



**actalliance**

# Climate Change Advocacy Framework Position

(2016 – 2018)

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**Cover image:** A man carries a 'cantaro' of water across the dry lagoon of Alegría, Usulután, El Salvador. Water levels have dropped dramatically in the drought that is affecting the region. SEAN HAWKEY/ACT



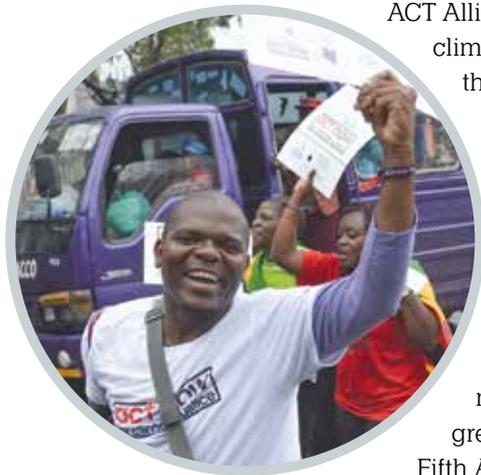
A man turns fish, a main source of livelihood, as they dry in the sun in Estancia, a village in the Philippines, hit by Typhoon Haiyan.  
PAUL JEFFREY/ACT

## 1 | Purpose of the document

The ACT Alliance climate change advocacy framework position paper is designed as a broad outline of the policy areas and approaches that the alliance is working on. It serves as the general vision and guide for ACT Alliance's climate change

advocacy, campaigning, and messaging by providing a political and strategic framing of the thematic areas. It is expected that this document will be used by ACT forums and members in their own advocacy at the national and regional level.

## 2 | Introduction and background



ACT Alliance considers climate change as a threat to the whole creation. As a faith based alliance, we believe that we, as humans, have been given the responsibility to care for creation and it is a task we must shoulder with great seriousness. The Fifth Assessment Report

of the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) confirmed that climate change is a present reality and that it is primarily caused by human action. Other recent evidence of a changing climate includes the World Meteorological Organization's (WMO) Statement on the Status of the Global Climate in 2015, which stated that 2015 marked the warmest global average near-surface oceanic temperature, approximately 1°C above the 1850-1900 average.

Researchers are seeing ongoing rises in mean global sea levels and global climate change observations reveal that changes are happening in ecosystems at a dangerous rate leading to significant biodiversity loss. Further changes in the climate will create more severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts. This is in addition to already prevalent cases of droughts,

floods, and the resultant threat to lives and livelihoods across the world.

The Paris Agreement, the related COP21 decisions, and the deliverables of the Lima-Paris Action Agenda are landmarks in international climate policy and set the agenda for climate policy and action for the years to come. The long-term goal, keeping global temperature increase to well below 2°C and the commitment to try to achieve 1.5°C, combined with the long-term goals to achieve climate resilience and to shift trillions of dollars in investments towards resilient and low greenhouse gas emission development pathways sends a clear signal for urgent climate action. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) further call for action towards more sustainable economies and livelihoods, calling for climate action from key sectors that are related to climate change such as food and water.

ACT Alliance members and forums continue to advocate for **climate justice**, particularly for support for community resilience in developing countries, low greenhouse gas emission development, the respective means of implementation and the full implementation of the Paris Agreement, guided by the principles of equity, human rights and gender justice.

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**Image above:** Last step of the African caravan in Kenya during the lead up to COP21 in Paris. JIMMY OBUYA/CHRISTIAN AID

### 3 | Values and principles guiding the ACT climate justice agenda



ACT climate change advocacy and campaign work is grounded in **Christian faith** and the firm belief that the life of every person has an intrinsic value and that every life is God-given and should be upheld and lived in dignity. Our work is grounded in God's bias towards the poor and oppressed and therefore, **poor and**

**marginalized** populations are at the centre of our work. ACT will work together with **churches and other ecumenical actors** to ensure that their moral and ethical voice is heard. The climate change work of ACT Alliance follows a **rights-based approach**, thus supporting and amplifying the voice of women, men and communities in pursuing their rights and in their efforts to hold their local and national authorities accountable. **Equity, human rights and gender justice**, as well as **transparency** and **accountability** of action and support are key pillars of our advocacy and campaign work.

We are living in a globalized world with manifold risks but also great opportunities for transformational change towards a

common future, where all people, men and women, old and young, irrespective of their origin, contribute to the development of society, enjoy their rights and make a life in dignity, where communities have become resilient, and where the environment is protected and sustained. In a climate resilient society, women and men have equal access to power and resources and equal opportunity to participate in decision-making linked to development and climate adaptation, from the local level to UN climate negotiations. The competence and experience of both women and men contribute equally to shaping climate and development interventions, to ensure that these meet everyone's basic needs and strategic interests. In a climate resilient society, vulnerability is not a matter of sex nor is it linked to gender roles.

ACT Alliance will amplify our momentum, building on our firm beliefs and achievements of the past, **mobilizing our unique global network**, intensifying our **ecumenical partnership**, and taking advantage of increasing climate awareness of faith leaders and communities.

**Ambitious policy and action at the national level** is central to ACT Alliance's advocacy. The Paris Agreement commits all parties to review their Nationally

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**Image above:** Husna stands in the doorway of her home in Kuala Bubon, in Indonesia's Aceh province. She is a leader in the community of 118 houses, which was built by the ACT Alliance after the village's tsunami survivors of 2004 refused to accept government plans to relocate them inland far from the sea. PAUL JEFFREY/ACT



More than 50 members of ACT Alliance joined civil society to take part in a Climate Justice march in Lima Peru during UN COP20.  
ESTELLE MARAIS/ACT

Determined Contributions (NDCs) and action plans for the 2021-2025 period. This must be done before 2020 and includes adapting them to fit yet-to-be-agreed technical norms; wherever possible, NDCs will also have to be increased at this time. This process involves developing plans on how to achieve the NDCs. Accordingly, this will provide many countries with their first opportunity to conduct an ambitious national dialogue that places the issues of climate resilience and low greenhouse gas development at the heart of public debate, while ensuring the population's support for transformation.

The objectives of the Paris Agreement can only be reached together through the **strengthening of international cooperation**. Such cooperation opens up numerous opportunities for development and increased security. In order to ensure that international cooperation at all levels – political, civil and economic – becomes the driving force behind global transformation towards more sustainability, **pioneering alliances** are needed. The innovation and success that these alliances bring about will lead others to follow and encourage a more ambitious agreement and accelerate transformation.

## 4 | Gender and human rights



Under the Paris Agreement, gender equality and empowerment of women was acknowledged so that gender differences and inequalities are not only recognised, but identified and addressed in a manner that provides for accountability (Articles 7.5 and 11.2).

The Lima work program on gender will develop a Gender Action Plan by 2019. ACT Alliance recognises that women are disproportionately affected by long-term climate change, particularly in contexts where gender inequality is more pronounced and women therefore are excluded from owning property and productive resources, and are confined to the home with responsibility for resource management, such as water and energy management. Women's specific competences and vulnerable conditions are often overlooked because these survival responsibilities typically fall outside the formal economy.

To avoid the needs and interests of women being overlooked and marginalized, gender

equality, therefore, must be at the heart of the climate discussion, at all levels of decision making, from the local level to UNFCCC negotiations as the global transition to renewable energy is progressed. The principle of equity, as embedded in the Convention, must prevail as the populations most impacted by climate change have contributed least to the changing climate and have less capacity and fewer resources to manage the impacts. The principle of climate justice should be applied at all levels (local, national, regional and global), as climate injustice exists between socio-economic and ethnic groups and genders within countries, as well as between countries.

ACT Alliance advocacy on gender and human rights in relation to climate change will focus on ensuring that the Gender Action Plan will become a relevant tool to integrate gender perspectives in all climate change policy and interventions under the Paris Agreement. ACT Alliance will also work to ensure the mainstreaming of gender and human rights in other work streams under the Paris Agreement.

