



**CAFS
AFRICA**

COP27 Report

**Sharm El-Sheikh Climate Change Conference
– COP 27, Egypt**

**6-20,
November
2022**

INTRODUCTION

CAFS Africa joined other organizations and partners at The Sharm El-Sheikh Climate Change Conference opened on Sunday, 6th November, with an opening ceremony featuring statements by COP 26 President Alok Sharma (UK), COP 27 President Sameh Shoukry (Egypt), UNFCCC Executive Secretary Simon Stiell, and IPCC Chair Hoesung Lee. Together, they stressed the need to move from negotiations and pledges to ambitious implementation.

Delegates gathered against an ominous backdrop of multiple crises: energy, cost of living, indebtedness, nature loss, and geopolitical tensions among major powers. But the need to act in the face of the climate crisis has never been clearer. The global average temperature rise is already 1.1°C. People around the world are experiencing the effects of climate change, from heatwaves and droughts to floods and superstorms. Only the wealthiest countries are coping.



The need to protect the most vulnerable led to a historic decision at the Sharm El-Sheikh Climate Change Conference after a hard political bargain was struck across significant areas of climate action. For the first time, countries agreed to recognize the need for finance to respond to loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, and quickly established a fund and the necessary funding arrangements, with the details to be worked out over the coming year.

Other key elements of this package were the work programs on urgently scaling up mitigation ambition and the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA). On mitigation, developed and climate-vulnerable countries pushed for a strong outcome to ramp up efforts to reduce emissions before 2030, calling this “the critical decade.” In the end, countries agreed to a process that will explore topics, which are to be decided and identify opportunities and gaps to reduce emissions. Several countries expressed some worry that the mitigation outcome may not be enough to “keep 1.5°C alive.”

On the GGA, countries were more pleased with the outcome. Parties agreed to a long-term, structured effort that will help countries to collectively achieve the global adaptation goal. This framework will also review progress toward its achievement. Given the context-specific nature of adaptation, that country will have to adapt to different climate impacts, this framework will generate information that can help to enable and capture progress. It will be reviewed before the second Global Stocktake in 2028.



Figure 1: First children and youth pavilion at COP 27

Parties also adopted two overarching cover decisions, together called the Sharm El-Sheikh Implementation Plan. Both decisions address science, energy, mitigation, adaptation, loss and damage, finance, and pathways to a just transition. Some highlights include:

- retaining the call to phase down unabated coal power and phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, as adopted in the 2021 Glasgow Climate Pact.
- urging parties that have not yet communicated new or updated nationally determined contributions (NDCs) or long-term low greenhouse gas (GHG) development strategies to do so by the next meeting;



- establishing a work program on a just transition to discuss pathways to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement;
- launching the Sharm El-Sheikh dialogue to enhance understanding of the scope of Article 2.1(c) of the Paris Agreement (ensuring finance flows are consistent with low-GHG, climate-resilient development), and its complementarity with Article 9 of the Paris Agreement (climate finance);
- urging developed countries to provide enhanced support to assist developing countries to both mitigate and adapt and encouraging other parties to provide or continue to provide such support voluntarily; and

Other key outcomes from the meeting include:

- calling for multilateral development bank reform, including in their practices and priorities, and to define a new vision, operational models, channels, and instruments that are fit for adequately addressing the global climate emergency.
- progress towards operationalizing the Santiago Network on loss and damage through adopting its terms of reference, agreeing on its structure, and launching the selection process for its host Secretariat;
- Provide operational guidance for scaling up cooperative approaches under Paris Agreement Article 6.2;
- enabling the full operationalization of the Article 6.4 market mechanism;
- specifying modalities for the work program under the Article 6.8 framework for non-market approaches; and
- continuing the technical dialogue under the Global Stocktake.

The meeting also featured the Sharm El-Sheikh Implementation Summit, which over 100 Heads of State and Government attended. By the end of the meeting, which concluded on 20 November, more than 39 hours after the scheduled close, parties had adopted 60 decisions.

