

A FORTNIGHT IN BAKU:

OUR ENGAGEMENT AT COP29



PRECOP WORKSHOP

We kicked our engagement with a Pre-COP29 workshop which discussed on Securing an ambitious needs based New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance. The workshop brought together Africa CSOs under auspices of PACJA

in this workshop Africa CSOs issued the position statement ahead of COP29. This aspiration has been shaped by the the struggles of people at the frontline of climate crisis and PACJA's experience at previous COPs, a majority that have closed without any substantive decision on matters climate finance. Baku, seems cut out to deliver on the climate promise - the much deserved climate finance for advancing the imperatives for just climate action through adaptation, just transition and mitigation ensuring women, youth, indigenous peoples, smallholder farmers, pastoralists, fisher folk, Workers, Trade Unions have the means to implement climate action

The statement issued by Africa CSOs consolidated the views, reflections, and communiques of over 3,000 representatives from diverse backgrounds who participated in various convenings hosted by PACJA and its sectoral-thematic partners, in collaboration with other pan-African institutions throughout the year.

Read the Statement here <https://pacja.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/PACJA-Position-for-COP29-.pdf>



👉 Access to Energy and Just Energy transition in Africa

The third day of our engagement was characterized by deep conversations on issues related to Access to Energy and Just Energy transition in Africa. Our Engagement started with our participation in the event held in **the UK Pavillion** where Dr Mithika Executive Director joined other speakers to delve into investing in energy Resilience and nature in Africa. In this discussion, Dr Mithika explored a collaborative approach to climate resilience in the global south.

In his intervention, Dr Mithika reminded the plenary that there are Challenges and opportunities related to energy transition in Africa, emphasizing the need for a balanced approach to development and renewable energy investment. Key points he noted included the importance of renewable energy not just for emissions reduction but also for job creation and sustainable growth.

His discussion highlighted the necessity for African nations to navigate their energy choices carefully, particularly in light of ambitious projects like Uganda's pipeline initiative. Participants acknowledged the inevitability of the energy transition and the need for commitment from international partners, particularly the UK government, to support Africa's development agenda in this context.

Generally, discussants focused on Uganda's energy and environmental challenges, emphasising the need for affordable and reliable power. A significant concern raised was the deforestation caused by the search for firewood and charcoal, particularly among refugees. The speaker highlighted partnerships with the UK to introduce clean cooking technologies and climate change funds.

Additionally, Uganda's mineral resources were mentioned as having potential for investment, particularly in electric mobility initiatives, including the manufacturing of electric cars and motorcycles. The speaker expressed appreciation for the UK-Uganda relationship and demonstrated that cooking with electricity can be more economical than traditional methods.

In the Just Energy Pavillion, we discussed on Enhancing energy Access and Just Energy Transition in Africa

The event discussions focused on the critical link between energy access and climate resilience in Africa, highlighting that over 680 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa lack any form of energy. The speaker emphasized that energy is foundational for development, impacting healthcare, education, and economic growth. Dr. Augustine Njamnshi said that a campaign called the "630 Campaign" was introduced, aiming to mobilize \$630 billion by 2030 to improve energy access for these communities. The discussion underscored the necessity of financing to enable energy access, which in turn would enhance resilience and economic growth. It was noted that without financial support and the right policies, many communities would remain without energy, exacerbating their vulnerabilities.

The second speaker spoke about the challenges of energy access in Africa, emphasizing the need for accountability in how energy access is measured and reported. Participants discussed the discrepancies between reported energy capacity and actual access, highlighting that many people are counted as having access to electricity simply by moving to urban areas, despite not having reliable service. There was a call for financial frameworks, such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), to provide direct funding rather than relying on private sector mobilization. The discussion underscored the importance of aligning financial support with the actual needs and priorities of developing countries, particularly in the context of climate change impacts on the African continent.

Are we pessimistic or optimistic about energy access? What speakers said

Reflecting and responding to questions from the plenary, speakers expressed a mix of pessimism and optimism regarding negotiations and the role of civil society.

One speaker highlighted the ongoing issue of 630 million people lacking energy access and criticized the extractive models promoted by multilateral banks. However, they found hope in grassroots efforts and community engagement. Another speaker from Ghana outlined the country's goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2060 and a 10% renewable energy mix by 2010, emphasizing the importance of community integration for successful implementation. Overall, the discussion underscored the need for collective action and a focus on marginalized communities to drive meaningful change in energy access.



Building the capacity of educators through innovative teaching approaches.

DNP platform in Egypt, in partnership with the Danish Ministry of Climate, Energy, and Utilities, held a side event that explored environmental education. This event focused on building the capacity of educators through innovative teaching approaches. Mr Charles Mwangi, Head of Programme and Research at PACJA, joined other panellists from the Global Centre on Adaptation and the Danish Council on Climate Change to delve deeper into the theme.

Charles discussed how environmental education supports sustainable energy access in African communities by highlighting both challenges and successes. Furthermore, he explored the major challenge of integrating sustainability topics into African educational systems and shared successful case studies of educational programmes that can advance sustainable energy access with typical example of Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice as an innovative initiative in educating Youth on Matters related to Climate change.

👉 Press conference



On the 3rd day of COP and the 4th day of PACJA engagement, African CSOs coalesced under the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance and held a press conference attended by a media fraternity from different countries. African CSO representatives expressed concerns around climate finance and echoed their messages containing expectations that Africa wait for the COP29 negotiations on climate finance and new collective quantified goals. The ample call revolved around Climate finance, loss and damage, just transition, adaptation, transparency and accountability, mitigation and recognition of Africa as a continent of special needs and circumstances. [Find the press statement here.](#)

👉 Beyond Material loss by exploring the non-economic impacts of Climate Change through faith-based perspectives

In Faith Pavillion, we contributed to the conversations on perspectives beyond Material loss by exploring the non-economic impacts of Climate Change through faith-based perspectives.

The event focused on addressing gaps in methodologies related to non-economic losses and damages, particularly in the context of climate finance. Participants, including youth representatives, emphasized the need for transparency in financial handling and the importance of including diverse local and regional literature in discussions. The dialogue highlighted the necessity for real commitments and actions to support developing countries, ensuring that their voices are heard in the decision-making processes.

Overall, the meeting aimed to foster a more inclusive approach to climate-related issues. Some non-economic losses were shared by participants in which it was highlighted that the emotional and psychological toll of these disruptions, including climate anxiety, and pointed out that the loss of educational time has long-term consequences on academic performance and future opportunities. The discussion underscored the urgent need to address these issues to ensure students' right to education is upheld amidst ongoing climate challenges.



Interrogating a Climate-just NCQG for Africa and its Ideal Delivery Mechanism

In discussions on climate justice in Africa, Charles Mwangi, Head of Programmes at PACJA, highlighted that only about 10% of climate finance goes to adaptation, which is inadequate given that countries often spend up to 50% of their GDP on adaptation. He called for localizing climate action, noting that just 10% of funding reaches grassroots communities, stressing the need for effective resource utilization and community involvement.

Veronica Jakarasi, Executive Director Institute of Sustainability and Development Finance, Zimbabwe, echoed these concerns, emphasizing the disparity in funding and the necessity for frontline communities to benefit from climate finance.

She questioned the allocation of the remaining funds and underscored the importance of local participation in project design.

Memory Kachambwa, Executive Director of FEMNET, stressed the need for genuine financial commitments to support climate action, particularly for women. She advocated for debt cancellation to create transformative financial structures and emphasized the importance of accessible, grant-based finance without collateral. Additionally, she highlighted the necessity for gender-responsive technology and monitoring financial flows with disaggregated gender data, while addressing concerns about illicit financial flows affecting Africa's resources.



Riding the the Tide of Carbon Market: Challenges and Opportunities for Africa

We engaged in discussions about the opportunities and challenges of the carbon market in Africa.

Panelists from organizations like the African Development Bank and AU NEPAD shared their insights. Dr. Linus Mofor of the African Climate Policy Centre noted that while there are opportunities in Africa's carbon market, the continent must learn from the past to benefit from future developments. He emphasized that the carbon market should not overshadow the importance of climate finance.

Charles Mwangi from PACJA questioned whether lessons from the initial carbon market wave were truly absorbed. He stressed the need for fair pricing, community involvement in investment decisions, and transparency in all processes. Additionally, he highlighted the necessity of protecting human rights and ensuring justice during project verification. Finally, he underscored the importance of technology transfer for building local capacity.