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**Image above:** Women participate in a disaster preparedness workshop in Orissa, India.  
SEAN HAWKEY/ACT

## 5 | Community resilience



As the impacts of climate change increase in frequency and intensity, their repercussions for communities and the natural environment also increase, leading to the disruption or entire destruction of food, water, and livelihood systems.

ACT Alliance prioritises the dignity and resilience of communities and people in developing countries that are already affected by climate change, and whose capacities to adapt and resources to respond are limited. Building the resilience of communities towards the impacts of climate change must

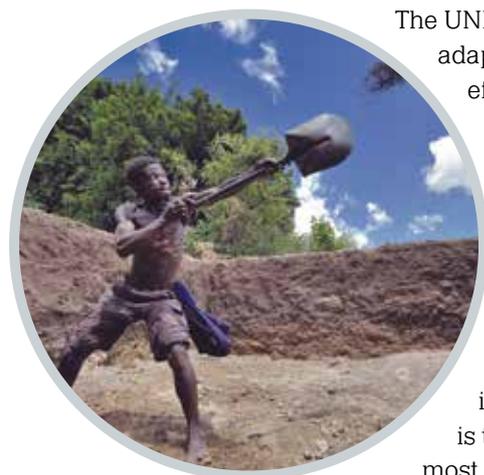
be **comprehensive and rights based**, with important principles of the Paris Agreement such as food security, land rights of rural and indigenous communities, gender equality as well as biodiversity to be considered, protected and promoted at all times.

ACT Alliance's focus on community resilience considers policy and practice on adaptation and loss and damage, including land rights, promotion of climate-resilient agriculture and food systems, protection of smallholder farmers, and the halting and reversal of land degradation and biodiversity loss.

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**Image above:** Adhieu Deng Ngewei and other women work together in a community vegetable garden in Dong Boma, a Dinka village in South Sudan's Jonglei State. PAUL JEFFREY/ACT

### 5.1. | Adaptation



The UNFCCC states that adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change is vital in order to respond to the impacts of climate change that are already happening, while at the same time to prepare for future impacts. Adaptation is therefore one of the most important climate response measures and a

pivotal sustainable development activity. The Paris Agreement acknowledges this

by declaring that "Parties recognize that adaptation is a global challenge faced by all with local, subnational, national, regional and international dimensions, and that it is a key component of and makes a contribution to the long-term global response to climate change to protect people, livelihoods and ecosystems, taking into account the urgent and immediate needs of those developing country Parties that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change." Successful adaptation depends on a multiplicity of stakeholders, with

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**Image at left:** Jackson Thawalima digs out a reservoir for an irrigation system in Chisatha, a village in southern Malawi on its border with Mozambique. PAUL JEFFREY/ACT

governments taking the lead, while ensuring active and sustained engagement of others including civil society at all levels. The Cancun Adaptation Framework will continue to play an important role in terms of policy, practice and enhanced cooperative action.

ACT Alliance's advocacy and campaign efforts will be targeted at ensuring that adaptation remains a key pillar for climate action, including enhanced means of implementation, particularly finance and capacity building. Adaptation must remain in equal standing with mitigation in line with the Paris Agreement and therefore receive balanced treatment and resourcing. ACT Alliance will also focus on the Global Goal on Adaptation to ensure that the principles of justice and equity are enshrined. At the national level, National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) serve as key instruments for planning, implementing and measuring adaptation action. These should be developed in a rights-based approach with the participation of all stakeholders,

ensuring equal opportunity for women and men to participate. NAPs should also address the underlying causes of the specific vulnerable conditions of women and men as well as their respective practical needs and strategic interests. They should consider how available local resources and traditional knowledge of different user groups can be applied to address needs and vulnerable conditions in a given location. Parties must submit and periodically update their adaptation communications, in line with Article 7 of the Paris Agreement to ensure international accountability and that progress is made.

ACT Alliance will engage with the structures and processes mandated to deal with adaptation, including the Adaptation Committee, Nairobi Work Programme, Green Climate Fund, Least Developed Countries Expert Group and others. Geopolitically, a special focus will be directed towards supporting and collaborating with the LDCs, AOSIS, and the Africa Group.