The Sharm El-Sheikh Climate Change Conference convened in Egypt from 6-20 November 2022. The Conference included the:



- 27th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 27);
- 4th meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 4);
- 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 17);
- 57th meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI 57); and
- 57th meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 57)

SIDE EVENTS

Putting Food on the Table during Climate Crisis: Pavillion Room 2

The event brought together stakeholders to strengthen collaborative pathways to support science-to-action efforts to transform food systems in a changing climate. Remarks were given by World Food Prize 2022 laureate Cynthia Rosenzweig and Purvi Mehta from Gates Foundation.

Speakers at the side event include Cynthia Rosenzweig (Columbia Univ/AgMIP), Purvi Mehta (Gates Foundation), Alex Halliday (Columbia Univ), Barbara Stinson, (World Food Prize); Muhammed Ibrahim (CATIE), Manuel Otero (IICA), Greg Sixt (MIT), Jim Hall (Oxford Univ), Leanne Zeppenfeldt (Clim-Eat), Kris Hamel (COP28/UAE).



Figure 2: Cross section of the panelist at the event



Fig 3: Azeez engaging with the panelists at the event

Outcome:

- There is a need for all stakeholders to work together and support research and developmental approach for the food systems transformation
- Institutions must work with development partners to come up with new research that helps farmers and producers withstand the effect of climate change
- Locally led approaches to solving the climate crisis will go a long way in restoring the peace of that particular community



Scaling up early warning and early action through comprehensive disaster and climate risk management: Hatshepsut 300

The ambitious plan to achieve early warnings for all in the next five years requires an all-out effort by multiple actors, stakeholders, and institutions. The event focused on enabling factors, including integrated disaster risk reduction and climate action that will make this vision a reality.

Speakers at the side event include:

1. Aminath Shauna, Min. of Environment & Climate Change, Maldives
2. Mami Mizutori, SRSG & Head of UNDRR
3. Jagan Chapagain, IFRC SG
4. Ibrahima Cheikh Diong, ASG & DG of ARC
5. Ingrid Hoven, MD, GIZ
6. Arlene Laing, Director, CMO
7. Johan Stander, Director of Services, WMO

The event was moderated by Lisa Robinson, BBC

Outcome:

- All stakeholders must work together in different countries as the risks around seasonal climate and weather varies and solutions should be tailored accordingly
- More comprehensive awareness and communication of the early warning systems need to be domesticated locally, especially in rural communities where farmers have no knowledge
- Local means of communication should be adopted to enable the locals to make good use of the early warning piece of information accordingly
- There should be strategies to derisk for farmers as a way to cushion the effect of climate change and encourage them to do more and also practice farming activities that reduce risk all year round.

Money where it matters: Driving climate finance to achieve human and environmental rights - Hatshepsut 300

Food systems are increasingly called upon to enforce human and environmental rights. But what does this mean for farmers' livelihoods? Accessing funding and innovative financial instruments



for adaptation and mitigation are necessary to rapidly scale up food system transformation among farmers.

Speakers at the side event were Chris Buss, UICN/FFF Partnership; Marcel Groleau, President, AgriCord; Amanda Liedgren, Climate Advisor, SIDA; Benjamin Kuome, Cocoa producer Fairtrade Africa; Pablo Aquino, Coconut producer, NAPP; Andres Gonzale, Sugar Cane Producer, CLAC; Aled Jones, President NFU Cymru; Estrella Penunia, SG AFA

Outcome:

- To keep farming alive, we need to urgently direct finance for locally-led adaptation and for a just transition to resilient farming, such as agroecological practices.
- There is a need for the establishment of a much-needed specific farmer-led fund or facility to ensure inclusive decision-making and direct investments.
- Loss and Damage-finance should be additional to adaptation, mitigation, and ODA commitments, and delivered in accordance with the principles of climate justice.
- Interventions to address loss and damage must prioritize the most vulnerable people, such as small-scale agricultural producers, women, and other directly impacted groups in the Least Developed Countries.