We held discussions on Advancing Political Commitments on Climate and Health Financing and the place of the Global South Voice.

This event organized by Amref Africa and PACJA revolved around analyzing Africa's emerging financial needs in climate and health, specifically through the lens of the 2024 Africa Common Position on Climate and Health. It also focused on examining the financial requirements necessary to address the intersection of climate impacts and health vulnerabilities across the continent. And in discussions panelists identified opportunities and innovative instruments that could improve the tracking of climate finance pledges dedicated to the health sector, ensuring transparency and accountability in meeting Africa's climate-health priorities. In this event, Dr Mithika Mwenda highlighted that the global conversation on climate change has been focusing on other sectors and left behind health. He said that the current indicators show the linkage between climate change and health despite the inattention to health that continues to exist. As far as Health financing in Africa is concerned panellists expressed concerns about the power imbalance between the global north and the global South. It was indicated that the latter is grappling with debts which are even higher than its GDP. In this regard, panellists called for radical thinking and push the change of narrative around health financing mechanisms.

A Global Commons Climate Fund as a Pathway to a Just Transition

We participated in a session titled "A Global Commons Climate Fund as a Pathway to a Just Transition." This side event aimed to explore the concept of the Global Commons Climate Fund as an innovative financing mechanism for achieving a Just Transition.

Jessica Mwanzia, a panellist from the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), highlighted how the Global Commons Climate Fund concept aligns with Africa's broader climate justice goals by addressing the need for equitable access to climate financing for African nations. She emphasized that to ensure the fund supports a just transition, critical elements like prioritizing local communities, promoting sustainable practices, and ensuring transparency and accountability are essential. Mwanzia also discussed how PACJA and similar organizations can advocate for the fund's establishment and effective implementation by engaging in policy dialogue, fostering partnerships, and leveraging lessons from existing climate finance mechanisms. She noted that existing mechanisms offer valuable insights into improving governance, enhancing accessibility, and optimizing fund allocation, which could strengthen the proposed Global Commons Climate Fund's impact across Africa.

Advancing Political Commitments on Climate and Health Financing and the place of the Global South Voice.

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AFRICA DAY

On that day, Dr. Mithika addressed participants at the Africa Day side event held in the Africa Pavilion in Baku, Azerbaijan. His remarks focused on the urgent call for climate adaptation, demand for fair financing, and global responsibility at COP29. The following are the key points noted from his speech:

On Africa's Climate Paradox, Dr Mithika reminded participants that Africa is rich in natural resources and ecosystems crucial to global stability yet disproportionately suffers from climate impacts it did not cause.

On Adaptation as a Necessity, he said that for Africa, climate adaptation is essential for survival and development is not an option. Solutions must be tailored to African realities, leveraging local knowledge and innovations.

On Locally-Led Finance Dr Mithika stressed that Financing must address the needs of those on the frontlines of climate impacts. Funding priorities should reflect the aspirations and realities of local communities across Africa.


On Rejection of Debt Instruments, Dr Mithika African nations should not be forced into debt to combat a crisis they did not create. Climate finance should be needs-based, sourced from public funds in the Global North, and provided as grants.

On Accessible, Timely Funding he said that Climate finance must be reliable, accessible, and timely to address the immediate needs of Africa's most vulnerable communities. Fragmented or delayed funding is inadequate for the scale of the crisis.

On Demand for a Practical Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) he said The GGA must move beyond vague targets, accounting for Africa's unique vulnerabilities and tracking progress across food security, health, and livelihoods to build true resilience.

On Strengthened Global Partnerships he opined that Urgent action from governments, civil society, and institutions is needed to support Africa's adaptive capacity. Resources must reach grassroots efforts where adaptation is most critical.

On Global Responsibility he affirmed that Africa's resilience impacts global stability. COP29 must deliver a commitment package that supports Africa's needs, as outlined in the African Position, to ensure a sustainable, resilient future for all.



Overcoming barriers in access to funds at the frontline of the climate crisis to accelerate climate financing for adaptation in Agriculture and Nature in Africa

This side event featured discussions led by various speakers on key topics including the challenges of accessing debt financing for environmental initiatives, the complexity of financial processes, and the need for innovative solutions like debt-for-nature swaps. The speakers emphasized the importance of levelling the playing field in financial access and highlighted the opaque nature of treasury processes that complicate governmental advice on financing options.

The plenary and participants emphasized the urgent need to integrate agriculture with sustainable natural resource management, especially in Africa. Panelists pointed out that agriculture should not compromise natural resources, citing Ethiopia's significant forest loss caused by unsustainable practices. The government is encouraged to view agriculture and natural resource management as interconnected sectors, promoting sustainability in both areas. Additionally, there was a call for governments to engage more effectively in bilateral and multilateral negotiations to address pollution and its impacts. The discussion also highlighted the importance of streamlining project funding processes to enhance capacity and expedite development efforts.



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



This event aimed to explore drivers for enhancing accountability and transparency in climate financing. Participants discussed existing partnerships in climate action, particularly focusing on accountability, and identified actions to improve the climate finance landscape.

Emphasizing the need for a comprehensive engagement framework, attendees advocated for partnerships involving state entities, African non-state actors, civil society organizations (CSOs), and communities most affected by climate change. Effective stakeholder engagement strategies were deemed essential for improving accountability for climate funds within countries.

Participants agreed on the importance of establishing structured dialogues to clarify funding purposes and institutionalizing communication frameworks among funding mechanisms, grantees, and oversight bodies. Enhancing community and CSO oversight is vital, with recommendations for CSOs to actively participate in project planning and implementation.

Finally, it was noted that funding mechanisms should require grantees to empower local communities by involving them in project design and decision-making.

What did the panellists say about the accountability lapses?

During the discussion on accountability in climate finance, several key points emerged. Peter Odengo highlighted that, at the government level, climate change impacts multiple sectors, which affects efficiency and accountability.

He noted a lack of transparency due to the absence of a shared understanding of climate finance terms and policies, as well as the challenge of defining climate policy itself.

Dr Daisy Mukarakate from UNDP added that too many intermediaries in the climate finance flow reduce the amount reaching communities, with funds sent directly to communities proving more effective. She observed that African communities often struggle with limited access to funds, citing issues with fund absorption capacity. Marlene, representing CARE, pointed out two significant gaps: the disconnect between the Green Climate Fund (GCF) executing organizations and the communities they serve, and a lack of awareness in communities about funding sources and project purposes.

She recommended civic education to bridge this knowledge gap. Additionally, she noted that the unclear definitions of climate finance at the UNFCCC level hinder transparency and accountability.

Charles Mwangi emphasized that only 10% of funds reach communities, advocating for systematic involvement and localization, where communities lead in project formulation and implementation. Participants also noted that international NGOs often lack accountability to the communities they aim to support.

➔ Towards a Transformative, People-Centered Energy Transition



The event held in the IGAD pavilion focused on the concept of "just transition," particularly in the context of climate change and energy access. Key discussions revolved around the establishment of the Just Transition platform, which aims to foster collaboration and research on Just Transition initiatives post-2015 Paris Climate Agreement.

The knowledgeable panellists emphasized the need for a comprehensive understanding of the socio-economic implications of transitioning from fossil fuels to renewable energy, highlighting that job losses and gains are not straightforward and vary significantly across different regions.

The interaction also addressed the challenges faced by African nations in achieving energy access, with speakers noting that many countries still lack basic electricity infrastructure. There was a consensus on the necessity of clear policies and investment strategies to facilitate this transition.

In this conversation, panelists underscored the importance of political will and regional cooperation as well as the need for innovative financing mechanisms to support energy projects.

➔ COP LEGACY- CSO Discussion on Climate Finance



In the Azerbaijan NGO Pavillion in Baku, we joined the Azerbaijan NGOs for a high-level engagement on the significant contribution of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Climate Finance and Sustainability. The event, hosted by the Azerbaijan NGO forum in partnership with PACJA, highlighted the importance of collaboration between the government, private sector, and civil society for holistic and sustainable climate solutions.

