

## Urban climate responsibility in the Asia Pacific: discourses of climate justice



Speaker: Dr. Sara Fuller  
*Associate Professor,  
Macquarie University*

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### Abstract

Notions of justice in relation to climate change invoke multiple expressions of responsibility. In this context, cities become important sites for interrogating the social, scalar and spatial processes that underpin climate (in)justice and analysing how moral and political responsibilities are shaped. To date, cities have been framed as both causally responsible for carbon emissions while also vulnerable to climate impacts such as flooding or heatwaves. Such frameworks nonetheless remain limited, not only in terms of their capacity to fully capture the politics and contestation of urban climate responsibility but also in accounting for social and spatial differences in how such climate responsibility is governed. This paper considers the interconnections between climate responsibility and modes of governance in the Asia Pacific region. Drawing on a policy review and in-depth case study of Singapore, the paper reflects on how discourses of justice are intertwined with urban climate transformations and offers new perspectives on the relationship between cities, justice and climate change.

### Biography

Sara Fuller is Associate Professor in the Discipline of Geography and Planning, School of Social Sciences at Macquarie University, Sydney. Her research explores concepts and practices of justice in the context of global environmental change, with an empirical focus on grassroots, community and activist responses to climate change. Prior to joining Macquarie University, she held positions at Durham University, UK and City University of Hong Kong where she conducted research on low carbon urban transitions and climate governance; NGO discourses of energy justice; low carbon communities and social justice; and energy vulnerability in communities. Her current research investigates the politics and governance of urban climate justice in the Asia Pacific.