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ALTERNATIVES DEVELOPMENT

Monthly newsletter on issues of sustainable development

Theme: In Solidarity for a Green World

COP29: Key Expectations and Hopes

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In this article, Alekh Y Das talks about Development Alternatives' (DA) key takeaways in COP28. DA pointed out the importance of partnerships and localised strategies for resilient economies and the role of micro and small enterprises in climate adaptation and job futures. It also emphasised the need for community-centred solutions and empowering women through decentralised renewable energy. The DA exhibit showcased innovative interventions for sustainable development, reinforcing its position as a leader in promoting social inclusion, environmental sustainability and economic growth.

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COP29: Another 'Defining Moment' for Climate Action

COPs (Conferences of the Parties) come and go. Each year, governments, businesses and civil society organisations gather together in large numbers and at considerable expense and emission to halt the lemming-like march of humanity towards the climatic cliff just ahead of us.

The ambitious goals we set each year often dissolve into oceanic depths of short-sighted, self-centered platitudes about the need to protect the planet by the end of each two-week conference.

By most serious scientific accounts, the cliff's edge is near and the speed at which we are approaching it is suicidal. It requires SERIOUS commitment from all sectors of society – governments, businesses and civil society. As governments and businesses most strongly feel the pinch, financially and politically, it becomes the job of civil society to keep the flames of necessity burning at the highest and brightest level possible.

The Baku Conference can expect a multitude of civil society expressing their own commitments to science-based mitigation and adaptation to climate change. In addition, they will be there anxiously and creatively demanding action, with financial and institutional mechanisms to support it, from the two sectors that have the mandate and means to make meaningful changes required to reduce carbon emissions to the levels they agreed to at Paris.

In doing so, they must emphasise not only the processes needed, including enhanced Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) with clear plans for a rapid, just transition to renewable energy, low carbon building materials and agricultural practices and green, inclusive livelihoods. Needless to say, these must be accompanied by firm and robust commitments for appropriate financial and policy reform.

To ensure that the promises made by the two primary sectors are not just words, it is for civil society to closely scrutinise the commitments, plans, accountability


AI generated image

mechanisms and concrete frameworks for ensuring that countries and sectors stay on track.

The big ticket items that have come to the surface and been legitimised for discussion at recent COPs, such as Loss and Damage compensation, the interests of frontline communities such as indigenous and marginalised groups, people in fragile ecosystems and other especially vulnerable livelihoods, small islands and arid and mountainous regions must now be taken forward beyond 'discussion' to firm commitments. This movement can only be achieved by the dogged insistence of civil society participants.

Needless to say, COP29 is the milestone event for the global commitment to nature-based solutions, which can provide the double whammy of resolving the twin crises of climate and biodiversity loss. Given the win-win opportunities that such approaches offer, it makes no sense for any economic actor not to espouse these approaches wholeheartedly.

Baku, the capital of a fossil fuel-rich country, is the ideal location for making these breakthrough pledges. ❐

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The Road to Baku – 29th Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC

The 29th Conference of the Parties (COP29) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) will take place in Baku. This conference is expected to primarily focus on several key areas: the presentation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), climate finance, adaptation strategies, loss and damage mechanisms and the integration of biodiversity issues into climate action. The negotiations will be essential in setting the tone for global climate efforts in the run-up to 2030, aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Nationally Determined Contribution: The 2024 NDC Synthesis Report shows some progress; however, it indicates that even with the current NDCs, global emissions are expected to peak just before 2030. This outcome depends on fully implementing conditional elements, such as financial and technological support for developing nations. Without stronger commitments, the world remains off-track for limiting warming to 1.5°C. A significant shortfall exists between current NDCs and required emissions reductions, estimated at 19.2 gigatonnes of CO_2 for the 1.5°C target by 2030. At COP29, nations are expected to enhance these contributions to close the substantial gap between current emissions trajectories and those needed to achieve these targets by increasing the ambition and implementation of NDCs.

