

# **CLIMATE JUSTICE NOW!**

## **COP28: TOOLKIT FOR ACTIVISTS**

Millions of people are suffering from the catastrophic effects of extreme weather disasters exacerbated by climate change. And there is increasing evidence of how climate change has a profound impact on some of the most basic human rights.

The impact of such climate injustice is starkly visible across countries, including Pakistan. Pakistan faces severe consequences despite the country's disproportionately small contribution to global climate change. People in Pakistan have been experiencing extreme impacts of climate change in the form of severe heatwaves and intense floods.

## What is COP28?

The annual United Nations conference dedicated to climate change is called the "Conference of the Parties" or "COP," and has been organized under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since 1995. The COP28 climate summit runs from 30 November to 12 December and is being held in Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), one of the world's largest oil and gas producers.

Click <u>here</u> for COP28 climate change summit essential need-to-knows

Click here for COP28 recommendations

Join activists around the world and call on world leaders gathering at COP28 (30 Nov-12 Dec 2023) to make sufficient contributions to the Loss and Damage Fund that prioritises people already affected by climate change's impacts.

#### WHEN TO CAMPAIGN?

COP28 takes place from 30 November to 12 December 2023, and this is the time to bring more focus towards this cause. However, climate change is a life-long issue, and you can continue your campaign well beyond COP28

#### **CAMPAIGN HASHTAG**

#ClimateJusticeNow

#### OTHER TAGS AND HASHTAGS

@COP28\_UAE #UAEcop28 #NoClimateJusticeWithoutHumanRights #ClimateAction #ClimateJustice #ClimateChange #COP28 #FastFairForever

#### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO ACT NOW?

Tackling the climate crisis requires global action, and wealthier countries must play an important role. They have so far failed to meet their commitment to deliver USD 100 billion in climate finance annually from 2020 to 2025 to developing countries – an amount which, in any case, falls far below what is needed. Funding for the implementation of effective heat management plans should be covered by climate finance for adaptation.

#### WHAT IS THE 'LOSS AND DAMAGE FUND'?

The Loss and Damage Fund, established at the United Nations Climate Conference (COP27) is a fund that aims to provide financial assistance to nations most vulnerable and impacted by the effects of climate change.

According to the UN, the term "Loss and damage refers to the negative consequences that arise from the unavoidable risks of climate change, like rising sea levels, prolonged heatwaves, desertification, the acidification of the sea and extreme events, such as bushfires, species extinction and crop failures."

## FIGHT FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE!

Climate change needs to be seen as an issue of injustice, similar to how we think about other human rights violations. It is the result of a small group of powerful people taking actions that inflict harm on another group of people: the rest of us. **The people who suffer the most are those who are already marginalized,** such as people in lower-income countries and those who experience discrimination in higher-income countries.

That's why you've probably heard a lot of activists and social movements using the phrase climate justice, which uses a human-centric lens to talk about policies to bring about change in a fair and equitable way.

A climate justice approach looks at the root causes of the climate crisis and how climate change builds on and magnifies inequalities. It calls on powerful institutions to address these imbalances and injustices, and to lay the groundwork for a future that does not replicate the discrimination of the present and the past.

## HELPFUL TOOLS AND RESOURCES FROM AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Amnesty's work on climate change:

https://www.amnesty. org/en/what-wedo/climate-change/

Recommendations to parties to UNFCCC on human rights consistent climate action in 2023

> https://www.amnesty .org/en/documents/io r40/7284/2023/en/

A human rights-focused Loss and Damage Fund for climate change is vital to alleviate suffering

https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/202 3/11/negotiations-on-how-to-finance-andmanage-an-international-loss-and-damagefund-are-on-the-brink-of-failure-before-thecop28-climate-summit-begins-later-thismonth/

Amnesty's free online course on climate change:

https://academy.amnesty.org/learn/course/external/view/elearning/252/climate-change-and-human-rights

▶ Human rights as a compass for operationalizing the Loss and Damage Fund

https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/ior40/6463/2023/en/

A burning emergency: Extreme heat and the right to health in Pakistan

https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa33/6823/2023/en/

#### **EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN PAKISTAN**



**FLOODS** 

The 2022 floods were a stark reminder of the serious and devastating impacts of climate change in Pakistan. Around <u>33 million people</u> were affected. Over 1,600 people were killed and over 12,800 people were injured. About 7.9 million people were internally displaced. Over 2 million houses were damaged, as was a lot of public infrastructure. More than 1.1 million livestock were killed, and 9.4 million acres of crop area in Pakistan was inundated.



**HEATWAVES** 

Asian Development Bank's <u>2017 Climate Change Profile for Pakistan</u> noted that heatwave days per year increased by 31 days in the period 1980 to 2007 and warned that "Pakistan's projected temperature increase is expected to be higher than the global average."



**ECONOMY** 

In 2022, the World Bank Group's <u>Country and Climate Development Report</u> said that "between 1992 and 2021, climate- and weather-related disasters in Pakistan resulted in economic losses totalling US\$29.3 billion (inflation-adjusted to 2021 US dollars) from damage to property, crops, and livestock, equivalent to 11.1% of 2020 GDP.



