

Kilimanjaro Consortium For Development And Environment (KCDE)



EXPERTS ROUNDTABLE REPORT

ADVANCING CLIMATE ACTION FOR COP28 AND TANZANIA'S COMMITMENTS

"When everybody else thinks it's the end,
we have to begin" Konrad Adenauer



PROTEA HOTEL - OYSTERBAY DAR ES SALAAM | JUNE 1, 2023

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The expert's roundtable discussion on COP 28 and Tanzania's NDCs was held on June 1, 2023, at Protea Hotel Oysterbay in Tanzania. The objective of the discussion was to engage pre-COP 28 stakeholders, academia, policymakers, and climate experts in a collective effort to raise awareness, foster accountability, and drive action on climate change. The discussion aimed to understanding international and national climate action processes, the outcome of COP 27, evaluate the status of Tanzania's NDCs and identify practical solutions for effective implementation and plans towards COP28. The major theme of the discussion was centered around keeping the 1.5oC goal alive and strengthening adaptation and mitigation actions, including loss and damage. The alarming projections of global warming and greenhouse gas emissions reaching catastrophic levels underscore the urgency to address the climate crisis now.

Tanzania, like many countries in Africa, is disproportionately affected by climate change. Recognizing this, the roundtable discussion was co-organized by the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) in Tanzania and the Kilimanjaro Consortium for Development and Environment (KCDE). The broad goal was to create a space for stakeholders to collectively assess the status of NDCs, with a particular focus on adaptation and mitigation contributions, and identify critical gaps and weaknesses that hinder progress. The discussion aimed to provide valuable contribution to the KAS forthcoming programs on Climate Change and Environment in Tanzania and regional programs at large.

This roundtable of 20 participants including facilitators was moderated by Caroline Manyama, the Executive Director of ELCA Environmental Firm and National Focal Point – Africa Youth Initiative of Climate Change (AYICC).

In his opening remarks, Dr. Tilmann Feltes (PhD), KAS Country Director, introduced the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) as a prominent political foundation operating in Germany and abroad. Founded in 1955 and named after Konrad Adenauer, the first Federal Chancellor of Germany, KAS has its headquarters in Berlin and affiliated with the Christian Democratic Union (CDU).

Dr. Tilmann highlighted that KAS began its operations in Tanzania shortly after the country gained independence, and it is now one of the five German political foundations present in the country. KAS is recognized for its work in promoting democracy, rule of law, human rights, anti-corruption efforts, interfaith relations, international development, cooperation, and the principles of the social market economy.

KAS has positioned itself as a best and influential think tank in Germany, having gained a reputation for its expertise and impact. More recently, they coordinated a roundtable discussion in Arusha, in collaboration with Chatham House, focusing on Tanzania's regional role in governance, economic diplomacy, and mediation.

Dr. Tilmann emphasized that KAS has expanded its focus to address climate change and environmental issues in Tanzania. Recognizing the urgency of the matter, KAS will support initiatives related to environmental sustainability, energy transition, and climate resilience. The aim is to promote awareness, cooperation, and policy solutions that mitigate and adapt the impacts of climate change, tailored to the specific context of Tanzania.

In concluding his remarks, Dr. Tilmann stated that KAS will collaborate with various stakeholders to collectively address climate change challenges and promote sustainable development strategies. He viewed the roundtable as an opportunity to establish new partnerships and engage in addressing climate change in Tanzania.

On other hand, Rev. Prof. Dr. Aidan Msafiri (PhD), the Executive Director of KCDE, shared a thought-provoking quote from Konrad Adenauer, the renowned first chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany and leader of the Christian Democratic Union. The quote stated, "When everybody else thinks it's the end, we have to begin". With this powerful statement, Rev. Prof. Dr. Msafiri emphasized the importance of perseverance and taking action even in the face of daunting challenges. The quote served as a call to embrace resilience, determination, and the courage to initiate positive change, regardless of prevailing circumstances.

