

# A FORTNIGHT





# PRECURSOR EVENT

## COP28 Preparatory Workshop: African CSOs Drew Position for COP28



Members drawn from African civil society organizations coalescing under PACJA convened in Dubai in a COP28 preparatory workshop that assessed challenges and progress made from the previous COP 27. More than 70,000 delegates from parties, and UN, observers gathered for the 28th session of UNFCCC in Dubai from November 30 to December 12.

The objective of the preparatory workshop was to consolidate and validate the COP 28 common position for Africa – and call on Parties to transcend pledges and “Keep the Promise” on actions needed to address the climate crisis. [You can read more about the preparatory workshop here](#)

### Interlinking and Synergizing Energy Access, Adaptation and Just Transition in Africa Explored

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

She urged that energy transition should not focus on the importation of materials but on internal resources and creating jobs for local citizens.

Dr Augustine Njamnshi the Executive director of ACSEA, reiterated that energy poverty is driving vulnerability and advised that investing in renewable energy is the ultimate solution to Africans’ challenges.

Dr. Mithika Mwenda, the Executive Director of PACJA advised that Africa needs to “connect dots because the issue of energy is critical and needs to find a way of working together”. He said that it is the priority of Civil society organizations because communities need a space to talk and express their views.

## We engaged partners in discussions on Ensuring Fair and Transparent Access to Critical Minerals for African Countries in the Context of Global Energy Transition



Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), the Africa-Coalition for Sustainable Energy and Access (ACSEA) in partnership with the Africa-Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI), and the Africa Development Bank engaged in thoughtful discussions over critical minerals and how they should contribute to Africa’s socio-economic sustainability. [Read more information here](#)

## We joined Interfaith based organizations in discussions around Mining, Technology Minerals and Climate Change



This side event joined by PACJA was co-organized by the Jesuit Justice and Ecology Network (JENA) and the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) underscored the need to ensure “environmental integrity” in the process of extracting Africa’s minerals.

During this discussion, it emerged that mining is not disconnected from the concept of the creation; hence it should be responsible for environmental protection. It was highlighted that in Africa, traditional mining practices have resulted in habitat destruction, air and water pollution and other environmental challenges.

## Calling Global North to Raise Adaptation Finance in Africa by More than Double

- This side event was co-organized by the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), Africa Adaptation Initiative (AAI) and Africa Green Climate Fund National Designated Authority Network (AFDAN). It intended to promote the mobilization and effective use of climate finance to support low-carbon and climate-resilient development on the continent. The conversation was culminated by the call by youth and submission of Younde Declaration on doubling Adaptation finance.
- [Read the Declaration here](#)

## *We called for Rethinking the Multilateral Process to Meet Pledged Climate Finance*



On December 2, 2023, on the sideline of COP28, Heads of state, UNECA Executive Secretary, AU Chairperson, Ministers and distinguished dignitaries graced the event themed “Scaling up Financing for Climate Action and Green Growth in Africa.

Speaking at the event, Dr Mithika Mwenda, the Executive Director of PACJA reminded us that the Climate Finance pledges made by developed countries have been utopian for years and hence Africa needs to learn from that bad experience. **[Read the full Remarks by Executive Director of PACJA here.](#)**

## *We triggered conversations on Advancing North-South Collaborations in Pursuit of Grants for the Implementation of the Nairobi Declaration (ACS2023)*



In collaboration with other partners including Pan African Parliament, Africa Union Commission, Economic Commission for Africa, USAID, Ministry of Environment of Government of Kenya and Africa Development Bank PACJA organized a side event Advancing North-South Collaborations in Pursuit of Grants for the Implementation of the Nairobi Declaration (ACS2023).

This side event was intended to build momentum for a grant-based climate financing option for the implementation of the ACS2023 declaration; and develop consensus on earlier entry points for scaling grant-based funding for climate action in Africa in the implementation of the ACS resolutions.

Scaling up grants-based funding remains a pivotal clog for accelerated implementation of the ACS declaration, and developed countries must not relent in their efforts to mobilize public funding and should live to the spirit of the Paris Agreement and demonstrate substantive progress towards actualizing the Common but Differentiated Capacities principle.

