

Perspectives of Environmentalists- Peacebuilders

**(Climate Change
and Conflict)**

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Discussion

- **Experiences of peacebuilders**
- Some effects of climate change on conflict
- Responses of Civil society
 - to climate change
 - to conflict
- Recommendations of Waging Peace Conference

Recent experiences of peacebuilders

**(Bicol, North Quezon, Mindoro, Jolo. Central
Mindanao, Negros Occidental, Caraga,
Cordillera)**

**(Indigenous Women conference,
Waging Peace in the Philippines Conference)**

Recent experiences of peacebuilders

Some areas of armed conflict are also areas that have long been affected by adverse weather

However they are experiencing new phenomena (unusual flooding, landslides, storm surges), *some of which can be associated with human-caused environmental degradation*

Recent experiences of peacebuilders

Logging, mining, illegal fishing have aggravated both environmental degradation and conflict (dividing communities and tribes)

Concepts of climate change , global warming are still being learned , but there is a sense of new and more adverse weather patterns/ lack of patterns, that are “natural” but man-made.

Some effects of climate change/ environmental disasters on conflicts:

- Some expression of openness for ceasefire/ some actual unilateral ceasefire declarations
- *Incidence of killings of soldiers allegedly on relief mission*
- Continued extrajudicial killings of left-associated persons in areas affected by disasters

Some effects of climate change/ environmental disasters on conflicts:

Continued armed conflict

Alleged food blockades causing more
difficulties to disaster victims

More vulnerable groups: indigenous peoples,
women, children

Responses of civil society

To environmental disasters:

relief, rehabilitation, sometimes relocation

some efforts on trauma healing of communities

stronger efforts on environmental protection, but some are short-lived

some efforts on sustained and strategic approaches

some life or death struggles

Responses of civil society

To armed conflicts/ extrajudicial killings

initial silence

calls to both sides for ceasefires

some declarations of peace zones

Responses of civil society

To armed conflicts/ extrajudicial killings

interest in, promotion of CARHRIHL

*efforts to dialogue with armed parties,
develop MOAs*

caring for the victims, survivors: relief,
rehab, trauma healing

Recommendations of Waging Peace Conference workshop: on climate change

Translate the issues of climate change and conflict into language and examples that communities and stakeholders can understand. Start of advocacies and education on different levels: Provide modules/ curriculum. promotional material for academe. farmers, other sectors

Encourage national –level discussions on climate change. Engage with the government on the issues.

Recommendations of Waging Peace Conference workshop: on climate change

Include climate change in the mining (anti) advocacy paradigm. (i.e. mining as an ecologically-destructive industry vis-sis the increased risks of conflict)

Combating climate change should also be seen through a business perspective (risk-benefit analysis) just as mining is viewed as something profitable by others.

Recommendations of Waging Peace Conference workshop: on climate change

Promote natural, organic farming, and other ecological livelihood

For the Waging Peace network: Launch a series of roundtable discussions across sectors and stakeholders on climate change and conflict to generate interest as a starting point and build on from these

End