

Learn more
through
concrete
examples!



The Right to the City is the right of all people, present and future, permanent and temporary, to inhabit, use, occupy, produce, govern, and enjoy just, inclusive, safe, and sustainable cities, villages, and human settlements, defined as commons essential to a full and decent life.



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A Right to the City view towards COP30

Leveraging community participation for mitigation plans and NDCs* implementation

- ★ Co-produced **local climate plans**;
- ★ Rescue and protect **Indigenous Peoples' knowledge** and practices;
- ★ Make climate discussions and **technical information more accessible** to the population.

Building the territorial components of the Global Goal of Adaptation

- ★ Co-produced **local adaptation plans**, centering in the communities including care-related services;
- ★ Mapping and harnessing **community-based and urban adaptation initiatives**;
- ★ Mobilizing **community-produced data** on risks and community-led early warning systems;
- ★ Frameworks and safeguards for communities against **climate-related displacement**, as well as human rights guarantees for relocation plans.

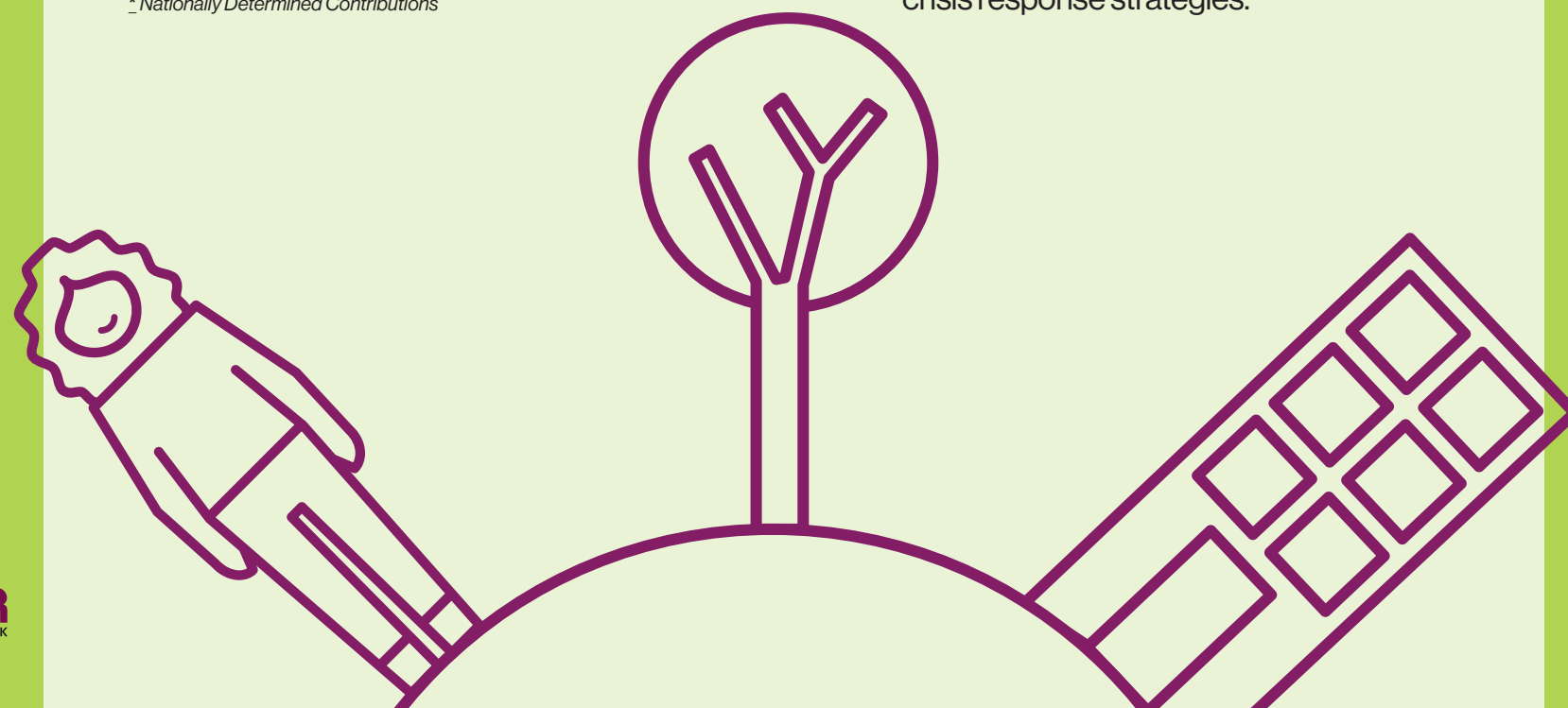
* Nationally Determined Contributions

Decentralizing and leveraging local climate finance for a transformative resilience pathway

- ★ **Localization of the loss and damage and adaptation funds** through local finance for community-led initiatives;
- ★ **Civil society oversight** of the multilateral climate finance mechanisms.

Towards a just transition: safeguarding the social and environmental function of basic services and ecosystems

- ★ **Deprivatization of basic services**, including energy, water, housing and mobility through remunicipalization strategies and public-community partnerships;
- ★ Support for **social and solidarity economy** initiatives, including waste-picking, food production and housing cooperatives;
- ★ Use of **local materials for housing** construction and rehabilitation of vacant buildings as part of climate mitigation and crisis response strategies.



Towards
a global
mutirão:

There's
no
Climate
Justice
without
the

Right
to the
City!



Global Platform
for the Right to
the City

As a network of diverse organizations committed to advancing social justice through the Right to the City, we join the global *mutirão* proposed by the COP 30 presidency to address and reverse the impacts of climate change.

Mutirão is a familiar term for housing justice movements, as, among other meanings, it is used to designate the strategies in which communities self-organize to collectively produce housing. For us, *mutirão* echoes a powerful vision that is centered on the action of communities, and the linkages with the territories in which climate action should be grounded and built upon.

