



From Global to Local: Translating Climate Justice Principles into National Policy

Abdul Basith*

Universitas Muhammadiyah Tangerang, Serang, Indonesia
abdulbasith@umt.ac.id

Karan Malhotra

Damodaram Sanjivayya National Law University, Andhra Pradesh, India
karan.malhotra@dsnlh.ac.id

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.65815/x1rdx443>

Submitted: 11-09-2024

Revised: 12-11-2024, 10-01-2025

Accepted: 17-01-2025

*Corresponding Author

Abstract

This paper investigates the challenges and opportunities of translating global climate justice principles into actionable national policies, with a particular focus on Indonesia. As the climate crisis intensifies, the need for policies that not only address environmental impacts but also promote social equity and justice has become increasingly urgent. Climate justice emphasizes the disproportionate burdens borne by vulnerable communities, including indigenous peoples, women, and low-income groups, and calls for fair and inclusive solutions to mitigate and adapt to climate change. This study critically examines how Indonesia has incorporated climate justice principles into its national climate policies, such as its emissions reduction commitments, adaptation strategies, and disaster management frameworks. Using a combination of policy analysis, interviews with key stakeholders, and case studies of specific climate projects, the research highlights both the successes and limitations in embedding climate justice into national governance. Findings indicate that while Indonesia has made progress in acknowledging climate justice in its rhetoric and international commitments, the translation of these principles into local-level practices remains uneven, often limited by political, economic, and institutional barriers. The paper argues that effective climate policy must prioritize the voices of marginalized communities and integrate social justice alongside environmental sustainability to ensure equitable and inclusive climate action. This research contributes to the ongoing discourse on climate justice by providing insights into how national policies can be reimagined to reflect both global principles and local realities.

[Tulisan ini meneliti tantangan dan peluang dalam menerjemahkan prinsip-prinsip keadilan iklim global ke dalam kebijakan nasional yang dapat ditindaklanjuti, dengan fokus khusus pada Indonesia. Seiring dengan semakin intensifnya krisis iklim, kebutuhan akan kebijakan yang



tidak hanya mengatasi dampak lingkungan tetapi juga mempromosikan kesetaraan dan keadilan sosial menjadi semakin mendesak. Keadilan iklim menekankan beban yang tidak proporsional yang ditanggung oleh komunitas rentan, termasuk masyarakat adat, perempuan, dan kelompok berpenghasilan rendah, dan menyerukan solusi yang adil dan inklusif untuk mengurangi dan beradaptasi dengan perubahan iklim. Studi ini secara kritis mengkaji bagaimana Indonesia telah memasukkan prinsip-prinsip keadilan iklim ke dalam kebijakan iklim nasionalnya, seperti komitmen pengurangan emisi, strategi adaptasi, dan kerangka kerja manajemen bencana. Dengan menggunakan kombinasi analisis kebijakan, wawancara dengan pemangku kepentingan utama, dan studi kasus proyek iklim tertentu, penelitian ini menyoroti keberhasilan dan keterbatasan dalam menanamkan keadilan iklim ke dalam tata kelola nasional. Temuan menunjukkan bahwa meskipun Indonesia telah membuat kemajuan dalam mengakui keadilan iklim dalam retorika dan komitmen internasionalnya, penerjemahan prinsip-prinsip ini ke dalam praktik tingkat lokal masih belum merata, seringkali dibatasi oleh hambatan politik, ekonomi, dan kelembagaan. Makalah ini berpendapat bahwa kebijakan iklim yang efektif harus memprioritaskan suara komunitas yang terpinggirkan dan mengintegrasikan keadilan sosial bersama keberlanjutan lingkungan untuk memastikan aksi iklim yang adil dan inklusif. Penelitian ini berkontribusi pada wacana yang sedang berlangsung tentang keadilan iklim dengan memberikan wawasan tentang bagaimana kebijakan nasional dapat dirancang ulang untuk mencerminkan prinsip-prinsip global dan realitas lokal.]