## *Fostering Locally-led Climate Action for Accelerated Adaptation and Resilience of Frontline Communities in Africa*



Convening this side event, we aimed at bringing together African faces including Care International, PACJA Zambia, Government representatives (sub-government level), youth and consultancy constituency, Centre for 21st Century Issues and FEICOM. Participants explored current initiatives on the ground related to locally-led adaptation in Africa.

Discussants shared challenges faced by the communities including but not limited to lack of resources, lack of access to finance resources, the complexity of GCF structure and stiff access process to its finance.

Some recommendations shared include mainstreaming gender into locally-led climate adaptation initiatives and processes, considering local knowledge, involving local players and engaging policymakers at country levels to ensure that LLA is well and inclusively implemented.

This side event showcased solutions and best practices on influencing climate adaptation and communities' voice and leadership interventions with a focus on the growing movement for locally-led adaptation (LLA), a new paradigm where local actors and communities lead decisions over how, when and where to adapt.

## *We Explored New Forms of Organizing: Formidable Blocks for Advancing Climate Diplomacy, a Case of Non-State Actors Engagements with the African Climate Summit*

PACJA convened this side event to provide a platform for participants to share lessons, strengthening the organizing of the agency of Africans for collective and protracted engagement of the NSA in climate diplomacy. It aimed at fostering collective strategies for bolding out NSAs' engagement together with the African Union and its institutions and other strategic partnerships are developed for bolding out actions; and amplifying collective voice and demands of African Non-state Actors for COP28.



## We held a briefing meeting with AGN Chair on the Progress of the Negotiations at COP28



After six days of Negotiations of Parties, on the sidelines of COP28-related events and negotiations, African CSOs coalescing under the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance got the opportunity to meet with the Chair of the Africa Group of Negotiators, Mr Ephraim Shitima Mwepya who briefed them on the then progress of negotiations.

In a brief meeting with the CSOs under PACJA, the AGN chair said that the negotiations were ongoing and that some agendas were adopted while others were still under tense discussions.

On concerns raised by PACJA regarding the World Bank announced to be the host of the Loss and Damage Fund, Mr Shitima said that there will be an independent board of directors, but also the access modalities will not be like those of the World Bank. *“We will evaluate the evolution at each moment and if in 4 years it doesn't work, there could be a change in the bank”*, reassured Mr Shitima.

COP28 was the COP of accountability where parties were assessing the progress made in reducing GHG emissions. The African Group of Negotiators had submitted inputs on views of function, modalities, and work programme matters relating to the forum on the impact of the implementation of Response measures serving the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol, and the Paris Agreement.

Despite these developments, African civil society was still dissatisfied with the question of doubling financing for climate adaptation. Mr. Shitima explained that at the onset of negotiations, AGN thought that doubling funding for adaptation could be a key point on the agenda but, by then it was not clear whether it would be adopted. *“We remain optimistic that this issue will receive the attention of all on the negotiating table,”* said Shitima.

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### Strengthening Youth-Led Actions for Climate Change Adaptation in Africa

This event delved into the pivotal role of youth-led actions in climate change adaptation across Africa. The overarching aim was to grasp the challenges faced by the youth, explore collaborative opportunities, and spotlight innovative solutions for effective climate action.

Dr. Augustine Njamnshi, Executive Director of Africa Coalition for Sustainable Energy Access (ACSEA) and Chair of Political and Technical Affairs, PACJA, set a compelling tone with impactful opening remarks. .

He eloquently recognized African youth not merely as victims but as proactive fighters against climate change

Dr Njamnshi emphasized that the youth-led campaign isn't solely about the youth themselves; rather, it is orchestrated by the youth for their mothers, fathers, and the generations to come—the pillars of society. Furthermore, he underlined the pressing need for increased adaptation finance in Africa to fortify the continent's resilience.



## PACJA Advocated for Collective Action to Address Climate Change Impacts on Health



On December 3rd, on the sidelines of COP28, PACJA, in collaboration with partners, convened a dialogue to amplify the African common position on climate and health. This side event coincided with the first day of health organized by COP28 UAE Presidency, in collaboration with WHO, AMREF, AFIDEP the Wellcome Trust, and other partners.

This side event played a pivotal role in amplifying the African Common Position on Climate Change and Health developed and adopted at the initial conference on Climate Change and Health held in Lilongwe, Malawi, in August 2023. The workshop culminated in the establishment and endorsement of a unified standpoint.

