

# Loss & Damage from an African perspective

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**African Climate  
Reality Project**



# What is Loss & Damage?

Loss and damage refer to the negative impacts of climate change that cannot be prevented or avoided through mitigation or adaptation efforts. These can include the loss of homes and infrastructure, loss of livelihoods, and the loss of cultural heritage.

The cost of these losses can be devastating for African communities, particularly those who are already marginalized or living in poverty.



# Where we are Coming From...

## BALI ACTION PLAN

Loss & Damage first appeared in international talks in 2007 as part of the Bali Action Plan.



## WIM

Gained momentum in 2013 where the Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM) on Loss & Damage was established.



## COP 27

Historic decision to establish and operationalize a loss and damage fund, particularly for nations most vulnerable to the climate crisis was reached.



# Why L&D is an important subject for Africa

01

## Vulnerability to climate change

- Africa is highly vulnerable to climate change due to its reliance on natural resources, limited adaptive capacity, and inadequate infrastructure.

02

## Limited resources

- Many African countries have limited financial, technical, and institutional resources to address the impacts of climate change, making them highly dependent on external support.

03

## Disproportionate impacts on the poor and marginalized

- Affects the poor and marginalized, who have limited access to basic services and infrastructure, and lack the resources to cope with the impacts of climate change.

04

## Impacts on critical sectors

- Critical sectors such as agriculture, water, health, and infrastructure, which are key drivers of economic growth and development.

05

## International responsibility

- Developed countries have a moral and ethical responsibility to provide support for loss and damage in Africa, including through climate finance, technology transfer, and capacity building.

# Why L&D is an important subject for Africa...

## Climate Change Will Reduce Crop Yields in Africa

By  
2050...



Maize  
- 22%



Groundnuts  
- 18%



Sorghum  
- 17%



Millet  
- 17%



Cassava  
- 8%

## What about Food Security?

By 2040, Africa will have more people than either China or India

By 2100, Africa will have more people than China and India combined



# Snippet of Floods in Nigeria & Drought in Senegal...



# Snippet from Flush Floods in Zambia...



# Snippet from Flush Floods in Zambia...





# The Cost of Carbon

- \$ Political Instability*
- \$ Drought*
- \$ Famine*
- \$ Sea Level Rise*
- \$ Water Scarcity*
- \$ Climate Refugees*
- \$ Storm Damage*
- \$ Floods & Mudslides*



- \$ Infectious Diseases*
- \$ Wildfires*
- \$ Melting Glaciers*
- \$ Dying Coral*
- \$ Ecosystem Loss*
- \$ Species Extinction*
- \$ Infrastructure Loss*
- \$ Our Way of Life*

*... And much, much more*

# Why L&D is an important subject for Africa

01

## Complex causal relationships

- Climate change is caused by a wide range of factors, including GHG emissions, land-use changes, and other human activities. These factors can have complex and interrelated impacts making it difficult to trace the precise causes of specific losses and damages.

02

## Uncertainty and variability

- Climate change is a complex and dynamic process whose variability makes it difficult to predict and estimate the costs of losses and damages with a high degree of certainty.

03

## Limited data

- There is often limited data available on the impacts of climate change, particularly in developing countries and vulnerable regions where monitoring and data collection may be limited.

04

## Challenges in valuation

- Even when the costs of losses and damages can be estimated, assigning a monetary value to these impacts can be difficult. This is true for non-market impacts, like loss of biodiversity, cultural heritage, or human life.

05

## Political and ethical considerations

- Decisions are often influenced by political and ethical considerations, such as questions of responsibility, fairness, and accountability making it difficult to reach consensus on how to prioritize and allocate resources for loss and damage.

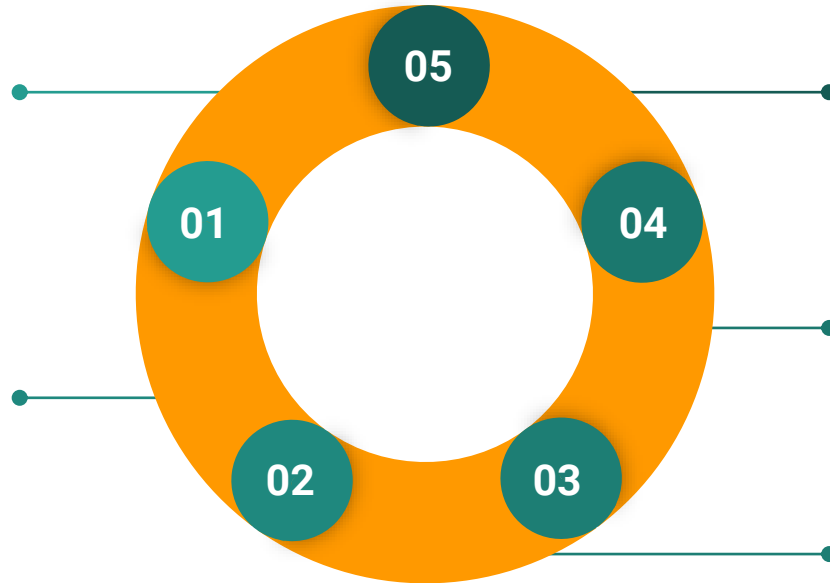
# What Developed Countries/Polluters Must Do...