Climate Finance: Climate finance has increasingly become a point of contention. The climate finance gap has been deliberated upon at previous UNFCCC-COP summits, where developed nations have pledged substantial funding commitments to mobilise $100 billion annually by 2020 to support climate action in developing countries. However, this target has not been met consistently, leading to disappointment among LMICs (Low- and Middle-Income Countries) and undermining trust in international negotiations, which have emphasised increased and more equitable financial support from wealthier countries to address climate impacts.

In light of this weakening trust, COP29 is seen largely as the 'finance COP' where discussions are expected to be focussed on a 'new collective quantified goal' (NCQG) on climate finance. It builds on the previous goal set in 2009 at the Copenhagen Climate Summit, where developed countries committed to mobilising $100 billion per year by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries. Over the years, when the financial targets could not be met, the requirements of the developing countries have increased, given the intensity and frequency of the climate-related events. Therefore, the negotiation on NCQG holds significance wherein the efficacy of these funds in driving climate-friendly development without creating debt repayment issues is very much in question, highlighting the need for a more robust and effective financial mechanism.


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Loss and Damage Fund: Another crucial component of the COP29 climate finance discussions will be 'loss and damage'. This refers to irreversible losses that occur due to climate impacts, for which adaptation measures are no longer sufficient. COP27 saw the establishment of a loss and damage fund, a milestone for vulnerable countries, and COP29 will likely focus on structuring and scaling this fund.

India's Climate Goals and COP29

India's climate actions have been robust, marked by its commitment to the Paris Agreement and its ambition to achieve net-zero emissions by 2070. India has pledged to increase its non-fossil energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030 and aims to generate 50% of its energy needs from renewable sources. As one of the significant players in

the climate narrative, at COP29, India will be looking to affirm its NDCs while seeking greater international cooperation 'to empower the global south and assessment of financial requirements with new quantifiable goals being the focus areas at COP29'. And, 'for capacity building, climate finance must be defined accordingly' (PIB, 2024).

Building upon the discussions and deliberations at the earlier COPs, it is likely that India and many of the developing countries will be looking for the following:

1. **Strengthened Climate Finance:** Current estimates suggest that trillions of dollars are needed annually to address both mitigation and adaptation challenges globally. It is essential to set an updated and more ambitious climate finance target for post-2025, replacing the outdated $100 billion figure. This revised target should be combined with mechanisms that reduce debt dependency and make climate finance more accessible for vulnerable communities. By pushing for concessional finance, it is hoped to ensure that climate funds do not add to the debt burdens of developing nations. This will also entail clear reporting standards to ensure transparency in climate finance flows. A transparent approach will help bridge the trust gap between developed and developing nations, creating a stronger foundation for collective climate action.
2. **Technological Transfer and Innovation:** Another critical aspect of COP29 will be encouraging developed nations to facilitate technology transfer to developing countries. Gaining access to advanced technologies in renewable energy, electric vehicles, and sustainable agriculture could catalyse its green transformation, enhance local innovation and make sustainable practices economically viable in developing countries.
3. **Adaptation and Resilience Strategies:** COP29's emphasis on adaptation strategies can lead to significant outcomes for a number of countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing states, including frameworks for implementing localised solutions and resilience-building initiatives. Increased attention to adaptation will help India safeguard its agricultural sectors and vulnerable communities.
4. **Addressing Loss and Damage:** COP29 could lead to constructive outcomes regarding financial mechanisms that support nations adversely affected by climate change, ensuring that resources are available for recovery and rebuilding efforts and are easily accessible, not pushing the developing countries into a spiralling debt trap.
5. **Biodiversity and Climate Synergies:** The interconnectedness of climate change and biodiversity is expected to be a focal point at COP29. Such synergies could result in enhanced environmental policies that promote both climate resilience and biodiversity conservation and mutually strengthen at multiple levels.

Conclusion

COP29 in Baku is a pivotal platform for re-energising global commitments to combat climate change. As the clock ticks towards 2030 and beyond, the decisions made at COP29 will be instrumental in shaping a climate-just future for India and the world.