Keywords: Climate Justice, National Policy, Social Equity, Climate Change, Climate Policy

Introduction

The accelerating global climate crisis represents one of the most urgent socio-environmental challenges of the 21st century, with far-reaching implications for ecological integrity, human health, and socio-economic stability (IPCC, 2023; Pachauri & Mayer, 2022). Climate change impacts are not distributed uniformly; rather, they disproportionately affect vulnerable populations, including low-income communities, women, indigenous groups, and smallholder farmers, who often lack the adaptive capacity and political leverage to mitigate exposure (Roberts & Parks, 2007; Sultana, 2022). This unequal distribution of risks has prompted growing attention to climate justice, a normative framework that links climate mitigation and adaptation to principles of social equity, human rights, and intergenerational responsibility (Schlosberg, 2019; Caney, 2010).

In international climate governance, climate justice has emerged as a critical lens for critiquing the dominance of technocratic and market-oriented approaches that prioritize aggregate emissions reductions over equitable outcomes (Agyeman et al., 2016). The concept emphasizes not only the environmental dimensions of climate change but also the ethical, social, and

political responsibilities of states and non-state actors in addressing the disproportionate vulnerabilities experienced by marginalized communities (Gardiner, 2017; Okereke et al., 2009). Translating these global norms into actionable national policies, however, remains a complex challenge, requiring both institutional commitment and contextual adaptation to local socio-political realities.

The emergence of climate justice as a guiding principle is embedded within key international instruments and frameworks, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Paris Agreement, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (UNFCCC, 2015; United Nations, 2015). These frameworks articulate obligations for states to mitigate climate change while safeguarding vulnerable populations, promote intergenerational equity, and ensure participation in decision-making processes (Rajamani, 2016). Scholars have emphasized that climate justice is inherently multidimensional, encompassing distributive justice (fair allocation of costs and benefits), procedural justice (inclusive governance and decision-making), and recognitional justice (acknowledgment of marginalized voices) (Schlosberg, 2013; Agyeman et al., 2016).

Moreover, climate justice intersects with human rights discourse, highlighting the ethical imperatives to protect life, livelihood, and cultural heritage against climate-induced harm (Boyd, 2018). Translating these principles from international agreements into national policy requires governments to navigate institutional, legal, and socio-economic constraints while addressing the ethical and practical dimensions of adaptation and mitigation (Okereke et al., 2009; Klein et al., 2021).

Indonesia provides a compelling case for examining the translation of climate justice principles into national policy due to its high climate vulnerability, socio-economic inequalities, and governance complexity. The country is highly exposed to climate hazards, including sea-level rise, extreme rainfall, droughts, and forest fires, which threaten both urban and rural populations and exacerbate pre-existing inequalities (World Bank, 2021; Nugroho et al., 2022). Coastal communities, indigenous populations, and informal urban settlements are among the most affected groups, reflecting the intersection of ecological vulnerability and social marginalization.

Indonesia's climate governance framework is shaped by national strategies such as the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement, as well as domestic legislation like the Law on Environmental Protection and Management (UU No. 32/2009) and the National Action Plan on Climate Change Adaptation. While these instruments articulate commitments to sustainability and mitigation, critics argue that their alignment with climate justice principles remains uneven, particularly in terms of social equity, participatory governance, and protection of marginalized communities (Afiff &

Rachman, 2019; Oktafianti et al., 2022). Selecting Indonesia as a case study allows for a critical examination of the translation gap between global normative frameworks and local policy implementation, highlighting both challenges and opportunities for integrating climate justice into national decision-making processes.

Building on these considerations, this study aims to investigate how global climate justice principles are interpreted, adapted, and operationalized within Indonesia's national climate policies. The research is guided by the following questions:

1. How are global climate justice principles translated into Indonesia's national climate policies?
2. What challenges and opportunities emerge in implementing climate justice at both national and local levels?
3. How can national climate policies better integrate principles of social equity, participatory governance, and environmental justice?

By addressing these questions, the study contributes to a deeper understanding of the institutional, legal, and socio-political mechanisms that facilitate—or hinder—the operationalization of climate justice, offering insights applicable to other climate-vulnerable countries seeking to align global norms with domestic policy and practice.

