

VCA

VOICES FOR JUST CLIMATE ACTION



VCA 27@27

27 VOICES OF CLIMATE ACTION AT COP27

OBJECTIVES:

1. Showcase stories of 27 local climate solutions from across the globe, with a focus on the Global South
2. Demonstrate available opportunities of financial mechanism/s that have the potential to enable climate finance to flow directly from the source to local initiatives and address the issue of inadequate grassroots access to funding

CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY OF STORIES

1. The local climate solution must be a **Nature-Based Solution (NbS)**. NbS is defined as: a) **actions that protect, preserve, sustainably manage or restore natural resources that are a part of the local ecosystem;** b) **address societal challenges and/or impacts of climate change on human health, food and water security, disaster risk reduction, and on those who are deliberately marginalised, especially women, youth and indigenous people from vulnerable communities.** Please follow the checklist for NbS below:

CRITERIA	ELABORATION
There is clarity on the type of nature-based solution and the geographical scope it applies to.	Guiding question: What is the proposed nature-based solution and where is it located geographically?
There is clarity on the climate injustice related societal issue that the solution is trying to address and size of the area and population that will benefit from it.	Guiding question: What is the societal issue that the solution is trying to address and size of the area and population that will benefit from it?
There is clarity on the size of people and policy makers, who benefit from the solution, especially the marginalised groups.	Guiding question: What is the number of the different groups of people who benefit from the solution? Please also include information relating to population group size. Provide a general overview of the above. An approximate estimate, a general idea, etc.
There is clarity on how and scale of how = nature benefits from the solution.	Guiding question: How does nature benefit from the solution and in what scale? Please also include information relating to the geographical area and biodiversity IF POSSIBLE.
Inclusive, Equitable and Accessible	
The diversity of the population benefiting from the NbS and how they benefit is clearly defined and identified.	Guiding question: How are the different groups of people benefitting from the solution? Please also include information on how many different marginalised groups participate or benefit in the solution.
There are platforms for decision making that are known, accessible and open to all the different population groups impacted by the NbS.	Guiding question: How is the process of decision-making shaped about the solution? Who is involved? Who has access? Please elaborate on how they are made accessible and open to all the different population groups impacted by the NbS. An approximate estimate of the number of people who are involved is satisfactory.
There are mechanisms in place to ensure that historically marginalised groups are able to contribute to decisions made about the NbS.	Guiding question: What are the mechanisms in place to ensure that historically marginalised groups are able to contribute to decisions made about the NbS?

Scalable	
The opportunities to scale up the local NbS have been identified.	Guiding question: What are the opportunities to replicate or scale up the local NbS? Is the solution scalable and/or replicable? If yes, then how and why? Provide clear justification.
The challenges to scale up the local NbS have been identified.	Guiding question: What are the challenges to scaling up the local NbS and what are possible ways through which they can be addressed/overcome? Please discuss financial challenges in particular. What opportunities are in place that enable access to direct climate finance?

2. The local solution MUST provide co-benefits to people and nature
3. The local solutions must be initiatives supported, preferably led, by local communities, CBOs, CSOs, NGOs, etc., working to tackle the climate crisis by building adaptive capacity and resilience of community members. They may have received training/capacity building and funding from international organisations, but are the main actors of the initiative. For this criterion, we will follow the Locally-Led Adaptation principles:

Devolving decision making to the lowest appropriate level Giving local institutions and communities more direct access to finance and decision-making power over how adaptation actions are defined, prioritised, designed and implemented; how progress is monitored; and how success is evaluated.
Addressing structural inequalities faced by women, youth, children, disabled and displaced people, Indigenous Peoples and marginalised ethnic groups Integrating gender-based, economic and political inequalities that are root causes of vulnerability into the core of adaptation action and encouraging vulnerable and marginalised individuals to meaningfully participate in and lead adaptation decisions.
Providing patient and predictable funding that can be accessed more easily Supporting long-term development of local governance processes, capacity, and institutions through simpler access modalities and longer term and more predictable funding horizons, to ensure that communities can effectively implement adaptation actions.
Investing in local capabilities to leave an institutional legacy Improving the capabilities of local institutions to ensure they can understand climate risks and uncertainties, generate solutions, facilitate, and manage adaptation initiatives over the long term without being dependent on project-based donor funding.
Building a robust understanding of climate risk and uncertainty Informing adaptation decisions through a combination of local, Indigenous and scientific knowledge that can enable resilience under a range of future climate scenarios.
Flexible programming and learning Enabling adaptive management to address the inherent uncertainty in adaptation, especially through robust monitoring and learning systems, flexible finance and flexible programming.
Ensuring transparency and accountability Making processes of financing, designing and delivering programmes more transparent and accountable downward to local stakeholders.
Collaborative action and investment Collaboration across sectors, initiatives and levels to ensure that different initiatives and different sources of funding (humanitarian assistance, development, disaster risk reduction, green recovery funds and so on) support one another, and their activities avoid duplication, to enhance efficiencies and good practice.

4. There must be a clear link between the nature-based solution and climate change.

Template:

1. Introduce the local solution; mention where it is located and who the main actors are
2. Mention why it is important to share the story from the specific community
3. Follow the guiding questions on the list of criteria provided for the main body of the story

5. The initiative must be innovative and specific to the regional impacts of climate change.

Additional information:

1. If you would like the beneficiary of the story to be featured in the video, and they speak a language other than English, you would need to provide us with translation
2. Please provide a transcript of your narration for translation purposes
3. We will share video recording guidelines end of September
4. The expression of interest must include the key elements of the story: geographical location, adherence to criteria, link between NbS and climate change
5. The text submission should be no more than 500 words
6. The duration of the video must be 2 minutes and cannot be exceeded
7. Please provide 2-3 images of the local solution

6. The climate change problem that the solutions are addressing must be clear. The solution that addresses the problem must be protecting, preserving and/or restoring nature in order to tackle climate change impacts such as flooding, drought, tropical cyclones, etc.
7. The contributor must be able to argue for the added value of showcasing the local climate solution at COP27 is. E.g. *create awareness of an innovative local climate solution so it can access funding to achieve scaling up for increased benefits to nature and people in the community.*