ADVANCING CLIMATE REPARATIONS FOR LOSS AND DAMAGE

Key Insights and Funding Opportunities from a Strategic Dialogue Between Philanthropic Institutions and Civil Society Organizations.





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Reparations Coalition

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ABOUT THE DIALOGUE



This report reflects a strategic dialogue held during the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York, bringing together philanthropic institutions and civil society organizations from the United States and Latin America to advance collective action on climate reparations and loss and damage.

The conversation focused on mobilizing resources, strengthening partnerships, and centering the leadership of communities most affected by the climate crisis.

OBJECTIVES OF THE DIALOGUE

Understand funding gaps
Explore the scale and nature of funding shortages for climate reparations and loss and damage in Latin America.

Identify opportunities for philanthropy
Highlight where and how philanthropic institutions can play a catalytic role.

Strengthen collaboration
Build bridges between U.S. and Latin American organizations to foster trust, learning, and long-term partnerships.

Advance community-led responses
Center the knowledge, priorities, and solutions of frontline communities and civil society leaders.

WORKSHOP ADVANCING CLIMATE



PURPOSE
To foster strategic alignment and resource mobilization that advances climate reparations and addresses loss and damage through equitable, community-led solutions.

PARTICIPANTS
Philanthropic institutions, and civil society organizations from the United States and across Latin America.

FOCUS
Climate reparations, loss and damage, funding gaps, philanthropic opportunities, collaboration, and community leadership.

CONVENING ORGANIZERS

HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG WASHINGTON, DC
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actionaid

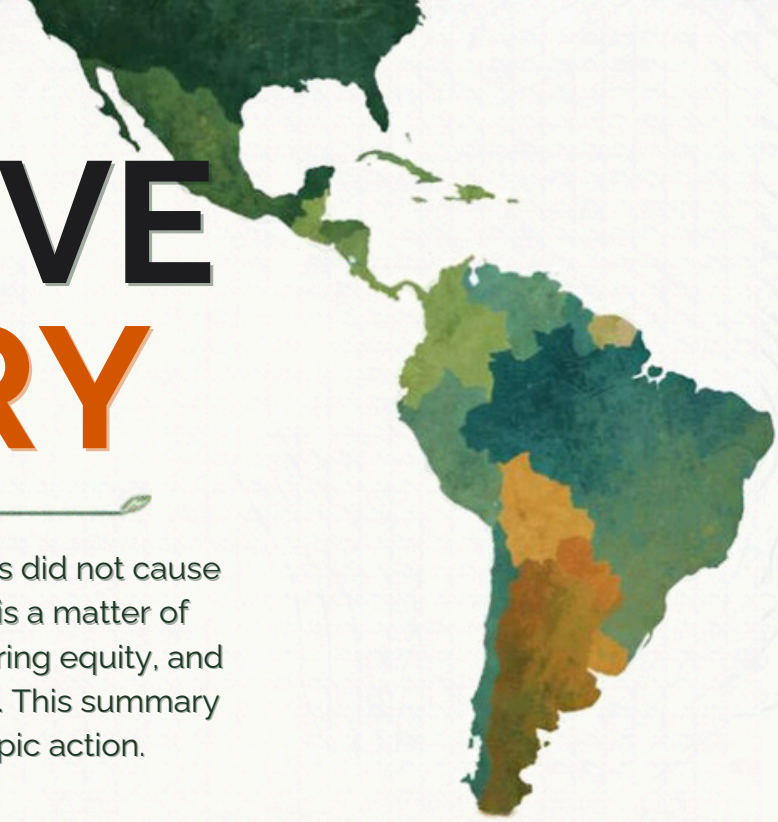
Rockefeller Brothers Fund
Philanthropy for an Interdependent World

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Climate change is causing harm that communities did not cause and cannot ignore. Addressing loss and damage is a matter of climate justice—recognizing responsibility, centering equity, and directing resources where they are most needed. This summary highlights four key messages to guide philanthropic action.

Climate impacts are escalating while resources for loss and damage remain insufficient.

Philanthropy has a unique opportunity to catalyze climate reparations and community-led responses.

Strong demand exists for deeper collaboration between U.S. and Latin American organizations.

Funding should prioritize frontline communities, movement building, and long-term systemic change.

CENTERING JUSTICE. INVESTING IN RESILIENCE. ADVANCING CLIMATE REPARATIONS.





ADRIAN MARTINEZ
- DIRECTOR -
LA RUTA DEL CLIMA

> **We can repair what climate harm has broken, through responsibility and cooperation. We look for partners to restore our homes and heal our land as we face climate change.**

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS FOR FUNDERS

Resource reparations and loss and damage in ways that drive justice, dignity, and lasting change.