Following such a spirit, we arrive in Belém with a clear position: centering climate action through the lenses of Climate Justice and the Right to the City.

A territorial and social justice view of the climate crisis

There is a growing consensus on the fundamental role played by cities and by urban-related issues within climate action. **Urbanised areas are responsible for 70% of GHG emissions and use 78% of the world's energy**, while accounting for just 2% of the land footprint (UN-Habitat, 2022). Meanwhile, **64% of the urban population is already highly exposed to disasters due to climate change effects** (UN-Habitat, 2024).

The integration between urban, territorial, and climate policies and strategies is evolving. For example: 66 percent of the 194 Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) - countries' efforts and commitments to reduce their national greenhouse gases emissions - presented before 27 June 2023 contain either a moderate or strong level of urban content (UN-Habitat, 2024). This is an advancement from the first wave of NDCs, but indicates the potential to deepen these linkages, particularly in terms of climate adaptation and risk response.

Why centering climate justice and the Right to the City?

The Climate Justice framework acknowledges the structural inequalities behind both the causes and effects of climate change, affecting vulnerable populations disproportionately, with these same populations having differentiated resources to adapt to these adverse effects. Climate change, thus, is also a social justice issue.

From the Global Platform for the Right to the City, we believe that the Right to the City lens has a lot to contribute to centering the climate crisis from a territorial and social justice perspective.

The Global Platform for the Right to the City is a network that brings together social movements, academics, international networks, NGOs and local governments committed to political action and social change through the promotion, defense and fulfillment of the Right to the City at all levels, specially to people and communities affected by exclusion and marginalization.

When applied to a climate justice approach, some key principles of the Right to the City include:



socio-spatial justice, protecting the social function of land and prioritizing the reparation of historically marginalized communities;



intersectional approaches acknowledging and combatting systemic inequalities;



alignment with human rights principles, through decentralization and strengthening of local democracy and local finance;



recognition and support of **community mobilization and self-management** through community-centered decision-making;



urban-rural linkages, supporting the collective management of common goods.