Idris Zentrato, and his sons, with the mangroves they planted in 2007 near their village of Moawo on the Indonesian island of Nias. The mangroves serve as a natural coastline protection. PAUL JEFFREY/ACT

## 5.2. | Loss and damage

The Paris Agreement acknowledges and positions loss and damage as the third pillar of climate action, along with mitigation and adaptation. Loss and damage, as a framework, acknowledges the existence of climate change impacts that are beyond the remit of adaptation. The Paris Agreement states that “Parties recognize the importance of averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including extreme weather events and slow onset events, and the role of sustainable development in reducing the risk of loss and damage.” The predisposition to be adversely affected by climate change and related hazards is more apparent in current experiences of rapid onset and slow-onset

events. Loss and damage recorded in Asia for instance, from 1980-2015 has increased over time with climate and weather-related hazards dominating the statistics.

Munich Re records a loss of \$4050bn globally between 1980-2015 (based on their NatCatService database as of March 2016) or roughly \$115.71bn a year. A minimum of \$50bn per year until 2020 and at least \$200bn per year by 2030 will be needed to substantially enable resilience and risk management in vulnerable communities in response a breach in the thresholds for survival and growth of ecosystems and human beings that result from climate change.

While climate insurance initiatives play a significant role in addressing losses and their economic consequences, ACT Alliance believes that that insurance is only one of the many measures that must be put in place to protect the most vulnerable - who are often the most at-risk yet do not benefit from social protection and insurance coverage. Investing in affordable and accessible risk management including social safety nets, risk transfers and resilience affirms the universal commitment for the protection of people's right to life, and the value of ecosystems and means to support life and livelihoods that will help avert loss and damage from climate-related risks.

ACT Alliance values the sanctity of life and the gifts of creation and calls the community of nations to give priority to a holistic approach to, and an understanding of, loss and damage, which takes into account issues such as identity, culture and intangible

treasures of a community, which are often lost when people are forced to move when they lose their territories to the impacts of climate change. Climate induced migration is a reality in many parts of the world and should receive adequate attention in the UNFCCC, particularly under the remit of the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage, as well as in the context of the SDGs.

It is a moral imperative that the community of nations commit to avert the loss of lives and assets and to put measures in place to secure protection of communities from the threat of climate change. Adequate financial resources and capacity to address loss and damage is urgently required, as well as enhanced interconnection and efficiency between Disaster Risk Reduction, humanitarian response, sustainable development and governance.



A woman gazes out the window of her flooded house during flooding in Meulaboh in Indonesia's Aceh province. PAUL JEFFREY/ACT

## 6 | Low greenhouse gas emission development



The urgency of responding to climate change is underlined by the Paris Agreement's promise to take action towards a low greenhouse gas emission world by the second half of this century. To keep global temperature rise below 2°C or 1.5°C requires an immense transition that must happen in the next few years. There are several positive signals that a low greenhouse gas emission development pathway is possible, for example the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) recognise the interlinkages between climate change and sustainable development and include several climate-related goals, such as SDG7 on the need to deliver universal

energy access by 2030. Another example is the fact that the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), consisting of countries most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, committed to strive to achieve a **100% domestic renewable energy production target between 2030 and 2050** while working towards ending energy poverty, protecting water resources and enhancing food security. ACT Alliance strongly supports such commitments and encourages major greenhouse gas emitters to follow this new leadership.

ACT Alliance's advocacy focuses on national low greenhouse gas emission targets; raising ambition of the national 5 years climate plans; and access to renewable energy for poor and vulnerable people.

