



# CLOSING THE CLIMATE FINANCE GAP

CARE'S COP29 POLICY  
PAPER 2024





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## INTRODUCTION

**Extreme weather undermines socio-economic development. The cost of climate inaction exceeds the cost of climate action.**

Ferocious wildfires, devastating floods, and sweltering heat waves are hitting increasingly hard. From the US to the Philippines, from the Amazon to the Horn of Africa to Europe, countries in all corners of the globe continue to endure extreme weather events, which affect millions of lives.

Climate records are tumbling like dominoes. The summer of 2024 was the [hottest on record](#), breaking the ceiling reached in 2023, when extreme heat smothered multiple continents and ocean temperature rose to alarming highs, spurring dire warnings about the impacts of climate change. The [State of Global Climate Report](#) illustrates how extreme weather undermines socio-economic development, threatening CARE's vision of a world of hope, inclusion, and social justice, where poverty has been overcome and people live in dignity and security. The cost of climate inaction is higher than the cost of climate action.

Climate change touches all of us, yet it is those of us who are already vulnerable who suffer the most. Its impacts cut across issues like poverty reduction, gender equality, and food security, and compound risks relating to infrastructure, politics, and security.

**Climate change is a “threat multiplier”: it amplifies existing inequalities, and it smashes through silos that typically dictate how we address development challenges.**

Poor women and girls in vulnerable communities are disproportionately affected, yet they have contributed the least to the climate crisis and are marginalized from conversations on how to respond to it.

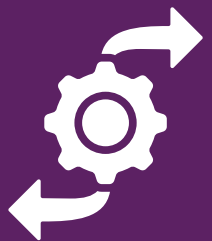
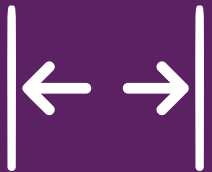
At CARE we try to see the whole picture: as advocates we take our experience as a 75-year-old humanitarian and development agency into the negotiations. As we stand on the frontlines of the climate crisis we also see power, resilience, and the potential to adapt. By advocating for inclusive, just and gender transformative climate policies and actions, CARE aims to strengthen the resilience of the poorest and most marginalized people on the frontlines of the climate emergency.

Parties are descending to the Conference of Parties in Baku, Azerbaijan, to agree on a new post-2025 climate finance goal, a new 'quantum', commonly known as New Collective Quantified Goal. It is not just the money: as the Gender Action Plan (GAP) is being reviewed, it is essential for parties to ensure that gender equality is central to this new financial objective and all the other issues on the negotiation table.

At COP29, dubbed as the finance COP, CARE is looking at parties to commit to an ambitious, fit-for-purpose and responsive climate finance goal, integrating a gender approach that protects the most vulnerable.

## KEY DEMANDS FOR COP29

- Developed countries should scale up climate finance, providing \$1 trillion in annual public support to the post-2025 New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG). The goal should be rights- and needs-based, disbursed primarily in the form of grants to avoid increasing financial burdens on indebted nations, and additional to the existing official development assistance (ODA).
- The NCQG should close the climate finance adaptation gap, ensure the efficient access and flow of adaptation finance to support marginalized groups, in particular local women-led initiatives and local organizations.
- The Lima Work Programme and Gender Action Plan should be finalized and made more progressive, transformative, and inclusive, and with sufficient climate finance for implementation.
- The Loss and Damage Fund should be fully replenished, proportionate to the developed countries' historical climate justice responsibility. The governance framework should provide accessible, non-debt-inducing technical and financial support to address the needs of developing countries.
- Parties should support and finance climate-resilient agriculture and food system actions to address [the food crisis that nearly 300 million people face](#), especially impacting women. Extreme weather events increase food insecurity, with communities who have experienced floods, droughts or storms facing food shortages for up to five years after these disasters strike.
- Developed countries must step up with stronger and more ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) by 2025, tripling renewable energy capacity, phasing out fossil fuels, and providing accessible finance and technology development to developing countries.



