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CLIMATE JUSTICE AFRICA

Magazine



Professor Carlos Lopes
Mrs. Kikelomo Adeniyi FPMC • FAPMCN • FIMO
Ambassador Ali Mohamed

VOICES OF POWER

AFRICAN LEADERSHIP FORGING A JUST FUTURE



CLIMATE JUSTICE
AFRICA
Magazine





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Vision Statement

To be Africa's most trusted voice on climate justice, amplifying stories, solutions and leadership

Mission Statement

Climate Justice Africa exists to spotlight African perspectives, and drive inclusive climate action through credible reports, bold storytelling, and advocacy-driven narratives.



What to Expect in This Edition

This edition, "Voices of Power: African Leadership Forging a Just Future," brings together compelling narratives that reflect the strength, complexity, and promise of African leadership in the climate justice space.

Highlight and stories in this edition go beyond headlines, it presents thought-provoking analyses on climate governance, leadership and sustainable development, offering a clearer understanding of how Africa is navigating global climate negotiations while advancing homegrown solutions.

You will find powerful human stories from vulnerable communities on the frontlines of climate change, stories of resilience, adaptation, and innovation that often go unheard but remain central to the continent's climate narrative.

Above all, this magazine is an invitation to engage, to reflect, and to be part of the growing movement shaping a just and sustainable future for Africa and the world. Whether you are a policymaker, researcher, governance leader, industry executive, youth, innovator, or advocate, this magazine is for you.

Climate Justice Africa is a movement.

Editorial Note



**Joy Ify
Onyekwere**

Editor-in-Chief
Climate Justice Africa
Magazine

Dear Reader,

Africa stands at a defining moment in its history, one where the urgency of climate action intersects with the rise of transformative leadership across the continent. In this edition titled “Voices of Power: African Leadership Forging a Just Future,” we bring into focus individuals, institutions, and communities who are not only responding to the climate crisis but actively shaping pathways toward justice, resilience, and sustainable development.

From policy corridors to grassroots innovation hubs, African leadership continues to demonstrate that solutions to global challenges are already taking root within our communities. This issue amplifies those voices; leaders who are reimagining governance, championing environmental stewardship, and advancing equity in climate action.

Their stories reflect courage, innovation, and an unwavering commitment to a future where both people and planet thrive.

At Climate Justice Africa Magazine, we remain dedicated to documenting and elevating these narratives with integrity and purpose. We believe that storytelling is not just a record of change, but a catalyst for it.

As you engage with this edition, may it inspire reflection, ignite dialogue, and reinforce the belief that Africa is not waiting for the future, we are actively building it.



Comrade Yusuf Olatunji Kelani

Special Assistant to the President
of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
on Climate Change Matters

Comrade Yusuf Olatunji Kelani is an environmental expert, climate change advocate, and youth leader currently serving as the Special Assistant to the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on Climate Change Matters, a position he was appointed to in April 2024.

In his current role, he supports the advancement of Nigeria's climate action priorities under the Renewed Hope Agenda, focusing on climate governance, environmental sustainability, stakeholder engagement, climate advocacy, and subnational collaboration.

He is the Founder of the Earth Advocacy and Empowerment Foundation, an environmental advocacy and leadership platform through which he has led and supported several initiatives on climate change awareness, renewable energy promotion, mangrove restoration, climate-smart agriculture, waste management, recycling, and community environmental sustainability projects.

Comrade Kelani is an accredited Contact Point to the United Nations Framework

Convention on Climate Change and has participated in several international climate and environmental engagements organized by institutions including United Nations Environment Programme and the Commonwealth. He is widely recognized as a leading voice on climate action, environmental governance, and youth inclusion in climate change conversations across Africa.

He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from Olabisi Onabanjo University, a Professional Certificate in Environmental Sustainability and Agriculture from Brooklyn College, and a Master's Degree in Public and International Affairs (MPIA) from University of Lagos.



Ambassador Ali Mohamed

Special Envoy for Climate Change, Executive Office of the President Nairobi, Kenya.

Ambassador Ali D Mohamed is one of Africa's most seasoned climate policy negotiators, a Kenyan public servant with more than three decades of experience at the intersection of environmental governance, sustainable development and international diplomacy. He currently serves as Special Envoy for Climate Change in the Executive Office of the President of Kenya, advising on national climate strategy and representing Kenya in high-level global forums on climate action and climate finance.

In this role, Amb Mohamed has been at the forefront of shaping how climate change is understood and acted upon across the continent. His work bridges African domestic priorities with global negotiation processes, from advocating for fair climate finance mechanisms to negotiating cross-border partnerships and launching initiatives that unlock private sector capital for low-carbon growth.

Career and climate diplomacy

Long before the title "Special Envoy," Amb Mohamed built his reputation as an environment and development expert with deep expertise in policy formulation, multilateral negotiations and institutional leadership. He has over 30 years of public service experience in environmental and development sectors and boasts strong

analytical skills and a keen understanding of how environmental integrity and economic development intersect.

He has played prominent roles in several major international climate initiatives and leadership positions, including Chair of the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) on Climate Change, a critical coalition of African states under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. In this capacity, Amb Mohamed coordinated African negotiating positions at key conferences, including COP forums, amplifying the continent's demands for equitable climate finance and adaptation support.

He has also been lead facilitator of climate finance coalitions such as the Coalition to Grow Carbon Markets, launched to expand access to high-integrity carbon finance mechanisms that can attract private investment to climate mitigation and adaptation projects. Amb Mohamed is also an advisor on global climate partnerships, from Africa-California climate economic partnerships to collaboration frameworks with European partners on renewable energy and industrial transitions.

These roles make him a key voice for African climate priorities, especially on climate finance, adaptation, resilience, and clean growth.

Ambassador Ali Mohamed

Climate leadership and recognition

Amb Mohamed's leadership on climate change diplomacy hasn't gone unnoticed. In late 2024 he was named among the Top 100 Most Influential Africans in the Climate Space by New African Magazine, a marked recognition of his contribution to unifying African climate negotiators and pushing for equitable climate action at the world's biggest climate forums.

He has also been appointed to advisory boards and distinguished fellowships with influential global climate institutions, including being named in 2025 as a Distinguished Fellow by the Global Center on Adaptation (GCA), where he contributes to shaping continental adaptation investments and mentoring emerging African climate leaders.



Policy focus and advocacy

Amb Mohamed's policy advocacy reflects an emphasis on climate justice and finance equity. He pushes strongly for African nations to secure greater, fairer climate finance, insisting that developed countries must honour their commitments while reforming international financial institutions that currently hinder equitable access to funds for mitigation and adaptation.

At various investment forums, he has pushed for the need to reposition Africa not as a passive recipient but as a global green industrial hub, capable of leveraging its renewable energy potential and critical minerals to drive sustainable economic growth.

He advocates practical partnerships linking governments, donors and private capital through innovative risk-sharing and high-integrity carbon market mechanisms that align environmental integrity with developmental impact.

Colleagues and observers describe Amb Mohamed as a diplomat who blends technical policy prowess with strategic coalition-building. He operates comfortably in technical UN negotiation rooms as he does in high-stakes investment platforms, always with the same aim of catalysing climate action that is just, financeable and rooted in African realities.

Mrs. Kikelomo

Adeniyi FPMC • FAPMCN • FIMO President Custom Officers' Wives Association (COWA)

Mrs. Kikelomo Adeniyi is a dynamic and accomplished professional whose career reflects versatility, leadership, and an unwavering commitment to excellence. With a strong foundation in business administration and a passion for continuous growth, she has successfully navigated multiple industries, leaving a lasting impact in each role she has undertaken.

She began her professional journey as a Business Development Manager at MBO and Co., where she quickly distinguished herself as a strategic thinker with a keen ability to identify opportunities for growth and expansion. Her tenure in this role was marked by innovative approaches to business development, as well as her dedication to building and sustaining strong relationships with clients and partners. Her success in this field laid a solid foundation for her future endeavors and demonstrated her capacity to thrive in competitive environments.

Driven by a desire to broaden her horizons, Mrs. Adeniyi transitioned into the media industry, taking on a role as a broadcaster at Ships and Ports Communications. In this capacity, she showcased her adaptability and communication skills, excelling in a fast-paced and dynamic environment. Her work in broadcasting further emphasized her versatility and ability to connect with diverse audiences, reinforcing her reputation as a well-rounded professional.

Beyond her corporate and media achievements, Mrs. Adeniyi has established herself as a respected figure in professional and academic circles.



She is a Fellow of the Institute of International Maritime Organization and a member of the Institute of Mentoring and Coaching of Nigeria. Through these affiliations, she has contributed her expertise to the maritime sector while also dedicating herself to mentoring and empowering emerging professionals. Her commitment to knowledge sharing and capacity building underscores her belief in developing the next generation of leaders.

A graduate of Business Administration, Mrs. Adeniyi possesses a strong academic background that complements her professional experience. Her education has equipped her with essential business and management skills, which she has effectively applied across her various roles. Her dedication to lifelong learning continues to shape her approach to leadership and innovation.



Mrs Kikelomo Adeniyi
FPMC • FAPMCN • FIMO

As the 3rd President of the Customs Officers' Wives Association (COWA), Mrs. Adeniyi has demonstrated exceptional leadership and vision. During her tenure, she has spearheaded numerous initiatives aimed at empowering members through skills acquisition and training programs. Her focus on supporting the spouses and families of Customs officers has led to impactful welfare programs, fostering unity and improving the quality of life within the community.

Under her leadership, COWA has also embraced modernization through the introduction of innovative processes and technology-driven solutions such as championing Climate Actions, sustainable initiatives with the COWA Green Borders Sustainability Initiative Project aimed at advancing approaches to climate change for Customs Borders, Greener and safer environments. This forward-thinking approach has positioned the organization to better meet contemporary demands while enhancing efficiency and effectiveness both National and international. Her leadership style, guided by clear goals, strong values, and a deep sense of purpose, has been instrumental in driving meaningful progress within the association.

In addition to her professional and organizational accomplishments, Mrs. Adeniyi is a successful entrepreneur. Her business ventures have not only yielded financial success but have also contributed to economic development and job creation within her community. Through her entrepreneurial efforts, she continues to empower others, demonstrating resilience, creativity, and a commitment to excellence.

Despite her many achievements, Mrs. Adeniyi remains deeply committed to her family life. As a devoted wife and mother, she exemplifies the ability to balance professional responsibilities with personal commitments. Her life serves as an inspiration to many, illustrating that success can be achieved without compromising one's values or responsibilities at home.

In summary, Mrs. Kikelomo Adeniyi is a visionary leader, seasoned professional, and dedicated mentor whose career is defined by innovation, adaptability, and impact. From her early days in business development to her influential role as President of COWA, she has consistently demonstrated excellence and a passion for making a difference. Her journey stands as a testament to the power of determination, continuous learning, and purposeful leadership.

Climate Justice Can't Be Imported: Why the Global South Needs to Lead Its Own

Climate justice is everywhere now—from speeches by world leaders to corporate sustainability strategies. But slogans are not solutions. If the climate movement is serious about justice, it needs to move beyond buzzwords and start listening to the people on the frontlines. Real justice means rethinking how we define priorities, whose voices shape decisions, and what “climate action” looks like on the ground.

The reality is: most climate policy and funding are still driven by the interests, ecosystems, and economies of the Global North. And this continues to leave behind communities that are living with the worst impacts of a crisis they didn't cause.

Much of today's climate work is shaped by what happens in big international spaces—especially the annual UN climate summit known as COP. These negotiations set the tone for national strategies, funding streams, and even activist agendas. But they often feel worlds away from the everyday struggles in vulnerable communities.

The climate crisis is local. It's about the flooding in your village, the failed crops, the unbearable summer heat, the water that no longer comes out of the tap. But the solutions discussed in global spaces rarely reflect that reality. Instead, they focus on targets and trends that align with the priorities of richer countries: reducing emissions, scaling green tech, and hitting net-zero goals.

If we want to stop leaving people behind, we need to stop designing climate solutions without them.



Nadine Wahab

Founder, Eco-Dahab, Director of Sustainable Network Egypt.

Not All Climate Funding Is Created Equal

In theory, climate funding supports three things:

- **Mitigation:** Reducing carbon emissions
- **Adaptation:** Adjusting to life in a warming world
- **Loss and damage** – helping communities recover from climate-induced disasters

Even if Egypt somehow reached net zero tomorrow and perfectly transitioned its workforce to clean jobs, its people would still suffer from water scarcity, food insecurity, heatwaves, and flooding. A “just transition” alone doesn't cool the air or refill the Nile. We need policies that make communities climate-resilient—ones that start with the real threats they're facing, not just international climate goals.

Climate Buzzwords Don't Translate

Terms like “just transition” and “green economy” might sound progressive, but they often carry assumptions rooted in temperate climates and industrial economies. In Egypt, for instance, greening the desert by planting trees might look good on paper—but it puts further stress on water systems already stretched to the brink.

Climate Justice Can't Be Imported: Why the Global South Needs to Lead Its Own

- By Nadine Wahab

What does “green” mean in a country where the natural colors are gold, blue, and brown? Replicating climate projects designed for Europe or the US in vastly different climates like ours can cause more harm than good. We can't copy-paste climate solutions. They need to grow from the ground up, shaped by people who know their land and their needs.

The Price of Global Visibility

One of the biggest pressures on local environmental groups today is the expectation to show up in global spaces—especially COP. While international engagement is important, it's also expensive, resource-draining, and often exclusionary.

When COP27 came to Egypt, many local civil society groups felt they couldn't afford not to engage. They diverted time and money away from their core work to attend. Some spent a year recovering from the financial and emotional toll. The funding that poured in ahead of COP dried up soon after. And while international actors flew in and out, local communities were left with the same problems—and fewer resources to solve them.

This kind of engagement can't replace long-term, rooted, community-driven work. It shouldn't cost grassroots groups their stability just to be seen.

Short-Term Funding, Long-Term Harm

Most support for environmental work comes in short-term, project-based packages. This creates a race for deliverables and reports, while local organizations struggle to retain staff, build expertise, or plan beyond the next grant cycle.

The result? A loss of knowledge, a loss of continuity, and a growing divide between communities on the frontlines and the conversations happening about them at the global level.

Local groups often bend their mission to fit external priorities. Instead of shaping the agenda, they're forced to follow it. And when they do get to show up in international spaces, they're often tokenized—celebrated in photos, but sidelined in strategy.

Centering the Right Priorities

If the climate movement truly wants to build a just future, it must begin by listening to the people who live with the consequences of climate change every day. That means supporting:

- **Adaptation and resilience** over carbon accounting
- **Community knowledge** over technocratic solutions
- **Long-term local partnerships** over short-term projects
- **Infrastructure that protects lives** over symbolic green initiatives

Building climate justice means investing in local networks and community leaders who understand their context. It requires trust, space to learn, and above all, a shift in power.

Toward a Climate Movement That Doesn't Repeat History

For too long, climate action has mirrored the same global dynamics that created the crisis in the first place—extractive, top-down, and focused on the priorities of the powerful. We can't build a just world by repeating old mistakes in new language.

If we truly want to leave no one behind, then we need to start where climate injustice lives—and listen.





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At The Mercy of Rising Seas: Senegal's Coastal Women and the Fight for Climate Justice



Ramatoulaye Corréa
Senegal

Disclaimer:

This article is based on personal field interviews and additional documented examples from public sources.

All testimonies and scenes described below reflect real events as told by community members and have been documented with their permission and insights.



Introduction

In Mouit, a coastal village in northern Senegal, life by the ocean once meant beauty and abundance: the sound of waves at dawn, the breeze carrying the promise of fish, and generations growing up with the sea as their horizon. Yet for many women, this cherished proximity has turned into peril.

They described to me what it feels like to wake up with the ocean invading your home. Their voices were calm but heavy with loss: one carried her grandmother through floodwater; another held her children as the walls collapsed. By dawn, their houses had vanished, and families were forced to relocate inland, leaving behind the only homes they had ever known. For them, climate change is not tomorrow's threat, it is last night's reality.

As we listened, together with other volunteers from the Climate Linguère Club, we felt an overwhelming sadness and a quiet rage at the injustice. These families had done nothing to cause climate change, yet they were left to face its worst consequences with little support. The women told us about promises of help that never came, of officials who vowed to relocate them or build seawalls but delivered nothing. Despite this situation, the women of Mouit welcomed us generously. I felt grateful, humbled that they trusted us, strangers, with their stories and hopes. That afternoon, I promised myself to carry their voices beyond that village.

Leaving the office and stepping into the field reveals the reality of this crisis. Listening to the women of Mouit shows that for many African communities, the urgent issue is not abstract climate debates, but adaptationsurvival, dignity, and real support for those on the frontlines. Climate action must begin with those already living through its impacts and be rooted in justice and practical support. In these coastal communities, women also carry a double burden: protecting both their families and their livelihoods in the face of the climate crisis.

At The Mercy of Rising Seas: Senegal's Coastal Women and the Fight for Climate Justice

- By Ramatoulaye Corréa

A Double Burden: Gendered Economic Exposure & Informality

In places like Saint-Louis or Bargny, women are the backbone of coastal life. They nurture families, keep communities connected, and sustain local economies through their work. In traditional fishing villages, while men venture out to sea, it is often women who buy, smoke, process, and sell the catch, ensuring food security and income for households. Yet this vital role makes them especially vulnerable: when floods strike in the middle of the night, it is these same women who rush to rescue their children, and when the ocean advances or fish stocks collapse, their livelihoods can vanish almost instantly.

Zooming out to the national picture, we see that Senegal's women are indeed at the heart of its economy, and at the forefront of its vulnerabilities. Women make up nearly half of Senegal's population, and they form the backbone of the informal economy that most families depend on. It has been reported that roughly seven in ten Senegalese women work in what's termed "vulnerable employment, jobs that are precarious, low-paying, and lacking basic security. Whether it's selling produce in the market, processing fish by the shore, or tending urban vegetable gardens, most of these women work without contracts, insurance, or any formal safety net.

In fact, between 2015 and 2019 about 80% of employed women in Senegal were working in the informal sector, with no protections like pensions or paid leave. Paradoxically, this strong and industrious segment of society is also among the most exposed to shocks.

When a flood or coastal erosion event strikes, it is these informal market traders, fish processors, and home-based entrepreneurs who risk losing everything, and who have the least resources to rebuild.

A single high tide can sweep away years of savings invested in a fish-drying business. A sudden flood can destroy stock, equipment, and storehouses that were never insured or registered. Women in the informal sector risk being pushed deeper into poverty, not for lack of effort or initiative or skill but because the system offers them no safety net.

As climate change intensifies, vulnerability cannot be understood through gender alone. Age, disability, and social status often determine who is most exposed and who has the fewest options when disaster strikes. Older women living the difficulty of fleeing sudden floods or even women living with disabilities are often invisible in adaptation programs, facing barriers to relocation or livelihood support. And for families already living in poverty, the loss of even a modest home or fish-smoking shed can erase years of effort. Men too are affected as fish stocks decline and traditional livelihoods erode, forcing difficult decisions about migration or new forms of work.

As fish stocks collapse along Senegal's coast, men's roles in coastal households are also shifting. Many migrate seasonally to Dakar or abroad, seeking income through construction or informal labor. While remittances help, their absence leaves women with heavier responsibility for feeding families, sustaining local economies, and caring for children and the elderly. This imbalance adds another layer to the injustice: climate shocks are not only destroying livelihoods, they are reshaping households in ways that deepen women's already disproportionate burdens.

Building true resilience in Senegal will mean to support these women with recovery funds, micro-insurance and capacities to adapt. Protecting their livelihoods is protecting the survival and dignity of the entire community.

At The Mercy of Rising Seas: Senegal's Coastal Women and the Fight for Climate Justice

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Climate Justice: Those Who Did Least are Suffering Most

All of this leads us to the heart of the matter: climate justice. For communities, climate change is not an abstract debate about carbon budgets: it is an everyday fight for the right to live and adapt in the face of a crisis they did nothing to cause. These families have contributed almost nothing to the greenhouse gas emissions that drive sea-level rise, yet they are the ones watching their homes and hopes to get washed away by the encroaching ocean.

This stark inequality is what climate justice is about. It's not only about cutting emissions in wealthy, industrialized nations; it's about fairness and support on the frontlines of the climate emergency. Climate justice means recognizing that a mother in Senegal, who never asked for a changing climate, shouldn't have to face its fury alone. It means ensuring that those who are most affected, especially women caregivers and breadwinners at the coast, get the resources and support they need to protect their families and livelihoods as the environment around them shifts.

A fisherwoman from Mouit captured the depth of this injustice: many women risk, and sometimes lose, their lives venturing farther into the sea to gather oysters without training or equipment.

"We've been losing a lot of women", she simply said because they never had the chance at safer work, education, access to finance or inclusion in their community's future.

Inclusive pathways to justice

True climate justice would bridge the gap between the resilience of frontline communities and the resources they're provided.

The women and men living through Senegal and West Africa's coast erosion crisis have shown remarkable strength and ingenuity: from organizing local youth to fill sandbags, to creating rotating savings groups to help each other after disasters. What they lack are the funds, infrastructure, and larger-scale support to match their resilience.

Bridging this gap starts with amplifying women's voices so that adaptation funds and policies reach those who need them most.



Access to Adaptation Finance

A persistent barrier for frontline communities is financial exclusion. Women often lack collateral and formal credit, limiting their ability to invest in climate resilience. To Afi Global, nearly 980 million women worldwide are excluded from formal finance systems contributing to a 9% gender gap in access across developing countries.

To bridge this gap, stakeholders can co-create a locally-led adaptation initiatives that channels adaptation resources directly to women-led community initiatives. Tailored micro-credit schemes, women-focused climate funds, and community cooperatives are proven approaches.

For example, in Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire, projects have organized women's savings and credit associations and even set up "climate solidarity" loan lines to fund women's adaptation initiatives. Such gender-informed financing not only empowers women to lead local projects but also yields high returns in community resilience. Notably, global climate finance remains skewed; observers noted that only 2% of climate finance flows in 2019,2020 were gender-responsive. Prioritizing women's access to adaptation funds isn't just about equity; it makes climate action more effective by unlocking the skills and knowledge of half the population.

At The Mercy of Rising Seas: Senegal's Coastal Women and the Fight for Climate Justice

- By Ramatoulaye Corr ea

Relocation with Dignity

As seas rise, relocation has become inevitable for some coastal communities. However, justice depends on how it is done.

Moving people to higher ground is not enough; schools, jobs, social connection must move with them. Past adaptation efforts in Senegal show why promises often to fall short. A \$75 million seawall in Saint-Louis protected the tourist quarter but left fishing families exposed, while more than 10,000 people relocated to Khar Yalla found no schools, clinics, or jobs and reported feeling abandoned.

With camp with no state-run school many children simply stopped attending; Human Rights Watch found about a third are now out of school, with most households pushed below the poverty line. Girls are hit hardest: parents describe daughters leaving studies to work in Dakar or support family expenses. Without schools or services in relocation sites, displacement forces children, especially girls, out of the classroom and into cycles of poverty and inequality. True climate justice demands relocation with dignity: planned with community's voices at the table and designed to strengthen well-being rather than strip it away.

Sustainable Livelihoods

Building climate justice is also about creating new, resilient ways for families to earn a living. In coastal Senegal, women are pioneering sustainable livelihoods that both adapt to climate change and strengthen the environment.

For generations, women fish processors have smoked and dried fish; in fact, about 90% of traditional fish processing work in Senegal is done by women, often supporting large families.

Today, with fish catches declining and wood for smoking scarce, women are innovating. Some have adopted eco-friendly fish processing techniques, such as improved smoke ovens that use 40% less fuel (reducing deforestation and toxic smoke).

Others are diversifying into aquaculture and agro-forestry. In the Sine Saloum delta, a women's cooperative shifted from solely harvesting wild oysters to farming them and added beekeeping to their repertoire. The results are striking: by marketing honey and oyster products, these women quadrupled their daily income (from around \$8 to \$33) and reduced pressure on mangroves.

Across West Africa, women-led groups are leading mangrove restoration projects, replanting mangroves that shield coasts from storms and serve as fish nurseries. Senegal's authorities, for example, are working with local women to restore parts of the country's 200,000 hectares of mangroves. Yet these changes have also opened space for collaboration. Some men who remain are adapting alongside women, turning to boat-building, aquaculture, or joining mangrove restoration projects once seen as "women's work." In places like the Sine Saloum, mixed groups now replant mangroves and share the income from oyster and honey production.

These efforts create jobs (the oyster sector alone provides ~6,000 jobs in Senegal, with women as 90% of the workforce) and protect livelihoods long-term. When women are supported to launch sustainable enterprises, from eco-tourism to climate-smart agriculture, the whole community becomes more resilient. Ensuring adaptation finance reaches such grassroots women's initiatives is key to scaling these successes.

Still, resilience on the ground can only go so far without stronger support from above.

At The Mercy of Rising Seas: Senegal's Coastal Women and the Fight for Climate Justice

- By Ramatoulaye Corr ea

Communities have heard many commitments over the years, but too often these have faltered because of weak planning, limited resources, or competing priorities.

Past adaptation efforts in Senegal show why so many bold promises have struggled to deliver real change. Expensive seawalls and relocation schemes have often fallen short because planning was weak, services were missing, and governance was fragmented. In Saint-Louis, for instance, a World Bank-backed seawall shielded the city center but left nearby fishing families exposed, while those moved to Khar Yalla arrived to find no schools, clinics, or jobs; and soon felt abandoned. These experiences reflect deeper challenges: overstretched local authorities, heavy dependence on external donors, and a tendency to favor large investment projects over the needs of vulnerable households.

For a Coastal Women's Climate Fund to truly work, Senegal would need to address these barriers by anchoring the fund in law, ensuring transparent oversight, securing reliable domestic financing, and guaranteeing women a strong voice in its governance. Only then can communities trust that commitments will be honored and resilience on the ground matched by justice in policy.



Conclusion

Senegal's coastal women know their fight is Africa's fight. As a climate activist, I saw this resilience up close. I sat with women who have moved their homes inland twice in a decade yet still refuse to surrender their ancestral shoreline. They spoke of loss, crumbling houses, saltwater invading vegetable plots but also of defiance: planting cassava in sandy soil to make the land hold a little longer.

I imagine a dawn in 2035 where Senegal's coastline is alive with restored mangroves, thriving markets, and laughter. In this vision, every relocation is planned with dignity, not forced by disaster, and the phrase "climate refugee" has faded into history. The sea still rises, but so do the people, united, hopeful, and heard.

But this future will only come if leaders match community resilience with bold policies. Governments must integrate gender quotas into relocation planning, earmark adaptation funds for women-led enterprises, and enforce coastal regulations to curb illegal fishing and unchecked development. Donors and global polluters must honor their climate finance commitments, channeling resources to locally-led solutions rather than distant bureaucracies. Municipal authorities must invest in infrastructure that protects homes, schools, and clinics in vulnerable zones.

The women on the frontlines have already done their part. They innovate, they rebuild, they protect ecosystems that sustain entire nations. Now it is time for governments, regional bodies, and international partners to do theirs, turning grassroots resilience into concrete climate justice, before the next wave arrives.

Climate Fact File

Simplifying Climate Conversations for Everyday People

Climate Fact File is a weekly radio program on **Peoples' 105.5fm Abuja** that breaks down complex climate issues into simple, relatable conversations for the everyday listener. Hosted by the Founder of Climate Justice Africa Magazine, **Joy Ify Onyekwere**, the show explores climate change impacts, policies, and solutions with insights from experts and changemakers across Africa. It also raises awareness, inspire action, and empower communities to take part in building a sustainable future.



Joy Ify Onyekwere
Founder of Climate Justice Africa Magazine





Prof. Magnus Chidi Onuoha

Executive Director, West Africa Green
Economic Development Institute (WAGEDI)

Energy for People, Planet and Prosperity: How Nigeria's Energy Transition Can Power a Green Economic Future

TEDxPortHarcourt

Nigeria stands at a defining moment. The question is no longer whether climate change is real, but how we respond to it.

Opening his TEDxPortHarcourt talk with a bold challenge to climate scepticism, Professor Magnus Chidi Onuoha made it clear: climate change is not fallacious. It is real, visible, and already reshaping Nigeria's geography and economy.

"We witnessed flooding yesterday," he said, referencing the devastation across the Niger Delta. "From Lagos to Calabar, sea level rise is swallowing coastal communities. The Southeast is battling severe erosion. The North faces drought and desertification advancing southward at nearly 0.7 kilometres per year."

Climate change, he argued, is a "hydra-headed monster." And confronting it requires rethinking development itself.

Beyond GDP: Rethinking Development

For decades, development was equated with economic growth. Economists once defined progress as GDP growth of six or seven per cent. Save, invest, grow—development would follow.

"But growth alone," Professor Onuoha explained, "created dualism; the divide between the haves and the have-nots."

By the 1970s and 1980s, scholars began expanding development beyond GDP to include education, healthcare, water, sanitation, and social equity. Eventually, environmental sustainability entered the equation.

The 1980 World Conservation Strategy introduced conservation into development planning. In 1972, the Club of Rome warned of the "Limits to Growth." By 1994, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) formally united nations in confronting rising global temperatures.

Energy for People, Planet and Prosperity: How Nigeria's Energy Transition Can Power a Green Economic Future

- Prof. Magnus Chidi Onuoha

This evolution gave birth to sustainable development; the integration of three pillars:

- **People** (social inclusion)
- **Prosperity** (economic growth)
- **Planet** (environmental protection)

Today, this integrated vision is expressed through the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), built on five core principles: **People, Prosperity, Planet, Partnership, and Peace.**

The Rise of the Green Economy

According to Professor Onuoha, the vehicle driving this new development paradigm is the green economy, an economy that promotes low-carbon, resource-efficient, and socially inclusive growth.

At its core lies the circular economy: reuse, reduce, recycle, and regenerate rather than extract, use, and dump.

"The green economy," he explained, "is about blue livelihoods, improved quality of life, and poverty alleviation."

Three sectors are central to this transformation:

1. Climate-Smart Agriculture

Professor Onuoha emphasised conservation and efficiency over expansion and deforestation.

He illustrated this with a personal example: cultivating a modest plot of land that yields hundreds of yam tubers annually without environmental degradation.

"This is climate-smart agriculture," he said. "You don't need to deforest to feed your community."

Greenhouse farming, precision agriculture, and sustainable land use practices are part of this transformation.

2. Energy Transition

Energy, however, is the backbone of the green economy.

Human history reflects a series of energy transitions: from straw to wood, from wood to coal, from coal to oil and gas, and now toward renewables.

Renewable energy; solar, wind, biomass, and hydro, offers replaceable, low-carbon alternatives. Yet Professor Onuoha cautioned against abandoning oil and gas irresponsibly.

"Nigeria's oil lifespan is estimated at about 45–50 years," he noted, compared to over 100 years in some Western nations. "The difference is strategic management."

Rather than abrupt abandonment, Nigeria must pursue a strategic transition, developing renewable capacity while managing fossil resources responsibly.

Nigeria's Energy Transition Plan focuses on:

- **Clean cooking solutions**
- **Transportation reform**
- **Industrial transformation**
- **Oil and gas decarbonisation**

Clean cooking initiatives, particularly in the Niger Delta, aim to reduce deforestation and indoor pollution by expanding LPG access and improved cookstoves.

On transport, the introduction of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses and electric mobility marks a shift toward lower emissions.

"E-mobility is not a luxury," he said. "It is a statement of low-carbon commitment."



**Energy for People, Planet and Prosperity:
How Nigeria's Energy Transition Can Power
a Green Economic Future**

- Prof. Magnus Chidi Onuoha

3. Industry and Innovation

Professor Onuoha called on Nigerian youth to seize the green technology revolution.

"In Rwanda, climate governance is intentional. Innovation is community-driven. Nigeria must do the same."

He advocated for innovation hubs and university-industry collaboration models similar to the Lancaster model in the UK, where research translates directly into industrial application.

"Do not put research in cupboards," he urged. "Socialise knowledge."

The Role of Global Agreements

From the Kyoto Protocol to the Paris Agreement (2015), global climate governance has evolved to support both mitigation (reducing emissions) and adaptation (coping with impacts).

The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) under Kyoto enabled industrialised nations to invest in emission-reducing projects in developing countries.

Today, carbon markets—both voluntary and compliance—provide financial incentives for emission reduction.

"Nigeria's oil and gas sector must not sit back," he warned. "Engage in carbon markets. Embrace decarbonised technologies."

Nigeria's Climate Change Act and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) provide the policy framework for this transition.

Impact Investment and Job Creation

The green economy is not only environmental, it is economic.

"One megawatt of solar energy deployment can create thousands of jobs across its value chain," Professor Onuoha said, citing opportunities in installation, design, financing, maintenance, and manufacturing.

Impact investment aligned with Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) principles is crucial.

Banks, private sector actors, and development partners must integrate sustainability frameworks into financing models.

A Call to Collaboration

Professor Onuoha emphasised that government must provide enabling frameworks, while the private sector delivers innovation and capital.

Civil society must expose greenwashing. The media must amplify accountability. Academia must translate research into market solutions.

"No lone ranger will go far," he said.

"Collaboration is the engine."

Professor Carlos Lopes

Chairman of the Board, African
Climate Foundation (ACF)
South Africa

Professor Carlos Lopes is one of Africa's most distinguished intellectuals and policy leaders, widely respected for his contributions to economic transformation, sustainable development, and global governance. An accomplished economist, author, academic, and former senior United Nations official, Professor Lopes has dedicated his career to advancing Africa's place in the global economy through strategic leadership, rigorous scholarship, and policy innovation.

Born in Guinea-Bissau, Professor Lopes pursued higher education in Europe, earning a doctorate in History from the prestigious University of Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne. His academic training, grounded in history, political economy, and development studies, helped shape the analytical depth for which he is now internationally known.

Over several decades, Professor Lopes has built an exceptional academic career. He has taught and held appointments at respected institutions across Africa, Europe, and Latin America. He currently serves as an Honorary Professor at the University of Cape Town and has also held visiting professorships, including at Sciences Po, Paris. His work in academia has influenced generations of students, scholars, and policymakers engaged in questions of development, governance, and Africa's future.

Professor Lopes is also renowned for his outstanding service within the United Nations system, where he rose to some of its highest leadership ranks. During the tenure of former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan,



he served as an Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations, contributing significantly to international development policy, institutional reform, and governance initiatives.

He later served as Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), where he became a leading advocate for Africa's structural transformation. Under his stewardship, UNECA deepened its focus on industrialization, regional integration, value addition, and more equitable global trade systems. He consistently championed the idea that Africa's resources should generate prosperity for African people through local processing, innovation, and strategic economic planning.

Beyond multilateral institutions, Professor Lopes has remained an influential voice in global policy circles. He has held advisory and fellowship roles with respected organisations such as Chatham House, the Overseas Development Institute, and other leading think tanks. His expertise is frequently sought on issues relating to economic reform, governance, financing, and sustainable development.



Professor Carlos Lopes

Chairman of the Board, African Climate Foundation (ACF)
South Africa

A prolific author and thought leader, Professor Lopes has written and edited numerous books, essays, and policy papers translated into several languages. His scholarship explores themes including African economic sovereignty, leadership, demographic shifts, industrial policy, and the changing architecture of global power. He is especially admired for bridging academic excellence with practical policy relevance.

In recent years, Professor Lopes has emerged as a strong advocate for climate justice and fair financing for Africa's green transition. He has consistently argued that while Africa contributes the least to global greenhouse gas emissions, it faces some of the gravest consequences of climate change. He continues to call for equitable climate finance, adaptation investment, and development pathways that allow African nations to grow sustainably.

For Climate Justice Africa Magazine, Professor Carlos Lopes represents principled African leadership at its finest, a scholar-statesman whose voice continues to shape the future of the continent. His legacy is one of intellect, service, courage, and unwavering commitment to an Africa that is prosperous, respected, and resilient.

Excerpt from Customs Officers' Wives Association
(COWA) Sustainability & Green Borders Initiative Led by
The National President Mrs Kikilomo Adeniyi
FPMC FAPMGN FIMO





Mr. Timothy R. Yoko

Administrative Assistant and Chief of Office Staff at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of Liberia

Mr. Timothy R. Yoko is a dedicated environmental professional and public servant currently serving as Administrative Assistant and Chief of Office Staff at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of Liberia. Over the years, he has contributed significantly to advancing environmental governance, institutional coordination, and sustainable development initiatives within Liberia's environmental sector.

Through his role at the EPA, Mr. Yoko has supported high-level environmental programs and national engagements relating to climate change, biodiversity conservation, environmental policy coordination, and international environmental cooperation. He has played an important role in facilitating administrative and operational support for national and international environmental conferences, stakeholder engagements, and strategic partnerships aimed at promoting environmental sustainability and climate resilience in Liberia.

Mr. Yoko is recognized for his strong commitment to environmental stewardship, effective institutional coordination, and professional excellence in public service. His work continues to contribute to strengthening the EPA's mission of safeguarding Liberia's environment while supporting national efforts toward sustainable development and climate action.

He remains passionate about promoting environmental awareness, enhancing institutional efficiency, and supporting Liberia's participation in regional and global environmental diplomacy initiatives.



From Hobyó with Hope: Somali Youth's Fight for Climate Justice

By **Ali Abdurahman Sabrie – Somalia**
Founder, Orbit Solutions

I grew up in a single-mother household, where strength was not a choice, it was survival. From an early age, I understood hardship, responsibility, and what it means to push forward when the odds are against you.

Like many others, I left Somalia in search of a better future. I spent years in Sweden trying to build a life, then moved to the United Kingdom for university, believing education would open doors.

But the reality was different.

There were moments of deep depression when everything felt uncertain. I lost work opportunities. At times, I felt judged not for my ability, but for the colour of my skin.

It was a difficult journey, one that could have broken me.

But it didn't.

Instead, it forced me to reflect on who I am, where I come from, and what truly matters.

I realised that no matter how far I travelled, my purpose was always tied to home.

So I returned to Hobyó.

What I found was both painful and full of potential. A coastline rich in beauty, yet neglected. Communities facing environmental challenges with little support. Young people full of energy, but lacking opportunities.

I knew I could not stand by.

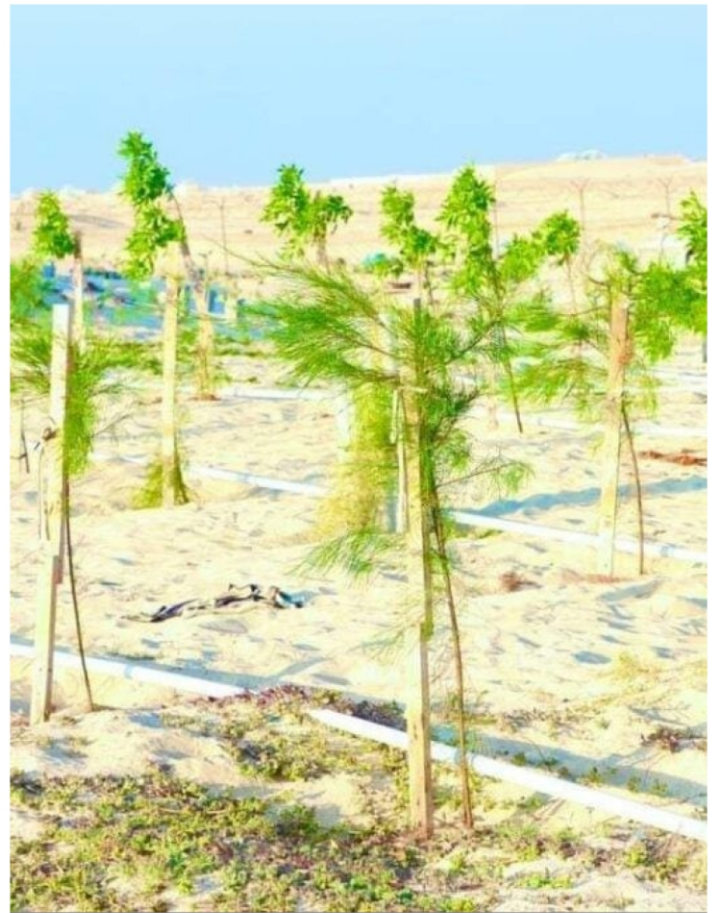
That is how Orbit Solutions was born; a youth-led social enterprise built on resilience, action, and hope.

We started with nothing. No funding, no external backing, only belief and determination.

Since 2022, we have planted over 10,000 trees and carried out more than 100 beach clean-ups. What began as small efforts has grown into a movement, led by young people who now see themselves as guardians of their environment.

From Hobyo with Hope: Somali Youth's Fight for Climate Justice

By Ali Abdurahman Sabrie – Somalia
Founder, Orbit Solutions



This journey is not just about environmental work. It is about dignity. It is about reclaiming our future. Communities like ours contribute the least to climate change, yet face its harshest consequences. Still, we rise, we act, because waiting is not an option.

My story is not only mine. It is the story of a generation that refuses to be defined by struggle, and instead chooses to transform hardship into purpose.

Hobyo is just the beginning. We are not the victims of climate injustice, we are the response to it.



Teddy P. Taylor - Liberia

Teddy P. Taylor is a Liberian environmental professional, climate policy practitioner, and sustainability advocate with a strong academic foundation in geology and specialized training in integrated coastal zone management, climate diplomacy, and international climate negotiations. His work sits at the intersection of science, policy, and community action, with a consistent focus on strengthening environmental governance, climate resilience, and sustainable development pathways in Liberia and the wider West African sub-region.

Mr. Taylor holds a background in Geology, a discipline that has equipped him with a deep understanding of earth systems, natural resource dynamics, and the physical processes that shape landscapes, freshwater systems, and coastal environments. This scientific grounding has been central to his ability to analyze environmental challenges through an evidence-based lens, particularly in relation to land degradation, water resources management, extractive activities, and ecosystem vulnerability under a changing climate. His geological training enables him to bridge the gap between technical environmental data and practical policy solutions, a skill that has become increasingly critical in climate and environmental decision-making.

Building on his core scientific training, Mr. Taylor has undertaken additional professional development in Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM), Climate Diplomacy, and Climate Change Negotiations. Through ICZM training, he has developed expertise in managing coastal and marine ecosystems in a holistic manner that balances environmental protection, economic livelihoods, and social equity. This is particularly relevant for Liberia, a coastal nation facing rising sea levels, coastal erosion, saltwater intrusion, and growing pressure on fisheries and coastal settlements. His work reflects a strong appreciation of the need for cross-sectoral coordination and stakeholder engagement in addressing coastal and ocean-related challenges.



Teddy P. Taylor

- Liberia

Mr. Taylor's training in Climate Diplomacy and Negotiations has further strengthened his capacity to operate effectively within multilateral environmental processes. He possesses a solid understanding of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Paris Agreement, and related international environmental agreements, including their negotiation dynamics, reporting requirements, and implementation mechanisms. This expertise allows him to contribute meaningfully to national and regional climate dialogues, support alignment between global commitments and national priorities, and advocate for climate justice and equitable access to climate finance for developing countries.

Professionally, Teddy P. Taylor serves within Liberia's environmental governance architecture, where he is actively engaged in climate change, environmental protection, and multilateral environmental cooperation. In his role as Liberia's National Focal Point for Action for Climate Empowerment and Freshwater Ecosystem at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of Liberia, he contributes to policy development, Climate education and training, project coordination, and international reporting processes linked to climate change, transparency, Freshwater protection and environmental sustainability. He is particularly involved in initiatives related to climate capacity building, transparency frameworks, and the integration of emerging environmental priorities—such as freshwater ecosystem protection—into national climate strategies.

In addition to his institutional responsibilities, Mr. Taylor plays a leadership role in youth and civil society engagement on climate and environmental issues. He is affiliated with youth-led and non-governmental initiatives that promote environmental stewardship, community-based action, and public awareness. Through these platforms, he has supported campaigns on waste management, urban cleanliness, ecosystem protection, and youth participation in climate governance. His approach emphasizes the importance of translating high-level climate policies into tangible actions that improve livelihoods and environmental outcomes at the community level.

Mr. Taylor is also recognized for his ability to communicate complex environmental and climate issues to diverse audiences, including policymakers, development partners, youth groups, and the general public. He has contributed to articles, opinion pieces, and public discourse on climate change, multilateralism, and environmental sustainability, reinforcing the role of informed advocacy in driving policy change. His communication style reflects a balance between technical accuracy and accessibility, making climate and environmental issues more relatable and actionable.

Across his academic, professional, and advocacy work, Teddy P. Taylor is driven by a commitment to sustainable development, environmental integrity, and intergenerational equity. He represents a new generation of African environmental leaders who combine scientific expertise, policy fluency, and civic engagement to address some of the most pressing challenges of our time. His ongoing work continues to support Liberia's efforts to build climate resilience, protect critical ecosystems, and strengthen its voice in regional and global environmental governance.

Mr Anthony Akpan - Nigeria

Founder/President, Pan African Vision for the Environment (PAVE), Nigeria, with over 25 years sector experience in human ecology and sustainable development issues, spanning NGO management, government, civil society, private sector and International development agencies relations. Other areas of expertise include fund raising, policy analysis, participatory research, advocacy, capacity building, project development and implementation, monitoring and evaluation, consultancy / public sector advisory, grassroots mobilisation, coalition building and stakeholder engagement.

The Pan African Vision for the Environment (PAVE) is a United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) accredited Lagos based non-profit, non-political, non-governmental organization established with the aim of promoting sustainable development through research, documentation, policy dialogues, workshops, advocacy and consultancy services.

PAVE deals with development issues in their environmental and socio-economic aspects with emphasis on the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets regarding water and sanitation and other related human settlement issues including Agricultural Value Chain promotion, Gender, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Climate change and Clean Energy promotion, Waste Management including E-Waste, Chemical Management, Blue Economy, Ocean Citizen Awareness and Literacy and Stakeholder Engagement. PAVE is registered (IT/NO: 26029) with the Corporate Affairs Commission in Nigeria.



The chosen mission of PAVE is to act as a catalyst, mobilize, mediate and act directly in several of society's processes dealing with the improvement of quality of life and respect for cultural and biological diversity. As its basis, PAVE believes in promoting good governance at all level, across all sectors, be it public or private. PAVE also believes in a democratic system for managing human interests.

The fundamental objective of PAVE is to act, support and collaborate in the elaboration and dissemination of new approaches, policies and activities related to human development questions.

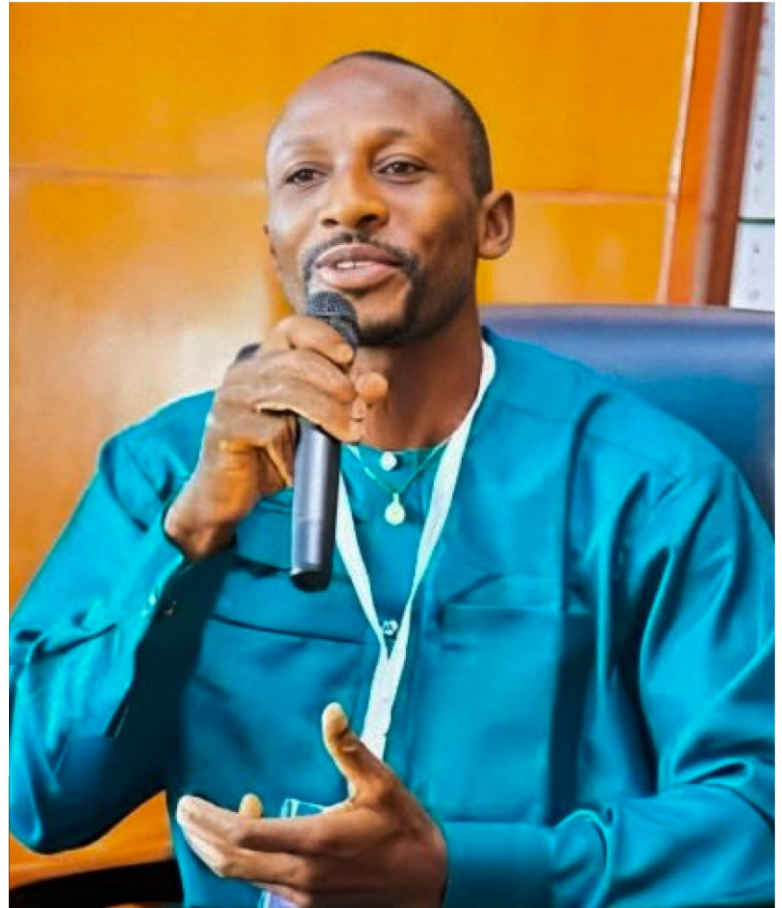
Dr. Lidel Kelly Toh

CEO, NALDCCAM | CEO, National
Advisory Board of the Cameroon
Impact Investing Ecosystem

Dr. Lidel Kelly Toh is a visionary leader, agropreneur, and strategic architect of sustainable development in Africa. With a career defined by the intersection of innovative finance, environmental stewardship, and rural empowerment, Dr. Toh serves as a primary catalyst for Cameroon's transition toward a green, resilient, and self-sovereign economy. As the Chief Executive Officer of NALDCCAM and the CEO of the National Advisory Board (NAB) of the Cameroon Impact Investing Ecosystem, he occupies a unique vantage point—bridging the gap between grassroots agricultural production and high-level global investment.

At the helm of NALDCCAM (NTUHSN Agricultural and Livestock Development Corporation Cameroon), Dr. Toh has transformed the organization into a powerhouse for agribusiness ecosystem support. Under his guidance, NALDCCAM has moved beyond traditional farming models to champion Sustainable Agriculture and Food Sovereignty. Dr. Toh's philosophy is rooted in the belief that Africa's path to prosperity lies in its ability to feed itself while preserving its natural capital. He has been a relentless advocate for the Circular Economy, implementing systems where agricultural by-products are repurposed into high-value livestock feed and organic fertilizers, effectively reducing waste and lowering costs for smallholder farmers.

His work with NALDCCAM is characterized by a "Systems Thinking" approach. By developing integrated value chains for crops such as cassava and maize, and modernizing



livestock production, he has enabled thousands of rural producers to transition from subsistence farming to commercial entrepreneurship. Dr. Toh's initiatives emphasize mechanization, digital tracking of yields, and the "Common Canopy" model, which aggregates smallholders to increase their bargaining power in regional markets.

