



COP30
BRASIL
AMAZÔNIA
BELÉM 2025

PACJA Action and Outcome

FOREWORD

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the summary of PACJA engagement during COP30 in Belem, Brazil. From November 09 to 21st November, the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) was highly engaged in a diversity of events at the sidelines and is proud to have actively engaged with different stakeholders, including partners, CSOs, negotiators and government representatives. This reinforced our commitment to advancing climate justice across the continent and globally. Our participation entailed organising and co-organising high-impact side events in collaboration with key partners, providing platforms to highlight African perspectives on climate action.

During this period, PACJA's experts contributed their knowledge across multiple event slots, sharing insights on climate justice, sustainable development, and inclusive governance. In addition, our team played a pivotal role in moderating discussions, fostering meaningful dialogue between policymakers, civil society, and frontline communities. Through these engagements, PACJA continued to champion African-led solutions, ensuring that the continent's voices and expertise remain central to global climate negotiations.

We hope that this snapshot will leave you informed and inspired as we gear towards COP31. In this summary, the content is organised in four categories:

- Building South-South Solidarity for Climate Action
- Influencing COP30 negotiations and amplifying African Voices
- Key side events
- Press Statements and Media engagement

I. BUILDING SOUTH-SOUTH SOLIDARITY FOR CLIMATE ACTION

PACJA, IDS and PEREGUM Brazil held a successful pre-COP30 in Belém

The COP30 precursor event was convened by PACJA in collaboration with Civil Societies in Brazil, including PERGU and IDS, on 9th November. The main objective of this Pre-COP activity is to galvanise CSO voices on adaptation finance from Africa and the larger Global South towards a common CSOs COP 30 position. Indeed, our main advocacy agenda was adaptation-which remains a matter of survival for Africa, and not a development option. Thus, we were in pursuit of a clear roadmap for achieving the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) through indicators grounded in Africa's realities and local knowledge, with indicators rooted in the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, a reviewed NCQG to reflect the true cost of climate action in Africa and the rest of the Global South, and at least 50% of the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) earmarked for adaptation and disbursed as grants, not loans is an utmost priority.

The deliberations at the Pre-COP30, therefore, centred on climate change adaptation strategies, highlighting the need for financial support, technology transfer, and international cooperation, particularly for African countries and the rest of the global south, to address the plight of communities at the frontline of the climate crisis.

Other issues discussed included: guarantee housing, land, and fair compensation for communities affected by "green transition" projects; funding of the training and inclusion of young Black people in the new climate economies;

recognition of food sovereignty and security as central axes of climate policy, among many others.

ELABORATION OF KEY POINTS

Climate Justice and Sustainable Agriculture

The focus here was: climate justice, sustainable food systems, and the role of vulnerable communities in climate justice advocacy. PACJA highlighted the need for direct funding for smallholder farmers, indigenous populations, and local communities to preserve forests and promote sustainable agriculture. Viviana Santiago, from Oxfam, stressed the importance of addressing climate inequality, noting that the world's richest 1% is responsible for more carbon emissions than the entire world population. The support from women emphasised the need to recognise and support women from marginalised communities as climate leaders, and the importance of public policies in addressing climate change, including the need to tax polluting industries.

Financing the Marginalised Communities

The participants explored climate adaptation and financing models as well as the role of marginalised communities in climate negotiations. PACJA emphasized the need for a tailored approach to climate finance that respects the unique perspectives and needs of Indigenous and Afro-descendant communities. They stressed the importance of including these communities in negotiations and decision-making processes.

Juliana Tinoco, representative of the Southern Social and Environmental Funds Alliance, spoke about the challenges of global inclusion and the work of her network in supporting communities through philanthropy. The conversation concluded with a call for solidarity and collaboration among actors in the Global South to influence decision-making processes and advocate for equitable financing.

Adaptation

PACJA elaborated the importance of prioritising adaptation and highlighted the need for financial mechanisms, public policies, and technology needed for an effective response to the climate crisis.

They emphasised the crucial role of the COP Presidency in promoting this agenda and expressed openness to contributions and suggestions from participants.

Participants from Brazil emphasised on racial impacts of climate change and the need for justice in climate adaptation and mitigation efforts. They advocated for clear criteria and data to assess the effects of adaptation and energy transition projects on marginalised communities. Finally, a representative from the National Coordinator of Quilombola Communities (CONAC) highlighted the importance of

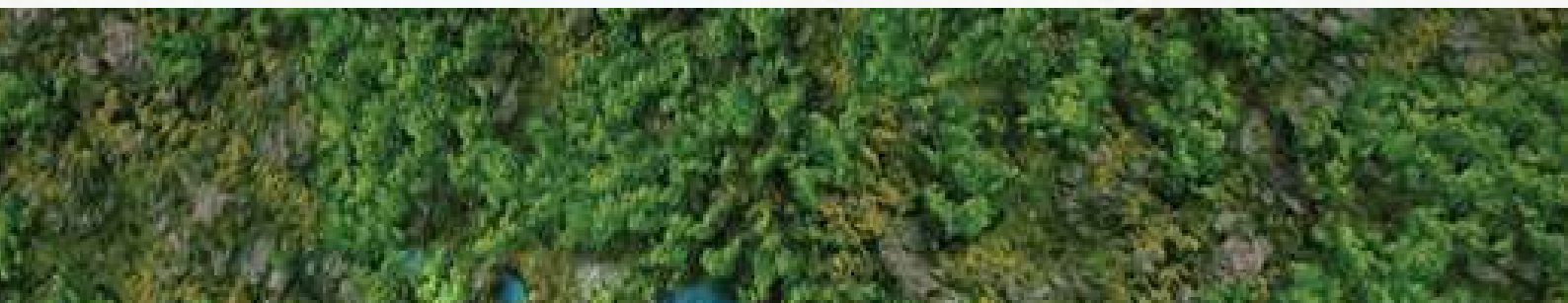
soil adaptation and stressed the need for a fair and participatory financing model for climate adaptation.

The participants also addressed the impact of climate change on trade and the need for gender equality in climate negotiations, highlighting the underrepresentation of women in decision-making processes.

Climate Change as a Political Issue

Participants addressed the need to look at climate change as a political issue, linking historical responsibilities and the dynamic global order to current environmental crises. They highlighted the importance of adapting to the changing global order, suggesting alternative systems based on community values such as Ubuntu. The debate also focused on the need for more exchanges and cooperation to address these global issues, centring on transformative actions and an agenda.

This platform was utilised in popularising African Non-state Actors' position for COP30, under the leadership of PACJA, which was available to all in 3 languages (English, French, and Portuguese). Click here to download the statement: <https://pacja.org/african-non-state-actors-position-for-unfccc-cop30/>



II. INFLUENCING COP30 NEGOTIATIONS AND AMPLIFYING AFRICAN VOICES

COP30 was expected to be a COP of implementation. While parties' delegates were in the rooms negotiating on various agenda items, PACJA played a strategic and influential role in shaping the negotiations by amplifying African Voices through times press conferences and well-crafted press statements. By consistently engaging media and providing clear evidence-based positions, the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance ensured that the priorities of vulnerable communities were brought to the forefront of global climate discussions. This communication effort not only informed delegates and observers but also helped to frame the narrative on climate justice, accountability and equity throughout the negotiation process.

A. PRESS CONFERENCES

In line with influencing the negotiations, PACJA convened two press conferences on November 10th and 20th, in which the alliance articulated needs, demands, and asks to global leaders and negotiators.

