



# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



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## FOREWORD

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The impact of climate change is becoming increasingly apparent on a global scale, particularly in developing nations. In 2023, African countries were hit hard by climate-related disasters, such as Tropical Cyclone Freddy, which caused significant damage to infrastructure and human life in Madagascar, Mozambique, Mauritius, Malawi, Réunion, and Zimbabwe. Additionally, 29 million people in Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, Djibouti, Mauritania, and Niger faced drought conditions, exacerbating existing challenges in those regions. In East Africa, farmers lost thousands of cattle due to climate change, which adversely affected the livelihoods of many households.

Global geopolitical conflicts such as the war between Russia and Ukraine have caused rich countries to break their initial commitments to clean energy, resorting to the use of dirty energy like coal. The discussions around who should be held responsible for the worsening impacts of climate change on communities have been disrupted by powerful oil companies and influencers like Al Jaber, who led the COP28 presidency, confusing global climate perspectives. As a result of these challenges, PACJA intensified its efforts in lobbying, networking, and engaging with multiple stakeholders to keep the voices and perspectives of communities at the frontline of climate crisis in key decision-making spaces for positive impacts.

PACJA capitalized on the opportunity presented by the Pan African Parliamentarian Summit on Climate Policy & Equity to profile the priorities and needs of communities most impacted most in climate change in policy and legislative actions that secure equity for all. Through PACJA's transformative partnership with the Pan-African Parliament, political leadership in Africa were challenged and provoked to be more proactive and agile in advancing for pro-poor, equitable engagement in climate action. Probably the greatest outcome was to challenge the political leadership to play their rightful role in advancing for greater accountability for climate action in all spaces. Apparently, parliamentarians across Africa demonstrated the impact of the summit through subsequent convenings, on the sidelines of the Africa Climate Summit and in their astute engagements with COP28 processes.

Profound to the work of the Alliance in the period under reference remains in the massive organization and strengthening of the institutions of Non-State Actors and its lead role in promoting effective and impactful engagement of the NSAs with the Africa Climate Summit. As we celebrate the milestones secured in the ACS, Nairobi Declaration on Climate Change and Action, the transformative work led by PACJA and the Non-state Actors in framing the priority issues on adaptation, loss and damage, just transition and in reframing the sources of climate finance buttressed this success. It is the epitome of Africa organizing to defend its rightful space.

As stakeholders in the climate space dissect outcomes of COP28 and reposition their actions to respond to the emerging context, PACJA commences 2024 with a solid platform presented by not only the organizing above, but by the Keep Your Promise Campaign. Boldly calling for greater leadership of the African political leaders in demanding for greater accountability from the leaders of the Northern countries, pressure points for accountability are narrowing.

Clearly and with the Global Stock Take Report being aptly clear on the lack of significant progress was made in meeting the commitments made by countries as stipulated in the Paris Agreement and the continued peaking of global temperatures, there is no better time than this to scale up the call for accountability. PACJA seized the opportunity presented by the Global Stock Take to sustain steadiness both in the language and the demands the GST and those in negotiations needed to pursue in COP28. Keep Your Promises – to cut on emissions, honor climate finance pledges, more than double adaptation financing and stop propagation of false promises revibrated in COP28 and much more work on this is cut across 2024. The importance of equity and justice in addressing climate change as amplified in our campaigns in Dubai, will remain a strategic pursuit for PACJA into COP29.

This year, our Designated National Platforms demonstrated a great commitment to holding national leaders accountable for addressing the impacts of climate change. As a result, we engaged the entire continent in addressing the effects of climate change on health. Our call for action resonated beyond the continent and received huge endorsement worldwide.

As we close the year and open a new one, we maintain a keen eye on practical implementation of COP28 outcomes considered largely positive. The operationalization of the Loss and Damage, transitioning away from the fossil fuels and the work programme on just transition are some of those outcomes we shall sustain a keen eye. We are clear that the adaptation agenda is not yet on course though the UAE Framework on Resilience, if well midwived could offer tangible results. We haven't reached the end of our journey yet. Our goal is to keep working with world leaders to make sure they fulfil their promises made in Paris. We'll create more partnerships and networks to ensure that the voices of communities are the focal point of global climate discussions by 2024.

**Dr. Mithika Mwenda,**  
*Executive Director, PACJA*

# INTRODUCTION

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Year 2023 was a critical year for Africa, with a number of defining moments and processes for the continent. These key moments included the Inaugural Africa Climate Summit, defining in a profound manner our approach to organizing and the Global stock take offering an external moment for catalysing global accountability and climate action.

The Africa climate summit, sanctioned by the African Heads of states in the 36<sup>th</sup> AU summit held in Addis Ababa in February was of particular significant in galvanizing Africa's voice and pursuit for accountability for global commitments on part of the global north. The Summit therefore expected to bring together African leaders, policymakers, and experts to discuss and coordinate actions to address global climate change in the region. It was to serve as a platform for African countries to make resolutions and lay strategies that support realization of Africa's aspiration to create climate resilient societies and economiew while holding high emitters to account in cutting their emissions, rapidly mobilize financing for climate action at scale and forge a strategy for bringing to halt a host of false solutions, as propagated by the north. It was supposed to provide awakening and a rediscovery moment for Africa. The outcome of summit was expected to have significant implications not only in the region but globally. It was also meant to provide an opportunity for African leaders to showcase their efforts in addressing climate change and to collectivize strategies on how to engage with international partners to accelerate climate action.

The people of Africa and especially communities at the frontline of climate crisis had high hope that the summit, which was the first of its kind in Africa would provide a roadmap that would lead to solution to the climate crisis which is threatening the existence of the continent and its inhabitants. The continent looked forward to a summit that would catalyze climate action in Africa, increase global attention and support for the continent's climate challenges, advance for reforms in the existing global climate governance architecture and promote a more equitable and sustainable future for all. However, the planning process for the ACS started on the wrong foot as characterised by exclusion of critical players like civil societies, faith actors, private sector, indigenous people among other interest groups. The agenda of the conference was also not reflective of the aspiration of many in the continent. This was the entry point for PACJA where the alliance mobilised all the relevant non state actors to form a committee that would engage the planners of the event and influence the process to ensure inclusivity, accountability and responsiveness of the agenda to the need of the frontline communities.

The Global stock take (GST) was the other defining moment for the year, and fundamentally critical in the implementation of the Paris agreement. To be conducted in 2023, the GST provided the parties to the Paris agreement with a moment of reckoning and evaluation of the achievements made so far and identification of gaps that need to be addressed in order to put the planet on the road to achieving not only the temperature goal but also targets in finance, adaptation, loss and damage among other agenda. The global stock take is a critical turning point when it comes to efforts to address climate change – it's a moment to take a critical look on the state of our actions or inactions in climate change response and chart a better course for the future. The global stock take is a UNFCCC Party-driven process which needed to be conducted in a transparent

manner and with the participation of non-Party stakeholders, to enable countries and other stakeholders to see where they're collectively making progress toward meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement – and where they're not. GST meant looking at everything related to where the world stands on climate action and support, identifying the gaps, and working together to agree on solutions pathways. Accordingly, PACJA oriented its advocacy approaches this year to focus on accountability aspects of implementation of the Paris agreement. Even as parties to UNFCCC embarked on reflections on the hits and misses in implementation of the Paris agreement, there were all indication that we are way off the track in realizing the set targets in all thematic areas including climate finance, adaptation, mitigation, loss and damage among other thematic areas.

PACJA, as an agenda setting organization also created a broad based policy influence moment. The third Pan African Summit on Climate Policy and Equity shaped a transformative moment for PACJA, PanAfrican Parliament and for the continent. As the largest convening of Pan African parliamentarians on climate change, with over 300 parliamentarians from countries all over Africa, this phenomenal event was important in soundbouncing the direction of the continent in critical climate change matters. This forum was officiated by Dr. William Samoi Ruto, the President of Kenya who doubled as the chair of the Committee of African Heads of States on Climate Change (CAHSCC) under the African union. The summit yielded a declaration and resolution on advancing the climate justice agenda at country level. Broad based global reforms, particularly in reforming global financial architecture and strengthening the role of legislative units in climate governance were transformative elements of this summit. The resolutions agreed on were tabled at the national parliaments for adoption and domestication.

PACJA began the year with a staff and board (including the National Platform Coordinators) convening in Addis Ababa at the sidelines of the Africa Union Summit in February. The workshop provided an opportunity for the entire PACJA team to reflect on the work done in 2022 but most importantly to plan for 2023. During this time, the teams reviewed the achievements made in the year 2022, reflect on areas of improvement and develop their respective project-based/Strategic initiatives annual work plans and align them to the organisational results framework as envisioned in the strategic framework 2021 – 2030 and short term strategic plan 2021 – 2025. This was immediately followed by a multi stakeholders consultation workshop on COP28 strategy which yielded a strategy for COP28. The advocacy initiatives for 2023 were therefore guided by this strategy.

Key highlights of success registered over year 2023 can be summarised as follows:

- a. Unified civil society voice in key African climate change conversations:** Robust engagement and consolidation of critical non-state actor organizations into a single-most platform - *Africa Climate Summit Non-State Actors Steering Committee (ACS-NSA)*. This brought together institutions civil society, Labour movements, Academia, Women Movements, Financial Institutions, Africa Private Sector, Youth Movements, Indigenous peoples, Health Actors, Farmer Organizations and Nature based organizations into a single Unified formidable force.
- b. Manifestation of creative movement-building during the Africa Climate Summit:** The ACS-NSA Platform became a de facto space for informal consultation and facilitated deeper engagement with the Summit organisers. It contributed to the reshaping of the ACS original concept and agenda to address concerns raised by various Actors, including critical issues for Africa such as adaptation,



loss and damage and just transition. These were peripheral to the summit's agenda which seemed to propagate carbon markets as a central source of climate finance.

- c. Global financial architecture reform, the African voice and role of parliamentarians:** PACJA and Pan African Parliament (PAP) convened the ground-breaking *Pan African Parliamentarians Summit on Climate Policy and Equity*, which provided a platform for the debate on *global finance architecture reform* that subsequently dominated the year. President William Ruto of Kenya, the Coordinator of Committee of Heads of State and Government on Climate Change of the African Union (CAHOSCC) offered the keynote address to the Summit, and elevated the profile of climate concerns for Africa. The Summit Declaration was significant in shaping subsequent Africa's convergences, and made central the crucial role of African parliamentarians as central Actors in climate policy discourse, including centring their leadership for locally-led adaptation actions at national and sub-national levels. This catalysed Parliamentarians active engagement during the Africa Climate Summit and COP28, where their declaration was presented in high-level sessions.
- d. Invigoration of youth movement through tailor-made, targeted training:** More than 400 young people from 70 countries across the World (and 51 from Africa) participated in the Cohort-III of the *Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice (NSSCJ)*, building into the Alumni of the School that is emerging as a critical network of young people strategically positioned in international discourse on climate action. Participants from the School initiated the Youth for Adaptation Finance (YAF), a network of youth driving campaign on adaptation finance as a priority for Africa. The Network conducted the first Youth for Adaptation Finance in Africa (YOFAFA), further consolidating the voice of young people in climate debates.
- e. Enhanced visibility, remarkable contribution and significant influence in Africa's climate conversations and UNFCCC processes:** The role of PACJA as a crucial Actor in all African climate debates cannot be underestimated. As civil society partner in ClimDev Africa Initiative, the Alliance remains the main cog in processes spearheaded by African Union, UN Economic Commission for Africa, African Development Bank, UN Environment Regional Office, African Group of Negotiators (AGN) and Regional Economic Integration Communities (RECs). PACJA played its traditional role in the hosting of CCDA-11 together with other partners, in addition to participating in other major African and global forums.
- f. Innovative coalition-building between Governments, Intergovernmental Institutions and civil society for accelerated transition to greener, climate-resilient Africa:** The unique PACJA-driven *AfDB-Civil Society Coalition on Energy and Climate Change* has broken the long-held tensions between civil society and governments across Africa, and has demonstrated that there exists enormous opportunities and quick wins when all stakeholders work together. Through this unprecedented collaboration, PACJA, AfDB and partners hosted five consultations in five key African geographical regions, bringing together thousands of participants drawn from various sectors and thematic areas. Key messages from various regions were consolidated into a single declaration during the side-event at COP28.
- g. Launch of the *Keep your Promise Campaign*:** As part of the effort to hold governments and private sector accountable particularly in the Global Stock-take process, PACJA launched the "keep your promise campaign" to bring into limelight pledges and commitment made by Parties under the Climate Change Convention and the Paris Agreement. Hundreds of campaigns activities were

conducted across Africa, concluding in COP28 where PACJA continued to raise the African flag through side-events, press conferences, stunts, direct outreaches with key delegations and protests in solidarity with global climate justice movements. Part of the pressure exerted to governments was delivery of Loss and Damage Fund during the COP28, and ensuring Adaptation was not obscured in the negotiations dominated by fossil fuel phase-down-phase-out euphoria.

- h. Continued demonstration of impressive leadership performance of PACJA in coordinating multi-country, multi-partner programme 0 African Activists for Climate Justice Programme. The mid-term review report on the performance of this multi-country, multi-stakeholder program is clear and point the programme as being on track to achieving its goal

Finally, yet more profound, the convenings and lesson-sharing sessions among the Designated National Platforms (DNPs), at the start of the year and guided by a unified advocacy plan for the year 2023 provided basis for much more peer-learning, collaborative and protracted campaigning actions led by DNPs. These campaigning actions were reinforced by strengthened partnerships and collaborations at DNP level, as they continue to pivot themselves into indisputable reference civil society platforms in their respective countries

The reports aligned based on the five Strategic objectives as outlined in the strategic plan. Over the period in reference, PACJA programme delivery was supported by 10 key and strategic projects as provided in Annex I.

## **OPERATING CONTEXT IN 2023**

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The Russia-Ukraine crisis as well as Israel-Hamas war remains key geopolitical crisis defining global political, diplomatic and economic interactions, notably shaping the climate change discourse and energy landscape in Europe. This geo-political context has continued to provide impetus for opening of more oil fields and opening of coal mines that had been closed in parts of Europe, and, possibly, diverting finance from climate action.

As this worrying trend continues unabated, scientists have been warning that the impacts of climate change are becoming more serious each passing day. The 6<sup>th</sup> Assessment Report of the globally-acclaimed Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC-AR6) released on March 23, 2023 shows that the Africa region is projected to experience more frequent and intense droughts and floods under all emission scenarios.

According to this report, human activities, principally through emissions of greenhouse gases, have unequivocally caused global warming, with global surface temperature reaching 1.1°C above 1850–1900 in 2011 - 2020. Global greenhouse gas emissions have continued to increase, with unequal historical and ongoing contributions arising from unsustainable energy use, land-use and land-use change, lifestyles and patterns of consumption and production across regions, between and within countries, and among individuals. The report notes that climate change effects have caused damages to lives and livelihoods and that the most vulnerable communities who are least responsible for climate change continue to be disproportionately affected, and these communities are largely in Africa.

As the climate change impacts continues unabated, climate finance, which is urgently needed has not been

forth coming. IPCC-AR6 notes that a huge adaptation gap exists and that current global financial flows for adaptation are insufficient for, and constrain implementation of, adaptation options, especially in developing countries. This is further affirmed by the recent UNEP adaptation GAP report of 2023 which indicates that the adaptation GAP is increasing steadily yet only little funds are trickling down.

The IPCC observation on progress - or lack of it - in mitigation is also worrying, although Policies and laws addressing mitigation have consistently expanded. Global GHG emissions in 2030 implied by Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) announced by October 2021 make it likely that warming will exceed 1.5°C during the 21st century and make it harder to limit warming below 2°C. There are gaps between projected emissions from implemented policies and those from NDCs and finance flows fall short of the levels needed to meet climate goals across all sectors and regions.

Indeed, the Global stock-take report released in 2023 further reinforces these facts and acknowledges that there is lack of progress in reducing global emissions. Data predicts that some future changes are unavoidable and/or irreversible but can be limited by deep, rapid and sustained global greenhouse gas emissions reduction. This makes cutting down of the emission especially from high emitting countries more urgent than ever before.

The year in review was critical in the implementation of the Paris agreement as in accordance with its provisions, the global stock take was supposed to be conducted throughout 2023. This provided the parties to the Paris agreement with a moment of reckoning and evaluation of the achievements made so far and identification of gaps that need to be addressed in order to put the planet on the road to achieving not only the temperature goal but also targets in finance, adaptation, loss and damage, among other agenda.

As GST means looking at everything related to where the world stands on climate action and support, identifying the gaps, and working together to agree on solutions pathways; in 2023, PACJA oriented its advocacy approaches to focus on accountability aspects of implementation of the Paris agreement.

Even as parties to UNFCCC embarked on reflections on the hits and misses in this implementation, PACJA and partners focused on holding them accountable through a broad-based campaign, *Keep your promise*". Both approaches, though, were united in one observation: that the World is way off the track in realizing the set targets in all pillars of climate action, including climate finance, adaptation, mitigation, loss and damage, among other sectoral-thematic areas.

# ACHIEVEMENTS AGAINST STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

## I. RESILIENCE AND TRANSFORMATIVE GREENING LIVELIHOODS

This Strategic objective is geared towards accelerating post-pandemic economic recovery, livelihood security and social cohesion through promotion of innovation and adoption by communities, social groups and businesses of technologies and strategies using green growth approaches and nature-based solutions. Individual and family livelihoods and security are the number one priority for African citizens, and the more that people understand that achievement of these is dependent on the sustainable health of ecosystems, and the more they experience the value of green approaches in achieving those ends, the greater will be the momentum towards a sustainable future with 'no one left behind. During the year under review, PACJA engaged in various initiatives at Subnational, National, regional and global levels in pursuit of this strategic objective as outlined in the sections below.

### A. Launch of the Africa Climate Security Initiative, (ClimSec-Africa)

In January 2023, PACJA, in collaboration with SIPRI and FES Kenya, spearheaded the formalization of the Horn of Africa Climate Security Working Group (HoACSWG). Initially conceived as an informal arrangement, this collaboration aimed to generate recommendations for more effectively addressing climate-related security risks in the Horn of Africa. Subsequently, this initiative was integrated into PACJA's programming as the Africa Climate Security Initiative, abbreviated as ClimSec-Africa. ClimSec-Africa undertook this challenge by leveraging PACJA's significant convening influence in the region, its positive reputation among partners engaged in crucial regional and international policy processes, and its Pan-African presence.