Parallel to his work in the field, Dr. Toh is a transformative figure in the financial landscape of Central Africa. In his capacity as the CEO of the National Advisory Board (NAB) of the Cameroon Impact Investing Ecosystem, he is leading the charge to align private capital with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Under his leadership, the NAB serves as the primary body for mobilizing "Capital for Good," creating a structured environment where investors can find de-risked, high-impact opportunities in sectors like green energy, inclusive finance, and sustainable ag-tech.



Dr. Lidel Kelly Toh

CEO, NALDCCAM | CEO, National Advisory Board
of the Cameroon Impact Investing Ecosystem

Dr. Toh also holds the position of Executive Director of the Global Chamber® Yaoundé, where he facilitates cross-border trade and fosters partnerships between Cameroonian enterprises and international markets. This role complements his vision of an interconnected African economy, where local agribusinesses have the capacity to compete on a global stage.

His academic background, which includes a Ph.D. in Entrepreneurship and Innovation and advanced degrees in Business Development, provides the technical rigor that informs his professional endeavours. Dr. Toh is frequently sought after as a speaker and consultant on topics ranging from intellectual capital management to climate-smart agricultural policies. He is a passionate mentor to the next generation of "agripreneurs," consistently advocating for the inclusion of women and youth as the primary drivers of the African Green Revolution.

Through his dual roles in agribusiness leadership and impact investing, Dr. Lidel Kelly Toh is crafting a new narrative for the continent. One where food sovereignty is guaranteed by innovation, and where economic growth is intrinsically linked to the restoration of the planet. His work stands as a testament to the power of visionary leadership in building a sustainable, circular, and prosperous Africa.

Climate Justice and Access to Justice for Rural Populations in Cameroon

Climate change, defined as long-term shifts in temperature and weather patterns due to the increased concentration of greenhouse gases, impacts every region on Earth. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 13 stresses the need for urgent action to address climate change and its repercussions. This has led to the emergence of the concept of “climate justice”: Climate justice is defined as a concept linking development and human rights to achieve a people-centred approach to climate change, ensuring the rights of the most vulnerable are protected and that the burdens and benefits of climate change are distributed equitably.

In Cameroon, the effects of climate change are profound, manifesting in altered temperatures and rainfall patterns, and increased droughts. According to Country Climate and Development Report: Cameroon, these changes worsen the risks of poverty and famine, particularly for the nearly 40% of vulnerable households. An estimated 2 million people live in drought-affected areas under current climatic conditions, reflecting the country’s high vulnerability.

One of the major reasons for this vulnerability is Cameroon’s uneven population distribution which contributes to the degradation of arable land and forest landscapes, especially in the northern regions and western highlands. The rural population, largely dependent on agriculture and pastoralism, faces increasing threats to their livelihoods as land productivity declines, potentially contributing to the ongoing heightened rural-urban migration in the country.



Eponine Signe Nana

Cameroon

Cameroon has committed to addressing climate change through its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and has integrated these commitments into its National Development Strategy (NDS30). One of the strategy’s key objectives is to “Strengthen measures to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change (...) to ensure sustainable and inclusive economic growth and social development.”

Despite these commitments, Cameroon faces significant challenges, particularly in its northern regions, which are critically impacted by climate change. The Far North Region, for example, experiences a 30,000-ton cereal deficit and a food insecurity rate of 33.6%. The presence of over 280,000 refugees and displaced persons further strains natural resources like water and pasture.



Climate Justice Can't Be Imported: Why the Global South Needs to Lead Its Own

- By Nadine Wahab

In this context, the state directs much of its limited financial resources toward addressing immediate social issues such as health, food security, and post-disaster recovery. However, without significant improvements in the resilience of the Sudano-Sahelian regions, as well as the West and North-West regions, the state's resources will remain insufficient to meet the climate change challenges. Security concerns also complicate the situation, with regions like the Far North and the North-West/South-West facing instability from Boko Haram and other separatist groups which further erode the resilience of the economy.

Between 2015 and 2020, Cameroon mobilised around USD 162.35 million for climate-related activities under the Paris Agreement, representing 70.84% of the total national and international funding available to the country. However, this amount falls short of what is required to address the country's needs effectively.

Climate Justice in Cameroon

In Cameroon, this means acknowledging that climate change disproportionately affects different territories and social classes, with the poorest, often rural populations, being the most severely impacted.

This raises a question: can Cameroon's legal framework effectively provide rural populations with access to climate justice?

The 1996 revision of Cameroon's Constitution explicitly states in Article 21 that "Everyone has the right to a healthy environment. The protection of the environment is a duty for all, and the State shall ensure the defence and protection of the environment." this amendment reflected the commitment of the Parliament of Cameroon at the time, to environmental issues. Cameroon has implemented several legal measures to address climate change, such as joining the United Nations Framework,

Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and developing a National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (NCCAP). The plan serves as a strategy to guide adaptation efforts across the country.

Moreover, the National Observatory on Climate Change (NOCC) was established in 2009 to monitor and assess the socio-economic and environmental impacts of climate change and to propose preventive, mitigative, and adaptive measures. However, challenges remain, including the limited resources available for adaptation and the exacerbation of social and economic inequalities by environmental injustices.

A recent study reveals that 56% of Cameroonians consider the government's response to climate change unsatisfactory, citing persistent deforestation and plastic pollution as major concerns. Furthermore, 48% believe that current adaptation policies are ineffective.

Challenges in Enforcing Climate Justice

In Cameroonian environmental law, the administration responsible for environmental issues has the authority to prosecute environmental violations alongside the Public Prosecutor's Office. However, the effectiveness of this legal framework is limited. For example, the administrative courts lack the power to compel the state to amend its climate regulations, and judges, appointed by the executive branch, may be reluctant to challenge government policies.

Hurdles to accessing climate justice in Cameroon are made greater because environmental law is inherently complex, requiring a deep understanding of the subject matter. This complexity, coupled with a lack of available experts, often impedes the effective enforcement of climate justice. Without changes in the capacity of stakeholders involved in environmental protection, and increased awareness among rural populations about their climate rights, climate justice will continue to be out of reach for those who most need it.

Climate Justice Can't Be Imported: Why the Global South Needs to Lead Its Own

- By Nadine Wahab

Awareness-raising campaigns, legal education, and the production of educational materials in local languages can help bridge the gap between rural populations and access to climate justice. By empowering these communities with knowledge and resources, they can better navigate the legal system and advocate for their rights.

Access to Justice for Rural Populations

Access to justice for rural populations is crucial, particularly in the face of mining companies' reluctance to comply with environmental regulations. Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) play an essential role in facilitating access to climate justice. The framework law on environmental management recognises their contribution to environmental protection and public participation in environmental decision-making. However, challenges remain, including the complexity of legal procedures, the lack of expertise within civil society, and the influence of powerful mining companies.

Accessing justice can be prohibitively expensive for impoverished rural populations, with existing poverty being further exacerbated by the impacts of climate change. Although Cameroonian law allows for free legal services for indigent persons, this assistance is often limited to legal personnel and does not cover court costs, which can be a significant barrier for those seeking climate justice in rural regions.

Moreover, legal services are concentrated in urban areas, making them difficult to access for those in rural regions. Corruption within the legal system also hinders the pursuit of justice, especially when powerful mining companies can be seen to have significant influence on the administration of climate justice.

Conclusion

The pursuit of climate justice in Cameroon faces many challenges, particularly for rural populations. While the government has made substantial strides in addressing climate change through the introduction of legal frameworks and national strategies, the implementation of these measures remains insufficient. Rural populations, disproportionately affected by climate change, face noteworthy barriers to accessing justice, including financial constraints, complex legal procedures, and limited access to legal services.

To ensure climate justice is achieved, it is imperative to strengthen the capacity of all stakeholders, including civil society, and to raise awareness among rural communities about their rights. Only through collective efforts can Cameroon effectively address the impacts of climate change and ensure that the most vulnerable populations are protected.

Nigeria's PantiPads Wins Global Recognition for Turning Agricultural Waste into Dignity, Health and Climate Action



Raheema Auwal-Panti
Nigeria

In the growing story of African youth-led climate innovation, one project is proving that some of the world's biggest problems can be addressed with solutions rooted in everyday realities. PantiPads, a Nigerian innovation named among the five young African teams recognized in the World's Top 35 of The Earth Prize 2026, is transforming agricultural waste into biodegradable sanitary pads designed to tackle two urgent global challenges at once; plastic pollution and period poverty.

For Climate Justice Africa Magazine, PantiPads represents more than an invention. It is a bold statement that climate justice must include women's health, dignity, affordability, and access.

Across many African communities, menstruation remains surrounded by stigma, silence, and inequality. For thousands of girls, a monthly period can mean missing school, losing confidence, or resorting to unsafe alternatives simply because sanitary products are too expensive or unavailable. At the same time, most conventional sanitary pads are made largely from plastic-based materials that remain in landfills and ecosystems for centuries.

The founder of PantiPads said the innovation was inspired by personal experience.

"PantiPads was born from my personal experiences with period stigma, period poverty, and the lack of affordable and comfortable menstrual products in my community," the innovator said.

She explained that many girls miss school or turn to unsafe substitutes because pads are either inaccessible or unaffordable. Even when products are available, she noted, they are often uncomfortable and made from materials that can take between 500 and 800 years to decompose.

Nigeria's PantiPads Wins Global Recognition for Turning Agricultural Waste into Dignity, Health and Climate Action

- By Raheema Auwal-Panti

Having faced some of these struggles herself, she said she realized the issue was much larger than one person or one community.

"I knew the world was far too vast for such struggles to belong to me alone," she said.

That realization led to the creation of a solution that blends sustainability with menstrual dignity.

Turning Waste into Worth

At the heart of PantiPads is a circular economy model that converts agricultural waste into a usable product. The sanitary pads are made using banana peels and dried plantain leaves, materials that are common in Nigeria and often discarded as waste.



Dried Plantain and Banana Leaves

According to the founder, these fibers are cleaned, sterilized, and processed into a soft absorbent core, while breathable plant-based layers provide comfort. A biodegradable bottom layer is created using garri, a staple food product derived from cassava.



