

On January 29 and 30, 2026, the Secretariat of the Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) extended its routine outreach to its members and partners in Ghana, starting with a strategy meeting with Designated National Platform (DNP), PACJA Ghana, hosted by ABANTU for Development. Consultations also involved conversations with the newly-elected Chair of the African Group of Negotiators (AGN), Dr. Nana Antwi Boasiako Amoah from Ghana's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The primary objective of the outreach was to provide a comprehensive understanding of the outcomes of COP30, fortify PACJA network in Ghana and advance collaboration with the new AGN Chair.

The outreach aimed to underscore the strategic significance of PACJA at both continental and global levels, while also exploring avenues to deepen its operations at the DNP level. This initiative is intended to enhance PACJA's visibility and impact in the realm of climate action across all relevant strata.



SHIFTING GLOBAL GEOPOLITICAL CONTEXT FOR CLIMATE ACTION

The conversations highlighted growing challenges to climate Justice advocacy due to:

- Volatile geopolitics, including the rise of right-wing politics in the North
- Reduced commitment by major emitters and shrinking climate finance
- US withdrawal from Paris Agreement, triggering a reduction in traditional Donors (e.g. USAID), and ripple effect on climate action



SHINKING SPACE AND OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS OF NSAs

The Non-State Actors (NSAs) and particularly civil society face increasing operational challenges, including limited resources, donor fatigue, and reduced spaces for advocacy. Despite these constraints, PACJA is recognised as a credible and trusted coordination platform, but sustaining coalition work requires enhanced and creative resource mobilisation and institutional strengthening. Building Power at the national level and strengthening the Agency of DNPs is the strategic focus of PACJA moving forward.



GAP IN NATIONAL CLIMATE POLICY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORKS

Participants identified the absence of a comprehensive national climate law in Ghana as a critical gap. Strengthened collaboration between PACJA and AGN Chair and Pan African Parliament was proposed as a pathway to advance a robust national Climate Action Legal Framework aligned with Africa's climate action priorities.



NEED FOR STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

Limited visibility of PACJA's Strategic engagement was Identified as a weakness. The meeting emphasised integrating a strong communication component into engagement strategies to amplify PACJA's Role, influence discourse processes and strengthen its positioning at national, continental and global levels.



OPPORTUNITIES TO DEEPEN CSO ENGAGEMENT IN CLIMATE GOVERNANCE

Recommendation for improved engagement between CSOs and government institutions, both in Ghana and Africa, with CSOs' inputs increasingly reflected in national frameworks, NDCs and UNFCCC reporting, was stressed.

It was noted that there is a strong opportunity to further institutionalise CSO participation, particularly in climate finance governance and oversight of GCF-supported projects. Broadening scope on climate action, and extending to sectors such as Agribusiness, Green jobs, SMEs, E-Mobility was greatly emphasised. Abantu would map our strategic SMEs engaged in the sectors, and also follow up with Ghana Enterprise Agency to explore possible partnership to advance collaboration in Green Jobs (and Greening SMEs).



STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF GHANA HOSTING THE AGN CHAIR

Coming from Ghana, the AGN Chair needs the support of PACJA infrastructure beginning from the national level, and Participants reiterated the need for PACJA and its Ghana platform to leverage this position to enhance policy influence, visibility and engagement with continental and global climate negotiation processes.



NEED TO STRENGTHEN PACJA-AGN CHAIR FOR POLICY INFLUENCE

While PACJA has an existing relationship with AGN, the meeting underscored the need for a more structured and strategic engagement framework, particularly with the DNP. This includes developing a clear roadmap to guide sustained collaboration with the AGN Chair, particularly around global/Africa climate discourse processes, deepening climate Finance diplomacy and advancing Africa's common positions under the UNFCCC.