The Role of Gender Equality for a Just, Sustainable, and Climate Resilient Energy Transition: Amon 150

This event was hosted by UNIDO, WFP, FAO & UN WOMEN exploring the nexus dimensions of climate action (SDG13), sustainable energy (SDG7), gender equality (SDG5), food security (SDG2), & clean water (SDG6) and discusses the role of women's multi-level leadership for a just & climate resilient Energy Transition.

Speakers at the side event include Egypt's Ministers of Environment & International Cooperation; Ecuador's Vice Minister of Electricity & Renewable Energies; S. Gama, Ministry of Natural Resources & Climate Change, Malawi; E. Wathuti, Climate Activist. Representatives from organizers, as well as AfDB, CCA, ICIMOD & others.

Outcome:

- Women are first responders in crisis and should not be left behind in policy and decisions that make them less vulnerable.



Outcome:

- As women use wood for food and fire, it harms their health and causes climate change due to deforestation but with solar energy, they can charge their foods and cook in a healthy way and women play a key role in this, it is important to have women at the decision table at the nexus of food and energy.
- Energy, food, and water nexus. Clean water is difficult to come by in rural communities especially when development aggressors come in. Construction, deforestation, and they have negative effects on the health of rural dwellers.
- Water shortage and food insecurity come in with landslides, and flash folds but with development and this begs the question of who developments are for.
- Water is found in lakes, rivers, and streams and provides support to livelihood and ecosystems service. Energy is used to drive the economy and to drive domestic engagements.
- Malawi relies on biomass energy, and this requires encroaching on forest resources resulting in deforestation and its attendant impact is on hydropower generation. Low-income countries like Malawi are food, water, and energy insecure. With high ambitions set with the development agenda, it's clear that it will be difficult to achieve the goals and targets – Stella Gama, Director of Forestry, Ministry of Natural resources and Climate change, Malawi.
- There will be no blanket solutions to challenges and solutions must be looked at with a local lens. Technology must be provided to grow food sustainably and regeneratively. With drip irrigation, we can increase growing seasons and cold storage systems to keep food fresh. When women have access to technology, there is info sharing on local Agric techniques. Investing in women is less risky and yield higher returns. Brandi Decarli, Founding Partner – Farm from a box.

Towards Resilient, Sustainable, Transformed African Agriculture and Food Systems – Thutmose 100

The side event showcased resilience-building efforts designed to transform African Agriculture and Food Systems. The event also provided a platform for dialogue and experience sharing among policymakers, scientists, and agriculture experts in the context of the SDGs, and Africa Agenda 2063.



Speakers at the side event were Mrs. Providence Mavubi-Director Industry and Agriculture Division-COMESA Mr. Stephen Muwaya, Uganda Ms. Sithembile Mwamakamba, FANRPAN Mr. Kai Gatkuoth – African Union Commission Prof Lindiwe Majele Sibanda, University of Pretoria MrRuaraidh Petre, GRSB DrCynthia Rosenzweig, Columbia University.

Outcome:

- Agriculture is a business, and it makes a profit
- The biggest war on poverty can be solved by creating wealth.
- We need to produce more to feed 2b more people in the next decade, we need technology, precision Agric, and good seeds.
- Agric is about seeds, mechanization, water, and people.
- There is enough food but it's costly to consume.
- Smallholder farmers are unable to cope with crop failures.
- We need to upscale Africa-specific models to address African issues

TISA intervention

- Agriculture innovation platforms – a space for learning and innovation
- Soil monitoring tools give an indication on when to irrigate
- Profitability, productivity, women empowerment, water use efficiency, reduced conflict (resource allocation), and resilience is built (adaptation).
- Climate adaptation, resilience, and food system transformation can be achieved by appropriate technology combined with a social change approach.

Case building and amplification of locally-led Adaptation Initiatives – Green Zone Hall A

The side event organized by the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance discussed ways in which African countries can build resilience to the effect of climate change by using locally-led adaptation initiatives designed to transform African Agriculture and Food Systems. The event also provided a platform for dialogue and experience sharing among farmers, scientists,

academic and agricultural finance institutions. The event also highlighted traditional knowledge and community-driven innovations.

