

Five Key Points from Session 2: Climate Change and Equity

1 Who contributes the most to climate change?

Top 3 countries with highest cumulative carbon emissions



USA



China



Russia

Calculate your personal carbon footprint: bit.ly/2GOfhSK



2 The impacts of climate change are not felt equally by all people

Climate inequality: while climate change is a global problem, its consequences are **not evenly distributed** around the world:

Location: Average global temperatures are projected to rise by 5.4 °F by the year 2100. Countries along the equator have already **warmed twice as much**, leading to increased rates of **drought** and **extreme heat**.

Income level: wealthier individuals can afford costly adaptations like air conditioning and fire insurance that minimize the consequences of climate change.

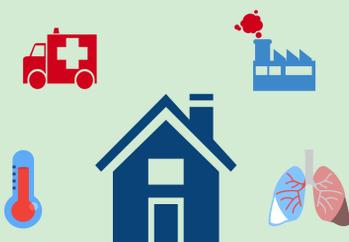


Top 10 countries with the highest drought risk in 2020

3 In the US, who will be most impacted by climate change?

African American individuals:

- **40% more likely** to live in areas with the highest projected increases in mortality rates from extreme heat
- **34% more likely** to live in areas with highest projected increases in childhood asthma diagnoses from air pollution



Low income individuals:

- **25% more likely** to live in areas with highest loss of labor hours due to increases in high-temperature days

Adults ages 65+:

- **Significantly more likely** to live in areas with highest projected impacts of climate change

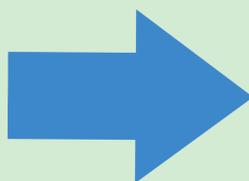


Five Key Points from Session 2: Climate Change and Equity *contd.*

4 What do we mean when we talk about climate equity and climate justice?

Climate equity: Equity is defined as fairness or justice in the ways people are treated. Climate equity suggests that **all groups receive the resources they need** to adapt to climate change.

Who pays for these resources?



Climate justice: Those least responsible for climate change, who have received the fewest benefits from the systems causing climate change, should pay the least for climate adaptation. **More responsibility = more payment**



5 What questions do we need to ask when discussing climate equity?

We can start by comparing the situations of two separate groups. When it comes to comparing the situation between **wealthier people with more resources** to **people with lower incomes**:

- Are there any differences in terms of **climate change impacts**?
- What are some of the **impacts that will specifically effect** people with low-incomes, people of color, children, and/or elderly adults more?
- Does one community have **greater access to resources**? What are some of the resources they have access to?
- What resources could you add to vulnerable communities to **create greater equity** (other than money)?
- When addressing climate change, **should leaders put more resources into vulnerable communities**? Why?