

Summary of Research

Climate Change Governance: A Study of India and South-Africa

Fahima Khanum

MMAJ Academy of International Studies

Jamia Millia Islamia

To understand the complex relationship between politics and economics of climate change research was undertaken on India and South Africa, looking into their respective climate change policies their INDCs, investment in clean energy, spending on R&D and other mechanisms like Carbon Disclosure Project and Corporate Social Responsibility. India and South Africa both carry certain weight in the international climate negotiations and are a part of top 20 emitters of GHG. They have both ratified the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol and are now working on a “bottom- up” approach in climate change adaptation and mitigation. Study was undertaken with the objective to study the climate knowledge systems in India and South Africa and how they guide governance action. To study the domestic climate change policies in India and South Africa in line with their Nationally Determined Contributions. To study the role of the business sector in effecting changes in climate governance. This thesis studies the problem of climate change and how India and South Africa are coping with the challenge of climate change while continuing onto their development trajectory. Research was undertaken to study the climate governance systems in India and South Africa and how these countries are working towards achieving their Nationally Determined Contributions. The concept of climate knowledge system was developed and the degree of influence it exerts on the governance system was analysed. The influence of the corporate sector on governance systems was also probed. This thesis adds another actor to the spectrum of climate governance i.e Knowledge Systems. The amount and type of knowledge that people possess about climate change has a huge influence in shaping climate policies. A knowledge system is that invisible matter, which connects different actors across their differences. It is an understanding of what climate change means to them and how they deal with it.