



CALL FOR PAPERS

FOCUS

Local Economies, People, and the Climate Change Discourse

GUEST EDITORS

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INTRODUCTION

Recognizing the significant risk and impact associated with climate change, the Paris Agreement aims to hold the global average temperature to well below 2°C above preindustrial levels and pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above preindustrial levels. To achieve this climatedriven ambition, Article 11 recognizes the need for capacity-building initiatives for countries with fewer resources to effectively implement their commitments under the Paris Agreement. This is such that countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change can implement locally driven adaptation and mitigation actions, facilitate technology development, dissemination and deployment, access climate finance, and enhance climate education, training and public awareness with transparent, timely and accurate information.

SUBMISSIONS

Interested authors are invited to submit 150-300 words expression of interest focusing on the research gap, approach and implication of their manuscript to the Editor at climateproject2024@gmail.com, COPY IN informalsustainablesettlement@gmail.com ayobamiapopoola@gmail.com magidimishah@ukzn.ac.za.

Make sure to mention the title of the full paper in your submission.

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15 March 2025	Decision on submitted topics and abstracts		

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To implement these climate-driven actions, the importance of investigation, skilling, and capacity upscaling of local communities toward climate mitigation and adaptation has been highlighted and advanced in recent studies. However, there still exist key underlying climate response questions that need attention. Some of these questions include: Who is the most at risk? how responsive and knowledge-driven are governance actors to climate change impact? what is the economics of climate change? will local approaches be the most sustainable response to climate vulnerability by indigenous communities? How can climate change education be maintained for future activism? and finally, is there an anomaly or a symbiotic relationship towards managing climate change through activist and researchers' collaboration?

In addition to the above, Article 12 of the Paris Agreement recognized the need to enhance climate change education, training, public awareness, public participation, and public access to information.

Alluding to this position as forwarded by Finnerty et al. (2024) on the morality and duty of scientists to advocate for scientific information in their publication titled "Between two Worlds: The Scientist's Dilemma in Climate Activism", this special issue posits that research itself can be a form of activism in particular circumstances, blurring the lines between traditional research and activist endeavours, most importantly, the strategic environmental advocacy tool that research serves. Therefore, this issue welcomes research findings and informed climate-driven positions that portray divergent scientific identities toward managing and responding to the climate change discourse.

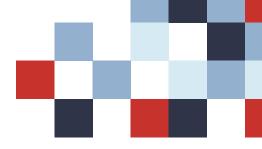
Positioning the issue within the communicative, advocacy, and radical thinking towards climate change, we welcome submissions that cut across all groups and societies as they relate to climate discourse. As in 'Challenging the neutrality myth in climate science and activism' by Van Eck et al. (2024), the editors advocate for 'redefining the boundaries of acceptable influence of values in scientific communication and offer practical strategies to move beyond the misleading myth of neutrality'. Most importantly, evidence on climate response and mitigation across economies portrays 'researchers and scientists as prophets' and must devise the best approach to engage society. To this end, we welcome submissions in various themes but not limited to the below.

SUGGESTED THEMES

- Climate impact and local communities
- Local scale climate impact assessment and modelling
- Climate change financing and cost of vulnerabilities and disaster
- Climate change and green skill and entrepreneurship
- Vulnerable groups and the climate impact
- Youth as actors and activists in the climate discourse
- Climate science, education and awareness







- Slum settlements, and upgrading in the context of climate adaptation and mitigation.
- Governance approaches and policy directions in responding to climate change.
- Professionals and experts' positions in climate change.

REFERENCE

Finnerty, S., Piazza, J. and Levine, M., 2024. Between two worlds the scientist's dilemma in climate activism. npj Climate Action, 3(1), p.77.

van Eck, C.W., Messling, L. and Hayhoe, K., 2024. Challenging the neutrality myth in climate science and activism. npj Climate Action, 3(1), p.81.



