



**COP29**  
Baku  
Azerbaijan  
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE



# UN Climate Change Conference (COP29)



Baku,  
Azerbaijan



11 November to  
22 November 2024



SIDE EVENT

## Forging Partnership for Closing on Accountability and Transparency Lapses in Climate Finance for Africa

Venue: Mali Pavilion      Date: November 14, 2024;

Time: 16:00 – 18:00 (GMT+4)

[COP29.PACJA.ORG](https://COP29.PACJA.ORG)

## Context

Africa is one of the most affected regions by climate change, and its current and historical greenhouse gas emissions are minuscule at a global scale. However, the region received only 20% of international adaptation finance flows (USD 13 billion) annually in 2021–2022. This is less than half of the finance going to the East Asia and Pacific region, which received about 45% of global adaptation finance flows. This concern in the slow flow of climate finance to African countries compared to the rest of developing countries is preventing countries from embarking on low-carbon and climate-resilient development.

Across Africa, there has been a realization that the current climate financing models are not working for Africa and a bold call for their transformation. This call is largely motivated by the glaring lapses in accountability for several funded projects and the inability to meet expected accountability standards, coupled with weak oversight mechanisms. With several multilateral funds now in their second decade of existence, it is disturbing that there has not been bold intent to develop independent and strong oversight mechanisms beyond those provided under multilateralism, which is not only deficient but also weak in design.

With substantial funding being channelled through a few large multilateral entities, accountability remains remote to many projects as power inequalities take centre stage. This perpetuates a cycle of global inequality and marginalization of locally developed solutions and not only undermines the principles of equity and inclusivity but also limits the capacity of grassroots initiatives and community-led projects to address climate challenges effectively. Conspicuously missing are clear frameworks for the engagement of communities and civil societies and gaps in accountability expectations on the part of the National Designated Authorities on the way they should engage with the communities. The Power asymmetry that characterizes consultations among key stakeholders in many projects including remotely placed powerful corporates, and government entities makes it impossible for CSOs and even governments to engage institutions that are grantees for funds under multilateral systems.

In the recent past, the term leveraging finance flows has become a common buzzword that has to be replayed in all climate finance talks. What is not clear is whether it is private sector interests in climate investments that are attracting public financing or in reality, the value proposition for any dollar of public funds spent to woo private sector investments has commensurate returns.

In Dubai, in COP28, a number of declarations were signed and with attendant pledges. To date, these funds have remained a mirage for a number of countries in Africa and the key question is in regard to whether African countries are doing sufficiently enough.

As countries pursue the NCQG and increased quantum of climate finance, and in the absence of sound accountability frameworks for climate finance, the much-envisioned outcomes will probably remain a distant mirage.

## Objectives:

1. Explore broad and specific drivers for enhanced accountability and transparency within the climate financing delivery mechanisms
2. Explore existing partnerships in climate action and in particular on accountability and transparency
3. Explore commitments in the ecosystem of actors and concrete actions that can facilitate greater accountability and transparency in the climate finance landscape

## Outcomes

- ▶ Mapping of key stakeholders and relationships that should be forged to enhance transparency and accountability
- ▶ Mapping of concrete actions for advancing transparency and accountability for climate finance
- ▶ Road map for joint work towards strengthening accountability and transparency for climate financing is initiated

## Key Messages:

1. Call for the development of a holistic, accountable and transformative framework of engagement that forges partnerships with state entities, African non-state actors, CSOs and Communities most impacted by climate change in the continent, beyond the observer status space
2. Strengthen the stakeholder engagement strategy to tap into the host of climate governance civil societies prevalent in the continent, Government oversight bodies (Parliament, Supreme Audit offices) to develop and facilitate their leadership in promoting greater accountabilities for all the funds disbursed by all funding streams in respective countries, through linkages and holding in-depth structured dialogues to unpack the purpose of the funds
3. Institutionalize frameworks for dialogue among the funding mechanisms, its grantees, communities at the frontline of the climate crisis, non-state actors and Government oversight bodies
4. Call for strengthening Communities and CSO Oversight Mechanisms and in particular i. expanding the role of civil society organizations (CSOs) to include active participation in project planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting, ii. Directly facilitate oversight and accountability actions by Civil society organizations and communities and Government oversight bodies to enhance their watchdog role across all projects and programs
5. The funding mechanism must demonstrate mechanisms put in place by the grantee to strengthen the decision-making power of the project stakeholders and particularly the local communities in project design and implementation.

## Speakers:

- ▶ **M. Mamadou SAMAKE**, Ministre de l'Environnement de l'Assainissement du Développement Durable du Mali
- ▶ **Dr. Daisy Mukarakate**, Regional Climate Policy Advisor, UNDP
- ▶ **Dr. Mithika Mwenda**, Executive Director, PACJA
- ▶ **Marline Achoki**, Global Policy Co-lead, Care International
- ▶ **Dr. James Murombedzi**, Coordinator, ACPC
- ▶ **Veronica Njakarasi**, Development Finance Analyst, Climate Diplomat and Sustainability specialist, Board Chair of the Forestry Commission in Zimbabwe,
- ▶ **Peter Odhengo**, Coordinator, AFDAN
- ▶ **Philip Kilonzo** (moderate)
- ▶ Africa Bureau of Parliamentarians for Climate Action -**Hon. Amongin/ Hon J Mamombe** (TBD)
- ▶ AFROSAI representative (TBD)
- ▶ Designated National Authority (TBD)



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