

Galvanising and Unifying Africa's Action for  
Resilient Development in the era of Pandemic

# GUARD AFRICA

## ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT 2023





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>OPERATING CONTEXT IN 2023</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>ROUND-UP OF KEY OUTCOME AREAS</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>Outcome 1: National, Sub-regional and Regional Policies, Plans and Programmes are influenced by evidence-based CSO narratives and policy analyses and advice</b> .....	<b>6</b>
➤ <b>Output 1.1.1: Enhanced on-going advocacy efforts by African civil society alongside sectors and regional institutions (the ClimDev, RECS, AMCEN, etc) to influence African government’s development and implementation of policies towards achievement of the NDCs/Paris goals</b> .....	<b>6</b>
➔ 1.1.1.5. Strategic consultations with the ClimDev (AU,& AfDB), RECS and Africa’s specialised intergovernmental Agencies on development of strategic actions and collective positions/programmes on the climate finance approaches suitable for the continent in the recovery process .....	11
➔ 1.1.1.2. Strategic consultations with the ClimDev, RECS and Africa’s specialized intergovernmental Agencies on development of strategic actions and collective positions/programmes on the climate finance approaches suitable for the continent in the recovery process-CCDA/AMCEN .....	12
➔ 1.1.1.3.Strategic consultations with the ClimDev, RECS and Africa’s specialized intergovernmental Agencies on development of strategic actions and collective positions/programmes on the climate finance approaches suitable for the continent in the recovery process-ACW (Africa Climate Week).....	13
➔ 1.1.1.5. Supporting participation of CSOs to GCF Board meetings as Observers .....	15
➔ 1.1.1.6. Conduct at least 1 Climate finance roundtable per year & training on climate finance between the Africa group of negotiators and CSOs.....	16
➔ 1.1.3.2.....Support establishment of digital community-based projects monitoring watchdog committees at National and subnational levels to monitor investments by governments and private sector for compliance with GCF and fair climate finance principles and standards.....	19
➔ 1.1.3.2.....Support multi stakeholder dialogue processes on the nexus between locally-led climate action, sustainable development and people-centered bottom-up approaches to NDCs implementation.....	20
<b>Intermediate Outcome 1.2: A just transition and recovery process is embedded in African climate policy processes through a robust campaign and outreach</b> .....	<b>23</b>
➤ <b>Output 1.2.1: CSOs work under Multi-Stakeholder platforms to design effective awareness campaigns and identify models for equitable management of a fossil fuel phase- out (coal, oil and gas extraction) and promotion of alternatives</b> .....	<b>25</b>
➔ 1.2.1.1. Conducting a study on the bottlenecks and enablers of just transition to renewable energy in Africa .....	27
➔ 1.2.1.2. Convening regional stakeholder’s forum on just transition to inform and track progress .....	28
➔ 1.2.1.3. Influencing parties to UNFCCC to hasten decisions on technology transfer and capacity building for Africa, particularly on Renewable energy technologies .....	28
➔ 1.2.1.4. Influencing parties to UNFCCC through the Intercessional & related processes- UNGA, UNEA .....	31
➔ 1.2.1.6. Invigorate civil society and African Energy Commission relationship through proactive engagement and convening.....	38



➤ 1.2.1.7. Forge strong partnerships and actively engage regional Power Pools through periodic convening's (ACSEA) .....	39
➤ 1.2.2.3. Support, and actively participate, in campaigns against fossil fuel exploration and extraction in Africa.....	39
➤ 1.2.2.4. Produce periodic analysis on the trends on investments on Renewables in Africa to inform on RE Advocacy strategies.....	40
<b>Intermediate Outcome 1.2 National governments, private sector companies and citizens appreciate the connection between climate security, public health, displacement and migration and develop joint action plans to address key emerging issues around the “loss and damage” in Africa dialogue.....</b>	<b>40</b>
➤ <b>Output 1.3.1: PACJA and CSOs advocate for sustainable recovery that addresses the connections between climate change, public health (pandemics), migration and involuntary displacements .....</b>	<b>40</b>
➤ 1.3.1.1. Support the Horn of Africa Working group on climate security to convene and support policy processes within IGAD and AU regarding climate induced migration, conflict and peace .....	41
➤ 1.3.1.3. Commission an analysis of Loss Damage as it relates to the context of HoA and CEN-SAD.....	42
➤ 1.3.2.1. Conduct a regional study on the nexus between health and climate change .....	44
➤ 1.3.2.2. Establish/catalyse establishment of Health and climate change working groups in the Project countries.....	44
➤ 1.3.2.3. Facilitate regional roundtables on integration of WASH in climate change response & NDC's and just recovery planning at regional levels .....	45
<b>Outcome 1.4 Women, girls and youth have the capacity, voice and agency to engage with national and regional governments and power holders; and shape the policy and practice around climate change, resilience building and financing for a just recovery. ....</b>	<b>46</b>
➤ <b>Output 1.4.2: Women, girls, youth led organizations dialogue with other CSO networks on emerging issues on climate change and COVID-19 related to their resilience and build a case for advocacy.....</b>	<b>46</b>
➤ 1.4.1.1. Supporting youth participation in One Forest Summit.....	47
➤ 1.4.1.2. Conducting a policy analysis on bottlenecks challenges and opportunities around the extent to which climate financing programs match needs identified for a just recovery .....	48
➤ 1.4.1.3. Cohort-III of the Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice.....	50
➤ 2.1.1.1. Training CSOs and other stakeholders on the use of the NDC tracking tool .....	52
➤ <b>Output 3.1.1: CSOs are supported to provide resourceful alternative viewpoints and policy options that are backed by critical analysis and research.....</b>	<b>54</b>
➤ 3.1.2.2. Support and upscale YDA model in Project countries through recruitment and support of CRPs, YDAs in the platforms.....	56
➤ <b>Output 3.2.1: Journalists/media networks strengthened to create a dynamic environment and robust media engagement. ....</b>	<b>57</b>
➤ 3.2.1.1. Conduct regular trainings for journalists under the auspices of “The ACCER Awards Finalists Academy.....	57
➤ 3.2.1.2. Support Journalists to participate and report on UNFCCC Intercessions and related processes .....	58
➤ <b>Output 3.2.2: The African Climate Change and Environmental Reporting (ACCER) Awards serves as a platform to reward and incentivize journalists to increase reporting on climate change. ....</b>	<b>58</b>

➤ 3.2.2.1. Roll-out annual ACCER Awards scheme .....	58
<b>Outcome 4: Enhanced capacity of PACJA organs, national platforms and dedicated sector- based initiatives to be effective catalysts for galvanization of action for resilient development in Africa.....</b>	<b>59</b>
➤ Intermediate Outcome 4.1. PACJA members equitably and meaningfully participate in decision making and governance of the network .....	59
➤ 4.1.1.1. Regular training workshops and bonding retreats for CEB and other on governance and emotional intelligence .....	59
➤ 4.1.1.4. Support the National Platforms, Thematic Groups and Initiatives (mtgs).....	60
➤ 4.1.1.5. Support continuous capacity building and skills building of the Secretariat Staff (RBM &Leadership).....	61
➤ 4.1.1.6. Strengthening of the global racial and climate justice collaborative.....	61
➤ Output 4.2.2: Civil society voice is amplified and strengthened at community, sub- national, and country level, and linked with regional and global level through effective coordination mechanisms by PACJA. ....	63
➤ 4.2.2.1 Support DNPs to establish sub national platforms.....	63
➤ Output 4.2.3: Newly created and altered governance structures within the PACJA secretariat are strengthened to effectively perform their mandate.....	64
<b>Key Achievements and lessons learnt .....</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Enhanced partnerships at regional and global levels.....</b>	<b>66</b>

# LIST OF ACRONYMS

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<b>ACCER</b>	African Climate Change and Environmental Reporting
<b>ACLI</b>	Africa Climate Legislative Innovative
<b>AGM</b>	Annual General Meeting
<b>AMCEN</b>	Africa Ministerial Conference on Environment
<b>ATPS</b>	African Technology Policy Studies
<b>BCCN</b>	Botswana Climate Change Network
<b>CR4D</b>	Climate Research for Development in Africa
<b>CEB</b>	Continental Executive Board
<b>CKM</b>	Communications and Knowledge Management
<b>COP</b>	Conference of parties
<b>CCC-E</b>	Consortium for Climate Change Ethiopia
<b>CEJAD</b>	Center for Environment and Justice
<b>CSDevNet</b>	Climate and Sustainable Development Network
<b>CSOs</b>	Civil Society Organizations
<b>DNPs</b>	Designated National Platform
<b>FES</b>	Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
<b>FUPRESDSN</b>	Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun, Sustainable Development Solution Network
<b>GCF</b>	Green Climate Fund
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>GHGs</b>	Green House Gases
<b>ILO</b>	International Labor Organization
<b>JTEA</b>	Just Transition and Energy Access
<b>KPCG</b>	Kenya Platform on Climate Governance
<b>EU</b>	European Union

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<b>RECs</b>	Regional Economic Commission
<b>NDC</b>	Nationally Determined Contributions
<b>PACJA</b>	Pan African Climate Justice Alliance
<b>RE</b>	Renewable energy
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>UNECA</b>	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
<b>UNEA</b>	United Nations Environmental Assembly
<b>UNFCCC</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate change
<b>YDAs</b>	Young Digital Activists
<b>ZCCN</b>	Zambia Climate Change Network (ZCCN)

# INTRODUCTION

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2023 was a watershed year for the climate community as it provided a reflection moment ever since the Paris Agreement was adopted in Paris in 2015. The global community rallied around the [Global Stock take](#), a pivotal process for review and assessment of the progress made in the implementation of the [Nationally Determined Contributions \(NDCs\)](#), a set of sectoral investment tools each country has pledged to make as part of their implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Undoubtedly, the acceleration of action towards the transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient, just and inclusive development trajectories has gained remarkable momentum since 2015. This has been achieved despite the setback occasioned by the outbreak of COVID-19 which, though having subsided, its aftermath has put into test our social structures and institutions in a manner never seen before.

Exacerbating the climate crisis, the pandemic altered - and put into test - power relations and resource distributions, as well as our modes of production and consumption and the way we relate with nature. The manner in which it threw into disarray the international discourse to build consensus to resolve longstanding issues regarding global climate action will linger in our memories in years to come.

The big challenge, therefore, has been striking a delicate balancing between climate action, and directing money to finance climate resilience, while ensuring covid-19 recovery doesn't slow down the momentum gained in the movement towards Net Zero by the mid-century. The African Union has vividly captured this spirit in its [Green Recovery Action Plan \(GRAP\)](#).

This year-3 report for the Sida-funded Project, Galvanising and Unifying Africa's Action for Resilient Development in the era of the pandemic (Guard Africa), is a routine obligation by PACJA to the Donor partner, helping the Alliance to influence impact at scale, by leveraging the efforts of other players in the climate change conversations within Africa and globally with the following explicit features:

- ▶ Just climate financing
- ▶ Just recovery from the impacts of climate change and COVID-19 including promotion of green energy
- ▶ Institutional strengthening of CSOs networks for amplified advocacy
- ▶ A strong learning agenda embedded in media engagement, awareness raising of the public and
- ▶ Institutional strengthening of PACJA and the Secretariat, to be able to have more impact NDCs implementation and acceleration of climate action.

The report recognizes the intersectionality of gender and social exclusion that underpins the vulnerability of women, girls and youth on climate change issues, and features both regional and national-level approaches in its implementation design.

At the national level, the Project covers 12 countries which includes: Kenya, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Rwanda, Niger, Cameroon, Zambia, Botswana, Morocco, Nigeria, Ivory Coast and Gabon. The Designated National Platform (DNPs), supported by PACJA Continental Secretariat continued to play pivotal role in country-level implementation of key interventions throughout the year.





*Samante Ann, from MPIDO an indigenous peoples' organizations representing the Africa Climate Summit -Non-State Actors convened under PACJA walks to the podium to issue a statement*

Key highlights for the Project during the period are:

- a. **Unified civil society voice in key African climate change conversations:** Robust engagement and consolidation of critical non-state actor organizations into a single-most platform - *Africa Climate Summit Non-State Actors Steering Committee (ACS-NSA)*. This brought together institutions civil society, Labour movements, Academia, Women Movements, Financial Institutions, Africa Private Sector, Youth Movements, Indigenous peoples, Health Actors, Farmer Organizations and Nature based organizations into a single Unified formidable force.
- b. **Manifestation of creative movement-building during the Africa Climate Summit:** The ACS-NSA Platform became a de facto space for informal consultation and facilitated deeper engagement with the Summit organisers. It contributed to the reshaping of the ACS original concept and agenda to address concerns raised by various Actors, including critical issues for Africa such as adaptation, loss and damage and just transition. These were peripheral to the summit's agenda which seemed to propagate carbon markets as a central source of climate finance.



*The Executive Director PACA alongside with the Programmes Director of All Africa Conferences of Churches and Alumni of the Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice have over statements from Non-state Actors to His Excellency, Dr William Samoei Ruto during the Africa Climate Summit*

**c. Global financial architecture reform, the African voice and role of parliamentarians:** PACJA and Pan African Parliament (PAP) convened the groundbreaking *Pan African Parliamentarians Summit on Climate Policy and Equity*, which provided a platform for the debate on *global finance architecture reform* that subsequently dominated the year. President William Ruto of Kenya, the Coordinator of Committee of Heads of State and Government on Climate Change of the African Union (CAHOSSC) offered the keynote address to the Summit, and elevated the profile of climate concerns for Africa. The Summit Declaration was significant in shaping subsequent Africa’s convergences, and made central the crucial role of African parliamentarians as central Actors in climate policy discourse, including centering their leadership for locally-led adaptation actions at national and sub-national levels. This catalysed Parliamentarians active engagement during the Africa Climate Summit and COP28, where their declaration was presented in high-level sessions.



- d. **Invigoration of youth movement through tailor-made, targeted training:** More than 400 young people from 70 countries across the World (and 51 from Africa) participated in the Cohort-III of the *Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice* (NSSC), building into the Alumni of the School that is emerging as a critical network of young people strategically positioned in international discourse on climate action. Participants from the School initiated the Youth for Adaptation Finance (YAF), a network of youth driving campaign on adaptation finance as a priority for Africa. The Network conducted the first Youth for Adaptation Finance in Africa (YOFAFA), further consolidating the voice of young people in climate debates.
- e. **Enhanced visibility, remarkable contribution and significant influence in Africa's climate conversations and UNFCCC processes:** The role of PACJA as a crucial Actor in all African climate debates cannot be underestimated. As civil society partner in ClimDev Africa Initiative, the Alliance remains the main cog in processes spearheaded by African Union, UN Economic Commission for Africa, African Development Bank, UN Environment Regional Office, African Group of Negotiators (AGN) and Regional Economic Integration Communities (RECs). PACJA played its traditional role in the hosting of CCDA- 11 together with other partners, in addition to participating in other major African and global forums.
- f. **Innovative coalition-building between Governments, Intergovernmental Institutions and civil society for accelerated transition to greener, climate-resilient Africa:** The unique PACJA-driven *AfDB-Civil Society Coalition on Energy and Climate Change* has broken the long-held tensions between civil society and governments across Africa, and has demonstrated that there exists enormous opportunities and quick wins when all stakeholders work together. Through this unprecedented collaboration, PACJA, AfDB and partners hosted five consultations in five key African geographical regions, bringing together thousands of participants drawn from various sectors and thematic areas. Key messages from various regions were consolidated into a single declaration during the side-event at COP28.
- g. **Launch of the *Keep your Promise Campaign*:** As part of the effort to hold governments and private sector accountable particularly in the Global Stock-take process, PACJA launched the “keep your promise campaign” to bring into limelight pledges and commitment made by Parties under the Climate Change Convention and the Paris Agreement. Hundreds of campaigns activities were conducted across Africa, concluding in COP28 where PACJA continued to raise the African flag through side-events, press conferences, stunts, direct outreaches with key delegations and protests in solidarity with global climate justice movements. Part of the pressure exerted to governments was delivery of Loss and Damage Fund during the COP28, and ensuring Adaptation was not obscured in the negotiations dominated by fossil fuel phase-down-phase-out euphoria.
- h. And finally, yet more profound, the convenings and lesson-sharing sessions among the Designated National Platforms (DNPs), at the start of the year and guided by a unified advocacy plan for the year 2023 provided basis for much more peer-learning, collaborative and protracted campaigning actions led by DNPs. These campaigning actions were reinforced by strengthened partnerships and collaborations at DNP level, as they continue to pivot themselves into indisputable reference civil society platforms in their respective countries.

## OPERATING CONTEXT IN 2023

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The Russia-Ukraine crisis as well as Israel-Hamas war remains key geopolitical crisis defining global political, diplomatic and economic interactions, notably shaping the climate change discourse and energy landscape in Europe. This geo-political context has continued to provide impetus for opening of more oil fields and opening of coal mines that had been closed in parts of Europe, and, possibly, diverting finance from climate action.

As this worrying trend continues unabated, scientists have been warning that the impacts of climate change are becoming more serious each passing day. The 6<sup>th</sup> Assessment Report of the globally-acclaimed Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC-AR6) released on March 23, 2023 shows that the Africa region is projected to experience more frequent and intense droughts and floods under all emission scenarios.

According to this report, human activities, principally through emissions of greenhouse gases, have unequivocally caused global warming, with global surface temperature reaching 1.1°C above 1850–1900 in 2011–2020. Global greenhouse gas emissions have continued to increase, with unequal historical and ongoing contributions arising from unsustainable energy use, land-use and land-use change, lifestyles and patterns of consumption and production across regions, between and within countries, and among individuals. The report notes that climate change effects have caused damages to lives and livelihoods and that the most vulnerable communities who are least responsible for climate change continue to be disproportionately affected, and these communities are largely in Africa.

As the climate change impacts continues unabated, climate finance, which is urgently needed has not been forthcoming. IPCC-AR6 notes that a huge adaptation gap exists and that current global financial flows for adaptation are insufficient for, and constrain implementation of, adaptation options, especially in developing countries. This is further affirmed by the recent UNEP adaptation GAP report of 2023 which indicates that the adaptation GAP is increasing steadily yet only little funds are trickling down.

