

Mainstreaming climate change adaptation



The Most Rev. Dr. Eliud Wabukala signing Africa People's Petition on Climate Changes

Editorial:

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Climate change is a change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods (UNFCCC 1994).

Climate change is described as a significant change from what is usually expected weather patterns of an area over a long period of time.

Adaptation to climate change is the adjustment of a system to moderate the impacts of climate change to take advantages of new opportunities or to cope with the consequences. Disaster Risk Reduction is the concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through analysis and management of their causal factors. It reduces exposure to hazards, lessens the vulnerability of people and assets, improves management of the land and environment and preparedness for adverse events

Mainstreaming climate change is the interactive process of integrating considerations of climate change (impacts, vulnerability, adaptation) into existing processes and decision cycles. It requires a continuous effort and entails working with a range of different actors. The integration of priority climate change adaptation responses into development, so as to reduce potential development risks and take advantage of opportunities.

Science has revealed that there are certain gases known as greenhouse gases (GHGs) which when released into the atmosphere, form a layer that does not allow excess heat generated to go to the outer space hence making the earth to become warmer than it should be. The greenhouse gases are increased through the following activities:

- ◆ *Burning non-renewable fossil fuels such as coal, oil and gas to produce energy*
- ◆ *Cutting of trees without planting others increasing carbon iv oxide*
- ◆ *Exposing the soil through agricultural activities hence making more gases to escape from the soil*
- ◆ *Using chemicals that destroy ozone layer causing an increase in global temperatures*

The effects of climate change include ocean warming, polar ice caps melting, sea levels increasing with time and extreme weather events like droughts, floods, heat, waves, cold spells at a time when not expected

Over the years Anglican Development Services has responded to different disasters and her response always includes some recovery and rehabilitation projects. The regional Anglican Development Services implements various development projects which focus on different sectors e.g. water and sanitation, food security, health and nutrition, economic empowerment and livestock improvements. Some of the projects by design or default address issues around DRR/ CCA. Through the leadership of Dr. Wabukala, ADS joined the campaign dubbed ***“We Have Faith – ACT now for climate Justice”*** by ACT Alliance and Churches all over the world demanding for just,

equitable and ambitious climate agreement. The activists will cycle in a caravan for 6500km starting on 31 August 2015 through South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Uganda, Tanzania to Kenya while collecting one million signatures demanding action on climate change. More so the Faith leaders are encouraged to prepare their sermons and other messages to their congregations or communities on the theme of environmental stewardship and the role of the church in taking care of the environment as well as encouraging their congregants to support the campaign by signing the petitions



A cyclist receiving a wrist band for the campaign



SR:



AFRICA PEOPLE'S PETITION

Dear World Leaders,

We are deeply concerned by the threats posed by climate change to the peoples of Africa. We have seen and experienced the impact of floods, droughts and other extreme weather events in our region.

Mother Earth, our common home, has been pushed to the brink. We call on you to prevent catastrophic climate change by committing to ambitious actions to reduce carbon emissions. We call on the governments of Africa and the world to stand with people on the frontlines of the climate crisis, and in particular the vulnerable communities whose voices need to be heard. Winning the fight against climate change starts with protecting the people whose lives and livelihoods are most at risk. Therefore, we call for a binding agreement in Paris that:

1. Delivers **fair, ambitious and strong** climate actions at a level adequate to stop climate change and keep global warming well-below 1.5°C.
2. Delivers and scales up **public finance** to enable the poorest to adapt to climate change and continue to transit and develop in a **low carbon** pathway.
3. African governments must **commit new resources** from national budgets for investment to help people adapt and build resilience for increased food security, prioritizing the needs of women food producers. They must also demand that the Paris climate deal delivers **major new public funds for adaptation and resilience** in Africa
4. All actions to **address climate change and all the processes** established under this agreement ensures a gender-responsive approach, taking into account environmental integrity, inter-generational equity and respect of human rights, as well as the right to development and the rights of indigenous peoples.
5. Shares the effort of curbing climate change fairly with **domestic emissions reductions** by developed countries that are commensurate with Science and Equity.

Yours Sincerely,

#WomenFoodClimate / #ActOnClimate

Name:..... ID:..... City:

Country:..... Signature:.....



I have taken action to reduce climate change by signing in this petition calling for a better and sustainable world free from threat of climate change.

Climate change is currently one of the biggest challenges facing humanity. This is especially true for many people in the developing world who have contributed the least to causing climate change but are suffering the impacts each and every day. 2015 is a critical year for action on climate change. In less than six months global leaders will meet in Paris to negotiate on a new global deal to tackle climate change and address its impact.

Your Government has the power to fix the damage that's already been done and take action to determine the fate of the planet and future generations.

At times factories expose human being to many risk including water pollution. Once a community in Mavindini ward Makueni county was highly affected when the most relied source of water (Athi river) became poisoned through industrial chemical effluents from urban areas. The problem was so severe that most of the aquatic life in the river was endangered causing death to fish and other aquatic creatures. This was evidenced by floating dead fish in the river and water turning greyish in colour. Being the only source of water for livestock and people living along the surrounding shores of the river, the health of the livestock deteriorated resulting in animals with highly reduced vigour and low production

Effects were also witnessed in human life as the water emitted bad odour rendering it unfit for human consumption. The water made people nausea and fatigued just to mention a few problems encountered by humans. Report from the area health centre (Miangeni dispensary) indicated that most of the patients had water borne infections and were advised to search for water from other sources other than Athi River.

ADS Eastern came in hand to save the community by constructing water harvesting structures termed as sand dams across all the seasonal rivers in the location to harvest water over the dry season under the sand



One of the four sand dams constructed over the period



Women Fetching water from a sand dam

In order to deliver sustainable and affordable access to safe water, ADS is taking up key activities such as:

1. Rolling out a community capacity building program in rain water harvesting and protecting of water catchment areas
2. Supporting communities in

soil conservation and reforestation Measures in targeted areas.

There are also strategies to ensure that targeted population is accessing safe water within two kilometres

Anglican Development Services is grateful to Bread for the World for their partnership. Bread for the World (Brot) has deep connections to church bodies and agencies across Kenya. In addition, the organization believe there is need to communicate results of programs in ways that help create social change. Hence its support to ADS in capacity building has facilitated the production and circulation of monthly and quarterly journals by ADS Kenya.



Monika from Brot and Bwibo , ADS Kenya Director

ADS Kenya was privileged to host Monika Redecker who also visited ADS Mt. Kenya East, ADS Western and ADS North Rift. At ADS Kenya she meet with His Grace Dr. Wabukala, ADS Patron, Canon Rosemary and Prof William Ogara who are board members. She reviewed and monitored programmes funded by Brot and she gave technical support and back stopping.

Brot funds ADS to facilitate and coordinate organs for effective advocacy and poverty alleviation. Which has the following activities:

- ◆ Lobby and Advocacy for wholesome and dignified living
- ◆ Lobby and Advocate the work of ACK
- ◆ Enlighten communities to have community driven initiatives activities
- ◆ Staff Capacity Building

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