During the roundtable discussion, Rev. Prof. Dr. Msafiri highlighted the expected outcomes. Firstly, participants aimed to enhance their understanding of UNFCCC processes and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), enabling them to navigate these complex frameworks effectively. Additionally, the roundtable aimed to foster a collective sense of accountability and passion among participants, emphasizing their commitment to finding effective solutions to combat the impacts of climate change. The focus was on developing a robust roadmap and action plan centered around climate justice and decarbonization strategies, both at a national and global level, to drive meaningful progress in addressing climate challenges.

Rev. Prof. Dr. Msafiri underscored the importance of collective action and cautioned against the "ostrich syndrome," "chameleon syndrome," and "donkey syndrome," which represent avoiding, adapting to, or delaying actions to address climate change. Finally, he concluded his remarks with another quote from Konrad Adenauer, highlighting the significance of looking forward to the future rather than dwelling on the past for the sake of progress.

The first presentation by Tajiel Urioh, who has a decade of practical and continued experience on climate change and sustainability, reflected on the UNFCCC processes, Tanzania's efforts and particularly what it means for Tanzania through her NDCs commitments.

The presentation provided the linkage of international cooperation and development on addressing global challenges. It showed how the individuals act can contribute to the achievement of national commitments as well as improving macro climate in their respective areas. The presentation also hinted on carbon finance as innovative opportunity provided by Paris Agreement for countries to mobilize domestic resources for climate action. However; most of countries are not yet ready in terms of legislation and institutional establishment on article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

Tajiel also presented about Tanzania's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), which outlines the country's interventions on adaptation and mitigation that will build the country's resilience to climate change and contribute to global efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The NDC proposes several interventions for adaptation, including reducing the impacts of climate change variability and associated extremes, increasing access to clean and safe water, and reducing the risks of climate-related disasters.

For mitigation, the NDC aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by promoting renewable energy, improving energy efficiency, and reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. Tanzania has committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions economy-wide between 30-35% relative to the Business-As-Usual (BAU) scenario by 2030, consistent with its sustainable development agenda.

Tanzania has committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions economy-wide between 30-35% relative to the Business-As-Usual (BAU) scenario by 2030, whereby about 138-153 Million tons of Carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO₂e)-gross emissions is expected to be reduced, subjective to the availability of means of implementation (Finance, technology, and technical capacity). The NDC is in line with the Tanzania Development Vision (2025) and Zanzibar Development Vision (2050), and the Third Five Year Development Plan (FYDP III).

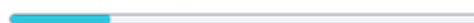
The NDC also includes measures to enhance climate change knowledge management, increase public awareness, and promote the participation of key stakeholders in climate change activities.

What is NDCs?

- Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) present efforts by each country to reduce GHGs emissions (Mitigation) and maximizing adaptation efforts.
- Most of African NDCs include conditional commitments, meaning its implementation is subjected to availability of Mols – (Finance, Technology & Capacity Building). This where the international cooperation approach plays an important role.
- Latest commitments under NDCs are not enough to limit global warming to well below 2°C or preferably 1.5°C. They place point to a 2.8°C temperature rise by the end of the century.

How many Parties have a net zero emission target? ↗

40 out of 197 covering 20.9% of total GHG emissions



PRESENTATION III

The third presentation on **Freedom of Religion/Belief and Environment; and Climate Justice** was done by guru Rev. Prof. Dr. Aidan Msafiri (PhD). He stated by explaining the principle of the universality of human rights is the "DNA" and bedrock of international human rights law.

He further explained that human rights entail a manifold of socio-economic, environmental, cultural, political, and civil and collective rights which enhance holistic justice, including climate change justice. In other words, violation of ecological or climate justice is by ipso facto violation of basic tenets of human rights strata. Therefore, the principle of the universality of human rights is closely related to climate change justice.

He presented the critical nexus between environment, biodiversity, and the inclusive justice regime, and explored the practical action-based jurisprudential model that highlights the under-utilized opportunity for climate change justice. He emphasized the relationship between human rights and climate change justice, the importance of participation in policy-making, and the need for a new environmental and economic model that meets the needs of the present generation without endangering the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

The key takeaways from Rev. Prof. Dr. Aidan Msafiri (PhD) who is also recognized by the Tanzania's Vice President Office as the National Environmental Ambassador are the following: -

- The critical nexus between environment, biodiversity, and the inclusive justice regime is important for achieving climate change justice.
- The principle of the universality of human rights is closely related to climate change justice.
- Participation in policy-making is crucial for achieving climate change justice.
- A new environmental and economic model is needed to meet the needs of the present generation without endangering the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- The practical action-based jurisprudential model highlights the under-utilized opportunity for climate change justice.