**POVERTY** 

The 2022 flooding also <u>deepened inequalities and poverty</u>. Nineteen of the 25 poorest districts in the country were affected by the floods and poverty rates for many flood-affected districts were already much higher than the national average. Government estimates indicate that the floods will increase the national poverty rate from "3.7 to 4.0 percentage points, pushing between 8.4 and 9.1 million people into poverty"; and that the intensity of poverty is projected to increase, with the number of extremely poor people living more than 20% below the poverty line increasing from 18 to 25–26 million.



## **WAYS YOU CAN PARTICIPATE**



## **SPEAK UP**

#### VIDEO MESSAGE:

Record a video or audio message for COP28 leaders flagging the pressing need of a Loss and Damage Funds for Pakistan. Share your message on social media with key hashtags.

#### **CAMPAIGN ON X (TWITTER):**

Post a series of tweets using our call to action and/or graphics on climate crisis in Pakistan. Remember to use our campaign hashtags and tag us.

#### **SLAM POETRY:**

Write a poem on the issue and read it online or in-person.

See an example of a poem by Yusra Amjad on the impact of heatwaves in Jacobabad here.



## **DOCUMENT**

#### TESTIMONIES:

Collect testimonies of those affected by climate change around you and share their stories with the world. You can document these stories in writing or by recording audio-visual material (Remember to take their consent). Share them online using our campaign hashtags and tags.

#### TAKE OUT YOUR CAMERA:

Take pictures or videos of climate changes in your area or city. You can share the content online or host online and offline exhibitions. Have a look at our Jacobabad photo digest for inspiration here.

#### **VIRTUAL TOURS:**

Use online tools to create a virtual reality or 360-degree videos showcasing impact of climate change in your community.



## **ENGAGE**

#### **CREATE A COMMUNITY SPACE:**

Organize a community space/workshop where people can express their concerns and stories related to climate change through art, music, poetry, etc.

#### ORGANISE A WORKSHOP:

Organize a workshop to build climate advocacy skills like lobbying, public speaking, content creation, documentation, campaign development, etc.

#### **HOST A SPACE ON X (TWITTER):**

Gather climate experts and activists from your country and region and host a space on X (formerly Twitter) to raise voice on the issue.

#### STAGE PLAYS:

Create and perform plays on climate change.

#### START A BOOK CLUB:

Start a climate change book club and share relevant literature extracts, like when the effects of climate change are discussed, on social media with relevant hashtags.



## **SUPPORT**

## LIKE, SHARE, COMMENT, REPOST:

Help garner support to the campaign by engaging with content shared by other accounts.

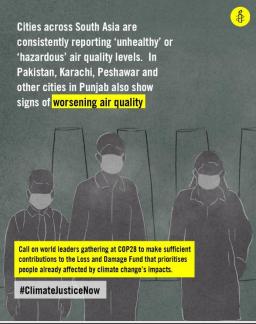
#### SPREAD THE WORD:

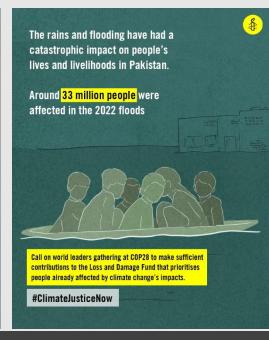
Spread awareness about the issue and the importance of this campaign among your online and offline circles. Post in closed communities on social media, message influencers for support, and encourage independent content creators to raise their voice.

## **CONTENT YOU CAN USE**

## **SOCIAL MEDIA GRAPHICS**







Head over to Amnesty International – South Asia's social media accounts (@Amnestysasia on Twitter and Instagram) to repost these graphics, and engage with other content, including quizzes, testimonials, infographics, and more!

## **SAMPLE POSTS FOR 'X' (TWITTER)**

.@COP28\_UAE must result in significant and sufficient financial contributions to the Loss and Damage Fund, for people already affected by climate change's impacts. #ClimateJusticeNow

#COP28 must result in a Loss and Damage Fund that delivers climate justice and meets the needs of developing countries on the frontline of the climate crisis. #ClimateJusticeNow

We're urgently calling for concrete, bold, and human rights-consistent commitments at #COP28! Developed states must lead in making substantial financial contributions to the Loss and Damage Fund. #ClimateJusticeNow

"If we compare the temperature and number of heat stroke patients in Jacobabad to the last decade, the number has without doubt, risen for both," Dr Asmat Ali, Jacobabad Institute of Medical Services. Read more about Pakistan's climate crisis in @amnestysasia's report:

https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa33/6823/2023/en/#ClimateJusticeNow

Loss and Damage Fund: A matter of life and death for those facing severe consequences of climate change. We call for urgent and meaningful commitments by the developed countries at #COP28. #ClimateJusticeNow

Loss and Damage Fund is a lifeline for those affected by climate change impacts. @COP28\_UAE must ensure meaningful financial contributions from developed countries and G20 members. #ClimateJusticeNow #COP28

"It's hard to breathe when it is that hot, but if I rest, my family and I will go hungry. So how can I take a break?" Gulab Birohi, 70-year-old farmhand and brick kiln worker in Pakistan. Read more about Pakistan's climate crisis in @amnestysasia's report: https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa