

To: Members of the Board of the Fund for Loss and Damage

Cc: UNFCCC Secretariat
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN Campus | Platz der Vereinten Nationen 1
53113 Bonn | Germany

Dear Members of the Loss and Damage Fund Board,

The decision to establish the Loss and Damage Fund was welcomed around the world as a recognition that we are in the age of loss and damage, with those least responsible for human-caused climate change already suffering the worst impacts, beyond their ability to adapt. To be effective and to deliver climate justice, the new Fund must be bold in the way it funds and who can access its support.

As the Board in its upcoming second meeting will start discussing a range of possible access modalities, we are writing to you to express our strong expectation and demand to have a dedicated community access window established within the Loss and Damage Fund that realizes direct access for people most affected by compounding and cascading climate impacts, in particular frontline communities, Indigenous Peoples, and people experiencing marginalization¹. Such a dedicated window should ensure simplified and enhanced direct access to adequate funding support in the form of small grants that addresses the needs and priorities of those affected, and that their leadership and knowledge is recognized and fostered.

The Governing Instrument of the Loss and Damage Fund, which provides the mandates for the Board's work, makes it very clear that "access to small grants that support communities, Indigenous Peoples and vulnerable groups and their livelihoods, including with respect to recovery after climate-related events" must be a central feature of the Fund. Anchoring a small-grants funding approach in the Governing Instrument was the result of consistent demands from a wide range of Parties and observers during the design process by the Transitional Committee to ensure that the new Fund is fit-for-purpose for affected communities to address loss and damage, and applies lessons learned from the shortcomings of existing climate funds.

¹ Including women in all their diversity, peoples of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, children and youth, older people, Indigenous Peoples, afrodescendant communities, migrants and refugees, persons with disabilities, racial and ethnic minorities, people living in conflict-affected areas (including situation of apartheid and occupation), individuals in communities facing impoverishment and dispossession.

While there may be many ways in which community access can be guaranteed, showcasing it as a distinct access modality at Fund level and ensuring that a significant and growing share of the Fund's resources is dedicated to communities direct access is necessary to confirm the Fund's intention and ambition to not just talk about priority support for vulnerable communities, but to make it a central tenet of its funding mission.

This is crucial to ensure resources to address losses and damages reach those who the Fund is supposed to serve. Indigenous Peoples, women's rights groups and other national and local civil society organisations (CSOs) representing children and people experiencing marginalization encounter enormous challenges to access climate finance through existing funds, where small grant provision for communities is an afterthought and the expectation of benefits trickling down to the local level persist. This cannot be the funding model of the Loss and Damage Fund. Establishing a community access window for frontline communities, local CSOs, Indigenous Peoples and groups experiencing marginalization and allocating a substantial and progressively increasing part of the Fund's resources to this window will guarantee people at the frontline of the climate crisis with a minimum level of access to funding. It would also strengthen their capacities and agency, promote innovation, respond to their needs in a way top-down funding approaches cannot, and ensure they can lead on decisions that affect them.

Guaranteeing that communities, local CSOs, Indigenous Peoples and groups facing marginalization have direct access to loss and damage grant support is not just a matter of climate justice and human rights, but also quintessential to ensure effectiveness and sustainability of loss and damage responses, as those who are most impacted by loss and damage are also the first responders in time of crises and know best what solutions are needed to redress the losses and damages they have suffered.

In light of this, we urge you to:

- Establish a community access window within the Loss and Damage Fund providing directly accessible small grants for communities, local CSOs, Indigenous Peoples and groups facing marginalization.
- Ensure that a substantial and progressively growing part of Fund's resources is allocated to the community access window.
- Ensure the community access window has simplified procedures and systems to ensure easy access, transparency and accountability, based on community-led and human rights-based approaches.

The world has hailed the adoption of the Loss and Damage Fund and its operationalisation. Now it is your responsibility to ensure that the Fund is true to its promises and delivers climate justice to affected groups and communities.

SIGNED AND ENDORSED BY 350+ ORGANIZATIONS: NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

International

3iCoop

Acted

ActionAid International

Alliance of Climate Frontline Communities

Alliance2015

American Jewish World Service

Amnesty International

Bank Information Center

Both ENDS

CARE International

Centre for Human Rights and Climate Change Research

Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)

Christian Aid

Climate Action Network International

Climate Fresk

Climate Justice Resilience Fund

Climate Tracker

Cultural Survival Inc.

Early Opportunities Initiative

Equal right

Equality Fund

FIAN International

Franciscans International

Gender Action

Global Council for the Promotion of International Trade

Global Home for Indigenous Peoples (GH4IP)

Global Yaadie

HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation

Hivos

Housing and Land Rights Network - Habitat International Coalition

Huairou Commission

Independent Centre for Analysis & Research of Economies Pty Ltd

Indigenous Peoples Rights International
International Accountability Project
International Analog Forestry Network (IAFN)
International Network of Liberal Women
International Rescue Committee
International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA)
Loss and Damage Collaboration
Loss and Damage Youth Coalition
MenEngage Alliance
ODRI - Office against Discrimination, Racism and Intolerance
Oxfam
People in Need
Plan International
Realizing Sexual and Reproductive Justice (RESURJ)
Refugees International
Rights and Resources Initiative
SCIAF
SHE Changes Climate
Tebtebba Foundation
The Climate Reality Project
Third World Network
Transparency International Korea
Trócaire
University of Malakand
Women are Change Agents
Women Deliver
Women's Earth and Climate Action Network
Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF International)
Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO)
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
World's Youth for Climate Justice

Regional

Africa Centre for Sustainable and Inclusive Development, Africa
African Climate Reality Project, Africa
African Indigenous Women Organisation central African Network (AIWO-CAN), Africa
Akina Mama wa Afrika, Africa
All Things Fierce Association, Pacific - Palau & the wider Micronesia
Arthan, Asia
Artyc, Latin America
Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD), Asia Pacific

Asia-Pacific Regional Network on Early Childhood, Asia Pacific
Asociación La Ruta del Clima, Latin America
Asociación SERES, Central America - Guatemala and El Salvador
Brown Girl Woke, Pacific
CAN Africa, Africa
Caribbean Climate Justice Alliance, Caribbean
Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), Caribbean
Centre for 21st century Issues, Africa
Centro para la Autonomía y Desarrollo de Pueblos Indígenas (CADPI), Latin America
Climate Action Network Latin America (CANLA), Latin America and the Caribbean
Continental Network of Indigenous Women of the Americas (ECMIA), Latin America
Diverse Voices and Action (DIVA) for Equality, Pacific
Earth Thrive, Europe - Balkans
femLINKpacific, Pacific
FEMNET, Africa
FIMCAP, Europe
Fondo Tierra Viva, Central America
Foro Latinoamericano de Desarrollo Sostenible, Latin America
Foundation for Humanism and Social Innovation, Asia Pacific - Indonesia, the Philippines and Timor Leste
Fundación Avina, Global South
Fundación Gran Chaco, Latin America - Argentina, Bolivia and Paraguay
Gender and Environmental Risk Reduction Initiative (GERI), Africa
Gendergy, Latin America
Girl Up Caribbeans, Caribbean
Grupo de Justicia Ecológica y Ambiental del Mecanismo de Participación de Sociedad civil de Cepal: Naciones Unidas, Latin America and the Caribbean
Habitat Defenders Africa, Africa
Heinrich Böll Foundation Washington, DC, North America
IAMovement, Caribbean
Indigenous Environmental Network, Turtle Island aka North America
Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities (ICSC), Southeast Asia
Interamerican Association for Environmental Defense (AIDA), Latin America and the Caribbean
Inuit Circumpolar Council, Arctic
IPACC, Africa
Latinas por el Clima, Latin America
Lumière Synergie pour le Développement, Africa
Movement for Debt and Reparations, Africa
Oilwatch Africa, Africa
Out for Sustainability, North America
Pacific Network on Globalisation, Pacific

Pacific Sexual and Gender Diversity Network, Pacific
Pacific Women Mediators Network, Pacific
Protection International Mesoamérica, Central America
Quaker Earthcare Witness, North America
RAWSA Women Alliance MENA, Middle East and North Africa
Rede de Cooperação Amazônica (RCA), Amazon
Red Ecofeminista Latinoamericana y del Caribe, Latin America and the Caribbean
Resilient40 (R40), Africa
SAFCEI, Southern and East Africa
SSF | Sustentabilidad Sin Fronteras, Latin America
The Climate Conscious Podcast, Caribbean
The Climate Reality Project Latin America, Latin America and the Caribbean
Transcend Oceania, Pacific
Urgent Action Fund Latin America and the Caribbean, Latin America and the Caribbean
Women Indigenous for the climate, Latin America

National

100 Women in Tech Nigeria, Nigeria
AbibiNsroma Foundation, Ghana
Acomudt De R.L., El Salvador
Actions of Women for Integral Development, Democratic Republic of Congo
Actions pour la paix et le développement communautaire (APDC), Democratic Republic of Congo
Actions pour la Réinsertion Sociale de la Femme "ARSF", Democratic Republic of Congo
Adéquations, France
Adiwasi Samta Manch, India
AJOAGO, Mocambique
Aksi! for gender, social and ecological justice, Indonesia
ALIMI Cooperativa, Mocambique
Alternatives Ménages, Nature et Marchés (AMEN), Democratic Republic of Congo
Amis de l'Afrique Francophone - Benin (AMAF-BENIN), Benin
Asociación Agropecuaria Mujeres Produciendo en la Tierra AMSATI de R L, El Salvador
Asociación Ak Tenamit, Guatemala
Asociación Ciudadana por los Derechos Humanos, Argentina
Asociación Coordinadora Comunitaria de Servicios para la Salud (ACCSS), Guatemala
Asociación de Cooperación para el Desarrollo Rural de Occidente, Guatemala
Asociación de Mujeres Ambientalistas de El Salvador (AMAES), El Salvador
Asociación de Mujeres Feministas Rurales (AMFER)

Asociación de Turismo indígena Atacameña-Lickanantay (ASEMTIAL), Chile
Asociación Generaciones de Paz (ASDEPAZ), El Salvador
Asociación Política de Mujeres Mayas Moloj, Guatemala
Asociación Unión de Talleres 11 de septiembre, Bolivia
Associação de Eficiência Energética no Saneamento Ambiental (AEESA), Brazil
Association for Farmers Rights Defense (AFRD), Georgia
Association Haïtienne de Solidarité (ASHAS), Haiti
Association Jeunes Agriculteurs (AJA), Ivory Coast
Association LaSiesta pour la Protection de l'Environnement, Morocco
Association pour le Développement de l'Entomoforesterie et la Sauvegarde de l'Environnement (ADESE), Madagascar
Aube Nouvelle pour la Femme et le Développement (ANFD), Democratic Republic of Congo
Banaban Human Rights Defenders Network, Kiribati and Fiji
Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association, Bangladesh
Bangladesh Krishok Federation, Bangladesh
Barranquilla+20 Foundation, Colombia
Bengkel APPeK, Indonesia
BIMBA , Kiribati
BW Nama Development Trust, Botswana
C4Ledger, Indonesia
C4ledger-LP2M West Sumatra
C4ledger-YKWS
Centre for Citizens CONsering Environment & Management (CECIC), Uganda
Center for Indigenous Peoples' Research and Development, Nepal
Centre For Transparency Advocacy, Nigeria
Center for Urban Environmental Reform/CUNY Law, United States
Central Autónoma de Trabajadores del Perú, Peru
Centre d'accompagnement des autochtones pygmées et minoritaires vulnérables (CAMV), Democratic Republic of Congo
Centre for Climate Change Study in Central Vietnam, Vietnam
Centro de Desarrollo Humano (CDH),
Centro de Investigación y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos (CIPRODEH), Honduras
Centro Ecosocial Latinoamericano, Chile
CHEP, Zambia
Chirapaq, Centro de Culturas Indígenas del Perú, Peru
Climate Action Network Zambia, Zambia
Climate Organization, United States
Climate Trace PR
Clínica Jurídica de Medio Ambiente y Salud Pública (MASP) Universidad de los Andes, Colombia

