

An aerial photograph of a coastal wetland, likely a salt marsh or mangrove system. The image shows a dense network of winding waterways in shades of blue and green, interspersed with areas of brown and tan land, possibly mudflats or marsh vegetation. The water appears to be shallow and reflects the sky. The overall pattern is highly irregular and organic.

# L&DCC

THE LOSS AND DAMAGE COLLABORATION

CONCEPT NOTE: THE *SANTIAGO NETWORK PROJECT*





## **Santiago Network Project**

### **Where Are We At The Moment?**

The Santiago Network project started at COP 25 in Madrid when the Santiago Network for averting, minimising and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change (Santiago Network) was established. The Santiago Network offered hope to frontline communities in the climate crisis that a body had been created to help them address loss and damage. This body would make sure that there was action and support being provided on the ground in their communities including helping them access finance, technology and build their capacity to address these impacts.

The Santiago Network working group, as it was then called, started under the banner of the L&DC upon its establishment with its members concerned that the Santiago Network might become no more than a website. It has since developed into a committed group with a wide range of backgrounds, seeking to capture and communicate the views of those from communities most impacted.

The group has been successful in steering the negotiations. Key activities which have had a tangible impact include writing and obtaining sign-on and inputs from multiple UNFCCC civil society constituencies for a [call for action](#) published in April 2021 that sent a clear signal to the UK COP 26 Presidency on the high expectations from civil society on an outcome on the Santiago Network at COP 26. In advance of COP 26, the group developed a [short brief](#) and a longer [document](#) to articulate an expectation that vulnerable countries would have the opportunity to engage in technical negotiations to take the Santiago Network forward. The group was also active both inside and outside the negotiations at COP 26.

### **What Do We Want To Achieve In 2022?**

At COP 26 there was positive progress, and the work of the now re-named Santiago Network Project will now shift to the negotiations under the UNFCCC in 2022 where a decision will be adopted regarding the institutional and financial arrangements of the Santiago Network. The Santiago Network will be a critical tool to support and complement progress on the discussions and work on loss and damage finance including by creating a process to help developing countries identify their needs and how to address them, enhancing understanding of the scale of finance needed.

### **What Would We Do To Achieve These Goals?**

The objective of the project on the road to COP 27 will be to support effective negotiations by continuing the same types of work listed in the 2020-2021 work. The **possible outputs** include:



- Thought leadership and inputs into the ongoing negotiations under the UNFCCC including:
  - Providing and supporting submissions from a range of civil society and vulnerable developing country groups to the UNFCCC secretariat by 15 March 2022;
  - Participating in the technical workshop being held by the UNFCCC secretariat to consider submissions and prepare for the UNFCCC intersessional in June of 2022;;
  - Participating in the UNFCCC intersessional where recommendations for the operationalisation of the Santiago Network will be agreed upon (and adopted at COP 27).
- Developing materials that could be used to do political outreach and advocacy to explain the Santiago Network in a simple way;
- Engaging with key developing country negotiators and supporting them towards a collective ask for COP 27 including identifying in a collaborative manner what negotiators from developing countries need to support their work and attending to those requests;
- Ensuring that developed country Parties are held accountable for the request in the COP 26 decision on Loss and Damage for them to provide funds for both the operation of the Santiago Network and the provision of technical assistance; and
- Providing advice to the secretariat on ideas and suggestions for early actions for technical support between now and COP 27 for vulnerable developing countries.

### **Who Would We Work With?**

The Santiago Network project is open to members from any background. It is important that our input into the negotiations is well-informed and based on the best available advice which takes time. We are particularly concerned to involve marginalised groups whose voices are not always heard to ensure the best outcome possible for the negotiations. Perfection is unachievable, but ambition is! We try as much as possible to learn from the past so that the assistance that is urgently needed is provided. These communities need support now and we need to ensure that the Santiago Network becomes effectively operationalised at COP 27 in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

### **What Resources Do We Need for the Santiago Network Project In 2022?**

The **indicative budget** for this project is **£100,000**, which would include the funding of a part-time coordinator and time for Santiago Network project members to contribute to the papers and the outreach to delegations.