## 1 Finance for Climate Justice

In 2009, developed countries committed to supporting climate change adaptation and mitigation activities in developing countries. They vowed to provide scaled-up, new, and additional finance of at least \$100 billion annually in 2020. In 2015, the Paris Agreement also extended financial support obligations for the group of developed countries into the future.

This has remained a rather empty promise. While [developed countries](#) assert that the goal was met in 2022, most of the so-called 'climate finance' consists of loans that developing countries have to pay back, often with interests at market rates. [Oxfam](#) has shown that the true support element of the claimed climate finance is only around a third. Furthermore, international climate finance was supposed to come on top of Official Development Assistance (ODA) for poverty eradication and other development priorities. Yet, CARE's research [Seeing Double](#), released in September 2023, found that 93% of the climate finance reported by wealthy countries between 2011 and 2020 was taken directly from development aid, potentially threatening the progress of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The report [Hollow Commitments](#) shows that wealthy countries lack clear plans for meeting the goal to double climate finance by 2025, and that large climate finance providers, such as Germany, UK, and the US, struggle to deliver their existing climate finance goals. Climate finance is a core component of the Paris Agreement: the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) to be agreed at COP29 will define the scale of financial resources that developed countries must provide and mobilize post-2025, to support developing countries in their climate actions.



### TOP PRIORITIES

- Design a post-2025 NCQG on climate finance. The new goal should be needs-based and lead to a massive scale-up of climate finance.
- Provision of around \$1 trillion in annual public support from developed to developing countries (on grant-equivalent terms). Climate finance should primarily be in the form of grants, not loans which add financial burden to already indebted developing countries. This is also key for gender-just NCQG operationalizations, considering the gendered impacts of debt and unpaid care work due to insufficient public investment in social protection amid worsening climate impacts.
- No double counting: climate finance must be new and additional, coming on top of existing ODA commitments. Additionally, what must be a strict requirement is establishing a mechanism to prevent donors from reclassifying a project as "climate-related" if it was originally implemented under a different scheme.
- The NCQG must reflect the true scale and urgency of the climate crisis at the local level, supporting locally led and community-based approaches. The funding must be ambitious to tackle the comprehensive needs of developing countries, and includes sub-goals for support to mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage.
- A strong transparency and accountability framework, with a definition of climate finance, yearly reporting and oversight.
- Funding modalities should be flexible to ensure access by vulnerable communities and groups, including women and girls in all their diversity: indigenous peoples, local communities, youth, smallholder farmers, and more. They should be gender-responsive to address the needs of women and girls in affected communities and participation in decision-making processes. The NCQG decision should include operational elements of gender-responsive budgeting.



## CLIMATE JUSTICE IS GENDER JUSTICE

For CARE, gender equality is a cornerstone of climate action. The impacts of climate change are deeply gendered, with women and girls being at a higher risk of extreme weather events due to poverty and cultural norms.

Gender-just climate action signifies a fundamental commitment to addressing the intertwined issue of climate change and gender equality, recognizing that climate change exacerbates inequality.

Yet, women and girls are also the first responders in crisis, and across the world have stepped up to change the landscape of possibility. They have rediscovered traditional and climate-resilient crops, they have developed new ways to collect and conserve rainwater, and they have learned early warning mechanisms to safeguard their communities in case of extreme weather events.

Women are an essential part of the solution to climate change and their expertise and leadership holds the key to weathering the storms, but they often remain on the sidelines of the negotiations table - when they are present at all. All governments must change this reality and pursue gender-just climate action in their spheres of influence, domestically and internationally.

Despite a few progresses, significant gaps remain in the broad integration of gender within the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). COP29 will be crucial for climate negotiations on gender: it will address critical climate financing gaps and States must renew and strengthen the two action plans aimed at integrating gender equality into climate policies and actions in a comprehensive way.