The official launch of the ClimSec-Africa program took place on February 28, 2023, in Niamey, Niger, coinciding with the 9th African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development. Following the launch, ClimSec-Africa organized its inaugural regional stakeholders' workshop to introduce the program to a wider audience and gather input for its proposed draft Strategy, as documented in the workshop report available at the Secretariat.

The team initiated the refinement of the strategy based on the insights gathered in Niamey, conducting key informant interviews and presenting the strategy at various workshops and webinars to solicit additional feedback. The final version, with a more measured ambition, was then published in June 2023 for widespread use and dissemination. To guide the initial rollout of the strategy, an ad-hoc advisory committee was established.

ClimSec-Africa further contributed to the Nairobi Summer School by providing inputs on climate security elements, identifying resource persons, and facilitating the climate security stream/breakout day event. Additionally, a one-day workshop titled "*Climate Change, Peace, and Security Nexus: Integrating Conflict Analysis in Local Adaptation Plans*" was convened on September 6, 2023, in Nairobi, on the sidelines of the Africa Climate Summit. Attended by stakeholders from 13 climate insecurity hotspot counties in Kenya and funded by FES-Kenya and DaleAgro (the Mandera County group), the workshop proposed strategies for effectively integrating peacebuilding and conflict management interventions into County Climate Action Plans (CCAPs). Considerations included cross-border and inter-county relationships and realities. A policy brief,

targeting the leadership of those hotspot zones, is currently under review for publication in late December 2023.

To support ClimSec-Africa's initiatives, resource mobilization efforts are underway. This began with mapping and establishing partnerships with key potential collaborators active in the regional climate security space. Initial considerations include contributing climate security inputs to local climate change action plans and identifying gaps for deliberations at COP28. These efforts are expected to intensify in 2024 as entry points and climate action gaps become clearer post-COP28.

## **B. Advancing the course on the nexus between climate change and health**

Climate change impacts health through increased vulnerability to airborne, waterborne and vector-borne diseases and malnutrition. PACJA acknowledges the cross-cutting nature in which climate change affects all SDGs including the health sector. Climate change thus worsens the pre-existing health inequalities, especially in Africa. According to WHO, Climate change will account for 250,000 additional deaths per year 2030 and 2050. At the current rate of adverse climate impacts, it is unlikely the 2030 sustainable development agenda, the 2063 Agenda and the SDGs will be realized. Everyone is harmed by the impacts of climate change to some degree, but these harms fall disproportionately on disadvantaged population groups - including women and girls, Indigenous communities, people in crisis, displaced people, and the poor.

The nexus between climate and health in Africa presents a pressing and multifaceted challenge that requires urgent attention and comprehensive understanding. As the continent grapples with the increasing impacts of climate change, including extreme weather events, rising temperatures, and changing disease patterns, the implications for human health are profound. From the exacerbation of infectious diseases to the heightened risks of malnutrition, heat-related illnesses, and mental health disorders, the intertwined relationship between climate and health demands a holistic approach that integrates scientific research, policy interventions, and community engagement. Significant progress was made in Niger and Nigeria during the reporting period to advance the integration of climate and health concerns.

In the reporting period under review, PACJA enhanced and operationalized its continental working group on health and climate change which now meets monthly to deliberate on the climate and health agenda. The Alliance also closely partners with Ministries of Health and Climate and has strong presence in national designated platforms and working groups. The PACJA health work focuses on improved health status through resilient and green health systems, enhanced climate and health governance, transparency and accountability and building evidence for Policy influence. The flagship initiative for year 2023 was the health and climate change workshop which was held in Malawi in August generating a common African position on health and climate change.

Following the formation of the Health and Climate Change Working Group, stakeholders in Nigeria have initiated meaningful engagement at multiple levels. An impactful sensitization event took place in Port Harcourt, the capital of Rivers state, where women, youth, and medical practitioners came together to raise awareness about the interconnections between health and a changing climate. The event emphasized the importance of addressing menstrual hygiene and promoting proper waste disposal practices.



*Climate Change and Health Panel at the C4A Conference in Abuja, Nigeria October 2023*

On World Environment Day 2023, commemorated under the theme Beat Plastic Pollution, PACJA Cameroon chapter organized a multi stake holder meeting for people centered bottom-up approaches to NDC Implementation by Environmental Management Committees under Cameroon Climate Change Working Group (3CWG). At the end of the meeting, participants carried out a 1-day water catchment cleaning activity in 5 communities (Nkambe, Ndu, Nwangri, Sop and Taku). The main goal of the activity was to raise awareness on the dangers of plastic waste pollution on the environment, especially water sources, enhance ecological health, improve public health and discuss best practices of implementing the NDCs. The outcomes of the activity were: Improved water quality and sanitation of the communities, improved community health and increased awareness and engagement on NDCs.

Additionally, PACJA Cameroon chapter facilitated a Capacity-building workshop on climate change and health for health workers. The workshop aimed at enhancing the knowledge and skills of health professionals and policymakers on the nexus between health and climate change and to identify priority actions and strategies to address the health impacts of climate change in Cameroon. The talks entailed the current and projected health impacts of climate change in Cameroon and globally, based on the latest scientific evidence, main health risks and vulnerabilities, as well as the opportunities and co-benefits of adaptation actions, potential health co-benefits of climate change adaptation and mitigation actions in different sectors and the barriers and enablers for implementing resilience-building and low-carbon policies and practices that promote health.

In the run up to COP28, PACJA firmly influenced the health agenda with a focus to have health as a work program at UNFCCC. The working group secured a high-level ministerial panel with the AGN alongside the

African climate week, a side event at CCDA, series of webinars with other stakeholders to build the African common position on Health among other initiatives. The platform has attracted critical players in the health sector like AMREF and Wellcome trust with whom high level ministerial dialogue was organized in 2023.

### C. Unveiling Climate Justice Resilience Facility for Africa (CJRFA)

In February, the alliance rolled out the Climate Justice Resilience Facility for Africa (CJRFA)—a facility which aims at supporting innovative, rapid-response alternatives and ‘start-up’ initiatives in addressing climate change and promoting climate justice across Africa. The CJRFA targeted more or less formal (community) groups and initiatives and informal groups and movements, many of which may not have legal personality due to various reasons including government restrictions, resource constraints and the choice of activists. Six project partners that met the selection criteria and were accepted into the inaugural CJRFA cohort in the latter part of 2022. Each institution was awarded between EUR 5000 and 8000 for their respective community projects. These projects were carried out over a nine-month period, and throughout this duration, they received essential follow-up and support from the CJRFA program management unit at PACJA. A learning forum was organized in Nairobi at the tail end of this cohort’s cycle during which the partners—two active members from each project team--were facilitated to share experiences and develop their “stories of change”. Details of these are available in annex II.

This initiative is still in nascent stage but nevertheless there is growing adaptive and resilience capacities footprint as established across all six project locations after just 9 months of the CJRFA roll-out:

- ▶ **Policy change**—through the endorsement of policy statements by Meru county government on the restoration of wetlands through fencing selected hotspots.
- ▶ **Ecosystems restored**—wetlands in Meru and other forest ecosystems in Laikipia were restored and there are early indicators of improved river flows, microclimates, and recovering forest cover in many project sites.
- ▶ **Justice served**—positive litigation witnessed in Isiolo against entrenched cultural retrogressive practices against pastoralist women and girls that infringed on their freedom of expression. A strong movement has been formed that will propagate the gains in favor of climate justice.
- ▶ **Movement established**—women CSOs, schools, churches and youth groups that were involved in project activities are already raising awareness beyond their project sites and scaling up numbers beyond assessed locations.

The CJRFA is contributing to securing appropriate enabling environments -awareness raised, partnerships built, leadership and communication structures that have been established that are relevant and reinforce community and ecosystem resilience over the medium to long term.



*CJRFA K10 Inception Meeting held in Nairobi Kenya*

Cohort 2, consisting of 10 projects, was commissioned in June 2023 with about EUR 85,000 investment from the CJRFA. In November 2023, Cohort 3 was onboarded onto the CJRFA platform after 15 successful projects from across the 8 AACJ countries (Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, and South Africa) were identified from a large pool that responded to the April 2023 Call-for-Proposals. A maximum CJRFA investment of EUR 225,000 has been set aside for this Cohort. These projects are expected to wind down by February 2024 at a learning forum to be convened in Nairobi.

#### **D. Scaling up Locally Led Climate Action**

PACJA implemented several transformative policy processes and pragmatic initiatives with frontline communities in advancing locally led actions. In the period under reference, KPCG Co-hosted with the National Treasury, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change and a host of CSOs the National Conference on Financing Locally-Led Climate Action Held at Safari Park, Nairobi. Hosted on the sidelines of the African Climate Week and the African Climate Summit, the conference provided a space for the exchange of experiences, sharing of perspectives, learning, and scaling-up practical lessons and challenges faced by communities, and government in promoting locally led climate action. The main Actors in the Financing Locally-Led Climate Action (FLOCCA), including the National Government, County Governments, civil society, Private Sector, indigenous peoples, among others. The main outcome was ramping up support for FLOCCA, and expanding the community of practice for the locally-led climate action.





*Group Photo of high-level participants at the National Conference on Financing Locally-led Climate Action Held at Safari Park Hotel*

In addition, PACJA through the Kenya Platform on Climate Governance participated in stakeholder dialogue processes on the nexus between locally-led climate action, sustainable development and people-centered bottom-up approaches to NDCs implementation. The platform worked with the foreign missions in Kenya including the Dutch, Swedish, Danish embassies in hosting thematic dialogues in the build-up to the Africa Climate Summit. These dialogues focused on the role of Youth, women, indigenous people, private sector and civil societies in catalyzing locally led climate action in Kenya and beyond. During the period under review, two dialogue sessions were hosted by the Dutch and Danish embassies, while the final in the series ahead of ACS was hosted by the Swedish Embassy in Nairobi.

From a practice perspective, a number of Designated National Platforms implemented a number of programmatic and influence actions to advance Locally Led Adaptation.

In Mozambique, a total of 3,519 communities were reached through capacity building meetings on climate justice. The platform trained and provided legal assistance to Muliquela and Mucorro communities in Alto Molocue District to exercise their rights over forest plantations; and to Aliua and Muidebo communities in Maganja da Costa District to demand for their rights over natural resource exploration. In Alto Molocue one community managed to be compensated better for the sale of forest products after the second negotiation after training, while in Maganja da Costa the communities managed to demand for better terms of contract conditions over illegal investors. The platform also supported the development of a Land Use Plan which

is in use by the indigenous communities. In the period under review, indigenous communities were also supported to establish Natural Resources Management Committees (NRMC). Further the DNP, under the auspice of the African Activists for Climate Justice programme organized climate justice marches to amplify these demands

In Senegal three workshops were held with fisheries stakeholders, civil society, local and decentralized authorities focusing on endogenous adaptation practices to be popularized. In addition, the National Platform of Climate Change Clubs has produced a video, available in five local languages and aimed at raising awareness among young people about climate change and are using these videos in different communication channels to amplify an urgent call for support for locally led action.

**In Burkina Faso** capacity building activities within the framework of PACJA's advocacy strategy were conducted. These activities included a report on state of play in climate financing and amplified call by communities on leadership to address the constraints encountered by communities in accessing climate funds.

**In South Africa**, the national platform organized a beekeeping workshop aimed at equipping participants with comprehensive knowledge and practical skills in beekeeping. The event brought together 110 participants representing diverse stakeholders, including civil societies, government agencies like the Agricultural Research Council of South Africa and local governments. On Mandela Day, a special initiative was undertaken to bolster the capacity of female farmers. The focus was on promoting agroecology and companion planting techniques with raised bed gardens. This endeavor aimed to empower women in agriculture and enhance sustainable farming practices for a brighter future. The causes and effects of climate change and related concepts of justice, particularly environmental justice, and social justice were shared with participants. Cross-cutting support to most at risk of climate change, notably women, youth, and local communities was emphasized.

In Nigeria, communities were sensitized against deforestation and their capacity strengthened in the practice of afforestation to protect our ecosystem. trainings were conducted for rural women, youth and local organizations were supported to carryout advocacy campaign and mark UN days with some activities that helps to empower the people. In addition, non-state actors were trained at the grassroots level to translate Climate Change Adaptation Strategies to promote smart Agricultural practices. Women in rural communities have faced significant challenges when it comes to adopting climate change adaptation strategies because of their lack of understanding of its impact. CSDevNet trained communities in the production of biomass/ briquette in Kaduna State, Nigeria. Through engagements with stakeholders at the grass root level, forest dependent communities and farmers, the platform broaden their understanding in the fight for climate justice and adopting healthy practices to make the environment habitable for all.

PACJA implemented a number of locally led climate actions as summarized in the box below

<b>Some LLA Examples from Kenya</b>
<p>1. <i>Mangroove replanting (12,000) on degraded areas in Marereni by the Sauti ya Wanawake, Girls to Women, Marereni Talanta and the Umoja Support groups to ensure climate resilience.</i> Marereni small-scale farmer groups in Malindi were able to plant drought-resistant crops to combat the increasing climate change effects in the area.</p>
<p>2. <i>Apiculture targeting increases crop yield through pollination, scaling up innovative approaches to preventing human wildlife conflicts and environmental protection through ecological regeneration in Meru and Makueni counties.</i> Reported expansion of beehives (100 to 256. There has also been expansion of the land for apiculture from 4 hectares to 10 hectares). This has led to increased involvement of beekeepers in environmental conservation; enhanced diversification of livelihoods and investment in tree planting that act as carbon sinks, hence mitigating climate change through sequestration of the carbon in the atmosphere.</p>
<p>3. <i>Sorghum farming targeting small scale farmers in Meru County, Central part of Kenya.</i> Increased registration of farmers into sorghum farming – yields expected to improve food security, income diversification and improved standards of living for local population in the context of climate vulnerabilities;</p>
<p>4. <i>Sunflower farming in Meru County, central region of Kenya, targeting small-scale farmers to diversify their produce, build resilience and through embracing drought resistant crops.</i> Sunflower production is pertinent for the attraction of bees which is very critical for process of pollination among other types of vegetation. The intervention has offered capacity building by extension officers and community volunteers that has increased registration of farmers into sorghum farming.</p>

## **E. Building a critical mass of African Activists pushing for Climate Justice**

PACJA through AACJ project strategically contributed to enhancing the capacity of communities towards resilience building and green growth. The mid-term evaluation of the AACJ Project noted that there has been increased organizational influence and capacities of established movements around climate justice. Several CSOs and community groups formed or strengthened with AACJ support have successfully engaged in multiple actions related to advocacy and political influencing regarding climate adaptation, and resilience. Additionally, the OCA Quantitative survey revealed that 86.7% of surveyed organizations were involved in policy influencing initiatives related to climate justice and movement building, marking a significant increase from the baseline figure of 61.3%.

In order to enhance awareness levels, PACJA has been engaging women, youth and indigenous people on climate justice through local organizations with contextual knowledge and presence within the communities. Partners have conducted awareness workshops, meetings and trainings. They have also utilized digital platforms, mainly social media, to increase awareness on issues of climate change. At Midyear, for example, the alliance managed to generate and document a total of 39 pieces of evidence on locally led adaptation initiatives surpassing the target of 32 evidence and good practices achieving an overall performance of 122%.

## F. Enhancing the dialogue on climate finance

Advocacy on enhancement of climate finance flow was a top priority for the alliance in 2023. There was heightened attention to this agenda both at continental and country levels.

In the spirit of influencing the global architecture of climate financing PACJA hosted a roundtable on climate finance at the sidelines of the World bank/ IMF annual meeting which was organized in Marrakech in Morocco in October 2023. The convening adopted the Civil Society Marrakech Declaration on Climate finance, which amplifies the following demands:

- i. Call on financial institutions to prioritize grant financing over debt financing to support sustainable development and climate change
- ii. Demand for institutional governance reform within the MDBs for equitable representation and decision making
- iii. Retaliate the call by parties to UNFCCC at COP28 on Multilateral Development Banks and their shareholders to reform practices and priorities and to channel finance directly to national and subnational government and local actors consistent with the principles of locally led action
- iv. Call upon MDB to shift the emphasis from pure economic prosperity to the human well-being and to broaden their focus from financial targets to environmental, social and governance impacts
- v. Call upon developed countries to restore and strengthen global accountability between MDBs and national governments and to develop reporting rules on climate finance to avoid inflated claims and double counting
- vi. Call for finance institutions
- vii. Call upon parties to UNFCCC to hasten the negotiations on New collective and quantified finance goal which should pave way for predictable, adequate and flexible climate finance to vulnerable countries and communities
- viii. Call for urgent conclusions on modalities of operationalizing loss and damage facility, the funding mechanisms needs to follow the principles of equity, CBDR and must be Party-driven, where decisions are agreed by consensus. As a matter of principle, the loss and damage fund should be grant based, locally led, broad-based and adopt a whole society approach, gender responsive and accessible to communities at the frontline of climate crisis.

Countries were too at the forefront of climate action and influence. PACJA GABON platform and the FOVIGENA NGO, in partnership with UNICEF GABON organized a national training course with key support from the Gabonese Ministry of the Environment, Water and Forests, responsible for the climate plan and land allocation plan. Held from September 27 to 28, 2023 at the Alibendengue school complex, the training build the capacity of Gabonese civil society players and other stakeholders involved in developing green climate fund projects aimed at restoring degraded forest landscapes. Additionally, they initiated a campaign of exchange and dialogue with technical and financial partners and the heads of national platforms with a view to mapping the funding needs of local CSOs involved in conservation and the fight against climate change in Gabon. During the training, the teams worked on the development of a climate rationale, a theory of change, and the mobilization of private sector players to finance climate change. During the session, participants were also briefed on other possible sources of funding, such as the Adaptation Fund, the Global

Environment Facility, among others.