The panel session, moderated by Ramil Iskandarii, discussed practical approaches used by NGOs and CSOs in advancing the climate change and sustainability agenda. The UAE climate network supports ambitious climate goals through research, youth empowerment, community organization, and decarbonization of universities. The Azerbaijan National NGO Forum has collaborated on several engagements, including the Pre-COP event, to showcase the role of civil society in climate action, climate finance, and sustainability.

The high-level side event was graced by H.E Ahmed Bin Mohammed Aljarwan- President of the Global Council for Tolerance and Peace. Ms Barbara Blaudt Rangel- Director of Planning Intelligence and Tourism Development - Ministry of Tourism and Ms Aygün Aliyeva- Executive Director of Azerbaijan State NGO Agency and Member of the COP29 Organizational Committee.

Sharing success and challenges in Climate Justice for Communities.



In Faith Pavilion, PACJA DNP Coordinators from Malawi and Rwanda shared insights on conversations on Inclusive Climate Justice for All organized by the Scottish Government. This event aimed to highlight the successes and challenges of what achieved so far CJC in their respective countries and shared typical examples tied to approaches and contexts. Under the Climate Justice in Community (CJC) programme implemented in Rwanda by RCCDN and CISSONEC in Malawi, both implementing organizations are empowering local communities to lead in addressing climate change impacts through justice-centred approaches. They drive this change through direct grassroots community engagement to enhance the communities' capacity to participate in climate action decision-making, project planning, and implementation.

Discussing the child centred Climate vulnerability and Risk assessment



We engaged in discussions with Organizer of the event, UNICEF, and the Government of Zimbabwe Mr Philip Kilonzo from PACJA along with other participants explored and discussed child-centred climate vulnerability and risk assessment for Zimbabwe where the shared Insights and lessons learnt.

In this Event the report findings on the Child-Centered Climate Vulnerability & Risk Assessment was presented. Participants shared insights on addressing climate impacts on children

Climate finance models that promote inclusive and holistic climate action for communities at the front line of the climate crisis



This event which deepened the discussions on challenges surrounding inclusive climate action for Communities was organized by Azerbaijan NGO Forum and PACJA.

Ramil, Chairman of the Board of the Azerbaijan National NGO Forum shared the background of the NGO landscape and the role they are playing in climate action. He emphasized PACJA's climate finance model, which prioritizes frontline communities.

In this session, Dr Mithika Mwenda the Executive director of PACJA shared insights on PACJA's role and objectives at COP29. Mithika reflected on PACJA's historical collaboration with Azerbaijan NGOs, describing this gathering as a stepping stone to COP29 in Dubai and COP30 in Belém, Brazil. He highlighted a tripartite partnership with the UAE, noting PACJA's ongoing discussions with Brazilian counterparts to address interlinked global challenges beyond climate change, such as food security, health pandemics, and systemic transformation. Mithika called for a transition beyond fossil fuels, encompassing resource use, critical minerals, and societal practices, and emphasized approaching future climate actions with transparency and a commitment to green energy.

Charles from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) discussed the importance of incorporating traditional systems into climate adaptation. He acknowledged challenges across Africa in reaching local communities and highlighted GCF's work to improve direct financing models, noting recent initiatives in Senegal to support climate resilience and Mozambique to restore water resources.

Charles also described GCF's partnerships to enhance community governance and decision-making in climate action, mentioning recent funding proposals from Africa and efforts to double funding for adaptation. To improve impact, he proposed restructuring GCF with regional teams closer to communities and emphasized GCF's increased focus on gender and Indigenous issues.

Dr Mithika advocated for financial mechanisms that are responsive to local needs and proposed moving away from reliance on institutions like the World Bank. He urged simplification of climate finance mechanisms, with special initiatives for underserved regions such as Somalia, Sudan, and Angola. Charles Mwangi stressed the importance of prioritizing climate finance under the Nairobi Climate Justice Charter and noted the gap between the climate finance pledged by developed nations and the limited funds received by African countries, of which only 10% reaches local communities. He called for systematic community involvement and localization of climate efforts.

Ruchi Tripathi, Director of Climate and Nature, underscored the need for greater accessibility to climate financing at grassroots levels. She highlighted agroecology and the importance of food systems in addressing biodiversity and climate resilience, advocating for a shift in funding priorities toward sustainable food systems, as only 1.5% of climate finance is allocated to these areas. Responding to an audience question on women's access to funding—currently at only 2%—Tripathi explained that the GCF now requires projects to outline how they will benefit women directly, as part of efforts to ensure inclusive development.





We held a massive action inside the Blue Zone, in Baku



The first PACJA action has just taken place in Baku. It was an opportunity to send out our messages and demands revolving around climate finance, Energy access and transition, and accountability, adaptation Finance more than double among others. On the need for concrete action on the climate crises affecting several African countries, such as Chad, Benin, Nigeria and Kenya.

Key points include raised include:

- 1. Financial Demands:** PACJA activists said that African negotiators are calling for a new collective quantified goal (NCQG) of \$1.3 trillion per year until 2030 for climate finance, which PACJA argue is insufficient compared to the estimated \$3 trillion needed to implement their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).
- 2. Source of Funds:** Activists stressed that this funding must come from public sources and high-emission countries, noting that just 20 countries are responsible for 80% of greenhouse gas emissions and control a significant portion of global GDP.
- 3. Debt Crisis:** it was noted that many African nations are heavily indebted, with around 65% of their income going towards debt servicing, which limits their capacity to respond to climate crises.

We expressed impatience with the unfulfilled promises made at previous conferences and called for COP of action, not of promises. This impromptu action inside the blue zone emphasized the critical need for substantial and accessible climate finance to support adaptation and mitigation efforts in Africa. PACJA activists called for the urgent need for climate finance, particularly emphasizing the situation in Africa.

They argue that climate finance should not be in the form of loans but rather grants, given their financial constraints.

- 4. Urgency of Action:** The PACJA activists highlighted the immediate dangers posed by climate change, referencing recent flooding in Nigeria and Benin, and the need for global recognition of the climate crisis's urgency. One of the activists, Salem Ayenan from Benin said "We are fed up because every day, whether in Chad, Benin, Nigeria or Kenya, there is a drought that kills our populations. Some floods invade our populations. People who die every day, people who suffer, fields that are destroyed. And we do not want this COP29 to be another COP of promises. We want all the actors to work so that we have the funding, double the funding for climate adaptation." Salem Ayenan, Benin.

Advancing Climate Action through South-South Cooperation: The Role of NGOs



We joined other Global South CSOs in side event titled "**Advancing Climate Action through South-South Cooperation: The Role of NGOs,**" organized in the framework of COP 29 by the Azerbaijan National NGO Forum and the Priority Center for Socio-Economic Research. It aimed to strengthen commitments to climate resilience and sustainable development.

The event focused on several humanitarian issues, including decolonization, intercultural dialogue, and the challenges of financing within the climate economy. It emphasizes the importance of diplomacy, negotiation, and constructive dialogue during the Conference of the Parties (COP). The speakers expressed a commitment to collaboration and finding cooperative solutions to the urgent climate crisis, inspired by the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement. In this event, Dr Mithika raised key perspectives on Baku to Belem framework.

1. On Acknowledgment of Challenges, Dr. Mitika emphasized the interconnectedness of global crises, including climate change, wars, pandemics, food insecurity, and economic challenges. He highlighted that these issues cannot be addressed in isolation.

2. On Importance of Collaboration, He stressed the need for global cooperation, particularly between the Global South and the North, to tackle these crises effectively. He noted that waiting for external solutions is not viable; and said that communities must take initiative.

3. On Historical Context, Dr. Mithika referenced the Titanic as a metaphor for the current global situation, suggesting that overconfidence in technology and systems can lead to disaster if not approached with caution and awareness of vulnerabilities.



Harnessing Sustainable Power in the Fragile States



This event focused on the IGAD Region and discussed the critical need for sustainable energy solutions in the IGAD region, focusing on renewable energy, community empowerment, and the importance of tailored policies and investments to address the unique challenges faced by each country.

Speakers tackled the challenges and opportunities related to harnessing sustainable energy in the IGAD (Intergovernmental Authority on Development) region, which includes countries in the Horn of Africa and Eastern Africa such as Djibouti, Somalia, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Uganda, Kenya, and South Sudan. During this event discussion, important inspiring points were raised including:

1.Context of Energy Access where the IGAD region faces significant challenges due to high levels of conflict, climate change, and human insecurity. It was noted that many areas lack the necessary resources to invest in and maintain energy infrastructure, leading to a reliance on traditional biomass fuels, which contributes to environmental degradation and health risks.

