

# MEMENTO OF THE DAY

## 8



## Our action



**Second 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 today.](#)





## 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 aims 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 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.