

In Quest of a Shared Planet: Negotiating Climate from the Global South

Abstract

With a focus on the Bangladeshi delegation at the COPs, I draw out what it means to be a small, poor, and dependent country within the negotiation process. My interviews with negotiators within country delegations uncover their pathways to the negotiating tables. Through observations of training sessions of negotiators of the Global South, I seek to reveal understandings of what is or is not achievable within negotiated texts and the power of deal-making and deferrals. I profile individuals who had committed themselves to the climate negotiation process, moving between the Secretariat, Parties, activists, and the wider UN system to bring their principles, strategies, emotions, and visions into view. I explore how the newest pillar of climate action, loss and damage, emerged historically and how developed countries attempted to control it in the process. I suggest that we understand the Global South's pursuit of loss and damage not only as a politics of forcing the issue of a conjoined future upon the Global North, but as a gift to the youth of the world to secure that future.