2.On the Impact of Climate Change, it was shared that the region has experienced a notable increase in temperature (1.3 degrees Celsius from 2020 to 2023) and severe droughts, which exacerbate existing conflicts and vulnerabilities. It was explored, for instance, that countries like South Sudan and Somalia have very low electricity access rates (6% and 60%, respectively).

3.On Sustainable Energy Solutions: Panelists emphasized the importance of renewable energy solutions, such as solar power, to address the intertwined challenges of energy access, climate change, and conflict. They discussed successful examples of solar projects that have improved livelihoods and community resilience.

4.On the position of Youth Engagement and Community Involvement, speakers and plenary highlighted the need for youth involvement in energy conversations and the importance of changing mindsets within communities regarding energy access. Empowering communities to take charge of their energy needs through sustainable practices was seen as crucial.

5.Investment and Policy Gaps were highlighted as critical needs for energy sustainability. Panelists called for increased investment in renewable energy and the development of policies that facilitate regional integration of energy resources. It was highlighted that each country has unique energy potentials (e.g., Ethiopia's hydropower and Kenya's geothermal energy) and that a collaborative approach is necessary to optimize these resources.

6.Speakers also noted **Challenges of Implementation** when it comes to the sustainability of energy projects is often compromised by a lack of government support and the reliance on NGOs. There is a consensus that government intervention is essential for the long-term sustainability of energy solutions.



Leverage on Human Rights Framework to drive inclusive Global Goals on Adaptation and its delivery in Africa



PACJA joined NANHRI and the National Human Rights Commission in a side event that discussed the linkage between GGA and Human rights in Africa to the platform for discussion on how to leverage on Human Rights Framework to drive inclusive Global Goals on Adaptation and its delivery in Africa,.

This event which was organized by NANHRI, PACJA and the National Human Rights Committee sought to discuss ways of enhancing coordination between Human Rights, Climate justice actors and other stakeholders to support climate change adaptation measures in Africa.

In this event, Philip Kilonzo who represented PACJA said *"We cannot talk about human rights in a context where opportunities are constrained. I think that the element of loss and damage, which has had all the nature of conversation in terms of whether it's going to be financed or not, again must be recast back in terms of all losses and damages are impacting the lives of people, how they are impacting the agriculture sector, the water sector, among other sectors. So again, it defines quite a substantive footing within the global war on adaptation, which is extremely critical."*

Key points raised in this event include:

- 1. Human Rights and Climate Justice:** The speakers argue that climate justice cannot be separated from human rights. They highlight the importance of recognizing rights related to water, food, and ecosystems as fundamental to human existence.
- 2. Impact of Climate Change:** The discussants referenced a UN report indicating that Africa suffers significant economic losses due to climate change, with GDP losses ranging from 2% to 5% and adaptation costs expected to reach 2-3% of GDP over the next decade.
- 3. Need for Increased Financing:** There is a call for doubling adaptation financing to at least \$40 billion by 2025 and for a fair compensation framework to address climate injustices.
- 4. Collaboration and Participation:** The speakers emphasize the need for collaborative efforts across regions and sectors to address climate challenges effectively. They advocate for a holistic approach that integrates human rights into climate action.
- 5. Call to Action:** The dialogue encourages participants to consider how to finance transitions to sustainable practices while ensuring that vulnerable communities are not left behind.

In this discussion, key recommendations were outlined to ensure that human rights drive an inclusive Global Green Agenda (GGA). Recommendations drawn include mobilizing climate finance, fostering international collaboration, and focusing on human rights in the context of climate change, along with NANHRI's role in public policy monitoring. Particularly recommendations are as follows:

1. Climate Finance Mobilization: The discussants emphasized the importance of mobilizing both public and private climate finance to address climate change. Kolani Nakodjoua from the National Human Rights Commission from Togo shared an example of how the National Bank of Togo (NBH) is actively working with the government and civil society organizations to enhance access to climate finance. He said that Togo collaborates with various international and regional organizations, including the United Nations, to raise funds and support for climate adaptation efforts in Africa.

2. On Human Rights and Climate Change

Khalid Ramli from Morocco highlighted that climate change poses a significant threat to human rights. National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) play a crucial role in bridging the gap between states, civil society, and international human rights mechanisms.

3. Roles of NHRIs and policy monitoring: it was indicated that NHRIs can act as implementers of international agreements (like the Paris Agreement) by advocating for climate action, and monitoring state compliance with human rights standards related to climate change and being involved in monitoring public policies and can serve as redress mechanisms for human rights violations related to climate change.



The Citizens at the Centre of Energy



This event was organised by the Elcano Institute and joined by PACJA among other partners. It highlighted the collaborative efforts required among consumers, businesses, and communities to effectively navigate the energy transition while ensuring equitable access to the benefits of renewable energy.

PACJA was represented by Eugene Nforngwa who is the Energy Access and Just Transition thematic Lead. In his intervention, Eugene emphasised the importance of consumer involvement in the energy system.

- Energy Sharing Initiatives:** he highlighted that there are successful business models that promote energy sharing, particularly benefiting vulnerable communities. An example highlighted is a kindergarten that shares solar energy with its neighborhood, resulting in lower electricity bills for local residents.
 - Agricultural Benefits:** he said that the integration of photovoltaic (PV) production with agriculture has been shown to enhance crop yields by up to 60%, providing additional income for farmers and supporting rural communities.
 - On Creation** he affirmed that the renewable energy sector is a significant source of employment, with projections indicating that jobs in this sector could reach 1 million in Europe by 2025.
- Here are the key points he made during the expert panel discussion:
- Consumer Role:** He mentioned that the transition is moving towards a model in which consumers play a central role in the energy system, benefiting from renewable energy sources such as solar and wind. This shift has provided financial relief during energy crises, with some consumers saving up to €3,800 annually thanks to direct access to renewable energy sources
 - Challenges and Next Steps:** The document emphasizes the need for effective communication and community engagement to ensure that the benefits of renewable energy are widely understood and accessible. It also stresses the importance of addressing misinformation and fostering local involvement in energy projects.
 - Infrastructure and Flexibility:** The need for robust infrastructure that can accommodate the growing demand for renewable energy and provide flexibility in energy supply is highlighted as crucial for the ongoing energy transition.



COP 29 Negotiations proceedings: We met the Chair of Africa Group of Negotiators



At the sidelines of COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, the African civil society organizations coalesced under the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), met with the Africa Group of Negotiators under the leadership of AGN chair Amb. Ali. It has been a tradition that every year at COPs, CSOs under PACJA meet AGN to be brief on the progress negotiations in the rooms especially on the agendas adopted by Africa as a continent.

In this briefing meeting with the AGN Chair, it was highlighted that financial issues in the current negotiations remain contentious and the African Negotiators are advocating for discussions that focus on concrete implementation and ambitious goals.

“The whole issue of UAE dialogue should look at matters of finance because indeed ambition must go hand in hand with the ambition of implementation, ambition of action without commission, and ambition of implementation, then really there’s nothing much”, said Amb Ali Mohamed, the AGN Chair.

Responding to CSOs question on Financing Systems that are not functioning fairly when it comes to Africa, the AGN Chair explained that this has been working against the developing countries especially Africa despite efforts by African heads of state to change the system’s functioning.

“There’s a bigger picture that our heads of state and government have been pushing to change, the whole issue of reforming international financial systems, international financial architecture which was put in place 80 years ago, this year, eight years ago. So, a system that has been put in place once we did not exist as independent countries and governments has continued to be used against us.

Key points noted from the AGN updates on the current status of negotiations at COP29

1. **Contentious Issues:** There are ongoing debates regarding the UAE dialogue and the need for financial discussions to align with ambitious climate action. African representatives argue that implementation must accompany ambition, emphasizing the importance of finance in achieving climate goals.
2. **Mitigation Work Program (MWP):** The MWP is focused on sharing experiences and learning rather than setting new targets. However, there is pressure from developed nations to introduce new targets, which African representatives resist unless accompanied by commitments to climate finance.
3. **Financial Needs:** African nations propose a significant increase in climate finance, suggesting a need for \$1.3 trillion, contrasting with previous commitments of \$100 billion. The discussions highlight the importance of fair financial structures without unnecessary layers that complicate access.
4. **Fairness in International Systems:** There is a strong call for reforming international financial systems that are perceived as unfairly structured against developing nations. The emphasis is on fairness rather than favours, advocating for a system that provides equitable opportunities.
5. **Santiago Network:** he said that negotiations also touch on the hosting of the Santiago Network Secretariat, with African representatives pushing for it to be based in Nairobi. There are concerns about transparency and fairness in the decision-making processes regarding its location.