Speakers at the side event were Gino Coccichianro Director of programs and development, Natural Justice; Azara Nfon Dibie Sanoo, Regional Advisor for West & Central Africa, Oxfam; Dr. Mithika Nwenda, Executive Director, PACJA; Khaduyu Michael, Project Lead African Youth Commission.



Figure 4: Cross-section of panelists and participants at the side event

Accelerating Climate Adaptation in Agriculture – A Youth Perspective – Thutmose 100

The multistakeholder dialogue addressed the biggest challenges African youth smallholder farmers are facing in adapting to climate change. Global leaders and young African agripreneurs exchanged innovative & just solutions in their local communities. The Agri- Youth Champion Demand Paper was also launched officially at the side event.

Speakers at the side event were 8th UNSG Ban Ki-moon Gov. reps: Germany, UAE, Zambia, Maria Helena Semedo (FAO DDG) Claudia Sadoff (CGIAR Exec. MD) Sophie Aujean (Fairtrade Dir. Advocacy) Katrin Harvey (COO BKMC) Deborah Osei-Mensah (Fairtrade Amb.) Azeez Salawu (Executive Director CAFS Africa & BKMC YouthAgri Champion) Richard Kachungu (BKMC YouthAgri Champion).



Figure 5: Cross-section of panelists at the side event

Outcome:

- The stakeholders need to constructively consider the demands of young agricultural stakeholders.
- Climate change's direct impacts on young agricultural actors is on the high side and there is a need to provide finance & insurance packages to cushion its effects.
- Accelerating climate adaptation to support young smallholder agriculture farmers is key to continuing their work and providing for their communities in face of the global climate crisis.

Accountability of NDCs, NAPs, and food systems: from the youth lens – Food Systems Pavillion

The event was organized to ask the question of 'How can we, as youth, hold governments accountable for their commitments made?' learning about entry points for engaging in the follow-up of COP27, understanding where the topic of food systems lies within the NDCs and NAPs, describe the different ways young people can get involved in the COP follow up, showcase examples of best practice for meaningful youth participation in policy-making and implementation, especially related to NDCs/NAPs, through diverse speaker background with different modalities for advocacy - parliamentarians, civil society, national youth delegates to COP, Regional perspectives and case examples.

The speakers at the side event were Martina Fleckenstein - Global Policy Director of Food, World Wildlife Fund (Europe), Sahar Albazar, President of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians, IPU – virtual, Ann Vaughan - Senior Climate Change Advisor, USAID, Maria Laura Martinez- Dominican Republic Youth Delegate to COP27 (LAC) Moderator: Azeez Salawu, YOUNGO representative.

Outcome:

- Young people must be at the center of all planning, engagements with other stakeholders for accountability purposes
- There is a need to reform our food systems policies to accommodate the needs of small-scale farmers women and youths
- Young people must build their capacity in order to be well-grounded in discussions around country-specific NDCs and NAPs
- Young people should not be pushed to the back and be meaningfully engaged across board.



Figure 6: Cross-section of panelists at the side event



SOME SUCCESSES COP27 RECORDED:

- Egypt announced initiatives focused on women's inclusion in climate action, energy transitions in Africa, and cooperative approaches to water resilience.
- The concept of just energy transition was a major topic on Energy Day. The US, Japan, and several European countries plan to mobilize \$20 billion to help Indonesia shut down coal power plant under the Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP).
- Hydrogen was high on the agenda, given its economic potential for many countries; nuclear was also a subject of discussion. Less attention was paid to the enablers of renewable energy and energy efficiency.
- Brazil, the DRC, and Indonesia formed an alliance to cooperate on forest preservation.
- The World Resource Institute (WRI), in collaboration with several partners, launched the \$5 billion African Cities Water Adaptation fund which will finance innovative urban water resilience solutions.
- Four developing countries – Bangladesh, Ghana, Maldives, and Sri Lanka- frustrated by the lack of support from richer countries, launched their own Climate Prosperity Plans to limit climate-related losses.
- The Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (GEAPP) and Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL) launched the African Carbon Markets Initiative to grow the carbon credit retirements and expand into agriculture and land use.
- IFC launched a \$6 billion financing to support sustainable food production in countries affected by food instability.
- The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation pledged \$1.4 billion in climate-smart technology investment to support smallholder farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Biden announced a \$150 million "down payment" to the Emergency Plan for Adaptation and Resilience (PREPARE), which funds adaptation initiatives in developing countries; the doubling of US pledge to \$100 million, to the Adaptation Fund; the launch with Norway, of the Green Shipping Challenge; and with Germany and the EU, \$500 million towards Egypt's transition to clean energy.