PRESENTATION IV

Careen Mwakitalu a renowned youth activist with record of accomplishment of following climate negotiations, presented **the outcomes of COP27** held in Sharm el Sheikh - Egypt.

The conference witnessed the collective efforts of nations to strengthen commitments and accelerate actions in line with the Paris Agreement's goals. COP27 resulted in a groundbreaking global consensus on enhanced emission reduction targets. Countries committed to more ambitious targets, aiming to limit global warming to well below 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. This commitment was backed by concrete plans and strategies to transition to low-carbon economies and increase renewable energy production.

Furthermore, COP27 emphasized the importance of adaptation and resilience-building, particularly for vulnerable regions and communities disproportionately affected by climate change. Robust mechanisms for financing including loss and damage fund, and technology transfer were established to support these efforts, recognizing the need for global solidarity in addressing climate-related challenges.

In addition, COP27 witnessed a breakthrough in international cooperation, fostering greater collaboration among nations. Governments agreed to establish a comprehensive framework for global climate action, facilitating knowledge-sharing, technology development, and capacity-building initiatives.

Moreover, COP27 emphasized the role of nature-based solutions and the protection of biodiversity in combating climate change. The conference showcased innovative approaches, such as forest restoration projects and sustainable land management practices, which demonstrated the potential for achieving multiple environmental and socio-economic benefits.

Despite of these outcomes, participants showed concern on the global speed on addressing the climate crisis. The magnitude of the impact to livelihood and economies in developing countries likes of Tanzania does not match commitments from developed countries particularly on supporting the implementation conditional commitments of Tanzania's NDCs.

PRESENTATION V

The fifth presentation on understanding issues for COP28 and priority setting was done by Tajiel Urioh using more participants centered approach.

COP28 will take place from November 30th to December 12th - 2023, at Expo City Dubai. Tajiel shared that the conference will be a milestone moment when the world will take stock of its progress on the Paris Agreement. The first Global Stocktake (GST) will provide a comprehensive assessment of progress since adopting the Paris Agreement. This will help align efforts on climate action, including measures that need to be put in place to bridge the gaps in progress. It is expected that the COP28 UAE Presidency will work to ensure that the world responds to the GST with a clear plan of action.

He added that other issues that will include ambitious emissions reduction commitments, global adaptation goal, finance and loss and damage, accelerating emissions reductions through a pragmatic energy transition, reforming land use, transforming food systems, mobilizing solutions for vulnerable countries, operationalizing loss and damage fund, and delivering the inclusive decisions.

In discussion, participants conveyed concerns on the COP28 presidency particularly the appointment of Sultan Al Jaber as the COP28 President who is also the CEO of the state oil company – ADNOC. The observation which might directly threat to the survival of vulnerable countries and conservation efforts is UAE's approach on carbon capture.

Participants also echoed the need for push for climate finance including loss and damage fund, at the same time capacity building interventions likes of KAS Climate Diplomacy Academy and others of such nature. The need for understanding climate changes is visible across the leadership structure of the country particularly the Local Government Authorities. These are administrative units where a lots positive milestones can be achieved if these leaders are well informed and capacitated to lead climate action in their jurisdiction.

PRESENTATION V

At national level, participants urged coordinated participation to COP28 with clear preparations that will double as Pre-COP28 Preparation Dialogue. The emphasis was on cooperation on raising the voice of vulnerabilities communities at international space and at the same time implementation of projects and initiatives that improved livelihood and resilience of the community.

Discussants, brought up the issues of governance and human rights, where one participant shared the experience of indigenous people treatment in Ngorongoro and Loliondo versus their infinite practical commitment for conservation. While at COPs provide space for indigenous people to contribute in policy decisions, at national level the government does not recognize them.