## Finance for Adaptation Action

Inadequate finance remains the main challenge for adaptation, which has faced a rocky path to be acknowledged as critical to reduce vulnerabilities against climate change.

In 2015, at COP21 in Paris, CARE's advocacy contributed to the foundation of the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA). Established by the Paris Agreement and enshrined in the treaty's Article 7, the GGA marked a pivotal step to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience, and reduce vulnerability to climate change. It has elevated adaptation from a local undertaking to a global ambition embedded in sustainable development efforts and linked to mitigation objectives that governments committed to in the Agreement.

In 2021, COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland, launched the Glasgow-Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the Global Goal on Adaptation (GlaSS), a two-year working plan aimed at better understanding, conceptualizing and ultimately achieving the Global Goal. Its ambition was to define GGA's key elements, including the methodologies, indicators, metrics, and data sources to support the assessment of adaptation progress and enhance and support adaptation action through country-driven processes.

At COP27 in Egypt, CARE provided input on developing a specific framework: Parties agreed on initiating a structure to guide the achievement of the GGA, with the plan to adopt it at COP28 in Dubai.

The conference in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) marked a significant advancement on how to operationalize and measure progress towards the GGA. AT COP28 Parties established the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience (UAE-GFCR), which outlines seven thematic areas and four dimensions targets for the GGA. The framework also defined a pathway towards defining indicators for measuring progress through a two-year work programme, dubbed the UAE-Belém work programme (UNFCCC, 2023, paragraph 39), ahead of COP30 in Belém, Brazil.

While a consensus has been reached on adaptation as imperative in addressing the climate crisis, funding has lagged. Financing from developed countries and multilateral agencies remains skewed in favor of mitigation and it is not matching the current adaptation needs of vulnerable countries. At COP26, developed countries committed to double their adaptation finance by 2025, compared to 2019 levels, in a move that marked a significant milestone in addressing the imbalance between funding for adaptation and mitigation. CARE welcomed the pledge, even though it remains a drop in the ocean of the required financing. However, the abovementioned CARE reports, as well as United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) 2023 Adaptation Gap Report, show that the adaptation finance gap is widening and developed countries have so far failed to define a pathway for fulfilling this commitment.



## TOP PRIORITIES

- An ambitious decision on the mapping, redefinition, and compilation of the existing indicators to establish the Global Goal on Adaptation, with a clear timeline and details on the next steps on the common approach and methodology of developing new indicators and the work ahead of COP30.
- Proper and effective participation of diverse technical experts under the United Arab Emirates–Belém work programme (UAE-BWP), including in:
  - Mapping existing indicators, reviewing and refining the compilation of indicators;
  - Developing new indicators as needed or as per identified gaps in the compilation process;
  - Ensuring an inclusive process, including a balanced geographical diversification and appropriate consideration of experts from developing countries where adaptation is a priority issue.
- Adaptation finance channels must be reformed to increase the allocation and ensure the access for marginalized communities by reducing administrative barriers; funding and supporting local institutions, particularly women-led and girl-led groups and organizations, and implementing key principles of locally led adaptation and resilience-building.
- Support and finance climate-resilient agriculture and food system actions to address [the food crisis affecting nearly 300 million people](#), in particular affecting women. Extreme weather events increase food insecurity, with communities who have experienced droughts or storms facing food shortages for up to five years after these disasters strike. Rising temperatures continue to claim lives and livelihoods, making the mere act of growing food challenging, especially for those working in the informal sector. Governments should invest in restoring healthy soil practices and protecting ecosystems, including mangroves and inland forests, supporting sustainable food production, reducing food loss and waste, promoting sustainable diets, and improving nutrition. Multi-stakeholder efforts must include the voices of food producing communities, particularly women-led initiatives, to achieve gender equality, food security, and climate resilience through local enterprise, innovation, and development.