👉 The imperatives of a just NCQG: Lessons from Morocco and other African nations on Why the NCQG must centre a Needs Based Adaptation in its subgoals



This side event focused on the urgent need for effective climate adaptation strategies that are inclusive, community-driven, and responsive to the realities faced by those most affected by climate change. It aimed at facilitating the evidence-based comprehensive dialogue to deepen our approaches for pursuing needs-based adaptation finance.

This event aimed to draw lessons from Morocco and other African countries regarding the implementation of needs-based approaches in their respective contexts. It focused on the potential implications of these lessons for global negotiations, emphasizing the principles and strategies that should be adopted to ensure quality financing for Africa. The event also explored how to effectively capture needs-based adaptation within the National Climate Goals and Qualifications (NCQG) related to climate finance.

Key lessons raised by discussants enlightened the reason why the NCQG must centre a Needs Based Adaptation in its subgoals. They also underscored the necessity of integrating local knowledge and needs into climate adaptation strategies, supported by appropriate legislative and financial frameworks.

The following are key points and insights shared by participants as follow:

Decentralization and Community Involvement:

The discussion emphasized the importance of decentralizing climate governance to involve local communities in identifying their adaptation needs. This is facilitated through participatory risk assessments and the creation of county Climate Change Action Plans that reflect community priorities.

- ***Legislative Framework:*** it was explained that Kenya, for instance, has established a comprehensive legislative framework, including the National Adaptation Plan and the Climate Change Act, which guide local adaptation efforts. Each county has its own Climate Change committee responsible for aligning local plans with national legislation.
- ***Financial Support:*** A special financing package is mentioned, which allocates funds to counties to support local climate initiatives. This financial support is crucial for empowering communities and enhancing their capacity to adapt to climate change.
- ***Role of Farmers:*** The conversation highlights the significant role of farmers, particularly small-scale and subsistence farmers, in climate adaptation. It stresses the need for adaptation finance to be responsive to the actual needs of farmers, who are on the front lines of climate impacts.
- ***Innovative Approaches:*** There was a call for innovative adaptation strategies that are developed with input from farmers, ensuring that local contexts are considered in the design and implementation of climate technologies.

Radical Approaches for Accelerating Debt-Free Climate Finance Flows to Underserved African Countries

This event hosted in Senegal Pavillion focused on underserved nations and explored innovative financial solutions that ensure Africa is not left behind in the global climate action agenda. This side event underscored the urgent need for a more equitable and effective climate finance system that addresses the unique challenges faced by African nations in the context of climate change. With a focus on the challenges and dynamics of climate finance in Africa, particularly about adaptation and the inequities in financial flows, key thoughtful insights were noted as follows:

- **Climate Finance Landscape:** The speakers highlighted that Africa, despite contributing less than 4% of global greenhouse gas emissions, suffers disproportionately from climate-related damages, accounting for 80% of the losses. The principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities" was emphasized, stressing that those who contribute to climate change should bear the financial burden of its impacts.
- **Inequities in Financial Flows:** There is a significant injustice in the distribution of climate finance. A large portion of the funding is concentrated in a few countries, with 65% going to just ten nations, while the most vulnerable regions receive inadequate support. During discussions, speakers pointed out that even within countries like Kenya, the regions that need resources the most are often overlooked.
- **Need for Reform:** The event called for a reform of the climate finance architecture to ensure that it does not exacerbate existing inequalities. The speakers argued for a shift towards grants and concessional finance that would not impose debt burdens on vulnerable countries.
- **Role of the African Development Bank (AfDB):** The representative of AfDB said that the bank is working to increase its grant resources and prioritize adaptation projects, aiming to allocate a significant portion of its funding to the poorest regions. He said that the bank is also exploring innovative financing mechanisms to better support countries burdened by debt.
- **Challenges in Negotiations:** Coming to negotiations surrounding climate finance, they were described as complex and often frustrating, with many countries struggling to navigate the existing frameworks and secure the necessary funding for adaptation projects. Antoine Fay discusses the current landscape of climate finance negotiations, highlighting the challenges faced by developing countries, particularly in Africa. He emphasized that the climate finance framework is often manipulated, leading to confusion about what constitutes climate finance.
- **On Historical Context,** Fay referenced the evolution of climate negotiations, noting that decisions made in past conferences have shaped the current situation. He criticizes the tendency to prioritize certain articles of the Paris Agreement over the foundational principles of climate finance established in earlier conventions.
- **On Challenges for Africa,** Fay pointed out that Africa, despite being one of the most vulnerable regions to climate change, is often sidelined in negotiations. He stresses that the climate crisis is largely caused by developed nations, yet developing countries are expected to adapt without adequate support.
- **Adaptation vs. Mitigation:** The discussants highlighted the distinction between mitigation (which can yield financial returns) and adaptation (which is crucial for survival but lacks immediate financial incentives). Fay argued that adaptation is essential for countries already suffering from climate impacts

Digital Natives Re-Imagining an Inclusive and Climate-Just World



This event sought to highlight the potential of digital natives in championing an inclusive and equitable climate society, especially as the civic space continues to shrink. It also explored digital opportunities that promote inclusion and enhance the capacity of civil society organizations and frontline communities to utilize emerging technologies to accelerate SDG 13 on Climate Action, guided by the SDG Digital Acceleration Agenda.

Lucky Abeng, a youth activist from Nigeria emphasized the role of digital platforms and technologies in advancing climate justice, noting that youth engagement on platforms like TikTok and Twitter remains limited. While young people are increasingly making efforts to discuss climate change issues and align themselves with climate activities, there is a need to encourage and amplify these conversations. However, he recommended that youth can use TikTok and drive the conversation on Climate Change and Climate Justice.

Aileen Ajiwa from FEMNET highlighted that women and youth face both opportunities and challenges in accessing digital platforms. Opportunities include increased visibility, while challenges involve cyber safety, bullying, lack of knowledge, and restricted access, with some governments censoring content.

Sokhna Die Ka Dia, Natural Justice Dakar Hub Director, from Natural Justice stressed the importance of policies to safeguard digital technologies. She advocated for collaboration between policymakers, negotiators, and civil society organizations to align positions before negotiations while addressing policy gaps related to digital technologies.

This event was the opportunity to explore the policy and advocacy position on digital technologies and climate action in Africa and deepen understanding of how digital tools can promote climate justice and inclusion, particularly in AACJ countries. It was the opportunity to emphasise on sharing innovative digital solutions to support climate justice initiatives and enhance civic engagement.



2nd PACJA Action:

We called for the reversal of the unjust decision regarding the hosting of the Santiago Network in Geneva



Today, we held our second action at COP29. Last week, when African civil society organizations met with the AGN chair to receive a briefing on the negotiations, he stated that Africa is still advocating for the recall of hosting the SNLD in Geneva, Switzerland, despite the initial decision to host it in Nairobi, Kenya.

PACJA had already issued a statement on this matter earlier this year. During today's event on the sidelines of COP29, we organized an action calling on global leaders to reconsider what we believe is an unjust decision. [Click here to read the statement we released on the day of our second action in Baku.](#)





We Launched High-Level Policy Dialogue on Climate Change and Health and the Official Launch of The Pan-African Partnership on Climate and Health (PPCH)



Organized by PACJA and Amref Africa, this side event aimed at achieving the following objectives:

1. Raise awareness about the health impacts of climate change in Africa and advocate for a stronger global commitment to tackling these challenges while emphasizing its urgency and significance in Africa.

2. Integration of health considerations into climate policies and actions, aligning with both the COP29 agenda and the aspirations noted in Article 10 of AMCEN’s Decision SS.X/3.

3. Mobilization of increased funding to support climate and health initiatives, ensuring that Africa’s needs are prioritized in the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG).

