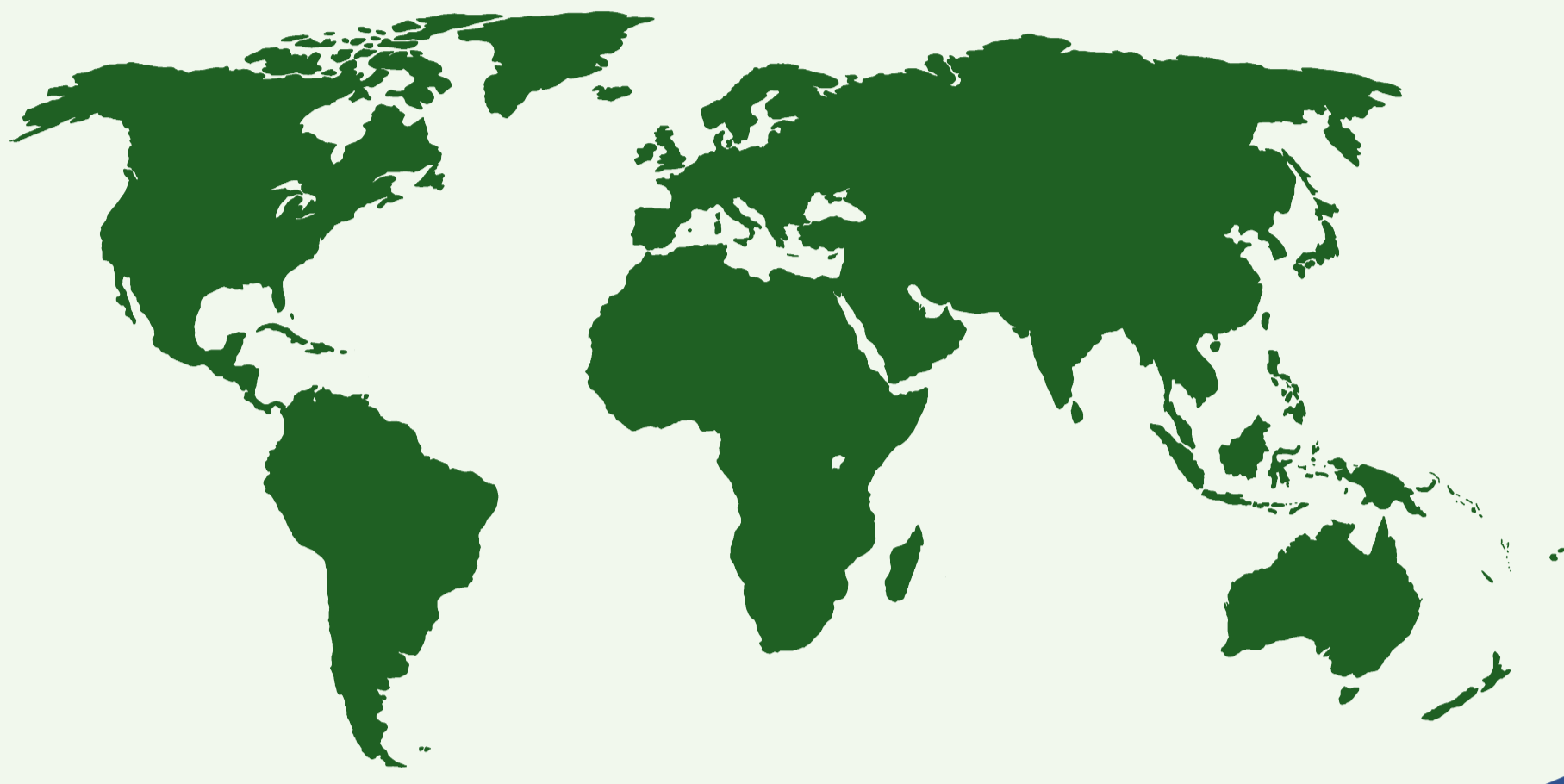


1

## THE PROBLEM ?

**Inequality** has a fundamental link with **Climate Change**, and the two sustain each other. **To deal with either problem, the other must be considered as well**, so that inequality is tackled in an environmentally sustainable way, and vice versa. Climate change and its inherent effects on inequality are a global problem not limited to one nation.



2

## INEQUALITY ⇔ CLIMATE

There lies a great inequality in the cause for climate change itself. In this sense, **climate change is all about inequality**. Research shows that the richest 20% of the world's population is responsible for over 60% of its current emissions of greenhouse gases. This figure rises to 80% if past emissions are also counted (Roberts, 2001).

### Inherent

**within-country inequality** causes disadvantaged groups to **suffer disproportionately** from the adverse effects of climate change, resulting in greater subsequent inequality (Nazrul Islam & Winkel, 2017).

# TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE

## On the Link between Climate Change and Inequality

3

## THE UNITED RESPONSE

**Empirical evidence** on the interlinked nature leads to the conclusion that **situationally adjusted responses** are required by countries in **different stages of development**.

**The Case of the United Nations** highlights **common but differentiated responsibility** as the focal point of the world in combatting the climate crisis and its inherent inequalities (UN, 2015). However, a **gap in accountability** of developed nations prevails (Pauw, Mbeva & Asselt, 2019).



4

## THE PATH FORWARD →

What is required to move forward will be policies and incentives that, at best, **tackle both problems simultaneously, or at least make sure not to do harm in one area while aiming at improvements in the other.**

- Research is needed on **climate-related behaviour**, and how to make the best policies.
- Global equality for women in terms of **education** and **leadership opportunities** will be required.
- An **interdisciplinary scientific approach** is needed

#### References:

Nazrul Islam, S., & Winkel, J. (2017). Climate Change and Social Inequality. *UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) Working Papers*.

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