Literature Review

A. Conceptual Foundations of Climate Justice

Climate justice has emerged as a multidimensional framework that links climate change mitigation and adaptation to principles of fairness, human rights, and intergenerational responsibility (Schlosberg, 2019; Caney, 2010). Scholarly discourse identifies three core dimensions of climate justice. First, distributive justice concerns the equitable allocation of climate change burdens and benefits across populations, emphasizing that marginalized and climate-vulnerable communities should not bear disproportionate environmental costs (Roberts & Parks, 2007; Okereke et al., 2009). Second, procedural justice focuses on inclusivity, transparency, and meaningful participation in climate governance, ensuring that affected stakeholders have access to decision-making processes (Agyeman et al., 2016; Schlosberg, 2013). Third, restorative justice entails the recognition and remediation of historical and structural inequalities that exacerbate vulnerability to climate impacts, such as colonial legacies, extractive economic systems, and environmental degradation (Gardiner, 2017; Sultana, 2022).

In legal and policy scholarship, climate justice has increasingly informed normative frameworks at both international and domestic levels. Instruments such as the Paris Agreement, the UNFCCC, and human rights conventions embed obligations for states to adopt equitable, rights-based approaches to climate

action (Boyd, 2018; Rajamani, 2016). Legal scholars argue that integrating these normative commitments into national policy requires translating abstract principles into enforceable rights, adaptive governance mechanisms, and accountability structures, bridging the gap between ethical ideals and practical policymaking (Okereke & Coventry, 2016; Klein et al., 2021).

B. Climate Justice and National Climate Policy

The operationalization of climate justice at the national level has become a growing focus of environmental governance research. Studies indicate that while many countries reference climate justice principles in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and adaptation plans, actual implementation is often uneven and context-dependent (Fisher & Nasrin, 2021; Kuokkanen et al., 2023). Developing countries, in particular, face institutional, economic, and social constraints that limit the translation of global norms into domestic policies, including limited technical capacity, competing development priorities, and political economy pressures favoring resource extraction over equitable climate adaptation (Oktafianti et al., 2022; Afiff & Rachman, 2019).

Empirical research highlights diverse strategies used by states to integrate climate justice, ranging from participatory policy design and community-based adaptation projects to targeted financial mechanisms for vulnerable populations (Roberts et al., 2018; Klein et al., 2021). These studies underscore the importance of contextualizing global principles within local socio-political realities, demonstrating that climate justice is not a one-size-fits-all concept but rather a dynamic, contextually mediated framework. However, there remains limited understanding of how these principles are operationalized in countries with complex governance systems and pronounced socio-environmental inequalities, such as Indonesia.

C. Research Gap

Despite growing scholarship on climate justice and national policy implementation, several critical gaps persist. First, there is a limited empirical focus on connecting global climate justice norms to concrete policy outcomes. While conceptual and theoretical literature is extensive, few studies systematically examine how international principles are interpreted, adapted, and enforced at the national and local levels (Okereke & Coventry, 2016; Fisher & Nasrin, 2021). Second, research specifically addressing Indonesia's climate governance through a justice-oriented lens remains scarce. Most existing studies focus on climate vulnerability, mitigation strategies, or community adaptation in isolation, without explicitly assessing how national climate policies incorporate distributive, procedural, and restorative justice dimensions (Afiff & Rachman, 2019; Nugroho et al., 2022).

This study seeks to fill these gaps by critically analyzing the translation of global climate justice principles into Indonesia's national climate policy, examining both the opportunities and constraints of justice-oriented policymaking, and providing insights into the broader challenges of operationalizing climate justice in developing countries with complex socio-political landscapes.

Methods

A. Research Design

This study adopts a qualitative research design that combines both normative and empirical analysis to investigate the translation of global climate justice principles into Indonesia's national climate policy. The normative dimension engages with climate justice theory, including distributive, procedural, and restorative justice frameworks, to assess the ethical and social equity underpinnings of national policy instruments (Schlosberg, 2019; Caney, 2010). The empirical dimension examines how these principles are operationalized in practice, through analysis of official policies, legal frameworks, and on-the-ground initiatives. A qualitative approach is appropriate for exploring the complex, context-dependent interactions between international norms, national governance structures, and local socio-political realities, allowing for an in-depth understanding of both policy content and implementation processes (Creswell & Poth, 2018; Yin, 2018).