The IPCC observation on progress - or lack of it - in mitigation is also worrying, although Policies and laws addressing mitigation have consistently expanded. Global GHG emissions in 2030 implied by Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) announced by October 2021 make it likely that warming will exceed 1.5°C during the 21st century and make it harder to limit warming below 2°C. There are gaps between projected emissions from implemented policies and those from NDCs and finance flows fall short of the levels needed to meet climate goals across all sectors and regions.

Indeed, the Global stock-take report released in 2023 further reinforces these facts and acknowledges that there is lack of progress in reducing global emissions. Data predicts that some future changes are unavoidable and/or irreversible but can be limited by deep, rapid and sustained global greenhouse gas emissions reduction. This makes cutting down of the emission especially from high emitting countries more urgent than ever before.

The year in review was critical in the implementation of the Paris agreement as in accordance with its provisions, the global stock take was supposed to be conducted throughout 2023. This provided the parties to the Paris agreement with a moment of reckoning and evaluation of the achievements made so far and identification of gaps that need to be addressed in order to put the planet on the road to achieving not only the temperature goal but also targets in finance, adaptation, loss and damage, among other agenda.

As GST means looking at everything related to where the world stands on climate action and support, identifying the gaps, and working together to agree on solutions pathways; in 2023, PACJA oriented its advocacy approaches to focus on accountability aspects of implementation of the Paris agreement.

Even as parties to UNFCCC embarked on reflections on the hits and misses in this implementation, PACJA and partners focused on holding them accountable through a broad-based campaign, *Keep your promise*". Both approaches, though, were united in one observation: that the World is way off the track in realizing the set targets in all pillars of climate action, including climate finance, adaptation, mitigation, loss and damage, among other sectoral-thematic areas.

## ROUND-UP OF KEY OUTCOME AREAS

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### **Outcome 1: National, Sub-regional and Regional Policies, Plans and Programmes are influenced by evidence-based CSO narratives and policy analyses and advice**

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#### **Output 1.1.1: Enhanced on-going advocacy efforts by African civil society alongside sectors and regional institutions (the ClimDev, RECs, AMCEN, etc) to influence African government's development and implementation of policies towards achievement of the NDCs/Paris goals.**

Civil society organizations (CSOs) plays a vital role in shaping policies at national, sub-regional, and regional levels. Their evidence-based narratives and policy analyses provide valuable insights and recommendations for developing effective and sustainable policies that address social, economic, and environmental challenges. CSOs promote accountability, transparency, and participatory governance, ensuring that policies are inclusive and responsive to the needs of local communities. They also advocate for marginalized populations, promoting social justice and the rights of vulnerable groups.

During the period under review, PACJA held extensive engagements with Pan African institutions and other partner organisations at regional and country levels in driving regional policy and advocacy agenda as evidenced by the initiatives captured below:

#### **I. THE THIRD PAN AFRICAN PARLIAMENT SUMMIT ON CLIMATE POLICY AND EQUITY**

The flagship initiative under this output in 2023 was the Pan African parliament summit on climate policy and equity, which was held in May, 2023. As an organ of the African Union, the Pan Africa Parliament (PAP) is brings together Parliamentarians from across the continent with a mandate to ensure the full participation of African People in the economic development and integration of the continent; holding governments accountable and driving changes at the national level. In COP 27 in Egypt, PACJA held consultations with the PAP President and his delegation. One of the resolutions of the meeting was to conduct the third Parliamentarians Summit considering the need to be appraised on the state of play in the climate change discourse, but more importantly their role in catalyzing policy and legal processes necessary for domestication of decisions adopted by UNFCCC.

This was also informed by a felt need for an initiative that would rally parliamentarians behind a common



African position in climate change dialogue processes. The two-days Summit brought together 350 parliamentarians from across Africa at Pan African Parliament in Midrand, South Africa.

The Summit, graced by President William Ruto of Kenya, provided an opportunity for the delegates to share perspectives, exchanged ideas and experiences on the international climate policy processes, both in their countries and globally.

Some of the key recommendation agreed on by parliamentarians included:

## 1. To African Governments:

- i. **Domesticate** and **implement** the provisions of the Paris Agreement development of a climate change implementation plan and strategy and allocation of adequate budgetary resources.
- ii. **Strengthen** mechanisms for holding accountable corporate and other actors that are responsible for climate pollution and atrocities, including through implementation of taxation measures which ensures funding for reparation of victims of loss and damage. National Parliaments and the PAP resolved to support this effort through progressive legislations.
- iii. Elevate the Global Goal on Adaptation to receive attention in decisions at COP28 to advance collective influence on doubling of adaptation funding by 2025.

## 2. To Governments of the Global North, the summit called for:

- i. Initiation of the necessary reforms as recommended by the Sharm el-Sheikh Action Plan, to make climate finance more accessible, needs-based and less likely to lead to indebtedness;
- ii. Enhancement of ambitions and action, under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and limit global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, in accordance with the imperatives of climate justice and best available science;
- iii. Fulfilment of obligations to provide adequate, predictable and sustainable finance, technology transfer and capacity building support to developing countries

### Main outcomes of the summit were:

- ▶ The presence of President William Ruto, the Coordinator of CAHOSCC, elevated the Summit as a memorable event in global interactions, particularly Africa's advocacy for the reform of international finance architecture.
- ▶ The recommendations and declaration transmitted in all parliaments in Africa reawakened Legislators and populations on their role in addressing climate change.
- ▶ The resolutions and recommendations fed into the Africa Climate Summit. The Kenya Parliament, PAP and PACJA jointly hosted a side-event during the ACS to polish the declaration which was delivered during the high-level session.
- ▶ The Summit also yielded efforts towards development of a model climate change Law by PAP which would then be domesticated by countries.



*PAP President Fortune Charumbira, Kenya's President William Ruto and PACJA Executive Director Mithika Mwenda during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Pan African Parliamentarians Summit on Climate Policy & Equity*

## II. ENGAGEMENT AND GROWING ROLE OF THE DESIGNATED NATIONAL PLATFORMS UNDER OUTPUT 1.1.1

The Alliance kicked-off the year with a traditional strategy and planning Workshop bringing together the Secretariat staff, Board and Coordinators of the National Platform in Addis Ababa. The Workshop, held in early February, provided an opportunity for PACJA, DNPs, Designated National Platforms and partners to reflect on the achievements and lessons learnt in 2022, but most importantly to plan for 2023.

Participants reviewed the achievements made in 2022, reflected on areas of improvement and developed their respective project-based/strategic initiatives annual work plans and aligned them with the organisational results framework as envisioned in the strategic framework 2021 – 2030, and short- term Strategic Plan 2021 – 2025.

The joint planning by DNPs enabled seamless coordination with the Secretariat, making it possible for respective staff to optimally utilise their time and deliver on the overall strategy in efficient manner.

Although respective DNPs have their own strategies defined by national socio-economic, political and environmental contexts, compelling imperatives of climate justice, UNFCCC thematic areas, AU and ClimDev-Africa strategies unify their plans. Thus, there are various activities which are cross-cutting and common across the platforms.

Periodic virtual meetings for the NDPs were conducted throughout the year to update each other, share perspectives and peer-learning. Exchange visits were conducted for selected NDPs, where those advanced shared practical experiences with the evolving ones, as well as those struggling to make a mark in their national climate change interventions. The following is a summary of NDPs activities.

Nigeria's **Climate and Sustainable Development Network (CSDevNet)** continued to consolidate itself as the main civil society climate change forum in the country, and conducted several meetings jointly with the government and other Actors. The signature event was the Conference for Agricultural Adaptation Acceleration in Africa (C4A) which brought together various partners, including the Government of Nigeria, PACJA, CSDEVNET, among others. Various other events were singly and jointly organized with Federal and State Governments across the country.

CSDEVNET also organized a meeting jointly with African Development Bank, focusing on inclusive climate financing and the implications of AfDB's public-private partnerships (PPPs) model in climate financing in Nigeria.

The goal was to unpack the AfDB's PPP model of climate financing and develop advocacy messages that CSOs could use during Annual Meetings and other regional forums.

As a result, CSOs were able to grasp the model's key features, benefits, and challenges; deepen their comprehension of the implications of the model for climate financing, including its potential impact on local communities, environmental sustainability, and long-term economic development. The advocacy messages from the meeting shaped policy discussions, influenced decision-making processes, and fostered collaboration among stakeholders for sustainable and just climate financing outcomes in the country.

In Ivory Coast, a Workshop by the National Platform, PACJA **Cote d'Ivoire** on mapping the capacity building needs of civil society organizations in climate finance was conducted. It brought together various stakeholders, including CSOs, government agencies, and experts. Participants shared their perspectives and experiences, resulting into a common understanding of capacity building needs and opportunities for strengthened collaboration and coordination.

The Platform also conducted a Workshop on Green Climate Fund (GCF), which exposed the CSOs to opportunities available for financing climate change programs at national and sub-national levels.

A series of meetings were conducted with various governments Ministries and Agencies, solidifying the role of PACJA Cote d'Ivoire as the recognized forum for civil society by the Government.

The civil society in Gabon spearheaded a campaign on exchange and dialogue with technical and financial partners in a mapping exercise aimed at harmonizing advocacy on climate action. This was led by the Country's DNP, PACJA Gabon, in partnership with the France NGO, Volontaire. The exercise contributed to the mobilization of dedicated funding and the development of alternatives for Gabonese civil society, enabling the promotion of sustainable development in the face of the climate and environmental crisis' affecting them.

Urgent actions required from CSOs that came out of the exercise, which were lumped into five main categories include capacity-building for CSOs in climate finance mobilization and advocacy techniques at national and international level; establishment of funding for CSOs through an intermediary fund; raising awareness and/or challenging wider circles of stakeholders and/or decision-makers on the intersecting issues of gender and climate change; and knowledge generation - based on funded CSO initiatives and the expertise of the PACJA GABON platform on the cross-cutting issues of gender, climate and the environment.

As the Platform in a country chairing the crucial African Group of Negotiators (AGN), the **Zambia Climate Change Network** is proximate partner in PACJA's advocacy agenda. It provided a strong connection with the government and the Chair, and organized various consultations on behalf of PACJA to air the Alliance views.

Among key engagements for the Platform was the National Assembly's Expanded Planning and Budgeting Committee meeting to contribute to the 2024 National Budget. ZCCN was brought its expert perspectives on climate section in the country's estimates of revenue and expenditure for the 2024 financial year.

Additionally, ZCCN organised a series of workshops and consultations bringing together multiple partners

to discuss various issues pertinent to Zambia. Among them was a workshop to provide CSOs with a platform to discuss opportunities, barriers, experiences, and learning opportunities in NDC revision process that had taken place in the country. The key aim of the meeting was to draw lessons from Zambia, which would also inform the NDC revision process in the next cycle and to also facilitate dialogue, and lesson sharing and feed those lessons into regional bodies such as AU and SADC.

Botswana's DNP, **Botswana Climate Change Network (BCCN)** continued its outreach to stakeholders. Among the key activities was the mapping of strategic stakeholders from across the Country. The Network conducted mapping in the Central and Okavango Districts respectively, as they have of recent been on the spotlight to eminent environmental disturbances.

The Okavango Delta, which is a RAMSAR site, has attracted a number of oil and gas companies who have interest in exploring for oil. It was imperative that BCCN would establish its presence in the area and defend the resources and its people. The Central District, notably the Makgadikgadi area is quite prone to flooding hence requires intervention in support of disaster management.

In Cameroon, the **Cameroon Working Group on Climate Change (CWGCC)** played key role in hosting YOFAFA in Yaoundé. CWGCC was pivotal in national mobilization, while others brought participants from beyond Cameroon.

The Platform organized a training designed to build the capacity of CSOs to analyze and assess climate policies in a rigorous and systematic way. It covered the basics of climate policy evaluation, such as the criteria, methods, and tools for basics measuring policy effectiveness, efficiency, and equity. The training also gave an overview of the current climate policy situation in Cameroon, highlighting the main actors, instruments and processes involved in shaping the national response to climate change.

Other consultations were conducted between civil society, Government Ministries and Agencies, identifying various areas of strengths and weaknesses; a feeling that the Platform has cultivated enabling environment for civil society and government collaboration, as they are more confident and better equipped with basic knowledge and skills on climate policies; Attestation of satisfaction due to increased capacity in operating with various policy assessment tools; and understanding of Policy Processes.

#### **1.1.1.5. Strategic consultations with the ClimDev (AU,& AfDB), RECS and Africa's specialised intergovernmental Agencies on development of strategic actions and collective positions/programmes on the climate finance approaches suitable for the continent in the recovery process**

##### **AfDB/ PACJA Civil societies' regional forum on mobilizing private sector financing for climate and Green growth in Africa**

In fostering strategic partnerships with governments, private sector and other development partners, civil society, to a large extent, engaged in official consultative processes at corporate, regional, and local levels.

Over the years, the AfDB has, jointly with various partners, convened annual Civil Society Forums to bring together representatives from diverse backgrounds to share their experiences, challenges, and aspirations in contributing to development efforts, and to discuss their evolving developmental priorities for their respective countries/regions.

This engagement is seen as essential in ensuring that the Bank's development efforts are people-centered, inclusive, and sustainable, aiding its impact on the ground. This year, the Bank, through the AfDB-civil society coalition on Energy and Climate Change, conducted consultations Forums in the 5 Regions of the Bank bringing together hundreds of thousands of NGOs from diverse backgrounds. The Regional Forums provided a more targeted approach by regions to enhance its engagement with the broader civil society community and community-based organisations.

The theme of the 2023 Regional Forums was *"engaging Civil Society in Mobilizing Private Sector Financing for Climate and Green Growth in Africa"*. This was based on the Coalition's recognition that the private sector can play a crucial role in mobilizing finance for climate and green growth in Africa.

The broad consensus by the civil society is that private sector investments should not compromise the rights of the people, and should uphold environmental integrity as well as aligning with development needs of local communities, including promoting sustainable and inclusive growth.

Each Regional Forum therefore provided an opportunity for Stakeholders to share their views on the key findings and policy recommendations of the Bank's Africa Economic Report (AEO) focusing on the role of private sector financing and natural capital in addressing the issues of climate change and green growth in Africa.

The common messages derived from the forums were; while there are enormous opportunities for leveraging private sector financing for green growth in Africa, exist barriers should be addressed; strategies, policies, and community-based actions for mobilizing both domestic and international private sector financing including enterprises led by women and youth offers considerable dividends; the civil society has irrefutable role in unlocking private sector financing towards climate transitions and green growth.





### Main outcomes of the regional forums

- ▶ The AfDB-Civil Society Coalition strengthened relationship, and reduced suspicion between relationship between civil society and the Bank, thus underpinning contribution of the civil society in the AfDB's investment priorities.
- ▶ The AfDB's investment in adaptation has dramatically increased, almost to balance with mitigation funding
- ▶ Through this relationship, the Bank can use its clout on African countries to influence national climate finance priorities based on jointly-identified agenda

#### 1.1.1.2. Strategic consultations with the ClimDev, RECS and Africa's specialized intergovernmental Agencies on development of strategic actions and collective positions/programmes on the climate finance approaches suitable for the continent in the recovery process-CCDA/AMCEN

##### **Multi-stakeholder's consultation workshop on COP28 strategy at the side-lines of Africa Union Summit**

In the period under review, PACJA organized a multi stakeholders' consultation workshop on COP28 at the sidelines of Africa Union Heads of states summit on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February. This was a follow-up to the first consultation workshop which was held in December 2022 in Kigali. The aim of the workshop was to firm up the strategy for engagement with COP28 and beyond, and develop strategic messaging to the 37<sup>th</sup> AU Summit and other strategic institutions. It was also meant to craft a common approach for PACJA and its partners in driving its influence in 2023. Stakeholders, largely representing the civil society and private sector, contributed to the first COP28 draft strategy.

## Main outcomes

- ▶ Collective development of COP28 draft strategy that guided PACJA's advocacy towards COP28 and beyond
- ▶ Establishment of thematic committees which broadened ownership, and shaped conversations around specific areas of interest in Mitigation, adaptation, loss and damage, climate finance, gender, response measures, among other areas during the COP28
- ▶ A Communique to the 37th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, which articulated broad civil society standpoints.

### 1.1.1.3. Strategic consultations with the ClimDev, RECS and Africa's specialized intergovernmental Agencies on development of strategic actions and collective positions/programmes on the climate finance approaches suitable for the continent in the recovery process-ACW (Africa Climate Week)

#### Non state actors' mobilisation towards Africa Climate Summit, Africa Climate Week and CCDA XI

A 37<sup>th</sup> AU Summit resolution to convene the Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi in September 2023 affirmed the continent's determination to shape its destiny in the transition towards low-carbon, climate-resilient development pathways. The Summit brought together world leaders, policymakers, and experts to position the continent as a global leader in the polarised world characterised by widening North-South divide.

It served as a platform for countries to convey their commitments in the NDCs implementation, especially deep emissions reduction, holding high emitters to account, enhancing resilience, and mobilizing financing for climate action.

To facilitate deeper engagement of the civil society, PACJA facilitated and coordinated the Non-state Actors Steering Committee for the ACS (NSA-ACS) which brought together over 70 regional and international organisations. These were drawn indigenous peoples, faith groups, farmer groups, youth groups, private sector, academia, research organisations, international and local NGOs among others.

Though the Committee didn't have official recognition within the structure of ACS, it ultimately evolved into a central player in the Summit, owing to the collective pressure and strategic outreach exerted from various fronts. It was inevitably difficult to ignore the NSA-ACS, and, reluctantly, the organisers of the Summit had no choice rather than to acknowledge that the Committee was the legitimate voice of the civil society.

Strategic meetings with key partners, webinars, petitions, periodic press conferences as well as targeted media releases and op-Eds were used to expose and bring to the fore contentious issues compromising Africa's standpoints. PACJA also worked covertly to catalyse meetings between the Government and foreign Missions in Nairobi, where build-up meetings were convened. In addition to popularising the Summit, the meetings, jointly convened by the Ministry of Environment with such Embassies like Denmark, Netherlands and Sweden, served as informal forum to update stakeholders about the progress made in the planning for ACS.