PACJA Cote d'Ivoire leadership also conducted an introductory meeting with Green Climate Fund (GCF) to explore areas of collaboration in climate finance initiatives. A meeting between the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and platform members provided a comprehensive overview of the available opportunities in climate financing that platform members can explore. The dialogue sessions yielded new national and regional partnerships, including the creation of joint national initiatives on climate change as starting points for expanding civil society's influence in Gabon. The dialogue further stressed the need for national plans on financing adaptation to centre resilience considerations and to take issues of loss and damage. Emphasis was placed in mobilizing political good will for adaptation to enhance mobilization to technical and financial resources at national and international level. In addition, this dialogue enabled CSOs to map capacity-building needs and key actions for promoting sustainable development, environmental justice biodiversity conservation and gender equality, addressing the causes and impacts of climate change.

Notable also was the hosting of National Consultative Workshop on 2023 Climate Action Advocacy Strategy in Abuja. Climate and Sustainable Development Network (CSDevNet), along with other civil society groups also convened in Abuja to discuss strategies for addressing climate change.

Ethiopia organised a debriefing meeting on the outcomes of COP28 for its members. A capacity building training was also organised for journalist to enhance their knowledge on climate change reporting. Other sensitization and consultation workshops were held focusing on environmental rights and justice as well as on strengthening local action. The 2023 World Environment Day was also used to create awareness about climate justice and sharing information using various social media platforms.

## **G. Supporting needs-based advocacy on adaptation**

Through the initiative on supporting needs-based advocacy on adaptation, PACJA partnered with East Africa Farmers Federation, Organization of Instituted African Churches and ACT Alliance in strengthening core constituencies in Africa as lead voices in shaping the national and international policy debate on climate adaptation. As part of its bold aspiration, PACJA spearheaded an initiative of formation of six regional networks and communities of practice on adaptation across the regional blocs in Africa. In this reporting period, PACJA and its partners launched the Southern Africa, Horn of Africa, West Africa, North Africa and central African region communities of practice, with overall mandate of coordinating evidence generation, learning and coordinating advocacy on adaptation in their respective regions.

At the country level under this initiative, various countries engaged in various actions;

The Kenya Platform for Climate Governance (KPCG) continued to strengthen its 7 subnational clusters (regional offices) to respond to the adaptation needs in the country and to strengthen the work of PACJA as its designated national platform in Kenya through networks. These offices have scaled efforts in exploring collaborative synergies with the sub-national governments, policy makers, researchers and farmers. Further, these regional blocks have so far strengthened mobilization of various local communities institutions, indigenous people's associations, pastoralist groups, people with disabilities, women and youth groups to advance the agenda of knowledge sharing on climate change adaptation, with capacity building being at the center of their processes.

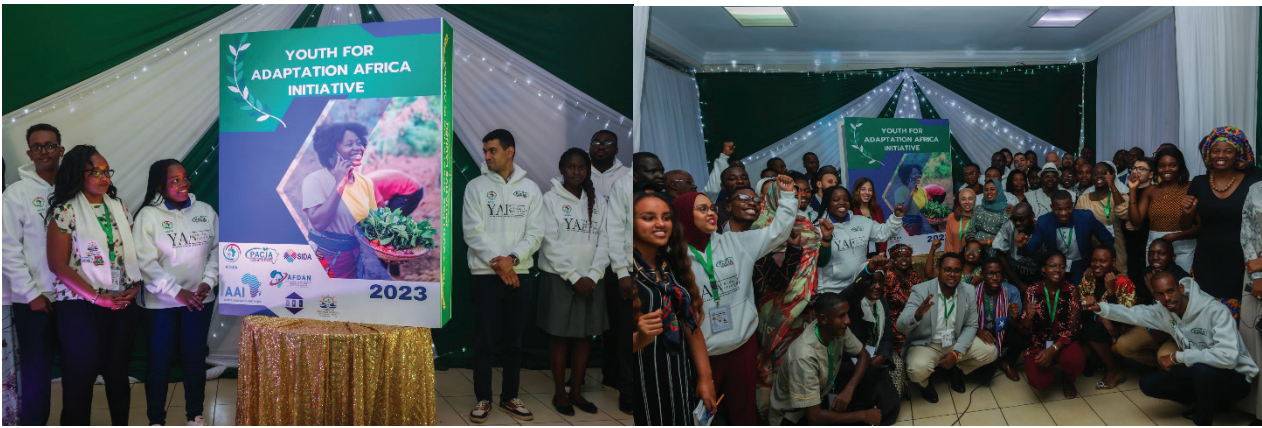
In Benin, the team organized Pre-regional Youth and Women led Dialogues on the role of stakeholders and how they can contribute to doubling adaptation financing in Africa which brought together 262 online participants. Further, PACJA platform in Benin organized a physical follow up regional forum that brought together 200 young people and women to firm up strategies for advancing the adaptation agenda. A total of 100 young people and women each represented their non-governmental organization and association within the framework of this dialogue. Experts with diverse background were onboarded to share perspectives on adaptation, financing mechanisms that exist and the obstacles to financing adaptation and how remove them. The experts too amplified the crucial role of young people and women in advancing the adaptation agenda, the development of Nature-based solutions, and how young people can apply digital platforms to amplify advocacy to double funding for adaptation. This dialogue was instrumental in positioning young people and women to lead effective advocacy at all levels in influence for greater and equitable funding for adaptation.

In Cameroon, National Youth and Women-led Dialogue on Climate Change Adaptation was held on May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023. This was an opportunity for women and youths to connect and build networks that could be used to advocate for climate action; identify and develop innovative solutions for climate change adaptation like the creation of jobs through a circular economics development model; and sharing of best practices and building partnerships with different stakeholders.

Youth Love Egypt, PACJA's platform in Egypt, as a hallmark of its engagement on adaptation has established the Egyptian Coalition for climate change and circular economy from 26 NGOs. Further to this, 2 workshops were conducted for building the capacity of 26 institutions and NGOs working in the climate change sector from different governorates, including 15 women-led associations.

## **H. The Official Launch of the Youth for Adaptation Finance (YAF Africa Initiative)**

The principal objective of the YAF Africa Initiative is to advocate for increased adaptation finance and the official launch of this initiative took place in Kenya at the Rainbow Ruiru Resort on the 9th of July. This momentous event marked the beginning of a new chapter in Africa's fight against climate change, placing the power to drive transformative action firmly in the hands of the continent's youth. The launch attracted a broad spectrum of participants, including young Africans from diverse backgrounds, and stakeholders from international institutions, governments, and local communities. The event proved to be a clarion call to African youths, encouraging them to unite and confront the pressing challenges posed by climate change. The initiative recognizes that Africa, with its unique vulnerabilities, requires significant financial support to combat the impacts of climate change effectively. The YAF Africa Initiative serves as a platform to amplify the voices of young Africans advocating for more resources to be dedicated to adaptation efforts and in furtherance of this several online activation processes were conducted in the period under reference. By raising awareness about the profound impact climate change has on the continent, the initiative aims to mobilize international institutions, governments, and stakeholders to prioritize and increase funding and fair finance mechanisms for adaptation projects in Africa.



*Youth at the Launch of Youth for Adaptation Finance on the sidelines of the NSSCJ 3*

## II. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND MOBILISATION

This strategic objective entails enhancement of citizens' knowledge and endorsement of sustainable pathways to realization of environmental and human rights, and to mobilize and empower citizens in Africa and globally to pressure their governments on such rights. This is aimed at ensuring that pandemic recovery, climate and environmental financing is invested in initiatives, programmes, and services that aim to equitably realize those rights and ensure that realization of these rights is embedded in the governments' international commitments, such as their periodically revised NDCs. PACJA engaged in numerous initiatives around this Strategic objective including:

### A. Conducting annual Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice

The youthful population in Africa account for about 60% of the total population and are valuable members of the African community with the potential to significantly contribute to the success of the society. This high population makes the youth influential in the continent. The participation of youth in decision-making provides opportunities for them to influence decisions on issues of importance to them. Getting involved also means young people will learn new skills along the way. Active engagement of the youth in the design and delivery of public policies, programs and services that impact on their lives is critical to their success. The NSSCJ initiative is geared towards building a community of practice of youth who will perpetuate the learning outcome to communities in respective countries and pass it over from generation to generation. The trained young activists become a hub where other youth can draw some lessons for replication of the interventions. In the period under review, PACJA undertook preparatory work for the 3<sup>rd</sup> cohort of the Nairobi summer school which was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> July this year.



*NSSCJ 3 Participants group photo session at the Closing Ceremony*

PACJA conducted experts' strategy meeting in Cape town, South Africa in January 2023. The strategy meeting brought together a meticulously selected small team of thought leaders to deeply interrogate and reflect on the Cohort I and II, draw lessons and render ideas on how to deliver a more impactful Cohort III of the School. The participants included experts on climate justice, Curriculum Development, Research & Policy Analysis, Climate Science, International negotiations, Scholars and (frontline) Community activists. The strategy meeting resulted in reviewed curriculum for the summer school which is responsive to needs of the targeted participants. In this strategy meeting it was deemed necessary to develop targeted, tailor-made modules, putting into consideration the rapidly-shifting discourses in the international climate change dialogue processes, which oftentimes render concepts and ideas earlier thought to be solutions, obsolete. A road map on future inclusion of the summer school in the education curriculum through the ministry of education was also discussed

In partnership with Kenyatta University and the Ministry of Education, PACJA launched the call for application for Cohort III of the Nairobi summer school on Climate Justice in April 2023. The call received an overwhelming response not only in Africa but also the larger global south and North. A total of 2015 applications were received from 73 countries across the globe. Only 4 countries in Africa did not submit any application which is a clear indication of the overwhelming interest in the school from the entire continent. 300 participants out of the 2015 applicants were selected to participate in the school physically while 400 have been selected to join the school virtually. Out of the participants selected 52% are women.





*Cohort III of the Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice*

The third Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice was held between 4<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 at Kenyatta University. The school saw over 300 participants attending physically while over 200 others attended virtually. The participants were drawn from 73 African countries. Out of the 73, 51 countries were from Africa. The school commenced with a high-level symposium graced by distinguished individuals and organizations such as The Ministry of Education (Kenya), Kenyatta University, The National Assembly in Kenya, The Danish High Commission, SIDA, AfDB, AU, UNECA, The World Bank, AGN, PACJA and Alumni of the Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice.



*Ezekiel Machogu, EGH - Cabinet Secretary for education giving his opening remarks during the Opening High Level Symposium for the NSCCJ 3*

Learners were taken through different modules of the NSSCJ curriculum: Introduction to climate change and climate crisis (day 2); climate justice, adaptation and resilience building in selected sectors (day 3); international efforts to address the climate crisis (day 4); critical climate justice issues for the global south (day 5); just transition and energy access (day 6); climate justice advocacy and communication (day 7); : climate justice advocacy and communication continuation (day 8); green economy and entrepreneurship (day 9); and on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2023, the participants were split into different groups to undertake various thematic tracks as per their interests. The thematic tracks included: climate justice and gender justice (track 1), climate justice and faith (track 2), climate justice and health (track 3); climate justice issues within cities and local (track 4) climate security (migration/conflict/over resources, natural disasters) (track 5); human and environmental rights (track 6) and climate justice and finance (track 7)

As part of the NSSCJ modules, students were exposed to field work at the Fred's Ranch in Kajiado, County in Kenya where they were taken through sustainable agricultural practices that facilitate adaptation to climate change. The end of the summer school was crowned with a high-level closing ceremony attended by representatives of the partner organizations including Kenyatta University, The Swedish High commission of in Kenya, PACJA, ACSEA, Africa Union, All Africa Conference of Churches, the chair of the Africa Climate Summit (ACS) and MPIDO.

In regard to the summer school, there are key and notable achievements in the period under reference. In the year under review, the alliance the largest number of applications but could only support 15% of the total number of applicants. The school is also attracting other partners who are becoming interested in collaborating with us to advance this initiative. Though the main objective of the school in to raise a crop of young climate justice activists equipped with requisite knowledge, understand and skills to engaged in climate change discourse at all levels, it is emerging that the program is already realising very positive outcomes that are incremental to its intended outcome where we have recorded cases of young people who have secured jobs through presentation of the certificate awarded on completion of the summer school. Others have secured promotions at their work places but most importantly we have recorded a significant number of graduates who are negotiating for their government at the COP, a typical example is Ezekiel Nyafor from Liberia who graduated in cohort 3 and negotiated for his government on capacity building at COP 28. Probably the greatest success for the last summer school lies in the stepdown trainings that grandaunt convened back home, targeting students from universities and other tertiary institutions and community organizations to join movements advancing climate justice. There was a notable transformative leadership by alumni in local mobilization for action and for implementation of locally led actions including restoration of wetlands, afforestation programmes and brilliant innovations in agriculture all connected with the broad mobilization for of public for bold action.



*Opening High level Symposium of the Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice*

## **B. Strengthening the organizing of the Non-State Actors**

The Africa Climate Summit, though with inherent challenge of a captured process provided a richer ecosystem for the PACJA to remodel its organizing and create richer platforms for concerted influence. To underscore the importance of contribution from all actors in the continent, PACJA working with its allies organized all the non-state actors into a major platform - the Africa Climate Summit – Non-State Actors Steering Committee. The Africa Climate Summit – Non-State Actors Steering Committee (ACS-NSA) is a Platform that strives for advancement for a pro-African agenda in all key climate spaces. With its Secretariat supported by PACJA, and organized into clusters, the ACS-NSA draws its members drawn from regional CSOs, Indigenous People, Faith Actors, Trade Unions, African Private Sector, Farmer Organizations, Women and Gender Constituency, Academia and Research Institutions, Foundations and Finance Institutions, organizations working on Conservation and Nature Based Solutions or Youth organization. This platform was crucial in challenging the agenda of the summit as initially conceptualized, advancing for greater inclusion of all the voices in the ACS and engaging other bodies to advance a transformative agenda with the government of Kenya. The organizing under the ACS-NSA apexed with a further pan African organizing and release of the Non State Actors Redlines and Demands, a statement that outlined the perspectives of the Non-State Actors on what the African Climate Summit must accomplish, contentious issues African leaders should not compromise and the essential elements for the ideal Summit outcomes that reflects the desires and aspirations of the African people. This statement galvanized support from over 2300 signings by organizations and influential people from Africa and beyond, further galvanizing Africa around key principles that should underpin climate response measures in the continent.



*Non-State Actors Redline Statement in Nairobi, Kenya*

### **C. Protest against appointment of Al Jaber as the COP 28 president**

In January this year, PACJA embarked on a long battle on fossil fuels following the appointment of Sultan Al-Jaber by the United Arab Emirates (UEA) as COP 28 president. Al Jaber is the head of oil giant Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC). As COP28 President, Al-Jaber will be at the centre of crucial UNFCCC process and is therefore likely to exert enormous influence on the COP outcome. Never again has the world ever witnessed a quasi-government Executive being appointed to lead such a crucial multilateral process, and this appointment therefore marks the lowest moment for the UNFCCC, which is exceedingly veering off from its mandate to an international Expo where Corporates with dubious environmental-climate integrity green wash their fossil-fuel credentials. In response, PACJA in partnership with other civil societies in the region issued a press conference in January expressing deep worries about the capture of the international dialogue on climate change by vicious fossil companies whose ill-intentions are to derail the transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient development pathways. The press conference went viral and it was broadcasted by over 200 international media houses. In June this year, Sultan Al-Jaber visited Kenya and held meetings with stakeholders in a clear attempt to seek endorsement as the COP28 president, accordingly, PACJA received an invite for the office of the COP28 designate to engage in consultation on COP28. The alliance turned down the invitation and instead organized another press conference at the same time Al- Jaber was holding stakeholders' consultations further calling on the oil tycoon to step down as COP28 president. These press conferences were covered by over 200 media stations which means that the alliance raised awareness of millions of people around the world on the implications on nomination of Al- Jaber on COP28 negotiations. These bold public pronouncements, reinforced by massive media coverage brought to the fore and for public attention critical issues affecting negotiations and triggering greater vigilance among the publics on preparatory processes to COP28, including potential implications of decisions on regional convenings such as the Africa Climate Summit and the Africa Climate Week.

## D. Heightening the cause for women in climate change

PACJA convened a series of events aimed at heightening critical issues relevant to women, strengthening public mobilization and provoking greater responsiveness to women issues in critical spaces as below:

**Marking International Women's Day:** PACJA in collaboration with UNEP Southern Africa Sub-Regional Office, Southern Africa Youth Movement (SAYM) and African Women Energy Entrepreneurs Framework (AWEEF) organised a webinar titled "*Centrality of women in unlocking value-chains in catalytic sectors: Mining, Just Energy Transition, Agriculture and Technology*" to commemorate International Women's Day (IWD 2023) on the 8 March 2023. This webinar created a platform for participants to discuss, distill and synthesize innovative mechanisms and technologies to ensure equity is embraced in the social, economic and environmental dimensions of Mining, Just Energy Transition and Agriculture. Further to this, a number of DNPs held events during this moment to amplify call for action on climate change, to address the vulnerabilities experienced by women at the frontline of climate crisis.

**The Sixty-Seventh Session of the Commission on the Status of Women:** PACJA as a member of Generation Equality hosted on the NGO CSW Forum a virtual roundtable discussion on "*Digital Platforms and Technologies Transforming Activism: How Technology Access Could Empower Feminist Activists on Climate Change*". This discussion explored the importance of technological tools to mitigate climate change in rural regions and traditional communities and how this can promote and empower feminist action and gender equality. It also explored the difficulties accessing digital platforms and internet in rural areas and how other technologies are being used to create an activism web to solve specific problems and demands. It was an opportunity to learn about the intersection of gender and climate change and how young people are leading the charge for transformative change. PACJA's intervention was on the strategies that can be utilised to implement goals to achieve gender equality and promote climate justice in rural and marginalized areas.

**35th GCF Board meeting from a gender perspective:** PACJA and Centre for 21st Century Studies held an online seminar "*Advancing gender equality in the next stages of the Green Climate Fund*" on 28th March 2023. The seminar looked into key issues for advancing gender equality in the Green Climate Fund, with a sharp review on the outcomes of the 35th GCF Board meeting from a gender perspective. PACJA provided perspectives on key gender priorities in the GCF for 2023 and beyond.