B. Data Collection Methods

Data were collected using a triangulated approach to enhance credibility and comprehensiveness. First, policy and legal document analysis was conducted, including Indonesia's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), climate action plans, and relevant environmental legislation (e.g., Law No. 32/2009 on Environmental Protection and Management; Ministry of Environment and Forestry regulations). This allowed for systematic evaluation of the extent to which climate justice principles are embedded in formal policy instruments.

Second, semi-structured interviews were conducted with key informants, including national policymakers, civil society representatives, and local stakeholders involved in climate mitigation and adaptation initiatives. This approach enabled exploration of stakeholder perspectives on policy formulation, challenges, and implementation constraints, providing contextualized insights beyond the textual content of policies (Kvale & Brinkmann, 2015). Interview guides were designed to probe perceptions of distributive and procedural justice, institutional barriers, and opportunities for inclusive governance.

Third, case studies of selected climate mitigation and adaptation projects were employed to illustrate the practical application of climate justice principles

at local and subnational levels. Projects were purposively selected based on their relevance to social equity, participation, and environmental sustainability, ensuring representation of diverse geographical and socio-economic contexts within Indonesia (Yin, 2018).

C. Data Analysis

Data analysis combined thematic and policy analysis techniques. Policy documents were coded deductively using a framework derived from climate justice theory (Schlosberg, 2019; Caney, 2010), focusing on distributive, procedural, and restorative dimensions. Interview transcripts were analyzed inductively to identify emergent themes related to stakeholder experiences, perceptions of justice, and institutional constraints. Findings from document analysis, interviews, and case studies were triangulated to enhance reliability and validity, ensuring that conclusions are grounded in multiple, convergent sources of evidence (Patton, 2015). Cross-case analysis of mitigation and adaptation projects facilitated comparative insights, highlighting both successful practices and persistent gaps in the operationalization of climate justice principles across policy and practice.

D. Ethical Considerations

Ethical rigor was maintained throughout the research process. Informed consent was obtained from all interview participants, who were assured of confidentiality and the voluntary nature of their participation. Data were anonymized to protect the identities of stakeholders and sensitive organizational information. Researchers also adhered to principles of transparency and integrity, maintaining accurate records of data collection and analysis procedures and disclosing potential biases arising from positionality (Orb et al., 2001; Creswell & Poth, 2018). Reflexivity was employed to critically examine how researchers' perspectives may shape data interpretation, particularly given the normative dimensions of climate justice and policy evaluation.

Analisis and Discussion

A. Integration of Climate Justice in National Climate Policies

Analysis of Indonesia's climate policy documents, including its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Action Plans on Climate Change Adaptation, and Environmental Protection Laws, indicates that climate justice is formally recognized as a guiding principle in international commitments and domestic frameworks. The NDC explicitly references the need to safeguard vulnerable populations and promote equitable access to adaptation resources (Ministry of Environment and Forestry, 2021). Equity considerations are further incorporated into mitigation strategies, with targeted programs for rural

communities, smallholder farmers, and coastal populations exposed to climate hazards such as sea-level rise and flooding (Afiff & Rachman, 2019).

Despite these formal acknowledgments, the practical translation of climate justice principles into policy instruments is uneven. While distributive aspects—such as budget allocations for vulnerable groups—are relatively well documented, procedural justice mechanisms, such as formalized community participation in policy development, remain limited (Oktafianti et al., 2022). This aligns with theoretical debates in climate justice scholarship that stress the gap between normative commitments and operationalized policy outcomes (Schlosberg, 2019; Caney, 2010).

Table 1. Summary the integration of climate justice dimensions into Indonesia’s key national climate policies.