- Egypt announced two initiatives to increase the resilience of food systems, Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation (FAST) and the Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition (I-CAN), as well as the launch of the Cairo Centre for Learning and Excellence on Adaptation and Resilience.
- The African Union, the African Development Bank, and Africa50 launched a \$10 billion initiative, the Alliance for Green Infrastructure in Africa (\$500 million has been raised) to finance green infrastructure projects in Africa.
- The UK and the Netherlands will provide, respectively 200 million euros and 110 million pounds to the Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program (AAAP).
- AIM for Climate, a joint initiative of the US and the UAE is doubling the investment for Climate-smart agriculture and food systems to \$8 billion from partners.
- The Loss and Damage agenda was finally agreed and developed countries pledged to provide climate finance for developing countries' resilience to the effect of climate change.

In total, 33,449 people attended, including 16,118 delegates from parties, 13,981 observers, and 3,350 members of the media.



AZEEZ SALAWU PERSONAL REFLECTIONS FROM COP 27

I reflected as I departed Sharm El-Sheik in Egypt for Nigeria after the conclusion of the United Nations two weeks long Climate Change summit (COP27). As a climate change activist based in Nigeria, I was at COP27 to amplify the devastating impacts of climate change bedeviling smallholder farmers in Nigeria and how these challenges are threatening food security in my country, bearing in mind that smallholder farmers produce over 75 percent of foods being consumed in Nigeria.

Ironically, even when it is no news that Africa contributes a dismal fraction of 3 percent to the global emission of Greenhouse gases, smallholder farmers, children, and youth across rural communities in the continent are bearing the brunt of the climate disasters. In Nigeria, smallholder farmers are at the peril of climate crises; From increased flooding to a lack of access to seasonal climate and weather information services. This is already affecting production output across the agricultural value chain significantly, due to lack of adaptation and mitigation strategies among farmers.

I came to COP27 with mixed feelings. I was looking forward to seeing “loss and damage” at the top of the World leader's discussion at the Climate Implementation Summit held 7 to 8 November, but was happy it was agreed upon at the end of the negotiations as developed countries deliver on their promise to help to developing nations in Africa build climate-resilient societies through commitments and climate finance for adaptation and loss and damage.

At the opening plenary, the UN Climate Change Executive Secretary, Simon Stiell, announced that World leaders would be held accountable for their pledges, but then effective strategies on how to hold our leaders accountable for the implementation of their commitment are obviously not in sight yet. Apparently, it is easy for both state and non State actors to make pledges, but the effective and efficient implementation of those pledges oftentimes doesn't come to fruition.

The negotiations ended not so well as the KJWA discussion that was meant to have been concluded in 2020 has now been moved to COP28. The world's wealthiest countries didn't go far enough, even though the food systems discussion was at the heart of the COP discussions.

During the conference, I saw the seeds of progress as over \$1 billion in adaptation



Figure 7: Azeez Joining other young activist during the Climate Justice Protest in Egypt

pledges across sectors have been made by different states and nonstate actors at COP27 and food security, innovative financing, just transition, investing in the future of energy and water security challenges were the top issues discussed by world leaders.

Most of all, I joined fellow young activists outside to demand for a better mechanism for climate finance and justice that will enhance the capacity of global south countries' resilience to climate change. We marched together, united in a demand for urgent climate action. The power of our collective action was refreshing – as I look forward to seeing actions and implementation post-COP27.

Through our collective responsibilities, we can achieve a common purpose for the sake of mother earth!

Azeez Salawu
Executive Director, CAFS Africa

PHOTO GALLERY





PHOTO GALLERY