ACTION AND WAYS FORWARD

01

Enhancing Awareness and Accountability

Stakeholders, policymakers, academia, and climate experts should collaborate to raise awareness about climate change issues and foster a sense of accountability. This can be achieved through educational programs, public campaigns and dialogues, and media engagement to ensure that the urgency and importance of addressing climate change are understood by all.

02

Effective Implementation of NDCs

It is crucial to evaluate the status of Tanzania's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and identify practical solutions for their effective implementation. This involves developing clear action plans, setting targets, and allocating resources to achieve the proposed adaptation and mitigation measures outlined in the NDCs.

03

Adaptation and Mitigation Actions

Given the alarming projections of global warming and greenhouse gas emissions, there is a need to focus on strengthening adaptation and mitigation actions. This includes investing in climate-resilient infrastructure, promoting renewable energy sources, improving energy efficiency, addressing deforestation, forest degradation and advocating for Tanzania's framework on article 6 of Paris Agreement, innovative approach for mobilizing carbon finance.

ACTION AND WAYS FORWARD

04 Collaboration and Partnerships

Collaborative efforts between stakeholders, government entities, NGOs, and international organizations are essential for addressing climate change challenges effectively. Building new partnerships, sharing knowledge and resources, and fostering cooperation will contribute to the successful implementation of climate change initiatives.

05 Climate Justice and Decarbonization

A comprehensive approach should be adopted that emphasizes climate justice and decarbonization strategies. This involves considering the needs of vulnerable communities and prioritizing their resilience-building efforts. It also requires transitioning to low-carbon economies, promoting sustainable land management practices, and supporting nature-based solutions.

06 Policy Formulation and Advocacy

Engaging in policy-making processes at national and international levels is crucial for driving climate change action. Stakeholders should actively participate in shaping policies, advocating for ambitious emissions reduction targets, mobilizing climate finance, and operationalizing mechanisms such as the loss and damage fund.

ACTION AND WAYS FORWARD

07 Capacity Building and Knowledge Sharing

To ensure effective climate action, capacity-building programs should be implemented to empower leaders, policymakers, and local government authorities with the necessary knowledge and skills. This includes initiatives like the KAS Climate Diplomacy Academy and other similar programs that provide training and resources for climate-related decision-making

08 Addressing Governance and Human Rights

It is important to address issues of governance and human rights in the context of climate change. This includes recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and vulnerable communities, ensuring their active participation in policy decisions, and addressing any disparities or injustices they may face.

09 Preparing for COP28

Stakeholders should actively prepare for COP28 by coordinating their participation, engaging in pre-COP dialogues, and advocating for the voice of vulnerable communities at the international level. This preparation should include clear plans of action, initiatives to improve livelihoods and resilience, and concerted efforts to push for climate finance and loss and damage funds.

ACTION AND WAYS FORWARD

10

Knowledge Exchange and Collaboration

Continued knowledge exchange and collaboration among stakeholders, academia, policymakers, and climate experts are vital for addressing climate change challenges. Regular forums, roundtable discussions, and conferences should be organized to facilitate ongoing dialogue, share best practices, and promote innovative solutions to combat climate change.

By implementing these actions and ways forward, Tanzania can make significant progress in addressing climate change, achieving its NDC commitments, and contributing to global efforts to mitigate the impacts of climate change.



CONCLUDING

REMARKS

The roundtable ended with vote of thanks from Damas Nderumaki, a Project Manager from KAS, and Rev. Prof. Dr. Aidan Msafiri (PhD), the Executive Director of KCDE.

The roundtable discussion provided a multidisciplinary platform to analyze and reassess the Tanzania's NDC and other climate action in the context of the Paris Agreement. It also facilitated an examination of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges of Tanzania's NDCs. By enhancing collective efforts to combat climate change and climate injustices, the discussion aimed to contribute to the global endeavor of addressing vulnerabilities, threats, and risks associated with climate change. The insights gained from the roundtable discussion will aid in formulating effective strategies for climate justice and decarbonization in Tanzania and beyond.

I SUBMIT



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We extend our deepest appreciation to the KAS Tanzania for providing fund and collaborative efforts in organizing this important roundtable discussion. Your commitment to addressing the climate crisis and fostering meaningful dialogue on climate change is commendable.

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