The concerns about exclusion, procedural justice and apparent control of the Summit by external forces lingered for a considerable period of time during the planning process, with the NSA-ACS becoming a lone vocal voice demanding transparency from the Secretariat. In addition to conducting several meetings with the Secretariat, individual NSA-ACS held direct engagements with the ACS secretariat to advance their sectoral-thematic interests.

The power of numbers and organizing under NSA-ACS drew attention from the Kenyan government, which softened its stance and conducted several meetings to hear concerns raised in the *Redlines and demands petition* that was signed by over 2300 organizations and individuals from across the continent.

The process shaped multiple spaces for dialogues and influence dialogues particularly through the leadership at the ACS Secretariat, Advisor to Presidency, the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora and Africa Union institutions in advancing for a pro-African ACS-2023.

The NSA-ACS contributed and influenced the final declaration from the Summit through direct inputs into the draft declaration. As a result of this opportunity, the Committee ensured adaptation prominent elevation of adaptation as the priority agenda for Africa; mediated on language and the space for carbon markets as financing mechanism for the continent; acknowledgement of the loss and damage and alignment with civil society's call to global community to provide sufficient and consistent support; there was a bold call in the Declaration for investing in public finance for green economic development; and debt relief became more pronounced in the text.

It is because of the collective organising under ACS-NSA that prominent personalities like John Kerry, USA Special Envoy on Climate Change held a strategic dialogue session with representatives of civil society to discuss critical issues for the Africa Climate Summit. The footprint of the Committee were visible in the Eleventh Conference on Climate Change and Development in Africa (CCDA-XI), the flagship forum of ClimDev- Africa Initiative, which was held as a parallel technical segment of the Summit.



*Dr. Mithika Mwenda, the Chief Executive for PACJA leads the leadership a section of the Africa Climate Summit -Non-State Actors in agenda setting closed door meeting, ahead of the Africa Climate Summit with Mr. John Kerry, U.S Special Envoy on Climate change*

### Key outcomes

- ▶ Inclusion in the Summit: The committee successfully pushed for enhanced civil society participation and contribution in the ACS process and agenda.
- ▶ Thematic clusters comprising of Youth, Indigenous people, private sector, Faith groups, Farmers, Gender, Trade Unions, Health among others cemented cooperation beyond the Summit, till COP28 and beyond.
- ▶ Visibility and prominence of issues: In addition to the main Statement for NSA-ACS, respective Clusters delivered had an opportunity to present their positions, further reinforcing the Committee's influence and aspirations in processes

The continued consultations and trust-building by the Committee enabled coordinated approach to issues, and became a model for cooperation even after the Summit.

#### 1.1.1.5. Supporting participation of CSOs to GCF Board meetings as Observers

PACJA participated in the 35<sup>th</sup> session of GCF Board meeting in Songdou, South Korea on March 11<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> and also the GCF Regional Meeting for Africa which took place in Namibia over the month of November. The main area of interest was on reviewing the outcomes of the second performance review of the GCF as well as introspecting on approaches that GCF is proposing for enhanced efficiency in the continent.

In these, processes, PACJA has been bold in:

- i. Calling on the GCF to strengthen its accountability and gender balance to improve efficiency. This should be achieved through greater improvement of country level engagements.
- ii. Sharpen its strategic approaches and strategy for a manageable network of accredited entities while ensuring efficiency of the accreditation process and so is the effectiveness of the direct access entities in reaching to frontline communities.
- iii. The need for the GCF to streamline its approval processes that is still perceived as bureaucratic, lengthy, inconsistent and non-transparent was too emphasized in these key processes.
- iv. Called on the GCF to strive to meet the adaptation allocation and private sector targets as current results remain modest, co-finance did not meet expectations; results management was underdeveloped; and results related to gender and Indigenous Peoples engagement showed limited precision.



## Main outcomes

- ▶ PACJA has been following keenly the operations of the GCF and there have been serious concerns especially around inaccessibility of the fund to the communities at the frontline of the climate crisis. The performance review report was useful in identifying bottlenecks facing GCF and PACJA used these outcomes to inform its submission to the transitional committee on loss and damage considering that a loss and damage facility would face similar challenges if the lessons from GCF are not taken into account.
- ▶ As a result of the Alliance consistency and contribution in GCF board meetings, the incoming Executive Director of GCF requested for a meeting with the Civil societies under the umbrella of PACJA to be convened in the sidelines of the Africa Climate Summit during her visit to Nairobi.
- ▶ This provided the Civil societies with an opportunity to provide the Director with the CSO analysis of GCF issues as they relate to Africa. This was later followed by an invitation by GCF for PACJA to attend a consultative forum in Namibia

### 1.1.1.6. Conduct at least 1 Climate finance roundtable per year & training on climate finance between the Africa group of negotiators and CSOs

#### ***African CSO Workshop on Monitoring and Evaluation of GCF Funded Project Activities***

PACJA in collaboration with CARE conducted a workshop for African CSOs on monitoring and evaluation of GCF-funded project activities at the side-lines of the Africa regional Forum on sustainable development held in February in Niamey, Niger. The workshop brought together a diversity of civil society actors and other partners, who shared their national-level experiences and results of the M&E activities, and were able to discuss their conclusions and recommendations.



*Some of the participants who attended the climate finance workshop*



### Main outcomes

- ▶ The workshop drew joint recommendations for improving the quality of GCF-funded activities, as well as the transparency and accountability of these processes and the local buy-in to ensure impact and sustainability. The recommendations informed the participating African CSOs position on the GCF's second replenishment process and the process of reviewing the GCF's Strategic Plan.
- ▶ The workshop was also pivotal in developing key messages and an engagement plan with the Africa GCF NDAs Network (AFDAN) launched in December. More specifically, the results informed part of the "Training and Consultative Forum for African Green Climate Fund's National Designated Authorities. This promoted a dialogue between CSOs and the government representatives involved in GCF processes, and knowledge and experience sharing acquired by African CSOs, in support of these stakeholders.
- ▶ Element of the African CSOs position on the second replenishment of the GCF were abstracted into the overall report from PACJA on the series of events held in Niger that were shared with UNECA to be feed into the overall Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development Report.

### ROUNDTABLE ON CLIMATE FINANCE AT THE SIDELINES OF WORLD BANK/ IMF ANNUAL MEETING IN MARRAKECH, MOROCCO

There is a serious lack of commitment to avail the much-needed financial support to the countries and communities where it is needed most. Through consistent efforts in lobbying, the Green Climate Fund was created to finance climate action and this was partly because it was felt that multilateral Development Banks, including the World Bank, were not suitable for the purpose in administration of climate finance owing to their business approaches.

The majority of finance provided by these multilateral finance institutions comes in the form of loans for disaster recovery and reconstruction. However, this type of finance is unjust. The victims of the climate crisis who have done least to create it – bear the burden of the costs. The sad reality is that the poor and vulnerable countries have to choose between paying their debts or addressing the climate risks they face. The reality of the matter is that these countries are already trapped in a debt spiral as they try to recover from each new shock. It is against this backdrop that PACJA hosted a roundtable on climate finance at the sidelines of the World bank/ IMF annual meetings which was held in Marrakech in Morocco in October 2023.

The meeting yielded a civil society Marrakech declaration on climate finance, that amplified the Alliance call and demands, notably on:

- ▶ Financial institutions to prioritize grant financing over debt financing to support sustainable development and climate change
- ▶ The Alliance consistent demand for institutional governance reforms within the MDBs for equitable

representation and decision making

- ▶ A call to Parties to UNFCCC at COP 27 on Multilateral Development Banks and their shareholders to reform practices and priorities and sustainably increase climate finance
- ▶ Reject the proposal raised by the US government at the Transitional Committee on L&D for the World Bank to serve as the host of Loss and Damage fund, given its history of the World Bank's debt-creating financial mechanisms.
- ▶ Call upon MDB to shift the emphasis from pure economic prosperity to the human well-being and to broaden their focus from financial targets to environmental, social and governance impacts
- ▶ Call upon developed countries to restore and strengthen global accountability between MDBs and national governments and to develop reporting rules on climate finance to avoid inflated claims and double counting
- ▶ Call for finance institutions to channel finance directly to national and subnational government and local actors consistent with the principles of locally led action
- ▶ Call upon Parties to UNFCCC to hasten the negotiations on New collective and quantified finance goal which should pave way for predictable, adequate and flexible climate finance to vulnerable countries and communities
- ▶ Call for urgent conclusions on modalities of operationalizing L&D facility, the funding mechanisms needs to follow the principles of equity, CBDR, and that the L&D fund should be grant based, locally led, broad-based and adopt a whole society approach, gender responsive and accessible to communities at the frontline of climate crisis.
- ▶ **DESIGNATED NATIONAL PLATFORM INTERVENTIONS UNDER THIS OUTPUT**

PACJA GABON platform and the FOVIGENA NGO, in partnership with UNICEF GABON, joined forces to organize a national training course with key support from the Gabonese Ministry of the Environment, Water and Forests, responsible for the climate plan and land allocation plan. Held from September 27 to 28, 2023 at the Alibendengue school complex, the training aimed to build the capacity of Gabonese civil society players and other stakeholders involved in developing GCF projects aimed at restoring degraded forest landscapes.

Through the training, the teams worked on the development of a climate rationale, a theory of change, and the mobilization of private sector players to finance climate change. During the session, participants were also briefed on other possible sources of funding, such as the Adaptation Fund, the Global Environment Facility, among others.



*CSOs Training and capacity building workshop for a better appropriation of the green climate fund mechanisms in Gabon*

### **1.1.3.2. Support establishment of digital community-based projects monitoring watchdog committees at National and subnational levels to monitor investments by governments and private sector for compliance with GCF and fair climate finance principles and standards**

Most of the DNPs held preliminary consultations on establishments of the community-based project monitoring watchdog committees but substantive plans to establish the committees were rolled out in 2023.

In Tanzania, for example, an advocacy working group for monitoring investments in renewable energy was formed. The adoption of renewable energy is key in mitigating climate change. Renewable energy sources can help in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality, creating jobs and boosting economies.

A meeting was conducted in Dar Es Salaam that brought together stakeholders from the government, private sector and civil society. The purpose of the meeting was to enhance the harmonization of the

East African Common Customs Act to increase the uptake of renewable energy through reduced tariffs on equipment, simplified customs procedures and increased cooperation between countries.

These measures will make it easier and more affordable for businesses and individuals to adopt renewable energy through benefits like increased investment in the sector, improved access to renewable energy and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

The outcomes of the forum included the formation of an advocacy working group that consists of the East African Renewable Energy Federation (EAREF) members representing the private sector and civil society organizations from six countries – Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo. This platform will serve as a forum for knowledge exchange to build advocacy efforts towards harmonization of the Common Customs Act. An advocacy matrix was also developed to analyze the customs issues in the different countries so that a comprehensive strategy can be created to promote renewable energy and accelerate transition that includes a pro-poor approach.

Moreover, between July and September, 2023, as a follow-up activity to consolidate the previous efforts made by the DNP to establish the Community Watchdog Committee to monitor GCF investment in the Climate Resilience Project (Safeguarding water supply and farming conditions in the Simiyu Region), the Tanzania DNP held a reflection meeting with Simiyu Climate Resilience Project (SCRIP) team, the Community Watchdog committee members and LGAs from Busega and Bariadi Districts. The second part of the meeting was to consolidate a community watchdog by selecting the leaders and members, as well as agreeing on how the committee will work, including harmonizing the time for periodic tracking and feedback giving. A 12-member consolidated committee bringing together representatives from CSOs, women, smallholder farmers, livestock keeper's youth, and people with disabilities was established. The committee agreed on the project timelines with quarterly review cycles which will be followed up with monitoring and reporting.

As part of its support for the implementation of digital community projects to develop an advocacy strategy in favor of the principles and standards of the FVC and fair climate finance, PACJA Maroc organized a capacity-building workshop for AMCDD members in the region of ERRACHIDIA on June 17 on the monitoring and evaluation of climate finance projects. The objectives of the meeting was to support capacity building of AMCDD members in the Deraa Tafilalt region to develop an advocacy plan to ensure compliance with climate and environmental standards in climate finance projects.

Further on June 18, 2023, in Boudnib (Province of Erachidia ) a capacity-building training session for civil society on the monitoring and evaluation of climate finance projects was undertaken with the aim to support the establishment of digital community projects monitoring committees at national and sub-national levels, to oversee government and private sector investments to comply with the principles and standards of the CVF and equitable climate finance.

The outcomes of the two sessions were creation of a network of local associations and a digital community project to monitor the Kaddoussa stocking project. The CSOs skills and capacities were also strengthened through networking and sharing within these sessions.

#### **1.1.3.2. Support multi stakeholder dialogue processes on the nexus between locally-led climate action, sustainable development and people-centered bottom-up approaches to NDCs implementation**

One of the best examples of stakeholder dialogue processes on the nexus between locally-led climate action, sustainable development and people-centered bottom-up approaches to NDCs implementation was undertaken in Kenya by the Kenya Platform on Climate Governance. The platform worked with the foreign missions in Kenya including the Dutch, Swedish, Danish embassies in hosting thematic dialogues in the build-up to the Africa Climate Summit. These dialogues focused on the role of Youth, women, indigenous people, private sector and civil societies in catalyzing locally led climate action in Kenya and beyond. During the period under review, two dialogue sessions were hosted by the Dutch and Danish embassies, while the final in the series ahead of ACS was hosted by the Swedish Embassy in Nairobi.





*Youth dialogue process in progress at the Dutch Embassy in the build up to the African Climate Summit*

Additionally, KPCG hosted indigenous people's network consultation meeting regarding the representation of the indigenous people in the National Climate Change Council. The network is specifically tasked with monitoring and coordinating IPs participation in climate change processes at national, regional and global levels. In particular, it works closely with communities at the grassroots level in designing and developing strategies that will enable resource mobilization to support mitigation and adaptation initiatives at grassroots or community levels. This specific consultation meeting was organized to address violation of the rights of indigenous people to freely engage in self-selection process in the climate change council. The outcome of this convening was a press conference and street demonstration by the indigenous people at the high court calling for an expeditious determination of a case filed by affiliate member challenging the presidential unilateral nomination of civil society and indigenous people representatives. The High Court granted Conservatory orders for the government to gazette individuals nominated by the president against the Law.

From 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2023, FORUMCC led the discussions during the Annual NGOs Forum (ANF) in the Capital city of the country (Dodoma). The event was organized by the National Council of Nongovernmental Organizations (NaCoNGO) in collaboration with the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women, and Special Groups through the Office of the Registrar of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and graced Phillip Mpango, Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania. More than 2,000 participants from NGOs, government Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), Development Partners Working Groups (DPGs), media, Development partners, and other like-minded stakeholders attended the event.

The activity was implemented with the quest to cultivate public voices for the prioritization of local communities' priorities and consideration of Community vulnerability to Climate Change, and how effective they can be involved in the actual implementation of climate action from local settings in respect of what is set for implementation in the NDC and SDG priorities in Tanzania. During the dialogue, the following key issues were raised:

- ▶ NGOs have numerous opportunities to integrate Environmental and Climate Change initiatives/principles into their day-to-day operations from the grassroots.
- ▶ In the implementation of NDC and SDGs contribution of grassroots communities with locally-led initiatives has a significant contribution to practical climate change adaption and mitigation measures for enhanced carbon emission reduction through livelihood activities recording, monitoring, and reporting. Therefore, NGO strategies shift from traditional centralized climate actions to enhancing sustainable locally-led action models and collaborations with local stakeholders, which could help

the public eagerness to call for local climate actions in a bottom-up approach, including LGAs.

- ▶ Despite all the usefulness of locally-led climate actions, the capacity of NGOs on Climate change is challenged by limited awareness and capacity, especially on how to translate national plans into local actions.

From the discussions, it was noted that by learning from experiences and adopting best practices in local settings, NGOs can effectively align their locally-led climate actions and operations with the NDC and SDGs priorities.

In Ethiopia, the DNP, CCCE, organized a consultation and introductory meeting with the local government officials and experts from Sidama Region Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bureau and other relevant stakeholders in Hawassa region. The meeting enabled to create consensus between CCCE and the government officials. During the meeting, both parties signed a MoU that will ease future collaboration in the planning and identification of policy issues and joint project implementation.

On June 21, 2023, PACJA Morocco organized an exchange workshop between the various associative players at territorial, national and international level. This meeting represented a fundamental step to accelerating the process of Mediterranean territorial initiatives for local climate action, and to innovate operational tools for territorial governance focused on citizen participation to achieve the objectives of the UNFCCC and the SDGs.

In Gabon, a delegation from the national platform, PACJA Gabon paid a courtesy visit to. Henric RASBRANT, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Sweden to the Republic of Gabon. Led by national coordinator Mr. Fabrice Ntchango, the delegation comprised of the NGOs AGAFI for indigenous peoples, FENSED, GABON ECOLOGIE, and the One Forest Youth Initiative making a total of 12 representatives of the civil society.

The meeting addressed issues relating to Swedish support for African civil society organizations, as well as climate change adaptation, respect for the human rights of local communities and gender equality, adaptation funding, advocacy for projects to manage losses and damage linked to climate change, sustainable management of primary forests in the Congo Basin, and capacity building for Gabonese civil society players.



*A session with HE Mr Henric RASBRANT, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Sweden to the Republic of Gabon*



On September 5, 2023, KPCG Coh-hosted with the National Treasury the National Conference on Financing Locally-Led Climate Action Held at Safari Park, Nairobi. Hosted on the sidelines of the African Climate Week and the African Climate Summit, the conference provided a space for the exchange of experiences, sharing of perspectives, learning, and scaling-up practical lessons and challenges faced by communities, and government in promoting locally led climate action. The main Actors in the Financing Locally-Led Climate Action (FLOCCA), including the National Government, County Governments, civil society, Private Sector, indigenous peoples, among others. The main outcome was ramping up support for FLOCCA, and expanding the community of practice for the locally-led climate action.



