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**Policy Pointers:**  
**BONN Climate Change  
Conference**



# Policy Pointers

## Bonn Climate Change Conference

### August 2022

As climate change becomes an increasing threat, international climate action becomes more important with each passing day. The [Bonn Climate Change Conference](#) this June was a critical moment for nations, organizations and leaders globally to work together to make strides helping further prevent and alleviate the impacts of climate change. While the conference demonstrated necessary progress, SEEK, through community-based research alongside effectees, has identified numerous areas needing attention at COP27 and beyond.

SEEK recognizes climate induced migration to be an issue growing in salience and urgency. COP26 saw a large stride in this field, being the creation of the [Glasgow dialogue](#). The initiation of the Glasgow dialogue was an important step, as it pertains to loss and damage – a concept inextricably interwoven with climate induced migration. Dealing with issues of resilient infrastructure to addressing non-economic losses like the destruction of ancestral homelands, loss and damage directly and indirectly addresses current and future climate induced migration. The Bonn conference marked the first meeting of the Glasgow dialogue since its inception. The first meeting of the Glasgow dialogue itself is a huge victory. The dialogue shows a commitment to averting, mitigating and addressing [loss and damage](#), of which climate induced migration is a large issue. The conference saw fruitful discussions across four breakout rooms in which participants were asked to work together to envision how loss and damage financing could be improved, with most developing nations calling for an independent financing mechanism and most developed nations calling for a restructuring of current mechanisms. Though Bonn was made positive efforts for putting loss and damage as a priority, there are four goals SEEK has identified that need to be addressed at COP27 and beyond.

#### **Short-term goals:**

**1: The establishment of a financing mechanism solely dedicated to loss and damage:** A large concern noted by countries including Jamaica, Mexico, Costa Rica and the Philippines is the need to establish a financing mechanism solely dedicated to loss and damage. The current grants surrounding loss and damage are described as arduous and slow, while often not overtly concerning loss and damage. SEEK is calling alongside nations, leaders and organizations globally for the creation of a financial mechanism for addressing/supporting loss and damage to help increase the transparency, ease, and pace surrounding loss and damage financing.

**2: Increased urgency for action:** While the Glasgow dialogue has until 2024 to make a decision on this mechanism, the discussion in Bonn centered mainly around the idea of whether a financial mechanism is needed. In light of the urgency of climate change, SEEK is calling for developed nations such as the U.S., Switzerland, and those in the EU to progress the discussion away from arguing the merit of such a financial mechanism towards how such a mechanism should be designed and implemented. This ensures that by 2024, the financial mechanism is ready for implementation, avoiding further delays.

**3: Strengthening accountability for action:** In addition to developed nations acting with greater urgency regarding loss and damage, SEEK is calling for greater accountability. At Bonn, Antigua Barbuda highlighted the issue that is accountability. The nations who have the largest historical responsibility for climate change are the same nations who hold the authority to dictate the course of loss and damage. To help mitigate and avert the impacts of climate change, these nations need to accept accountability by allowing those most vulnerable to lead the discussion on loss and damage, as they are the ones bearing the brunt of climate change's damage. At COP27, SEEK hopes to see *greater collaboration and understanding between developed and developing nations* than seen at Bonn.

#### **Long-term goals:**

**4. Additions to and increased influence of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction:** The most influential international framework on climate migration is arguably the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. 2023 marks the midterm review for the Sendai Framework. At this midterm review SEEK hopes to see discussion surrounding what SEEK believes to be the framework's two largest shortcomings: international migration and legal protection. While the Sendai Framework is influential, on the international platform it is best described as an establishment of goals. SEEK hopes that the midterm review will address the need for more serious legislation protecting climate migrants domestically and internationally. SEEK hopes that in the future, the Sendai Framework will be expanded to address international climate migration and the need for legislation as climate migration becomes more common.

#### **Conclusion: Prioritization of Loss and Damage at the COP 27**

Climate change is an urgent problem. SEEK is calling on leaders of western industrial countries to make loss and damage a priority agenda item at COP27. With the prioritization of loss and damage, specifically the financing of loss and damage, climate induced migration can be far better addressed and reduced. It is time for the conversation of climate change to include those most vulnerable and we urge for COP27 to see better compromise and progress.

### **Acknowledgments**

The policy pointers are drawn by [SEEK Research to Response Network](https://www.seekresearchnetwork.eu/ourclimatestories) for the project "I am Because We Are: Our Climate Stories", and are authored by Brooke Ellen Moore. The review process was managed by Umbreen Salim and Sumbal Bashir. The support for the project is provided by Haëlla Foundation. The views expressed are that of the author and do not represent the position of the Haëlla Foundation. Learn more about SEEK's work on climate migration at: <https://www.seekresearchnetwork.eu/ourclimatestories>.