4. Create grounds for support around the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) UAE Belem work program ensuring a consultative process for developing Climate and Health Indicators contextualized to African realities.

it targeted Non-State Actors institutions: Civil society organizations; Faith-based institutions; Women movements; Farmer groups; Youth movements; Indigenous Peoples organization; Academia and Research; Conservation and nature-based solutions actor; Africa Private sector and labor movements





Safeguarding the Future: Prioritizing African Children's Rights in the Global Finance Rights in The Global South



The event held at the Zambia Pavilion revolved around the integration of children into national climate policy processes, such as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs). Discussants noted the lack of meaningful and systematic inclusion of children in climate-related discussions and decision-making at national, regional, and global levels. Speakers emphasized that while some initiatives exist to involve children, such as through universities or youth organizations, these efforts remain superficial.

They recommended a transformative shift is necessary to ensure children actively contribute to policy formulation and implementation, not just as beneficiaries but as informed stakeholders.

During the interaction, key messages and insights were observed :

Limited Child Participation in Climate Policy Spaces

Speakers noted that Children are not adequately included in discussions on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs). They asserted that current engagement is often superficial and lacks meaningful involvement, especially at national and community levels.

The Need for Paradigm Shift

Amid global conversation about climate change and its impacts, panellists suggested that children should not only be seen as passive recipients of policies but as active participants. They suggested that it's essential to cultivate a generation that is well-informed about climate justice, human rights, and their role in climate decision-making.

Barriers to Climate Financing for Children

It was noted, during discussions, that there is insufficient allocation of climate finance towards child-responsive activities (only 2.4% or less globally). In addition to the latter; a lack of clear plans, policies, and legal frameworks to guide financing for children's climate needs was also noted along with the absence of measurable indicators in national plans to track investments benefiting children.

Challenges in Gender and Climate Negotiations

Contentious issues, such as climate finance and human rights language, delay progress in negotiations were discussed. Panellists said that Gender and children's vulnerabilities, particularly regarding education, health, and food security, need practical solutions backed by sufficient resources.

Importance of Child Participation

They noted the importance of involving children in conversations around climate change. They affirmed that meaningful child participation ensures their priorities are reflected in climate policies and financing. They established that this participation involves gathering insights from children in schools, villages, and communities, not just bringing them to global events.

Inclusivity in Climate Policy

Participants emphasized the need for Policymakers to integrate children's perspectives systematically, ensuring their voices influence national and global decisions. They added that mobilization efforts should prioritize balancing educational commitments with opportunities for children to participate in climate discussions.

Call for Action on Climate Finance

Concluding the discussions, speakers emphasized the need for a unified approach to include children and vulnerable groups in climate-related financing mechanisms. They also stressed that strengthening government commitments and aligning policies with dedicated budgets and legal provisions is crucial.

Recommendations on Tackling Structural Barriers

They recommended that Governments must build technical capacity in key institutions, like ministries of finance, to prioritize child-sensitive climate finance. They recommended the enhancement of accountability and transparency through monitoring systems will ensure funds reach intended beneficiaries, including children.



Us children, hope for the bright future because we are not asking for a lot of things. We should be updated on when our ideas are going to be implemented as well as get feedback on the climate finances-

Favour Chindimba



Centering the voices from the frontline in carbon Market decisions and regulations: Experience sharing from the African Community



Organized by DRC Climate Change Network in partnership with PACJA, and hosted at DRC Pavillion, the event focused on Carbon Markets. During these discussions, panellists from various institutions These messages underlined the need for inclusivity, fairness, and sustainability in carbon market implementation while advocating for Africa's unified and strategic engagement.

During the thoughtful discussions, key insights were raised by discussants:

1. Carbon Markets and Trust:

-Carbon markets operate on trust across all layers, from buyers and sellers to project designers and local communities.

-Trust is critical for equitable resource sharing, measurement, and decision-making at all levels.

2. Behavioral Change and Incentives:

Successful carbon markets require long-term behavioral commitments, supported by the right incentives for individuals and communities.

-Without clear incentives, sustained participation in carbon markets becomes challenging.

3. Pricing Challenges:

- Current carbon prices fail to reflect the true social and environmental costs, undermining the potential for meaningful investment in climate projects.
- African nations face unique challenges, as the social cost of capital in Africa far exceeds global average prices.

4. Equity and Representation:

- Women and marginalized groups are underrepresented in negotiations and project design, despite being disproportionately affected by climate change.
- Efforts must ensure fair compensation, inclusion in decision-making, and tangible benefits from carbon market initiatives.

5. Unified African Approach:

- Africa must adopt a cohesive strategy to negotiate and advocate for favorable terms in global carbon markets.
- Regional collaboration and shared technological advancements are essential to strengthen Africa's position.

6. Local Context and Capacity Building:

- Policies, legislation, and regulatory frameworks for carbon markets must align with local contexts and realities.
- Capacity building at grassroots levels is vital to ensure meaningful community participation and ownership of carbon market projects.

7. Economic and Social Impacts:

Projects must prioritize tangible benefits for communities, including food security and sustainable livelihoods, without compromising land rights.

- The economic returns from carbon markets should enhance community well-being and address opportunity costs effectively.

8. Technology and Innovation:

- African countries must leverage technology to create efficient, transparent, and locally tailored carbon market systems.
- Investment in homegrown technologies can help Africa lead in sustainable climate action while reducing reliance on external frameworks.

9. Call for Political Will:

- Strong political will at national and regional levels is necessary to drive effective participation in carbon markets.
- Leadership must focus on land and nature-based solutions, ensuring communities benefit directly from these initiatives.

10. Future Negotiations:

- African countries need to redefine negotiation frameworks to better reflect the continent's priorities and challenges.
- Unified representation at international forums will enhance Africa's bargaining power for favourable climate finance terms.

Leveraging climate Finance to achieve NCQG: Lessons from Global South

The side event highlighted the significance of community-driven approaches in climate finance, emphasizing the need for transparency, inclusivity, and effective policy implementation. It drew on lessons learned from the Africa Activists for Climate Justice (AACJ), a consortium led by PACJA in partnership with FEMNET, AYC, OXFAM, and Natural Justice. Participants highlighted the necessity of involving marginalized groups in policy development and ensuring that policies are understandable and actionable at the local level. There was a consensus on the need for sustainable financing and collaboration among various stakeholders to achieve ambitious climate goals. With typical examples, discussants touched on the following key points:

Community Needs and Donor Engagement

On this point, speakers emphasized the importance of aligning donor interests with community needs. It was noted that communities should articulate what investments would be most impactful, rather than donors imposing their preferences. Access to funding was also highlighted as a challenge, with many donors requiring previous financial reports and references, which can complicate the process for communities seeking support.

Participatory Structures and Funding Models

Panellists highlighted the community-driven funding model where they stressed the involvement of various stakeholders, including the private sector, media, local communities, local governments, and civil society in designing financial models. Furthermore, they recommended the need for transparency in financial reporting referencing the Paris Agreement's modalities for tracking climate finance.

Policy Development and Implementation

Questions were raised about the sufficiency of having policies in place without effective implementation. It was noted that while some countries, like Kenya, have strong policies, the real challenge lies in their execution. Discussants stressed the importance of inclusive policy development, particularly involving marginalized groups to ensure that policies are relevant and understood at the community level.

Gender and Marginalized Groups

An example was shared regarding the failure to implement gender components in adaptation plans due to a lack of involvement from those directly affected. This highlighted the need for policies to be developed with input from local communities. These discussions pointed out that understanding the local context is crucial for effective policy implementation. Policies must be communicated in a way that is accessible to the community.

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Sustainability of Projects

The sustainability of projects was identified as a critical issue, with a call for more funding directed towards locally-led initiatives that communities can own. They emphasized the need for collaboration among various stakeholders to ensure the sustainability of interventions.

Data and Local Community Involvement

The importance of utilizing data from local communities was highlighted, as it provides a more accurate representation of their needs and experiences regarding climate change. There was a call for valuing narratives and data from local communities to facilitate access to climate finance.

Collective Action and Vulnerable Groups

The meeting concluded with a call for unified action among different sectors (government, civil society, media, and academia) to achieve climate finance goals. The necessity of considering the needs of vulnerable groups, particularly women at the grassroots level, was emphasized to ensure their inclusion in climate finance discussions.