The 1st press conference of African Non-state Actors, under the leadership of PACJA, articulated the expectations of African NSAs for COP30. PACJA called on African negotiators to resist anything short of a decision on adaptation that reflects the scale and urgency of adaptation needed in Africa. Read the press release here: <https://pacja.org/press-release-on-cop30/>

In our last Press conference held hours before the official closure of COP30, we reiterated our concerns and called for well-articulated, transparent actionable outcomes consistent with the aspirations of the African people. We made it clear that Africa did not create the climate crisis. COP30 must ensure Africa does not pay three times: first through climate impacts, second through unfair or underfunded global responses and thirdly through continued exploitative appropriations of Africa's critical minerals and forest resources for advancing an alien just transition agenda. Read the press statement here: <https://pacja.org/african-civil-society-position-statement-ahead-of-cop30-conclusion/>.

Mid COP30, and being disturbed by a number of GGA indicators that were hellbent to rewrite the Paris Agreement and shift the responsibility of financing implementation of the convention to African countries, who are already debt stricken, PACJA issued a press release to build momentum in the issues. In this press release, we insist that financing adaptation cannot be optional, its not charity and therefore, asserted that it was mere rhetoric to discuss indicators of GGA, without the requisite means of implementation. We asserted that securing the GGA indicators is inadequate unless supported by adequate means of implementation and therefore called on the COP30 Presidency to take personal leadership and influence on the global community to ensure GGA indicators are replete with means of implementation.

In particular, we pointed to a number of pertinent issues that should be the focus of expedited closure:

- The Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) framework must include strong and measurable indicators on the Means of Implementation (MoI), as determining factors for accountability and alignment with Article 9.1 of the Paris Agreement.

These indicators should comprehensively assess both action and support provided to developing countries, measuring access to, quality of, and the scale of adaptation finance in line with the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities.

- *Mainstream the global reform agenda into adaptation, ensuring appropriate reforms in finance, debt, taxation and trade to afford vulnerable states and their citizens the fiscal space necessary to implement adaptation efforts.*
- *Defer the adoption of the GGA indicators for further in-depth discussions, refinement, and utilise the opportunity provided by COP30 to take note of the work and progress that has gone into the development of these indicators*
- *A deeper introspection of the policy implications of the GGA indicators is important, ensuring that there are no substantial policy shift expectations for Africa*

Youth Loves Egypt(PACJA platform in Egypt) convened a press conference

The Youth Loves Environment (YLE) held a press conference, which aimed at amplifying the role of PACJA through its Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice in enhancing the capacity of young people in Africa and indeed across the world.

Philip Kilonzo, Head of Policy, Advocacy and Communications at PACJA, represented PACJA to offer a glimpse of the role of this program, its scope in terms of providing knowledge that enabled the youth to drive climate action across all levels.

The beneficiaries of the program detailed how the program has enabled them to lead national and global discourses on climate action, including positioning youth and their influence across the board.

B. AFRICA DAY AT COP30 - "AFRICA AT THE FOREFRONT OF CLIMATE ACTION: SUSTAINABLE FINANCING FOR RESILIENT AND INCLUSIVE GREEN GROWTH"



On November 11, 2025, PACJA joined the rest of the Africans to celebrate Africa Day at COP30 in Belém, Brazil.

Bringing together African leaders, financial institutions, policymakers, and climate justice activists, the event reinforced the message -

that Africa is not merely a victim of climate change but a critical actor in the climate change discourse. A central call was made to reform the global carbon market to ensure fairness, equity, and African ownership by aligning mechanisms with the continent's realities and development priorities.

Key discussions highlighted major transformative initiatives, including the expansion of the Great Green Wall initiative into the SADC region, now covering 22 countries, which was celebrated as a major step toward a Pan-African movement restoring degraded ecosystems, creating jobs, and enhancing carbon sequestration.

Participants reiterated the urgency of scaling and protecting nature-based solutions and stressed Africa's paradox: despite hosting half of the world's critical minerals for the green transition, more than 600 million Africans still lack access to clean energy. Calls were made for increased local manufacturing of renewable energy technologies and strengthening Africa's participation in global value chains.

Innovation and youth leadership emerged as strong themes, with recognition of the potential of technologies like artificial intelligence and blockchain to advance climate solutions. Africa Day was framed as a strategic and not symbolic platform for action, with a collective demand that at least 30% of global climate finance be directed toward African-led initiatives, including predictable finance to deliver adaptation. Participants also emphasised the need for partnerships rooted in dignity, urgency, and solidarity.

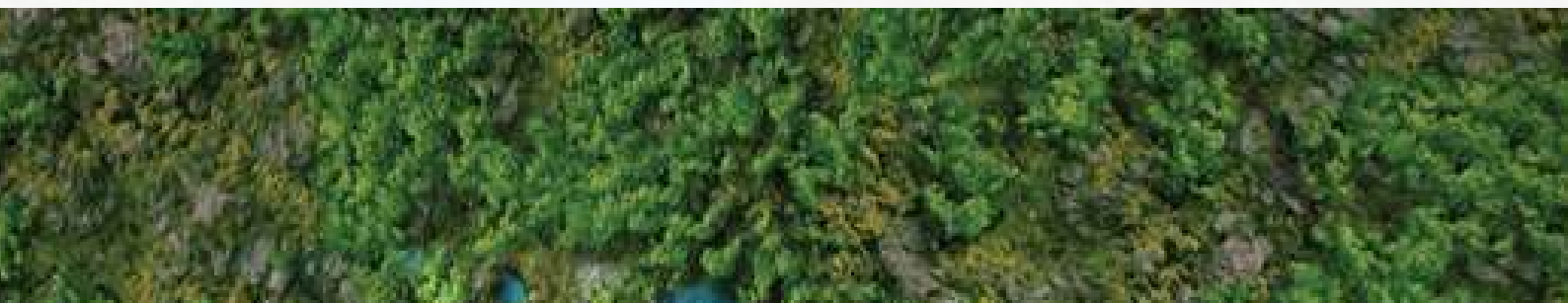
Speaking at the event, Dr Mithika Mwenda, PACJA Executive Director, emphasised on the vital role of non-state actors, reaffirmed PACJA's continental leadership, and urged a shift from extractive to restorative economies.

He highlighted the Africa Climate Summit as a testament to Africa's ability to design inclusive, needs-driven climate solutions and called for greater African control over natural resources.

The Representatives from the UN Economic Commission for Africa stressed that climate change costs African countries up to 5% of GDP and warned of the consequences of unfulfilled climate finance pledges. They underscored climate investment as the highest-return growth opportunity for Africa and reaffirmed UNECA's support for developing robust, third-generation Nationally Determined Contributions, guided by the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities.

Financial institutions echoed these priorities. Afreximbank announced a US\$5 billion Trade Trust Fund for concessional financing, while the African Development Bank spotlighted Africa's vast natural carbon sinks and warned that Sub-Saharan Africa receives less than 2% of global climate finance, far below adaptation needs. AfDB showcased innovative instruments such as the Adaptation Benefit Mechanism and YouthAdapt Programme.

Panel discussions emphasised loss and damage finance, adaptation as big priority, just transition initiatives like clean cooking, and the need for trustworthy partnerships. Namibia highlighted successful community conservancy models, underscoring fair benefit-sharing and the protection of indigenous knowledge.



DIALOGUE ON AFRICA'S SPECIAL NEEDS AND CIRCUMSTANCES



For the first time, the Global South convened a dialogue on Special Needs and Circumstances, bringing together civil society, governments, and multilateral institutions to highlight Africa's unique position in the climate crisis. Participants emphasised that Africa is not just a victim of climate change but a continent with vast potential and homegrown solutions. They called for recognition of its special needs, increased direct support, and reforms that align with Africa's historical context and development priorities.

