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Climate Justice for Africa what does it imply?



Climate Vulnerabilities in Africa

- Africa has a unique position in the climate crisis in that Climate justice connects the climate crisis to the social, racial and environmental issues in which it is deeply entangled.
- We suffer from many pre-existing vulnerabilities, including poverty, food insecurity, displaced populations, including location and socioeconomic status
- Climate change is adversely impacting human health with disproportionate effects on populations in low and middle-income countries (LMICs) despite their relatively low contributions to global greenhouse gas emissions
- We are already seeing the health manifestations of extreme weather events such as heat, tropical cyclones, wildfires, and droughts which are only expected to worsen without rapid action.
- Malnutrition, traumatic injuries, chronic disease exacerbations, behavioral health disorders, and changing infectious disease burdens represent climate-related health impacts.



Climate Vulnerabilities in Africa



SUFFOCATING UNDER FOSSIL FUELS

**THE CLIMATE CRISIS
AND THE THREAT TO HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**

South Africa's vulnerability to climate change

- South Africa is especially vulnerable to climate change and its impacts on health
- High endemic poverty levels with 13.8 million people living below the food poverty line
- Unequal and/or poor access to healthcare services
- High rates of non-communicable diseases such as cardiovascular disease, respiratory diseases and cancers that have the potential to worsen with climate change
- Considerable burdens on the healthcare system as it struggles with a quadruple burden of disease: maternal, new-born and child health, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB), non-communicable diseases, violence and injury



Policy Considerations for Climate Justice?

- Climate change policies endeavor to ensure that the continent's needs are met and that the burden of climate change is shared fairly.
- South's Africa Presidential Climate Change Commission advises on climate action and facilitates a just and equitable transition towards low-carbon economy.
- The Just Transition Framework, estimates that South Africa will require at least \$250 billion over the next three decades to transform the energy system.
- The Climate Change Act 22 of 2024 sets out a national climate change response that includes mitigation and adaptation actions.
- Draft - Climate Change Adaptation Strategies for the Health Sector in South Africa



A PRESIDENTIAL CLIMATE COMMISSION REPORT

A Framework for a Just Transition in South Africa



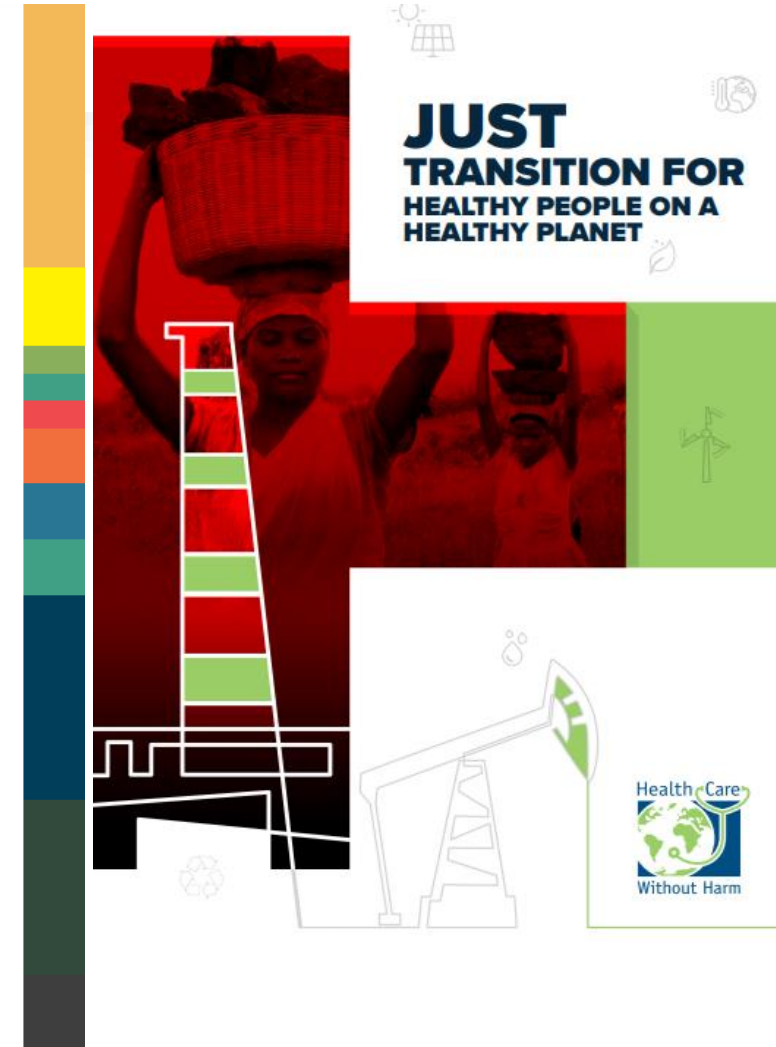
Actions to be taken to ensure a Just Transition



We call for a Just Transition from coal and other fossil fuels, to a society based on social justice and clean, just, and renewable energy.

WE DEMAND:

1. A new, sustainable energy system to replace the current system based on dirty fossil fuels that only serves the elite;
2. the end of financing for coal and other fossil fuel investments, including gas;
3. the rehabilitation of land and water ruined by coal mining and burning;
4. concerted efforts to prepare for and deal with the impacts of climate change;
5. a new health system that works for the health of all;
6. transport and communication systems that are inclusive and enable all to take part in public debates and decision making;
7. food sovereignty and food security for all;
8. local service delivery, and an undertaking to use open democracy and self-provision to achieve it;
9. a new economic system in which economic decision making starts by asking what the needs of people are, and how to fulfil them, rather than to have an economy that serves profit -
10. a society rooted in gender justice;
11. special attention to youth and their future; and
12. open democracy as the basis for decision making.



THE URBAN MOVEMENT INCUBATOR

Energy Democracy : Community-led socially owned renewable energy

- The project represents new ground in locating advocacy for a just transition within the social movements.
- Social movements engage with local governments, and other actors, in promoting renewable energy community solutions
- The centrality of public participation and developing a sense of co-creation and ownership among community members for the success of just transition projects.
- Demands for local government to develop and implement policies, instruments and delivery modalities that enable renewable energy delivery to communities.



Community-led socially owned RENEWABLE ENERGY

This project “Mobilising Social Movements for Energy Democracy and Sovereignty in South Africa: Towards socially owned renewable energy solutions“ is funded by the Urban Movement Incubator (UMI) and is driven by three community-based social movements (Vukani Environmental Movement, South Durban Community Environment Alliance and Abahlali baseMjondolo) and supported by two service NGOs (GroundWork and Sustainable Energy Africa).

The project aims to strengthen and enable social and environmental justice movements in South Africa for democratic engagement, and to partner with municipalities for a scalable and widespread installation as well as the operation of community-led, socially owned renewable energy.





Thank You

**People are living well with each other
and with the earth.**

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