Advancing Climate Action and Needs-based Adaptation in Africa; the Partnership for a Sustainable future



The event was organized by the African Development Bank - Civil Society Coalition on Climate Change and Energy. This event's discussions and keynote addresses focused on the challenges and opportunities in climate finance, particularly for adaptation efforts in Africa.

Key speakers emphasized the need for a shift from short-term funding approaches to long-term strategies, highlighting the importance of grassroots involvement and innovative financing mechanisms. Additionally, discussions included the significant funding gap for adaptation projects and the recent establishment of the Climate Action Window to mobilize resources for climate initiatives.

speakers emphasized the effectiveness of climate finance, advocating for a top-down approach to assess local needs while criticizing the exclusion of grassroots involvement.

Highlighting a UNFCCC study estimating West Africa requires \$207 million over five years for climate adaptation, he underscored the urgency for grants over loans to ensure predictable funding for African nations. He called for a shift from short-term financing to long-term resilience strategies, the inclusion of diverse sectors beyond agriculture and water management in assessments, and proposed innovative mechanisms to support local communities and small enterprises.

Madam Pauline Nantungu Kalunda from Uganda focused on financing for smallholder communities, stressing that adaptation requires long-term investment tailored to specific needs. She noted the importance of transforming farmers' short planning horizons into long-term strategies, understanding financing stages such as grants and private sector involvement, and leveraging carbon financing to help farmers access loans. She also highlighted the need for platforms that aggregate resources to scale adaptation initiatives.

Peter Odhengo, the AFDAN coordinator, highlighted adaptation as a bankable investment, countering misconceptions by emphasizing the importance of understanding adaptation and resilience. He advocated for visibility in climate action, a database to track efforts, and empowering local communities to decide on investments.

He also stressed the inclusion of women and youth in financing discussions and criticized middlemen in resource allocation, calling for direct funding to communities. The final speaker addressed Africa's climate finance needs, noting that only \$30 billion flows annually, with limited allocation for adaptation, despite a requirement of \$1.4 trillion between 2020 and 2030.

➔ Strengthening Africa Climate Resilience: Advancing Adaptation Strategies and Securing Climate Justice



The meeting focused on the urgent need for African parliamentarians to advocate for climate justice and effective adaptation strategies in response to the impacts of climate change, emphasizing the importance of securing adequate funding and oversight for local initiatives. Speakers highlighted the inequities faced by Africa, despite its minimal contribution to global emissions, and called for a collective effort to influence global climate negotiations and ensure that commitments are met. There was a strong emphasis on taking actionable steps and fostering collaboration among parliamentarians to address climate challenges effectively.

The following are key messages delivered in the session

Natural Resource Extraction and Public Finance

Discussion on the extraction of natural resources like lithium and copper, emphasizing that these are sold for minimal returns due to the need for foreign currency to pay existing debts. There is a call to argue against using public finance to leverage more loans.

Public Funds and Climate Change

Speakers highlighted the argument that there are insufficient public funds for climate change, countering it by pointing out the \$2.4 trillion spent annually on militarization. The speaker argues that raising \$1.3 trillion for public finance is feasible and that the money exists but requires advocacy to be released.

Investment Goals and Climate Finance

The conversation shifted to the idea of multi-layered investment goals in climate finance, questioning the effectiveness of resolving public policy issues through private investment. The speaker views this as a distraction from addressing the core issues.

Loss and Damage as a Financial Pillar

African negotiators are advocating for loss and damage to be recognized as a third pillar of climate finance, alongside mitigation and adaptation. Concerns were raised about the trend of pushing markets to cover loss and damage, which could lead to inadequate solutions.

Climate Justice and Debt Justice

The need for advanced propositions to address both climate debt and existing debt was emphasized. Innovative financing solutions like debt swaps and blue bonds were discussed, with caution advised regarding their long-term implications on national resources.

Role of African Parliamentarians

The importance of African parliamentarians in securing climate justice and overseeing adaptation initiatives was stressed. They are urged to prioritize vulnerable communities and ensure that national policies align with climate justice principles.

Oversight and Funding for Local Initiatives

Parliamentarians are tasked with providing oversight to ensure that adaptation initiatives receive adequate funding and are free from corruption. The need for monitoring the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) was highlighted.

Inclusive Participation

Advocacy for inclusive participation in climate initiatives was discussed, emphasizing the need to include marginalized groups such as women, youth, and disabled individuals in climate action plans.

Call for Action and Collaboration

A strong call for action was made, urging parliamentarians to move beyond discussions and take concrete steps towards enacting climate laws and policies. The need for organized efforts among parliamentarians across Africa was emphasized.

Conclusion and Future Engagement

The event concluded with a call for strengthening collaborative engagement among parliamentarians and civil society to influence climate negotiations and ensure that Africa's unique vulnerabilities are addressed in global climate commitments.



Labor Migration from Climate Vulnerable areas: Adaptation, Just transition and exploitation

Labor migration from climate-vulnerable areas requires a balanced approach that ensures a just transition while protecting migrants from exploitation. As communities face increasing displacement due to climate impacts, policies must facilitate safe and dignified labor migration pathways, emphasizing social and economic inclusion. PACJA engaged with other stakeholders in Just Transition pavillions to discuss on the issue.

during these discussions the following issues were emerged in relation to to theme of discussions: To effectively address the links between climate change and migration, it is essential to establish clear

pathways and rights for individuals seeking refuge in other countries, ensuring their protection and dignity.

- Destination countries must prioritize social inclusion, supported by robust policy frameworks that address immigration in the context of climate change.
- Governments should implement enabling policies to facilitate climate-related migration while safeguarding the rights of migrants. This includes ensuring favorable working conditions, equitable salaries, and inclusive practices for all workers.
- Addressing these issues urgently is critical to mitigating the compounded effects of climate change and migration.

Priceless Contribution and fair share: How Africa's contribution through Transitional Minerals in the Global Decarbonization agenda should count climate negotiations



This event hosted in DRC Pavillion discussed deeply the role Africa can play in the transition of minerals while the world is striving to reduce carbon emissions. It touched on the misses of African governments when they are negotiating mining projects with investing companies. Participants raised challenges and called governments and CSOs to play a vital role in ensuring the transition is based on human rights and mutual benefits approaches. The following are the key points noted during discussions:

1. Inevitability of Transition

- The transition to a green economy is no longer a choice but a necessity. The shift away from fossil fuels is evident globally, exemplified by Norway's advancements.
- Africa must also embrace this transition despite challenges, ensuring it aligns with its unique needs and circumstances.

2. Challenges of Green Transition in Africa

- **Energy Access Disparities:** it was highlighted that over 630 million Africans lack access to energy, highlighting the need for equitable solutions during the transition.
- **Exploitation of Resources:** it was noted that African resources, including critical minerals, are often exported to fuel other countries' transitions, leaving the continent vulnerable and under-resourced.

- **Environmental and Social Risks:** The green transition must integrate considerations for human rights, health, safety, and fair labour practices.

3. Resource Governance and Value Addition

- Africa's wealth in critical minerals must benefit its people through robust governance and local value addition.
- The Africa Mining Vision and Africa Mineral Development Center must be operationalized to prevent exploitation and ensure local beneficiation.
- Policies like the Continental Free Trade Area and Agenda 2063 should incorporate clear linkages between mineral resources, climate action, and green transition.

4. Addressing Land Grabbing

- The global rush for land and natural resources threatens African sovereignty. Securing land ownership is critical to claiming rights over the resources beneath.
- Urgent action is required to prevent land grabs and protect communities.

5. Revisiting Bilateral Investment Treaties

- Existing treaties often include unfair clauses (e.g., investor protections, dispute resolution mechanisms favouring foreign parties) that disadvantage African nations.
- Governments must renegotiate or terminate these treaties to safeguard local interests and sovereignty.

Synergies between CBD and UNFCCC: Accelerating the inclusion and financing of ecosystem and conservation and protection in NDCs V.3.0

This discussion explored the interconnections between the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) within the broader framework of global environmental governance. The conversation took place in the context of international climate negotiations currently ongoing in Baku, Azerbaijan, where key stakeholders—governments, civil society, and experts—are assessing progress, identifying challenges, and proposing solutions to address biodiversity loss and climate change.