Speakers highlighted Africa's innovative adaptation and mitigation solutions, which necessitate overcoming significant financial barriers, integrating indigenous knowledge, and enhancing climate-resilient infrastructure.

In this event, Dr Mithika Mwenda stressed the need for predictable, grant-based, concessional finance; deep reform of global financial systems; and a Just Transition

centred on prosperity, supported by responsible use of critical minerals, locally driven initiatives, and youth- and women-led solutions.

Several key challenges were highlighted: chronic financing gaps and high capital costs driven by risk perceptions; severe infrastructure deficiencies; persistent data scarcity; historical injustices linked to resource extraction and marginalisation; and the urgent need to invest in youth skills and gender-responsive climate action. Energy poverty remains staggering, with 600 million people lacking electricity and 900 million lacking clean cooking solutions.

The dialogue concluded with a strong commitment to advancing African-led climate solutions grounded in the continent's realities, culture, and aspirations. Participants called for a shift in how global partners engage with Africa, prioritising trust, direct funding, and recognition of Africa's capacity to lead its climate agenda.

III. KEY SIDE EVENTS

Besides the COP30 negotiations process, PACJA animated various side events. PACJA's experts contributed their knowledge across multiple event slots, sharing insights on climate justice, sustainable development, and inclusive governance. In addition, our team played a pivotal role in moderating discussions, fostering meaningful dialogue between policymakers, civil society, and frontline communities. Through these engagements, PACJA continued to champion African-led solutions, ensuring that the continent's voices and expertise remain central to global climate negotiations.

FROM BAKU TO BELÉM: ETHIOPIA'S JOURNEY IN BUILDING A LOW-EMISSION AND CLIMATE-RESILIENT ECONOMY (STOCK TAKE)



One year has passed since Africa returned from COP29, which was held in Baku. During this event, many thematic areas were discussed through negotiations and side events. COP30 served as an opportunity to assess the outcomes of COP29 and examine how countries are aligning with those results. In this context, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia convened an event titled **"From Baku to Belém: Ethiopia's Journey in Building a Low-Emission and Climate-Resilient Economy (Stock Take)."**

PACJA, moderating the session, took this opportunity to offer a platform to participants from the government, CSOs in, assessing how the country is reducing emissions and its role in climate action.

PACJA, moderating the session, made this opportunity to offer a platform to participants from the government, CSOs and others to

discuss the role of the government of Ethiopia, assessing how the country is reducing emissions.

In his remarks, Dr. Seyoum Makonnen, the State Minister of the Ministry of Planning and Development for Environment, Climate Change, and Demography in Ethiopia, highlighted the progress the government has made in fulfilling its climate action commitments. This includes commitments from the Baku meeting, the Africa Climate Summit, and other initiatives.

Mariana Panuncio-Feldman, the Country Manager of NDC Partnerships, stated that they are collaborating with various development institutions to explore ways to mobilise efforts from multiple stakeholders in support of the country's journey.

TOWARDS A JUST TRANSITION: FINANCING AFRICA'S MOVE FROM COAL TO SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SOURCES



Moderated by Eugene Nforngwa, the thematic leader for energy access and transition at PACJA, the event featured a high-level panel discussion with representatives from governments, UN agencies, civil society, and the private sector, followed by a moderated dialogue. Interactive elements, such as live audience input and targeted Q&A sessions, allowed participants to share ideas on enabling conditions, policy innovations, and multi-stakeholder cooperation.

This event explored innovative financing pathways for a just transition from fossil fuels to sustainable energy sources in Africa and other emerging regions. Speakers discussed national best practices for unlocking clean energy, including the use of nuclear energy to meet urgent development needs.

A proposal was presented to utilise carbon credits to fund nuclear power plants in developing countries, examining its implications and implementation within the framework of Article 6.

The event also facilitated discussions on financing pathways, including assistance needs, as well as the social and economic benefits of transitioning to sustainable energy technologies. The event was organised by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and the Anthropocene Institute.

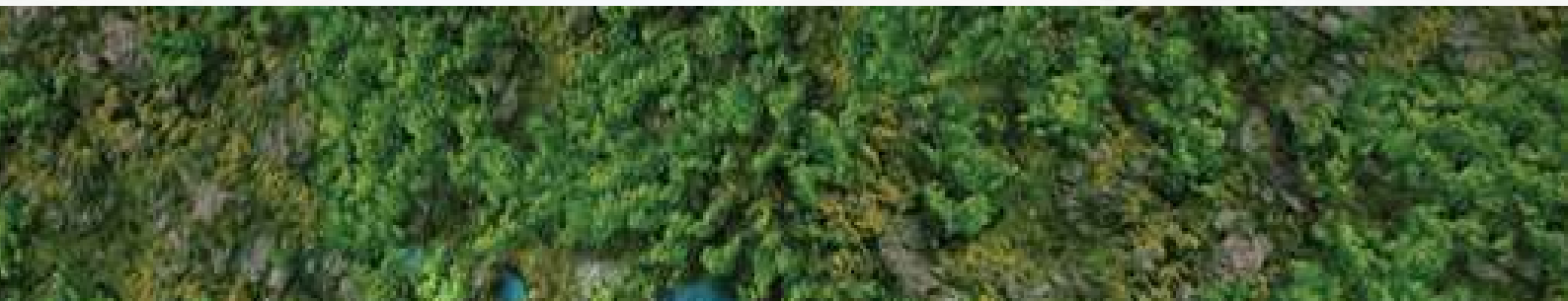
ACCELERATING ADAPTATION ACTION: INCREASING CLIMATE FINANCE FOR LOW-INCOME COUNTRIES IN AFRICA



Organised by the African Union Commission, the African Development Bank, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Afrexim Bank, and AUDA-NEPAD, the event focused on mechanisms to accelerate adaptation actions by increasing climate finance for low-income countries in Africa.

In his remarks, Dr Mithika emphasised the crucial role of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in enhancing adaptation efforts in Africa.

He argued that the current emphasis on financing mitigation should shift to prioritise adaptation, as many African countries face challenges in securing budget allocations for adaptation projects. This perspective was supported by James Kinyangi, who highlighted the ability of CSOs to access climate finance, noting that this access could lead to significant impacts.



YOUTH LEADERS AT COP30 PUSH FOR A REWIRING OF ADAPTATION FINANCE IN AFRICA



This event coincided with the official release of the YAF Africa Initiative Statement on COP30 adaptation finance, which welcomed increased ambition on adaptation funding while emphasising that Africa's needs still far surpass current commitments. The statement highlights that adaptation funding must be transparent, predictable, and delivered in ways that do not worsen debt burdens.

It also indicates that young people must be recognised as strategic actors in adaptation governance processes, including the Global Goal on Adaptation and the New Collective Quantified Goal. Furthermore, the statement warns that, although adaptation finance has been targeted to double by 2025 and triple by 2035, the continent still receives only a fraction of the \$52 to \$88 billion needed annually by 2030 to meet its adaptation demands. Setting the context, Afanyu Yembe, Coordinator of Youth for Adaptation Finance in Africa (YAF), offered a frank assessment of the structural imbalance shaping Africa's climate reality.

Despite contributing less than four per cent of global emissions, Africa bears the heaviest burden of climate impacts.

Yet, adaptation finance remains inadequate, fragmented, and often inaccessible to the communities most affected. Yembe explained that YAF was established as a corrective initiative aimed at repositioning youth as strategic decision-makers rather than mere beneficiaries. He emphasised the need for African youth networks to influence National Adaptation Programmes, NDC implementation cycles, and negotiations on the New Collective Quantified Goal.