## Rapid emissions reductions

urgently reduce their greenhouse gas emissions in line with the Paris Agreement's goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. This requires transitioning to a low-carbon economy and phasing out fossil fuels.

## Climate finance

Provide adequate and predictable climate finance to support developing countries in their efforts to reduce emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change. This includes scaling up public finance, leveraging private finance, and ensuring that financing is directed towards the most vulnerable communities.



## Technology transfer

Support the transfer of clean technologies to developing countries to enable them to transition to a low-carbon economy and build resilience to the impacts of climate change. This includes technology development, diffusion, and capacity building.

## Adaptation support

Provide support for adaptation measures in developing countries, particularly in the most vulnerable communities. This includes building climate-resilient infrastructure, improving early warning systems, and supporting community-based adaptation.

## Just transition

Ensure that the transition to a low-carbon economy is just and equitable, particularly for workers and communities that are dependent on fossil fuels. This includes providing support for retraining, job creation, and social safety nets.

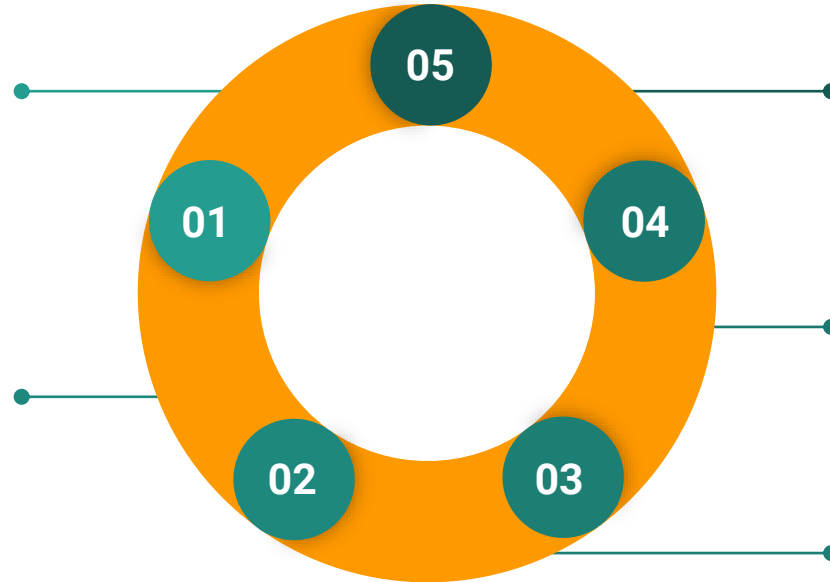
# What African governments should do

## Developing and implementing national climate action plans

Develop and implement national climate action plans that outline their commitments to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to the impacts of climate change.

## Building climate-resilient infrastructure

Invest in infrastructure that is resilient to the impacts of climate change, such as flood-proof buildings, drought-resistant crops, and systems for managing water resources



## Promoting renewable energy

Promote the development and use of renewable energy, such as solar and wind power, which can help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve energy security.

## Building climate-resilient agriculture

Support the development of agriculture that is resilient to the impacts of climate change, including investment in drought-resistant crops, agroforestry systems, and improved water management practices

## Providing financial and technical support to vulnerable populations

Provide financial and technical support to vulnerable populations, such as smallholder farmers and pastoralists, to help them adapt to the impacts of climate change and build their resilience to future climate risks.

# The Role of Climate Leaders

1

## Raising awareness

Raise public awareness about the threat of climate change and the need for action. They can use their platforms to educate people about the causes and impacts of climate change and promote solutions to the problem.

2

## Promoting solutions

Advocate for policies and solutions that address the root causes of climate change, such as transitioning to renewable energy, promoting energy efficiency, and reducing emissions from transportation and industry.

3

## Leading by example

Taking action to reduce own carbon footprints and promoting sustainable practices in their communities and organizations. By demonstrating that it's possible to live and work sustainably,

4

## Mobilizing action

Mobilize others to take action on climate change, whether through grassroots organizing, public campaigns, or other means. By bringing people together & building a sense of urgency & collective action, they can help to drive change and build momentum for a sustainable future.






“

*A solution mindset can help us see climate change not as a crisis but as an opportunity with potential to practically transform the world into a better place for all.*

*To achieve this, we need impact driven climate leadership that will leverage technological innovations amidst increased green financing in order to create sustainable green wealth.*

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CHANGE PHILANTHROPIST



THE END OF THIS  
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TO A CLIMATE FRIENDLY  
PLANET FOR ALL.