**Commemoration of Earth Day:** PACJA collaborated with Akina Mama wa Afrika to host a webinar on "*From Rhetoric to Reality: Feminist Perspectives on climate finance*". The aim of the webinar was to situate climate finance in the global economic and governance architecture and further make a case for the need to reshape the current approach to climate finance and ensure that it is gender responsive, anti-colonial, debt free, long term, flexible, and anti-capitalistic in its structure and mode of delivery. Key topical issues that were covered included: a. Historic context and trend analysis of the climate financing architecture in Africa, specifically looking into what is being promoted and the power institutions upholding the narrative (corporate capture and the role of IFIs); b. An overview of climate financing strategies that are being proposed and their impacts on Africa's development, especially looking into unique ways they shape lived realities of African women, in all their diversities; c. Debunking the obsessive need for 'growth' and why we need debt-free financing; d. Tracking the money to determine which solutions/mechanisms are being financed and whether they are fit for purpose to support feminist solutions; e. Exploring key challenges in normative thinking around climate

finance that need to shift to advance feminist finance; f. Unpacking our vision for a feminist decolonial climate finance agenda that centres on reparative justice and exploring alternative and innovative delivery mechanisms.

**Gender transformative strategy and engagements:** PACJA has developed the first draft of gender transformation strategy and convened consultative forums to sensitize wider constituent on the strategy. The gender-transformative approach lays emphasis on the long term and intergenerational approach that strives to promote gender equality by examining, strengthening, and promoting inclusion of women, men, girls, boys and the marginalized members of society to raise awareness on the social structures, norms, systems and policies that perpetuate and legitimise gender inequalities. To this end, PACJA actively build movements of youth and women’s organizations to enhance their ability to design solutions, organize and contribute to gender equality and climate justice. By focussing on girl led climate action, PACJA is working with the Kenya Girl Guides Association to build their knowledge, skills and leadership and ensure they have the right knowledge on matters climate justice to make decisions. In this regard, PACJA for the first time ensured more female youth were sponsored to attend the Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice Cohort III.

*Marking the World Day to Combat Desertification and drought – women focused webinars:* PACJA held a webinar themed “Her land, her right’ with panelists drawn from diverse backgrounds including the indigenous communities who offered perspective on the role of traditional knowledge for women at the frontline of the climate crisis in combating desertification. This webinar took a dive on how policy can be transformed and made more gender responsive to position women in decision making processes in combating desertification.

**Strengthening institutional outlook of women institutions:** As an upcoming strategic partner, PACJA contributed to the sustainability strategy of the Regional Nile Basin Women’s Network during their action planning workshop held on 20th February 2023.

*Feminist COP:* Through the Feminist COP held in 2023, parties agreed to increase participation of women in UNFCCC processes. The conference voiced the concerns of women around climate change by facilitating demands on key issues such as just transition centered on ecofeminist futures, financing for climate action including finance on loss and damage, and meaningful representation of women and girls in decision making on issues pertaining to climate change.

**Anchoring Gender in NAPs and National Climate Change Programmes:** Between July 11 and 14, 2023, at the invitation of the National Climate Change Program (PNCC) of the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development in Côte d’Ivoire, PACJA-Côte d’Ivoire took part in a workshop to validate the Gender and Climate Change strategy. The event was attended by eight (08) civil society organizations, including PACJA-Côte d’Ivoire. The workshop was instrumental in familiarize participants with the content of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), collect information from stakeholders, enquire about available means of communication, capitalize on the experiences of stakeholders in implementing the NAP, and take into account suggestions and recommendations.

**Pan African Women’s Day:** Botswana Climate Change Network honoured the women who are at the forefront of climate advocacy, conservation, and innovation. A poster was created to spotlight the work of Ms. Thato Mutumba in the Chobe Region in Botswana, from the Kalahari Research and Conservation Botswana who is one of the participants in the African Women’s Voices booklet. In her captured story, Mutumba mentions that

her community has a high number of disadvantaged individuals who depends heavily on natural resources to sustain their livelihoods. It is for this reason that she is dedicated to combating climate change and safeguarding the environment through conservation projects and studying the biodiversity of the Kalahari.

Further, The Botswana Climate Change Network created a gender integration in climate change initiative after realizing that women, particularly the grassroots women, engage less in climate change action. During this reporting period BCCN through the newly created Okavango Women Network conducted a strategic action plan workshop which endeavoured to develop a roadmap counter the proposed oil and gas exploration in the Okavango Delta. The workshop constructively engaged 20 women from the Okavango Delta and cross-sectoral parties in the private sector, community leadership, civil society, indigenous and local community-based organizations. the overall objective of the Workshop was to build a robust gender strategic action plan that is considerate of the capacity needs of the women to effectively respond to the planned drilling. There is a degree of understanding of oil and gas drilling and its implications on the environment, by a limited number of members of the community.

### **E. Training of CSOs on renewable energy policy brief development**

PACJA convened meetings that invigorated civil society and African Energy Commission relationship through proactive engagement. The meetings focused on deepening reflections on energy issues, resolve existing conceptual tensions, elucidate African perspectives, and develop strategies for CSO engagement in shaping policy and practice for a just and democratic energy transition in Africa. Some of the meetings conducted in the period under review include: Further PACJA trained 16 CSOs on policy advocacy and influence guided by an advocacy policy document prepared earlier. A total of 16 CSO representatives from EAC and SADC member countries were trained on the continued use of the Advocacy Strategy in influencing development and review, monitoring of initiatives, learning and sharing and making use of key moments to increase awareness on the advantages of renewable energy. A synopsis document that serves to help the CSOs understand the policy and legislative environment with respect to energy access and the necessary inclusions and alignments in NDCs to anchor the renewable energy sector initiatives was shared to support CSOs in influencing the implementation of NDCs. The trained CSOs are expected to develop and implement targeted education and awareness campaigns that inform citizens of the benefits of renewable energy, its role in addressing climate change and how it contributed to environmental human rights.



*Harmonization of the East African Common Customs Management Act in Renewable Energy, Dar-esalam Tanzania*

Beyond advocating through ACSEA for more funding for renewable energy projects that address energy needs for local communities, and additional achievement under this result area was the development of a resource mobilization plan for the African Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI), one of the key initiatives that PACJA is influencing.

## **F. Mobilising African Activists for climate Justice**

AACJ programme partners supported frontline activists and organizations to reach out to and mobilize groups that are affected by climate change. The programme facilitated financing of movements and their activities, connection of climate affected communities to climate justice movements, civil society organizations and other like-minded organizations working around climate change. There was significant progress in strengthening capacities of partner organizations with an achievement of 26 out of the 37 target for 2023 a translation of 70%.

## **G. PACJA at COP 28**

PACJA implemented a host of activities within COP28 and as a preparatory process to the COP

### **a. COP28 Preparatory Workshop**

As a prelude to our action at COP28, PACJA organized a one-day COP28 Preparatory Workshop on Wednesday, November 29th at Novotel Hotels and Resorts located at World Trade Centre, Al Sa'ada Street. Members drawn from African civil society organizations coalescing under PACJA convened in Dubai in a COP28 preparatory workshop that assessed challenges and progress made from the previous COP 27. The preparatory workshop enabled PACJA and its members to consolidate and validate the COP 28 common position for Africa – and to call on Parties to transcend pledges and “Keep the Promise” on actions needed to address the climate crisis.

### **b. Side Events of COP28**

The Alliance also held a series of other meetings, side events and press conferences. Whose summaries can be found here:

#### **► *Ensuring fair and transparent access to critical minerals for African countries in the context of global energy transition***

At the sidelines of COP28 which kicked off November 30 in Dubai, the Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), Africa Union commission, United National Economic Commission for Africa, Africa development Bank and the Africa-Coalition for Sustainable Energy and Access (ACSEA and the Africa Development Bank engaged in thoughtful discussions over critical minerals and how they should contribute to Africa's socio-economic sustainability. Critical minerals such as lithium, cobalt, copper, nickel, and other rare earth elements are in high demand for the production of batteries, electric vehicles wind turbines, solar panels, and other clean technologies in the world. Africa itself possesses about 30% of the entire world's mineral reserves which makes it the most eyed region for critical mineral investments. During this side event, participants highlighted the challenges that Africa's minerals including critical ones are not serving the interest of Africans as they are given that they are exploited and processed outside Africa. Key messages shared during this first-ever side event at COP28 include the vitality of critical minerals for the global energy transition and the



challenge they pose for sustainability and inclusiveness, the need for African Countries. [Read more information here](#). This conversation resulted in a decision to hold a more elaborate dialogue on the topic in February of 2024



► ***Raising Adaptation Finance in Africa by More than Double***

This side event was co-organised by the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), Africa Adaptation Initiative (AAI) and Africa Green Climate Fund National Designated Authority Network (AFDAN). It aims to promote the mobilisation and effective use of climate finance to support low-carbon and climate-resilient development on the continent. The event offered an opportunity to increase awareness and understanding of the current state and trends of adaptation finance in Africa and the gaps and challenges in meeting the adaptation needs and priorities of the continent. It was also the space to enhance the open dialogue and collaboration among stakeholders, including governments, civil society, and the private sector and development partners, on mobilising and delivering better adaptation finance for Africa.

► ***Addressing Protection gap and Climate Change-Induced Migration***

Climate change impacts have become a cross-sectorial issue and require global efforts to find long-lasting solutions without leaving an actor behind. In a session organized by Germany-based Klima Allíanz and VENRO organizations on the sidelines of COP28, the issue of Climate change was highlighted as the most common cause of mobility in different parts of the world especially in Africa and the Pacific islands. It emerged that addressing the protection gap and the challenges of climate-induced migration requires global action encompassing legal, policy and humanitarian response.

[Access the full story here](#)

► ***Fostering North-South collaboration in ensuring inclusive and sustainable development of critical minerals for African countries in the context of the global energy transition***

This side event was co-organized organized by PACJA in collaboration with the Pan African Parliament, Africa Union Commission, Economic Commission for Africa, USAID, Ministry of Environment of Government of Kenya and Africa Development Bank. It was concluded that it is unacceptable that in the 21st century, we're still talking about energy poverty in Africa and that the African continent possesses huge deposits of green minerals necessary for transition and that Africa needs industries that would process raw minerals. It also emerged that there is a disconnect between policymakers

and policy implementers in the critical minerals sector.



► ***Exploring Locally-led Climate Action for accelerated adaptation and resilience of frontline communities in Africa***

The event brought together African faces including Care International, PACJA Zambia, and Government representation (sub-government level, youth and consultancy constituency, Centre for 21st century issues and FEICOM) to explore current initiatives on the ground related to locally-led adaptation in Africa. Discussants shared challenges faced by the communities including but not limited to lack of resources, lack of access to finance resources, the complexity of GCF structure and hard access to its finance. Some recommendations shared include mainstreaming gender in locally-led climate adaptation initiatives and processes, considering local knowledge, involving local players and engaging policymakers at country levels to ensure that LLA is well implemented without leaving no one behind. This side event showcased solutions and best practices on influencing climate adaptation and communities' voice and leadership interventions with a focus on the growing movement for locally led adaptation (LLA), a new paradigm where local actors and communities lead decisions over how, when and where to adapt. It was also the space for the exchange of experiences, sharing perspectives learning and scaling up on practical lessons and challenges faced by communities, governments and funders in promoting locally-led climate action.

► ***Exploring new forms of organizing: Formidable blocks for advancing climate diplomacy, a case of Non-State Actors engagements with the African Climate Summit***

PACJA convened this side event to provide a platform for sharing lessons for strengthening the organizing of the agency of Africans for collective and protracted engagement of NSA in climate diplomacy; fostering collective strategies for bolding out NSAs' engagement together with the Africa Union and its institutions and other strategic partners are developed for bolding out actions; and amplifying collective voice and demands of African Non-state Actors for COP28. It brought together various participants coalescing perspectives of NSAs, post Africa Climate Summit. It was

an interesting and insightful session in which experiences from ACS were shared from various constituencies including indigenous communities, ACS secretariat, women and others. It was boldly highlighted that CSOs played a pivotal role in the processes of ACS23 despite irregularities and late involvement as NSAs. Some recommendations shared in the side event included; long-term strategies on the side of NSAs to be able to influence climate change dialogue processes. Identifying allies and champions in target institutions should help NSAs penetrate and influence decision-making and planning.

► **The role of National Human Rights Institutions in Advancing Human Rights Based Approach to Climate Justice**

This event was co-organized by PACJA and the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI), it brought together participants from National Human Rights institutions, civil society actors, environmental activists as well as potential donor/partner institutions. This event created a platform for dialogue, knowledge and information sharing on the nexus between human rights and climate justice; enhancing synergy, collaboration and linkages between Civil Society actors and National human rights institutions in the quest for climate justice and lastly agreeing on minimum actions to foster collaboration between CSOs and NHRIs. It was concluded that in advancing and protecting human rights, the courts should be innovative in interpreting such rights in a manner that will promote and not hinder the rights

*“We need to make litigation less expensive. We have embraced virtual hearings and therefore justice especially in constitutional litigation needs to be made easy and swift,”* said Justice Ocharo. Discussants also collectively recommended that there is a need to address the issues of redress in the case of a human rights infringement and push for environmental rights to be included in the UDHR.



► **Climate Induced Migration Lived realities of Children in Africa**

This was a special event taken over by children narrating their sad stories on how climate induced mobility is affecting their life in different aspect. In this event participants were able to explore the experiences and impacts children are facing as they move and arrive in new places, the challenges that urban and peri-urban authorities and civil society face in providing the necessary support services to children and families.

Naomi Joseph, 13 from South Sudan stood out to say that enough is enough for African children who are traversing the calvary of Climate-induced displacement which is causing a lot on their lives. The young but inspirational Naomi said that children are facing malnutrition, school dropout and other related climate conflicts which pose a challenge to their future and rights. “We talk and talk but we don’t see action. We must know that to build Africa we have to fight against Climate Change because it is affecting us. All children will die because of Climate change. It won’t help if you left the place for us” stressed young and inspirational Naomi.

Mr. Malama Mwila, Regional Head of Policy, Advocacy and Campaigns- Save the Children International said that Climate Conversations involving children should have started 30 years ago as they are the most affected by adverse impacts of climate change. He however said that the time has come to centre conversations on children and commended the expert dialogues as one of the ways to address the issue.

Dr. Mithika Mwenda, the Executive Director, PACJA added that in 30 years to come those who are Naomi’s age will be negotiating on behalf of Africa. He encouraged children’s involvement in climate processes and affirmed that PACJA would support the action. We shall create a platform for children and climate justice. We are not ending the process because we believe that children are crosscutting in all sectors, hence we must collaborate for a solution” Dr. Mithika affirmed.



► **Launch of Children’s Book on Children’s rights and Climate Change**

UNICEF indicates that nearly 90% of the global burden of diseases associated with climate change is borne by children under the age of 5; as an example, every year around the world 525,000 children die from diarrhoea, often caused by water contaminated because of floods. In addition to this, the United Nations in its research conducted this year in 49 countries found out that children in 48

out of 49 African Countries assessed were found to be at high or extremely high risk of impacts of Climate change based on their exposure and vulnerability to cyclones, heat waves and other climate and environmental shocks, and access to essential services. These shocking figures underpins the urgent need to raise the profile of nexus between climate change and children rights. Accordingly, Pan African Climate Justice Alliance in partnership with Save the Children launched an educational children's book containing simplified content on climate change. [Click here to download the book](#)



*Launch of Children's Book on Children's rights and Climate Change at COP28*

### **c. Official side event of PACJA: Interlinking and Synergizing Energy Access, Adaptation and Just Transition in Africa**

COP28 was an opportunity for participants to explore the interlinkages and synergy between Energy access, Adaptation and Just Transition in Africa. This side event sought to promote dialogue and collaboration among diverse stakeholders from various sectors and regions to formulate evidence-based policy recommendations that can inform and support the implementation of integrated approaches to energy access, just transition, and climate adaptation in Africa.

### **d. Press conferences – Entry, Mid and the Exit press conferences**

PACJA had a bold strategy for media engagement during COP28 resulting in unparalleled visibility. In addition to this, PACJA had secured official slots for press conferences with UNFCCC. Feel free to access UNFCCC press conferences using links below.

- ▶ [Watch the Entry press conference here](#)
- ▶ [Watch the mid-COP28 Press conference](#)
- ▶ [Watch the Exit Press conference](#)
- ▶ [Watch PACJA at Global Climate Action here](#)
- ▶ [Read the press Release for the entry Press Conference](#)
- ▶ [Read the Press Release for the Mid-COP28 here](#)
- ▶ [Read the Press Release for the exit Press conference here](#)

More highlights from the fortnight of activities by PACJA at COP 28 can be found here - <https://rb.gy/67gtv0>

## H. Analysis of outcomes of COP28 and its dissemination

PACJA undertook a comprehensive analysis of the outcome decisions of COP28, produced a detailed publication and shared this with wider public with a view to streamline external communication and discussions on the outcomes, premising of our collective priorities for COP29 and ascertaining necessary mobilizations. Our main focus areas for PACJA in 2023 revolved around operationalization of loss and damage fund at COP28 in UAE, centering the adaptation agenda and more than doubling adaptation finance, and just and fair transitions for Africa. These efforts yielded results as evidenced by an early decision at COP28 to operationalize the loss and damage funds albeit our reservations about the decision to have World Bank host the fund. Additionally, the alliance, through dialogue processes with Africa Group of Negotiators, Africa Union, UNECA, UNEP, Pan African parliament, duty bearers at country level and other stakeholders secured a strengthened and unified Pan African position for COP28 negotiations. Through further advocacy action and engagements with duty bearers, the alliance built some level of political consciousness on priorities for climate action among critical players in the continent, for instance the framing of the Just Transition discourse in Africa which has instrumentally served to ensure African countries speak in one voice. Our engagement on the Global stock take culminated in a strong language in the GST report that informs multiple streams of climate negotiations. The UAE framework on resilience, central to adaptation agenda is a manifest of the considerations on adaptation and the global goal on adaptation

### I. CSOs policy level engagements at country level

During the reporting period, countries undertook several activities aimed to raise public awareness and mobilize African CSOs to engage in post-Paris climate change dialogues and response strategies within the context of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The AACJ project for example was graded 80% in terms of relevance. This means PACJA made substantive policy contributions and continues to connect/link with policy processes and government responses to climate crisis at country level.