Central to his remarks was the Yaoundé African Youth Call for More Than Doubling Adaptation Finance, which he described as a youth-developed blueprint for transforming adaptation financing across the continent. Read the statement here: <https://pacja.org/yaf-africa-initiative-statement-on-cop30-adaptation-finance-belem-brazil/>

NON-STATE ACTORS' PERSPECTIVES ON THE INCLUSIVENESS OF ACS2: KEY LESSONS FOR FUTURE CLIMATE TALKS



The event was organised by the Consortium for Climate Change Ethiopia (CCC-E) and the Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) under the theme ***“Non-State Actors’ Perspectives on the Inclusiveness of ACS2: Key Lessons for Future Climate Talks.”***

Taking place after the second Africa Climate Summit (ACS2) and on the sidelines of COP30, this event examined the outcomes of ACS2 and the role of African non-state actors. It also provided insights into the negotiations at COP30, analysing the anticipated outcomes.

Philip Kilonzo, Head of Policy, Advocacy and Communications at PACJA, highlighted that the success of non-state actors stems from the efforts invested during the first ACS held in Kenya. This success has led to building trust with the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, which has entrusted PACJA with the responsibility of mobilising and leading African non-state actors.

“With that trust from the government of Ethiopia, the role of NSA was not confined to side events but also mandated events by the African Union commission and the government of Ethiopia itself,” emphasised Philip Kilonzo from PACJA.

During this event, it was emphasised that data and evidence play crucial roles in advocacy and engagement when it comes to shaping the African narrative. Martha Bekele from DevTransform strongly encouraged young people to make use of data and to be mindful of the narratives they promote.

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Participants said that Non-State Actors (NSAs) must develop strategies to ensure significant engagement in securing adaptation finance approval at COP32, which will take place in Addis Ababa in 2027. We need to prioritise efforts to ensure that Africa's unique needs and circumstances are formally included as an agenda item at COP32.

Moreover, we should work on strengthening the capacity of African NSA clusters and negotiators to enhance their participation both inside and outside the negotiation rooms, as emphasised by Obed Koringo from Care International.

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We must prioritise all efforts to ensure Africa's special needs and circumstances agenda item is formally adopted at COP32 in Addis Ababa. In parallel, we should strengthen the capacity of African Non-State Actors (NSA) clusters and negotiators to enhance engagement both inside and outside the negotiation rooms

Obed Koringo - Care International

CAN AFRICA DEVELOP ITS OWN LED SOLUTIONS? PACJA SHARED THEIR INSIGHTS ON THIS TOPIC



In an event organised by the government of Ethiopia, climate high-level champions, Marrakech partnerships, Brazil, and Baku COP presidencies, the results of ACS2 and the pledged Home-Grown Africa-Led Solutions were the central topics of discussion. PACJA actively engaged with other partners throughout these conversations.

The session titled **"From Pledges to Home-Grown Africa-Led Solutions"** was part of the Second Africa Climate Summit (ACS2), organised by the Government of Ethiopia and its partners. During this session, participants examined how the summit's outcomes and recommendations can promote the development of locally driven solutions.

PACJA expressed the view that the continent's future solutions should be generated from within. Dr Mithika Mwenda, the Executive Director, shared that the alliance, in partnership with other organisations, launched the Climate Justice Impact Fund. This fund provides small grants to community-based organisations in Africa. He explained that the fund is designed to offer foundational support and build capacity for communities to access larger funding opportunities.

PACJA outlined key priorities to strengthen Africa's ability to generate its own climate solutions. First, it stressed the importance of community autonomy and collaboration, highlighting successful examples where civil society, governments, and continental bodies such as the AU and ECA work effectively together.

Second, while recognising the role of critical minerals in Africa's green industrialisation, PACJA raised concerns about human rights and environmental risks linked to their exploitation and insisted that projects must demonstrate tangible benefits for local communities.

Third, PACJA emphasised the need to elevate community voices in global climate governance, calling for stronger inclusion of CSOs in national delegations to ensure Africa's negotiating positions reflect citizens' interests, an approach already practised in countries like Ethiopia. Finally, the alliance noted improved government-civil society relations in recent years and urged that this progress be deepened through continuous dialogue and meaningful participation in emerging global climate processes such as carbon markets.

IN PURSUIT OF THREE RIO CONVENTIONS FOR ENHANCED AND COORDINATED FINANCING FOR NEEDS-BASED ADAPTATION



The Rio Conventions consist of three significant international environmental agreements that were established during the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), commonly referred to as the Earth Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro. These agreements were developed to tackle global environmental challenges in a coordinated manner.

These conventions are the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). PACJA convened an event on the sidelines of COP30 to interrogate the meaning of the three conventions.

Participants highlighted African leadership and practical examples of integrated planning, explored how financing architectures might evolve to reflect needs-based alignment, and considered how global processes (such as the New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance and the post-2025 biodiversity framework) might incorporate convergence metrics.

The open and interactive discussions paved the way to key recommendations from the floor and panellists as follows:

- **Interconnected Issues:** It was observed that Climate and biodiversity are deeply linked and should not be treated as separate but rather as parts of a common, interconnected issue.
- **"Whole of Society" Approach:** Effective solutions require broad public participation, social dialogue, and the engagement of the entire society, including scientific communities, practitioners, and the general public.
- **Systemic Perspective:** The challenges represent a single, complex system where different elements interact. The focus should be on managing these interactions to minimise negative outcomes and maximise positive ones, ensuring the system's stability.
- **Opportunity for Change:** It was highlighted that there is an opportunity at the national level to initiate positive change in how these issues are addressed.
- **Integrated Solutions:** Regardless of whether different conventions or approaches remain separate or become more integrated, they are all part of this larger system. Successfully managing the interactions within this system is crucial for long-term survival and sustainability.

The discussion identified a few action points to help break the silos of the Three Rio Conventions at the National Level, notably:

1. Establish Integrated Governance and Coordination Mechanisms

- Create a National Rio Conventions Coordination Platform bringing together focal points of UNFCCC, UNCCD, and CBD, line ministries, statistical offices, and sub-national actors.
- Mandate regular joint planning sessions, shared reporting cycles, and cross-ministerial review of programs.
- Position the platform under a high-level authority (Prime Minister's Office, National Planning Commission) to ensure compliance and avoid fragmentation.

2. Develop a Common National Environmental Vision

- Align national climate, biodiversity, and land agendas around a single long-term framework – such as the country's NDC, LDN targets, GBF National Biodiversity Strategies, and National Adaptation Plans.
- Use integrated ecosystem-based approaches as the backbone: nature-based solutions, landscape restoration, watershed management, and sustainable land management.

3. Harmonise Data, Indicators, and Monitoring Systems

- Build a single national MRV/M&E system for climate, land, and biodiversity.
- Invest in shared databases, geospatial platforms, and early warning systems used across ministries.
- Adopt joint indicators (e.g., vegetation cover, soil carbon, ecosystem integrity) that serve multiple reporting requirements.

4. Integrate the Conventions into National Development Planning and Budgeting

- Embed priorities from all three conventions into Medium-Term Development Plans, national budgets, and sectoral policies (agriculture, water, energy, forestry).
- Develop cross-sector investment pipelines that meet multiple Convention objectives, such as:
 1. *Rangeland restoration (UNCCD + UNFCCC + CBD)*
 2. *Climate-smart agriculture (UNFCCC + UNCCD)*
 3. *Protected areas linked to resilience building (CBD + UNFCCC)*
- Require each ministry to demonstrate co-benefits across climate, biodiversity, and land.

5. Mobilise Integrated Financing

- Create blended finance mechanisms that simultaneously address mitigation, adaptation, biodiversity conservation, and land restoration.
- Establish a national financing framework that maps all incoming funds (GEF, GCF, LDN Fund, bilateral support) to ensure complementarity.
- Promote joint proposals to multilateral funds that demonstrate cross-Convention benefits.