*Key speakers and resources persons for the National Conference on Locally Led Action, held in the sidelines of the African Climate Summit*

## **Intermediate Outcome 1.2: A just transition and recovery process is embedded in African climate policy processes through a robust campaign and outreach**

The exploration and extraction of fossil fuels in Africa has had significant environmental, social, and economic impacts. These activities have contributed to increased carbon emissions, exacerbating climate change and its associated consequences, while also leading to the displacement of local communities, degradation of natural habitats, and conflicts over resource ownership and control.

To ensure that African countries are continuously mindful of the environmental harm caused by non-renewable energy sources and the imperative to fairly navigate the process of phasing out coal, oil, and gas extraction, the Alliance mapped out 50 Civil Society Actors across three countries to campaign against fossil fuel exploration and extraction. The campaign aimed to increase awareness of the environmental and social impacts associated with non-renewable energy sources and create public pressure on governments and corporations to adopt more sustainable energy practices. They also aimed to promote alternative renewable energy sources, potentially leading to policy changes, stricter regulations, and increased investment in cleaner energy solutions.

In Niger, a meeting with the Ministry of Energy and Renewable Energies discussed the environmental impact of oil exploitation and the construction of the Niger-Benin pipeline. The PACJA-Niger platform, which co-hosted the meeting, emphasized the importance of environmental impact studies and requested follow-up meetings to ensure commitments made by ministry officials are followed through.

In Ivory Coast, the PACJA platform conducted in-person and online campaigns on renewable energy, forests, and the IPCC report, reaching over 2,462 people and recording interactions. These campaigns aimed to inform, train, and advocate for policy changes related to renewable energy and environmental conservation.

In response to an alert to local communities regarding a proposed mining project in the classified forest of Dassioko and the wetland of the Sassandra-Dagbego complex, the PACJA-Côte d'Ivoire Platform promptly intervened. The DNP conducted a field mission, expressed opposition to the impact assessments and operating permit process, published press articles, sent a letter to the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, and contacted the National Agency for Environmental Development. These engagements resulted in slowing of process of the mining as currently, the mining project has not advanced, the operating permit has not been granted, and the PACJA-Côte d'Ivoire continues to vigilantly monitor the situation, ready to take further action to prevent the implementation of the project in the protected forest and wetland areas.

In Niger, a one-day workshop took place on April 28, 2023, at the Maison du Citoyen to engage and consult with international organizations on climate change, in partnerships with Oxfam in Niger and Care International in Niger. The workshop aimed to enhance and rejuvenate the framework for action and consultation on future initiatives, including addressing the sensitive topic of fossil fuel exploitation, necessitating the participation and mobilization of all stakeholders.

In Nigeria, a national consultative workshop was conducted to map out key civil society organizations (CSOs) involved in the climate justice campaign, focusing on climate change adaptation strategies. The workshop emphasized the importance of a bottom-up approach in advocacy efforts, enabling marginalized and vulnerable communities from rural areas to share their stories and actively engage with the government and policymakers at all levels. CSOs such as Pleroma Missions, Women Environmental Programme, Gender and Environmental Risk Reduction Initiative, Welfare Aid Initiative, Eleojone Foundation, among others, were identified and mapped for the upcoming phase of climate justice advocacy.

In preparation for Moroccan civil society's participation in the World Bank and International Monetary Fund Annual General Meeting in Marrakech in October, PACJA Morocco organized two workshops on Energy transition and Climate finance for Adaptation and Loss and Damage in Casablanca to set out civil society's positions on which it could advocate.

The objectives of the two sessions were: Sharing the analysis of Moroccan NGOs on the challenges of a fair energy transition in Morocco, share recommendations from civil society on how to improve the governance of the fair energy transition, and preparation of the Moroccan civil society position on global and national finance in order to actively participate in the events surrounding the annual meetings of the WB and IMF in 2023. The outcome of the session was a joint CSOs statement on Climate finance, which partly informed the IMF/ World Bank annual meetings in Marrakech.

## **Output 1.2.1: CSOs work under Multi-Stakeholder platforms to design effective awareness campaigns and identify models for equitable management of a fossil fuel phase- out (coal, oil and gas extraction) and promotion of alternatives.**

### **► FAVOURABLE RENEWABLE ENERGY LEGISLATURE**

Government incentivizing investments in clean energy technologies typically involves implementing a range of measures. This can include providing financial incentives such as tax credits, grants, and subsidies to companies and individuals who invest in clean energy projects. Governments may also establish favorable regulatory frameworks, such as renewable energy targets and feed-in tariffs, to encourage the development and deployment of clean energy technologies. Additionally, governments may promote research and development efforts, facilitate access to capital, and create supportive infrastructure to attract and accelerate investments in clean energy.

In Kenya, stakeholders, including the Parliamentary Caucus on Climate Change and grassroots organizations, convened at a KPCG forum to discuss the Climate Change (Amendment) Bill 2023, aiming to establish a legislative framework for carbon markets in alignment with international climate change agreements. The forum analyzed local-level gaps and opportunities for climate mitigation and adaptation, proposed solutions for carbon markets, and engaged members of Parliament to consider public input in the review process. Through commissioned studies, a draft memorandum and policy brief on benefit-sharing mechanisms were produced, emphasizing the importance of proposed amendments and providing recommendations for enhancing the Bill. The findings were shared with key stakeholders to garner support, facilitating a comprehensive review involving parliamentary committees and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, with a focus on ensuring public participation in decision-making processes.

In Rwanda, between July and September, 2023, Rwanda Climate Change and Development Network (RCCDN) started a “keep the fossil fuels in the ground campaign” and a meeting to kick-start the campaign was organized in Muhanga Town of the Southern Province of Rwanda and brought together key stakeholders from the Government, Civil Society and Private Sector. It was during this same meeting that lobby work for Government to incentivize investment in clean energy was as well launched.

Moreover, to strengthen global and national campaign towards HHPs elimination, RCCDN in collaboration with one of its members Rwandan Association of Ecologists (ARECO-RWANDA NZIZA) and in partnership with Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) organized an awareness and advocacy campaign workshop on the risks and impacts of Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs) on health and environment as well as potential safer alternatives. This campaign was intended to reach decision makers, planners, practitioners, development partners and end users.



*Participants at the HHPs awareness and advocacy campaign workshop*

During this workshop, the following results were recorded:

1. Increased participants and stakeholders' knowledge about hazards and adverse effects of HHPs
2. Improved attitudes of sellers and users towards quitting/reducing HHPs used in agriculture
3. Decision makers shared the country vision toward HHPs
4. The workshop may influence participants to take advocacy actions and engage with HHPs related policies and strategies for risk reduction
5. A final workshop communique on elimination of HHPs in Rwanda is released

In order to contribute to the development of the **Strategy for the Preservation, Restoration and Extension of Forests (SPREF)**, PACJA-Côte d'Ivoire and GNTCI launched an online consultation of civil society organizations and structures involved in forest protection. This consultation took place over a **3-week** period **from August 19 to September 09, 2023**. More than 30 people filled in the questionnaire. In addition to being a data collection tool, the form was also a training tool, as it contained links to documents and policies relating to sustainable forest management.

Further, as part of its activities, the PACJA-Côte d'Ivoire conducted on the Médi 1 television channel a talk show to discuss the indispensable role of urban forests in carbon sequestration. This activity was organized with a view to drawing the attention of decision-makers to the need to preserve forests and create more forested urban spaces. The aim of the TV program was to draw the attention of decision-makers to the need to value the cost of carbon on an international scale, so that developing countries, especially those in Africa, can benefit from efforts to conserve their forests.

Botswana Climate Change Network engaged in a dialogue on Transport and Energy and in order to fully engage with the public, the Network online education materials. The key learnings had inputs from Onneetse Ndandi, a Development Practitioner and Trainer who moderated the panel on Charting the Course to Net Zero: Exploring Promising Technologies and Innovations for a Green Future.



These key learnings were captured in an article and posted to LinkedIn, with substantial views. The Botswana Transport and Energy Summit 2023 took place as a platform to address the significance of sustainable transport and energy in achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Summit brought together key stakeholders from government, private sectors, international organizations, and civil society to engage in a dialogue on the integrated and cross-cutting nature of transport and energy in developing Botswana.

The discussion on Charting the Course to Net-Zero: Exploring Promising Technologies and Innovations for A Green Future provided a comprehensive overview of the promising technologies and innovations that can play a pivotal role in driving Botswana towards a green and sustainable future. One of the key take-aways from the Summit was the urgent need for investment in data management systems across all levels of stakeholders involved in the pursuit of Net Zero emissions.

The DNP published five blogs on various topics: (1) Closing the Loop: *Embracing the Circular Economy in Botswana* (2) Bonn Climate Conference: *Addressing Key Challenges and Charting a Way Forward* (3) How Climate Change and the Just Energy Transition Could Affect Persons with Disabilities (4) July 2023: The Hottest Month on Record (5) Botswana's Road Map for Greening Transport: Paving the Way to a Sustainable Future (6) Botswana Transport and Energy Summit and (7) World Day to Combat Desertification. Several other Newspaper Articles, Radio and Video Interviews as well as Magazine cover stories were featured.

#### **1.2.1.1. Conducting a study on the bottlenecks and enablers of just transition to renewable energy in Africa**

PACJA commissioned a study on the bottlenecks and enablers of just transition to renewable energy in Africa. The study was completed and a report published. The report provides a comprehensive assessment of flow of public finance to each of the 54 African countries, as well as a comparison of investments made between Renewable Energy and non-Renewable Energy sectors for the period between 2010 and 2020.

The report takes a deep dive, enabling stakeholders to better understand the flow of investments to the different renewable energy and non-renewable energy technologies, major funders to each of these technologies, funding modalities (debts, guarantees, grants, mezzanine capital, as well as equity) that are used by the different development partners investing in the continent.

The report came at a crucial time when different actors and stakeholders in the climate change and energy sector require in-depth analysis to better inform their policy advocacy engagement with the different investment partners.

It provided a baseline to understand finance flows in Africa which need to be tracked, to measure progress of each country and, in combination, the continent, towards meeting their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement.



### 1.2.1.2. Convening regional stakeholder’s forum on just transition to inform and track progress

The Alliance just transition and energy access work through its dedicated Initiative, ACSEA, is a remarkable example of how civil society can play a vital role in promoting renewable energy and climate justice in Africa.

The project has created platforms for civil society engagement in nine African countries, including Nigeria, where the national partner has been instrumental in shaping the country’s just transition strategy. Nigeria’s just transition strategy is a comprehensive plan to achieve a low-carbon and climate- resilient economy by 2050.

The strategy aims to balance sustainable development’s social, economic and environmental dimensions while ensuring that no one is left behind. The strategy outlines the key actions, policies and investments needed to transform Nigeria’s energy, transport, agriculture, industry and waste sectors and enhance its natural capital and human capital.

The strategy also identifies the potential benefits and challenges of the transition and the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders, including the government, the private sector, civil society and development partners. The PACJA local partner ensured that the strategy took onboard the needs and aspirations of the people.

### 1.2.1.3. Influencing parties to UNFCCC to hasten decisions on technology transfer and capacity building for Africa, particularly on Renewable energy technologies

The Alliance enhanced its advocacy work on renewable energy in the period under review particularly targeting parties to the UNFCCC. One of the main initiatives towards this course was the hosting of an official side event on renewable energy at SB58 in Germany. The event was hosted in partnership with other civil society actors from the global South including; Peru, Chile, India, Cameroon, Kenya among others. The event focused on community-led innovation in the renewable energy sector and the need for enhanced meaningful technology transfer on renewable energy to the Global South. The outcome of the event formed part of the UNFCCC report on SB58.



*Panelists making presentation during the side event on renewable energy during SB58*

In Ethiopia, the DNP publicized radio spot messages on the importance and use of renewable energy. This was produced and aired for one month through the national FM station which has wide coverage in the country. This has enabled the message of renewable energy to reach wider audiences in many parts of the country.

► **THE LAUNCH OF THE “KEEP THE PROMISE CAMPAIGN”**

The “Keep Your Promise Campaign” launched on the sidelines of the Africa Climate Summit by PACJA and partners marked a historic moment aimed at holding nations accountable for their commitments under the Paris Agreement. The campaign was to gear up the momentum for the Global Stocktake process that was set for December, 2023 at COP 28, for the very first time, participating parties are taking stock of their progress in meeting the goals outlined in the Paris Agreement.

At its core, the campaign was driven by a desire to align global efforts towards meaningful climate action, with a particular focus on addressing and bridging the gaps in progress. This dynamic and impactful campaign was a collaborative effort by all PACJA, National Platforms and partners, led by a passionate and dedicated group of young leaders from the African continent with a clear vision to harness the power of collective action and advocacy on five pivotal issues, thereby shaping a strategic thrust to amplify their influence and advance the campaign’s overarching goals.



*The launch of the Keep the Promise campaign in Nairobi, Kenya*

► **AFRICAN NON-STATE ACTORS DIALOGUE WITH THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND AT THE SIDELINES OF THE AFRICA CLIMATE SUMMIT**

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) plays a crucial role in mobilizing climate finance to support developing countries in mitigating and adapting to climate change. As an essential partner for African nations, the new Executive Director of the GCF holds a key position in driving effective climate action on the continent.

To ensure a smooth transition and foster stronger collaboration, PACJA held an African Non-State Actors (NSAs) dialogue with the new Executive Director on the side-lines of the African Climate Week. This dialogue aimed to create a platform for African NSAs to engage, express concerns, and contribute to aligning GCF strategies with Africa’s realities and the aspirations of communities at the frontlines of the climate change crisis. Issues raised with the GCF CEO during the meeting included:

- ▶ Deep concern at the finding that the GCF's portfolio in Africa is skewed towards mitigation, despite the importance of adaptation for the continent.
- ▶ That the GCF needs to provide better and more targeted support to Direct Access Entities
- ▶ GCF needs to simplify and make its own processes more transparent, both for accreditation, re-accreditation and funding proposal assessment and approval
- ▶ The GCF portfolio has shown limited consideration of local needs and priorities in adaptation planning and programming by IAEs and regional DAEs
- ▶ Mainstreaming the Principles for Locally Led Adaptation into the design and implementation of projects and programmes can contribute to ensuring that a project's speed and the scale
- ▶ Clear gaps in the GCF multi-country projects' and programmes' design and implementation.
- ▶ The lack of clear terms of reference regarding NDAs' role in monitoring multi-country projects in their respective countries
- ▶ Accredited Entities absence in the targeted countries for the multi-country projects is undermining efforts to promote accountability and transparency in implementation.
- ▶ The deliberation with Mafalda Duarte, CEO for GCF firmed up a plan of action premised on few thrust points:
- ▶ CSOs to follow up with GCF to deliberately do more in targeting the most vulnerable through adaptation initiatives
- ▶ Collectively pursue a process to accelerate reforms to secure a fit for purpose institutional arrangements and regulations
- ▶ Implement measure to accelerate access at Sub-national level through accelerated accreditation & improved coordination with National Designated Authorities (NDAs)
- ▶ Doubling efforts to increase on the number and capacity of direct access entity and reform national accreditation process to better serve communities at the frontline
- ▶ Women and Youth accessing funds from GCF - Deliberate/ Deliberations needed
- ▶ Improving coordination at Africa level through having Regional Presence in Africa. A model on this has been fronted to the board for discussion
- ▶ Pursue alliance of interests in addressing concerns arising from propagation of Carbon Markets as a funding mechanism for climate change
- ▶ Grounding the locally Led adaptation principles within the processes and practices of GCF and ensuring women and youth access funds from the GCF

### 1.2.1.4. Influencing parties to UNFCCC through the Intercessional & related processes- UNGA, UNEA

Bonn intersessions provides an opportunity for parties to UNFCCC to set the agenda for COPs. Last year, SB 58 presented a good opportunity for CSOs to engage the Parties in determination of the agenda for COP 28. The main focus in the climate negotiations in 2023 was the global stock take agenda. PACJA actively participated in sessions which took place in June in Germany, and issued two official civil society statement on demands for COP28; i. The call to overhaul climate finance architecture to suit the needs of the most vulnerable in the society ii. Ensuring the Global goal on adaptation receive attention it deserves iii. Work towards scaling up funding for adaptation and operationalisation of loss and damage funding arrangement iv. Polluters to increase the mitigation ambition and v. the need to avoid delaying tactics in delivering the much needed financial commitment for addressing climate change.

Additionally, PACJA held meetings with the chairman of the Africa Group of Negotiators, the Co- chair of the transition committed on loss and damage. The Alliance also held an official side event on renewable energy and just transition.



*Executive Director of PACJA engages a news report on progress of SB58; on the right PACJA delegates issues statement at SB58*

#### Main outcome

Adaptation remains a key priority for Africa and therefore in our engagements in Bonn, we had a special focus in the agenda on Global goal for adaptation and National Adaptation Plans (NAPS). At the beginning of the negotiations in Bonn, it was clear that the NAPs were going to miss in the COP28 agenda, however PACJA worked with the Africa Group of Negotiators in pushing for inclusion of the same in the provisional agenda for COP28 which was finally granted.



► **PARTICIPATION IN UNFCCC-COP28, DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

**a. COP28 Preparatory Workshop**



*Delegates pose for photo after an internalization session of PACJA position for COP28*

As a prelude to the Alliance action at COP28, PACJA organized a one-day COP28 Preparatory Workshop on Wednesday, November 29th at Novotel Hotels and Resorts located at World Trade Centre, Al Sa'ada Street. 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. 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.