The key outcome of this event was the dissemination of the African common position on Climate and Health, fostering greater understanding among key stakeholders. It explored and elevated the health conversation in the context of mitigation, adaptation, and climate financing frameworks, emphasizing a holistic approach that encompasses human, animal, and environmental health. The event proposed the development of early warning systems, research initiatives, and the adoption of nature-based solutions to restore ecosystems.



## PACJA Participated in a Session on Human Mobility in the Climate Crisis



This session was called by Klima-Allianz Deutschland, VENRO and the Pacific Conference of Churches to discuss Human Mobility in the Climate Crisis and how German climate policy can address the protection gap.

The Pacific Conference of Churches in Fiji has been working on Climate Justice issues for over two decades. The speaker from the Pacific Conference of Churches explained that Climate change has not only affected their livelihoods but also affected their spirituality as their sacred areas of worship have been washed away over the years with the increasing sea level rise. He said that Migration has been a key aspect of the Pacific people's culture and as a way to adapt to the current migration crisis as a result of climate change the faith-based community are encouraging a positive and proactive culture themed from "Exile to exodus" whereby they are reviving the culture of voyaging and journeying.

Dr. Mithika Mwenda, the Executive Director of PACJA said that Climate-induced displacement is on the rise globally, with millions forced to leave their homes and as a result causing other social and economic stresses and crises. He added that Climate migrants face social vulnerabilities, including discrimination and lack of access to basic services.



## We showcased how Climate-Induced Migration affects children in Africa



Statistics indicate that displacement and migration from rural to urban centres as an adaptation strategy to environmental and climatic stressors are increasingly becoming common. Furthermore, it's reported that number of displaced children in the Horn of Africa nearly doubled from 316,500 in 2021 to 545,000 in 2022.

Looking at this climatic context, Pan African Climate Justice Alliance-PACJA, Réseau des Jeunes pour le Climat en Afrique and Save the Children International organized a side event at COP28 which intended to explore the key issues and challenges related to increased migration and displacement as a result of the impacts of the climate crisis. Part of the most affected constituency is the children.

“We shall create a platform for children and climate justice. We are not ending the process because we believe that children are crosscutting in all sectors, hence we have to collaborate for a solution” Dr. Mithika affirmed. [Read the full story](#)

## The Role of National Human Rights Institutions in Advancing Human Rights Based Approach to Climate Justice

This event co-organized by PACJA and The Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) brought together participants from National Human Rights institutions, civil society actors, environmental activists as well as potential donor/partner institutions.

In the session, Dr Mithika said that Climate change is a Human rights issue. He stressed that in the face of Climate change and climate action, there is a burden to share and asserted that those who have caused harm have to compensate for the harm. He opined that to achieve retributive justice, procedural justice and distributive justice are key.

This event had the objective of creating a platform for dialogue, knowledge and information sharing on the nexus between human rights and climate justice; enhancing synergy, collaboration and linkages between Civil Society actors and National human rights institutions in the quest for climate justice and lastly agreeing on minimum actions to foster collaboration between CSOs and NHRIs.

In this event, Dr Mithika Mwenda the Executive Director of PACJA expounded on the three dimensions of climate justice dimensions- how somebody has caused the problem, how the problem is affecting the people who are going to carry the burden of said action and how we address the retribution and Procedural justice and policy making is very difficult.

Complementing other speakers, Justice Ocharo said that in advancing and protecting human rights, the courts should be innovative in interpreting such rights in a manner that will promote and not hinder the rights.

## PRESS CONFERENCES

During 14 days of action, PACJA held press conferences that called parties at the negotiations to reach concrete outcomes relevant to Africa and the global south in general



### Resources:

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





# Media coverage and outreach

During 14 days of action at COP28, our actions attracted media and social media interests. As a result, PACJA was mentioned **2051 times** and reached **115 million individuals** worldwide through digital channels. Below is the summary of infographics explaining our online presence and outreach.

## Key results for the timeframe ( November 30 –December 12

### Mentions

Compared to last period

**2.51k** ↑ 39%  
Previous Value 1.81k

### Total Potential News Reach

Compared to last period

**115M** ↑ 2869%  
Previous Value 3.88M

### Sentiment

Compared to last period

**47** 0%  
Previous Value 47

## The top publishers

### Top Publications by Volume



### Top Publications by Reach