6. Build Cross-Cutting Technical Capacity

- Train national experts, district officers, and planners on convergence approaches—ecosystem-based adaptation, sustainable land management, nature-based solutions, and climate-biodiversity modelling.
- Encourage joint technical task teams for inventory development, vulnerability assessment, and restoration planning.

7. Mainstream Convergence at Sub-National and Community Level

- Use the landscape level (watersheds, drylands, forests, coastal zones) to design programs that cut across climate, land, and biodiversity.
- Empower communities, women, and youth through integrated extension services—one service delivering messages on climate resilience, soil health, and conservation.

8. Align National Reporting to the Three Convention Secretariats

- Synchronise reporting cycles to avoid duplication.
- Develop common data collection tools shared by all focal points.
- Use the UN ecosystem of tools (e.g., SEEA, FAO WaPOR, UNCCD PRAIS, CBD monitoring framework) in a coordinated manner.

9. Promote Multi-Sector Dialogue and Knowledge Sharing

- Institutionalise an annual national Rio Conventions dialogue, showcasing integrated solutions and reporting progress.
- Work with universities, research institutions, and civil society to co-produce knowledge that links climate, land, and biodiversity science.

10. Leverage Political Leadership and International Partnerships

- Secure political commitment from Cabinet, Parliament, and local governments to converge actions.
- Encourage partners—UN agencies, the GEF, AfDB, AU, RECs—to harmonise their country support around a convergence model rather than isolated interventions.

AGROECOLOGY AS A PATHWAY TO CLIMATE ACTION AND RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEMS



Agroecology is increasingly recognised as a vital pathway for climate action and the development of resilient food systems. In this context, a collaborative event was held on the sidelines of COP30 in Belém, organised by the Kenya Platform for Climate Governance (KPCG), the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, CIFOR, Fastenaktion, PACJA, and other partners. This event brought together stakeholders to explore how agroecological approaches can transform agricultural practices, strengthen community resilience, and promote sustainable development.

Ms. Laura Mateus from Fastenaktion Colombia emphasised that agroecology is a key contributor to addressing climate change. She highlighted that it is both a science that connects ecology and agriculture and a social movement that empowers communities to understand their needs and aspirations.

“Understanding agroecology is crucial,” Laura stated, “because communities can recognise how it impacts their food security, health, and cultural practices.” She also pointed out that the economic aspect of agroecology focuses on market opportunities for agroecological products, while the political aspect involves farmers advocating for their rights and influencing policy frameworks. She stressed the importance of understanding the interaction between these dimensions.

Looking at the nexus between Climate change and agriculture, Charles Mwangi from PACJA emphasised that agriculture is one of the sectors significantly affected by climate change and that “agriculture is one of the sectors very sensitive to climate change, especially in Africa, where 95% of our agriculture is rainfed. We must adequately resource the sector to boost the resilience of our vulnerable communities.”

Dr Lukolrito Cromwel, vice chair of IPCC, considered the existing threats to our food systems, including the vulnerability of these systems, loss of biodiversity, and degradation of ecosystems. He urged addressing these pressing issues by increasing the production of natural products on farms through focused research, justifying that researching seeds using proven methods to achieve sustainable yields is crucial. Additionally, Dr Lukorito stressed the role of policy as an enabler: *"Creating a supportive policy environment that promotes nature-based solutions will play a vital role in protecting our food systems and the environment,"* stressed Dr Lukorito.

Laura Mateus from Fastenaktion shared valuable lessons learned in Colombia regarding agroecology. She noted that the country has developed social movements centred around this approach. Agroecology was a key topic addressed during the National Development Action Plan (NAP), where it was initially included in discussions. *"A primary goal of these social movements focused on agroecology has been to establish a framework for its implementation. As a result, agroecology has been recognised as a viable solution for sustainable agricultural practices,"* said Ms Laura.

CHARTING THE ROADMAP FROM ADDIS TO BELÉM: PACJA SUBMITTED ITS INSIGHTS



Dr. Mithika Mwenda, Executive Director of PACJA, was invited to speak at the event organised by the government of Ethiopia at the Ethiopia Pavilion, where he delved deeper into the roadmap to Belem.

Dr Mithika participated in a high-level session alongside key leaders from the UNFCCC and the Government of Ethiopia. This event, titled "From Addis Ababa to Belem," aimed to amplify the outcomes of the 2nd Africa Climate Summit and shape the pathway to COP32 in Addis Ababa. The Deputy Executive Director of UNFCCC commended Ethiopia's leadership in climate action.

The purpose of the event was to discuss the roadmap from the Addis Ababa Climate Summit (ACS2) to COP30 in Belem, focusing on turning the summit's outcomes into concrete actions.

When asked about whether ACS2 achieved Climate Justice as envisioned by PACJA, Dr Mithika affirmed that the summit demonstrated Africa's progress in integrating Climate Justice into discussions, an issue that has long been overlooked. He emphasised that procedural justice remains a core conviction for PACJA and other non-state actors. He praised the inclusive nature of the conversations, which spanned all relevant thematic areas, as highlighted by the Addis Declaration.



Following the second Africa Climate Summit, various comments, speeches, and statements suggested that the Addis Ababa Declaration should not just remain a document, but instead be implemented.

When questioned on how this could be achieved, Dr Mithika responded, "We should transition the declaration into the development of an implementation framework and action plans." He expressed that civil society organisations are ready to play a role in implementing the declaration's framework and plans.

CARBON MARKET TACKLING EMISSIONS WHILE SAFEGUARDING RIGHTS AND JUSTICE IS ONGOING AT THE SIDELINES OF COP30



Organised by Kenya Platform for the Climate Governance (KPCG) on behalf of PACJA, this event opened room for discussions revolving around how the implementation of the carbon market in Africa can safeguard human rights and in a free injustice approach. Opening the floor of conversations, Charles Mwangi, the Head of Programmes and Research, indicated that a lot has changed since the first wave of the carbon market. He said that the second wave, ongoing the principles of the rights-based approach and justice must be respected.

He indicated that while countries are rolling out the carbon market frameworks, there is a need to ensure the carbon market benefits communities.

He pointed out key points for consideration:

- Community empowerment
- Climate Justice
- Capacity building for ministries and
- Alignment with AU strategy 2063

NATIONAL DETERMINED CONTRIBUTION (NDC) PRIORITIES FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES



This session, organised by the Government of Qatar and moderated by the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance, exclusively focused on NDC implementation for Developing Countries. The discussions mainly focused on underscoring the urgent need for robust financial mechanisms, comprehensive data infrastructure, inclusive governance, and collaborative partnerships (both North-South and South-South) to translate ambitious climate commitments into tangible, impactful actions worldwide.

In the expert-led panel discussions, it was noted that developing countries, particularly in Africa, require massive financial support to implement climate commitments, yet developed countries continue to fall short of their obligations under the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement. Current pledges are insufficient, and gaps in technology transfer and capacity building further hinder progress. Speakers emphasised that developed nations have a historical responsibility to cut emissions while enabling sustainable industrialisation in the Global South.

A strong call was made for better data and transparency. CDP highlighted the growing role of the private sector as key co-financiers and co-implementers of NDCs, with supply chain emissions accounting for up to 75% of national footprints.

Reliable data was highlighted as essential to identify risks, unlock transition finance, and guide investment decisions. Discussants also indicated that subnational governments represent major investment opportunities, with over 500 cities identifying more than \$100 billion in climate-related projects this year.

The meeting was also informed about the efforts from the Government of Brazil in reducing emissions, mainly through tackling deforestation, and its participatory climate policy model. Emerging sectors such as WASH are now being integrated into adaptation and mitigation plans. Brazil also aims to support neighbouring countries through South-South cooperation by sharing lessons and co-developing climate solutions.