- Identify solutions to reduce the negative impacts of climate change on health as per COP28 Declaration on Climate and Health. It is critical to provide finance to make health systems more climate resilient: this includes building health facilities that can withstand disasters and investing in training community health workers as critical actors to prevent, prepare for, and respond to climate-related emergencies in their communities to prevent deaths from air pollution, heat, and/or vector, water, and food borne diseases.
- Increased global and domestic financing is needed to support education recovery, address gaps, and develop climate-ready systems and learners through climate adaptation and mitigation measures, in line with the [Declaration for the Common Agenda on Education and Climate Change](#) parties agreed at COP28

## WOMEN LEADING ADAPTATION SOLUTIONS

As indigenous farmer in Ecuador, Virginia grew up following the cycle of seasons for her crops; sowing seasons had dates and months, as did the rain. Over the last decade, however, rain started when it was not supposed to and drought and frost became more severe and frequent: for the 57-year-old mother of three it meant more work and yet low yields.

In Ecuador, most of the family farms are run by women like her: for them, climate adaptation is not a contingency plan, it is a day-to-day struggle in the wake of weather changes. By working with CARE Virginia has developed skills and knowledge, rediscovering native plants that are more resistant to climate change and attending ad-hoc training in agroecological schools that have changed the fate of rural communities.



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She now leads several local development groups and has initiated actions for the protection of natural resources, such as watercourses, and the implementation of ecosystem restoration practices (agroforestry). She works with local authorities to involve women in policymaking and has reinvested her skills in the community and worked with CARE in the first agroecology school for women in her province.

CARE's project "She grows the future" has supported 5,500 small-scale women farmers in Vietnam, India, Ecuador, Madagascar in adapting their farming techniques to climate impacts and diversifying their sources of income. [ 6 ]

## Gender-Just Climate Action

At COP25 in Madrid, Parties agreed on a 5-year enhanced [Lima Work Programme on Gender \(LWPG\)](#) and a Gender Action Plan (GAP), to support the implementation of gender-related decisions and mandates under the UNFCCC. In June 2024, a review of the current work programme and GAP set the stage for a revised GAP at COP29.

Despite progress, major gaps remain in ensuring gender equality is embedded throughout the UNFCCC framework. Gender issues are mostly confined to gender-specific negotiations, limiting their broader impact. National gender and climate change focal points face capacity and financial challenges, and the GAP struggles to achieve country-level impacts. Additionally, commitments on gender equality are weakening, and women are underrepresented in climate decision-making and implementation.

The 2024 COP is parties' momentous platform to develop the new work programme, which provides them with a crucial opportunity to strengthen their commitment to gender-just climate action.



### TOP PRIORITIES

- Finalize the enhanced Lima Work Programme and Gender Action Plan to make it more progressive, transformative and inclusive, and with sufficient climate finance for implementation. In line with the [Women & Gender Constituency submission to the GAP review](#), it is critical to ensure:
  - coherence, by integrating gender goals across all negotiation tracks and promoting process-oriented activities to make the GAP responsive and effective.
  - clarity, with the inclusion of clear indicators and timeframes for tracking progress, both collectively and through disaggregated data, while also aligning national-level actions with existing processes and resources.
  - intersectionality, to recognize and act upon gender-differentiated experiences and impacts. Examples include integrating gender-disaggregated data by age, race, ethnicity, geography, indigeneity, migration status, disability, and other intersecting identities.
  - adequate financial resources to operationalise the GAP and finance gender-just climate actions.
- Ensure full, equal, meaningful, and safe participation by women, girls, people with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples, youth in UNFCCC dialogues and other global and national climate processes. Their leadership is crucial for effective climate action and should be integral to planning, implementation, and monitoring of these processes, to foster inclusivity and diverse perspectives for comprehensive climate action.
- Involve gender experts in all stages and levels of UNFCCC policy development, implementation, and evaluation.
- Consult with and incorporate the views of women-led and women's rights organizations, especially from the Global South, in the calculation of risk analyses, project development, implementation and evaluation, and the elaboration of policies intended to benefit marginalized groups.
- Allocate resources for research, knowledge-sharing, and integrating local and indigenous knowledge, particularly from indigenous women, to ensure interventions effectively address the rights and needs of marginalized populations.



