



**ADVANCING THE ROLE OF THE AFRICAN CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOs)
IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND (GCF).**

FOUNDING A SPACE FOR GCF IN AFRICA'S JUST TRANSITION FRAMEWORK.

VENUE: SAL ISLAND, CABO VERDE

DATE: 13th – 17th Sept 2021

1. Background

Increasing temperatures and sea levels, changing precipitation patterns and more extreme weather events are threatening human health and safety, food and water security and socio-economic development in Africa. According to a multi-agency publication coordinated by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO); *the state of the climate in Africa Report 2019*; increasing climate change threatens human health, food and water security and socio-economic development in continent. The report states that the year 2019 was among the three warmest years on record for the continent. That trend; the report predicted; is expected to continue. African temperatures in recent decades have been warming at a rate comparable to that of most other continents, and thus somewhat faster than global mean surface temperature. Additionally, the report showed that extensive areas of Africa will exceed 2 °C of warming above pre-industrial levels by the last two decades of this century under medium scenarios as reported in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fifth Assessment Report. Since then, much of Africa has already warmed by more than 1 °C since 1901, with an increase in heat waves and hot days. A reduction in precipitation is likely over North Africa and the south-western parts of South Africa by the end of the century, according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

Similarly, there is significant regional variability in sea-level trends around Africa. Sea-level increase reached 5 mm per year in several oceanic areas surrounding the continent and exceeded 5 mm per year in the south-western Indian Ocean from Madagascar eastward towards and beyond Mauritius. This is more than the average global sea-level rise of 3–4 mm per year. Coastal degradation and erosion is also a major challenge, especially in West Africa. About 56% of the coastlines in Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal and Togo are eroding and this is expected to worsen in the future. Sea level rise is currently not the dominant contributor but is expected to combine with other factors in future to exacerbate the negative consequences of environmental changes¹. Even worse, Africa is aggressively facing food insecurity crisis at the moment. According to statistics, the number of undernourished people has increased by 45.6% since 2012 despite the sector (agriculture) being the backbone of Africa's economy and accounts for the majority of livelihoods (FAO, 2012). Key risks to agriculture include reduced crop productivity associated with heat and drought stress and increased pest

¹ https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=21778#.X5giydPsYiR



damage, disease damage and flood impacts on food system infrastructure, resulting in serious adverse effects on food security and on livelihoods at the regional, national and individual household levels.

Even as the African continent continues to battle the climate crisis resulting from the aforementioned vulnerabilities, the outbreak of COVID – 19 has exposed; to a greater extent; the compounded fragility health and disease outbreak exposes the continent to the impacts of climate change. Apart from the procedural injustice COVID – 19 has had on the continent as far as climate change governance processes are concerned, it is reported that the increases in temperature and changes in rainfall patterns also significantly affect population health across Africa. Warmer temperatures and higher rainfall increase habitat suitability for biting insects and the transmission of vector-borne diseases such as dengue fever, malaria and yellow fever.

2. Justification

From the impacts of raising temperatures, raising sea levels, extreme weather events, food insecurity, health crisis and economic impacts, it is now clear and certain that Africa must think of just transition in sectors like agriculture, energy, waste management, forestry and natural resource management, disaster risk reduction and management, manufacturing and industrialization, transport as well as urbanization and housing if the impacts of climate change have to somewhat be managed. In order to do this, the continent will require the requisite infrastructure, capacity; both technical and human; and the resources to achieve just transition as embodied in the respective African countries' nationally determined contribution; which brings into the picture, the green climate fund.

Created to support the efforts of developing countries (mostly in Africa and Asia) in responding to the challenge of climate emergency, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) is a unique global platform and or facility to respond to climate change by investing in low-emission and climate-resilient development – which is the broader goal of green economy and therefore transition by extension. GCF was established by 194 governments to limit or reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in developing countries, and to help vulnerable societies adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change. Given the urgency and seriousness of this challenge, GCF is mandated to make an ambitious contribution to the united global response to climate change. Since its establishment, the statistics available indicate that through 7.2 billion US Dollars, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) has supported 158 projects in the developing and least developing countries to enhance such countries communities climate resilience while maximizing on reducing the emission of greenhouse gases thereby translating to an equivalent of 1.2 billion metric tonnes of carbon avoided, enhanced resilience of about 407.8 million people globally².

² <https://www.greenclimate.fund/>



With the Conference for Climate Change and Development (CCDA) series conceived by parties to transparently discuss and enable linkages between climate science and development policy and the theme for 2021 looking at a just transition in Africa for resilient communities societies and economies in the sectors like energy and transport, food security (Agriculture), manufacturing and processing (Industrialization), health, sanitation and waste management, it is important to consider the resources including the finances that will be required in the transition to a low carbon development pathways and ultimately “net zero” by 2050 while not neglecting the social economic and economic justice that comes with the transition especially to those working in the sectors mentioned.

It is against this background; alongside the opportunity availed by the Conference for Climate Change and Development in Africa (CCDA) in Cape Verde from **28th to 30th June 2021**; that the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) as the African regional node for the “Advancing the Role of the African Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the Administration of GCF in Africa” project in partnership with Care International and GermanWatch; plans to convene the African CSO caucus to discuss and found a place for GCF in the continent’s just transition framework with the broader objective of climate proofing the continents’ economies societies and people.

3. Specific objectives of the workshop

- To provide a platform for the African CSOs to review and provide inputs onto the broader continent’s aspirations as embodied in the just transition framework from the financing lenses
- To discuss and provide avenues for interventions for GCF in the broader just transition framework for the African continent
- To develop and communicate recommendations by the African CSOs in the form of a position paper on found spaces for GCF in the broader just transition framework for the African continent.

4. Target audience

The activity shall target a total of 30 participants drawn from policy makers, the CSOs, development practioners and project partners

5. Tentative programme

| PROGRAMME | |
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| Agenda Item | Responsibility |
| Arrivals and Registration | - Pan African Climate Justice Alliance |
| Opening remarks and Agenda Setting | - PACJA, Care International and GermanWatch - Representative NDA/Head of State/Development Practioner |



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| <p>Unpacking the Just Transition Concept in the African Context</p> <p>Focus on;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The African Sector Specific Just Transition and Financing – sectors to be covered include energy, transport and urbanization, health, Agriculture, waste management, forestry and natural resource management, Housing etc. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TBC |
| WORKING TEA/TEA BREAK | |
| <p>Green Climate Fund and its role and or founding in the Just Transition Framework for Africa</p> <p>Focus on;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 10 African Project Countries and the founding for GCF in their just transition framework in line with INDC and NDCs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TBC |
| Q & A | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of a position paper to inform the founding for GCF in the African Continent’s just transition framework | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ALL |
| NETWORKING TEA AND DEPARTURE | |