

Project Plan Summary: Environment & ESCR (2021-2022)

The Network-wide Project on Environment & ESCR aims to advance three priority areas in 2021-2022: Climate Justice; Land & Oceans, Biodiversity Protection and Human Rights; and Right to a Healthy Environment. We facilitate human rights based collective action to challenge the structural drivers of environmental destruction and the climate crisis, and promote systemic solutions and alternatives which center the interests of people and the planet, foregrounding the analysis and leadership of social movements and frontline communities. This is an area of work which traverses multiple working groups, in particular, the Corporate Accountability Working Group; the Economic Policy Working Group; the Strategic Litigation Working Group and the Women & ESCR Working Group.

We engage in collective advocacy, litigation, campaigns and member-to member capacity building.

Specific Activities (2021-2022) (in collaboration with different Working Groups, as relevant)

Climate Justice

A Just and Equitable Transition

- Briefing note on a just and equitable transition from a human rights perspective
- Event on Systemic Alternatives (to inform a report on evidence based examples of positive alternatives)
- Briefing on care work and climate justice
- Using different strategies (support for norm development, advocacy, litigation and mutual learning) to strengthen and implement the human rights to self-determination, participation, information, consent as well as land related rights, to support the ability of Indigenous Peoples and local communities to advance alternatives towards a just and equitable transition as well as try and create an environment where climate solutions do not violate human rights

Addressing the economic, social, cultural and environmental rights (ESCER) impacts of the climate crisis

- Advocacy position paper targeting States, grounded in consultations (including via dedicated consultations
 with social movement members and members in the MENA region, cross-regional consultations
 welcoming all members and consultations with a few key allied human rights decision-makers and mandate
 holders) as well as case studies, and articulating concrete recommendations (accompanied by a clear plan
 for advocacy and action)
- Short background note (breaking down and connecting key relevant concepts from the climate justice and human rights frameworks) targeting climate and human rights advocates
- Climate finance focused event with members and partners targeting decision-makers (April-May 2021)
- Initial Days of Action, potentially evolving into a campaign

Corporate Accountability

- Corporate Capture & Climate Justice comic episode as part of an ongoing comic series on corporate capture, as well accompanying short evidence-based policy paper
- Day of action to shine a spotlight on corporate capture and how it impedes effective action to address the

- climate crisis
- Short position paper on how to strengthen corporate accountability in relation to environment/climate as regards the draft binding treaty on business and human rights
- Third-party case intervention(s) at the intersection of climate justice and corporate accountability (potentially-depends on evolving cases and member consensus to take up a case)
- Litigation workshop focused on climate justice and human rights, and including cases targeting both States and Non-State actors
- Three or four contributions to ESCR-Net's caselaw database (case summaries) at the intersection of climate change, human rights and corporate accountability.

Land & Oceans, Biodiversity Protection and Human Rights

- Collective submission to CESCR on the General Comment on Land, if there would be strategic value in doing so
- Network-wide event on 'Securing Land Rights for People & the Planet'; Land advocacy document including on climate considerations
- Op-ed and other advocacy advancing the arguments in the Batwa case in discussion with the primary litigators
- Op-ed or other targeted advocacy action in relation to protecting rights of Indigenous Peoples and other land dependent communities in the context of protected areas, targeting post 2020 Convention Biological Diversity framework negotiations in 2021

Right to a Healthy Environment

- Network-wide webinar on the Right to a Healthy Environment: Critical Perspectives from Regional and Constitutional Enforcement Efforts
- Support the Campaign for the Global Recognition of the Right to a Healthy Environment
- A cross-regional event on learnings around the Escazu Agreement led by members from Latin America
- An informal consultation with the Special Rapporteur on Toxics in relation to the impact of extractive industries on Indigenous Peoples.
- At least one case intervention in relation to the human right to a healthy environment (depends on evolving cases and member consensus)
- Three or four contributions to ESCR-Net's caselaw database-case summaries on the right to a healthy environment

If you would like access to the full project plan 2021-2022 (as a member of ESCR-Net), please email: jchowdhury@escr-net.org