

Intersectional Grassroot Struggles to LFFU in Latin America and Africa

Map of Fossil Fuel and Climate Justice Conflicts (1970–2020)

Intersectional LFFU Struggles



Relational

Inclusion (of knowledge) of all stakeholders in the politics of development. Fighting **racism**. Protecting **indigenous** ways of life and livelihoods.

Social

Access to basic services. Freedom from fossil fuel-related illnesses. Safety for LFFU activists. Women's rights and fighting **gender-based violence** exacerbated by climate issues.

Economic

Employment opportunities (with better conditions) and (financial) **compensation. Decolonization** and achieving national independent politics of resource use and energy.

Ecological

Healthy environment (land, water, air). **Climate change vulnerability. Protecting land & resource ownership**, fighting land grabbing by governments and corporations.

Ecuador

The Ecuadorian oil industry in the 70's meant an abrupt incursion to the Amazon, **home to several indigenous nationalities. Livelihoods based on hunting and harvesting are severely affected by oil spills** polluting water and soil and ever-burning gas torches tainting the air. **Indigenous communities resist the expansion of oil activities** to the Southern Amazon and protected areas. They claim **oil extraction worsens their economic autonomy** linked to the role territory has for their livelihoods, culture, and identity; the **extra burden that an extractive model puts on impoverished, indigenous women**; the breach on their **right to decide** over their lives; the **suppression of their knowledge systems and relationships with nature at sake of a standardizing notion of development**. They propose their **own models of life** (e.g *Kawsak Sacha* or living jungle).



South Africa

The economy is one of the world's most unequal; a national **unemployment rate of 35%** and over **90,000 direct jobs in South Africa's mining sector** means that phasing out coal poses a severe threat to thousands of livelihoods of (unskilled) workers. The mining sector poses severe risks; Mpumalanga is the most concentrated mining province, with **levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) exponentially higher than normal**, leading to **respiratory infections and reduced lung function**. South Africa's mining sector is a legacy of the Apartheid era, and its racially divisive legacy remains alive; **white South Africans account for 12% of the population but control 70% of the land**, and black South Africans compose the majority of the unskilled miners that risk losing their livelihoods if South Africa begins to decarbonise its economy, which as of 2020 is 90% dependent on coal as a primary energy source.