Garri

By relying on locally available resources, the innovation reduces waste while creating a low-cost alternative to imported or plastic-heavy products.

Unlike many conventional pads, which can contain up to 90 percent plastic, PantiPads are designed to naturally decompose after disposal. The founder said that after use, the product can break down and enrich the soil, rather than remain as waste for generations. This gives the product significance beyond hygiene. It becomes an environmental intervention.

Fighting the Hidden Waste Crisis

Menstrual waste is rarely discussed in climate or environmental debates, yet millions of disposable pads are discarded every year across the world. Most end up in dumpsites, waterways, or open burning systems, contributing to pollution and toxic emissions. PantiPads seeks to directly challenge that pattern.

The founder explained that while conventional products often fragment into microplastics that can enter ecosystems and food chains, PantiPads decompose within six to twelve months into organic matter.

"More importantly, it turns menstrual waste into something that can safely return to the earth," she said, describing it as a shift from ongoing environmental harm to a more natural and sustainable cycle.

Nigeria's PantiPads Wins Global Recognition for Turning Agricultural Waste into Dignity, Health and Climate Action

- By Raheema Auwal-Panti

For countries already struggling with waste management systems, such solutions could significantly reduce pressure on landfills and drainage systems clogged by non-biodegradable refuse.

While sustainability is central to the innovation, accessibility remains its moral core.

The founder has pointed that affordability is at the center of the PantiPads model because the menstrual crisis often begins when girls cannot consistently afford basic hygiene products. By using agricultural waste as raw material, production costs are reduced from the start.

To scale access, she said a list of manufacturers has already been compiled so the product can be integrated into existing production and retail systems rather than relying on entirely new structures.



Founder, PantiPads

That means PantiPads could potentially be distributed through schools, NGOs, pharmacies, neighborhood stores, and other familiar outlets.

“This approach allows reach to be prioritised over profit,” she said.

By embedding the product into everyday supply chains, barriers such as distance, awareness, and irregular supply can be reduced — helping girls who are often left behind.

Despite its promise, scaling a school-based innovation into a national or continental solution will not be easy.

The founder identified several major hurdles, including maintaining consistent quality as production increases, building public trust in a new alternative product, and securing manufacturing partners who can expand output without raising costs.

“Overall, the main challenge is balancing growth with affordability and trust, while making sure the product remains accessible and effective as it expands,” she said.

PantiPads is part of a wider shift taking place across the continent, where young Africans are designing solutions that do not separate environmental protection from social justice.

This is innovation that understands that a girl missing school because of menstruation is also a development issue. That plastic waste from hygiene products is also a climate issue. That dignity, health, and sustainability belong in the same conversation.

As The Earth Prize 2026 shines a spotlight on the world's most promising young changemakers, PantiPads stands out as a reminder that some of the most transformative ideas begin with listening to overlooked struggles.

For Nigeria and for Africa, PantiPads is more than a product. It is a vision of a future where no girl must choose between dignity and affordability, and where solving human needs no longer comes at the planet's expense.

Arthur R.M. Becker

Liberia

Arthur R.M. Becker is a Liberian. He's also an Environment, Climate change and International Development expert. He also has vast expertise in project management and implementation as well as communication, youth development, and the promotion of sustainable development outcomes.

He currently works with the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia as the Director for the Department of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), providing supervisory leadership for the effective domestication of multilateral environmental agreements, protocols and conventions that Liberia is a signatory and party to. He previously served as Project Officer in the Department of Multilateral Environmental Agreements. He is also National focal for Liberia's National Adaptation Plan (NAP), the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) project, and the Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement. He also contributed significantly to the development of several climate change and environmental policies, strategies and plans which include but not limited to Liberia's National Adaptation Plans (2020-2030), Liberia's Nationally Determined Contributions, Liberia National Communications, Biennial Transparency Reports, etc. He has also participated in several climate change and multilateral environmental negotiations at international level. He is amongst Liberia Senior Climate Change negotiators.

Arthur is a graduate of the African Methodist Episcopal University with a Masters in International Development (MAID). He's a 2025 Fellow of the Africa Climate Academy as well as a 2024 fellow of the Climate Law and Governance programme at the University of ADA in Baku, Azerbaijan.



He's also a 2023 Alumnus of the Beahrs Environmental Leadership Program (ELP) on Sustainable Environmental Management at the University of California, Berkeley- USA. He also holds a post graduate certificate in International Human Rights Law from the Jacobs Abbey Institute for Leadership Studies (JAGILS) in 2022. He is also a 2021 graduate with studies in African Civic Engagement at the University of Georgia, United States of America, holder of an advanced certificate in a specialized Course on Climate Law & Governance from La Fundacion Para Investigacion Sobre el Derecho y la Empresa, Madrid, Spain in 2019, a Bachelor of Science Degree in Economics and Business Management (Magna Cum Laude) from the African Methodist Episcopal University in Liberia in 2004. Arthur R.M. Becker has a post graduate certificate from Walden University in the USA in Public Policy and Leadership.

He has seemingly attended several National and International trainings seminars in a wide range of professional thematic areas ranging from Environmental Leadership and Sustainable Management, Climate Change and negotiations, Climate Justice, Climate Law and Governance, Leadership, Peace and Security, Elections, Negotiations, Diplomacy, Human Rights, Gender, etc

He has contributed significantly to climate and environmental policies and has published several articles on global development issues.



Chanda Prosper
Zambia

Zambia's Chanda Prosper Gains Global Spotlight with Climate Forecasting Innovation

At a time when climate change is intensifying floods, droughts, and weather uncertainty across Africa, a young Zambian innovator is earning international recognition for developing a solution that could help save lives and strengthen disaster preparedness. Chanda Prosper, creator of the PUPE Climate Model, has been named among the World's Top 35 innovators in The Earth Prize 2026, placing Zambia on the global map of youth-led climate solutions.

For Climate Justice Africa Magazine, Prosper's emergence is more than a story of personal achievement. It is a reflection of a growing movement across Africa where young people are responding to the climate crisis not with despair, but with innovation.

Across Zambia and much of southern Africa, communities are already facing the harsh realities of a warming world. Seasons have become less predictable. Droughts are lasting longer. Flooding events are becoming more destructive. Farmers, local governments and disaster response agencies often struggle with one common problem, getting reliable warnings early enough to act.

Prosper said this challenge motivated the development of the PUPE Climate Model.

He explained that many conventional forecasting systems are often probabilistic and can become less reliable over time, making decision-making more difficult for authorities and communities. He also noted that data coverage remains uneven, especially in rural areas where ground sensors are fewer, while communication delays can stop urgent warnings from reaching vulnerable populations on time.

According to Prosper, the PUPE Climate Model was built to close those gaps by improving short-term trajectory stability, providing clearer location and timing insights, and enabling faster, more actionable warnings.

He described the model as a system that tracks how atmospheric conditions evolve step by step using physical rules. It combines variables such as motion, pressure effects, and environmental forces into one continuous update process that projects the likely movement of weather systems over time.



Zambia's Chanda Prosper Gains Global Spotlight with Climate Forecasting Innovation

Unlike many existing models that rely on multiple simulations and averaged outcomes, Prosper said his system follows a single projected path based on the starting conditions. This, he noted, can deliver more stable short-term predictions, while still depending on the quality of the initial data used.

For communities on the frontlines of climate impacts, that scientific distinction could have life-changing consequences.

More accurate warnings can allow residents to evacuate before floodwaters rise. Farmers can prepare for drought conditions or expected heavy rainfall. Emergency services can position supplies, rescue teams, and equipment in advance rather than reacting after disaster strikes.

"In regions where infrastructure is limited, even small improvements in timing and location accuracy can reduce losses, prevent displacement, and support more organized responses instead of last-minute reactions," Prosper said.

That statement resonates strongly across Africa, where disaster losses are often worsened not only by extreme weather itself, but by delayed information and limited preparedness systems.

Another major strength of the innovation is accessibility. Prosper said the model uses a combination of satellite observations, ground-based measurements, and historical weather data, much of which is publicly available. This lowers the barrier to adoption and reduces dependence on costly infrastructure.

He added that the system is being designed with practicality in mind. Forecast outputs can be delivered through simple channels such as SMS alerts or integrated into existing local warning systems, making it suitable even for low-resource communities.

As recognition from The Earth Prize shines a spotlight on his work, Prosper said the next stage is focused on deeper validation. This includes testing the model against additional historical case studies and across different types of atmospheric events to better understand its strengths and areas for improvement.

Chanda Prosper's story is a reminder that Africa's climate future will not be shaped only by global negotiations or foreign technologies. It will also be shaped by young Africans building practical solutions from within their own communities.

In a season when climate news is often dominated by crisis, Prosper offers another headline, one of brilliance, resilience, and hope.

Environmental Sustainability Project at Area 1 IDP Camp, Abuja, Nigeria

By Uzochukwudinma Awele Otakepor



Project Overview

The Environmental Sustainability Project at the Area 1 IDP Camp transformed lives by addressing environmental challenges such as poor sanitation, unsafe cooking practices and waste management practices. It promoted green innovation and environmental awareness; ensuring displaced persons live in healthier, more sustainable conditions.

Key Project Interventions

1. Eco-Friendly Cook stoves

Improved cook stoves have cut firewood use, reduced indoor air pollution, and improved health outcomes, especially for women and children. The Facilitator from Heela Green trained women on the production of Briquettes.

2. Waste Management and Recycling

Residents received training on waste sorting, composting, and recycling, turning waste into valuable resources. Memz Culture showed the women how to upscale with plastic turning waste to wealth.

3. Environmental Education & Awareness

Community awareness sessions have built knowledge in hygiene, waste management, and sustainable living practices.



Project Impact

Impact Area	Waste Management	Empowerment	Community Engagement
Results	Improved sanitation and community-led recycling and up scaling	Increased knowledge on biofuel production	Over 25% of residents actively participating in Saturday drills and sanitation programme.

Voices from the Camp

“Before this project, I didn’t know that I could use plastic container to make earrings and bangles, now I can make them and sell and make money for my family and I can also make sure the camp is clean”

– Amina, IDP Camp Resident

“The women have learnt how to keep the camp clean and have learnt how to empower themselves, I want to thank you all for empowering the community.”