## EARLY WARNINGS SAVE LIVES

Becoming a disaster risk coordinator was not in Amiso Muse's life plans. Yet, as climate change-induced flash floods increased in Kubo, her village in northern Somalia, she knew she had to act to safeguard her community.

Kubo's livelihood depends on the sale of farming and livestock products in nearby cities. The village however is a flash flooding hotspot: every rainy season, the river that meandered through it bursts its banks, flooding it, displacing families, ruining their livelihood and leaving the community struggling to recover.

Amiso joined one of the 20 early warning committees (EWCs), which was set up with CARE's help across Puntland and Somaliland. Women are doers and often communities' key drivers, yet their voice remains unheard: the EWCs involve them and bring them to the center. They are trained on essential skills in disaster management, including on action plans to respond swiftly and effectively to natural hazards, and their involvement helps other women in accessing the early warning systems. In another flood-prone village, Ilma Adeer, women were key in raising awareness about flood prevention strategies: these included the relocation of the village from the flood-prone lowlands to a higher ground, which meant leaving behind their ancestral homes.

Together with CARE, the EWCs serve as a liaison with the disaster agency and work on enhancing disaster preparedness and management. This includes from building sandbags to protect homes and crops to developing a system of information sharing through WhatsApp chats to enable a swift dissemination of critical information.



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## 4 Funding Loss and Damage Action

At COP28, Parties adopted on the first day their first decision, on the operationalization of the Loss and Damage Fund (L&DF). The velocity was a first in the conference's history and it marked a milestone for climate justice. It had taken 32 years for rich, polluting countries to agree they should compensate developing countries for the cost of climate-induced losses they continue to bear. The agreement also proved that joint and coordinated pressure from developing countries and civil society matters, and it works.

Over the past decade, CARE has strenuously advocated in international climate negotiations for raising the profile of loss and damage finance and holding developed countries accountable. In the coming years the Fund will finally provide support for the people who are affected the worst by the impact of climate change despite contributing the least to it. Parties agreed on the L&DF key operating principles, [ 8 ] including who should pay, who will benefit, and where the Fund will be hosted.

This landmark however has drawbacks. First, the Secretariat. The World Bank, indicated as host of the L&DF Secretariat, continues to invest in fossil fuels, raising concerns about its governance practices and commitment to the L&D principles. Second, the total amount: governments failed to set a funding target for the L&DF. Thirdly, and most importantly the obligation: historical emitters, in particular developed countries, are not obliged to contribute, their contribution to the Fund is on a voluntary basis. This is a particularly worrying provision: the Global North has a poor track record of abiding by their climate finance pledges: countries have still not fulfilled the \$100bn goal set and agreed upon at COP15, in Copenhagen.

The initial pledges to the L&DF, made by 16 countries, amount to \$655,9 million. Although this creates the perception that the Fund is not an empty shell, in reality the pledges are paltry: one thousand times more is needed to respond to the real costs of loss and damage by 2030.

In June 2024, in Bonn, Germany, developing countries and observers tabled various recommendations to enhance the implementation of the new Loss and Damage Funding Arrangements. The recommendations, presented during the [Third and final Glasgow Dialogue on Loss and Damage](#) at the 60th session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SB60), included improving coordination, leveraging existing mechanisms, and ensuring a comprehensive approach to both economic and non-economic loss and damage. Developing countries also stressed the importance of inclusivity, human rights-based approaches to L&D and maintaining momentum through high-level dialogues. They also urged that financial pledges are enhanced, access to funds is simplified and funding is in the form of grants. Further, they highlighted the need for the High-Level Dialogue to be a platform for continuous discussion on synergies, coherence, and addressing the practical needs of vulnerable communities.