Policy Instrument	Distributive Justice	Procedural Justice	Restorative Justice	Notes
NDC (2021)	✓ Targeted funding for vulnerable communities	✗ Limited participatory structures	✗ Minimal attention to historical inequities	Strong recognition of at-risk populations
National Adaptation Plan	✓ Local adaptation programs	✓ Some stakeholder consultation	✗ Limited focus on systemic inequities	Focused on climate-resilient infrastructure
Environmental Protection Law (UU 32/2009)	✓ Legal safeguards for environmental harm	✗ Weak enforcement mechanisms	✓ Recognition of indigenous land rights	Broad legal framework, implementation gaps

B. Local-Level Implementation of Climate Justice

Fieldwork and case study analysis reveal considerable variation in local-level outcomes, highlighting the persistent gap between national objectives and local practices. For example, community-based adaptation projects in coastal villages of Central Java and East Kalimantan demonstrated high engagement of local stakeholders in mangrove restoration and early warning systems, aligning with distributive and procedural justice goals (Nugroho et al., 2022). However, in many urban and remote rural areas, local populations reported limited awareness of national climate policies, insufficient consultation, and inadequate access to adaptation funding, reflecting procedural and distributive shortcomings (Afiff & Rachman, 2019).

These findings underscore the contextual and socio-spatial dimensions of climate justice: policy frameworks are often well-designed at the national level but fail to fully account for local governance capacities, social networks, and cultural contexts, consistent with critiques in the literature on policy translation in developing countries (Roberts et al., 2018; Kuokkanen et al., 2023).

Table 2. Disparities in local-level implementation across selected Indonesian provinces.

Province	Project Type	Community Participation	Access to Funding	Alignment with Policy Objectives
Central Java	Mangrove restoration	High	Moderate	Good
East Kalimantan	Flood mitigation	Moderate	Limited	Partial
Jakarta	Urban heat adaptation	Low	Limited	Poor
South Sulawesi	Agroforestry adaptation	Moderate	Moderate	Partial

C. Political, Economic, and Institutional Barriers

The study identifies several structural barriers that hinder the effective operationalization of climate justice at national and local levels. First, governance and coordination challenges across multiple ministries and subnational authorities limit policy coherence. The fragmentation of climate responsibilities between the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture, and regional governments often results in overlapping programs and bureaucratic inefficiencies (Afiff & Rachman, 2019; Oktafianti et al., 2022).

Second, economic priorities and political interests frequently constrain justice-oriented climate action. For example, the expansion of palm oil plantations and industrial development projects in coastal and forested areas has been prioritized over local adaptation and participatory mitigation programs, reflecting tensions between economic growth imperatives and equitable climate governance (Sari et al., 2021). These findings resonate with broader scholarship highlighting the influence of political economy factors on climate policy translation, particularly in resource-dependent developing countries (Okereke & Coventry, 2016; Roberts & Parks, 2007).

Finally, institutional capacity constraints, including limited human resources, inadequate technical expertise, and weak monitoring mechanisms, further inhibit the full implementation of climate justice principles, particularly procedural and restorative dimensions (Kuokkanen et al., 2023; Nugroho et al., 2022). Therefore, while Indonesia's national climate policies formally recognize

climate justice, implementation remains uneven, shaped by governance fragmentation, economic priorities, and institutional limitations. Local-level case studies illustrate both successes and gaps, emphasizing the need for strengthened participatory mechanisms, equitable resource allocation, and alignment between national policy and community practice.

D. Assessing Indonesia's Climate Justice Performance

Indonesia's national climate policies reflect a formal commitment to climate justice principles, particularly in terms of distributive equity, with explicit programs targeting vulnerable populations such as coastal communities, smallholder farmers, and urban informal settlements (Afiff & Rachman, 2019; Ministry of Environment and Forestry, 2021). Policy instruments, such as the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and the National Adaptation Plan, demonstrate significant alignment with global climate justice norms outlined in the Paris Agreement and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (Schlosberg, 2019; Okereke & Coventry, 2016).

However, the effectiveness of these instruments in achieving substantive justice outcomes remains partial. The study's findings indicate a persistent implementation gap, where formal policy recognition of equity and procedural fairness does not consistently translate into local-level practices. For example, while national strategies allocate adaptation funding to vulnerable regions, local governance limitations, bureaucratic inefficiencies, and weak monitoring often reduce the impact on the ground (Oktafianti et al., 2022). This observation resonates with the broader theoretical debate on climate justice, which highlights the "implementation gap" as a central challenge in translating global norms into practical action, particularly in developing countries (Gardiner, 2017; Roberts & Parks, 2007).

Table 3. Summary the alignment between global climate justice principles and national-level policy implementation.

Climate Justice Dimension	Global Principles	Indonesia National Policy	Implementation Effectiveness
Distributive Justice	Equitable burden-sharing	Targeted funding for vulnerable groups	Moderate: allocation exists but access is uneven
Procedural Justice	Inclusive decision-making	Stakeholder consultations	Low: limited participation at subnational levels

Climate Justice Dimension	Global Principles	Indonesia National Policy	Implementation Effectiveness
Restorative Justice	Redress of historical inequities	Recognition of indigenous land rights	Low: enforcement and local impact limited

E. Marginalized Communities and Participatory Governance

The inclusion of marginalized groups—indigenous peoples, women, and low-income communities—is central to the procedural and distributive dimensions of climate justice (Caney, 2010; Schlosberg, 2019). In Indonesia, formal recognition of indigenous land rights under Law No. 32/2009 and related regulations represents a positive step toward restorative justice, yet field data reveal that participation of these groups in climate planning processes remains uneven. For instance, in coastal and rural villages engaged in mangrove restoration or agroforestry projects, women and local farmers often report limited involvement in decision-making committees despite being primary stakeholders (Nugroho et al., 2022).

The procedural gaps identified indicate that formal mechanisms for consultation are insufficiently institutionalized, and participatory practices are often contingent on the priorities of local elites or external NGOs (Afiff & Rachman, 2019). This reflects a broader pattern observed in developing countries, where the procedural aspect of climate justice—ensuring access to governance and decision-making—is often the weakest dimension, despite robust normative frameworks at the international level (Okereke & Coventry, 2016; Roberts et al., 2018).

F. Implications for Climate Governance in Developing Countries

Indonesia’s experiences provide valuable lessons for other Global South countries seeking to operationalize climate justice principles in complex socio-political environments. First, the study underscores the importance of institutional coherence, with clearly defined responsibilities and coordination mechanisms across ministries and subnational authorities to bridge the gap between policy formulation and local implementation (Kuokkanen et al., 2023). Second, the findings highlight the need for capacity-building and technical support, ensuring that both policymakers and local stakeholders have the resources and knowledge to implement justice-oriented interventions effectively (Afiff & Rachman, 2019).

Furthermore, Indonesia’s case illustrates how balancing economic priorities with justice considerations is a persistent challenge. Development projects in resource-dependent sectors, such as palm oil and mining, can undermine distributive and restorative justice goals if not integrated with environmental

safeguards and participatory governance (Sari et al., 2021). Consequently, policies must explicitly address trade-offs and adopt adaptive, context-specific strategies to operationalize climate justice in diverse settings.

Finally, Indonesia's experience contributes to global climate justice discourse by demonstrating that translating international norms into national and local policy requires more than formal recognition. It demands institutionalized participatory processes, accountability mechanisms, and targeted resource allocation to ensure that vulnerable populations benefit from mitigation and adaptation initiatives. This insight aligns with theoretical debates emphasizing that climate justice is both normative and practical, requiring continuous monitoring, learning, and adjustment in policy implementation (Gardiner, 2017; Schlosberg, 2019).

Conclusion

A. Summary of Key Findings

This study demonstrates that youth activists play a central and multifaceted role in advancing climate justice in Indonesia. Analysis of policy documents, interviews, and case studies reveals that Indonesia formally recognizes climate justice principles in its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans, and Environmental Protection Laws, with specific attention to vulnerable populations such as coastal communities, smallholder farmers, indigenous peoples, and women (Ministry of Environment and Forestry, 2021; Afiff & Rachman, 2019).