– Community Leader, Area 1 IDP Camp

Partnerships and Collaboration

This initiative was made possible through collaboration between different Local NGOs and private partners promoting renewable energy solutions.

Sustainability and Next Steps

- Establishing a Community Green Committee
- Expanding recycling and composting programs
- Integrating environmental education into youth programs
- Strengthening partnerships with government agencies and NGOs for long-term sustainability

Conclusion

The Environmental Sustainability Project at the Area 1 IDP Camp demonstrates that displaced communities can lead environmental change when equipped with knowledge and tools. It’s a story of hope, innovation, and community transformation.

We hope to do more for those living in displaced communities together we leave no one behind.

Photo Highlights from Project



Participants displaying earrings and bangles made from plastic bottles



Production of biofuel for cooking



Compost bin built



Compost bin built

Project lead: Uzochukwudinma Awele Otafor (The Changemakers 22)

Implementing Partners; Betharbel Foundation and Green Nigeria.

Project Partners: Memz Culture, Heela Green Resources, SGIL-SOLAR Light and Energy Ltd, Cal-Maji Foundation and the Community Volunteers.

Green Verses: Making it Green

By Dr. Tobias Opiyo Arudo (PhD) – Kenya



There is no time I have seen it easy
No time everything turned easy
Turning brown earth green
That cannot be easy
It calls for ease of mind and reflection
It calls for reflection to inject new ideas of
bringing change
That is why Janam Model Farm is calling you
to join us
As we work in response to climate change

Climate change is real turning green trees
into brown sticks and wood

So dry, so brown ready to light
Ready to be chopped and used for fuel
Some days hot, some day's cold
Others flooding, others just too dry
They blame it all on climate change
Traumatic and unpredictable
Still we may do something if only we may try

Don't give up because you want it green
You may think the end has come because there
is nothing green
As human you have the capacity to turn it green
As human you may get ideas to respond to
climate change
Because you have capacity to bring that change

Don't forget that you're a co-creator with God
Don't forget that ideas may have effect on
climate change

Pick your shovel and plant seeds of change
Pick your hoe and prick the earth
It will not bleed but it will respond with joy
Realizing that you want to plant the seeds with
joy
It will respond by bringing rain with joy
And soon the green trees and green grass will
rise from the soil with joy

Animals and birds will come over
They will graze and patch on trees, eat leaves
and grasses
Happy that you care for them
Bringing life where it had been assumed all was
lost
Your work is bringing hope

Hopelessness giving rise to high expectations
Because you care for the environment
That is why I want you to take action
And help turn our environment green like never
before
Come on, let us make it green





Ewi Lamma

Cameroon

Walking through the quiet, green campus of the University of East Anglia each morning stirs in me a sense of hope, but also a deep sense of urgency. Studying in Norwich has given me space to reflect not just academically, but personally on the fast-changing climate and what it means for people like my family and community back home in Cameroon.

Growing up in rural Cameroon, weather was never just something to check on a smartphone app. It shaped the rhythm of daily life and the heartbeats of our fields. When rain came on time, crops grew, children laughed, and stories flowed under mango trees at dusk. Now, the weather patterns our elders once read with the wisdom of generations have become erratic rainstorms arrive months late, or not at all. Droughts bite deeper, forcing women and girls to carry water over longer distances, as once-reliable springs dry up. Here in the UK, climate change is a topic of lectures, research, and policy debate. In Cameroon, it's a daily struggle, especially for rural women.

Each year, more families are forced to leave their land as soil becomes exhausted and floods or dry spells destroy harvests. These are not abstract problems. They are names, faces, and futures my own classmates as a child, mothers who found new strength as leaders in our community, youth who now dream of migrating for work. The climate crisis is re-writing our village stories, one season at a time. What's most painful is the realization that those

contributing least to this crisis are suffering its consequences first and worst. Yet, that's not the end of the story.

I've witnessed incredible resilience women organizing cooperative gardens that survive under harsh conditions, young people leading reforestation campaigns, communities building new wells and innovating with drought-resistant crops. Their resourcefulness fuels my studies and commitment at UEA, where I am learning more about policy, adaptation strategies, and the structural changes that are urgently needed. Every day in the UEA classroom, I am reminded that climate change is a shared challenge but not an equal one. Solutions must be as local as they are global.

My hope is that by connecting lessons from Norwich with lived realities from Cameroon, we can turn stories of climate loss into stories of leadership and resilience. Climate change is real and deeply personal, but so is our capacity to adapt, act, and create change.

Technology Transfer Issues in Climate Change: Challenges and Opportunities for Africa

- Dr Peter Ekweozoh Gertrude N Njoku



Introduction

Technology transfer (TT) in the context of climate change refers to the process of sharing knowledge, skills, equipment, and institutional frameworks from developed nations to developing ones to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate impacts. This includes both "hard" technologies like solar panels and wind turbines, and "soft" ones such as training programs and policy tools. Africa, despite contributing less than 4% of global emissions, faces severe climate vulnerabilities including droughts, floods, and food insecurity(1). The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) emphasizes TT as a key commitment under Article 4.5, promoting the flow of environmentally sound technologies to support sustainable development(2). For Africa, effective TT could unlock resilient economies, but it is hampered by systemic barriers while offering significant prospects for innovation and growth.

Challenges in Technology Transfer for Africa

Africa's engagement with climate-related TT is fraught with regional and global hurdles, particularly at the implementation level. Institutional weaknesses, such as inadequate regulatory frameworks and limited technical expertise, undermine the ability to absorb and adapt imported technologies(1). A major barrier is not merely the inflow of technology but the perennial inability to absorb it effectively, leading to technological gaps that hinder climate action across the continent(3). For instance, low research and development (R&D) output in Africa results in marginal production of new technologies, exacerbating dependence on external sources(4).

Financial constraints pose another critical challenge. Higher initial capital costs for technologies like renewable energy systems, combined with insufficient funding for training, royalties, and maintenance, limit adoption(4).



Intellectual property rights (IPR) issues often prioritize exclusivity over diffusion, discouraging transfers by making technologies unaffordable or inaccessible(4). Additionally, social factors, including resistance to change and inadequate human capacity, impede the replication and localization of technologies(4).

Policy silos further complicate matters. Discussions on TT under UNFCCC and trade policies like the World Trade Organization's (WTO) Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) evolve in isolation, leading to inefficiencies and missed opportunities, especially for adaptation technologies(5). In Africa, this manifests in barriers like high import duties and trade deficits, which are rarely addressed in national plans(5). Past projects have shown that separating climate issues from broader development decision-making processes often results in suboptimal outcomes(6).

Limited collaboration between academia, industry, and governments restricts knowledge sharing and scaling of innovations(4). These challenges are compounded by North-South imbalances, where developed countries view TT as market-driven, while African nations advocate for proactive barrier removal(7).

Opportunities for Africa

Despite these obstacles, TT presents transformative opportunities for Africa, particularly through international frameworks and local innovation. The UNFCCC's Technology Mechanism, including the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) and Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), facilitates needs assessments and project implementation(8). Initiatives like the Paris Agreement's Article 10 and the 2023 Technology Implementation Programme emphasize equitable access(5).

The African Union's Agenda 2063 and Digital Transformation Strategy (2020-2030) leverage TT to enhance sectors like agriculture and energy, promoting resilience to climate change(4).

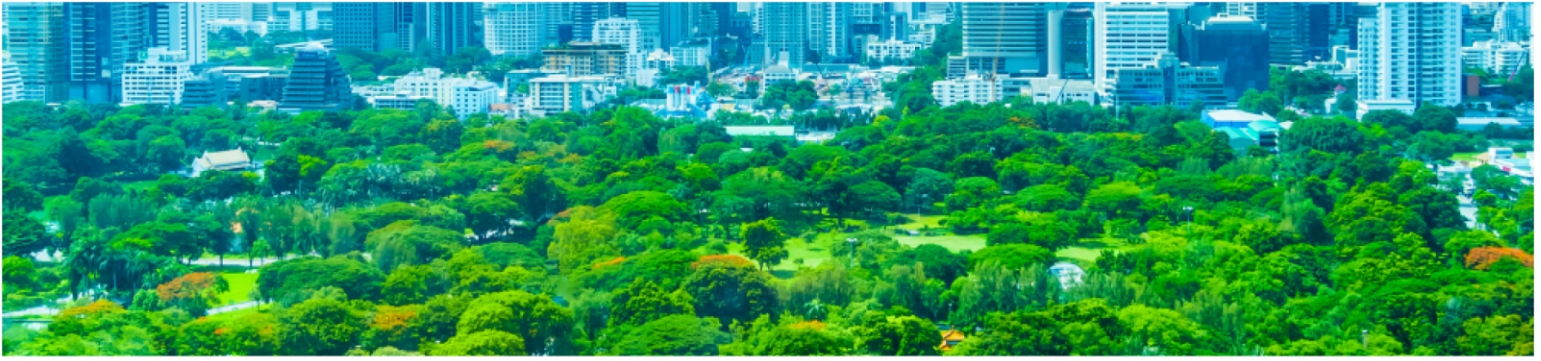
Shifting from mere transfer to absorption is key, with recommendations including promoting small and medium-scale cleantech start-ups, policy backing for investments, and fiscal incentives like tax breaks and feed-in tariffs(4). South-South and triangular cooperation offer promising avenues, such as transferring drought-resistant crops from Asia to Africa, which are more contextually relevant than North-South models(5). For example, eco-friendly technologies like efficient irrigation and carbon capture can reduce emissions and costs while addressing water scarcity(4).

Renewable energy projects exemplify these opportunities, with solar and wind initiatives driving private sector involvement(9).

In adaptation, underutilized indigenous technologies and community practices provide low-cost solutions, such as crop diversification and rainwater harvesting(5). Platforms like WIPO Green can match needs with providers, fostering local innovation(5).

Conclusion

Addressing TT issues in climate change requires Africa to overcome challenges like capacity gaps and policy silos while capitalizing on opportunities through enhanced cooperation and innovation. Policymakers should integrate trade into national adaptation plans, reduce barriers like tariffs, and prioritize South-South transfers(5). By building endogenous capacities and attracting investments, Africa can turn climate vulnerabilities into avenues for sustainable development, ensuring a resilient future.



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