In Dubai, governments also approved the proposal put forward by two United Nations agencies - the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the UN Office for Project Services - [to jointly host the Secretariat of the Santiago Network for Loss and Damage \(SNLD\)](#). This paves the way towards a rapid set-up of the Santiago Network, agreed upon at COP25 in Madrid, which will catalyze the technical assistance of relevant organizations, bodies, networks and experts, to implement relevant approaches for averting, minimizing and addressing L&D at the local, national and regional levels, in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

Climate-related loss and damage undermines the right to development of individuals and communities, particularly those living in developing countries. It is of utmost importance for the Global North to ensure that vulnerable communities can realize their human right to development.







## TOP PRIORITIES

- Parties must ensure that the new Loss and Damage governance framework provides technical assistance and financial support at the necessary scale to address the needs of developing countries and the communities most affected by the climate crisis.
- The Fund should prioritize grants to prevent adding to the debt burden of climate-vulnerable countries and the support. Support must be accessible, transparent, and participatory, ensuring that the needs and rights of affected communities are central to decision-making processes.
- The Fund's policies should be driven by principles of equity, inclusivity, accessibility, and non-discrimination, with a focus on supporting vulnerable and marginalized groups, particularly women and indigenous peoples.
- Developed countries must finance the Loss and Damage Fund in line with growing needs and in proportion to the historical responsibility for triggering the climate crisis. The Global North must come forward with significantly larger pledges to meet the needs of climate-vulnerable communities and mobilize innovative funding sources such as carbon taxes on fossil fuel companies
- Loss and Damage finance must be included in the NCQG with a dedicated sub-goal to secure new, additional, predictable, and adequate resources for its specific challenges.
- The Santiago Network for Loss and Damage must have sustainable, predictable and sufficient resources - financial, technical, and human - to enhance the capacity of countries to respond to loss and damage caused by the changing climate.
- Parties should include L&D in their next round of NDCs, including details about cost estimates to drive predictable and adequate finance.

### L&D COMPENSATION IS PEOPLE'S RIGHT

Nurunnahar, 44, is a blind mother of four in Sarankhola, one of Bangladesh's most disaster vulnerable areas. In 2020 Cyclone Amphan 2020 wreaked havoc, leaving their already fragile home destroyed. Years later, a ray of hope emerged when Nurunnahar received compensation from CARE through the V20 Loss and Damage project, amounting to BDT 210,000 (equivalent to \$1,944). The grant enabled Nurunnahar and her family to rebuild their lives, starting with the construction of a disaster-resilient house, which considers her physical limitations. She and her family know they are now better equipped to weather the storm and support them to adapt to the changing climate.

Bangladesh is the world's 7th most climate-vulnerable country, and the economic loss of climate change induced shocks is enormous:

during 2016-2021, climate disasters eroded between 0.8 to 1.1 percent of the country's GDP. As loss and damage is ever increasing, compensation is a climate justice right, loss and damage finance must be timely: disaster-affected communities cannot wait for years.



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## 5 Mitigation for Climate Justice

Our planet is heating up. Between 2013 and 2023 global mean temperatures were 1.19 to 1.22°C warmer than the pre-industrial level, making it the [warmest decade on record](#). In the year between February 2023 and January 2024, for the first time ever, global temperature exceeded [1.5°C above pre-industrial levels across an entire year](#). 2023 shattered all climate records: it was Earth's warmest, and was accompanied by unprecedented levels of fossil fuel production and all-time high greenhouse gas emissions.

This trend illustrates how arduous the challenge to keep warming below 1.5°C is, and both [research](#) and COP decisions have clearly confirmed the action gap. According to the IPCC, to remain within the 1.5°C goal, emissions need to peak by 2025 at the latest and be reduced by 43% by 2030.

