



**52nd Session of the Human Rights Council
Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate
Housing, 8 March 2023**

The Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL) welcomes the Special Rapporteur's [report on the climate crisis and the right to housing](#). The report highlights the multiple and strong interlinkages between the climate crisis and the right to housing in the context of climate impacts, misguided mitigation and adaptation policy responses, and the climate impact on the ability of people to enjoy their right to housing.

As demonstrated by the report, the climate crisis is negatively affecting the enjoyment of the right to adequate housing, in particular for communities that have been historically marginalized. CIEL welcomes the Special Rapporteur's strong call for international remedies and compensation for loss and damage in this context, including the establishment of an international mechanism. The Special Rapporteur also usefully refers to the Loss and Damage Fund established at COP27 in this context, recommending that it become resourced and operational as quickly as possible to support those who are most adversely affected, and highlighting the role of civil society participation to achieve this.

As recommended by the report, the suspension or cancellation of debt payments in the aftermath of extreme climate events is highly relevant in this context. Many countries vulnerable to the climate crisis have a significant debt burden, negatively impacting the delivery of public services and thus the realization and protection of economic, social, and cultural rights, as well as the ability to protect human rights in the context of climate-related loss and damage.

As demonstrated in the report, misguided policy responses to the climate crisis have potential negative impacts on the right to housing. We echo the Special Rapporteur's recommendation to States and other actors such as international agencies and businesses that all climate mitigation and adaptation projects comply with their obligations and responsibilities with regard to the right to adequate housing and do not produce more inequality or result in climate gentrification, "green grabbing", forced evictions and arbitrary displacement of communities, including by putting in place safeguards and grievance mechanisms. This is relevant for international development and climate finance, and for the design and implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions, National Adaptation Plans, and other national climate plans and legislation.

We urge States, international agencies, and businesses, in particular, those most responsible for the climate crisis, to take these important recommendations forward.

Thank you.