At COP29, India's role as a voice for equitable climate finance could catalyse a new era of inclusive climate action, where both developed and developing nations work together towards a resilient and sustainable future. If the international community responds, COP29 could mark a turning point in building a truly global response to the climate crisis. ❐

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Building India's Climate-Ready Future: INECC's Vision for Youth Empowerment

As we approach the landmark discussions at the UNFCCC COP29, one thing is clear: achieving global climate goals requires more than just policies and technological innovation. It demands the active participation of people, especially youth, who can lead the charge towards a green and sustainable future. In this context, the Indian Network on Ethics and Climate Change (INECC) is championing the integration of green skills and green talent development as critical components of a Just Transition for India's young generation.

India's burgeoning green economy is set to create millions of new jobs, especially as we move towards a net-zero world. However, for local youth—many of whom come from underserved communities—to seize these opportunities, they must be equipped with the right skills and knowledge. This is where INECC steps in, with its approach that emphasises bottom-up, community-driven strategies to ensure that the benefits of the green transition are inclusive and widespread.

The Role of Green Skills in a Just Transition

A Just Transition is not only about moving away from fossil fuels but also ensuring that this shift happens equitably. For INECC, the development of green skills is a vital tool for achieving this goal. We envision a future where local youth are not just passive beneficiaries but active contributors to climate solutions. By equipping them with skills required in the renewable energy sector, sustainable agriculture, water resource management, the circular economy and disaster risk reduction, we aim to create pathways to dignified and meaningful work in the emerging green sectors for mitigation and adaptation.

Youth being trained to construct ceramic bio-sand filters

A student answering a question during Education for Sustainable Development session in an Ashram school in Andhra Pradesh

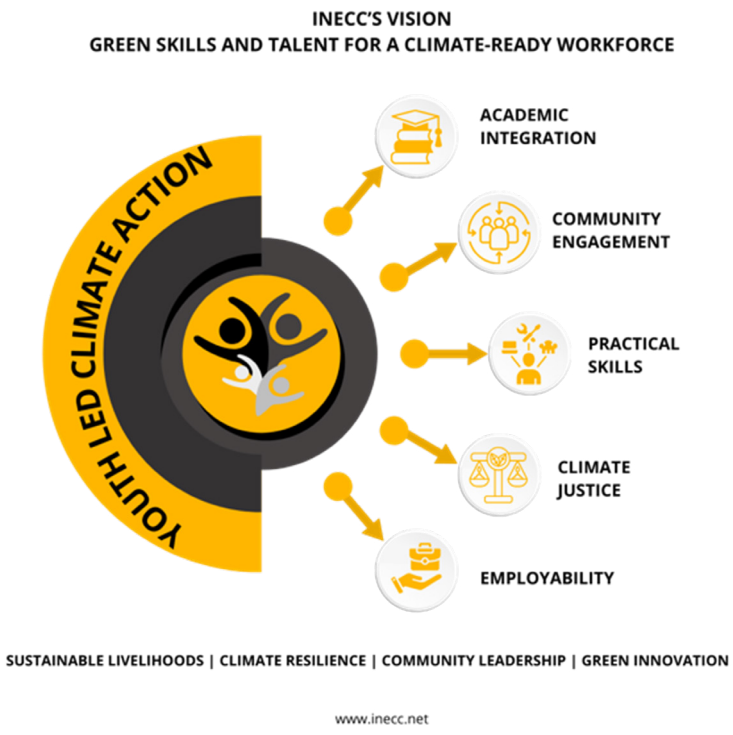
At the heart of this effort is our deep engagement with educational institutions across India. Rather than following a top-down approach, INECC collaborates with academic institutions, local communities, startups and industry leaders to embed sustainability thinking into education. This creates a ripple effect, enabling students to view sustainability not as an abstract concept but as a critical lens through which they can shape their future careers.

