understands both the crisis and their power to shape a just future.
- Recognize that ecological repair begins with a spiritual dialogue, acknowledging interconnectedness, and courageously naming what has been broken and fostering reconciliation with the Earth and affected communities.

The following organizations helped us co-shape the Systemic Change Dialogues:

