The Lighthouse Journal of Social Sciences, Vol. 04, Issue 2, Winter 2025, pp. 102-118

Examining the Lack of a Unified Global South Voice in Climate Discourse: An Eco-Feminist Perspective

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ABSTRACT

The climate crisis disproportionately impacts the Global South, yet its collective voice in international negotiations remains fragmented and marginalized. This paper examines the lack of a unified Global South voice through an eco-feminist lens, which connects gender equity with environmental justice. Eco-feminist theory argues that patriarchal and colonial structures have oppressed both women and nature, compounding climate injustice for the poor and marginalized in the Global South. Using qualitative analysis and two case studies, it analyzes how intersecting oppressions (gender, class, race, and colonial history) weaken Global South solidarity in climate forums. This paper finds that economic pressures, diverse vulnerabilities, and geopolitical dynamics all erode unity, while women and indigenous leaders are often sidelined. The paper concludes that an eco-feminist approach, empowering grassroots women's movements, valuing indigenous knowledge, and demanding equitable finance, can strengthen a collective Global South agenda. By centering the voices of women and frontline communities, and by reforming North-dominated climate institutions, the Global South can enhance its influence and pursue climate justice.

Keywords: *Global South Voice, Patriarchy, Eco-feminism, Environmental Justice, Inclusivity, Climate dialogue*

INTRODUCTION

The global climate discussion is heavily shaped by unequal power patterns, significantly influencing the international climate debate by the strongest group, coloring it in a way that tends to favor them. Primarily, the Global North sets the agenda on climate negotiations, which represents the interests of the rich countries, such as the European Union, the United States, and other developed nations. These nations take control of decision-making and blend on the solutions that suit their interests, such as technological breakthroughs, carbon trading, and market-based mechanisms. While these strategies can help in achieving the goals of reducing emissions, they do disregard the immediate needs and actual experiences of the vulnerable in the Global South (Jansen, 2008). The reasons why Global South countries in this discussion are different is their varied developmental agendas as well as political objectives, setbacks, and economic disparities

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Manuscript Submitted: November 14, 2025
Manuscript Accepted: December 30, 2025

The African, Asian, Pacific, and Latin American nations have negligible contributions to greenhouse gas emissions in the world, but are disproportionately affected by climate change. In global negotiations, their challenges, such as extreme weather, the absence of financial resources to deal with adaptation and mitigation, and food security, among others, are sidelined. However, the absence of a central voice in these countries also makes them less powerful, as the interests of these countries are shadowed by frameworks that are governed by the Global North (Agarwal, 2010).

Nevertheless, the Eco-feminist view brings the aspects of justice and gender to the ecology field due to the insufficiency of representation. The international climate debate usually fails to take into account other strategies that put more importance on equity and inclusiveness, as put forward by women and marginalized groups of the Global South. Eco-feminist perspective highlights the mutual relationship between systemic oppression, necessity, and the immediate pressing need to resolve the environmental and social disparity in favor of climate justice. These views have been sidelined, and the structural imbalance evident in climate change discourses has been supported since the spread of market-based strategies and technocratic solutions. There is also the absence of a unified voice of the Global South in the climate discussions, which indicates broader trends of colonial legacies and dependency (Anjum, & Aziz, 2025). Thus, history has illustrated how the Global North exploits the natural and human resources in the Global South, resulting in continuous climate inequalities. This paper argues that understanding climate negotiations through an eco-feminist lens reveals why fragmented Southern representation perpetuates injustice, and how empowering women and grassroots actors can help build a more inclusive, effective Global South voice.

Global climate policy is heavily influenced by unequal power dynamics that favor the Global North. Developed countries (e.g., the US, EU nations) dominate climate negotiations, promoting market-based and technological solutions that reflect their economic interests. As Jackson and Humphrey (2022) said, especially women of color, are more vulnerable to economic implications created by the climate crisis, which increases disparities between male and female wealth. In contrast, nations of the Global South (Africa, Latin America, Asia, Pacific Islands) contribute only a small fraction of global greenhouse gas emissions but suffer the worst climate impacts. For example, studies show (figure 1) that over 3.3 billion people live in countries classified as “very high” or “high” climate vulnerability, whereas only about 1.8 billion live in “low” vulnerability countries (Birkmann et al., 2022). Nearly all of those highly vulnerable populations are in the Global South (IPCC, 2022). This stark imbalance – 64% of the world’s people living in high-vulnerability nations underscores that climate risk is concentrated in poorer, often tropical regions. Yet the voices of these nations are often drowned out in global forums.

“Colonialism haunts the past, present, and future through climate”, the very communities least responsible for emissions suffer the greatest harms (Sultana, 2023). At the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), developing nations typically negotiate through groups (e.g., G-77/China, African Group, LDCs, SIDS), but these coalitions often lack coherence. Indeed, even within the G77’s 135 members, hold “differing interests” that compel individual countries to speak up on their behalf (UNFCCC, n.d.).

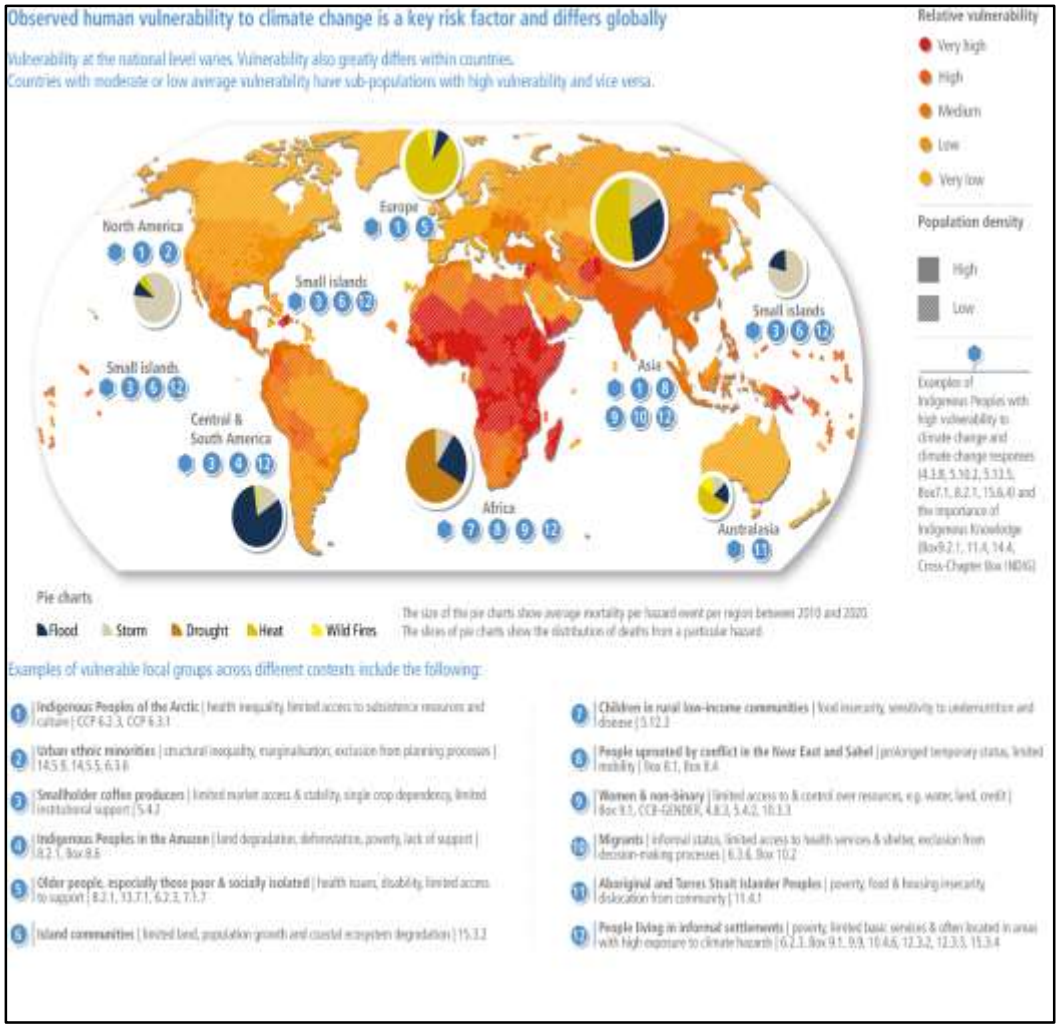


Figure 1: Global map of vulnerability: Source: (Birkmann et al., 2022)

The Global South's concerns are adaptation needs, loss and damage funding, and equitable development, routinely take a back seat to Northern priorities (e.g. carbon markets, clean technology). The lack of a unified Southern voice further weakens their bargaining power. As Agarwal (2010) notes, India, Brazil, South Africa, and other emerging economies share little in emissions but bear heavy impacts; without unity, their agendas are easily overshadowed by North-driven frameworks. Eco-feminism highlights how this dynamic is not coincidental: it roots climate inequity in centuries of colonial exploitation and patriarchal norms that marginalize both nature and women (Jackson & Humphrey, 2022). In particular, women in the Global South, who produce much of the region's food and manage scarce resources, are often excluded from decision-making at home and abroad. At the same time, climate injustice is not gender-neutral. Women globally, especially in poorer countries, bear disproportionate climate burdens and have historically been excluded from decision-making (UNFCCC, 2019). In concrete terms, women have intimate

knowledge of natural resource management (e.g., water, forests, agriculture) but often lack institutional voice. This paper applies an eco-feminist perspective to ask: Why is there no unified Global South voice in climate governance, and how do gender and social power shape this issue?

This paper employs a qualitative approach, reviewing scholarship and policy reports and examining illustrative cases. Two case studies are developed: (1) emerging powers India and South Africa, and (2) alliance groupings of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and the African Group. Each is analyzed for how gender and global-south solidarity play out in climate diplomacy. Examples from Latin America, Southeast Asia, and Indigenous movements to highlight how women and grassroots networks in those regions influence (or fail to influence) global climate debates have been integrated further. Throughout, an emphasis is placed on the "connected sources" cited as UNFCCC, UN agencies, think tanks, and media, etc., to ground the analysis in up-to-date evidence.

This background promotes the need to acquire an eco-feminist process in offering a frame that can help raise the voices of Global South countries to demand a more reasonable climate policy. Such a strategy considers the lack of a unified stance in this part of the globe. It aims to reveal the factors of an imbalance of power and institutional exclusions, which hampers the inclusiveness of climate governance. The possibility of the eco-feminist approach to cross the divides, establishing solidarity and cooperation in the Global South, while confronting the predominance of Global North narratives, is discussed in this paper.

What are the perspectives of Eco-feminism and its connection to Climate Change?

Eco-feminism is one of the theoretical and activist approaches, based on feminist ideologies as well as ecological thinking. It speaks against patriarchal values and systems that favor industrialization and financial growth in the international climate discourse. In addition, it claims that dominant systems oppress women, abuse the environment by neglecting their role, and address their issues in the context of climate change. Fundamentally, this theory brings into the limelight the gender inequalities, those relating to Women who live in peripheral societies and are particularly impacted by climate change because of their tasks as food producers, caregivers, resource managers, etc. In a great portion of the Global South, women have to acquire food, fuel, as well as water for their families, which puts them at greater risk during the time of the climate crisis. They are exposed to problems like deforestation, droughts, and Extreme weather patterns. Despite this, women tend to be left out of policies related to climate and resource vulnerabilities, which is systemic and promotes inequality and injustice by management (Gaard, 2015).

However, this strategy is applicable especially in the case of climate change since it highlights the impact on the overall solutions, covering both environmental and social injustice. It suggests revolutionary changes, promotes equitable sharing of ideas and resources, inclusion of local and indigenous knowledge, and resiliency of a community. It is relevant because it criticizes the authoritative discourse surrounding climate change (Jabeen, 2016). Another aspect that eco-feminist critique is based on is the idea of the participatory and inclusive approach to doing science, where the voice of those impacted most by the climate crisis should be heard. As an example, women-led environmental movements, viz. Chipko Movement and Green Belt

Movement in India and Kenya, respectively, proved the strength of a mass role in tackling environmental issues through community-based action (Guedes et al, 2024)

This approach calls for a thought-provoking development paradigms that prioritize profit over social well-being. It criticizes the extractive industries and consumer-driven economies, leading to climate vulnerabilities. Eco-feminism further promotes values of interdependence and reciprocity, providing a framework for defining nature's relationship with humanity in a way that promotes sustainability in the long run. It underscores the significance of recognizing women's role in creating a resilient and adaptive community and empowering them as agents of change (Dankelman, 2010). Thus, by integrating the eco-feminist perspectives into the policies and practices of climate change, it becomes possible to address the root causes of social inequality and environmental degradation, paving the way for a more inclusive future.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The term Global South broadly refers to Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean regions that share colonial histories and development challenges. It emphasizes a collective identity of countries that, despite internal diversity, often face common pressures: low incomes, high vulnerability, and marginalization in international decision-making. After decolonization, many of these nations organized through mechanisms like the Non-Aligned Movement and the G77 (founded in 1964) to amplify their interests (Kumar, 2025). Today, the G77+China (currently 134 members) is the principal bloc of developing countries in the UN system, intended to coordinate "common negotiating positions" on issues including climate change (UNFCCC, n.d.).

Since the Industrial Revolution between 1760 and 1840, the scientific evidence concerning climate change has been alarming for the world. It was due to the density of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, 280 parts per million. Humans began burning coal, oil, and gas to produce energy and provide transportation, and fuel machinery. However, this carbon dioxide gradually increased until 1900 when global temperatures, such as greenhouse gases, began to skyrocket. This led to ecological consequences in the past years. By summer 2012, half of the Arctic region's sea ice had vanished, and in May 2013, Hawaii's Mauna Loa Observatory recorded the carbon dioxide levels at 400 ppm. This exceeded all the historical records and continued to increase at a pace of 2 ppm each year. The consequences led to rising sea levels, melting ice sheets, extreme weather, and receding glaciers, accelerated species migrations or extinctions, and the spread of insect-borne diseases, etc. (Risemberg, 2024).

Moreover, the planet's most developed states, such as China, the US, Russia, and India, have paved the way to the highest emissions. Canada, Australia, Saudi Arabia, and the US lead with the highest per capita emissions, 75-80%. Thus, such effects of climate change will be extensively felt by the global south, considered as the 2/3rd of the world. These effects are harsh because of the material poverty, such as the weaker infrastructure in terms of housing, food security, clean water, health care, and disaster preparedness (Sultana, 2023). Moreover, when households experience food shortages that become more frequent due to climate change, women are the first to go without food so that their men and children can eat. Such women are left behind

with agricultural and additional household activities and have fewer resources to cope with the seasonal weather and episodic and natural disasters.

Amid such impacts of climate change, women are indeed the ones most severely affected by it. According to the International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) "CARE", women produce half of the world's food, work two-thirds of the world's working hours, and earn 10% of the world's income. However, the structural barriers of gender have led women and children among the world's poorest people because of climate change. Gender roles around the world restrict women's mobility and impose tasks associated with caregiving and the production of food, while simultaneously obstructing them from participating in the decision-making processes about climate change, such as decisions about adaptation, mitigation, and greenhouse gas emissions (Anjum & Aziz, 2025).

Children and Women are 14 times more likely to give up on their lives due to ecological disasters than men. Gender inequality has not allowed such women to raise their voices. Due to their limited roles and not being social and aware, they often become victims. For instance, in the 1991 flood and cyclone in Bangladesh, 90% of women became victims. There were multiple causes of this, including women who were confined to their homes and were not informed of the warnings. Secondly, they were not trained on how to escape in such circumstances; however, while struggling to escape from the floods, they have often been seen to escape from the floods while holding their infants and towing elderly members of the family. Thirdly, it has been reported that their husbands escape alone without helping their wives. Besides this, the fear of sexual harassment or assault has made women wait longer in their homes to leave in such circumstances. Women seem to hope their men would return to help them escape in such conditions (Rocheleau et al, 1996). Similarly, in 2004, a Tsunami in Aceh, Sumatra, more than 75% of the casualties were reported out of which the majority were women. This evidence is witness to the fact that women suffer a lot due to climate change and thus remain deprived of their unified voice in the climate discourse.

Scholars in the climate discourse argue that colonial legacies, structural inequalities in international relations, and economic dependencies have limited the ability of the Global South to project their unified voice in the international climate negotiations. In this regard, the eco-feminist approach is critical and thus assesses the overlaps of environmental justice, gender, and the Global South marginalization within the discourse on climate. This theory associates the patriarchal systems with environmental degradation, as well as pointing to the fact that marginalized groups, especially women of the Global South, face the repercussions of environmental problems (Patel, 2024). Nevertheless, such a method refutes the close connection between the exploitation of natural resources, women, and Indigenous people, mainly in the Global South.

The Global South comprises diverse nations with varying social, economic, and environmental priorities. However, the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) advocate for urgent initiatives on climate adaptation, and emerging economies like Brazil and India prioritize economic growth over demanding climate measures. Such fragmentation weakens the bargaining power of the Global South in the climate debate. Therefore, eco-feminists argue that this epistemic injustice impacts women who are often the custodians of traditional ecological knowledge in the

Global South region. As discussed earlier, the Global South is dependent on the Global North; their dependency also includes aid and investment, limiting their ability to challenge the dominant climate narratives. However, studies show that this dependency reinforces a neo-colonial relationship that sidelines the grassroots movements advocating for the principles of eco-feminism, consisting of social justice and sustainability (Lawrence et al., 2023).

If we see the contributions of eco-feminism to climate discourse, this framework highlights the gendered impacts of climate change. Women are affected by climate-induced disasters due to their roles in water collection, agriculture, and caregiving. Therefore, the main argument of eco-feminism is that incorporating women's experiences and voices can enrich climate policies and foster inclusive solutions. This perspective promotes climate policies advocated by women while addressing the intersections of gender, class, race, and colonial legacies that account for systemic inequalities. In addition, decolonizing the climate discourse and integrating diverse knowledge systems can amplify the voices of the marginalized (Madhanagopal et al., 2022).

The literature also emphasizes the significance of the research paradigm, as the eco-feminist perspective also combines global climate governance theory to analyze the factors contributing to the lack of a unified Global South Voice concerning the climate debate. The global climate governance is dominated by the Global North, such as the United Nations Framework Convention Change (UNFCCC) and other concerning institutions that set the agenda. The key concepts of this theory include: Global North wields dominancy due to the technological and economic influence, secondly the principle of "Common but Differentiated Responsibilities" often divides the Global South, and thirdly the institutional barriers such as Structural and Procedural constraints limit the meaningful participation of the grassroots organizations and nations of the Global South at international forums (Schneid, 2025).

In line with this theory, the significance of global climate governance has become increasingly important, leading to a contest among the countries for discursive power in this domain. The major international actors, notably the US, European Union, and China, have engaged in intensive strategic competition across the sectors relating to carbon neutrality, including the standards, energy, regulations, and governance system development. However, considering the current intensity of the status of the global climate governance, the influence exerted by the individual countries in this field directly affected the establishment of regulations, mechanisms, and standards finally influencing the attainment of the Paris Agreement (legally binding international treaty, limiting global warming and its effects, adopted in 2015). Therefore, in the framework of carbon neutrality, this theory holds significant theoretical and practical implications for assessing the equity and effectiveness of the existing climate governance mechanisms (Shiva, 2019).

Despite the global south bearing the brunt of climate change, the existing literature leaves a significant gap in understanding how eco-feminist perspectives can unify and empower the voice of the global south in climate discourse. While there is significant research on the impacts of climate change projecting gendered vulnerabilities, there is a lack of attention to the fragmented nature of the Global South. Under the subject of eco-feminism perspective, the main focus of this

study lies on the hegemonic position of the global north, which has contributed to the systemic disadvantages of the global south and has barred the creation of a common eco-feminist voice in the international climate negotiations (Onu, 2025).

Concisely, the lack of a cohesive and collective voice from the Global South in climate negotiations is evident, stemming from disunity and resulting in disparities in addressing the crisis. The historical political, economic, and social disparities are further worsened by neo-colonial and patriarchal structures. In this context, the support of the eco-feminist perspective offers a radical paradigm aimed at amplifying the neglected voices of the Global South. Typically, this can be achieved by emphasizing the lived experiences of those most affected by climate change. However, disruptions to established paradigms challenge the development of more inclusive and equitable climate policies and unity. It is crucial not only to bridge the justice gap but also to address the gap among people regarding the effectiveness of international climate policy. Additionally, beyond the absence of a unified voice from the Global South, this region must work to break down barriers and assert its potential as a strong force for an inclusive global climate agenda.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this section, the researcher provides an outline of the research methods to be used in this study. Where the climate discourse intersects with the problems and issues of the Global South, and Theme enters the issues of eco-feminism. Thus, a qualitative research method supplemented with discourse analysis and case studies has been used in order to obtain a detailed understanding of the subject.

Research Approach

An in-depth exploration of complex and interrelated information has taken place through the use of qualitative data. This study best fits the chosen approach since it examines the marginalized voices and power relations that form part of the research.

Research Design

The research design consists of exploratory and interpretive methods. The exploratory method is adopted to uncover the root causes of the lack of a unified Global South voice in the climate discourse, the interpretive method is used to analyze the interplay between theories like eco-feminism and global climate governance, and some part of post-colonial legacies.

Secondary Data

The data has been collected through secondary sources, including document analysis, existing literature, Reports, Journal Articles, and online material. This also includes case studies as examples to provide pieces of evidence for the lack of a unified global south voice in the climate discourse, adding more significance to the research.

Limitations of the Research

Due to limited access to grassroots activists in remote areas and high-level negotiators, the interviews and direct surveys could not be conducted. There were challenges to ensure representation from all regions of the Global South.

DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As discussed earlier, the climate crisis disproportionately impacts the Global South, yet the collective voice remains fragmented on this issue. This section explores the structural barriers that hinder a unified Global South perspective, the influence of eco-feminism in shaping climate justice narratives, and the impact of neo-colonial influences. To better understand the problem, two case studies are presented that demonstrate the lack of a unified voice in the global climate discourse. Nonetheless, this discussion emphasizes the need for a representative and cohesive climate agenda for the Global South.

Case Study 1: Divergent Priorities in Climate Negotiations – India and South Africa

India and South Africa are significant players in the Global South, representing large populations and diverse socio-economic landscapes. Both are among the most vulnerable countries to the climate change impacts. However, historically, both have had differing priorities and approaches in the international climate negotiations. Lack of a Unified Voice:

India, with its growing population, focusing on poverty alleviation, has often emphasized the principle of "common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities" (CBDR-RC), advocated for developed countries, providing greater financial and technological support to developing nations, and to take the lead in emissions reductions. Their primary focus has always been to ensure climate action that does not impede their developmental goals. South Africa, heavily reliant on coal for its energy production and employment, faced significant challenges in transitioning to cleaner sources of energy. However, while acknowledging the need for climate action, their negotiations have often centered on securing just transition pathways addressing socio-economic concerns, and that requires substantial international support. While advocating for the global south, both countries have also been subject to diplomatic pressures and strategic alliances with developed countries. This sometimes leads to nuanced or divergent stances on specific issues within the broader agenda of the Global South. Thus, the influence of developed nations over these countries can dilute the unified messaging on issues like technology transfer and climate finance (Erbil, 2025).

There is a need for an eco-feminist approach in both India and South Africa, where women in rural and marginalized communities are often the primary managers of natural resources, disproportionately affected by climate change and environmental degradation. Their ecological and traditional knowledge and experiences are often overlooked in the national climate policies and negotiations at the global level (Singh & Singh 2025). Therefore, an eco-feminist approach would emphasize centering the voices of marginalized women while ensuring their participation in decision-making processes concerning climate mitigation and adaptation. This approach also

recognizes the gendered vulnerabilities, addressing the specific ways in which climate change impacts the livelihoods of women and their health and safety. The integration of traditional ecological knowledge, incorporating and valuing women's knowledge of sustainable resource management, can significantly raise the voices of the Global South in the climate discourse. In brief, promoting gender-responsive climate policies, by designing and implementing climate actions, can address gender inequalities and empower women (Indigenous Climate Hub, 2021).

India and South Africa grapple with the severe impacts of climate change, including extreme weather events, threats to agricultural livelihoods, and water scarcity, disproportionately affecting the marginalized communities, primarily women. However, the differing priorities in international negotiations can sometimes hinder their ability to collectively advocate for the specific needs and vulnerabilities of such populations.

Case Study 2: Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and the African Group - Varying Vulnerabilities and Advocacy Strategies

The small Island Developing States (SIDS), primarily located in the Pacific, Indian Ocean, and the Caribbean, face existential threats from extreme weather events and sea-level rise. The African group is a large and diverse bloc of nations with a wide range of climate vulnerabilities, such as desertification, drought, and insecurity of food.

Lack of a Unified Voice

Although both the African Group and SIDS press developed countries to take more climate action, they can vary in terms of the strategy applied in their advocacy and the main issues of concern, because the nature of vulnerability varies. The SIDS tend to focus on the matters of loss, damage, and the necessity of immediate emissions reduction to guarantee their very existence. Although the African Group shares concerns about these issues, it is possible to assume that the Group talks more about adaptation measures, as the challenges are varied on the continent, and financing climate development (Singh, 2024).

However, SIDS are under a looming threat of losing the cultural heritage that they possess due to rising sea levels, whereas parts of Africa are undergoing a theme of rising desertification, limited access to water, worsening social and economic inequalities, and displacement, especially of women. Therefore, there is a need for an Eco-feminist approach in both African nations and SIDS. Women possess crucial knowledge about the local ecosystems, community resilience, and adaptation strategies, vital for addressing the specific climate changes in their regions. As discussed earlier, climate-related displacement and scarcity of resources can disproportionately affect women, which increases their vulnerability to violence, lack of access to essential services, and food insecurity. However, these gendered dimensions have been highlighted through the lens of eco-feminism. Therefore, it is necessary to empower women through education, participation in decision-making, and access to resources to strengthen community resilience to climate change impacts (UN Women, 2024).

In line with the negotiating power and influence, the sheer number of countries in the African Group provides it a significant negotiating power on international platforms. However, the diverse priorities and needs within the group can sometimes make it challenging to present a completely unified stance on all the issues related to climate. SIDS, while highly unified and vocal on the issue of survival, may have less overall negotiating leverage due to their smaller size and economic influence. Therefore, different regions within the Global South may have varying types and levels of engagement with the developed nations, to influence their negotiation positions and thus potentially create divisions within the broader coalition (ILGAZ, 2012).

By examining these case studies, it can be seen how the Global South, while united in its call for greater action on climate and justice, faces the internal complexities and varying priorities, hindering the formation of a completely unified voice in international climate discourse. Therefore, an eco-feminist approach is essential to ensure that the needs and perspectives of marginalized communities, significantly women, are central to climate solutions and that their agency and knowledge are valued and recognized in the pursuit of a sustainable and just future.

Eroding Structural Barriers: Advocating for a Unified Global South Voice in Climate Negotiations through the Lens of Eco-feminism

The economic disparities and developmental Pressures divide the developed and developing nations, significantly hampering the ability of the Global South to present a unified stance on the policies of climate change. Countries in South Asia, Africa, and Latin America are often burdened with economic instability, developmental imperatives, and debt dependency that limit their negotiating power at climate forums internationally (Birkmann et al, 2022). The internal conflicts among the Global South nations occurred due to the prioritization of economic growth over environmental sustainability, making it difficult to establish a consensus on the climate commitments.

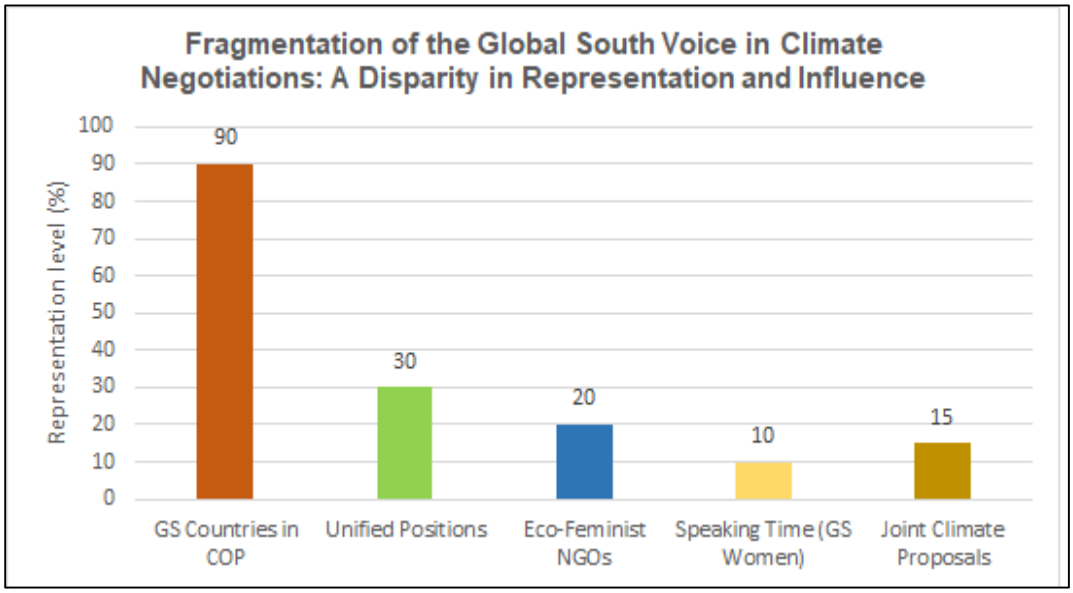


Figure 2: Source: Compiled by Author from various sources

Figure 2 shows a significant gap between the potential and actual influence of the Global South in global climate discussions. While nearly 90% of countries in the Global South participate in climate summits like COP, only 30% adopt unified positions, and even fewer, just 15%, submit joint climate proposals. Representation of eco-feminist NGOs remains critically low at 20%, and women from the Global South are given just 10% of speaking time despite their frontline role in climate resilience. This fragmentation greatly weakens the region's collective bargaining power (UNDP, 2022). The exclusion of grassroots and gender-diverse voices, especially women leaders, further silences key climate actors (GAGGA, 2021). These disparities highlight the urgent need for more inclusive, coordinated, and fair representation of the Global South in shaping global climate policies.

Further, the political fragmentation and geo-political influences have also led to impeding the collective action. In addition, action impediment has also been caused by the political fragmentation and geopolitical directions. The Global South is not a unified place but quite opposite; it has political diversity and historical tensions. As an example, India and Brazil, which are both members of the emerging economies under the BRICS umbrella, tend to differ in their climate priorities with the smaller island states in the Pacific region in regard to the need to adopt more radical mitigation policies. Also, climate position is affected by the geopolitical allegiances with superpowers such as the US and China, which makes the position uneven in policies. Besides, the institutional exclusion in climate governance indicates that in most cases, it narrows down promoting Western agendas by sidelining the views of the global south, such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC, 2019). In this way, the inability to have financial independence and overall the underrepresentation in the decision-making boards has also undermined the presence of such countries in the development of climate plans at a global level.

Following the Climate Negotiations and their Advocacy in the Global South, the Paris Agreement in 2015 was considered a massive incursion toward international climate action, but its execution shows the marginalization of the region in the burden-sharing context. Such nations as Tuvalu and Bangladesh advocated damages and greater losses, but their needs were watered down because they faced objections from richer states. There is no enforceable commitment on climate finance, which has also helped spread systemic marginalization. However, the movement of African climate justice as known as the Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), advocates for climate justice. Nevertheless, through policy advocacy and grassroots mobilization, PACJA has challenged the extra-activist policies and called Global North for financial accountability (ATACH Community, n.d.) Despite such efforts, African nations continue to struggle with securing climate funds for mitigation and adaptation strategies. Moreover, Latin America's role in climate activism is also noticeable. The indigenous and feminist groups in Latin America opposing deforestation in the Amazon highlighted the intersection of human rights and environmental issues. The Escazu agreement, considered a landmark treaty for environmental defenders, has represented a step forward, yet its enforcement remains a challenge due to the region's political instability (Cepal, 2018).

Nevertheless, the eco-feminist theory highlights the gendered impacts of climate change and emphasizes the disproportionate burden of environmental degradation on women. The climate-induced disasters, such as floods and droughts, exacerbate gender inequalities in such a way that increases the workload on women in securing food, water, and energy resources. In rural South Asia and Africa, women are subsistence farmers and primary caregivers, making them more vulnerable to climate shocks (Agarwal, 2010). Feminist political ecology and resistance movements play a pivotal role in climate change discourse, such as the Green Belt Movement in Kenya and the Chipko Movement in India, as discussed earlier, were women-led environmental movements exemplifying the grassroots resistance against ecological exploitation (Shiva, 2019). These movements emphasize the fact that eco-feminist activism in the global south is based on social equity as well as on environmental justice and opposed to the patriarchal and capitalistic systems that maintain ecological destruction. Moreover, indigenous knowledge systems play a very important role in the eco-feminist view of climate resilience. Old ecological approaches, such as water handiness measures and permaculture, are viable ecological substitutes to highly exploitative industrial technologies. Nevertheless, such practices tend to be dismissed in mainstream climate policies, which are ruled by technocratic solutions of the Global North.

Policy Recommendations

In a desire for a more just, equitable, and inclusive society in the international climate discourse, intersectional climate policies, the inclusion of gender, economic, and social aspects should also be encouraged. This involves the role of representing and prioritizing the distinctive experience of women, Indigenous and rural people of the Global South, at international negotiation tables. Inclusive representation should be boosted as well, and this means supporting disadvantaged and women's groups to be represented in the climate decision-making processes. Women's empowerment can be done by establishing resources to access funds as well as capacity builders. Through these efforts, women leaders and grassroots activists are in a position to contribute more to international climate platforms. Also, South-South cooperation needs strengthening to have a common bargaining power and come up with common strategies during climate negotiations.

However, closer cooperation can be strengthened through regional alliances stressing the importance of eco-feminism, including the principles of gender equity, environmental justice, and sustainable development. Moreover, systemic inequalities in global climate governance have to be discussed as well. It involves recommending changes that disrupt structural prejudices that relegate the voices of women and the global South, favoring access to technology resources and climate funds. These should be made sure that they reach women-led initiatives and vulnerable communities.

In addition, the entwining of traditional knowledge systems is also another important strategy. The climate change strategies must be guided by the policies that acknowledge the wisdom of indigenous and local women, including them in climate adaptation and mitigation policies. The importance and need to preserve traditional ecological practices will aid sustainability through local experience. Eco-feminist mobilizations on environmental justice and gender justice can be further enhanced through grassroots mobilizations. Forums like community

conversations can help women shape the policy formations and air out their concerns. Enlightenment campaigns and educational activities that expose the interruption of climate change, socio-economic imbalances, and gender issues should also be essential.

Investments in creating awareness can be made in order to bring to light the role of women in climate resilience and advocacy. Moreover, to strengthen accountability, the development of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms that help control the work of gender-responsive climate policies should be provided. Policy outcomes and openness in assigning funds to climate finance developments are vital, ensuring that the marginalized voices feature in assessments. Lastly, gender-sensitive measures about policies to deal with climate change can be enhanced. International advocacy in the form of ensuring accountability in international agreements, such as the Paris Accord, as well as collaborating with global eco-feminist groups to bring awareness to women's issues in the Global South. Thus, taking into consideration such policy issues, climate debates can be made more equitable, representative, and consider all existing realities and experiences of the Global South in the light of eco-feminism

CONCLUSION

The background that results in the absence of a coherent voice of the Global South in the deliberations concerning climate, as discussed in the above analysis through the prism of eco-feminism, reveals a messy interplay of historical legacies, prevailing power imbalances, and different priorities of different nations. Lack of a key and coherent voice of the Global South has grave implications in shaping climate justice and the effectiveness of global climate agreements in general. Nevertheless, without full participation of the different experiences, innovative solutions, and traditional ecological knowledge of the Global South in international climate negotiations, the results are bound to be inadequate and unjust. The tendency to continue the dominance of the perspectives mostly preconditioned by the historical emitters of the Global North suppresses the needs and particular vulnerabilities of people standing on the frontlines of climate change, and thus prevents the arrival of fair and efficient solutions.

Briefly, political fragmentation, economic divisions as well as institutional imbalances lack a unified Global South voice in climate negotiations. Eco-feminist approach to climate injustice underscores the intersectionality and focuses on the concepts of indigenous knowledge and gender roles in the creation of sustainable solutions to climate injustice. Thus, setting up South-South collaboration and implementing inclusive policies represent significant measures that should be made in order to enhance climate justice. This will assist in ensuring that the interests of the Global South are represented adequately on the international stage.

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