



In Partnership With



6th Africa Climate Talks & SDGs Forum

Theme: Rethinking financing and ambition for climate action, green growth and development in Africa: a justice issue

Outcome Statement

7th – 8th April 2025

Speke Resort Convention Center

Kampala, Uganda

Introduction

The Sixth Africa Climate Talks and SDG Forum was held under the theme: "*Rethinking financing and ambition for climate action, green growth, and development in Africa: a justice issue*" at Speke Resort Convention Center, Kampala, from 7-8 April 2025.

The presentations from all the sessions at the event acknowledged that Africa continues to bear a disproportionate burden of the impacts of climate change, despite being the least emitter of greenhouse gases in the world. This stark reality underscores the need for climate justice, equity, and fair financing for Africa. The ongoing inability of many countries, particularly developed countries that are parties to the UNFCCC Convention, to implement the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC) undermines Africa's voice in multilateral climate negotiations and erodes confidence in international efforts. There is a strong desire to redefine Africa's role on the climate change platform at the global level, to achieve affordable and equitable financing, drive fair transition processes, and position Africa as a leader in sustainable development.

The following are key outcome statements that combine the voices and lessons from various sessions and stakeholders at the event.

1. Reframing climate finance as a matter of justice and equity

- Africa must reframe climate finance as a question of justice in its effort to make it accessible, transparent, and responsive to Africa's interests, thereby increasing its bargaining power ahead of COP30.
- The New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance must be genuinely reflective of Africa's true needs, far exceeding the US\$ 300 billion pledge. It should be based on justice and equity, and grant-based, channeled through public modalities. It must contain solid provisions for predictable and transparent finance, with direct access for Africa, and robust accountability mechanisms.
- African countries must demand simplified, streamlined access to climate finance, and develop financing innovations for African contexts.
- The Loss and Damage Fund must focus on predictable, accessible, demand-responsive finance for Africa, especially for disadvantaged frontline communities.

2. Building national capacities and institutions for climate resilience

- Africa must integrate loss and damage, as well as just transition planning, into their NDCs, NAPs, and LT-LEDS and embed climate action in national development planning.

- Institutional capacity-building is urgently needed across Africa for proper access, management, and tracking of climate finance, and project delivery.
- Creation of a professional human resource pool and education, R&D, and domestic innovation infrastructure is crucial to developing solutions native to home soil and spur green entrepreneurship.
- Countries must incorporate climate resilience into social service delivery systems, such as WASH, education, healthcare, nutrition—through national planning and integration of climate risk management and adaptation.
- Governments must build integrated climate information services—such as early warning systems, vulnerability indices, and geo-referenced platforms—that support risk management, planning, and access to finance.

3. Empowering African Union (AU) and regional agencies in global climate governance

- Africa's collective voice in climate negotiations must be strengthened through formal recognition of the AU as a Party to the UNFCCC. This institutional upgrade would enable the AU to represent Africa's shared priorities, negotiate with greater coherence, and coordinate implementation of continental frameworks such as Agenda 2063 and the African Union Climate Resilient Development Strategy.
- Africa must leverage opportunities like the African Climate Summit (ACS) and South Africa and AU's G20 Presidency to set its own agenda—making the Summits more participatory and African-reality-focused with minimized outside influence.
- In the lead-up to COP30, Africa must strengthen its collective leadership and strategic engagement across key global events to assert its development priorities and secure fair climate outcomes.

4. Shaping Africa's role in climate legal processes

- African countries must engage the ICJ advisory process strategically, submitting joint legal arguments that articulate the continent's climate vulnerabilities and justice issues.
- Global legal tools, including litigation, need to be incorporated into Africa's climate diplomacy—making countries accountable for emissions and increasing calls for stepping up climate ambitions and availing climate finance.

5. Secure future climate for children, youth, and local communities

- Africa must prioritize child-sensitive climate action, including raising finance for education, health, and protection via climate investment as only 2.4% of finance is currently allocated to child-related climate action.
- Youth and local communities must be empowered to play a central role in enhancing resilience by incorporating youth-led action into policy and implementation frameworks.
- Climate finance must be locally led and inclusive—especially in conflict-affected and fragile contexts—with involvement of women and youth as prime resilience actors.

6. Reconfiguring carbon market mechanisms for Africa

- Africa should adopt a careful and principled approach to carbon markets to prevent exploitation and greenwashing, as the existing carbon market structures often undervalue Africa's mitigation potential, redirect benefits from local communities, and pose risks to land rights, sovereignty, and sustainable development.
- African countries must prioritize the development of robust regulatory frameworks, fair benefit-sharing mechanisms, and transparent oversight to ensure that both market and non-market mechanisms under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement serve Africa's development justice goals.
- The African Union Commission, Member states, and partners should fast-track the implementation of the Africa Action Plan on Carbon Markets (AAPCM).

7. Just transition, energy access, and green jobs

- Africa's equitable and just transition to a low-carbon economy must be led by energy access, job creation, and equity.
- Governments must cautiously implement national and regional just transition strategies by sustainably utilizing their natural resources.
- Africa's strategic minerals should be prioritized for regional manufacturing, regional value-addition, and industrialization—and not for exploitation.

8. Linking peace, security, and action on climate

- Climate change fuels insecurity and fragility on the African continent. Justice-led solutions to combine climate threats provide the key to sustaining peace and preventing displacement.

- The Regional Economic Communities and the African Union need to scale up leadership of climate-security fusion, with boosted data systems, early warning, and context-specified financing mechanisms.
- Financing will be conflict-sensitive, inclusive, and aligned to local peacebuilding strategies—particularly for hotspots exposed to compounding climate and conflict risks.
- The African Union should fast-track the development and operationalization of the Common African Position on Climate, Peace and Security (CAP-CPS)

9. Harnessing climate data, research, and indigenous knowledge for evidence-based climate action in Africa

- Africa must prioritize translating climate research and innovation into actionable, context-specific policies that advance sustainable development.
- Investing in climate data systems is critical for Africa’s adaptive capacity and development planning.
- African countries must integrate indigenous knowledge and community-generated data into climate science, planning, and monitoring by recognizing local actors, participatory research, and traditional ecological knowledge.

10. Forging strategic partnerships for climate finance and technology

- Africa must establish strategic partnerships to access grant-based climate finance and accelerate the deployment of locally led, gender-sensitive, and priority-driven technologies.
- Africa must foster South-South co-operation to enhance regional transfer of technology, knowledge and innovation, and minimize external dependence.
- The UNFCCC's financial mechanisms should prioritize a grant-based approach over loans, reduce access barriers, and directly support frontline and community-level actions.