Coaction Indonesia, Indonesia
Collectif Sénégalais des Africaines pour la Promotion de l'Éducation Relative à l'Environnement (COSAPER), Senegal
Comité Schone Lucht (Clean Air Committee NL), Netherlands
Community Action for Healthy and Development (CAHED), Kenya
Community Science Centre, Vadodara, India
Community Solidarity for Sustainable Development Actions, Democratic Republic of Congo
Comunidad Multiétnica Tres Ombues, Argentina
Conectando Derechos Asociación Civil, Argentina
Conselho Cristao de Mocambique, Mocambique
Consortio de Gobiernos Autónomos Provinciales del Ecuador, (CONGOPE), Ecuador
Dhoritri Rokhhay Amra (DHORA), Bangladesh
Digo Bikas Institute, Nepal
Disability Peoples Forum, Uganda
DUKINGIRE ISI YACU (DIY), Burundi
Earth Action, Inc, United States
Ecojustice Ireland, Ireland
Egyptian Organization for Environmental Rights, Egypt
Emerger Fondo Socioambiental Colombia, Colombia
Emony Yefwe International, Kenya
Enda Colombia, Colombia
Environics Trust, India
Equality Bahamas, Bahamas
Equals Inc. Barbados
Equidad de Género: Ciudadanía, Trabajo y Familia, Mexico
Federation of community Forestry Users Nepal (FECOFUN), Nepal
Federación Indígena Empresarial y Comunidades Locales de México (CIELO), Mexico
Federación por la Autodeterminación de los Pueblos Indígenas (FAPI), Paraguay
Fiji Women's Rights Movement (FWRM), Fiji
Fiji Youth SRHR Alliance, Fiji
FIMA NGO, Chile
FirecircleTT To End ALL forms of Abuse, Trinidad and Tobago
Friends of the Earth U.S., United States
Fundación Chile Sin Ecocidio, Chile
Fundación de Estudios para la Aplicación del Derecho (FESPAD), El Salvador
Fundacion Guatemala, Guatemala
Fundación para Estudio e investigación de la Mujer, Argentina
Fundación Plurales, Argentina
Fundo Casa Socioambiental, Brazil
GDMR, Mocambique
GenderCC SA, South Africa

Germanwatch, Germany
GONESA Nepal, Nepal
Goodwash Foundation for Health and Environmental Protection, Nigeria
Global Sustainable Futures Network CIC
Grace Foundation Zambia, Zambia
Green Transformation and Sustainability Network
Groupe de Réflexion et d'Initiative pour l'Avancement de la Grand'Anse (GRIAG), Haiti
Hetura Network PNG Association, Papua New Guinea
Home-Based Worker Concern Society Nepal, Nepal
HUB Finanzas Sostenibles Perú, Peru
Human Power Organisation, Malawi
Iepé - Instituto de Pesquisa e Formação Indígena, Brazil
Indigenous Livelihoods Enhancement Partners (ILEPA), Kenya
Indigenous Peoples Organisation-Australia, Australia
Indigenous Women Legal Awareness Group (INWOLAG), Nepal
Institute for Indigenous Affairs and Development, Nepal
Institute of Investment and Construction Management, Hanoi University of Civil Engineering, Vietnam
Instituto Cordilheira
Instituto para el Futuro Común Amerindio (IFCA), Honduras
International Center for Inter-Christian Dialogue, Assemblies of God for Strengthening and Dialogues, Democratic Republic of Congo
Juventudes Diversas por la Vida, Colombia
Kandili, Niger
Kebetkache Women Development & Resource Centre, Nigeria
Keystone Foundation, India
Kirat Mindum Study Center
Kiribati Climate Action Network, Kiribati
KRuHA, Indonesia
KULIMA, Mocambique
Kutoka Urban Slums Initiative, Kenya
La Compostera, Paraguay
Lagos State University, Nigeria
Landelijk Netwerk Bossen- en Bomenbescherming, Netherlands
Lelewal Foundation, Cameroon
Liberia Rural Women Organization for Climate Change, Liberia
Liderazgo climático, Ecuador
Liga de Defensa del Medio Ambiente LIDEMA, Bolivia
LincGreen Climate Change Initiative, Nigeria
Live to Help, Democratic Republic of Congo
Lojas de Energias, Mozambique
Makerere Water Project, Uganda

Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns, United States
MBOSCUDA, Cameroon
Mines, Minerals & People, India
Mujeres de Zona de Sacrificio en Resistencia Puchuncavi-Quintero, Chile
National indigenous Disabled Women Association Nepal (NIDWAN), Nepal
National Indigenous Women Forum, Nepal
Native Arts & Heritage Academy Nepal
Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN), Nepal
Nepal Indigenous Forum for Biodiversity, Nepal
New Women Connectors,
Nuestro Futuro AC, Mexico
Renaissance Africaine (RENAF), Democratic Republic of Congo
Pakistan Fisherfolk Forum, Pakistan
Pakistan Kissan Rabita Committee (PKRC), Pakistan
Participatory Rural Development Society (PRDS), Pakistan
Peace Movement Aotearoa, New Zealand
Peoples Advancement Centre, Nigeria
Philippine Movement for Climate Justice (PMCJ), Philippines
Physicians for Social Responsibility Pennsylvania, United States
PINGO's Forum, Tanzania
Prakash Mani Sharma Academy for Public Interest Law, Nepal
Prakriti Resources Centre, Nepal
Program for the Heritage of Ogiek and Mother Earth (PROHOME), Kenya
Programa Acción Comunitaria por el Medio Ambiente (PACMA), Dominican Republic
Quakers in Britain, United Kingdom
Rainbow Pride Foundation
RAPEN, Senegal
Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal, Nepal
Reacción Climática, Bolivia
RECODEF Senegal, Senegal
Red de Adolescentes y Jóvenes Indígenas de Amazonas (RAJIA), Venezuela
Red de Defensoras del Ambiente y el Buen Vivir, Argentina
Red Dominicana de Estudios y Empoderamiento Afrodescendiente, Dominican Republic
Resilient Future International , United States
Resource Link Foundation, Ghana
Revive Mexico, Mexico
ROADS (Rede de Organizações Para Ambiente & Desenvolvimento Sustentável), Mozambique
Rootcause Initiatives, Indonesia
Rural Area Development Programme (RADP), Nepal
Rural Reconstruction Nepal, Nepal

SAEDI Consulting (Barbados) Inc. , Barbados
Saeio global, Nigeria
Sahabat Alam Malaysia - Friends of the Earth Malaysia, Malaysia
Salvagnas Colectiva Ecofeminista, Bolivia
San Youth Network, Botswana
SAVE Rivers, Malaysia
SEEP, Fiji
Serikat Perempuan Indonesia (SERUNI), Indonesia
Servicios Ecumenicos para Reconciliacion y Reconstruccion (SERR), United States
Sildap Southeastern Mindanao Inc, Philippines
Sin Fronteras IAP México, Mexico
Sisi Initiative Site Support Group, Fiji
Solidarity health foundation, Cameroon
SPEAK Indonesia, Indonesia
Stamp Out Poverty, United Kingdom
Strumphet Alliance Network, Fiji
Support for Women in Agriculture and Environment, Uganda
Sustainable Development Foundation, Thailand
Sustentarse, Chile
The Center of International Humanitarian Law & Human Rights, Yemen
The Danish 92 Group, Denmark
The Egyptian Commission for Rights and Freedoms, Egypt
The Environment and Conservation Organisations of NZ Inc, New Zealand
The Network of Rural Women Producers Trinidad and Tobago, Trinidad and Tobago
Tonga Leitis Association, Tonga
Trans Affirmative Action Guild, Fiji
TRANSFORM, Indonesia
Tulele Peisa Inc, Papua New Guinea
Unidad Ecológica Salvadoreña (UNES), El Salvador
Union of Concerned Scientists, United States
Union of Young Christians of Congo for Reform, Democratic Republic of Congo
Village Farmers Initiative (VFI), Nigeria
Vwa Fanm Ayisyèn (VFA), Haiti
Waterkeepers Bangladesh, Bangladesh
Warmillak All Mujer de Trabajo, Colombia
Women for a Change, Cameroon
Women for Green Economy Movement Ugandan, Uganda
Women's Empowerment Link, Kenya
Women in Livelihood Development, Ghana
Work for the Forest (WF), Democratic Republic of Congo
Xumek, Argentina
Yayasan Konservasi Way Seputih, Indonesia

Yayasan Pengkajian dan Pengembangan Sosial, Indonesia

YMCA Zambia, Zambia

Young Volunteers for the Environment, The Gambia

Youth Champs 4 Mental Health, Fiji

Youth Network for SDGs, Colombia

Youths initiative society (YISO), Uganda

Zambia institute of mass communication, Zambia