Curriculum for Climate Adaptation and Mitigation

Recognising the diverse environmental challenges and climate impacts across India, INECC has taken a tailored approach to climate literacy and education, developing ecosystem-specific curricula for both adaptation and mitigation. These curricula are designed not only to provide

technical knowledge but also to address the unique needs of different regions and communities. By offering flexible learning platforms—both online and offline—INECC ensures that these materials are accessible to a wide audience, from rural students to urban professionals.

These courses, developed in close collaboration with local experts, address community-specific challenges in water security, energy efficiency, disaster risk reduction and sustainable agriculture. By integrating real-world environmental issues into learning, the curricula help bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical, on-the-ground solutions, equipping students and young entrepreneurs with the tools they need to respond to climate challenges in their ecosystems.



Building Practical Skills for Real-World Impact

INECC's green skills initiatives are grounded in the specific needs of local communities. Through partnerships with educational institutions, NGOs and local industry, we offer practical, hands-on learning experiences that directly address these communities' environmental challenges.

Our work is particularly focused on marginalised communities, including women and those from disadvantaged backgrounds, ensuring that they are not left behind in the transition to a green economy. INECC's commitment to climate justice ensures that the green skills we develop are accessible to all, enabling young people from all walks of life to participate in the green workforce.

Empowering the Next Generation of Green Leaders

Beyond technical skills, INECC's work fosters a new generation of sustainability leaders who understand the systemic changes required to build resilient, climate-ready communities. Our community-based projects allow young people to not only learn but also apply their knowledge in real-world settings, from disaster risk reduction to climate mitigation and adaptation. This hands-on approach empowers youth to take ownership of local environmental challenges, transforming them into agents of change.

A Call to Action at COP29

As the global community gathers at COP29 to accelerate climate action, the importance of grassroots, civil society-led initiatives like INECC's cannot be overstated. Our work demonstrates that the green transition must be rooted in local realities and that young people, equipped with the right skills and opportunities, are the key to making this transition successful.

The future of climate action depends on our ability to empower young people with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive in a green economy. INECC's vision for green skills and talent development, supported by tailored climate adaptation and mitigation curricula, is a vital component of this journey—one that ensures no one is left behind in the march towards a sustainable, climate-resilient future. ❐

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Building the Case of Green Finance for the Blue Economy

Women of Fisher Communities

About 37% of the world's population living within 100 km of a coastline has been facing the brunt of climate change. With rising sea levels, sea surface temperatures and increasing cyclones, coastal communities are exposed to an aggressive rate of climate crisis in comparison to a landlocked population.

In India, 4 million people depend on marine fisheries for daily sustenance, a community with a credit gap greater than 70%. With climate change and decreasing fishing days, their credit gap is widening.

India's blue economy is estimated to account for roughly 4% of the country's gross domestic product (GDP). India is also the world's second-largest fish-producing nation, with 250,000 fishing boats, contributing to about 7% of global fish production. In 2022-23, the country exported marine products of 1.46 million tonnes valued at US$ 7.76 billion.

Even with the above potential, there is no existing formal financial support for the Indian coastal community.

The Indian Ocean Ring is the world's busiest trade route, with 80% of the maritime oil trade passing through it. Investing in resilient fisheries in this region will not only help the coastal communities but also build geo-political, geo-economic, and geo-strategic synergies.

We need a financial product that will provide the necessary capital to cover climate-induced losses while enabling the transition to a more sustainable occupation. A larger patient capital is needed for adaptation finance.

The following might be considered as a possible three-step process to change

1. **A baseline study:** The first step will be to underwrite the creditworthiness of fisher families. This has never been done at the national level for the marine sector, one of the reasons why no financial institution understands the sector well. The data collection for underwriting should start at the Gram Panchayat's level across the country, and then work up to state levels.

Indian Ocean Ring Association for Regional cooperation

This will provide the much-needed module to analyse the current credit gap.

2. **Evaluate the possibilities per location:** A multi-criteria analysis of location-specific weather, marine and climate data correlated to demography, infrastructure and other location data should be used to evaluate the possible additional income options available to communities in the selected localities. These income sources should be long-term and sustainable and provide a just transition and climate adaptive pathways with proper training and skill development. Financial incentives in the form of business loans should be provided to individuals who apply for the training and show interest in transit to more climate-resilient income sources.
3. **Corporatise the fisheries sector:** An open-market policy where fisherfolks are provided access to large private corporations that can pay in advance for a certain size of catch and provide instant working capital support. This will create the needed transparency in the supply chain that is currently missing, improve trading practices, create a fisheries value-add market and drive infrastructure growth like cold chains. This will also lessen the burden on state-level institutions to monitor and manage fisheries, thus creating business models for private finance to step in for long-term sustainability. ❐

Devleena and her team at ClimaCrew are working towards building sustainable coastal communities through sustainable fisheries and community based seaweed cultivation. They use satellite and other multivariate data to analyse and predict marine and weather conditions, the insights from which is delivered to the fishers across India, in their own local language. The information helps the fisherfolk reduce their time and cost of fishing trips, while generating additional sustainable income through seaweed cultivation.

Find more about her work at www.climacrew.in

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Decentralised Renewable Energy: Pathway to Paris

As we approach COP29, it is important to remember that, according to the IPCC, fossil fuel consumption must peak by 2030 to stay on track for the 1.5°C goal. However, fossil fuels still dominate global energy consumption in 2024. While the use of renewable energy is increasing, the demand for petroleum fuels is also rising. The only positive development is the recent decline in the use of mineral coal. Unfortunately, current trends are not aligned with the original 2°C goal of the Paris Agreement, let alone the more ambitious 1.5°C target!

The expansion of renewable energy (RE) infrastructure needs to accelerate further to start 'bending the curve'. We at Clean Energy Access Network (CLEAN) believe that the current over-emphasis on centralised mega-scale renewable energy generation projects is slowing down the RE expansion.

Before the advent of coal-powered steam engines, manufacturing systems across the world were powered by decentralised renewable energy (DRE) - human and animal muscle power, locally harvested fuelwood, water wheels and windmills, solar heat, etc. Because fossil fuels were concentrated in only a few locations across the planet, it necessitated an energy system of centralised conversion of the mined fuel into an energy carrier and a grid or a network to supply it to the points of use. In 1960s, when the developed world tried to reincarnate RE as an alternative to fossil energy for political reasons, the focus was on replacing imported fossil fuels with locally harvested RE sources without disturbing the rest of the energy system. The decentralised approach to renewable energy evolved with time out of the need to create modern energy access for far-flung, remote settlements that the mainstream energy supply chains were unable to reach.

Solar powered tailoring shop in a village in Assam

In the 21st century, climate change is the global driver, and the final goal is 100% replacement of fossil fuels. RE has become a strong contender to be the next driver of the global economy as the intermittency and low energy density have been rendered irrelevant with advances in storage technologies. Continuing to think of DRE only as a means of energy access for marginalised communities is underestimating the power of these technologies.

Rooftop solar PV and home biogas plants can provide quality-of-life energy services (lighting, cooking, communications, etc.) in rural as well as urban homes. Solar-powered water pumps help irrigate farms and enhance farmers' incomes, but they can also prove useful for local water distribution in an urban setting. DRE-powered sewing machines to EV charging stations can create innumerable opportunities for livelihood generation in rural and urban areas.

From a more practical perspective, acquiring land, securing investors and establishing large-scale RE projects are inherently costly and challenging, and, therefore, the implementation is time-consuming. On the other hand, providing mass incentives for DRE can help quickly scale up the capacity of the RE with public and private investments.

Last but not least, any centralised energy system is inherently unjust and unequal. Those users that are closer to the energy generation or can pay a higher price will always be prioritised and the remote and economically weaker users will always be marginalised.