Across all presentations, discussants stressed that climate action requires holistic, cross-sectoral collaboration, engaging government ministries, the private sector, academia, civil society, and subnational actors. National-subnational coordination, strong institutions, and inclusive participation are essential to deliver effective NDC implementation and catalyse real change.

RECOGNISING ENERGY ACCESS AS A CLIMATE GOAL IN THE UNFCCC PROCESS



The panel-led discussions emphasised that Africa's energy poverty, affecting 630 million people without electricity and nearly 1 billion without clean cooking, is both a development and climate change challenge. While global climate debates focus heavily on decarbonization, they neglect the urgent need for energy access to support households, rural economies, and industrialisation across Africa. Without adequate energy, communities cannot adapt to climate impacts, hospitals cannot function effectively, and agriculture cannot be resilient.

The panellists called for reframing the narrative, not only "transitioning away from fossil fuels" but "transitioning into prosperity", and ensuring that energy access becomes a recognised climate goal.

It was argued that energy access should be recognised within UNFCCC processes as a climate issue because energy poverty increases vulnerability. It was suggested that integrating energy access into the Just Transition Work Programme or as a dedicated workstream could help secure climate finance for Africa's development needs.

Dr. James Murombezi from Africa Climate Policy Centre warned against "climate determinism", the idea that solving climate change automatically solves development challenges, and stressed that Africa needs both on-grid solutions for industrialisation and off-grid renewable options for households and small producers. He highlighted that renewables alone cannot currently support heavy industry and that global investment patterns still favour fossil fuels.

Fernanda noted that recent global decisions, especially the Global Stocktake, create new entry points for integrating energy access into climate negotiations, emphasising equity, finance, and differentiated responsibilities. She also advocated for a fossil-fuel transition roadmap that includes energy access.

At the grassroots level, Anna Shampi from northern Kenya explained that lack of electricity severely limits adaptation: women spend hours collecting firewood, livestock are unprotected at night, health centres cannot store vaccines, and communities face significant climate-induced hardships.

Yet decentralised solar solutions in her community show how energy access can improve resilience, food production, safety, and health. The panellists highlighted that “climate change is fundamentally a justice issue and not only a scientific or policy challenge. It carries deep ethical, moral, and theological dimensions that must be more strongly emphasised, especially regarding equality and accessibility”. Access to clean, affordable energy was framed as a basic human right that enables other rights such as health and education, yet remains largely overlooked in global debates.

Panellists stressed that the global call to “transition” away from fossil fuels is unfairly applied to developing countries, many of which have never fully benefited from fossil-based development.

Therefore, decarbonization efforts must reflect diverse national realities and ensure that no community is left behind.

Finally, the discussion underscored the urgent need for responsible, non-debt-creating support, including financial, technical, and material assistance, from those historically responsible for the climate crisis. This support should be grant-based and focused on enabling genuine climate action in developing countries, rather than driven by profit or loans that exacerbate debt burdens.

THREE FORESTS, ONE VOICE: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' ROLE IN FOREST ECOSYSTEM GOVERNANCE



PACJA, represented by Charles Mwangi, Head of Programmes and Research, joined this important discussion. During this session, representatives from Indigenous groups and civil society in Canada, Africa, and Latin America discussed the crucial role of Indigenous peoples and forest ecosystems in addressing climate change and biodiversity loss.

The panellists from the body of indigenous organizations in the Amazon Basin (COICA), the indigenous organization MIKANA, the Institute of Social Economic Studies (INESC), and others shared their experiences, lessons learned, and potential solutions derived from the world's two largest tropical forests: the Amazon and the Congo Basin, as well as Quebec's boreal forest in Canada.

They examined the connections between climate and biodiversity, emphasising the importance of protecting the environment to ensure a sustainable future. The discussion highlighted forests as essential solutions for both mitigating and adapting to climate change, and the need for climate financing to support Indigenous peoples in safeguarding these vital ecosystems, which are indispensable allies in the fight against climate change.

Speakers explored critical questions surrounding the role of indigenous knowledge in environmental conservation. They examined how the traditional practices of their communities contribute to the preservation of forests and biodiversity, the restoration of degraded lands, and the broader fight against climate change. These insights highlighted the deep connections between indigenous people and their environments.

The conversation also turned to the numerous challenges indigenous peoples encounter while striving to protect and restore forest ecosystems. The speakers emphasised the need for greater support from the international community to bolster their efforts in this regard.

Additionally, the group scrutinised the effectiveness of current climate finance mechanisms. They assessed whether these financial systems truly meet the needs of indigenous and local communities or fall short, identifying necessary reforms to ensure a more equitable and effective distribution of resources. This dialogue forged a path towards understanding the urgent need for collaboration and support in addressing environmental challenges faced by Indigenous populations.

DATA FOR CLIMATE ACTION: ADVANCING EVIDENCE ON CLIMATE-INDUCED MIGRATION IN EGYPT, IRAQ AND LIBYA



PACJA, through Tracy Sony, the National Coordinator of Botswana, joined the rest of the speakers to explore the pressing issue of climate change-induced human mobility and the strategies being developed to address it, drawing insights from Iraq and the African continent. Their core message emphasised the critical need for cooperation, robust data, and integrated policy frameworks to support communities vulnerable to climate impacts.

During this conversation, it was indicated that Climate change is severely impacting Iraq's historic marshlands, where traditional livelihoods such as fishing, buffalo herding, and reed-based housing are threatened by worsening drought. As communities are increasingly displaced, Iraq is developing a comprehensive National Adaptation Plan that includes a dedicated chapter on climate-induced mobility.

A Climate Vulnerability Index is helping authorities identify high-risk areas and target resources more effectively. This process relies on strong collaboration between government institutions, international agencies, NGOs, and academia.

Across Africa, climate mobility is an emerging issue, with countries working to identify hotspots and integrate mobility into adaptation priorities. Regional cooperation is seen as essential for improving data quality, harmonising methodologies, sharing knowledge, and addressing cross-border climate impacts.

Joint efforts also help mobilise finance, strengthen political commitment, and improve support for vulnerable groups. Discussants stressed that Climate-driven movements, such as farmers relocating within SADC or migrants moving from Zimbabwe to South Africa, highlight growing pressures on communities. Overall, discussions emphasised the interconnected nature of climate change, livelihoods, and mobility; the importance of robust data and assessment tools; the value of multi-sectoral partnerships; the necessity of adequate finance; and the need to integrate traditional knowledge into climate adaptation strategies.

FINANCING LOCALLY LED CLIMATE ACTION FOR SMALLHOLDERS



Pan African Climate Justice Alliance participated in this event, highlighting the urgent need for accelerated climate action. It emphasised advancing locally led adaptation as a key component of NDC 3.0 implementation and the importance of unlocking the necessary finance to make it a reality. Panellists focused on enhancing financial literacy and access to finance for smallholder farmers, emphasising the need for long-term, sustainable funding.

Solidaridad highlighted that farmers must be organised, supported to boost their production capacity, and connected to dependable markets for projects to succeed. Smallholder farmers are diverse, yet global and national financing mechanisms often overlook them. Accreditation systems tend to favour government and private sector institutions, leaving civil society and farmer organisations behind. Strengthening national accreditation could open more funding channels for smallholders.

Concerns were raised about inadequate financial flows to farmers, the need for inclusive project design, and stronger capacity-building measures. Transparency in value chains and carbon markets was also stressed, particularly the importance of clear agreements on who receives carbon proceeds.

The session concluded with calls for stronger accountability, ensuring Africa remains at the centre of carbon revenue, and building interconnected, transformative movements to help farmers access financial opportunities.