CENTER FRONTLINE COMMUNITIES

Place the leadership, knowledge, and priorities of frontline communities at the heart of decisions and investments.

USE FLEXIBLE AND LONG-TERM FUNDING

Provide predictable, accessible, and long-term support that trusts communities to lead and adapt.

BUILD CROSS-BORDER COLLABORATION

Invest in solidarity and partnerships that strengthen regional learning, coordination, and mutual support.

INVEST IN SYSTEMIC CHANGE

Support solutions that address root causes, shift power, and build climate-just and equitable systems.

WHY THIS MATTERS FOR PHILANTHROPY

Communities across Latin America, the Caribbean, and increasingly within the United States are experiencing irreversible climate impacts—and the systems that created this crisis have a responsibility to repair it.



CLIMATE REPARATIONS ARE NOT SOLELY COMPENSATION. They are justice, power, and repair—centering communities, restoring relationships, and building a livable future.

THE REALITY

From rising seas in the Caribbean to prolonged droughts, wildfires, and extreme storms across the Americas, communities are facing:

- Displacement and loss of homes, territories, and cultural heritage
- Loss of livelihoods and economic opportunity
- Ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss
- Cultural and spiritual losses
- Threats to food and water security

THE IMPERATIVE

Climate reparations address the root causes and build the conditions for just and lasting solutions by:

Acknowledging historical responsibility
Recognizing that those who contributed most to the crisis must help repair its harms.

Strengthening community resilience
Investing in locally led solutions that protect people, ecosystems, and future generations.

Enabling self-determination
Respecting the right of communities to define their priorities and pathways.

Ensuring resources and decision-making power
Providing accessible, flexible funding and meaningful participation in decisions that shape their lives.

Why Philanthropy Matters in Climate Reparations

Philanthropy can advance climate reparations by supporting community-led initiatives, research and monitoring, pilot projects, and long-term movement building.

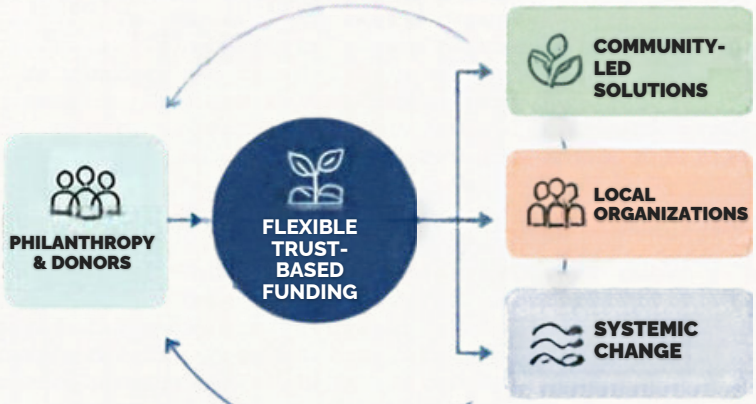


1. **Support solutions designed and led by affected communities**
2. **Bridge gaps left by insufficient public finance**
3. **Strengthen accountability and justice-focused climate action**
4. **Invest in long-term systemic change rather than short-term projects**

FOCUS REGION



ECOSYSTEM & FUNDING PATHWAYS



FROM FUNDING GAPS TO COLLECTIVE ACTION

Key funding priorities, collaborative approaches and next steps identified during the strategic dialogue.

PRIORITY FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (NEXT 12 MONTHS)

Community-led loss and damage responses, Research and monitoring, Pilot climate reparations initiatives, Movement building and advocacy

KEY FUNDING BARRIERS

Complex grant requirements

Administrative processes often limit access for grassroots and community-led organisations.

Short funding cycles

Insufficient predictable and long-term support for sustained impact.

Unequal access to resources

Power imbalances and structural barriers limit who can access and influence funding.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATIVE PHILANTHROPY

Shared funding platforms

Collaborative grantmaking and pooled funds to increase the scale, flexibility and reach of support.

Matching-fund mechanisms

Joint initiatives combining resources from multiple donors to maximise impact.

Funders' learning communities

Exchange and shared learning among philanthropic actors to strengthen strategies and coordination.

Direct community access

Reducing intermediaries and barriers to ensure that funding reaches frontline organisations and locally led solutions.

Looking Ahead

Participants highlighted the need to continue engagement, identify concrete funding opportunities, and develop a shared roadmap for advancing climate reparations and loss and damage responses across the Americas.

FROM STRATEGIC DIALOGUE TO COLLECTIVE ACTION