In addition to the preparatory meeting, the Alliance also held a series of other meetings, side events and press conferences as part of its COP28 engagement, summaries of which are listed below. :

- b. Side event** - Ensuring Fair and Transparent Access to Critical Minerals for African Countries in the Context of Global Energy Transition
- c. Side event** - Interlinking and Synergizing Energy Access, Adaptation and Just Transition in Africa Explored
- d. Side event** - Mining, Technology Minerals and Climate Change
- e. Side event** - Raising Adaptation Finance in Africa by More than Double
- f. Side event** - Yaounde African Youth Call for Doubling Adaptation Finance
- g. Africa Day Side Event:** PACJA Called for Rethinking the Multilateral Process to Meet Pledged Climate Finance
- h. Side event** - Advancing North-South Collaborations in Pursuit of Grants for the Implementation of the Nairobi Declaration (ACS2023)



- i. **Side event** - Advancing Locally-led Climate Action for Accelerated Adaptation and Resilience of Frontline Communities in Africa
- j. **Side event** - Fostering Climate Action in Côte d'Ivoire: PACJA's Role and Perspectives
- k. **Side event** - COP28: AGN Met African CSOs for a Briefing on the Progress of the Negotiations at COP28
- l. **Side event** - Exploring New Forms of Organizing: Formidable Blocks for Advancing Climate Diplomacy, a Case of NonState Actors Engagements with the African Climate Summit
- m. **Side event** - Strengthening Youth-Led Actions for Climate Change Adaptation in Africa
- n. **Side event** - PACJA Advocates for Collective Action to Address Climate Change Impacts on Health
- o. **Side event** - PACJA Participated in a Session on Human Mobility in the Climate Crisis
- p. **Side event** – Launch of the Children's Book - Climate-Induced Migration – Lived Realities of Children in Africa
- q. **Side event** - The Role of National Human Rights Institutions in Advancing Human Rights Based Approach to Climate Justice
- r. **Press conferences** – Entry, Mid and the Exit press conferences

► **ENSURING FAIR AND TRANSPARENT ACCESS TO CRITICAL MINERALS FOR AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN THE CONTEXT OF GLOBAL ENERGY TRANSITION**



At the sidelines of COP28 which kicked off November 30 in Dubai, PACJA, Africa Union commission, United National Economic Commission for Africa, Africa development Bank and the Africa-Coalition for Sustainable Energy and Access (ACSEA and the Africa Development Bank engaged in thoughtful discussions over critical minerals and how they should contribute to Africa's socio-economic sustainability.

Critical minerals such as lithium, cobalt, copper, nickel, and other rare earth elements are in high demand for the production of batteries, electric vehicles wind turbines, solar panels, and other clean technologies in the world. Africa itself possesses about 30% of the entire world's mineral reserves which makes it the most eyed region for critical mineral investments.

During the side event, also organized in partnership with US State Department and that of Energy, participants

highlighted the challenges that Africa's minerals including critical ones are not serving the interest of Africans as they are given that they are exploited and processed outside Africa.

Key messages shared during this first-ever side event at COP28 include the vitality of critical minerals for the global energy transition and the challenge they pose for sustainability and inclusiveness, the need for African Countries. Part of the outcomes of the side-event was a decision to host further dialogues in 2024, beginning with a side-event at the sidelines of the thirty-seventh AU Summit in Addis Ababa.

► **THE "MORE THAN DOUBLE" ADAPTATION FINANCE SIDE-EVENT**

This Side-event was co-organised by PACJA, Africa Adaptation Initiative (AAI) and Africa Green Climate Fund National Designated Authority Network (AFDAN). It aimed at raising the profile of adaptation as priority for Africa, and to promote the mobilisation and effective use of climate finance to support low-carbon and climate-resilient development in the continent.

The Side-Event served as an opportunity to enhance awareness and understanding of the prevailing state and trends of adaptation finance and the gaps and challenges in meeting the adaptation needs and priorities of the people at the frontline of climate change impacts. It was also the space to enhance the open dialogue and collaboration among stakeholders, including governments, civil society, and the private sector and development partners on mobilising and delivering better adaptation finance for Africa.

► **ADDRESSING PROTECTION GAP AND CLIMATE CHANGE-INDUCED MIGRATION**

Climate change impacts have become a cross-sectorial issue and require global efforts to find long-lasting solutions without leaving anyone behind. In a session organized by Germany-based *Klima Allianz* and VENRO, the issue of Climate change was highlighted as the most common cause of mobility in different parts of the world, especially in Africa and the Pacific islands. It emerged that addressing the protection gap and the challenges of climate-induced migration requires global action encompassing legal, policy and humanitarian response.

► **INTERLINKING AND SYNERGIZING ENERGY ACCESS, ADAPTATION AND JUST TRANSITION IN AFRICA**

COP28 was an opportunity for participants to explore the inter-linkages 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.

► **FOSTERING NORTH-SOUTH COLLABORATION IN ENSURING INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF CRITICAL MINERALS FOR AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE GLOBAL ENERGY TRANSITION**

This Side-event was co-organized by PACJA in collaboration with the Pan African Parliament, Africa Union Commission, UN Economic Commission for Africa, USAID, Ministry of Environment of Kenya and Africa Development Bank. It is unacceptable, according to the participants, that in the 21st century, many people face energy poverty in Africa, though the continent possesses huge deposits of green minerals necessary for transition. It was also observed that there is a disconnect between policymakers and policy implementers in the critical minerals sector. This need to be addressed through concerted efforts by all stakeholders.

► **EXPLORING LOCALLY-LED CLIMATE ACTION FOR ACCELERATED ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE OF FRONTLINE COMMUNITIES IN AFRICA**

The event brought together African partners, including Care International, PACJA Zambia, and Government representation (sub-governmental level, youth and experts, Centre for 21st century issues and FEICOM to explore current initiatives on the ground related to locally-led adaptation in Africa.

Discussants expressed worries about the challenges faced by the communities, including but not limited to lack of resources, lack of access to finance, the complexity of GCF structure and access barriers.

Key recommendations included mainstreaming gender in locally-led climate adaptation initiatives and processes; acknowledgement of local knowledge; involving local players; and engaging policymakers at country levels to ensure that LLA is well implemented without leaving no one behind.

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.

It was also the space for the exchange of experiences, sharing perspectives, learning and scaling-up on practical lessons and challenges faced by communities, governments and funders in promoting locally- led climate action.

► **EXPLORING 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 sharing lessons for strengthening organizing of the agency of Africans for collective and protracted engagement of NSA in climate diplomacy. This includes fostering collective strategies for bolding out NSAs' engagement together with the Africa Union and its institutions, together with other strategic partners. Amplifying collective voice and demands of African Non-state Actors for COP28 was also important in coalescing perspectives post- Africa Climate Summit.

It was an interesting and insightful session in which many ACS experiences were shared from various constituencies, including indigenous communities, ACS secretariat, women and others. It was boldly highlighted that CSOs played a pivotal role in the processes of ACS23 despite irregularities and late involvement as NSAs.

Among other recommendations were; long-term strategies on the side of NSAs to be able to influence climate change dialogue processes; identifying allies and champions in target institutions should help NSAs penetrate; and influence decision-making and planning.

## ► THE ROLE OF NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS IN ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS BASED APPROACH TO CLIMATE JUSTICE

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

This main objective of the event was to create 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. It was also a forum to discuss and agree on minimum actions to foster collaboration between PACJA, CSOs and NHRIs.

It was concluded that in advancing and protecting human rights, Courts in Africa should be innovative in interpreting such rights in a manner that will promote and not hinder the rights of the people.

According to Justice Ocharo from the Land and Environment Court of the Kenyan Judiciary; *“We need to make litigation less expensive. We have embraced virtual hearings and therefore justice especially in constitutional litigation needs to be made easy and swift.”*

Participants recommended the need to address issues of redress in the case of human rights infringement and push for environmental rights to be included in the UDHR.

## ► CLIMATE INDUCED MIGRATION LIVED REALITIES OF CHILDREN IN AFRICA

This was a special event taken over by children narrating their sad stories on how climate induced mobility is affecting their life in different aspect. In this event participants were able to explore the experiences and impacts children are facing as they move and arrive in new places, the challenges that urban and peri-urban authorities and civil society face in providing the necessary support services to children and families.

Naomi Joseph, 13 from South Sudan stood out to say that enough is enough for African children who are traversing the calvary of Climate-induced displacement which is causing a lot on their lives. The young but inspirational Naomi said that children are facing malnutrition, school dropout and other related climate conflicts which pose a challenge to their future and rights.

“We talk and talk but we don’t see action. We must know that to build Africa we have to fight against Climate Change because it is affecting us. All children will die because of Climate change. It would help if you left the place for us” stressed young and inspirational Naomi.

Mr. Malama Mwila, Regional Head of Policy, Advocacy and Campaigns- Save the Children International said that Climate Conversations involving children should have started 30 years ago as they are the most affected by adverse impacts of climate change.

He however said that the time has come to centre conversations on children and commended the expert dialogues as one of the ways to address the issue.

Dr. Mithika Mwenda, the Executive Director, PACJA that in 30 years to come those who are Naomi's age will be negotiating on behalf of Africa. He encouraged children's involvement in climate processes and affirmed that PACJA would support the action. 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 must collaborate for a solution" Dr. Mithika affirmed.

► **LAUNCH OF CHILDREN'S BOOK ON CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

UNICEF indicates that nearly 90% of the global burden of diseases associated with climate change is borne by children under the age of 5; as an example, every year around the world 525,000 children die from diarrhoea, often caused by water contaminated because of floods.

In addition to this, the United Nations in its research conducted this year in 49 countries found out that children in 48 out of 49 African Countries assessed were found to be at high or extremely high risk of impacts of Climate change based on their exposure and vulnerability to cyclones, heat waves and other climate and environmental shocks, and access to essential services.

These shocking figures underpins the urgent need to raise the profile of nexus between climate change and children rights. Accordingly, Pan African Climate Justice Alliance in partnership with Save the Children launched an educational children's book containing simplified content on climate change. **[Click here to download the book](#)**

More highlights from the fortnight of activities by PACJA at COP 28 can be found here in the following links:

- <https://rb.gy/67gtv0>
- [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](#)



### Key outcomes from COP 28 engagement

- ▶ The operationalization of L&D was a major victory for PACJA and African civil society after years of campaign, climaxed by the Conference held in Malawi, whose views informed many aspects of the Transitional Committee recommendations.
- ▶ With more than 10 side-event featuring key issues and partners, PACJA's footprint in international dialogue on climate change has evolved, closing the procedural justice concerns that had lingered over years.
- ▶ Adaptation, the global goal for adaptation and adaptation finance received the attention they deserved despite the fact that a section of Parties, particularly from the North, favour mitigation. Though there was no strong decision as desired, acknowledgement of adaptation as a priority for communities at the frontline of climate crisis gave PACJA and allies an opportunity to continue fighting in subsequent processes.
- ▶ collaboration on respective thematic issues.
- ▶ Navigation into emerging issues such as Health, migration, just transition (and role of transition minerals) firmed up during the COP28, where side-events served as foundation for collaboration on respective thematic issues.

#### 1.2.1.6. Invigorate civil society and African Energy Commission relationship through proactive engagement and convening

PACJA collaborated with other likeminded partners to host a number of energy conversations. The meetings focused on deepening reflections on energy issues, resolve existing conceptual tensions, elucidate African perspectives, and develop strategies for CSOs engagement in shaping policy and practice for a just and democratic energy transition in Africa. Some of the meetings conducted in the period under review include:

##### ▶ TRAINING OF CSOS ON RENEWABLE ENERGY POLICY BRIEF DEVELOPMENT

Civil society organizations play a key role in shaping policy outcomes by holding governments accountable for their actions and ensuring that they meet the needs of their citizens. They have a role to play in advocating for renewable energy policies and regulatory frameworks that can accelerate transition to affordable and viable low-carbon economy. The training equipped CSOs representatives drawn from various sectors and regions in Africa with understanding of policies and their importance in the policy making process, and how to develop and effectively communicate policy recommendations.

##### ▶ LAUNCH OF THE ENERGY NATURE REPORT

PACJA co-authored a report "*Linking energy and nature to tackle the climate and biodiversity crises,*" that recognizes that in the midst of a climate crisis, the need to transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy is imperative. While cleaner energy is essential for reducing emissions and protecting people and the environment from the worst effects of climate change, the anticipated impact of energy production on biodiversity must also be taken into account. The report aims to inform conversations so that the link between energy and nature is at the forefront of policy makers and industry leaders minds. This should similarly consider the impact of various

energy sources on nature and how this can be mitigated to deliver just transition to a low-impact and nature-sensitive energy system.

### 1.2.1.7. Forge strong partnerships and actively engage regional Power Pools through periodic convening's (ACSEA)

One of the main achievements under this result area is that the Alliance influenced the resource mobilization plan for the African Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI), one of the key initiatives that the project seeks to influence. The ACSEA network advocated for more funding for renewable energy projects that address the energy needs of local communities and for safeguarding the funding from fossil fuel interests.

### 1.2.2.3. Support, and actively participate, in campaigns against fossil fuel exploration and extraction in Africa

#### ► PROTEST AGAINST APPOINTMENT OF AL JABER AS THE COP 28 PRESIDENT

In January 2023, PACJA embarked on a long battle on fossil fuels following the appointment of Sultan Al-Jaber by the United Arab Emirates (UEA) as COP 28 president. As COP28 President, Al-Jaber was to be at the centre of crucial UNFCCC process and therefore likely to exert enormous influence on the COP outcomes. Never again has the world ever witnessed a quasi-government Executive being appointed to lead such a crucial multilateral process, and this appointment therefore marked the lowest moment for the UNFCCC, accused of exceedingly veering off from its mandate to an international Expo where Corporates with dubious environmental-climate integrity green wash their fossil-fuel credentials.



In response, PACJA led other civil society organisations in the region to issue a press conference in January, expressing deep worries about the capture of the international dialogue on climate change by

vicious fossil companies whose ill-intentions are to derail the transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient development pathways.

The press release was widely disseminated to over 200 international media houses across the world. In June during the year, Sultan Al-Jaber visited Kenya and held meetings

with stakeholders (perhaps as a response to PACJA's highly published criticism) in a clear attempt to seek endorsement as the COP28 president. Though PACJA received an invitation, it made the decision to turn it down in respect of the position it had taken earlier. Instead, the Alliance organized another press conference to assert its position and to associate with a position earlier issued by the USA Senate and EU parliamentarians.

#### Main outcomes

- The pressure exerted to the COP28 President-designate was useful to fend-off the apparent hijacking of the COP by vested interest. Throughout the year, Al Jaber had to defend himself in every meeting assuring that he would lead a democratic process as per the rules of UNFCCC.
- PACJA's visibility as a global player was affirmed by the outreach of more than one billion reach.

#### 1.2.2.4. Produce periodic analysis on the trends on investments on Renewables in Africa to inform on RE Advocacy strategies

The overall objective of the analysis, commissioned by PACJA, was to **produce an analytic report on renewable energy investments trends in Africa** to inform renewable energy advocacy. It provided baseline to measure trends in energy investments in the continent.

Specifically, the objectives of the study were to:

- ▶ Describe the regional and global forces shaping renewable energy investments in Africa
- ▶ Identify, describe, and critique the main sources and beneficiaries of renewable energy investments in Africa, clearly showing the distribution of renewable energy investments among energy forms, technologies, usage, and countries.
- ▶ Identify any gaps and entry points for PACJA and ACSEA advocacy

**Intermediate Outcome 1.2 National governments, private sector companies and citizens appreciate the connection between climate security, public health, displacement and migration and develop joint action plans to address key emerging issues around the “loss and damage” in Africa dialogue.**

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#### Output 1.3.1: PACJA and CSOs advocate for sustainable recovery that addresses the connections between climate change, public health (pandemics), migration and involuntary displacements

The nexus between climate and health in Africa presents a pressing and multifaceted challenge that requires urgent attention and comprehensive understanding. As the continent grapples with the increasing impacts of climate change, including extreme weather events, rising temperatures, and changing disease patterns, the implications for human health are profound.

From the exacerbation of infectious diseases to the heightened risks of malnutrition, heat-related illnesses, and mental health disorders, the intertwined relationship between climate and health demands a holistic approach that integrates scientific research, policy interventions, and community engagements. Significant progress was made in Niger and Nigeria during the reporting period to advance the integration of climate and health concerns.

In Niger, a workshop was held to provide a platform for dialogue and collaboration as well as establish a framework for engagement and coordination. Recognizing the significance of sustained efforts, it was agreed that a technical working group would be formed, with regular quarterly meetings facilitated by the National Platform.

The first step towards this endeavor took place on May 04, 2023, during which the thematic groups of PACJA Niger were organized. Five thematic groups were established, with each group having a designated Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Rapporteur. This structured approach aimed to enhance effectiveness and efficiency in addressing climate-related challenges, promoting collaboration, and ensuring the meaningful participation

of stakeholders in shaping climate action strategies in the country.

Following the formation of the Health and Climate Change Working Group, stakeholders in Nigeria initiated meaningful engagement at multiple levels. An impactful sensitization event took place in Port Harcourt, the capital of Rivers state, where women, youth, and medical practitioners came together to raise awareness about the interconnections between health and a changing climate. The event emphasized the importance of addressing menstrual hygiene and promoting proper waste disposal practices.

During the World Environment Day 2023, commemorated under the theme Beat Plastic Pollution, PACJA Cameroon chapter organized a multi stake holder meeting for people-centered, bottom-up approaches to NDC Implementation by Environmental Management Committees under Cameroon Climate Change Working Group (3CWG).

At the end of the meeting, participants carried out a one-day water catchment cleaning activity in 5 communities (Nkambe, Ndu, Nwangri, Sop and Taku). The main goal of the activity was to raise awareness on the dangers of plastic waste pollution on the environment, especially water sources, enhance ecological health, improve public health and discuss best practices of implementing the NDCs. The outcomes of the activity were: Improved water quality and sanitation of the communities, improved community health and increased awareness and engagement on NDCs.

Additionally, the 3CWG facilitated a Capacity-building workshop on climate change and health for health workers. The workshop aimed at enhancing the knowledge and skills of health professionals and policymakers on the nexus between health and climate change, and to identify priority actions and strategies to address the health impacts of climate change in Cameroon.

The talks entailed the current and projected health impacts of climate change in Cameroon and globally, based on the latest scientific evidence, main health risks and vulnerabilities, as well as the opportunities and co-benefits of adaptation actions, potential health co-benefits of climate change adaptation and mitigation actions in different sectors, and the barriers and enablers for implementing resilience-building and low-carbon policies and practices that promote health.