BRIDGING THE CLIMATE FINANCE GAP: TECHNOLOGY & INVESTMENT FOR AFRICA'S GREEN TRANSITION



The event explored Africa at a pivotal moment in its green transition, rich in potential yet constrained by a widening climate finance gap. This event, “Bridging the Climate Finance Gap: Technology & Investment for Africa’s Green Transition,” explored how innovative technologies, strategic investments, and equitable financing can unlock sustainable growth across the continent. It brings together stakeholders to reimagine pathways that empower African countries to lead a resilient, low-carbon future.

During the session on “Bridging the Climate Finance Gap”, which took place on the sidelines of COP30, the role of civil society organisations (CSOs) in holding governments accountable was emphasised.

Dr Mithika Mwenda highlighted that CSOs in Africa play a critical and increasingly influential role in advancing climate finance, promoting climate justice, and driving community-based action.

He noted that this progress is achieved through strategic collaboration with governments and international bodies, while diligently maintaining their independent watchdog function.

Dr Mwenda outlined the key principles guiding CSO engagement, which are rooted in independence, capacity building, advocacy, and influence, among others. However, he acknowledged that CSOs still face ongoing challenges, including managing risks related to equity and sustainability. Despite these challenges, he said that there is growing momentum and a notable reduction in tension between civil society and governments in Africa. Both entities are increasingly working together towards common goals, which creates significant opportunities for shared benefits.

In his intervention, Peter Odhengo, the Head of Climate Finance and Green Economy Department in the Ministry of National Treasury, Kenya, said that there compelling vision for Africa's development.

He emphasised self-reliance, innovation, and charting a unique path forward, particularly in the context of climate finance and technological advancement.

Odhengo said that the continent should leverage its strong spirit and persistent young population to co-create spaces aligned with local priorities for continental growth.



NATIONAL COMMUNICATION FOR CLIMATE ACTION: PACJA SHARED SUCCESS FROM KENYA



This session mainly focused on the critical role of National Communications (NCs) in national climate reporting and the importance of domestic capacity building and stakeholder engagement. The session also brought speakers to share experiences and challenges countries face in preparing their SNCs, particularly compared to their first submissions, including institutional and data collection aspects.

The discussion highlighted the critical role of National Communications (NCs) as the foundation of a country's entire climate reporting system. NCs are described as the "grandmother of all reports," forming the basis for national greenhouse gas inventories and future Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs). Countries that establish strong institutional arrangements and data systems during their first NC set themselves up for long-term success in climate action and reporting.

A key emphasis was placed on domestic capacity building. Developing in-country expertise, rather than relying on foreign consultants, is essential for sustainable institutional capacity, effective data management, and readiness for advanced reporting needs such as mitigation actions and Article 6 participation. Building this capacity from the ground up also strengthens a country's ability to access carbon markets and climate finance, including Green Climate Fund resources.

Faith Ngige, the Coordinator of Kenya Platform for Climate Governance (KPCG), shared Kenya's model, which was highlighted as an example of effective stakeholder engagement in NC preparation. She said that through established structures involving civil society, counties, and communities, Kenya ensures continuous information flow, inclusive participation, and accountability. Performance-based funding and minimum reporting requirements further support robust engagement.

The panel framed the session around preparing Second National Communications (SNCs) and using their insights to strengthen future climate strategies and NDCs. The key goals include improving emissions inventories, identifying sectoral challenges, integrating finance into planning, assessing vulnerabilities, and aligning national actions with international climate obligations.

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY AND CLIMATE ACTION



This event, organised by the Consortium for Climate Change in collaboration with PACJA and other partners, explored the role of people with disability in climate actions, challenges and current issues they are facing amidst the changing climate. Commenting on the existing problems faced by people with disability, Boniface Massah from Africa Albinism said that People with disabilities (PWDs), including persons with albinism, highlighted during the side event that they continue to face systemic exclusion from climate action and negotiations.

The panellists emphasised severe challenges such as limited access to education, health risks like skin cancer due to lack of sunscreen, and high vulnerability during disasters because

of inaccessible infrastructure and inadequate disaster-risk-management systems. Social and economic inequalities further push PWDs into poverty, while existing policies remain non-inclusive or disconnected from climate action.

He enumerated the challenges they are going through, including a lack of or inaccessibility of facilitation and support, which make them more vulnerable during disaster strikes such as floods and others. Josephine Marua Mwatibo from Africa Climate Messengers and an environmentalist for Sustainability, states that their constituency is still facing exclusion in decision-making processes.

She said that “We want to be included in the conversation and decision-making table because we know what suits us!”

Participants also noted the persistent inaccessibility of COP spaces, physically and digitally, as seen in Ethiopia during ACS2 and again at COP30.

They called for full recognition of the Disability Caucus, meaningful inclusion in decision-making, financing for PWD organisations, and a broader understanding of disability that includes mental disability. Ultimately, they urged leaders to ensure accessible infrastructure, inclusive policies, and equitable participation so that

PWDs can contribute to climate solutions that truly reflect their needs. During the panel discussion, Philip Kilonzo highlighted the gap in the inclusion of people with disabilities in climate change planning. He pointed out that when assessing disabilities, mental and invisible disabilities are often overlooked. To address this inconsistency in various processes, the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), representing non-state actors in Africa, formed 16 clusters. Among these, a dedicated cluster was created for people with disabilities to articulate their issues, demands, and requests effectively.

SHOWCASE OF HIGHLIGHTED RESULTS AND SOLUTIONS" FROM PLEDGES TO HOMEGROWN AFRICA-LED SOLUTIONS: THE AFRICA CLIMATE SUMMIT - 2 (ACS2)"

Convened by PACJA and partners, this event focused on Africa's growing influence in global climate governance, particularly highlighting the success of the Africa Climate Summit (ACS) and its implications for future international climate negotiations.

Africa's deliberate and successful efforts were highlighted as it moves from being a recipient of climate aid to a proactive leader and solution provider in the global fight against climate change, leveraging its unique resources and collaborative spirit.

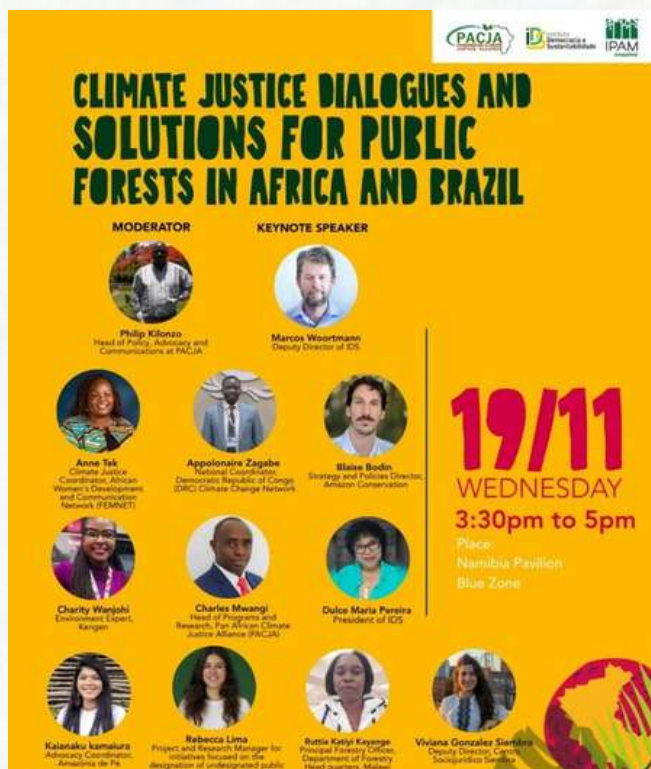
Panellists described the Africa Climate Summit (ACS) as a landmark event that mobilised representatives from over 159 countries, alongside Africa's 54 states, resulting in strong engagement across the Global South. It was noted that the summit featured extensive dialogues, exhibitions, and negotiations, culminating in the adoption of a Leaders' Declaration on Climate Change, which satisfied a broad range of stakeholders. ACS positioned Africa as a “powerhouse of climate solutions,” shifting global narratives by showcasing African-led approaches.