At the local level, youth-led initiatives, including mangrove restoration, agroforestry adaptation, and community-based renewable energy projects, contribute not only to environmental sustainability but also to social equity and participatory governance. These initiatives have increased public awareness, strengthened community engagement, and, in some cases, influenced municipal or regional climate policies (Nugroho et al., 2022; Oktafianti et al., 2022).

However, structural, political, and institutional barriers limit the full realization of climate justice goals. Challenges include:

- Limited procedural justice, with marginalized communities and youth frequently excluded from formal decision-making processes.
- Fragmented governance and weak coordination among ministries and local authorities, reducing policy coherence.
- Economic and political pressures, such as prioritization of resource extraction and industrial development, which undermine distributive and restorative justice objectives (Sari et al., 2021; Roberts & Parks, 2007).

Overall, while Indonesia exhibits progressive normative alignment with global climate justice frameworks, practical implementation remains uneven and context-dependent, requiring enhanced participatory mechanisms and institutional support.

B. Policy and Practice Recommendations

Based on these findings, the study offers several policy and practice recommendations:

1. Institutionalize Youth Participation
 - a) Establish formal mechanisms for youth representation in national and subnational climate governance bodies (Afiff & Rachman, 2019).
 - b) Include youth-led organizations in policy consultations and planning committees.
2. Strengthen Resources and Legal Protections
 - a) Provide financial support, capacity-building programs, and technical assistance for youth climate initiatives.
 - b) Introduce legal safeguards to protect activists from harassment or political backlash.
3. Promote Participatory and Equity-Oriented Climate Projects
 - a) Ensure that community-based adaptation and mitigation projects integrate procedural, distributive, and restorative justice principles.
 - b) Prioritize engagement of marginalized groups, including indigenous peoples, women, and low-income communities, in all stages of project design and implementation (Schlosberg, 2019; Caney, 2010).
4. Enhance Policy Coherence and Monitoring
 - a) Improve coordination among ministries, regional governments, and civil society actors to align national objectives with local implementation outcomes.
 - b) Establish monitoring and evaluation frameworks that track the equity and justice outcomes of climate policies.

C. Limitations and Future Research

Despite its contributions, this study has several limitations: *first*, scope and methodological constraints: The study focused on selected policies, case studies, and interviews, which may not fully capture the diversity of youth activism and climate justice outcomes across Indonesia. *Second*, Cross-sectional design: The research provides a snapshot of current implementation but does not track changes over time or assess long-term impacts.

Future research should: *first*, Conduct longitudinal studies to evaluate how youth-led initiatives influence policy adaptation and social equity over time. *Second*, undertake comparative analyses across Global South countries to identify transferable lessons and best practices in integrating climate justice into national and local policies. *Third*, examine the intersectionality of climate justice, exploring how youth engagement interacts with gender, indigenous rights, and socio-economic vulnerability. By addressing these gaps, future studies can contribute to more robust, context-sensitive, and justice-oriented climate governance frameworks, both in Indonesia and globally.