#### **1.3.1.1. Support the Horn of Africa Working group on climate security to convene and support policy processes within IGAD and AU regarding climate induced migration, conflict and peace**

Due to the growing importance of climate security on the agendas of many governments, international organizations, and other bodies, some are now running programmes designed to mitigate the effects of climate change on conflict.

Two major trends have particularly been detected. First, there has been gradual emergence of think tanks, technical working groups and institutional programmes on climate security around the world, all working to provide solutions towards this African challenge.

These include groups e.g. Horn of Africa Climate Security Working Group (FES, PACJA, SIPRI), the Climate Security Expert Network<sup>1</sup>, which comprises 30 international individual experts, supports the Group of Friends on Climate

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1 <https://climate-security-expert-network.org/>



and Security<sup>2</sup> and the Climate Security Mechanism<sup>3</sup> of the UN system. These initiatives are all credited with a wide range of contributions towards resolving the climate security challenge. Secondly, there has been sustained policy dialogue in the region convened by diverse actors.

In 2013, PACJA expanded its work on climate security by launching an Africa wide initiative known as CLIMSEC-Africa during the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable development held in February in Niger.

Building on its most recent engagement and experience in the Horn of Africa Climate Security Working Group, PACJA found a unique opportunity to lead the search for interventions for climate security concerns in the region's hotspots owing to its strong convening power in the region, the goodwill it commands from partners engaging in key regional and international policy processes, and its pan African presence across the continent.

#### Main outcome

- ▶ An evolving dedicated Initiative on climate and security was launched with three program focus areas to generate knowledge and innovations for wide-scale adoption towards, strengthen capacities of individuals and institutions operating in climate security hotspots, and promote engagement with practitioners and policymakers for greater impact.

### 1.3.1.3. Commission an analysis of Loss Damage as it relates to the context of HoA and CEN-SAD

Loss and damage continued to be a critical agenda item for Africa in climate change negotiations throughout the year. PACJA's advocacy intervention on the agenda was informed by complexity of global consultations and negotiations and the need to ensure Africa's perspectives shape, and are reflected in the institutional outlay for loss and damage. In this regard, the Alliance commissioned development of analytical paper on loss and damage in Africa, which were instrumental in the its advocacy wok on loss and damage.



*A group photo for the delegates who attended the loss and damage symposium in Malawi*

2 <https://www.newamerica.org/resource-security/natural-security-blog/climate-change-peace-and-security-and-the-un-group-of-friends/>

3 <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/disasters-conflicts/what-we-do/disaster-risk-reduction/climate-security-mechanism>

The analysis showed that climate losses and damages have resulted to a significant setback on developing economies like those in Africa, developing countries and least developed countries. This, according to the report, resulted into triple jeopardy to the economic blueprints that governments have set to meet the needs of their populace. In this regard, the establishment of L&D Fund during the COP27, which also recognized existing channels and initiatives including those outside the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement was a remarkable milestone for the global community.

It is in this context that African governments and the rest of developing countries needed to commence development of legal frameworks to ensure access and reach of LDF to the intended beneficiaries with clear monitoring, evaluation and reporting so as abate associated risks.



*Her Excellency Joyce Banda and the Executive Director, PACJA sign a collaboration agreement with PACJA offices during her visit to the organization*

To deepen conversations around L&D, PACJA conducted the subject's symposium in April in Lilongwe, Malawi, which brought together scientists, civil society actors, academicians, and indigenous people. Experts provided technical papers on various persuasions of loss and damage with a view to developing inputs to the Transitional Committee which was represented during the symposium.

#### Key outcomes

- ▶ A technical paper useful in shaping the negotiations on loss and damage in the Bonn intersessions was developed and agreed by participants
- ▶ Former president of Malawi Joyce Banda, cyclone Freddy goodwill Ambassador's presence boosted the profile of the symposium.
- ▶ A follow-up visit to PACJA Secretariat saw the former president nominate as PACJA's climate justice (L&D) ambassador, further ramping up voices for climate action

### **1.3.2.1. Conduct a regional study on the nexus between health and climate change**

PACJA commissioned and completed a study on the nexus between health and climate change. The resultant Paper focused on the nexus between climate change and health, and specifically highlighting the global, regional, national, and sub-national policies and programmes that are linked to climate change and health.

The Paper focused on five African countries (Tunisia, Mauritania, Cameroon, Kenya, and Botswana) and analyzed the impacts of climate change on health. It involved; Undertaking a critical situational analysis of the nexus between climate and health situation in African countries; Assessing climate and health policies and programs implemented in five African countries, including key interventions and financing, identifying policy gaps and emerging issues in the climate and health sector; and developing advocacy strategy and implementation plan with climate and health activities to be supported by PACJA and partners.

### **1.3.2.2. Establish/catalyse establishment of Health and climate change working groups in the Project countries**

Climate change impacts health through increased vulnerability to airborne, waterborne and vector-borne diseases and malnutrition. PACJA acknowledges the cross-cutting nature in which climate change affects all SDGs, including the health sector.

Climate change thus worsens the pre-existing health inequalities especially in Africa. According to WHO, Climate change will account for 250,000 additional deaths per year 2030 and 2050. At the current rate of adverse climate impacts, it is unlikely the 2030 sustainable development agenda, the 2063 Agenda and the SDGs will be realized.

Everyone is harmed by the impacts of climate change to some degree, but these harms fall disproportionately on disadvantaged population groups - including women and girls, Indigenous communities, people in crisis, displaced people, and the poor.

In the period under review, PACJA enhanced and operationalized its continental working group on health and climate change, and closely partnering with Ministries of Health and Climate, with strong link with DNPs and working groups. The PACJA health work focuses on improved health status through resilient and green health systems, enhanced climate and health governance, transparency and accountability, and building evidence for Policy influence. The key sub-sectors that PACJA works in are health and nutrition, energy as well as water and sanitation.

### Main outcomes

- ▶ PACJA, in partnership with AMREF, AFIDEP, MOH Malawi, the African Group of Negotiators and Wellcome Trust developed the Common Africa Position on Climate Change and Health, that gained political buy-in among Ministers of Health from Africa and its import informed the COP28 declaration and commitment on climate change and health.
- ▶ In the run up to COP28, PACJA firmly influenced the health agenda with a focus to have health as a work program at UNFCCC.
- ▶ The working group secured a high-level ministerial panel with the AGN alongside the African climate week, a side event at CCD, series of webinars with other stakeholders to build the African common position on Health among other initiatives. The platform has attracted critical players in the health sector like AMREF and Wellcome trust with whom high level ministerial dialogue was organized in 2023.

### 1.3.2.3. Facilitate regional roundtables on integration of WASH in climate change response & NDC's and just recovery planning at regional levels

PACJA enhanced its collaboration with Water Aid and other partners in raising the profile of water as a critical agenda item in adaptation conversations. It is important to note that water scarcity and quality are significant global issues that need to be addresses to achieve sustainable development goals.

Many countries face water related challenges including access to safe drinking water, water pollution and scarcity due to climate change. Water issues are often interconnected with environmental concerns such as biodiversity loss, deforestation and air pollution.

PACJA collaborated with Water Aid in hosting a workshop on scalable climate resilient WASH innovative solutions and influencing their integration into the government and donor programming to meet WASH needs in dry seasons. The workshop was hosted in Nairobi in February and one of the outcomes of the workshop was consolidation of recommendations which formed the basis of engagements in the UN Water Conference, which was held in New York later in March, where PACJA co-hosted side events with Water Aid and the World Bank.



## **Outcome 1.4 Women, girls and youth have the capacity, voice and agency to engage with national and regional governments and power holders; and shape the policy and practice around climate change, resilience building and financing for a just recovery.**

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### **Output 1.4.2: Women, girls, youth led organizations dialogue with other CSO networks on emerging issues on climate change and COVID-19 related to their resilience and build a case for advocacy**

PACJA engaged in various activities to raise the profile of women and girls in advocacy on climate justice. Some of the interventions included:

#### **▶ INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**

The Alliance in collaboration with UNEP Southern Africa Sub-Regional Office, Southern Africa Youth Movement (SAYM) and African Women Energy Entrepreneurs Framework (AWEEF) organised a webinar titled “*Centrality of women in unlocking value-chains in catalytic sectors: Mining, Just Energy Transition, Agriculture and Technology*” to commemorate International Women’s Day (IWD 2023) on the 8 March 2023. This webinar created a platform for participants to discuss, distill and synthesize innovative mechanisms and technologies to ensure equity is embraced in the social, economic and environmental dimensions of Mining, Just Energy Transition and Agriculture.

#### **▶ THE SIXTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

PACJA as a member of Generation Equality hosted the NGO CSW Forum on a virtual roundtable discussion on “*Digital Platforms and Technologies Transforming Activism: How Technology Access Could Empower Feminist Activists on Climate Change*”.

The discussion explored the importance of technological tools to mitigate climate change in rural regions and traditional communities, and how this could promote and empower feminist action and gender equality.

It also explored the difficulties accessing digital platforms and internet in rural areas and how other technologies are being used to create an activism web to solve specific problems and demands. It was an opportunity to learn about the intersection of gender and climate change, and how young people are leading the charge for transformative change. PACJA’s intervention was on the strategies that could be utilised to implement goals to achieve gender equality and promote climate justice in rural and marginalized areas.

#### **▶ OUTCOME OF THE 35TH GCF BOARD MEETING FROM A GENDER PERSPECTIVE**

PACJA and Centre for 21st Century Studies held an online seminar “*Advancing gender equality in the next stages of the Green Climate Fund*” on 28th March 2023. The seminar looked into key issues for advancing gender equality in the Green Climate Fund. The seminar reviewed the outcomes of the 35th GCF Board meeting from a gender perspective, where PACJA’s presentation focused on key gender priorities in the GCF for 2023 and beyond.

**In commemoration of Earth Day**, the Alliance in collaboration with *Akina Mama wa Afrika*, one of main women movements in Africa, organised a workshop titled “*Rhetoric to Reality: Feminist Perspectives on climate finance*”. The aim of the webinar was to situate climate finance in the global economic and governance architecture and

further make a case for the need to reshape the prevailing approaches to climate finance and ensure that they are gender-responsive, anti-colonial, debt free, long term, flexible, and anti-capitalistic in its structure and mode of delivery.

Among the issues covered were;

- ▶ Historic context and trend analysis of the climate financing architecture in Africa, specifically looking into what is being promoted and the power institutions upholding the narrative (corporate capture and the role of IFIs);
- ▶ Overview of climate financing strategies that are being proposed and their impacts on Africa's development, especially looking into unique ways they shape lived realities of African women, in all their diversities;
- ▶ Debunking the obsessive need for 'growth' and why we need debt-free financing; Tracking the money to determine which solutions/mechanisms are being financed and whether they are fit for purpose to support feminist solutions;
- ▶ Exploring key challenges in normative thinking around climate finance that need to shift to advance feminist finance;
- ▶ Unpacking our vision for a feminist decolonial climate finance agenda that centres on reparative justice and exploring alternative and innovative delivery mechanisms.

To mark the World Day to Combat Desertification and drought, PACJA conducted a Webinar themed "*Her land, her Right*". The panelists were drawn from diverse backgrounds, including indigenous communities, who offered perspectives on the role of traditional knowledge for women at the frontline of the climate crisis as a solution in combating desertification, and how policies can be gender-responsive with women in decision making processes in combating desertification.

As an upcoming strategic partner, PACJA \ contributed to the sustainability strategy of the Regional Nile Basin Women's Network during their action planning workshop held on 20th February 2023.

#### **1.4.1.1. Supporting youth participation in One Forest Summit**

The *One Forest Youth Forum* was held in Libreville, Gabon from February 27 to 28, 2023, as a prelude to the "One Forest Summit." The forum aimed to strengthen the involvement of young people in actions, reflections, and decisions related to the Summit.

The event brought together a wide range of stakeholders, including AGRIDIS, PACJA Gabon, the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Gabon, and numerous NGOs and youth associations. It catalysed the creation of *One Forest Youth Initiative* (OFYI), an international platform for training, capacity building, and resource mobilization for the management of tropical forests and biodiversity.

It also emphasized the importance of youth engagement in preserving tropical forests, promoting sustainable economic solutions, renewable energy, and a "just transition" to clean energy. The forum's impacts included substantial participation with over 2028 registered individuals, including delegates from 21 countries, as well as fruitful discussions and initiatives addressing forest conservation and sustainable development.

The DNPs also engaged in a diversity of interventions under this outcome area;

**Between July 11 and 14, 2023, at the invitation of the National Climate Change Program (PNCC)** of the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development in Côte d'Ivoire, PACJA- Côte d'Ivoire took part in a workshop to validate the Gender and Climate Change strategy. The event was attended by eight (08) civil society organizations, including PACJA-Côte d'Ivoire. The aim of the workshop was to familiarize participants with the content of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), collect information from stakeholders, enquire about available means of communication, capitalize on the experiences of stakeholders in implementing the NAP, and take into account suggestions and recommendations.

Pan African Women's Day: To commemorate this day, the BCCN honored the outstanding women at the forefront of climate advocacy, conservation, and innovation. This in recognition of their contributions as instrumental stakeholders in shaping a greener, more sustainable future for the planet.

A poster was created to spotlight the work of Ms. Thato Mutumba in the Chobe Region in Botswana, from the Kalahari Research and Conservation Botswana who is one of the participants in the African Women's Voices booklet. In her captured story, Mutumba shared the story of her community which has high number of disadvantaged individuals who depends heavily on natural resources to sustain their livelihoods. It is for this reason that she was dedicated to combating climate change and safeguarding the environment through conservation projects and studying the biodiversity of the Kalahari.

Further, the Platform created a gender integration in climate change initiative after realizing that women, particularly the grassroots women, engage less in climate change action. During period, BCCN, through the newly created Okavango Women Network, conducted a strategic action plan workshop to develop a roadmap to counter the proposed oil and gas exploration in the Okavango Delta.

The workshop constructively engaged 20 women from the Okavango Delta and cross-sectorial parties in the private sector, community leadership, civil society, indigenous and local community-based organizations. The overall objective of the Workshop was to build a robust gender strategic action plan that is considerate of the capacity needs of the women to effectively respond to the planned drilling. There is a degree of understanding of oil and gas drilling and its implications on the environment, by a limited number of members of the community.

#### **1.4.1.2. Conducting a policy analysis on bottlenecks challenges and opportunities around the extent to which climate financing programs match needs identified for a just recovery**

PACJA commissioned this study to explore and provide better understanding of the progress, constraints and opportunities for channeling climate finance in a fairer manner. This research, therefore, explored ways by which global, bilateral and national climate finance flow architecture and climate change financing policies could integrate climate justice considerations in the design and implementation of climate actions.

The study drew from secondary qualitative and quantitative data. Whereas secondary data was obtained from published work and data from online archives, the data collection consisted of the following main activities:

- ▶ A comprehensive analysis of global climate finance architecture including multilateral financial mechanisms of the UNFCCC, non-UNFCCC financial mechanisms and bilateral initiatives. These bilateral and multilateral institutions have historically played an integral role in financing development investment in Africa, and are considered among the most integral multilateral institutions on climate finance.
- ▶ A review of various policies, strategies and plans related to climate change and climate financing in Kenya and Malawi.
- ▶ A case study of the activities of Adaptation Consortium (Ada) County Climate Change Fund Mechanism (CCCF) project in Kenya to assess the gendered impact of access to climate finance.

The study concurred with the UNFCCC definition in its introduction to climate Finance, as follows:

*'local, national or transnational financing, which may be drawn from public, private and alternative sources of financing. Climate finance is critical to both reduce emissions and allow countries to adapt to the adverse effects and reduce the impacts of climate change.'*

This definition is reflected in Article 9 of the 2015 Paris Agreement. The study advances the narrow definition of climate finance from the perspective of developing countries as the “net climate-specific assistance” provided by developed countries. In line with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, developing country parties should emphasize accounting of only grant and grant equivalents as climate finance.

There is a huge gap between Africa climate financing needs and commitments. The responsibility for the shortfalls in climate finance provision lies at the feet of developed country parties collectively, jeopardizing future cooperation and joint ambition on climate change.

Injustices in the international financial system have profound impacts. It is imperative to have reforms on global financial institutions, including the MDBs to make them fit for purpose in the delivery of fair and equitable climate finance.

There is an evolving push to leverage on new financing sources to support climate resilience and a just energy transition in Africa. This is welcome, considering the growing climate finance gap. However, some of the instruments need to be carefully considered before they are applied.

A case in point is the carbon markets, which has divided due to controversies sparked by previous failures and negative perceptions towards market-based mechanisms in the entire history of UNFCCC.

There is growing fear in Africa that handing over land to private entities for carbon markets is going to impact the collective and tenure rights of indigenous peoples and local communities' access to land and resources, especially that of women with all their diversities, destroying traditional and sustainable livelihoods and turning them as wage laborers for carbon market economy.

From a neocolonial perspective, some critics charge that carbon trading is yet another example of neoliberal practices that perpetuate existing imbalances of an industrialized North versus a pre- industrial South.

The experience with Kenya's finance mechanism show that the country has a huge opportunity to develop a robust climate finance system and become a regional leader in climate financing. For Malawi, the study revealed the need to clarify eligibility for use of dedicated climate and disaster risk management funding, among other things.



The literature reviewed on the CCCF mechanism in Kenya revealed that a gender perspective needs to be taken into account when developing resource mobilization strategies, applying climate finance instruments, and ensuring equal participation in the deployment of financial resources in adaptation projects design and implementation, particularly at the local level.

This report was instrumental in informing the World Bank/IMF meetings organized by PACJA in Marrakech in October 2023. It also informed the submission to UNFCCC standing committee on finance as part of the PACJA inputs to the New Collective and quantified finance Goal.

#### **1.4.1.3. Cohort-III of the Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice**

The pursuit of Climate justice requires investment in systemic change to yield a paradigm shift characterized by the ability of frontline communities to realize their rights and community-led solutions, and reinforce the role of the youth in this dispensation cannot be over emphasized.