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**Image at left:** In Papa village, South Pare mountains, a solar energy project is run by Elisapti Ngoye. SEAN HAWKEY/ACT

### 6.1 | National low greenhouse gas emission targets

In accordance with Article 4, paragraph 19, of the Paris Agreement, all Parties should strive to formulate and communicate low greenhouse gas emission strategies, mindful of Article 2 taking into account their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in light of different national circumstances. To achieve this there must be a shift of investment away from centralised fossil fuels towards diverse renewable energy sources. By 2020 all countries should have comprehensive decarbonisation plans in place that go

beyond mathematical models, but include concrete and specific implementation strategies with timelines. In this way, clean energy access can be made available to people living in energy poverty, which will provide opportunity for better education, reduce the work load, not least for women, and stimulate innovation and enterprise by both women and men, helping to overcome energy poverty and to foster sustainable economic development. The reality is, however, that today's predominant development model relies heavily on fossil

fuels, and centralised generation, which is in stark contradiction with keeping global temperature rise below 2°C, let alone 1.5°C. We must ensure the move away from fossil fuels is a just transition, protecting workers as they transfer to low-carbon and sustainable jobs.

Decentralising energy generation improves the chances of making modern energy services accessible to people living in poverty and increasing the influence of women and men in local communities over management of energy generation and distribution.

Just transition to low greenhouse gas emission development will require a huge amount of political will; and an emphasis on and funding for research and development efforts in order to facilitate a massive shift in energy investment strategies across the globe. Nevertheless, the global energy

market is changing rapidly in the right direction. In 2015, global investment in solar and wind power combined (\$270 billion) was over double that of fossil fuels (\$130 billion). The middle and lower-income countries are rapidly advancing with more renewable energy investment in developing countries in 2015 than in developed countries.

This transition will have an impact on businesses, city development, service delivery and households. Climate finance and wider infrastructure investment represent a great opportunity for countries to accelerate this low greenhouse gas emission transition to deliver the Paris commitments, and to use it to ensure sustainable energy for all. It is important that public money and policy stimulate a shift in the trillions of dollars to be invested in infrastructure over the coming decades towards low and zero carbon investment.

## 6.2 | Raising the ambition of national 5-year climate plans



It is essential that the ambition to reduce greenhouse gas emissions be scaled up. When the Paris Agreement was adopted in 2015 the combined impact of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) was anticipated to lead to 2.7°C of warming this century at best, which is well below the ambition necessary to avoid catastrophic climate change. Scaling up of ambition will require action at the country level and the provision of climate finance

for developing countries to enable them to meet their own commitments. Countries will have to make fair and equitable contributions towards delivering the Paris commitments, through both domestic emissions reductions and climate finance. An important opportunity to encourage the raising of ambition of the NDCs will be during the global stocktake in 2018. It will therefore be essential to create the political and investment conditions to enable the ratcheting up of NDCs. Transformational

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**Left:** Residents of Chisatha, a village in southern Malawi on its border with Mozambique, lift a 5,000 liter tank onto an elevated platform. Six such tanks will be placed on the platform, and solar-powered pumps will fill them with water from a nearby river, providing villagers with irrigation water for their crops. PAUL JEFFREY/ACT

change will require that the driving forces behind climate change are addressed – including inequality in terms of access to resources and influence over decision

making. Finance flows must enable this transition such that women and men living in vulnerable conditions are supported and compensated.

### 6.3 | Access to renewable energy for people living in poverty



Lack of access to clean, modern energy hinders economic development and perpetuates poverty. It deprives women and men living in poverty of opportunities to improve productivity and their quality of life while reinforcing inequalities. Access to renewable energy is consistent with the Paris

Agreement's mitigation objectives and the sustainable development framework. SDG 7 aims to 'Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable modern energy for all'. It aims to provide universal energy access; double the share of renewable energy; and double the rate of improvement in energy efficiency by 2030. Governments from 106 countries and the European Union have partnered with the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) initiative. ACT will encourage those countries

which have yet to do so, to sign up to the UN SE4All and to support its vision of making sustainable energy for all a reality by 2030. It is essential that fossil fuel subsidies are removed. Financing must be channelled toward the needs of the most vulnerable, particularly women and men living in poverty so that they are in positions to improve their own lives, while simultaneously increasing domestic demand for renewable energy (RE) technologies. Energy policies need to be designed from a sustainable development perspective, considering inter alia appropriateness of technologies and their costs and benefits to the environment and to society. It should emphasize increased decentralization of energy production and local development needs and interests as identified by different groups of local communities (women, men, elderly, children, ethnic and other minorities, disabled people and people of different religions).