Food waste biogas plant at an ecoresort in Telangana

The decentralised approach brings in an inherent equity in energy access, creating a level playing field for all users. This directly feeds into just transition and building climate resilience for the vulnerable communities.

From all these considerations, we believe that a realistic pathway to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement requires that DRE rather than large RE be made the focus of the energy transition. ❐

CLEAN is a non-profit formed by stakeholders in the decentralised renewable energy sector in India and is aimed at educating policy makers, financiers and funders, as well as the public about the important role that decentralised renewable energy can play in ushering in an era of sustainability and climate-readiness.

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India: Beyond Big Banks – Financing Decentralised Climate Solutions for a Just Transition

Members of Urja Mandala Mahila Samiti and energy supply company discussing operation and management of 30 kWp solar-mini grid in Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh

As one of the largest and fastest-growing economies, India plays a pivotal role in the global fight against climate change. However, for India to meet its ambitious net-zero goals by 2070, it must secure substantial financial resources. The decarbonisation journey requires a major shift in capital flows, especially from the Global North, to fund the transition to a low-carbon economy. By prioritising decentralised approaches to climate action, India can achieve both meaningful emissions reductions and ensure that climate solutions benefit all segments of society, particularly those most vulnerable to climate impacts.

The Scale of the Challenge

Achieving net-zero emissions in India is not just a technological challenge—it is an economic one. The transformation needed spans across industries such as energy, transportation, materials, chemicals and food processing. These sectors must drastically reduce their carbon footprint, which will require trillions of dollars in investments, largely coming from large and small private enterprises. However, India, like many other countries in the Global South, is capital-deficient. With fiscal deficits limiting the ability of governments to fund the transition, the onus falls on private enterprises to lead this transformation.

The challenge is that the vast majority of these enterprises, including large corporations, small and medium enterprises (SMEs), and startups, have limited access to the required capital. Studies show that India alone will need an incremental $300-400 billion annually in private sector investment to achieve its decarbonisation targets. This investment must cover the transition to renewable energy, electrified transportation, green infrastructure and cleaner industrial processes. Yet, most of the financial capital required to achieve these goals is concentrated in the Global North.

The Role of Global North Capital

Capital flows from the Global North to the Global South, including India, are crucial for financing climate solutions. Currently, market-driven capital flows—comprising foreign direct investment (FDI), venture capital (VC), private equity (PE), commercial bank loans, development financing, and public market investments—amount to about $300 billion annually. However, much of this is in low-risk debt financing, with limited risk capital available for climate mitigation projects that often carry higher upfront costs but significant long-term returns.

For India to succeed in its decarbonisation efforts, these capital flows need to increase substantially. Global North investors—ranging from institutional investors and development banks to VC/PE funds—must recognise the vast potential for growth and returns in India's green economy. Investing in low-carbon technologies can help mitigate climate change and drive GDP growth, job creation and improved air quality in India. These investments will also alleviate chronic balance-of-payments issues by reducing dependency on fossil fuel imports.

Decentralised Climate Solutions: A Just Transition

One of the most promising aspects of India's decarbonisation journey is the role of decentralised climate solutions. Unlike large-scale projects that often benefit large corporations and urban populations, decentralised projects can target rural and underserved communities. These include, but are not limited to, distributed renewable energy solutions, microgrids and energy-efficient technologies for small-scale farmers and local businesses.

For India's climate finance strategy to be truly just and inclusive, it must focus on making capital accessible to marginalised groups, women and SMEs that drive innovation at the grassroots level. Access to climate capital must, therefore, go beyond big banks and traditional financing channels. Impact investors, development finance institutions and philanthropic capital can play a critical role in providing risk capital for these decentralised solutions, ensuring that the benefits of decarbonisation are widely shared across Indian society.