The participation of youth in decision-making provides opportunities for them to influence or have issues of importance to them. Getting involved also means young people will learn new skills along the way. Active engagement the youth in the design and delivery of public policies, programs and services that impact on their lives is critical to their success.

Including young people in decision-making also contributes to a balanced, representative and democratic community that ultimately benefits all Africans; Training energetic young activist and empowering them with climate justice skills is therefore seen as a key approach in realizing the desired change, thus underscoring the rationale behind the *Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice (NSSCJ)*

NSSCJ seeks to provide a tailor-made, dedicated and focused course on many aspects of theoretical and applied Climate Justice Knowledge and skills, with modules designed to suit the targeted groups of environmental and climate justice activists from a diversity of backgrounds.

The young activists selected to participate in the training becomes champions where other youth draw best practices and inspirations for replication of the interventions. This model is expected to result in a paradigm shift on the community way of thinking in relation to climate justice, and catalyse change in the way climate justice is perceived and addressed at country, regional and global levels.

In hosting the 3<sup>rd</sup> NSSCJ Cohort, PACJA acknowledged the growing popularity and interest the school had generated from among stakeholders - incidentally from both governments and non-state actors. It was deemed necessary to develop targeted, tailor-made modules, putting into consideration the rapidly-shifting discourses in the international climate change dialogue processes, which oftentimes render concepts and ideas earlier thought to be solutions, obsolete.

In this regard, PACJA convened an international Experts' strategy meeting in Cape town, South Africa in January 2023, which brought together a meticulously selected small team of thought leaders to deeply interrogate and reflect on the Cohort I and II, draw lessons and render ideas on how to deliver a more impactful Cohort III of the School. The participants included experts on climate justice, Curriculum Development, Research & Policy Analysis, Climate Science, International negotiations, Scholars and (frontline) Community activists.

### Main outcome of strategy meeting

- ▶ The strategy meeting resulted in reviewed curriculum for the summer school which is responsive to needs of the targeted participants. A road map on future inclusion of the summer school in the education curriculum through the ministry of education was also discussed

### The launch of call for application for the summer school

The call for application for Cohort III was launched in April 2023. The event was held, as usual, in partnership with Kenyatta University, the ministry of Education in Kenya, among other partners. The call received an overwhelming response not only in Africa but also the larger global South and North.

A total of 1969 applications were received from 73 countries across the globe, a clear indication of the overwhelming interest in the school. Only 4 countries in Africa did not submit any application. 300 participants out of the 1969 applicants were selected to participate in the school physically, while 400 were selected to join virtually, with 52% being women.



*The launch of the call for application for the Nairobi summer school on climate justice at Kenyatta University*

### Cohort III of the Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice

The Cohort of the School was held on 4<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 at Kenyatta University. The school saw over 300 participants attending physically while over 200 others attended virtually. The participants were drawn from 73 African countries. Out of the 73, 51 countries were from Africa. The school commenced with a high-level symposium graced by distinguished individuals and organizations, including Kenya's Minister for Education Ezekiel Machogu, who was the keynote Speaker. Other key speakers during the symposium were drawn from Kenyatta University, The National Assembly in Kenya, The Danish High Commission, SIDA, AfDB, AU, UNECA, The World Bank and the AGN.

### Key outcomes

- ▶ Enhanced clout of the NSSCJ as Africa's only comprehensive and outstanding initiative dedicated to training activists to advance climate justice
- ▶ The School contributed to knowledge development and capacity building of youth on climate justice, thus growing the movement to demand climate justice
- ▶ It helped in growing the consciousness of young people to the challenges posed by climate change, its impact on their livelihoods, including job losses, and hence need to address it collectively.
- ▶ Alumni of the School have used the skills gained to seek further opportunities, including advanced education through competitive scholarship applications.
- ▶ Several graduates of the School have initiated in their localities; Locally led actions, policy networks, etc
- ▶ A network of young people unified under NSSCJ has emerged, and this has helped them to share information and opportunities through social media platforms. During the COP28,
- ▶ more than 100 Cohort-III participants raised their own funding to participate as they were able to use the knowledge shared to put competitive applications.
- ▶ The knowledge, networks created and exposure garnered has helped some Graduates to secure jobs, including joining government delegations, and drive innovative locally-led actions in their countries.

#### 2.1.1.1. Training CSOs and other stakeholders on the use of the NDC tracking tool

The active involvement of CSOs in tracking NDCs progress is instrumental in holding governments accountable and ensuring ambitious goals outlined in the NDCs are achieved. Through their dedicated efforts, CSOs have been able to provide valuable insights, contribute to transparency, and foster collaboration among stakeholders to drive meaningful action in the transition to low-carbon, climate- resilient future. Remarkable progress has been observed in several countries at various levels regarding the monitoring and implementation of NDCs.

In Niger, a capacity building workshop was held to enhance the monitoring mechanisms of NDCs by civil society organizations. Recommendations were made, including the development of a monitoring and evaluation plan, dissemination of monitoring tools, and the establishment of an internal financing mechanisms.

Similarly, in Kenya, the DNP, KPCG expanded locally-led climate actions, such as reforestation and wetland restoration, gender mainstreaming, and the launch of environmental initiatives in schools. Morocco also displayed increased ambition in implementing its NDCs, with the involvement of CSOs in tracking the implementation progress. In Gabon, a workshop highlighted policy shortcomings in agriculture and forestry, fostering discussions on environmentally-friendly agricultural techniques and the establishment of networks.

In Ivory Coast, the PACJA-Côte d'Ivoire achieved a significant outcome on May 19 by successfully training and

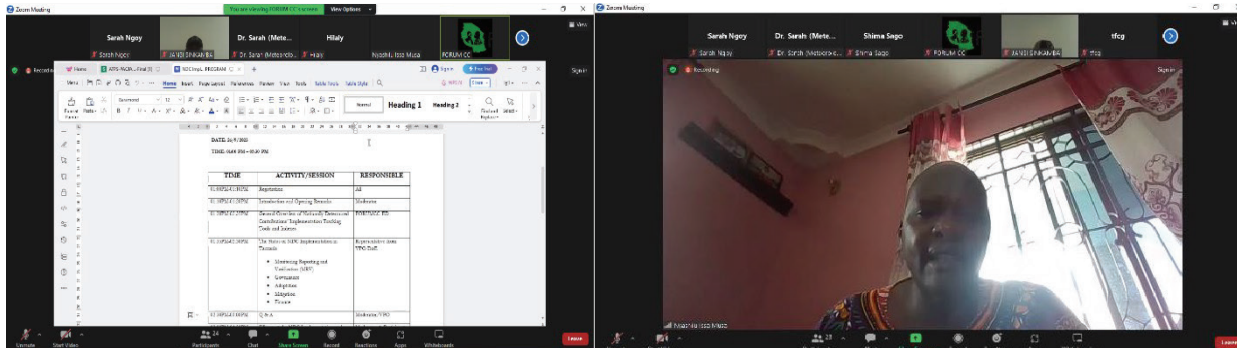
demonstrating the NDC assessment tools developed by the PACJA secretariat. The training session involved 17 participants, including representatives from the Directorate for the Fight against Climate Change (DLCC) and the Directorate for Cooperation and Resource Mobilization, both associated with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. As a result of this collaborative effort, the tool was shared with the ministry, showcasing a joint commitment to enhancing the implementation and monitoring of NDCs.

Additionally, the plan to conduct further training sessions in various branches of the Ministry indicated a dedicated approach to collecting comprehensive data for effective assessment. These actions exemplify the proactive engagement of stakeholders in Ivory Coast towards monitoring and improving the implementation of their NDCs commitments.

In August, 2023, the Tanzanian DNP, Forum CC, conducted a training on how to use the tracking tool. Participants were drawn from various sectors and stakeholder groups, including government ministries and agencies.

In the exercise, the Monitoring Reporting and Verification (MRV), Climate Finance, Governance, Mitigation and Adaptation aspects of the country were tracked and rated accordingly. The exercise deliberately roped in government officials in order to obtain the country's perspectives on all five (5) components and to secure political support. This assessment was made by an expert from the Vice President's office, the environment department, which is the country's custodian of the NDCs. This reflection provided a wealth of information to CSOs who do not have the opportunity to attend

various meetings organized by ministries and the Vice President's office on a regular basis. The reflection also assisted CSOs in staying informed of the various processes related to the NDC's implementation.



*Online Technical Session on Tracking the Implementation of NDC in Tanzania in which Mr. Issa Musa Nyashili from the Vice-President's Office - DoE provided a general reflection of the status of NDC implementation in Tanzania*

The PACJA Gabon Platform organized a workshop to raise awareness, share experiences and identify innovative and sustainable waste management solutions for a healthy environment. It also conducted NDC MRV training, in partnership with the NGO FENSED, the company ROUGIER GABON, the NGO FENSED, the REVADAC start-up specializing in the transformation of plastic and urban waste into ecological paving stones and biofuels.

Two-day workshop trained participants on NDC MRV systems using 7 well-crafted modules to ensure the transparency of actions implemented as part of the countries' contributions to the global effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Modules entailed historical foundations of MRV systems, basic notions and the processes of elaboration and implementation of the said systems within the framework of UNFCCC. The meeting concluded with the following submissions to the Gabonese government:



- i. To support for capacity-building programs on MRV systems and their integration into destination policies and strategies in Gabon and other ECCAS countries.
- ii. The creation of a quadripartite virtual platform (public decision-makers, private sector, TFPs, CSOs) for mutual involvement in all phases of the development of NDC implementation projects in all sectors.
- iii. To assist in developing sustainable city programs through structured, integrated projects for a circular waste economy.



*Participants at the NDC MRV training and sustainable waste management in Gabon*

### **Output 3.1.1: CSOs are supported to provide resourceful alternative viewpoints and policy options that are backed by critical analysis and research.**

During the year, DNPs undertook several activities aimed at raising public awareness and mobilize African CSOs to engage in post-Paris climate change dialogues and response strategies within the context of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In Niger, a capacity-building workshop was organized by PACJA Niger in collaboration with the Association Nigérienne des Spécialistes en Aménagement du Territoire. The workshop, held on April 19, 2023, focused on strengthening the capacities of the civil society regarding climate change paradigms in public policies.

This sought to empower each member organization to become a key player in monitoring public policies related to climate change. The workshop also aimed to enhance understanding of different types of public policies in Niger, contributing to improved engagement and advocacy in climate change issues.

In Kenya, KPCG executed three key activities in the North Eastern region. These activities included meetings with non-traditional women and girls' groups, the establishment of a women's movement on social and climate justice, and the creation of an online platform. This resulted into enhanced awareness on climate change and empowering women in the countries.

A total of 278 women joined the movement, enhancing their knowledge on climate change, climate justice, and advocacy strategies. The dissemination of climate change information was effectively facilitated through

various digital platforms. The Women and Girls Movement on Social and Climate Justice will henceforth amplify the voices of pastoralist women and girls, advocate for their concerns, lobby for policy changes, and ensure their inclusion in decision-making processes. The online platforms provide further opportunities for engagement and collaboration within the movement.

PACJA-Côte d'Ivoire participated in the African Day of Ecology and Climate Change (JFAC) on May 12, 2023. This participation provided an opportunity to raise public awareness and engage with key stakeholders, ensuring climate action formed the agenda for discussions. The Platform registered a total of 70 participants drawn from UN-Environment, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, civil society and private sector. The engagement at JFAC allowed PACJA-Côte d'Ivoire to increase visibility to its work and address important issues such as destructive mining to the relevant authorities. These interactions contributed to enhanced public awareness and fostering dialogue on climate change and ecological concerns.

The diagnostic analysis of gaps and constraints in climate governance in Gabon was carried out by Dr. Theodore Lekhogo, a Teacher-Researcher at Gabonese University. It aimed to provide arguments in favor of climate governance in the country. The analysis was meant to provide all stakeholders involved in various stages of Gabon's climate agenda, with an independent interpretation of its implementation, progress, performance and possible repercussions on the achievement of expected results.

The analysis revealed several improvements to Gabon's NDC commitments, namely:

- a. Improving all our methods and systems for inventorying and monitoring GHGs and deforestation (stocks, emissions and sequestration) in all sectors, including the monitoring of non-carbon GHGs (such as methane emissions from gas pipelines);
- b. Creation of climate change models that take into account the complex climate system of the Western Congo Basin, and enhancing knowledge of the links between the forest ecosystems of Gabon and the Greater Congo Basin and the surrounding regions (water supply, influence on rainfall and weather patterns, etc.);
- c. Finalizing the national climate change adaptation plan;

In Cameroon, 3CWG commissioned a policy gap analysis aimed at identifying areas of deficiency or inconsistency in existing policies and regulations. The policy gap analysis revealed;

- ▶ A lack of comprehensive legislation addressing climate change in Cameroon.
- ▶ A need for stronger institutional frameworks and capacity building to support climate change policy development and implementation.
- ▶ A lack of specific targets and timelines for achieving climate change goals.
- ▶ A lack of coordination and collaboration among government agencies which then hinders effective climate change policymaking.

Below were the recommendations proposed;

- ▶ The need for a stand-alone Climate Laws in Cameroon
- ▶ Governments and CSOs should work in a symbiotic manner to benefit communities affected by climate crises.

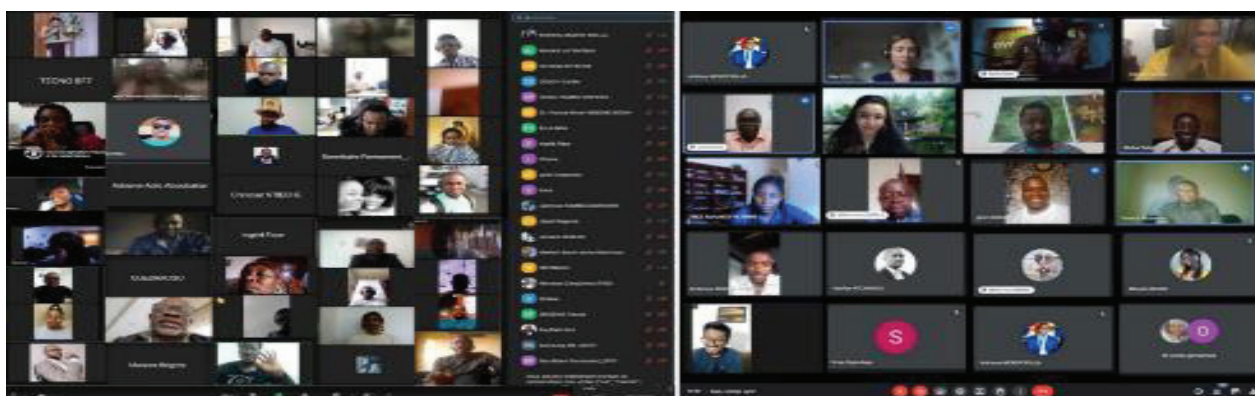
- ▶ Climate laws should take a bottom-up strategy to ensure that the local communities which happen to be the most affected are incorporated into the formulation process.
- ▶ Enhancing public awareness through education campaigns and engaging civil society organizations can promote climate change understanding and participation.
- ▶ Cooperating with international partners and accessing climate finance mechanisms should be prioritized to support implementation efforts.

### 3.1.2.2. Support and upscale YDA model in Project countries through recruitment and support of CRPs, YDAs in the platforms

The young digital activist’s model remains an integral component of the Alliance mobilisation strategy. These young people have been influential in supporting the national platforms raise their visibility at country level through, among other initiatives, marking important days, especially the world Environmental Day celebrated every 5<sup>th</sup> Day of June each year.

Their influence span beyond the project countries for instance; in Rwanda, the RCCDN organized a Youth and Climate Justice Gala Night, which brought together young people from across the country to showcase the challenges and opportunities of climate change; in Kenya, the KPCG collaborated with other like-minded organizations to carry out a *Beat Plastic Pollution Campaign*. The Ivory Coast Platform organized a beach cleanup, a Stakeholder meeting, and a webinar on the fight against plastic waste while in Somalia, the DNP organized a workshop on the harmful effects of plastic pollution and a beach cleanup. They also partnered with AEHRO to hold a campaign in Baidoa semi- autonomous region to educate IDPs about plastic pollution; the Gabon Platform organized a webinar on the role of youth in fighting against plastic pollution.

**On the occasion of international youth Day celebrated** every August 12, PACJA Gabon in partnership with the One Forest Youth Initiative (OFYI), organized a webinar attended by 50 participants, mainly drawn from young people organisations. The theme of the 24<sup>th</sup> edition of the Day was: “Towards a sustainable world: green skills for young people”. The event enabled Gabonese youth and other stakeholders to participate in meaningful dialogues on the education and application of green skills, including showcasing innovative initiatives they had been working on in the year. The event was graced by the UN Ambassador for Youth Andy Nziengui, who praised the merits of Gabon’s young people. The Ambassador praised Gabonese young people for citing opportunities in climate action, underlining their ability to mobilize, adapt and innovate quickly, thus turning challenges into opportunities.



*Webinar on International Youth Day by PACJA Gabon*



Further, the Platform organized the campaign, “I’m green, keep your promises and let’s fight plastic waste” to raise awareness and promote “eco-citizenship”. On the other hand, the Platform invited political decision-makers and development players to keep their promises and involve citizens in collecting and recycling plastic bottles, protecting the environment and investing circular economy.

Indeed, raising public awareness has helped to increase enthusiasm and support for PACJA’s actions in Gabon, as well as stimulating self-mobilization, action, and the mobilization of local knowledge and resources, while fostering the creation of a positive image and attempts to change community behavior.



*Images from the campaign, “I’m green, keep your promises and let’s fight plastic waste” in Gabon*

PACJA-Côte d’Ivoire organized an online campaign to mark the celebration of the **world’s youth on August 12**, highlighting the potential of young people in the fight against climate change. The campaign was conducted **via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and all the chapter’s WhatsApp groups. More than 100 people were directly reached by the campaign.**

In Zambia, the “Youth for Climate Justice Program campaign” was organized at sub-national level and implemented in Nyimba District of Zambia, as part of the Global Climate Strike on 28<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023. It focused on three critical dimensions of climate justice: Food Systems, Gender Equality, and Renewable Energy. The initiative aimed to amplify the rural voices of children and youth in climate action, empower them with climate knowledge, and engage them in creative expression to advocate for a more just and sustainable future.