In Niger, a capacity-building workshop was organized by PACJA Niger in collaboration with the Association Nigérienne des Spécialistes en Aménagement du Territoire. The workshop, held on April 2023, focused on strengthening the capacities of PACJA Niger members regarding climate change paradigms in public policies. The workshop was instrumental in enhancing understanding of different types of public policies in Niger hence contributing to improved engagement and advocacy in climate change issues. Additionally, under the AACJ umbrella, there was key actions targeting the World Environment Day engagement with the Federal ministry of Environment that brought together different CSOs, Youths and International Embassies, including the EU, French Embassy, UNDP, Coca Cola and many others to create awareness and press action on Plastic waste in line with the theme for the year, ONLY ONE EARTH, this was followed by Media engagement and press release.

In Kenya, the Kenya Platform for Climate Governance (KPCG) executed three key activities in the North Eastern region. These activities included meetings with non-traditional women and girls' groups, the establishment of a women's movement on social and climate justice, and the creation of an online platform. As a result, significant outcomes were achieved in raising awareness on climate change and empowering women. A total of 278 women joined the movement, enhancing their knowledge on climate change, climate justice, and advocacy strategies. The dissemination of climate change information was effectively facilitated

through various digital platforms. The Women and Girls Movement on Social and Climate Justice aims to amplify the voices of pastoralist women and girls, advocate for their concerns, lobby for policy changes, and ensure their inclusion in decision-making processes. The online platforms provide further opportunities for engagement and collaboration within the movement.

PACJA-Côte d'Ivoire chapter participated in the African Days of Ecology and Climate Change (JFAC) on May 12, 2023. This participation provided an opportunity to raise public awareness and engage with key stakeholders. The chapter registered a total of 70 visitors, including representatives from UN-Environment, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, and business leaders. The engagement at JFAC allowed PACJA-Côte d'Ivoire to give visibility to its work and address important issues such as mining to the relevant authorities. These interactions contribute to enhancing public awareness and fostering dialogue on climate change and ecological concerns.

In Gabon, the One Forest Youth Forum was held from February 27 to 28, 2023, as a prelude to the "One Forest Summit." The forum aimed to strengthen the involvement of young people in actions, reflections, and decisions related to the summit. The event brought together a wide range of stakeholders, including AGRIDIS, PACJA Gabon, the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Gabon, and numerous NGOs and youth associations. The forum resulted in the creation of the One Forest Youth Initiative (OFYI), an international platform for training, capacity building, and resource mobilization for the management of tropical forests and biodiversity. It also emphasized the importance of youth engagement in preserving tropical forests, promoting sustainable economic solutions, renewable energy, and a "just transition" to clean energy. The forum's impacts included substantial participation with over 2028 registered individuals, including delegates from 21 countries, as well as fruitful discussions and initiatives addressing forest conservation and sustainable development.

Through the AACJ initiative Netherlands scope of work, The Dutch Climate Coalition and Oxfam organized the Climate March, which happened on June 19 and was attended by over 10,000 people, to continue mobilizing the public towards greater and stronger climate action by governments and corporations.

## **J. Advancing the young digital activist's model**

The young digital activist's model remains an integral component of the alliance mobilisation strategy. These young people have been influential in supporting the national platforms raise their visibility at country level through among other initiatives, marking important days especially the world environmental day. Their influence span beyond the project countries for instance:

In Rwanda, the RCCDN organized a Youth and Climate Justice Gala Night, which brought together young people from across the country to showcase the challenges and opportunities of climate change.

In Kenya, the KPCG collaborated with other likeminded organizations to carry out a Beat Plastic Pollution Campaign. The PACJA platform in Ivory Coast organized a beach clean-up, a Stakeholder meeting, and a webinar on the fight against plastic waste while. In Somalia, the national platform organized a workshop on the harmful effects of plastic pollution and a beach clean-up. They also partnered with AEHRO to hold a campaign in Baidoa to educate IDPs about plastic pollution.

The A2E platform in Burkina Faso organized a debate on climate change between two secondary schools while the National platform for Botswana organized an exhibition on plastic solutions and innovative recycling. The APEDDUB platform in Tunisia organized a training and awareness campaign on the environment and its components. They also participated in other events organized by stakeholders, such as Moatamada Jarzouna's workshop on improving plastic waste management. The Gabon platform organized a webinar on the role of youth in fighting against plastic pollution.

The National platform in Ghana organized a social media campaign and website engagement to raise awareness about environmental protection while Nigeria National platform organized a Climate Action Tour

### **III. RESEARCH KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATION**

This strategic objective is geared towards influencing policy review and change through building the capacity of PACJA's membership to gather and share knowledge and build the evidence base on the efficacy of innovative, collaborative local action for enhancing community resilience and post-pandemic prosperity through green growth and nature-based approaches. Accordingly, in 2023, the alliance engaged in the following interventions:

#### **A. Researches and knowledge development**

PACJA also conducted several critical studies on a diversity of themes:

##### **i. The Nexus between Climate change and Health**

This paper focuses on the nexus between climate change and health, and specifically highlights the global, regional, national, and sub-national policies and programmes that are linked to climate change and health. The paper focuses on five African countries (Tunisia, Mauritania, Cameroon, Kenya, and Botswana) and analyzes the impacts of climate change on health. The paper involved:- a critical situation analysis of the nexus between climate and health situation in African countries; Assessing climate and health policies and programs implemented in five African countries, including key interventions and financing, identifying policy gaps and emerging issues in the climate and health sector, and developing advocacy strategy and implementation plan with climate and health activities to be supported by PACJA and partners. This paper was useful in framing the Common African Position on Climate Change and Health.

##### **ii. Policy analysis on climate finance**

PACJA commissioned this study to explore and provide better understanding of the progress, constraints and opportunities for channeling climate finance in a fairer manner. This research explored ways by which global, bilateral and national climate finance flow architecture and climate change financing policies could integrate climate justice considerations in the design and implementation of climate actions. While concurring with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) definition in its introduction to climate Finance, as follows: 'local, national or transnational financing, which may be drawn from public, private and alternative sources of financing, the study sets apart other pertinent observation, notably i. There is a huge gap between Africa climate financing needs and commitments and responsibility for the shortfalls lies at the feet of developed country parties collectively, jeopardizing future cooperation



and joint ambition on climate change. ii. It is injustices in the international financial system that have placed climate response in limbo, delaying much needed action in adaptation and mitigation in African countries iii. It is imperative to have reforms on global financial institutions including the MDBs to make them fit for purpose in the delivery of fair and equitable climate finance. Iv. Careful consideration of implications of new funding instruments for climate change is necessary, more so carbon markets and the various bond schemes v. a gender perspective needs to be taken into account when developing resource mobilization strategies, applying climate finance instruments, and ensuring equal participation in the deployment of financial resources in adaptation projects design and implementation, particularly at the local level.

### **iii. Analysis of trends on Renewable Energy Investments Africa**

This report provides a comprehensive assessment of flow of public finance to each of the 54 African countries, as well as a comparison of investments made between Renewable Energy and non-Renewable Energy sectors for the period between 2010 and 2020. Further, the report takes a deep dive to better understand and present flow of investments to the different renewable energy and non-renewable energy technologies, major funders to each of these technologies, funding modalities (debts, guarantees, grants, mezzanine capital, as well as equity) that are used by the different development partners investing in the continent. The report provides a useful baseline to understand finance flows in Africa which need to be tracked, to measure progress of each country and, in combination, the continent, towards meeting their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement.

### **iv. A guide on Children Rights and Climate change**

Climate change is an equity issue that affects the most vulnerable in the society, which includes young people and children. Moreover, climate change poses a big challenge to achieving children's rights by threatening to undercut the many years of progress towards improving children's lives. It has been documented that children bear the harsh impacts of climate change, while still having the least resources to cope and respond. Moreover, climate change has a shocking abdication of the responsibilities of one generation to another, which violates the intergenerational equity principles. Conditions such as flooding, drought, rising temperatures, and extreme weather conditions undermine the child's rights, from accessing safe water, food, education, housing, freedom from exploitation, and even exposure to violence and abuse, and worse challenging their rights to thrive and survive. These consequences go against the principles of child's rights according to the UN convention on the rights of the child, that acknowledges that every child has the right to survival, life, and development, and right to be protected from neglect, abuse, and violence. Against this background, Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), developed a comprehensive Climate Justice and Child Rights Guide. The handbook, launched in a side event in COP28 will go a long way as a resource to advance children's rights in the context of climate change by decision-makers, groups, and individuals working in these fields.

### **v. A children's book on climate change**

PACJA in partnership with SDG Kenya Forum and Save the Children, with support from The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Netherlands and SIDA, developed and published a children's book on climate change. This stemmed from a commitment to educate and empower the next generation and instill awareness, inspire action and nurture a generation that is passionate about protecting the environment. The storyline, through simple, age

relatable language, captures everyday scenarios, illustrating the impact of climate change and the power of small action in making a difference. This book was launched in a side event in COP28.

#### **vi. Energy Nature report**

PACJA co-authored a report *“Linking energy and nature to tackle the climate and biodiversity crises”* that recognizes that in the midst of a climate crisis, the need to transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy is imperative. While cleaner energy is essential for reducing emissions and protecting people and the environment from the worst effects of climate change, the anticipated impact of energy production on biodiversity must also be taken into account. The report informs policy makers and industry leaders on the link between energy and nature and key considerations particularly on the impact of various energy sources on nature and how this can be mitigated to deliver just transition to a low-impact and nature-sensitive energy system.

#### **vii. Mid- term evaluation of AACJ and Guard Programmes**

PACJA carried out midterm evaluations for GUARD Africa and the African Activists for Climate Justice projects. The focus of the MTR was to evaluate the programme’s implementation, conduct of partnership and collaboration and results in order to draw lessons for the remainder of the project period and for future programming. In terms of the 5 core areas the project was graded as follows: Relevance 80%, Results 75%, Effectiveness 65%, Sustainability 60%, Theory of change progress 60%. This implies that PACJA is firmly enhancing the evidence base for advocacy work through the projects implemented. Mid-term evaluation for Guard Project pointed to areas that require tightening to achieve the necessary institutional leadership of the DNPs in their transformation work.

### **B. Key Position Papers**

PACJA, in its thought leadership developed a number of statements and position papers that communicated powerfully and were of relevant reference by different actors in positioning their political agenda in build up to COP28. The usefulness of each of this statements and position papers is captured elsewhere in this report and here is just a synopsis

- a. African CSOs call on the African Union to rise to the urgency of the climate crisis in Africa: Emphasis is on how Africa can better organize to be effective and efficient in climate diplomacy
- b. African Civil Society Communique on the Green Climate Fund’s Second Replenishment (GCF-2): This piece of communiques and its recommendations were central in our engagements with the new CEO of the GCF in our face to face meeting in the sidelines of the Africa Climate Summit.
- c. African CSOs Submission to the UNFCCC Transitional Committee on Loss and Damage: As generated from the full deliberations of the African Regional Symposium on Loss and Damage. This submission informed this committee on basic minimum expectations for African CSOs
- d. Declaration of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Pan African Parliamentarians Summit on Climate Policy and Equity: This profoundly well written declaration and alongside a set of resolutions are not only instrumental but instructive to legislative and other bodies in Africa on their role in advancing their climate mandate and nexus issues with agenda 2030 and agenda 2063
- e. ACS – Non-state Actors Demands and Redlines: This statement provided overarching principles that should guide our collective climate action and position as a continent and called on African

leadership, including African institutions to ensure the Africa Climate Summit and future climate diplomacy processes conform to these standards

- f. Climate Change and Development in Africa CCDA XI final statement (PACJA made a contribution)
- g. The African Leaders Nairobi Declaration on Climate Change and Call to Action (PACJA made a contribution in review and proposing adjustments to earlier texts)
- h. African Common Position on Climate Change and Health: This position informed the position of Africa in climate negotiations, centering on one health approach. The position was and continue to be instrumental in galvanizing African political leadership and technocrats in health to advance the health agenda
- i. Abuja statement on accelerating agricultural adaptation in Africa: This statement advance for political leadership, multisectoral approaches and climate financing for a resilient agriculture in Africa in the face of climate crisis
- j. PACJA Position on COP28: Probably one of the most referenced is this position as it set the priorities and non-negotiables for COP28 and remained a compass for the alliance members and beyond
- k. [Analysis of COP28](#) outcome: this provides perspectives on the implications of the outcomes, mapping the hooks for future influence towards COP29

### C. Knowledge dissemination for influence

Throughout year 2023, the alliance demonstrated a robust commitment to knowledge dissemination and engagement through various publications. These include activity-based articles, climate justice blogs authored by our staff, newsletters, and statements/communiqués derived from workshops and conferences at national, regional, and international levels. These publications align closely with the organization's mandate and span various thematic areas. Our publication efforts included the release of over 50 articles, a quarterly newsletter, and a number of statements addressing critical issues such as loss and damage, health and climate change, and the rejection of Sultan Al- Jaber as the COP28 President.

Africa Climate Summit, Non-State Actors Demands and Redlines statement was among our impactful publications. Additionally, we provided statements at events like BONN SB58, the Pan-African Parliament outcome, and the 36th African Union Summit.

PACJA participated in numerous media interviews with both local and international outlets with these interviews serving as spaces for sharing our positions and expertise on various climate-related topics. As a result of our strong partnerships with media, the press conferences were organized in a manner to respond to urgent issues, solidifying our position and provide thought leadership in climate change sphere. The alliance adopted a collaborative approach by engaging freelance journalists committed to climate justice reporting to enhance our media reach, a strategy that proved successful in reaching broader audiences. The organization diversified its communication channels by introducing podcasts series in English and French.

Our embrace of digital platforms for engagement and information dissemination has been substantial. Live coverage on platforms like YouTube became a standard practice for the organization, facilitating real-time access to knowledge-rich events at regional and national levels. The inaugural Agricultural Conference on Accelerating Adaptation in Africa, hosted by the Alliance, was a landmark event that exemplified our

commitment to transparency and accessibility, with the entire conference being live streamed on our YouTube channel, providing continuous public access to valuable discussions.

In the year under reference, capacity development was conducted for DNP and communication focal persons, focused on were trained in communication, advocacy and knowledge management.

Our commitment to knowledge dissemination, digital engagement, and media relations has significantly strengthened during this reporting period. These initiatives not only align with our organizational goals but also underscore our dedication to being a prominent and influential voice in the climate justice domain. As an outcome, we were able to reach 1.15 billion individuals representing 58% increment compared to last year which stood at 728 million individuals through our digital communication and knowledge sharing channels

## **IV. POLICY AND INVESTMENT INFLUENCE**

This strategic object involves mobilizing government and private sector commitment at local, national, regional and international levels to achieving post-pandemic economic recovery and social development through sustainable green growth and nature-based approaches. The objective aims at realization of environmental and climate justice for all people in Africa, and particularly the most vulnerable and affected by the triple crises of climate change, Covid-19 and degradation of ecosystems and biodiversity. In 2023, PACJA engaged a diversity of stakeholders at all levels as follows:

### **A. Enhancement of advocacy efforts by African civil society actor in Africa**

During the reporting period under review, PACJA organized a multi stakeholders' consultation workshop on COP28 at the side-lines of Africa Union Heads of states summit on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February. This multi-stakeholder consultation was building up from the first consultation workshop which was held in December 2022 in Kigali and that reviewed the outcome of COP27. The aim of the workshop was to firm up the strategy for engagement with COP28 and beyond and develop strategic messaging to African Heads of state and other strategic Pan African institutions towards impactful COP28. The meeting was meant to shape a common approach for PACJA and its partners in driving its influence in 2023, particularly in COP28. The two-day COP28 Continental Strategy Workshop brought together key stakeholders representing the civil society and private sectors in Addis Ababa who developed the advocacy plan for 2023 and a strategy for COP28. Key among the major outcomes of this convening were: i. the development of COP28 strategy that guided PACJA's advocacy work towards COP28 and beyond ii. Identification of thematic committees to support in shaping conversations around specific areas of interest in mitigation, adaptation, loss and damage, climate finance, gender, response measures among other areas and iii. through this convening, the civil society actors called for an inclusive Africa convening on climate change and this contributed to a decision by the African Union to host Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi

Pursuant the Addis Ababa meeting, at the country level, some of the DNPs focused on the role and involvement of financial institutions in driving sustainable transformations and providing funding for a just recovery from the effects of COVID-19 and climate vulnerability. In Nigeria, CSDevNet organized a webinar

focusing on inclusive climate financing and the implications of AfDB's public-private partnerships (PPPs) model in climate financing. The goal was to unpack the AfDB's PPP model of climate financing and develop advocacy messages that CSOs could use during Annual Meetings and other regional forums. As a result, CSOs were able to grasp the model's key features, benefits, and challenges; deepen their comprehension of the implications of the model for climate financing, including its potential impact on local communities, environmental sustainability, and long-term economic development; and developed advocacy messages to shape policy discussions, influence decision-making processes, and foster collaboration among stakeholders for sustainable and just climate financing outcomes.

In Ivory Coast, a validation workshop on mapping the capacity building needs of civil society organizations in climate finance was conducted bringing together various stakeholders, including CSOs, government agencies, and experts. Participants shared their perspectives and experiences, resulting to a common understanding of capacity building needs and opportunities for strengthened collaboration and coordination.

PACJA Cote d'Ivoire leadership also conducted an introductory meeting with Green Climate Fund (GCF) to explore areas of collaboration in climate finance initiatives. A meeting was held between the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and platform members, that exposed members of the platform to available opportunities for exploration.

## **B. Strengthening policy influence with African and regional institutions: The 3<sup>rd</sup> Pan African parliamentarians Summit on Climate Policy & Equity**

Civil society organizations at regional and National level play a vital role in shaping policies at national, sub-regional, and regional levels. Their evidence-based narratives and policy analyses provide valuable insights and recommendations for developing effective and sustainable policies that address social, economic, and environmental challenges. CSOs promote accountability, transparency, and participatory governance, ensuring that policies are inclusive and responsive to the needs of local communities. They also advocate for marginalized populations, promoting social justice and the rights of vulnerable groups. In 2023, PACJA held extensive engagements with Pan African institutions and other partner organisations at regional and country levels in driving regional policy and advocacy agenda.