Conclusion

India's path to net zero is clear, but it requires a massive investment—an investment that must come from the Global North. By amplifying Global South voices and ensuring equitable and gender-just financing solutions, India can create a decarbonised future that curbs emissions, fosters sustainable economic growth, improves livelihoods, and strengthens climate resilience. For this to happen, Global North investors must rise to the occasion, ensuring that market-driven capital flows align with the urgent need for climate action in India. ❐

The Indian Network on Ethics and Climate Change (INECC), established in 1996 by development practitioners, is a national network comprising 22 member organisations and over 200 collaborators that works to address climate change through the lens of marginalised communities, while emphasising the connections between climate issues, sustainable development and social justice in India.

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Reflections on COP28: A Key Step Towards a Sustainable Future

Shrashtant Patara at the Trade in a Climate-constrained World session at COP28, Dubai

The 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was a significant event that brought together 197 member states to discuss solutions to the climate catastrophe.

One of the key takeaways from COP28 for the Development Alternatives (DA) group was the emphasis on green and inclusive micro-economies for climate-smart and sustainable futures. The panel discussion moderated by Shrashtant Patara, CEO, DA, featuring Dr Mao Amis and Ms Sofia Martinez, highlighted the importance of partnerships and localised solutions to build resilient economies while championing sustainability. The discussion also explored innovative strategies to reduce carbon footprints and move towards a sustainable future.

Shrashtant Patara participated in the session organised by DA, Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation and Centre for American Progress, where Mr John Podesta, Senior Advisor to the US President, was the key speaker in which they deliberated on the bilateral commitment of India and the US. Shrashtant Patara spoke about approaching green international trade through the livelihoods perspective and brought a new perspective to the conversation. He also participated in the session 'Enabling Just Energy Transition in South Asia' organised by CANSA, where he spoke on how the micro and small are not being addressed enough, particularly for climate adaptation, and that institutions at the meso level have a strong role to play for these large pools of capital that are available to reach, where it is needed the most. In a session organised by Climate-KIC on 'Youth Intergenerational Dialogue And The Future of Cities', Shrashtant Patara urged the participants to look closely at the future of jobs as the changing nature of both formal and informal work will have a cathartic effect on urban settlements.

Kanika Verma, Associate Vice President, DA, participated in multiple sessions, including a forum facilitated by the Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation. She emphasised the need

for community-centred solutions and the importance of empowering women through decentralised renewable energy (DRE) solutions. She highlighted that DRE systems, when co-created, owned and managed by local women's institutions, can become drivers of social and economic empowerment.

Dr Soumen Maity, Vice President, DA, shared that the organisation's practice-to-policy approach in the state of Bihar towards greening the construction sector, including the brick industry, was a significant contribution to the conference. The session, 'Energy Transition Planning at The Sub-National Level', hosted at the Regional Climate Foundation Pavilion, co-organised by Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation, demonstrated the organisation's commitment to sustainable development and climate change mitigation.

The DA exhibit at COP28 was a resounding success, showcasing the organisation's pioneering interventions for sustainable development and climate change mitigation. The exhibit employed a multifaceted approach, combining effective communication, interactive demonstrations and stakeholder engagement to convey the significance of its work and establish itself as a key player in the global effort to address climate challenges.

Kanika Verma at the Women Empowerment through Decentralised Renewable Energy session at COP28

Team Development Alternatives at COP28, in Expo City, Dubai

The repeated emphasis on green and inclusive micro-economies, community-centred solutions, policy-to-practice approach and women empowerment through decentralised renewable energy solutions serves as a reminder of the importance of collective action and innovative solutions in addressing the climate catastrophe.

The positive outcomes of COP28, including increased collaborations and heightened

Glimpses from Development Alternatives at COP28, Dubai

Dr Soumen Maity at the Energy Transition Planning at the Sub-National Level session

Development Alternatives at COP28, Dubai

awareness, positioned DA as a leader in the field and set the stage for continued impact in the years to come. The conference served as a reminder of the importance of collective action and the need for innovative solutions to address the climate catastrophe. As the world moves forward, it is essential to prioritise social inclusion, environmental sustainability and economic growth, as well as recognise the critical role that organisations like DA play in driving positive change. ❐

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