Its outcomes were captured in a detailed 200-page report and are expected to influence future global processes, including COP32, where inclusivity will be prioritised. In this side event, the conversation also stressed Africa's evolving role in global climate governance. It was stated that since COP27, the continent has shifted from a narrative of vulnerability to one of active contribution, leveraging its vast resources, critical minerals, uncultivated land, renewable energy potential, and a young population.

Participants affirmed that Africa's growing visibility was evident at COP29, where the Africa Group of Negotiators played a prominent role. Unified African positions helped secure gains in negotiations, including progress on financial mechanisms such as the NCQG and a commitment involving a flow of 300 million.

The conversation stressed Africa's ongoing commitment to strengthening coordination among governments, non-state actors, and international partners to amplify its influence in global climate policymaking.

PAN AFRICAN CLIMATE JUSTICE ALLIANCE (PACJA) AND INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY AND SUSTAINABILITY (IDS) ORGANIZED A SOUTH – SOUTH FACING DIALOGUE BRINGING BRAZIL AND AFRICA TOGETHER



Under the title 'Climate Justice Dialogues and Solutions for Public Forests in Brazil and Africa,' the dialogue sought to explore the status of undesignated forests in Africa and Latin America.

With carbon emissions continuing to peak in countries deemed to have exceptionally huge sinks of carbon, the event explored the underlying drivers of this, largely revolving around insecure tenure for these forests, including insecure land for communities in the fridges, illegal logging, threats to human rights defenders and the growing peaking of emissions.

Paradoxically, carbon investment in Africa and Brazil is not only motivating more grabs of both these forests and lands on which they stand and validating our collective assertion that carbon markets are not only false solutions but super highways

of land grabs. The discussion was concurrent on the desired political economy paradigm necessary for the posterity of these forests, vesting them under secure tenure of local and indigenous communities with state provision of security to forestall illegal logging by private actors.

Positive and progressive experiences that can be improved on were shared from Columbia, Malawi and Kenya on vesting tenure rights on communities, explicit policy and legal provisions and the need for continuing support to communities in governance of forests. The growth of emissions from Brazil, largely attributable to emissions from illegal logging and deforestation in undesignated forests, was highlighted as something that requires urgent redress.

The event brought distinguished speakers from African countries, Brazil and Colombia, drawn from CSOs, renowned research Institutions and Government agencies.

The dialogue highlighted the need to further this dialogue and collaboration, hinged on six (6) six-point agenda:

1. Diplomatic engagements on environmental information and the protection of human and environmental rights defenders
2. Exchanges on South-South cooperation aimed at pushing back on exploitation by corporations
3. Strengthening the data ecosystem to monitor forests- ownership, governance and emissions through deforestation and degradation
4. Consolidate efforts in pursuit of climate finance
5. Raise/ strengthen the capacity of communities as protectors of forests
6. Advancing strategic litigation pressure to protect the forest.

ARE THE GLOBAL GOALS ON ADAPTATION, CLIMATE AND HEALTH INDICATORS SERVING AFRICA'S REALITIES



This event was co-convened by AMREF, Africa Group of Negotiators (AGN) and PACJA under the theme “Are the Global Goals on Adaptation, Climate and Health Indicators Serving Africa's Realities?”, which examined whether current global frameworks adequately address Africa’s climate-health needs.

In this event, it was noted that countries are still struggling to access finances. Karumba, the GGA finance country facilitator for Zambia, highlighted that although the Green Climate Fund (GCF) provides financing for health-related initiatives, many African countries struggle to generate strong, bankable health projects.

He noted that the health sector is often overshadowed by mitigation priorities and therefore receives far fewer benefits and resources

The dialogue emphasised that Africa must draw lessons from COVID-19, HIV, and other disease outbreaks and align financing adequately. With climate change expected to increase vulnerability and the frequency of pandemics, the panellists stressed that preparedness, resilience, and stronger health systems must be treated as urgent adaptation priorities for the continent.

TURNING THE CLIMATE CRISIS INTO AN OPPORTUNITY: WOMEN AND YOUTH, AN ESSENTIAL LEVER FOR ACHIEVING THE GOALS



On the sidelines of COP30, Africa Activists for Climate Justice AACJ through OXFAM, organised the event entitled! Gender and Climate Change.

The side event aimed to highlight the project's results, particularly the connectivity between movements, the integration of environmental human rights, and the influence on public policy.

The organisers also shared the challenges encountered, the strategies adopted, and the lessons learned, while fostering an exchange among the eight intervention countries to identify avenues for collective improvement. The ultimate goal was to formulate recommendations to strengthen the involvement of women and youth in climate action.

Participants of the event were able to showcase progress made with government support, sharing best practices, developing key gender-related recommendations, strengthening South-South collaboration, producing a summary document, and organising post-event follow-up.

Organising this side event at the Senegal Pavilion provides an ideal platform to share results, challenges, lessons learned, and recommendations with the international community present at COP30, and to foster dialogue between local and international actors on climate governance, particularly regarding the involvement of frontline defenders, including youth and women.

DECLARATIONS AND PRESS ENGAGEMENT

PRESS STATEMENTS

We believe that media is key in driving change and influencing all sectors. Our work during COP30 attracted engagement from media outlets worldwide. Below are some key publications and media engagements.

- **Press Statement by the African Non-State Actors at the Opening of COP30 in Belem:**
<https://pacja.org/press-statement-by-the-african-non-state-actors-at-the-opening-of-cop30-in-belem/>
- **Unfair Game that Characterises COP30 Negotiations on Financing Implementation for the GGA Must Come to a Halt!**
<https://pacja.org/press-release-on-cop30/>
- **African Civil Society Position Statement Ahead of COP30 Conclusion**
<https://pacja.org/african-civil-society-position-statement-ahead-of-cop30-conclusion/>
- **Briefing of the COP30 Outcomes**
<https://pacja.org/briefing-of-the-cop30-outcomes/>

MEDIA COVERAGE

- **a.African Groups Issue Seven-Point Climate Finance Ultimatum:**
<https://www.newsghana.com.gh/african-groups-issue-seven-point-climate-finance-ultimatum/>
- **Siku moja baada ya kuzuka moto katika sehemu ya ukumbi wa mkutano wa #COP30 na kutatiza majadiliano, vikao vilirejea tena siku ya Ijumaa:**
https://www.facebook.com/share/v/17hBq_YKjd3/
- **Africa Day: At COP30, we demand delivery, accountability:**
<https://www.environewsnigeria.com/africa-day-at-cop30-we-demand-delivery-accountability-pacja/>
- **COP30: PACJA frowns at limited progress on climate adaptation negotiations:**
<https://www.environewsnigeria.com/cop30-pacja-frowns-at-limited-progress-on-climate-adaptation-negotiations/>
- **Africa did not cause climate crisis, must not pay for it, coalition tells COP30**
<https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/africa/article/2001534696/africa-did-not-cause-climate-crisis-must-not-pay-for-it-coalition-tells-cop30>
- **What was achieved for Indigenous peoples at COP30?**
<https://news.mongabay.com/2025/11/what-was-achieved-for-indigenous-peoples-at-cop30/>



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PACJA Action and Outcome