The [Global Stocktake \(GST\)](#) decision in COP28 noted that 80% of the carbon budget associated with a 50% probability of keeping global temperatures below the 1.5°C goal is already depleted. The [UNEP Emission Gap Report 2023](#) analysis reveals that fully implementing unconditional [Nationally Determined Contributions \(NDCs\)](#) would put the world on track for temperature rise to 2.9°C above pre-industrial levels by the end of this century. Even fully implementing the current conditional NDCs would put the earth on track to a 2.5°C rise.

While COP28 secured an agreement on fossil fuel transition, it failed to conform to the principle of historical responsibility, whereby wealthy and high-emitting countries reaped the profits of oil, gas, and coal expansion, in the pretext of 'phase down' and 'transitional fuel'. Setting on an economy-wide low-carbon development path is paramount for all countries, particularly for those bearing historical responsibility.

CARE strongly believes that domestic mitigation and actual emission reductions must be a priority. This includes quickly shifting away from fossil fuels and switching to sustainable renewable energies and energy that offers the opportunity to establish inclusive employment in the renewable energy industry. The benefits of taking action outweigh the associated costs: the shift needs about \$266 trillion, a tenth of the projected \$2,328 trillion of climate change-induced losses, which would [help avoid \\$1,266 trillion in damage compared to business-as-usual](#) between 2025-2100. Meaningful, inclusive, and diverse participation of women and girls in all their diversity, must be fostered in all levels of market systems development and business operations, from decision-making to implementation to revenue-sharing.



### TOP PRIORITIES

- Governments must align their [Nationally Determined Contributions \(NDCs\)](#) with [Long-Term Strategies \(LTS\)](#) to keep up with the Paris Agreement goals to limit warming to 1.5°C.
- Closing the 'emission gap' and 'implementation gap' requires all parties, in particular the developed and G20 countries, to come up with stronger and more ambitious plans and strategies in the next round of NDCs, due in 2025, for the 2030 and 2035 targets to lower greenhouse gas emissions in consistent 1.5°C pathways.
- Developed countries must support developing ones with means of implementation, i.e., additional, affordable, and accessible finance and technology development to adhere to emission reduction targets for 1.5°C pathways and to better manage climate impacts.

- The troika - Azerbaijan, Brazil and the UAE - needs to facilitate the discussion and drive it to implement the Global StockTake (GST) decisions.
- Governments must enhance their environmental targets by aligning the new NDCs with the [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework \(KM-GBF\)](#) as well as the [GST commitment](#) to embrace “enhanced efforts” to halt deforestation, forest degradation, and ecosystem conversion by 2030. This is crucial to align with the Paris Agreement’s provision stipulating that parties should take action to conserve and enhance their carbon reservoirs and sinks, such as forests and peatlands and should do so in a community-led, human rights-based manner. It notes that the benefits of sustainable land and ecosystem approaches are much wider than their emissions impact and must be adequately rewarded.
- Parties should step up their support for equitable, resilient, and just measures within a food systems approach that looks at emissions beyond agricultural production - including food loss and waste, processing transportation, consumption, biodiversity loss, and land use change. This is crucial to achieve mitigation and adaptation objectives while ensuring local, national, and global food and nutrition security. Interventions that aim to build circular bioeconomies (i.e. use of food waste for energy or fertilizers) or strengthen local supply chains have proven to be effective across equity, resilience, and climate emissions, and should be scaled up.
- Parties should support health systems to lower their carbon emissions within hospitals and clinics for instance, by investing in the use of renewable energy.
- All UNFCCC parties should agree to a rapid, just, and equitable global phase-out of fossil fuels in all sectors by 2050 at the latest, in line with a 1.5°C temperature limit.
- Governments and businesses should also take further actions to speed up the decarbonization of high-emitting sectors (shipping, aviation, and agriculture).

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