PACJA, in partnership with the Pan Africa Parliament convened the Pan African Parliamentarians Summit on Climate Policy and Equity in May, 2023. This conference was held as build up to conversations held between PACJA and the Pan African Parliament in the side-lines of COP27, in Egypt that identified the need to hold this summit to appraise parliamentarians on the current state of play in the climate change discourse. The summit underlines the need to rally the parliamentarians from across Africa behind a common African position in climate change dialogue processes. The two days' conference brought together 350 parliamentarians from all corners of Africa at Pan African Parliament in Midrand, South Africa.



The conference provided an opportunity for the delegates to share perspectives, exchanged ideas and experiences on the international climate policy processes, both in their countries and globally. The summit was graced by the presence of His Excellency President William Ruto who is also the Chair of the Committee of African Union Heads of State on Climate Change. Some of the key recommendation agreed on by parliamentarians include: 1. Domestication and implement the provisions the Paris Agreement development of a climate change implementation plan and strategy and allocation of adequate budgetary resources 2. Strengthen mechanisms for holding accountable corporate and other actors that are responsible for climate pollution and atrocities, including through implementation of taxation measures which ensures funding for reparation of victims of loss and damage. National Parliaments and the PAP resolved to support this effort through progressive legislations 3. Elevate the Global Goal on Adaptation to receive attention in decisions at COP28 to advance collective influence on doubling of adaptation funding by 2025.

The Summit resolved to galvanize efforts from across all executive and legislative bodies across Africa to engage our global north counterparts in: 1. Initiating the necessary reforms as recommended by the Sharm el-Sheikh Action Plan, to make climate finance more accessible, needs-based and less likely to lead to indebtedness 2. Call for enhanced ambitions and action, under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and limit global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, in accordance with the best available science; and 3. Fulfilling the obligations to provide adequate, predictable and sustainable finance, technology transfer and capacity building support to developing countries

Key among the transformative elements from this summit were:

- ▶ Through the summit, the highest African Authority on climate change, President William Ruto was mobilised and the African parliamentarians directly communicated their position on climate change to him through a declaration and recommendations developed from the two days convening.
- ▶ Parliaments across Africa initiated processes of discussing the recommendations agreed on at the summit which is creating even bigger awakening across parliaments, and triggering processes of domestication of the same at country level
- ▶ The output of the summit become served a precursor role shaping, mobilizing political action and strategies for influencing the Africa Climate Summit
- ▶ The Africa Group of Negotiators welcomed the recommendations arrived at by the parliamentarians and these were critical in shaping a common African position for COP28



*Group Photo of the Participants at the 3rd Pan-African Parliament on Climate Policy and Equity Midrand, South Africa*

### **C. Non state actors' influence to the Africa Climate Summit, Africa Climate Week and CCDAXI**

A 37<sup>th</sup> AU Summit resolution to convene the Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi in September 2023 affirmed the continent's determination to shape its destiny in the transition towards low-carbon, climate-resilient development pathways. The Summit brought together world leaders, policymakers, and experts to position the continent as a global leader in the polarised world characterised by widening North-South divide. It served as a platform for countries to convey their commitments in the NDCs implementation, especially deep emissions reduction, holding high emitters to account, enhancing resilience, and mobilizing financing for climate action.

To facilitate deeper engagement of civil society, PACJA facilitated and coordinated the Non-state Actors Steering Committee for the ACS (NSA-ACS) which brought together over 70 regional and international organizations. These were drawn from indigenous peoples, faith groups, farmer groups, youth groups, the private sector, academia, research organizations, and international and local NGOs among others. Though the Committee didn't have official recognition within the structure of ACS, it ultimately evolved into a central player in the Summit, owing to the collective pressure and strategic outreach exerted from various fronts. It was inevitably difficult to ignore the NSA-ACS, and, reluctantly, the organizers of the Summit had no choice other than to acknowledge that the Committee was the legitimate voice of civil society.

Strategic meetings with key partners, webinars, petitions, periodic press conferences as well as targeted media releases and op-eds were used to expose and bring to the fore contentious issues compromising Africa's standpoints. PACJA also worked covertly to catalyze meetings between the Government and foreign Missions in Nairobi, where build-up meetings were convened. In addition to popularising the Summit, the meetings, jointly convened by the Ministry of Environment with such Embassies like Denmark, Netherlands, and Sweden, served as an informal forum to update stakeholders about the progress made in the planning



for ACS. The concerns about exclusion, procedural justice, and apparent control of the Summit by external forces lingered for a considerable period during the planning process, with the NSA-ACS becoming a lone vocal voice demanding transparency from the Secretariat. In addition to conducting several meetings with the Secretariat, individual NSA-ACS held direct engagements with the ACS Secretariat to advance their sectoral-thematic interests.

The power of numbers and organizing under NSA-ACS drew attention from the Kenyan government, which softened its stance and conducted several meetings to hear concerns raised in the Redlines and demands petition that was signed by over 2300 organizations and individuals from across the continent. This process shaped multiple spaces for dialogues and influence dialogues particularly through the leadership at the ACS Secretariat, Advisor to Presidency, the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora and Africa Union institutions in advancing for a pro-African ACS-2023.

The NSA-ACS contributed and influenced the final declaration from the Summit through direct inputs into the draft declaration. As a result of this opportunity, the Committee ensured adaptation prominent elevation of adaptation as the priority agenda for Africa; mediated on language and the space for carbon markets as financing mechanism for the continent; acknowledgement of the loss and damage and alignment with civil society's call to global community to provide sufficient and consistent support; there was a bold call in the Declaration for investing in public finance for green economic development; and debt relief became more pronounced in the text.

It is because of the collective organising under ACS-NSA that prominent personalities like John Kerry, USA Special Envoy on Climate Change held a strategic dialogue session with representatives of civil society to discuss critical issues for the Africa Climate Summit. The footprint of the Committee were visible in the Eleventh Conference on Climate Change and Development in Africa (CCDA-XI), the flagship forum of ClimDev-Africa Initiative, which was held as a parallel technical segment of the Summit.



*CCDA-XI Group Photo of Participants at Safari Park Hotel*

Key outcomes out of this bold influencing includes:

- ▶ Inclusion in the Summit: The committee successfully pushed for enhanced civil society participation and contribution in the ACS process and agenda.
- ▶ Thematic clusters comprising of Youth, Indigenous people, private sector, Faith groups, Farmers, Gender, Trade Unions, Health among others cemented cooperation beyond the Summit, till COP28 and beyond.
- ▶ Visibility and prominence of issues: In addition to the main Statement for NSA-ACS, respective Clusters delivered had an opportunity to present their positions, further reinforcing the Committee's influence and aspirations in processes
- ▶ The continued consultations and trust-building by the Committee enabled a coordinated approach to issues and became a model for cooperation even after the Summit.

#### **D. Support Journalists to participate and report on UNFCCC Intercessions and related processes**

The role of journalists in creating awareness on climate change process cannot be underestimated and upon this recognition, PACJA facilitated two journalists from the PAMACC to participate and report on the SB 58 which was held in Bonn from 5<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023. The journalists wrote several articles which were covered in the continent's main media networks. The journalist who were supported to attend SB 58 through this project were very instrumental in informing the public on key issues of interest especially to Africa at the COP negotiations. Virtually, we reached 200,600 social media users who received our messages via our social media platforms while millions watched us on television and listened to us on radios across the globe.

#### **E. Influencing parties to UNFCCC to hasten key decisions: Technology transfer and capacity building for Africa on Renewable energy technologies and adaptation**

PACJA actively participated in UNFCCC SB58 in Bonn, Germany in June 2023. Bonn intersessions provide an opportunity for parties to UNFCCC to set the agenda for COPs, last year, SB 58 presented a good opportunity for CSOs to engage the parties in the determination of the agenda for COP 28. The main focus in the climate negotiations this year is the global stock take agenda; the Paris Agreement indicates the Global Stocktake would be conducted in 2023 and this makes COP28 a COP of accountability. PACJA issued two official civil society statements on demands for COP28 which include among others i. The call to overhaul climate finance architecture to suit the needs to suit the needs of the most vulnerable in society ii. Ensuring the Global goal on adaptation receives attention it deserves iii. Work towards scaling up funding for adaptation and operationalization of loss and damage funding arrangements iv. Polluters to increase the mitigation ambition and the need to avoid delaying tactics in delivering the much-needed financial commitment for addressing climate change. Additionally, PACJA held meetings with the chairman of the Africa Group of Negotiators, the Co-chair of the transition committed to loss and damage. At the beginning of the negotiations in Bonn, it was clear that the NAPs were going to miss in the COP28 agenda, however, PACJA worked with the Africa Group of Negotiators in pushing for the inclusion of the same in the provisional agenda for COP28 which was finally granted. The Alliance also held an official side event on renewable energy and just transition.

The Alliance enhanced its advocacy work on renewable energy in the period under review particularly targeting parties to the UNFCCC. One of the main initiatives towards this course was the hosting of an official side event on renewable energy at SB58 in Germany. The event was hosted in partnership with other civil society actors from the global South including; Peru, Chile, India, Cameroon, and Kenya among others. The event focused on community-led innovation in the renewable energy sector and the need for enhanced meaningful technology transfer on renewable energy to the Global South. The outcome of the event formed part of the UNFCCC report on SB58.

## **F. Advancing our influence on Loss and Damage towards operationalization of the L&D Damage Fund in UNFCCC**

Loss and damage continued to be a critical agenda item for Africa in climate change negotiations throughout the year. PACJA's advocacy intervention on the agenda was informed by complexity of global consultations and negotiations and the need to ensure Africa's perspectives shape, and are reflected in the institutional outlay for loss and damage. In this regard, the Alliance commissioned development of analytical paper on loss and damage in Africa, which were instrumental in the its advocacy wok on loss and damage. The analysis showed that climate losses and damages have resulted to a significant setback on developing economies like those in Africa, developing countries and least developed countries. This, according to the report, resulted into triple jeopardy to the economic blueprints that governments have set to meet the needs of their populace. In this regard, the establishment of L&D Fund during the COP27, which also recognized existing channels and initiatives including those outside the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement was a remarkable milestone for the global community.

It is in this context that African governments and the rest of developing countries needed to commence development of legal frameworks to ensure access and reach of LDF to the intended beneficiaries with clear monitoring, evaluation and reporting so as abate associated risks.

To deepen conversations around L&D, PACJA conducted the subject's symposium in April in Lilongwe, Malawi, which brought together scientists, civil society actors, academicians, and indigenous people. Experts provided technical papers on various persuasions of loss and damage with a view to developing inputs to the Transitional Committee which was represented during the symposium.

The main outcomes of this were:

- ▶ A technical paper useful in shaping the negotiations on loss and damage in the Bonn intersessions was developed and agreed by participants
- ▶ Former president of Malawi Joyce Banda, cyclone Freddy goodwill Ambassador's presence boosted the profile of the symposium.
- ▶ A follow-up visit to PACJA Secretariat saw the former president nominate as PACJA's climate justice (L&D) ambassador, further ramping up voices for climate action



*Her Excellency Dr. Joyce Banda shaking hands with Dr. Mithika Mwenda after signing and MOU at the PACJA Secretariat/ Far Right Group Photo at the Loss and Damage Symposium held in Lilongwe Malawi in April 2023.*

## **G. Advancing for Africa's Common Position on Climate Change and Health**

The Alliance in partnership with AMREF, Wellcome Trust, AFIDEP and WHO were instrumental in shaping the Common Africa Position on Climate Change and Health and its propagation among Ministers of Health drawn from different countries and in ensuring that this declaration forms part of the UAE Declaration on Climate change and Health. To undertake this PACJA convened a multi-stakeholder process in Malawi to develop the position, sideline events including dinners during the Africa Climate summit to popularize the position and a series of events during COP28. In addition, PACJA was part of the protracted discussions with WHO on elements of this position.

## **H. Influencing National Budget 2024 and other policy processes at national level:**

In Zambia, Zambia Climate Change Network received an invitation from the National Assembly through the Expanded Planning and Budgeting Committee as one of the identified stakeholders in its work to make comments on the 2024 National Budget in order to assist in its undertaking. The comments were expected to cover the implications of the 2024 Budget on Climate issues and any relevant information that may be useful to the committee during the scrutiny of the 2024 estimates of revenue and expenditure. On the 9<sup>th</sup> of October, ZCCN extended the invitation to partners and network members who then contributed to the drafting of the submission document. The comments were made in line with the Eighth National Development Plan and the 2024 Budget Yellow Book the platform appeared before the committee who had 20 members in attendance. The interaction with policy makers on key policy issues which highlighted climate change and health as a concern from the Parliamentarians was a key achievement. Further to this, the parliamentarians indicated that they needed more education on carbon markets, this thus provides a platform for the CSOs to drive their narratives within the national context. Additionally, within the quarter, ZCCN organised a workshop to provide CSOs with a platform to discuss opportunities, barriers, experiences, and learning opportunities that were experienced in NDC revision process that had taken place in Zambia. The key aim of the meeting was to draw lessons from Zambia, which would also inform the next NDC revision process in the next cycle and to also facilitate dialogue, and lesson sharing and feed those lessons into regional bodies such as AU and SADC. The Achievements of the workshop was the NDC discussion provided the space to strengthen CSOs' voices with one another on national process and the creation of a road map to help in tracking and

accountability from the government in terms of the commitments made to the international communities and citizenry especially as regards the carbon tax and carbon markets.

In the quarter July to September, 2023, BCCN continued its exercise of mapping strategic stakeholders from across the Country. During the period under reporting, the Network conducted mapping in the Central and Okavango Districts respectively. The two districts are strategic in that they have of recent been on the spotlight to eminent environmental disturbances. The Okavango Delta, which is a RAMSAR site, has attracted a number of oil and gas companies who have interest in exploring for oil. Hence it is quite important for the Network to make its mark in the area and defend the resources and its people. The Central District, notably the Makgadikgadi area is quite prone to flooding hence requires intervention in support of disaster management.

PACJA Cameroon organized a training designed to build the capacity of CSOs to analyze and assess climate policies in a rigorous and systematic way. It covered the basics of climate policy evaluation, such as the criteria, methods, and tools for basics measuring policy effectiveness, efficiency, and equity. The training also gave an overview of the current climate policy situation in Cameroon, highlighting the main actors, instruments and processes involved in shaping the national response to climate change. The training enabled CSOs to identify gaps and opportunities for influencing the policy agenda and advocating for more ambitious and inclusive climate action. The capacity-building workshop on policy assessment for CSOs was a great success. At the end of the workshop, the following achievement was recorded:

- ▶ CSOs representatives testified that they feel more confident and better equipped with basic knowledge and skills on climate policies.
- ▶ Participants expressed their satisfaction and attested to having an increased capacity in operating with various policy assessment tools.
- ▶ Increased Understanding of Policy Processes.

## **I. Influencing country level legislations on climate change and WASH**

In Kenya, stakeholders, including the Parliamentary Caucus on Climate Change and grassroots organizations, convened at a KPCG forum to discuss the Climate Change (Amendment) Bill 2023, aiming to establish a legislative framework for carbon markets in alignment with international climate change agreements. The forum analyzed local-level gaps and opportunities for climate mitigation and adaptation, proposed solutions for carbon markets, and engaged members of Parliament to consider public input in the review process. Through commissioned studies, a draft memorandum and policy brief on benefit-sharing mechanisms were produced, emphasizing the importance of proposed amendments and providing recommendations for enhancing the Bill. The findings were shared with key stakeholders to garner support, facilitating a comprehensive review involving parliamentary committees and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, with a focus on ensuring public participation in decision-making processes.



*Consultative Forum on the Climate Change Amendment Bill in Nairobi, Kenya (Kenya Platform for Climate Governance Convened)*

In this reporting period, PACJA enhanced its collaboration with water Aid and other partners in raising the profile of water as a critical agenda item in adaptation conversation. It is important to note that water scarcity and quality are significant global issues that need to be addresses to achieve sustainable development goals. Many countries face water related challenges including access to safe drinking water, water pollution and scarcity due to climate change. Water issues are often interconnected with environmental concerns such as biodiversity loss, deforestation and air pollution. PACJA collaborated with Water Aid in hosting a workshop on scalable climate resilient WASH innovative solutions and influencing their integration into the government and donor programming to meet WASH needs in dry seasons. The workshop was hosted in Nairobi in February and one of the outcomes of the meeting was consolidation of recommendations which formed the basis of engagements in the UN water conference which was held in New York later in March where PACJA co-hosted side events with Water Aid and the World Bank.

## **J. Advancing for Locally led climate action through Stakeholder dialogues**

One of the best examples of stakeholder dialogue processes on the nexus between locally-led climate action, sustainable development and people-centered bottom-up approaches to NDCs implementation was the implemented in Kenya by the Kenya Platform on Climate Governance. The platform worked with the embassies in Kenya including the Dutch, Swedish, Danish embassies in hosting thematic dialogues in the build up to the Africa Climate Summit. These dialogues focused on the role of Youth, women, indigenous people, private sector and civil societies in catalysing locally led climate action in Kenya and beyond. During the period under review, two dialogue sessions were hosted by the Dutch and Danish embassies, the Swedish embassy us scheduled to host the next dialogue. Additionally, KPCG hosted indigenous people's network

consultation meeting regarding the representation of the indigenous people in the National Climate Change Council. The network is specifically tasked with monitoring and coordinating IPs participation in climate change processes at national, regional and global levels. In particular, it works closely with communities at the grassroots level in designing and developing strategies that will enable resource mobilization that shall support mitigation and adaptation initiatives at grassroots or community levels. This specific consultation meeting was organized to address violation of the rights of indigenous people to freely engage in self selection process in the climate change council. The outcome of this convening was a press conference and street demonstration by the indigenous people at the high court calling for an expeditious determination of a case filed by affiliate members of KCG challenging the presidential unilateral nomination of civil society and indigenous people representatives. This led to issuing of conservatory orders by the judiciary halting the gazettelement of the individuals nominated by the president.

## **V. HOLDING DUTY BEARERS AND CSOs ACCOUNTABLE**

This strategic objective aims at supporting civil society and citizens generally to actively monitor the compliance of African governments, businesses and social institutions against their constitutional and international responsibilities to human rights in the context of environmental and climate justice and the post-pandemic recovery efforts. An important component of this is to promote transparency among governments and other duty bearers in progress reporting to their citizens and to the international community on these investments and programs. Towards this end PACJA engaged on the following activities:

### **A. Pan African mobilizing of Africa Governments and Pan Africa Institutions to hold Kenya Government accountable in delivering AU mandate**

PACJA was instrumental in leading a pan African awakening and mobilizing actors across all cadres to sign into the Africa Climate Summit Non-State Actors Redlines and Demands that warned African leaders not to compromise on the essential elements for the ideal Summit outcomes that reflects the desires and aspirations of the African people. The statement, signed by over 2100 persons and institutions acknowledged the remarkable efforts of different Actors and groups both in government and civic spaces to advance a truly and legitimate Africa-driven, Africa-owned process at the Africa Climate Summit, and supports any initiative, whether inside or outside the process, which advocates for people-centred, inclusive and transparent outcomes of the Summit. This statement was shared with the Chair of CAHOSCC and the Host of the Africa Climate Summit, raising various concerns. This statement triggered a stream of accelerated consultations with relevant entities charged with convening the ACS and a broad reform of the agenda and the approach to the ACS by the organizers.

### **B. Training CSOs and other stakeholders on the use of the NDC tracking tool**

NDCs play a crucial role in addressing climate change, and the active involvement of CSOs in tracking their progress is instrumental in holding governments accountable and ensuring the ambitious goals outlined in the NDCs are achieved. Through their dedicated efforts, CSOs have been able to provide valuable insights, contribute to transparency, and foster collaboration among stakeholders to drive meaningful action towards

a sustainable future. Progress and achievements have been observed in several countries at various levels regarding the monitoring and implementation of National Determined Contributions (NDCs).

In Niger, a capacity-building workshop was held to enhance the monitoring mechanisms of NDCs by civil society organizations. Recommendations were made, including the development of a monitoring and evaluation plan, dissemination of monitoring tools, and the establishment of an internal financing mechanism. Morocco also displayed increased ambition in implementing its NDCs, with the involvement of CSOs in tracking progress. In Gabon, a workshop highlighted policy shortcomings in agriculture and forestry, fostering discussions on environmentally friendly agricultural techniques and the establishment of networks.

In Ivory Coast, the PACJA-Côte d'Ivoire chapter achieved a significant outcome by successfully training and demonstrating the NDC assessment tool developed by the PACJA secretariat. The training session involved 17 participants, including representatives from the Directorate for the Fight against Climate Change (DLCC) and the Directorate for Cooperation and Resource Mobilization, both associated with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. As a result of this collaborative effort, the tool was shared with the ministry, showcasing a joint commitment to enhancing the implementation and monitoring of NDCs. Additionally, the plan to conduct further training sessions in various branches of the Ministry indicates a dedicated approach to collecting comprehensive data for effective assessment. These actions exemplify the proactive engagement of stakeholders in Ivory Coast towards monitoring and improving the implementation of their NDC commitments.

In August, 2023, The Tanzania DNP conducted a training on how to use the NDC implementation tracking tool that had been developed by PACJA. CSO and government representatives participated in the Tanzania NDC implementation tracking exercise. In the exercise, the Monitoring Reporting and Verification (MRV), Climate Finance, Governance, Mitigation and Adaptation aspects of the Tanzania DNP were tracked and rated accordingly. This exercise involved government officials in order to obtain the government's perspective on all five (5) components and to obtain various information related to the NDC's implementation. This assessment was made with participation of an expert from the Vice President's office, the environment department, which is the country's custodian of the NDC. This reflection provided a wealth of information to CSOs who do not have the opportunity to attend various meetings organized by ministries and the Vice President's office on a regular basis. The reflection also assisted CSOs in staying informed of the various processes related to the NDC's implementation. Those who participated in this exercise include; FORUMCC Secretariat, Agricultural Non-State Actors Forum (ANSAF), Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG), Africa Youth Transformation Tanzania (AYT), Vice President's Office – Department of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Tanzania Traditional Energy Development Organization – (TaTEDO) - Sustainable Energy Services Organization (SESO), Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA), Tanzania Water and Sanitation Network (TAWASANET), Tanzania Gender Networking Programme, Jali Maisha Foundation, Zanzibar Child Rights Forum (ZCRF), Human Dignity and Environment Care Foundation (HUDEFO), Nutrition Connect, President's Office- Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), Muhimbili University Of Health And Allied Sciences (MUHAS) and TUSHIRIKI. Government officers from respective Climate Change departments constituted the participants who also provided some clarifications about the activities implemented so that the rating could be done fairly and accurately.



PACJA GABON platform organized a workshop to raise awareness, share experiences and identify innovative and sustainable waste management solutions for a healthy environment and on NDC MRV training, in partnership with the NGO FENSED, the company ROUGIER GABON, the NGO FENSED, the REVADAC start-up specializing in the transformation of plastic and urban waste into ecological paving stones and biofuels.

During the two-day workshop, participants were trained on NDC MRV systems using 7 well-crafted modules to ensure the transparency of actions implemented as part of countries' contributions to the global effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Modules entailed historical foundations of MRV systems, basic notions and the processes of elaboration and implementation of the said systems within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Out of this engagement, Gabonese government committed to:

- i. To support capacity-building programs on MRV systems and their integration into destination policies and strategies in Gabon and other ECCAS countries.
- ii. To create a quadripartite virtual platform (public decision-makers, private sector, TFPs, CSOs) for mutual involvement in all phases of the development of NDC implementation projects in all sectors.
- iii. To assist in developing sustainable city programs through structured, integrated projects for a circular waste economy.

### **C. Supporting participation of CSOs to GCF Board meetings as Observers**

PACJA attended the 35<sup>th</sup> GCF Board meeting in Songdou, South Korea on March 11<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>. main area of interest was on reviewing the outcome of the second performance review of the GCF.

The key findings of the report were i. The GCF should strengthen accountability and gender balance to improve efficiency. Country-level engagement should also be improved. ii. the fund lacked vision and strategy for a manageable network of accredited entities. It also found that, though direct access is growing, it is still limited and that accreditation processes are protracted and inefficient, and there is not enough differentiation by entity characteristics iii. On programming, the report showed that the different instruments like country programs, entity work programs, and readiness support were not focused enough, while approval processes were perceived as bureaucratic, lengthy, inconsistent and non-transparent. It also found that risk management was underdeveloped, and risk culture limited iv. On results and impact, the evaluation found that the GCF was unlikely to meet the adaptation allocation and private sector targets; results were modest but forthcoming; co-finance did not meet expectations; results management was underdeveloped; and results related to gender and Indigenous Peoples engagement showed limited precision.

Key recommendations in the report included

- ▶ At the country level, the GCF should clarify its approach and roles, and align them with available resources.
- ▶ The fund should review its accreditation priorities and explore access mechanisms beyond accreditation.
- ▶ The fund should improve its operational systems, ensuring they reflect global policy priorities, strategic objectives and climate urgency.
- ▶ The fund should put emphasis on results and learning.

## Main outcomes

PACJA has been following keenly the operations of the GCF and there have been serious concerns especially around inaccessibility of the fund to the communities at the frontline of the climate crisis. The performance review report was useful in identifying bottlenecks facing GCF and PACJA used these outcomes to inform its submission to the transitional committee on loss and damage considering that a loss and damage facility –once operationalized–would face similar challenges if the lessons from GCF are not take into account



### D. African CSO Workshop on Monitoring and Evaluation of GCF Funded Project Activities

PACJA in collaboration with CARE conducted a workshop for African CSOs on monitoring and evaluation of GCF funded project activities at the side-lines of the Africa regional Forum on sustainable development held in February in Niamey, Niger. The workshop brought together a diversity of civil society actors and other partners, who shared their national-level experiences and results of the M&E activities and were able to discuss their conclusions and recommendations. Main outcomes of this workshop were:

- ▶ The workshop drew joint recommendations for improving the quality of GCF-funded activities, as well as the transparency and accountability of these processes and the local buy-in to ensure impact and sustainability. The recommendations informed the participating African CSOs position on the GCF's second replenishment process and the process of reviewing the GCF's Strategic Plan.
- ▶ The workshop was also pivotal in developing key messages and an engagement plan with the Africa GCF NDAs Network (AFDAN) which PACJA launched in December. More specifically, the results informed part of the "Training and Consultative Forum for African Green Climate Fund's National Designated Authorities. This promoted a dialogue between CSOs and the government representatives involved in GCF processes, and knowledge and experience sharing acquired by African CSOs, in support of these stakeholders.

### E. African Non-State Actors Dialogue with the New Executive Director of the Green Climate Fund on the Sidelines of the African Climate Week.

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) plays a crucial role in mobilizing climate finance to support developing countries in mitigating and adapting to climate change. As an essential partner for African nations, the new Executive Director of the GCF holds a key position in driving effective climate action on the continent. To

ensure a smooth transition and foster stronger collaboration, PACJA held an African Non-State Actors (NSAs) dialogue with the new Executive Director on the sidelines of the African Climate Week. This dialogue aimed to create a platform for African NSA to engage, express concerns, and contribute to aligning GCF strategies with Africa's realities and the aspirations of communities at the frontlines of the climate change crisis. Issues raised with the GCF CEO by the CSOs included:

- ▶ Deep concern at the finding that the GCF's portfolio in Africa is skewed towards mitigation, despite the importance of adaptation for the continent.
- ▶ That the GCF needs to provide better and more targeted support to Direct Access Entities
- ▶ GCF needs to simplify and make its own processes more transparent, both for accreditation, re-accreditation and funding proposal assessment and approval
- ▶ The GCF portfolio has shown limited consideration of local needs and priorities in adaptation planning and programming by IAEs and regional DAEs
- ▶ Mainstreaming the Principles for Locally Led Adaptation into the design and implementation of projects and programmes can contribute to ensuring that a project's speed and the scale
- ▶ Clear gaps in the GCF multi-country projects' and programmes' design and implementation.
- ▶ The lack of clear terms of reference regarding NDAs' role in monitoring multi-country projects in their respective countries
- ▶ Accredited Entities absence in the targeted countries for the multi-country projects is undermining efforts to promote accountability and transparency in implementation.

The deliberation with Mafalda Duarte, CEO for GCF firmed up a plan of action premised on few thrust points:

- ▶ CSOs to follow up with GCF to deliberately do more in targeting the most vulnerable through adaptation initiatives
- ▶ Collectively pursue a process to accelerate reforms to secure a fit for purpose institutional arrangements and regulations
- ▶ Implement measure to accelerate access at Sub-national level through accelerated accreditation & improved coordination with National Designated Authorities (NDAs)
- ▶ Doubling efforts to increase on the number and capacity of direct access entity and reform national accreditation process to better serve communities at the frontline
- ▶ Women and Youth accessing funds from GCF - Deliberate/ Deliberations needed
- ▶ Improving coordination at Africa level through having Regional Presence in Africa. A model on this has been fronted to the board for discussion
- ▶ Grounding the locally Led adaptation principles within the processes and practices of GCF and ensuring women and youth access funds from the GCF
- ▶ Establishment of digital community-based projects monitoring watchdog committees at National and subnational levels to monitor investments by governments and private sector for compliance

Most of the DNP held preliminary consultations on establishments of the community-based project monitoring watchdog committees but substantive plans to establish the committees were rolled out in 2023.



In Tanzania for example, an advocacy working group for monitoring investments in renewable energy is was formed and is functional. The adoption of renewable energy is key in mitigating climate change. Renewable energy sources can help in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality, creating jobs and boosting economies. A convening was conducted in Dar Es Salaam that brought together stakeholders from government, private sector and civil society. The purpose of the meeting was to enhance conversation on the harmonization of the East African Common Customs Act to increase the uptake of renewable energy through reduced tariffs on equipment, simplified customs procedures and increased cooperation between countries. These measures will make it easier and more affordable for businesses and individuals to adopt renewable energy through benefits like increased investment in the sector, improved access to renewable energy and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

The outcomes of the forum included the formation of an advocacy working group that consists of the East African Renewable Energy Federation (EAREF) members representing the private sector and civil society organizations from six countries – Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo. This platform will serve as a forum for knowledge exchange to build advocacy efforts towards harmonization of the Common Customs Act. An advocacy matrix was also developed to analyze the customs issues in the different countries so that a comprehensive strategy, can be created to promote renewable energy and accelerate transition that includes a pro-poor approach.

## **F. The Launch of the “Keep Your Promise Campaign”**

The “Keep Your Promise Campaign” launched on the sidelines of the Africa Climate Summit by Pan Africa climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) marked a historic initiative aimed at holding nations accountable for their commitments under the Paris Agreement. The campaign was to gear up the momentum for the Global StockTake process that was set for December, 2023 at COP 28, For the very first time, participating parties are taking stock of their progress in meeting the goals outlined in the Paris Agreement.

At its core, the campaign is driven by a desire to align global efforts towards meaningful climate action, with a particular focus on addressing and bridging the gaps in progress. This dynamic and impactful campaign was a collaborative effort by all PACJA national platforms spearheaded by KPCG, led by a passionate and dedicated group of young leaders from the African continent with a clear vision to harness the power of collective action and advocacy on five pivotal issues, thereby shaping a strategic thrust to amplify their influence and advance the campaign’s overarching goals.



Different countries spearheaded the implementation of this campaign focusing on different components, based on their country context.

*Robust campaign and outreach on just transition in Africa:* The exploration and extraction of fossil fuels in Africa has had significant environmental, social, and economic impacts. These activities have contributed to carbon emissions, exacerbating climate change and its associated consequences, while also leading to the displacement of local communities, degradation of natural habitats, and conflicts over resource ownership and control. To ensure that African countries are continuously mindful of the environmental harm caused by non-renewable energy sources and the imperative to fairly navigate the process of phasing out coal, oil, and gas extraction, the Alliance mapped out 50 civil society actors across three countries to campaign against fossil fuel exploration and extraction. The campaigns aimed to increase awareness of the environmental and social impacts associated with non-renewable energy sources and create public pressure on governments and corporations to adopt more sustainable energy practices. They also aimed to promote alternative renewable energy sources, potentially leading to policy changes, stricter regulations, and increased investment in cleaner energy solutions.

In Niger, a meeting with the Ministry of Energy and Renewable Energies discussed the environmental impact of oil exploitation and the construction of the Niger-Benin pipeline. The PACJA-Niger platform emphasized the importance of environmental impact studies and requested follow-up meetings to ensure commitments made by ministry officials are followed through.

In Ivory Coast, the PACJA platform conducted online campaigns on renewable energy, forests, and the IPCC report, reaching over 2,462 people and recording interactions. These campaigns aimed to inform, train, and advocate for policy changes related to renewable energy and environmental con

In Zambia, our Platform conducted a two-day dialogue with traditional elders with a view to ensuring they are sufficiently informed on the implications of carbon markets on tenure claims of local communities. This activity was geared towards building sufficient momentum, for influence, from below.

In response to an alert from an NGO and local communities regarding a proposed mining project in the classified forest of Dassioko and the wetland of the Sassandra-Dagbego complex, the PACJA-Côte d'Ivoire chapter promptly intervened. They conducted a field mission, expressed opposition to the investigation and operating permit process, published press articles, sent a letter to the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, and contacted the National Agency for Environmental Development. Currently, the mining project has not advanced, the operating permit has not been granted, and the PACJA-Côte d'Ivoire chapter continues to vigilantly monitor the situation, ready to take further action to prevent the implementation of the project in the protected forest and wetland areas.

In Niger, a one-day workshop took place on April 28, 2023, at the Maison du Citoyen to engage and consult with international organizations on climate change issues, with active involvement from Oxfam in Niger and Care International in Niger. The workshop aimed to enhance and rejuvenate the framework for action and consultation on future initiatives, including addressing the sensitive topic of fossil fuel exploitation, necessitating the participation and mobilization of all stakeholders.

In Nigeria, a national consultative workshop was conducted to map out key civil society organizations

(CSOs) involved in the Keep Your Promise campaign, focusing on climate change adaptation strategies. The workshop emphasized the importance of a bottom-up approach in advocacy efforts, enabling marginalized and vulnerable communities from rural areas to share their stories and actively engage with government and policymakers at all levels. CSOs such as Pleroma Missions, Women Environmental Programme, Gender and Environmental Risk Reduction Initiative, Welfare Aid Initiative, Eleojone Foundation, and others were identified and mapped for the upcoming phase of climate justice advocacy.

In PACJA Morocco, as part of its support for the implementation of digital community projects to develop an advocacy strategy in favor of the principles and standards of the FVC and fair climate finance, PACJA Maroc organized a capacity-building workshop for AMCDD members in the region of ERRACHIDIA on June 17 on the monitoring and evaluation of climate finance projects. The objectives of the meeting was to support capacity building of AMCDD members in the Deraa Tafilalt region to develop an advocacy plan to ensure compliance with climate and environmental standards in climate finance projects.

Youths - In Gabon, the One Forest Youth Forum was held from February 27 to 28, 2023, as a prelude to the “One Forest Summit.” The forum aimed to strengthen the involvement of young people in actions, reflections, and decisions related to the summit. The event brought together a wide range of stakeholders, including AGRIDIS, PACJA Gabon, the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Gabon, and numerous NGOs and youth associations. The forum resulted in the creation of the One Forest Youth Initiative (OFYI), an international platform for training, capacity building, and resource mobilization for the management of tropical forests and biodiversity. It also emphasized the importance of youth engagement in preserving tropical forests, promoting sustainable economic solutions, renewable energy, and a “just transition” to clean energy. The forum’s impacts included substantial participation with over 2028 registered individuals, including delegates from 21 countries, as well as fruitful discussions and initiatives addressing forest conservation and sustainable development.

In August, 2023, The Tanzania DNP conducted a training on how to use the NDC implementation tracking tool that had been developed by PACJA. CSO and government representatives participated in the Tanzania NDC implementation tracking exercise. In the exercise, the Monitoring Reporting and Verification (MRV), Climate Finance, Governance, Mitigation and Adaptation aspects of the Tanzania DNP were tracked and rated accordingly. This exercise involved government officials to obtain the government’s perspective on all five (5) components and to obtain various information related to the NDC’s implementation. This assessment was made by an expert from the Vice President’s office, the environment department, which is the country’s custodian of the NDC. This reflection provided a wealth of information to CSOs who do not have the opportunity to attend various meetings organized by ministries and the Vice President’s office regularly. The reflection also assisted CSOs in staying informed of the various processes related to the NDC’s implementation.

# BROAD INSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES

## 1. Strategic Partnerships

*(Detail partnerships that have been established including partnership constituents, level of partnership, areas of interest and significance of the partnership.)*

As an upcoming strategic partner, PACJA ably contributed to the sustainability strategy of the Regional Nile Basin Women's Network during their action planning workshop held on 20th February 2023.

A Memorandum of Understanding with the Kenya Girl Guides Association was signed that identified areas of common interest to advance work in Climate Change and participation in Climate Change platforms, especially for girls and young women.

## 2. Fundraising

*(What new grants/opportunities/prospects have we achieved within the year?)*

The secretariat staff have been actively engaging in proposal development for fundraising. This year, the fundraising efforts have yielded several grants including:

- i. A 3-year grant under the Global Civil Society Strengthening Program on children's rights worth 4,000,000 SEK from Sida through Save the Children
- ii. Forest restoration grant from One tree planted
- iii. Galvanizing Action for an accelerated transition to Low-Carbon, Climate-Resilient, inclusive, fair, and ecologically-just development pathways in Africa (**GAT-Africa**)

Additionally, the secretariat worked with some DNPs in supporting their fundraising efforts, a good example is the case of Rwanda Climate Change and Development Network which successfully secured a grant from one tree planted

## 3. Organizational Capacity Development

PACJA focused keenly on the organizational capacity development of its secretariat and national platforms but also went beyond and covered other partner organizations as outlined in the sections below:

### A. Staff and Board Retreat

At the secretariat level, a staff retreat for the Staff and Continental Executive Board (CEB) was conducted in Addis Ababa in February.

PACJA has steadfastly grown in strength and credibility increasing its membership to over 1500 organisations and networks in 51 African countries. The Alliance has so far gained enhanced access to and recognition by governments, inter-governmental and UN agencies in Africa and globally, as well as by counterpart CSOs and networks across the world. It has also heightened its profile at continental and global levels.

In 2021, PACJA developed a new strategic plan to build on and scale up gains made over the years to meet the new social, environmental and geopolitical realities faced by Africa and the whole world. To this end,



PACJA revised its theory of change to go beyond raising awareness of communities to facilitating enabling environments in which the people experience sustainable economic and social development which will then create a demand for policy change and government action on climate-resilience, transition to low-carbon pathways, green growth and environmental justice. Based on the strategic plan, PACJA developed its 10-year organisational strategic framework which tracks and records annual milestones achieved within this period. The organisation derives its areas of intervention from the organisational strategic plan 2021 -2025. Implementation of strategic plans is driven by yearly work packages which need regular review to ensure that the organisation is on track in achieving its strategic objective. In this regard, PACJA organised a staff, DNP and board retreat in Addis Ababa at the side lines of the Africa Union summit. The retreat provided an opportunity for the entire PACJA team to reflect on the work done in 2022 and plan for 2023. The teams got an opportunity to review the achievements made in the year 2022, reflect on areas of improvement and develop their respective project-based/Strategic initiatives annual work plans and align them to the organisational results framework as envisioned in the strategic framework 2021 – 2030.



*PACJA Staff and Dnp Retreat Addis Ababa Ethiopia*

### **Main outcomes**

*47 out of 51 DNPs attended the staff board retreat and made presentation on the work they have been implementing at the country level. The retreat therefore provided a unique moment for NDPs to learn from each other and this enhanced performance at country level in this reporting period. The outcomes communicated by the DNPs enabled the secretariat to enhance support systems for country level work. The gathering also provided the secretariat with an opportunity to address some of the emerging conflicts in some the countries through bilateral conversations.*

## **B. Support governance of National Platforms and Dedicated Initiatives**

PACJA has been actively involved in various initiatives across the target countries, aimed at strengthening its organs, national platforms, and dedicated sector-based initiatives. Important steps were undertaken in Ethiopia, Kenya, Ivory Coast, Morocco, and Gabon, contributing to the enhanced capacity of PACJA and its partners to catalyze action for resilient development in Africa.

During the CCCE's Annual General Assembly (AGA) in Ethiopia in March 2023, the GUARD project implementation plan was presented and endorsed by the participants. Several consortium members expressed their willingness to contribute and participate in the GUARD implementation in Ethiopia. This endorsement and active involvement of consortium members will enhance the capacity of PACJA organs and national platforms to drive resilient development initiatives in the country.

KPCG, in Kenya, has been implementing resolutions from the Annual General Meeting held in December 2022. These resolutions included the formalization of membership to the platform through the implementation of a constitution. Thematic working groups were reconstituted, and a steering committee was recruited. These measures will strengthen the capacity of KPCG and its dedicated sector-based initiatives to effectively catalyze action for resilient development in Kenya.

The PACJA-Côte d'Ivoire chapter organized a workshop focused on the functioning, structuring, and advocacy strategy for COP28. The workshop brought together 26 participants, including both male and female representatives. Dr. Mithika Mwenda's presence provided valuable insights and recommendations for strengthening the chapter's activities and engagement with institutions. The workshop also presented the best model for structuring of chapters, as adopted at the congress in Addis Ababa in February 2023. The advocacy strategy for COP28 was deliberated, enhancing the chapter's capacity to influence decision-making spaces in favor of climate-impacted communities.

PACJA Morocco developed an advocacy strategy plan for COP28. This initiative aims to enhance the capacity of the Moroccan chapter to effectively engage in climate advocacy and contribute to resilient development efforts. The strategy and advocacy plan will guide PACJA Morocco's activities, enabling it to act as a catalyst for galvanizing action in the country.

The PACJA Gabon platform organized a General Assembly to inform its members about new provisions, review past activities, and develop roadmaps for the future. On March 31, 2023, the platform, in partnership with the Observatory for the Promotion of Sustainable Development of Industries and Services of Gabon (ODDIG), organized a General Assembly under the theme "Revitalization of the PACJA GABON platform: Inclusive solutions to climate governance challenges." The event included presentations on the platform's activities, participation in COP27, the GUARD project, and the benefits of the One Forest Youth Forum and One Forest Summit. The renewal of governance bodies further strengthens the capacity of the PACJA Gabon platform to catalyze action for resilient development in Gabon.

In terms of providing support to other partners, PACJA has played an instrumental role in organisational capacity development of the Regional Nile Women Network (RNWN) that was established in December 2022. PACJA has been an active participant in the development of their strategic plan, especially in shaping their Climate change pillar. In collaboration with PACJA, the Nile Basin Discourse organised the second Regional

Nile Women Workshop in February 2023. The objective of the workshop was to firstly discuss the Network’s sustainability strategy and secondly build strategic partnerships. Our intervention was on “Gender in the on-going COP Processes. Similarly, as part of RNWN initiative “Watering Women Webinar Series” PACJA was able to guide the network in developing their position paper ahead of COP 28.

As part of PACJA’s contribution to the Civil society strengthening program PACJA conducted a comprehensive assessment of organizational capacities of partners. The assessment focused on five key areas pertaining to climate justice. PACJA was then able to support select child- led and children’s organisations to train at the Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice Cohort III held from 3rd to 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya. This year the curriculum specifically included gender and child rights



*Participants at the General Congress, Addis Ababa Ethiopia*

### **C. Developing the capacity of children rights’ organisations**

From the 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> August 2023, PACJA organized an additional capacity building workshop on climate justice advocacy targeting a diversity of civil society actors dealing in children rights, human rights, faith and gender issues in Africa. The broad objective of the workshop was to enhance understanding of climate change discourse among the CSO actors and to facilitate knowledge exchange through cross-learning and collaboration between the partners. The workshop brought together representatives of Save the Children and the partners in the consortium to support the capacity of the organizations and share experiences to improve the outcome and sustainability of climate action advocacy and programming.

The partners were also able to benefit in several of PACJA's side events on the sidelines and during the eleventh Conference on Climate Change and Development in Africa from the 1st to the 3rd Sept, 2023 at Safari Park Hotel & Casino, Nairobi. This provided a very useful and engaging learning platform on climate discourse.

In the same spirit, PACJA was called upon by the consortium partner, the International Network of Religious Leaders Living with or Personally Affected by HIV (INERELA) during their two-day finance and programmes capacity-building workshop to strengthen the climate justice programming and support the network to have a deeper understanding of gender within the climate discourse.

## **4. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AND LESSON LEARNT**

Year 2023 was generally a successful year for PACJA particularly in pushing for accountability by duty bearers considering that it was the year of the global stock take. The alliance experienced an enhanced collaboration between PACJA secretariat, designated national platforms and partner organizations in a variety of advocacy fronts. In February, the alliance successfully fulfilled its legal obligation by constituting a new continental governing council and electing a new board which will steer the organization forward in the next three years. The following are some of the key achievements under the management of the new board:

### ***Heightened agenda and priority setting for the continent through the launch of the Keep Your Promise Campaign***

PACJA launched the Keep Your Promise to heighten the agenda for Africa and put in motion a mobilization process towards primary issues for the continent. Through advocacy action and engagements with duty bearers, the alliance built some level of political consciousness on priorities for climate action in the continent to comprise i. push for African leadership to hold leaders from the North to cut on emissions ii. centering the adaptation agenda in COP28 engagements iii. amplifying the cause for scaling up climate funding and iv. advancing for rejection of carbon markets as false solution. The influence on the Global Stock-take was remarkable in ensuring the soundness of the recommendations of the technical report and provoking a strong language which was instrumental in COP discussions.

### ***Successful lobbying for operationalization of loss and damage as an agenda item in COP28 negotiations***

One of the main focus areas for PACJA in 2023 was pushing operationalization of loss and damage fund at COP28 in UAE. In pursuit of this PACJA convened the loss and damage symposium held in Lilongwe, Malawi. PACJA and partners used the opportunity to detail plans of policy action at national level and collective actions at regional level, in order to drive and influence the loss and damage agenda at COP28. This convening resulted in a position and technical submissions on loss and damage which was submitted to the UNFCCC transitional committee on loss and damage. A follow up conversation with the chair of the transitional committee was conducted with a view to influencing the outcome of the committee deliberations. These efforts yielded results as evidenced by an early decision at COP28 to operationalise the loss and damage funds albeit our reservations about the decision to have World Bank host the fund. Additionally, the alliance, through dialogue processes with Africa Group of Negotiators, Africa Union, UNECA, UNEP, Pan African parliament, duty bearers at country level and other stakeholders secured a strengthened and unified Pan African position for COP28 negotiations.

### ***Strengthened leadership role of Designated National platforms in country and regional processes***

Through this project, we have seen tremendous growth our platform and improved capacity to influence processes at subnational National but also at regional levels. The youthful leadership in the platforms has been an asset in transforming the advocacy landscape at these levels. Platforms have also strengthened their presence at subnational levels to influence policy discourse at grass roots through establishment of sub national platforms as the case for Kenya and Rwanda.

### ***Initiation of a collaborative frame for influence for the non-state actors, aggregating non-state actors' efforts***

The alliance spearheaded processes that aggregated all important influencing blocks under the Africa Climate Summit – Non-State Actors, an outfit that remained central in the influence of the purpose, political angling and engagements during the Africa Climate Summit. The alliance successfully mobilized a critical number of the non-state actors in the climate change sector towards pushing for inclusivity and recognition of the role of this constituency in the Africa climate summit processes.

### ***Positive influence on the outcomes of Africa Climate Summit***

One of the bold successes of PACJA in 2023 was to spearhead a process of influencing the agenda of ACS, the nature and level of participation of non-state actors across Africa in the process, heightening key issues that the Summit was not getting right and in advancing for the adaptation and the loss and damage agenda in the declaration. PACJA was unequivocal in its pursuit for the Common but Differentiated Responsibilities principle of the Paris Agreement, the calling on the North to cut on their emissions and de-prioritization of carbon markets as a financing mechanism. All these elements are well reflected in the final Nairobi Declaration from the Summit.

### ***Demonstrated leadership space through co-convenorship***

The alliance demonstrated its enhanced leadership role in Africa Climate Summit (ACS), Africa Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN), the Climate Change and Development for Africa Conference (CCDA) and in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Pan African Parliamentarian Summit on Climate Policy and Equity as demonstrated through its agenda setting, co-convenorship of these spaces and influencing pan African position. PACJA represented all the non-state actors in the opening and closing ceremonies at the Summit. Additionally, the alliance rallied the non-state actors in conducting 12 sideline events during the summit, the outcomes of these events informed the Nairobi declaration.

### ***Leading impressive performance up to mid-point of the African Activists for Climate Justice Programme***

Mid term Review report on the performance of this multi-country, multi-stakeholder program is clear and point the programme as being on track to achieving its goal

### ***Enhanced fundraising capacities at Country level***

Through regular capacity building sessions and regional exchange workshops, the DNPs have steadily developed useful capacities in fundraising independently. The DNP model established by the alliance has become a case study for other donors and partners who have adopted the model to support our work at the country level. The model reinforced credibility of the alliance to the extent that some DNPs like Rwanda have been able to develop successful proposals. Rwanda secured USD 220,000 for a forest restoration project from One tree planted. FORUMCC in Tanzania has also been receiving funds from other donor and so is the case for Niger which is being funded by European Union and others.

### **Increased spaces for influencing COP processes through increased number of convenings**

COP28 was one of the key moments for the year with the alliance recording 22 high level side events and 10 DNPs holding events in their country pavilion at the COP which marked a significant increase in the number such events as compared to 2022 at COP 27. The alliance hit significant milestones at COP28 by launching a children’s book on climate change, popularizing the Common Africa Position on Health and Climate change, developed during the Regional Conference on Health and Climate change held in Lilongwe.

### **Enhanced partnerships at regional and global levels**

The core blocks for organizing and influence are steadily went up especially among the youth, women, pastoralists, farmers and fisherfolk. There is growing vigor in building alliances with other like-minded organizations in the globe. This is characterized by increased number of MOU signed with organisations like Path finder international, Meru university, Girl Guides among others. Additionally, other new partners were engaged at different levels these includes; Africa Union Experts committee on rights of children among others





### ***Strengthened communication and knowledge management approaches***

During the period under review, PACJA has reinforced its communication department significantly to enhance both internal and external communication. A highly qualified communication and knowledge management officer was recruited to support this function. The young digital activists were also trained through virtual and face to face seminars to sharpen their skills in digital advocacy. These interventions enhanced the visibility of the alliance which is crucial in its advocacy agenda. There was also a sharp increase in high quality articles from the countries which were published in the alliance website, for instance; **161** articles from 13 countries showcasing the gaps in NDCs implementation were generated and published on PACJA website

**Annex I: ACTIVE PROJECT IN 2023**

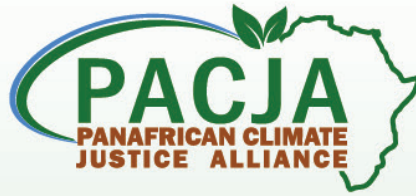
	PROJECT TITLE	Countries	DONOR	DURATION
1	Galvanizing and Unifying Africa's voices on resilient development in the Era of the Pandemic	Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Ethiopia, Botswana, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Rwanda, Morocco, Niger Cameroon	SIDA	January 2022-December 2024
2	Africa Energy Access and Transition Initiative	Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, Mozambique, and Zambia	NORAD	July 2021- December 2025
3	Building Capacity for Integrated FP/RH and PED Action (BUILD)	Malawi, Kenya, Ivory Coast, Philippines	USAID	April 2021- March 2026
4	African Activists for Climate Justice	Global, Regional, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Africa, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Netherlands	MoFA	May 2021 to December 2025 (5 Years)
5	People Centered Just transition	Kenya, Nigeria, Morocco, Botswana, Cameroon	IKI	Oct 2021-dec 2024
6	Building the capacity of CSOs on REDD+	DRC, Ivory Coast, Mozambique, Ghana	World Bank	Oct 2022- Dec 2022
7	Climate Justice Advocacy	Regional	Christian Aid	Jan 2022- Oct 2023
8	Building the Capacity of Selected sub-Sahara African Countries to Effectively Measure Progress in their Nationally Determined Contributions' Implementation Using Tracking Tools and Indexes	Kenya, Liberia, South Africa, Zambia, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Nigeria, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Kenya	AfDB	2023-2025
9	Supporting Needs-Based Advocacy on Adaptation in Africa	Kenya, Egypt, Senegal, Ethiopia, Cameroun, Zambia, Malawi, Burkina Faso, Mali, Nigeria	Bill and Melinda gates foundation	Nov,2022 to December 2025
10	Global Civil Society Strengthening Programme 2022-2026	Regional	Sida though save the children	2023-2025



## Annex II.

**Table 1. Cohort 1 composition and project identities**

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Lead Partners</b>	<b>Thematic Focus</b>	<b>Project Location</b>	<b>Value (EUR)</b>
<b>Adopt and Nurture a Fruit Project</b>	RESEED	Forestry	Kisumu County,	5000
<b>Advancing Social and Climate Justice Through Grassroots Pastoralist Women and Girls' Social Movements from KPCG.</b>	Isiolo Gender Watch	Social and human rights	Isiolo County	5000
<b>Transformative Project for Ecosystem Restoration and Regenerative Agriculture in Kakamega</b>	Green Villages International	Forestry	Kakamega County,	8000
<b>Community Indigenous, Fruit Tree Nursery &amp; Renewable Energy Demo Farm Initiative</b>	Mt Kenya Network Forum	Forestry and energy	Laikipia County,	8000
<b>Bees for Sustainable Forests Conservation Project</b>	Makuli Bee Keepers	Agriculture	Makueni County,	7500
<b>Rehabilitation of wetlands to secure community access to water</b>	Netcare	Forestry	Meru County,	8000
<b>TOTAL</b>				41,500



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