The main objective of the event was to emphasize the robust inclusion of biodiversity conservation in NDC 3.0 while exploring practical approaches to achieve this. Specifically, it aims to identify priority actions and strategies for effectively mainstreaming biodiversity conservation in the next version of NDCs, foster a collective understanding of the financing landscape for biodiversity conservation in Africa by examining progress, emerging challenges, and potential solutions, and map out priority actions to ensure that biodiversity conservation remains people-centred in both the planning and execution phases.

Emerging messages from the events

- **Synergies Between CBD and UNFCCC:** There is insufficient recognition of the synergies between the two conventions, despite 190 countries signing both. Biodiversity loss and climate change are interconnected, making collaboration essential.
- **Parallel Discussions with Overlaps:** Both conventions address similar issues like mitigation, adaptation, targets, and financial mobilization. However, discussions often occur in silos.
- **Framework Linkages:** National Determined Contributions (NDCs) and biodiversity frameworks share similarities in timelines and goals, showing potential for alignment.
- **Current Challenges:** Questions arise about the effectiveness of NDC implementation and whether promised financial resources have been delivered.
- **Funding Landscape:** Financing for biodiversity is largely grant-based (98%), while climate funding relies more on loans. African nations, including DRC, Kenya, Madagascar, and Tanzania, are major recipients. However, conservation receives less priority within biodiversity funding.
- **Challenges in Financing:** External funding for conservation has stagnated since 2020, partly due to COVID-19, and many donor promises remain unfulfilled.
- **Inequities in Responsibility:** Africa bears an unjust burden of combating climate change caused by the extractive practices of developed nations and private sectors.
- **Biodiversity and Climate Change as Business Models:** Concerns arise over biodiversity being treated as a profit-making scheme, detracting from conservation efforts.
- **Need for Better Integration:** The lack of communication between CBD and UNFCCC undermines their shared objectives. The CBD has committed to strengthening ties with UNFCCC to address overlapping challenges.
- **Disparities in Responsibility and Funding:** Developed countries push for more policies in developing nations while failing to provide sufficient funding or support.
- **Controversies in Proposed Solutions:** Nature-based and ecosystem-based solutions often reflect the interests of external actors rather than those most affected, such as marginalized groups and youth.
- **Decolonization and Language Concerns:** Africa needs to resist imposed technologies and ensure the process respects local contexts. The framing and language used in international agreements also need clarity and inclusivity.
- **Ivory Coast's Reforestation Efforts:** The country is working on restoring lost forests through carbon markets, paying citizens for reforestation and national park protection.
- **National Synergies:** COP 15 highlighted the need to integrate the Desertification Convention with UNFCCC at national levels, recognizing their interlinkages.

👉 PRESS CONFERENCE: Demonstrate Good Faith, Deliver on the NCQG: A call to Developed Countries



African stakeholders demand ambitious, credible, and transformative outcomes from COP29, underpinned by public and grant-based climate finance, just adaptation solutions, and accountability from developed nations. The demand was sent during the second press conference that took place to show dissatisfaction on how negotiations are moving. [Read the press release here](#)

Key Messages delivered

Profound Disappointment with COP29 Progress

- African stakeholders' express frustration over stalled negotiations, particularly the lack of ambition and commitment from developed nations.
- Key issues, including the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance and the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA), are unresolved, reflecting a concerning lack of urgency.

Demands for Adequate and Publicly-Financed Climate Finance

- A minimum of \$1.3 trillion in annual public, grant-based climate finance is essential, with additional contributions from the private sector to address adaptation needs.
- Resistance to privately mobilized climate finance in the form of loans that exacerbate African countries' fiscal constraints is imperative.

Call for Accountability and Political Will

- Developed nations must demonstrate political will and fulfil their commitments under the Paris Agreement.
- African stakeholders reject manipulative incentives and backroom deals that undermine the integrity of the negotiation process.

Focus on Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA)

- The GGA must prioritize means of implementation, including technology transfer, capacity building, and climate finance, to be effective and actionable.
- Adaptation efforts must address historical and current climate injustices, emphasizing the needs and vulnerabilities of frontline communities.

Position

- African leaders and negotiators must present a unified stance, resisting divisive tactics that dilute the continent's priorities.
- The slogan reflects the continent's collective demand for just and equitable climate solutions.

Response

- COP29 outcomes must ensure climate finance reaches frontline communities, prioritizing their needs and resilience.
- Stakeholders emphasize that failure to secure meaningful progress perpetuates climate injustice and exacerbates global inequities.

Urgent Action Required in Final Negotiation Days

- Ministers and political leaders must deliver transformative outcomes, avoiding compromises that weaken Africa's position.
- The Global Stock Take and Africa's special needs and circumstances must remain central to the discussions.

Strong Criticism of Developed Nations

- Developed nations are accused of deceitful negotiation practices, undermining trust and progress.
- Historical responses to crises prove that resources exist; what is lacking is genuine commitment and action.

➔ Socio-economic, environmental, and technological aspects of climate change-fueled land conflicts



Organized by PACJA platform in Nigeria SCDDevNet, and partners, this event aimed to identify policy gaps and business practices that trigger land conflicts and assess their impact on communities and investments. I would also speak about why the transition to a green economy, while crucial for climate mitigation, is unintentionally escalating land conflicts by ignoring the social and environmental impacts of climate action.

In this event it was described that Climate change increasingly acts as a conflict multiplier, intensifying disputes over land and resources as rising sea levels, desertification, and resource scarcity disrupt ecosystems and livelihoods. Speakers emphasized that current global and national governance frameworks often fail to address the interconnected and unpredictable nature of these conflicts, leading to fragmented and reactive solutions.

This presentation from panellists explored innovative governance models to address climate-induced land conflicts, emphasizing the transformative potential of artificial intelligence (AI). It was highlighted that the AI can analyze environmental stressors, model policy outcomes, and support dynamic decision-making offering new pathways for conflict prediction, prevention, and management.

By integrating climate science, international law, and AI policy, the talk proposes actionable solutions while addressing the ethical dimensions of AI governance, with a focus on inclusivity and transparency to safeguard vulnerable populations.



EXIT PRESS CONFERENCE: We Expressed Disappointment about the Outcome of COP29



African stakeholders, bringing together diverse groups, including civil society, women, youth, Faith-based networks, indigenous groups, and pastoralist expressed their deepest disappointment at the conclusion of COP29 in Baku. It was during the exit press conference held on 22nd November 2024 at the end of COP29.

Despite this year's negotiations being billed as pivotal for securing real progress on the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG), COP29 has fallen alarmingly short of addressing Africa's urgent climate and development challenges. Once again, Baku seems to repeat the same pattern from previous COPs where negotiations are deliberately dragged through snail pace for two weeks, only for the final card to be released by invisible powers at the last minute - a take-or-leave offer that is pushed into the throats of helpless poor countries.

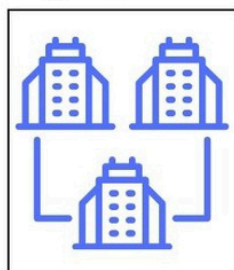
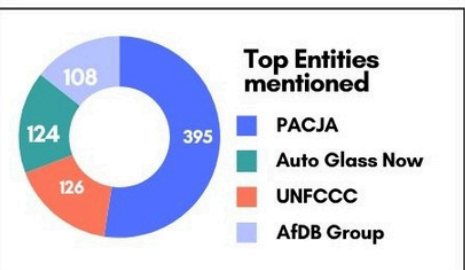
The NCQG was expected to set a transformative financial framework to replace the disputed and unfulfilled \$100 Billion annual pledge by 2025. For Africa, the NCQG represents a critical opportunity to unlock resources necessary to address climate-induced crises, adapt to worsening impacts, and transition to low-carbon economies. However, COP29 has witnessed an entrenched stalemate, with developed countries resisting commitments that reflect the true scale of Africa's needs.

The NCQG negotiations should have been a turning point for climate finance justice. Instead, we are presented with vague, incremental language that disregards the scale of loss and damage, under-funds adaptation, and prioritizes the interests of the wealthy over the communities on the frontline of climate crisis.

COMMUNICATION, VISIBILITY AND DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT PERFORMANCE AT COP29

INFOGRAPHIC REPORT

This report highlights the performance of communication, visibility, and digital engagement during the two-week PACJA involvement at COP29, which took place in Baku, Azerbaijan.



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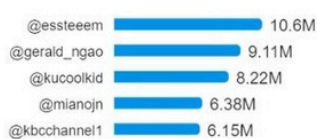
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