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Solar powered water pumping systems are reducing the reliance on fossil fuels in the Deleij camp near Garsila, West Darfur. MOHAMED NURELDIN/ACT/CARTISAS/NCA

## 7 | Means of implementation



The means of implementation discussed under this section – climate finance and capacity building - are considered in relation to support for Resilience and Low Greenhouse Gas emission development. Ambitious climate action in developing countries depends on the provision of adequate and predictable support from developed

countries, including finance, capacity building, and technology transfer. This must be done in an accompanying manner such that the voices of those most impacted are heard; and they have a say in their destination. The dignity of all must be respected and maintained. International cooperation to deliver ambitious climate action at the national and global levels must be enhanced to ensure that the means of implementing climate action is adequate and accessible in accordance with the principles of the Convention.

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**Image at left:** Gregorio Galarza displays potatoes he has harvested from his garden in the Guarani indigenous village of Kapiguasuti, Bolivia. PAUL JEFFREY/ACT

### 7.1 | Climate finance

To meet the challenge and need for a green transformation across the globe, sustainable development and safe and secure lives for all women and men, will require financial resources to be mobilized. While there are already considerable amounts of climate finance mobilized, and there are also several attempts to ensure proper reporting, there is need for a clear definition of what constitutes 'climate finance'. The lack of definition contributes to problems regarding transparency. Clarity about sources and allocations are needed, in order to promote trust and confidence.

Lack of transparency has serious implications, such as difficulty in monitoring the sources of climate finance, as there are no agreed criteria for what constitutes climate finance. Some countries count

private finance, while others do not. The lack of transparency also leads to difficulties in tracking allocations of climate finance which in turn hinders the ability to properly monitor these allocations to ensure the adherence to the principles of human rights, gender equality and environmental safeguards. ACT Alliance believes that climate finance institutions/funds should be governed by fiduciary and gender policies that incorporate strict environmental and social safeguards. The policies should also allow civil society groups observer space at their decision-making bodies.

The lack of clarity over what constitutes climate finance, together with a lack of a universal agreement on additional finance as stated in the Convention (Article 4.3) has led to ODA being double counted as climate

finance. It also had the effect that donor countries have used loans and guarantees to be counted as climate finance. Climate finance in the form of non-concessional market loans rather than concessional loans or grants risk increasing the debt burden of recipient countries. There has also been very inconsistent accounting for leverage of private sector investment, often overestimating the role of private investment in delivering climate finance commitments.

ACT Alliance advocates for a definition of climate finance that excludes market-based loans and export credits, as well as private capital that is not a clear result of publicly leveraged finance, or that is not new and additional to business as usual investment. This definition must clearly also exclude double counting of ODA as climate finance. Reporting on concessional instruments, e.g. concessional loans as part of agreed climate finance commitments should focus on the grant equivalent and account for backflows, e.g. returned profits on investments or interest on loans. Reporting of climate finance within the \$100 billion target should be limited to multi- and bilateral finance provided to developing countries (thus

excluding financing of institutions such as the IPCC and UNFCCC). Climate funds should also consider gender aspects in all phases of funding: design, allocation, implementation, assessment of proposals and reporting and evaluation.

Efforts should be made to develop innovative sources of finance for adaptation and loss and damage, including financial transaction tax and a fossil fuel levy.

The successful implementation of the Paris Agenda depends heavily on reliable, long-term and transparent flows of international climate finance. ACT Alliance will therefore advocate for the improvement in terms of quantity and quality of the pre-2020 roadmap presented by developed countries in 2016, the adoption of a post-2020 roadmap, as well as reaching a common understanding of the modalities of climate finance including a clear definition and strict social and environmental safeguards to ensure that all flows of climate finance contribute to sustainable development, fulfilment of human rights and increased gender equality. Criteria for climate finance must enable just and transparent monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV).

