



THE GREEN PROTECTOR
Friends of the Environment



COP29
Baku
Azerbaijan

COP 29 POLICY BRIEF

Prepared by
The Green Protector

About US

The Green Protector (TGP), previously known as The Green Fighter (TGF) is a female-youth lead NGO that started from the vision, idea, and commitment of Miss Ineza Umuhoza Grace in 2017 when she was about to end her university studies after participating in a leadership training offered by Moremi Initiative Leadership Empowerment and Development (MILEAD) Program and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) youth forum.

In 2018 a group of young people with different educational backgrounds from Rwanda committed and fully engaged to contribute to the sustainability of the environment joined the organization and started putting their energy together with the common purpose of contributing today to making tomorrow a better place. From 2018, TGP grew expertise in conducting events, initiatives and projects to contribute to an increase of active participation in protecting the environment. Our impacts can be summarized as follows:

Environmental Education

01

We promote environmental education for 15 schools in Rwanda by working with the environmental clubs, During the pandemic we developed an environmental booklet to be disseminated in three schools, and we hold constant visits in three Primary schools in Kigali. Our activities have reached over 3 500 young people

Environmental Action

02

The team enhanced the ability of writing projects and we wrote five and trained 15 other youth in this area. We have been able to win one grant, we won a competition, and we received different financial support to conduct activities in the community. So far, our actions include Global Goals Jam, debates, speech competitions, planting trees

Environmental Policy

03

In 2018, three members were invited to attend the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 24th Conference of Parties (COP 24) as part of the Rwandan delegation of negotiators, since then we understood our role in strengthening the active participation of women, youth and the golden value of our country's policy. Today we are hosting 12 Rwandan youth who attend the UNFCCC COPs (we have built partnerships with two other youth organizations in Rwanda) and collectively, we add a voice to the global call to achieve climate justice.





The Policy brief is a compilation of key messages of The Green Protector on different thematic of the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change ahead of its Conference of Parties 29. The brief is based of the contribution of youth negotiators actively following the negotiation on the presented thematic

The Negotiators



Umuhoza Grace Ineza
Loss and Damage Negotiator



Isingizwe Sandra
Action for Climate Empowerment Negotiator



Cyuzuzo Adeline
Climate Finance Negotiator



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Climate Finance Negotiator



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Article Six of The Paris Agreement Negotiator

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ACTION FOR CLIMATE EMPOWERMENT

BACKGROUND

Climate change is a threat to the entire globe and the global community needs to know why and how climate change is a threat to us and how each one of us can contribute to protecting the environment and adopt sustainable lifestyles. To achieve the dissemination of information about climate change, a term was adopted by The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) to denote work under Article 6 of the Convention and Article 12 of the [Paris Agreement](#).

ACE calls on governments to develop and implement public awareness, educational programs and promote public participation in addressing climate change and its effects through six elements of ACE, namely: education, training, public awareness, public participation, public access to information, and international cooperation on these issues, empowering all members of the society to engage in [climate change action](#). At COP 28, Rule 16 was applied; there was no agreement on discussing provision of financial support for ACE implementation. This year at SB 60, consensus wasn't reached and Parties requested to continue consideration of matters relating to Action for Climate Empowerment at COP 29 (November 2024).

KEY MESSAGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COP29

One

Needs and gaps related to finance for ACE implementation: implementation work requires financial means, developed countries should be providing financial support for ACE implementation. At COP 29 a decision should be made, developed countries should provide financial support to address the gaps and challenges for ACE implementation.

Two

Four year ACE action plan under the Glasgow work program is reaching its halfway point. Parties need to identify the gaps they encountered in the first two years period and make suggestions on how to bridge the gaps for the remaining two years of the action plan.

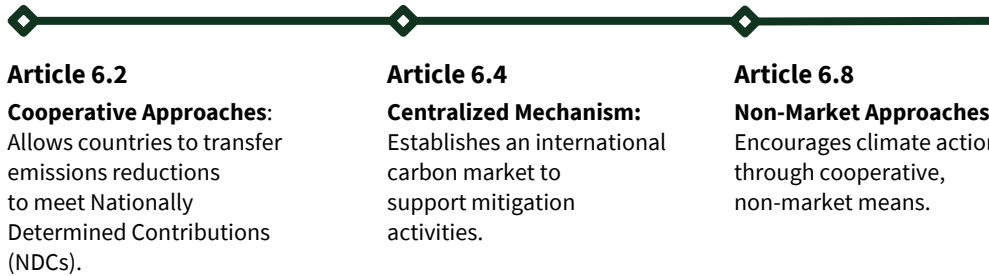
Three

Expand ACE understanding and its importance: there still remains little understanding of the potential of ACE to advance climate actions, implementation of ACE will help other streams of work under the UNFCCC and actions to address the crisis. We need information, education and knowledge sharing in addressing matters related to climate change which is covered in Action for Climate Empowerment's six elements

ARTICLE 6 OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT

BACKGROUND

Article 6 of the Paris Agreement provides a framework for countries to collaborate on climate change through both market and non-market approaches, covering three main components:



The overarching goal of Article 6 is to foster cost-effective mitigation actions, uphold environmental integrity, and promote sustainable development. COP26 established initial guidelines, setting the stage for further implementation and decision-making.

UPDATE AND RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Following recent Subsidiary Body (SB) sessions, some key developments and challenges have emerged:

1. Article 6.2 Updates:

- **Inclusion of Emission Avoidance:** Parties will revisit this at SBSTA 68 (2028).
- **Common Nomenclature:** The Secretariat is preparing a list for consistent terminology.
- **Confidential Information:** Procedures for reviewing confidential information are in development.

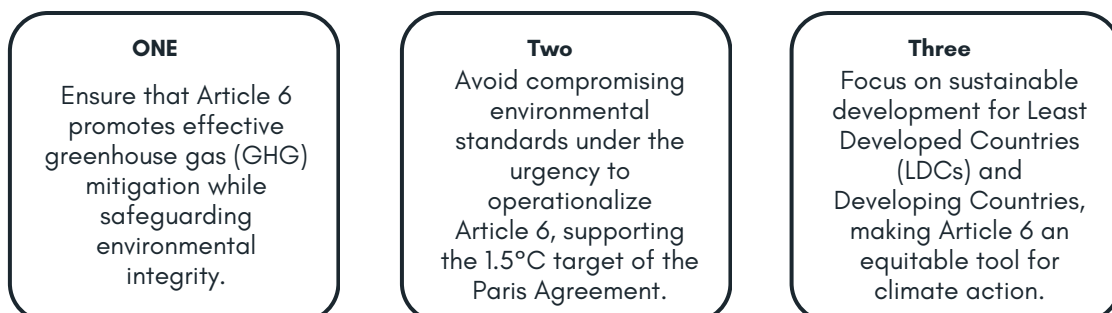
2. Article 6.4 Mechanism Updates:

- **Emission Avoidance and Conservation Enhancement:** Further discussion will take place in 2028, with current rules in effect.
- **Sustainable Development Mechanism (SDM) and Host Responsibilities:** To be revisited in 2028.

3. Hybrid Workshop on Articles 6.2 and 6.4: Held in October, this workshop addressed:

- Authorization of ITMOs
- Agreed Electronic Format (AEF)
- Registry Connectivity

KEY MESSAGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COP29



NEW COLLECTIVE QUANTIFIED GOAL

BACKGROUND

As we approach the twenty-ninth session of the Conference of Parties ((COP 29), climate finance remains a critical issue. Despite previous commitments, financing for climate actions remains inadequate to meet the needs and priorities of developing countries. This year, COP 29 is billed as the “finance COP” as it is set to agree on a new goal to replace the \$100 annual goal.

In 2009, developed countries agreed to jointly mobilize USD 100 billion per year by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries. This was reaffirmed in the Paris Agreement, where the Parties agreed to extend the US\$100 billion goal through 2025 and set a New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) by 2024.

The process to set a new collective quantified goal began at the beginning of 2022. After 3-years, a series of 11 Technical Expert Dialogues (TEDs), 3 Ad-Hoc Work Programme meetings, high-level engagements at UNGA, and High-Level Ministerial Dialogue were organized to facilitate deliberation of the NCQG and is set to be formalized at COP29 in Baku.

The unmet \$100 billion climate finance goal set for 2020 through 2025 has undermined trust, especially between developed and developing nations

One

Due to the lack of additionality, a research paper from Care found that 93% of climate funding reported by developed nations between 2011 and 2020 came from development aid.

Two

Most climate finance provided are loans, exacerbating developing countries' debt crisis.

Three

There is no commonly agreed definition of climate finance, leading to confusion on how much has been mobilized and provided and what counts and does not count as climate finance.

Four

There has been an imbalance between adaptation and mitigation finance provided.

COP29 offers an opportunity to learn from the lesson of the 100 billion goal and restore trust by enabling developing countries to increase their climate action to limit temperature rise to 1.5 C.

Messages For COP29 on The New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG)

01

The NCQG should reflect the current reality of developing countries' needs and set a new evidence-based post-2025 goal.

02

Current reports, such as the second Needs Determination Report (NDR2), estimate that developing countries need between USD 5.036 and USD 6.876 trillion in climate finance to implement the current NDC until 2030. Therefore, the NCQG needs to be at least USD 1.3 trillion annually, and a regular process review should be put in place to align the goal with the evolving needs of developing countries.

03

Climate finance should be provided and mobilized by developed countries to developing countries and uphold the principle of Common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC)

04

Climate finance must be provided through public finance in a grant-based and highly concessional manner, particularly for adaptation and loss and damage. Additionally, it should recognize that market-rate loans can not be counted as climate finance. Financial instruments used must not exacerbate the debt burden of developing countries.

05

A clear definition of what is and what is not climate finance must be agreed upon to avoid ambiguity and mistrust and ensure transparency and accountability.

06

Enhanced country-driven access should be pursued through simplified access and harmonization of processes while addressing the disenables of climate finance, such as the high cost of capital, currency lending, and debt distress.

07

The NCQG should include loss and damage as a sub-goal in addition to mitigation and adaptation.

08

The new goal should be set to close the adaptation finance gap, which is 10–18 times greater than current international public adaptation finance flows of \$21 billion annually. There should be a balance between mitigation and adaptation finance and, at the minimum, doubling the provision of the current adaptation finance provided

LOSS AND DAMAGE

BACKGROUND

COP 19 established the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage (WIM) to fulfil the role under the convention of promoting the approach to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change with a set of functions. It was set to have three function roles under the convention to promote implementing action to address loss and damage.

Function of the WIM

To enhance the knowledge and understanding of the CRM approaches associated with LnD,

To strengthen dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergies among relevant stakeholders and

To enhance action and support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, enable countries to undertake action as par 3/CP 18.

COP 25 establishes the Santiago Network on Loss and Damage (SNLD) under the WIM, with a mandate to catalyse the technical assistance of relevant organisation bodies, networks, and experts (OBENs) for implementing approaches to averting, minimising, and addressing loss and damage at a local, national, and international level. COP 26 established the six functions of the network; COP 27 established the structure of the SNLD to have three arms: a hosted secretariat (UNDRR/UNOPS as per COP 28 decision), an advisory board (list of the board members), and a network of members organisation. With the SNLD established now, it stands in addition to the Excom as bodies engaging to ensure the achievement of the WIM's functions and mandate. At COP 27, under the COP and CMA agenda, matters relating to finance' and agenda sub-item were adopted to discuss funding arrangements for loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including a focus on addressing loss and damage.

It decided to establish a new funding arrangement to assist developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change in responding to both the economic and non-economic impacts. The funding arrangement should mobilise new, additional resources, including complementary sources of funds under and outside the convention and the Paris Agreement. At COP 28, the governing instrument of the fund was approved. It was decided that a new, dedicated, and independent secretariat would serve the fund. The World Bank was invited to host the fund in accordance with eleven criteria to ensure that the fund met the scale and vision it was set for.

The Fund is governed and supervised by the board entrusted with operating a financial mechanism of the convention and the Paris Agreement. 792 million USD were contributed to the funding arrangement of the loss and damage, which included 661 million USD for the fund (now totalling 702 Million USD). The board was mandated to select the fund's executive director, and it should have a legal personality to ensure the capacity to negotiate and enter the hosting arrangement with the World Bank to select the host country.



The key messages For COP 29 On the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage (Excom and SNLD)

01

The role of the contact points on loss and damage needs to be straightforward and supported within the outputs of the WIM, where they need to be accessible and userfriendly with a standard template to facilitate their mainstreaming on the national level to support the integration of loss and damage in the national plans

02

WIM is the unique body under the UNFCCC with a mandate on addressing loss and damage; hence, **the coherence should emphasise the role of Excom as the policy arm, SNLD as the technical arm, and Funding for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) as the finance arm in responding to loss and damage within and outside the UNFCCC.**

03

With the changing landscape of “loss and damage”, **the expert group on action and support need to update its work to integrate aspects of the funding arrangements and the fund.**

04

The WIM should develop **technical guidance for the voluntary incorporation of loss and damage elements in the updated NDCs**

The key message For COP 29 On Loss and Damage Fund and its Funding arrangement

01

The Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage should start disbursing funds in early 2025 and ensure it meets the scale of developing countries' needs and priorities.

02

There should be **more pledges for the fund**, and pledges made in Dubai should be **turned into contributions**, especially as the WB has confirmed that it can act as the trustee of the fund while abiding by the 11 conditions set and its mandate as per the fund's governing instrument.

03

The Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage should be grant-based and directly accessible to all developing countries. It should not increase the debt burden.

04

The high-level dialogue of the funding arrangement on loss and damage should provide clarity on how the bodies on loss and damage within the UNFCCC (WIM, WIM-Excom, SNLD, SNAB, FRLD) can operate in coherence and complementarity to ensure support for action to respond to loss and damage.

05

The new climate finance goal (NCQG) should have a third pillar on “loss and damage” in addition to mitigation and adaptation to ensure predictable finance for the fund.