### **Output 3.2.1: Journalists/media networks strengthened to create a dynamic environment and robust media engagement.**

#### **3.2.1.1. Conduct regular trainings for journalists under the auspices of “The ACCER Awards Finalists Academy**

The African Climate Change and Environment Reporting (ACCER) Awards recognize and celebrate the contributions of African journalists who have exemplarily covered issues around environmental and climate change issues. These awards pay homage to journalists whose articles have been critical for Africa to advance its accountability at national, continental and global levels.

A critical mass of journalists has evolved since the launch of the initiative in 2013, thus remarkably increasing climate change reporting in Africa. The Pan African Media Alliance on Climate Change (PAMACC), which was established by Winners of the Award Scheme, has grown into one of the key media networks in Africa.

In addition to recognizing outstanding journalism that advances climate action and environmental accountability in Africa, the Scheme also fosters collaboration, and serves as a platform for sharing best practices to drive collective action on climate change and environmental reporting in Africa.

As part of capacity building and outreach on media, PACJA worked with various partners to organize targeted trainings and consultations on key aspects of climate change. Key among this was the partnership with the Danish Fellowship centre to training journalists and researchers “reporting from the frontline of the global climate crisis 2023”. The Alliance also collaborated with individual media networks to pitch for climate change reporting. The Standard Media Group, for instance, hosted a live debate on climate change, while several feature stories were placed in several media houses across Africa as driven largely by journalists working with PACJA under various formations.

### **3.2.1.2. Support Journalists to participate and report on UNFCCC Intercessions and related processes**

PACJA facilitated two African journalists to participate and report on the SB 58, which was held in Bonn from 5<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023. The journalists wrote several articles which were disseminated covered in the continent’s main media networks.

#### **Main outcome**

- ▶ The journalist supported to attend SB 58 through this project were very instrumental in informing the public on key issues of interest especially to Africa at the COP negotiations.
- ▶ Virtually, we reached **200,600** social media users who received our messages via our social media platforms while millions watched us on televisions and listened to us on radios across the globe.

### **Output 3.2.2: The African Climate Change and Environmental Reporting (ACCER) Awards serves as a platform to reward and incentivize journalists to increase reporting on climate change.**

#### **3.2.2.1. Roll-out annual ACCER Awards scheme**

In period under review, the Alliance continued to support outreach of the Winners of the 2022 ACCER Awards through exposure, mentorship and aiding their outreach in various platforms and processes. The Award scheme is conducted biennially and thus there were no winners for 2023.

As a way of promoting local media, and particularly vernacular and territorial channels with a view to broaden conversations to communities less served by conventional media, supported the Kenya Grassroots Journalists Network during their 2023 Awards.

This was aimed at recognizing grassroots/local language journalists who have demonstrated commendable efforts in reporting on various subjects. The Alliance subject of partnership was climate change, gender and health.



This best practice will be replicated across NDPs in the coming years as it promises to extend conversations beyond official languages, which has consistently locked out the largest proportion of the population. Apparently, this excluded population due to language/communication barrier is the same community at the frontline of climate crisis.

## **Outcome 4: Enhanced capacity of PACJA organs, national platforms and dedicated sector- based initiatives to be effective catalysts for galvanization of action for resilient development in Africa**

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### **Intermediate Outcome 4.1. PACJA members equitably and meaningfully participate in decision making and governance of the network**

#### **4.1.1.1. Regular training workshops and bonding retreats for CEB and other on governance and emotional intelligence**

In 2021, PACJA developed a new strategic plan to build on and scale up gains made over the years to meet the new social, environmental and geopolitical realities faced by Africa and the whole world.

To this end, the Alliance revised its theory of change to go beyond raising awareness of communities to facilitating enabling environment in which the people experience sustainable economic and social development which will then create a demand for policy change and government action on climate- resilience, transition to low-carbon development pathways, green growth and environmental justice.

Based on the strategic plan, PACJA developed its 10-year organisational strategic framework which tracks and records annual milestones achieved within this period. The organisation derives its areas of intervention from the organisational strategic plan 2021 -2025.

Implementation of the strategic plan is driven by annual work packages which require regular reviews to ensure that the organisation is on track in achieving its strategic objectives.

In this regard, PACJA organised a staff, DNPs and Board retreat in Addis Ababa at the beginning of the year to provide opportunity for the entire PACJA system to reflect on the work done in 2022 and plan for 2023. The teams got an opportunity to review the achievements made in the year 2022, reflect on areas of improvement and develop their respective project-based/Strategic initiatives annual work plans and align them to the organisational results framework as envisioned in the strategic framework 2021 – 2030.

### Main outcomes

- ▶ 47 out of the 51 DNPs attended the retreat thus cementing PACJA's outreach in countries and communities.
- ▶ The provided opportunity for NDPs to extend outreach, learn, exchange ideas and share perspectives from each other. Various initiatives, some sectoral-thematic, others inter-country, have emerged out of these relationships
- ▶ Interactions with DNPs enabled the Secretariat to understand them more, and provide tailor- made support based on respective geographical, demographic, cultural and language contexts.
- ▶ A common plan generated facilitated seamless coordination between the Secretariat and DNPs

#### 4.1.1.4. Support the National Platforms, Thematic Groups and Initiatives (mtgs)

##### ▶ SUPPORT GOVERNANCE OF NATIONAL PLATFORMS AND DEDICATED INITIATIVES-STAFF

PACJA places strong premium on effective and accountable governance, both within and outside its ecosystem. Periodic renewal of the mandate by various organs, including DNPs which serve as last- mile units of implementation is crucially important not only to enhance ownership, but also to create confidence and trust among partners.

Throughout the year, PACJA conducted several activities meant to strengthen governance and coordination of the National Platforms, and dedicated sector-based initiatives. Important steps were undertaken in Ethiopia, Kenya, Ivory Coast, Morocco, and Gabon, contributing to the enhanced capacity of PACJA and its partners to catalyze action for resilient development in Africa.

During the CCCE's Annual General Assembly (AGA) in Ethiopia in March 2023, Consortium members reaffirmed their commitment to the Guard-Africa Project implementation in the country. This was important in enhancing the capacity of PACJA organs and national platforms to drive resilient development initiatives in the country.

The KPCG in Kenya has been implementing resolutions from the Annual General Meeting held in December 2022. These resolutions included the formalization of membership to the platform through the implementation of a constitution. Thematic Working Groups were reconstituted, and a steering committee was recruited. These measures will strengthen the capacity of KPCG and its dedicated sector-based initiatives to effectively catalyze action for resilient development in the country.

PACJA-Côte d'Ivoire organized a workshop focused on the functioning, structuring, and advocacy strategy for COP28. The workshop brought together 26 participants, including both male and female representatives, as well as sectors and regional representatives. The presence of PACJA's Executive Director provided a boost, valuable insights and recommendations for strengthening the chapter's activities and engagement with institutions. The workshop also presented the best model for structuring of Platforms, as adopted at the congress in Addis

Ababa in February 2023. The advocacy strategy for COP28 was deliberated, enhancing the Platform's capacity to influence decision-making spaces in favor of climate-impacted communities.

PACJA Morocco developed an advocacy strategy plan for COP28, informed by the Alliance overall strategy. The strategy and advocacy plan guided the platform's activities throughout the year, enabling it to act as a catalyst for galvanizing action in the country.

On its part, the PACJA Gabon conducted a General Assembly to inform its members about new provisions, review past activities, and develop roadmaps for the future. Organised in partnership with the Observatory for the Promotion of Sustainable Development of Industries and Services of Gabon (ODDIG) on March 31, 2023, the theme of the Assembly was "revitalization of PACJA Gabon: Inclusive solutions to climate governance challenges."

The event featured presentations on the platform's activities, report-back on COP27, the GUARD Project, and the benefits of the *One Forest Youth Forum and One Forest Summit*. The renewal of governance bodies further strengthened the capacity of the platform to catalyze action for resilient development in the country.

#### **4.1.1.5. Support continuous capacity building and skills building of the Secretariat Staff (RBM & Leadership)**

The first major activity of year 2023 was a Staff and Board retreat where the staff and the Board got an opportunity to interact and engage in collective planning for the year. PACJA engaged a Consultant who took the staff through a training on work plan development, team building, and developing organizational culture, among others.

Training sessions and individual staff exposure opportunities continued throughout the year.

#### **4.1.1.6. Strengthening of the global racial and climate justice collaborative**

During the year, PACJA established a working relationship with Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), a renowned advocacy organization in USA. The Alliance conducted five meetings with EDF since January and this collaboration has yielded a number of exciting outcomes:

- ▶ Partnership for NSSCJ: EDF supported PACJA in the development of the modules used in the School's Cohort-III. It also became a partner by making technical and financial contribution.
- ▶ PACJA and EDF collaborated in hosting a high-level side event during the UN water conference in New York, focusing on the nexus between water and food systems. This resulted in an agreement between PACJA and EDF to jointly host the inaugural conference on accelerating agricultural adaptation in Africa.



*Participants who attended a high-level side event at the UN water Conference*

In promoting North-South collaboration, the Alliance co-hosted four webinars with the Chisholm Legacy Project in US to promote enhance the voice of back communities in global climate action conversations. These were conducted under the auspices of Global Afro descendants Climate Justice Collaborative, driven by PACJA and the Chishohlm Legacy Project.

As part of this collaborative effort, the PACJA Executive Director was invited to share the Alliance perspectives on climate justice and Africa’s advocacy agenda at the annual meeting of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Consortium on Climate Change, which took place in New Orleans, Louisiana.

► **STRENGTHEN ACLI (AFRICAN CLIMATE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE)**

The Africa Climate Legislative Initiative (ACLI) is a space for Parliamentarians across Africa to engage with other stakeholders to strengthen their capacity on climate change issues and climate legislation. It brings together members of Parliament from National Assemblies and Regional Parliaments across the continent, with a view of helping in the translation of policies into laws to enable an environment for implementing the Paris Agreement and Nationally Determined Contributions.

The voice of parliamentarians in these discourses is vital in the context of shrinking space of civil society not only in UN processes but in many African countries. This creative partnership with parliamentarians has undoubtedly aided PACJA to advance civil society standpoints in policy and law framing as they are an arm of government which makes the Laws. In the reporting period under review, Alliance engaged in an elaborate planning process for the third Pan African Parliament Summit on climate policy and equity.

In addition to numerous meetings between PACJA and PAP, the Secretariat also seconded a dedicated officer to the PAP during the planning and execution phases of the Summit in order to ensure seamless flow of events.

The Alliance also supported, and worked closely with other parliamentary initiatives in countries and regions, notably the evolving African Parliamentarians Climate Network (APCAN). All these initiatives were supported under the auspices of ACLI.

### Main outcomes

- ▶ Collaboration between PACJA and PAP in planning and execution of the summit strengthened the bond between the two institutions, and asserted PACJA as an honest broker in cultivating enduring partnerships.
- ▶ The Summit led to enhanced the parliamentarians understanding of climate policy landscape in Africa as well as their role in supporting policy processes in the continent
- ▶ The parliamentarians developed a declaration and recommendations which were tabled in all parliaments in Africa
- ▶ The Declaration was delivered at the African Climate Summit, and served as the Position of Parliamentarians in Africa.

## **Output 4.2.2: Civil society voice is amplified and strengthened at community, sub-national, and country level, and linked with regional and global level through effective coordination mechanisms by PACJA.**

### **4.2.2.1. Support DNPs to establish sub national platforms**

- ▶ **FACILITATE CROSS LEARNING WORKSHOPS BETWEEN DNPS AT REGIONAL, NATIONAL AND SUBNATIONAL LEVELS**

The opportunity for cross learning-between DNPs was provided through the Secretariat and Board retreat as well as the General Congress which were hosted in February in Addis Ababa (See the section below)

From February to September, PACJA Gabon undertook an exercise to select and map Gabonese civil society organizations, platforms and national initiatives contributing to the implementation of the SDGs and the fight against the effects of climate change.

The first step was to identify and select around thirty CSOs and/or five networks and/or platforms involved in combating the effects of climate change and promoting sustainable development, especially those led by women and young people, interested in receiving technical support to strengthen their institutional structures.

Although the Platform already federates almost all national organizations active in the fight against climate change, this exercise enabled them to identify other existing efforts with similar missions. In addition to institutional support, raising the profile and networking of non-state actors involved in the implementation of the SDGs and climate change in Gabon, the following three measures were arrived on as the way forward to enhance collaboration amongst CSOs at the sub-national:



- i. To organize roundtables to connect and identify relevant civil society member organizations to contribute to the fight against climate justice and environmental justice;
- ii. To jointly develop a verified civil society inventory for an overview and reference point for networking civil society actors related to climate change and their activities;
- iii. To make this inventory available to the general public and to the relevant political decision- makers via an easy-to-access digital mapping tool.

### **Output 4.2.3: Newly created and altered governance structures within the PACJA secretariat are strengthened to effectively perform their mandate.**

GUARD has enabled PACJA to strengthen its governance structures and especially the Secretariat. In 2023, the Alliance held its general congress, the highest governance organ conducted every three years, in accordance with the Constitution. The General Congress constitute three members from all 51 DNP, ensuring one third gender rule. The Congress was held in Addis Ababa and a set of new leaders in respective organs was elected, signifying the bold move by PACJA to remain accountable with sound governance.

#### **Main outcomes**

- ▶ A new set of leaders to steer the Alliance for the next three years was elected, signifying the stability of its governance.
- ▶ PACJA remains legally compliant to both internal and external governance instruments

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AND LESSONS LEARNT

PACJA raised the profile of its advocacy work in the continent by catalysing partnerships across multistakeholder groups and Platforms. From the PAP Summit to Africa Climate Summit, to CCDA- XI, AfDB-CSOs Coalition and COP28, the Alliance ability to navigate these partnerships was, to say the least, remarkably poignant.

The Alliance reinvirogated its campaign approaches, developed and adopted the *Keep Your Promise campaign*, a multi-pronged campaign approach that solidifies mobilization on key critical issues while demanding political leadership in Africa to pursue accountability on climate action.

### Other achievements 2023 include:

#### ▶ **SUCCESSFUL DEVELOPMENT OF A STRATEGY TOWARDS COP 28**

Its not enough to develop a strategy. But the consultative and inclusive manner in which this was developed made ownership easy, hence effective implementation by all stakeholders.

#### ▶ **CEMENTING OF PACJA GOVERNANACE SYSTEM**

Leadership means everyhting, and the renewal of the mandate of the Alliance organs without any drama means PACJA has solified sound governance system. This is essential for an organisation demanding accountability and transparency from government and other stakeholders.

#### ▶ **ENHANCED FUNDRASINING CAPABILITIES TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY**

Through regular capacity buidling sessions and regional exchange workshops, the DNPs have staedly developed useful capacities in fundrasing independently. This will wean them from reliance on PACJA Secretariat as the sole source of income. On the other hand, PACJA's dynamic orientation makes it possible to remain relevant in the ever evolving climate discourse processes. The many initiatives and partnerships have enabled the Alliance to diversify its resource base.

#### ▶ **ENHANCEMENT OF EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL COMMUNICATION**

Throughout the year, PACJA has demonstrated a robust commitment to knowledge dissemination and engagement through various publications. These include activity-based articles, climate justice blogs authored by the staff, newsletters, and statements/communiqués derived from workshops and conferences at national, regional, and international levels. These publications align closely with the organisation's mandate and span various thematic areas.

Noteworthy achievements in the Alliance publication efforts include the release of over 50 articles, a quarterly newsletter, and six statements addressing critical issues such as loss and damage, health and climate change, and the rejection of the COP28 President. The Nairobi Declaration, an outcome of the Africa Climate Summit, and the Non-State Actors Redlines statement on the same Summit were also among PACJA's impactful publications. Additionally, the organization provided statements at events like BONN SB58, the PAP outcome, and the 36th African Union Summit.

PACJA's embrace of digital platforms for engagement and information dissemination has been substantial. Live coverage on platforms like YouTube has become a standard practice for the organization, facilitating real-time access to knowledge-rich events at regional and national levels.

Events such as the PAP Summit presided over by the President of the Republic of Kenya, the Parliamentarian Dialogue on the sidelines of the Africa Climate Summit, and the Africa Climate Week in Nairobi were all live-streamed on various television channels, ensuring broad public access.

The inaugural Agricultural Conference on Accelerating Adaptation in Africa, hosted by the Alliance, was a landmark event that exemplified the organisation's commitment to transparency and accessibility. The entire conference was live-streamed on YouTube channel, providing continuous public access to valuable discussions.

In the realm of media engagement, the organization participated in a total of 20 media interviews with both local and international outlets. These interviews served as platform to share expertise on various climate-related topics and offer clear perspectives on developments in the climate change space. Furthermore, press conferences were organized during the reporting period to address urgent issues, solidifying PACJA's position as a thought leader in climate justice.

To enhance our media reach, the Alliance adopted a collaborative approach by engaging freelance journalists committed to climate justice reporting. This strategy proved successful in reaching broader audiences that may not been reached by mainstream media alone.

To diversify the Alliance communication channels, the organisation initiated a series of podcasts. This initiative has produced four episodes in both English and French, contributing to increased reach and the development of a consistent audience across diverse segments within the climate justice space.

Furthermore, capacity development was conducted for DNPs and communication focal persons. The training focused on Communication, advocacy and Knowledge management. The training was in line with developed communication and Knowledge Management Strategies, to ensure the efficiency of the Alliance is attained.

## **Enhanced partnerships at regional and global levels**

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There is growing vigor in building alliances with other like-minded organizations in the globe. This is manifested by increased number of MOUs signed with PACJA, among them, the Kenya Girl Guides Association and Kenya Young Parliamentarians Association. Other key partnerships that were explored with; Environmental Defense Fund based in USA, One Tree planted, the office of former Malawian President, HE Joyce Banda, Fiji National University, among other partnerships.



# **GUARD-AFRICA**

**(Galvanising and Unifying  
Africa's Action for Resilient  
Development in the Era of  
the Pandemic)**

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