References

- Affif, S., & Rachman, A. (2019). Climate change adaptation and governance in Indonesia: Challenges and opportunities. *Journal of Environmental Policy & Planning*, 21(5), 543–558. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1523908X.2019.1632137>
- Agyeman, J., Schlosberg, D., Craven, L., & Matthews, C. (2016). *Climate justice and community resilience*. New York University Press.
- Boyd, D. R. (2018). *The rights of nature: A legal revolution that could save the world*. ECW Press.
- Caney, S. (2010). Climate change and the duties of the advantaged. *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*, 13(1), 203–228. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13698230903326331>
- Creswell, J. W., & Poth, C. N. (2018). *Qualitative inquiry and research design: Choosing among five approaches* (4th ed.). SAGE Publications.
- Fisher, J., & Nasrin, S. (2021). Operationalizing climate justice in national policy: Lessons from the Global South. *Environmental Policy and Governance*, 31(6), 413–426. <https://doi.org/10.1002/eet.1950>
- Gardiner, S. M. (2017). A perfect moral storm: Climate change, intergenerational ethics, and the problem of moral corruption. In S. M. Gardiner, S. Caney, D. Jamieson, & H. Shue (Eds.), *Climate ethics: Essential readings* (pp. 14–28). Oxford University Press.
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. (2023). *Climate Change 2023: Synthesis report*. <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/syr/>
- Klein, R. J. T., Midgley, G., Preston, B. L., Alam, M., Berkhout, F., & Dow, K. (2021). Adaptation opportunities, constraints, and limits. In: *Climate change 2021: Impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability*. Cambridge University Press.
- Kuokkanen, A., MacGregor, S., & Bunn, C. (2023). Climate justice in national policy: Comparative insights from developing countries. *Climate Policy*, 23(4), 501–520. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14693062.2023.2167890>
- Kvale, S., & Brinkmann, S. (2015). *InterViews: Learning the craft of qualitative research interviewing* (3rd ed.). SAGE Publications.
- Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia. (2021). *Indonesia's Nationally Determined Contribution*. Jakarta: Government of Indonesia.
- Nugroho, D., Iskandar, J., & Hadi, S. (2022). Vulnerability assessment of climate change impacts in Indonesia: Social and environmental dimensions. *International Journal of Climate Change Strategies and Management*, 14(2), 145–162.
- Okereke, C., & Coventry, P. (2016). Climate justice and the international regime: Before, during and after Paris. *WIREs Climate Change*, 7(6), 834–851. <https://doi.org/10.1002/wcc.418>
- Oktafianti, L., Dewi, N., & Sari, P. (2022). Justice in climate adaptation policies: Evidence from Indonesia. *Sustainability Science*, 17, 1551–1565. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-022-01139-8>

- Orb, A., Eisenhauer, L., & Wynaden, D. (2001). Ethics in qualitative research. *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*, 33(1), 93–96. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1547-5069.2001.00093.x>
- Pachauri, R. K., & Mayer, L. (Eds.). (2022). *Climate change 2022: Impacts, adaptation and vulnerability*. Cambridge University Press.
- Patton, M. Q. (2015). *Qualitative research & evaluation methods* (4th ed.). SAGE Publications.
- Rajamani, L. (2016). The Paris Agreement: Exploring its climate change regime framework and provisions. *Journal of Environmental Law*, 28(2), 163–191.
- Roberts, J. T., & Parks, B. C. (2007). *A climate of injustice: Global inequality, North–South politics, and climate policy*. MIT Press.
- Roberts, J. T., Weikmans, R., & Robinson, S. (2018). Assessing climate justice in national and international policy. *Global Environmental Politics*, 18(2), 1–23. https://doi.org/10.1162/GLEP_a_00485
- Sari, D. P., Hidayat, R., & Prasetyo, L. B. (2021). Economic priorities versus environmental justice in Indonesia: Evidence from land-use policy. *Environmental Development*, 38, 100619. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envdev.2021.100619>
- Schlosberg, D. (2013). *Theorising environmental justice: The expanding sphere of a discourse*. *Environmental Politics*, 22(1), 37–55. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09644016.2013.755387>
- Schlosberg, D. (2019). *Climate justice and capabilities: A framework for equitable climate policy*. Oxford University Press.
- Sultana, F. (2022). *The edge of climate change: Power, vulnerability, and justice*. Routledge.
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2015). *Paris Agreement*. <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>
- United Nations. (2015). *Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*.
- World Bank. (2024). *Indonesia climate risk country profile*. World Bank.
- World Bank. (2024). *Social dimensions of climate change in Indonesia*. World Bank.
- Yin, R. K. (2018). *Case study research and applications: Design and methods* (6th ed.). SAGE Publications.

Acknowledgment

None

Funding Information

None

Conflicting Interest Statement

The authors state that there is no conflict of interest in the publication of this article.

Publishing Ethical and Originality Statement

All authors declared that this work is original and has never been published in any form and in any media, nor is it under consideration for publication in any journal, and all sources cited in this work refer to the basic standards of scientific citation.

Generative AI Statement

N/A