

#### University of California, Irvine Program in Public Health

#### Principles of Accountability for Climate Change Agreements

Principes de responsabilité sur les accords du changement climatique

Dr. Mojgan Sami

December 10, 2015 Population Health and Disease Prevention



### Policy Paradox



Submissions to date: 158; Parties Represented: 186

http://unfccc.int/focus/indc\_portal/items/8766.php last accessed on 12/8/2015

#### Symptoms or Root Causes?

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 outlawed discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.





# What is the problem that COP2 I is trying to solve?

Is this a root cause or a symptom?

#### Assigning Responsibility

In politics, we look for causes not only to understand how the world works, but to assign responsibility for problems.

~D. Stone, Policy Paradox, p. 189.

#### Accountability Paradox



#### Accountability for what?











#### Accountable to who?













# We need to redefine Accountability

Climate change is not a "technical" issue.

Addressing climate change is a moral imperative.

#### Money is not the answer

## Development discourses must address extreme poverty & wealth



http://energydesk.greenpeace.org/2015/12/08/exposed-academics-for-hire/ last accessed 12/9/2015

#### Principles of Accountability

- Resilience
- Prevent harm to planet and people
- Cultivate capacity for action in multi-sector, interdisciplinary and cross movement spaces
- Expand understanding of human nature and cultivate latent capacities
- Support regional & local economic systems



### We must be accountable to one another.

"Let your vision be world embracing rather than confined to your own self."

Bahá'í Writings