## 7.2 | Capacity building

The Paris Agreement specifies that capacity-building should enhance the capacity and ability of developing country Parties, in particular countries with the least capacity, such as the Least Developed Countries and Small Island States, and those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, to take effective climate change action. Capacity building includes the ability to implement adaptation and mitigation actions, facilitate technological development, dissemination and deployment, access to climate finance, relevant aspects of education, training and public awareness, and the transparent, timely and accurate communication of information. ACT Alliance believes that capacity building of developing countries is integral to achieving the objectives of the Convention and of the Paris Agreement

and calls for support for capacity building through the efforts of the Paris Committee on Capacity Building. ACT Alliance also calls for the consideration of the important role of non-State actors such as civil society and faith-based organizations as providers of and recipients of capacity building in the implementation of the Paris Agreement and climate policy and action at all levels. Capacity building initiatives should integrate a gender perspective and train participants in the gender dimensions of climate change mitigation and adaptation. Equal opportunity to participate in capacity building initiatives at all levels should be given to women and men. Capacity building initiatives should be used to develop the necessary competence among marginalized groups to participate effectively in decision-making at the local, national, regional and global levels.



In response to prolonged drought in Somoto, Nicaragua, the community engages in farm school days, enhancing the capacity of the community to maintain solar powered pumps for drip irrigation to cultivate maize. SEAN HAWKEY/ACT

## 8 | Campaigning and mobilisation for ambitious implementation of the Paris Agreement



ACT Alliance aims to mobilize its members and church constituencies to seek positive changes in policy and practice, and to raise awareness and create debate about environmental sustainability and care for creation. Through campaigning and mobilization, ACT Alliance works with its members and churches to safeguard the integrity of creation by:

- Raising the voice of the most vulnerable who are impacted most by climate change
- Providing capacity and leadership to local initiatives to tackle climate change
- Seeking to become better stewards of creation
- Holding governments and other duty bearers accountable to commitments made under the Paris Agreement and the SDGs.

Through public campaigning ACT Alliance serves as a bridge between the technical

and the moral and ethical perspectives on climate justice. With the global ecumenical community behind it, ACT will seek to achieve greater policy change in favour of climate justice and to hold governments and policy-makers to account on their commitments from a faith-based perspective. ACT's campaigning and mobilization complements the alliance's policy and advocacy work.

ACT can help demonstrate the ethical and moral leadership that is urgently needed from the perspective of care for creation. Ambitious implementation of the Paris Agreement will necessitate some enormous shifts in policy to enable swift and deep reductions in emissions involving lifestyle changes, as well as a global shift to renewable energy. Faith leaders and church congregations showing leadership in making changes in our everyday lives will make policy change more acceptable to the public and a normal part of the mainstream discourse. Faith leaders are increasingly engaging in the conversation about what needs to be done now – with policy makers, with the media and with their congregations.

By mobilizing our ACT Forums and their constituencies to take action for the fulfilment of the Paris Agreement at national

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**Image above:** Speaker at a side event organised by ACT during COP22. VALTER HUGO MUNIZ/ACT



The Civil Society march at COP22 VALTER HUGO MUNIZ/ACT

level, ACT will contribute to increased pre-2020 ambition on individual countries' NDCs and ambitious low greenhouse gas emission targets for 2050. ACT will bring the moral and ethical voice that we hold as a faith-based coalition to influence decision-makers, through public mobilization, media work and awareness raising and through lobbying decision-makers at a national level.

Under the umbrella of the "ACT Now for Climate Justice" campaign, and using our previously well-established branding, the focus will be on climate vulnerabilities, always promoting the human face of climate change. ACT will aim to reach the hearts and minds of the global faith constituency that the alliance represents and provide tangible activities that will engage them and enable them to effect change.



**Above:** Fishing boats docked at Kuala Bubon, in Indonesia's Aceh province. The community of 118 houses was built by the ACT Alliance after the village's tsunami survivors of 2004 refused to accept government plans to relocate them inland far from the sea. PAUL JEFFREY/ACT



**Right:** Members of the ACT Alliance joined Civil Society in a Climate Justice march in Lima, Peru at COP20. ESTELLE MARAIS/ACT



**actalliance**

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