

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP
GROUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT

CSO
Civil Society
Société Civile forum

Engaging Civil Society for Climate Resilience & Just Energy Transition in Africa

6&7 oct. 2022

KOAFEC
Korea-Africa
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General Report

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Acronyms

ACCF	African Climate Change Fund
AFAWA	Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa
AfDB	African Development Bank
AREI	Africa Renewable Energy Initiative
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
COP27	27th Conference of the Parties
CSE	Civil Society Engagement
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DAI	Disclosure and Access to Information
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IRM	Independent Recourse Mechanism
MDB	Multilateral Development Banks
PACJA	Pan African Climate Justice Alliance
PAFO	Pan African Farmers Organization
SAPZ	Special Agro-industrial Processing Zone
TAAT	Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation
TOT	Training of Trainers
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNHCR	United Nations High Commission for Refugees

Executive Summary

The 2022 Civil Society Forum was held from 06 to 07 October 2022 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire under the theme *"Engaging Civil Society for Climate Resilience and Just Energy Transition in Africa".*

The aim of the Forum was to provide a platform for inclusive, constructive, and structured dialogue between the Bank and the civil society in Africa with a view to reaching a common African position on climate change and green growth ahead of COP27. The Forum stressed that COP27 represents a major opportunity to strengthen the partnership with CSOs for sustainable and inclusive economic transformation.

The Forum also provided an effective platform for the members of the Civil Society to share their experience of engaging with the Bank through implementation of Bank-funded projects in various Countries across the continent by showcasing several case studies.

The inaugural ceremony sets the tone for a memorable forum with a *«touch of magic in the air»*. The President of the African Development Bank (AfDB), Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, stressed that climate change was devastating African economies as the Continent is losing between 15 and 16 billion US dollars annually. President Adesina reiterated the crucial role played by Civil society organizations in not only pushing for inclusivity, accountability and transparency but also in influencing policy and decision-making processes in the interest of the African people. He reaffirmed and commended the importance of the work of African civil society in advocacy and its role in monitoring the achievement of the Continent's climate objectives.

Strategic recommendations and action points resulted from the very enriching discussions from the Forum. These included the need to expand the African Pavilion at COP27 to enhance the participation of CSOs especially women and youth and build their capacities for their qualitative participation; the need to support CSO-led research on climate change and just energy transition and facilitate knowledge management and experience sharing on best practices and innovative initiatives.

The level of participation and interactions had a consolidated audience of 211,133 people (digital platforms, social media, followers, and contributors). It registered a total of 1,977 participants (physically and online), keeping this edition of the Civil Society Forum at the top of the list of high-level events organized by the Bank in 2022.

Introduction & Background

The 2022 Bank-Civil Society Forum's theme was "**Engaging CSOs to achieve Climate Resilience for Africa**". The two-day forum aimed at providing a platform for inclusive, constructive, and structured dialogue between the Bank and the civil society to reach a common African position on climate change and green growth at COP 27 in line with the Bank's commitment towards a people-centered development agenda.

In his opening remarks, the President of the African Development Bank (AfDB) stressed that climate change was devastating African economies as the Continent was losing between 15 and **16 billion US dollars** annually, due to the devastating effects of climate change, an amount that is expected to reach 50 billion US dollars per year by 2030.

President Adesina reaffirmed the importance of African civil society advocacy work and its role in monitoring the achievement of the Continent's climate objectives. He commanded CSOs for their contribution to building the continent's resilience and adaptation to climate change.

He also emphasized civil society's critical role in achieving climate goals towards COP27. He reiterated that COP27 must help refocus attention on Africa's needs and priorities.

The Bank is convinced that the ambitious development goals set for Africa can be achieved through the active engagement, regular consultation, and enhanced participation of CSOs. Engagement with CSOs gives the Bank access to the people often excluded from policy-making — rural populations, women, girls, youth, and other marginalized groups.

This report is presented as follows: purpose and rationale; methodology; overview of the sessions; action points (for COP 27 and beyond) and conclusion.

Purpose & rationale

Civil Society constitutes the most relevant link between the Bank's development priorities and the collective aspirations of the people of Africa. The devastating impact of the Covid-19 pandemic highlighted the crucial role of CSOs in building continental resilience and sustaining its ability to respond swiftly by providing humanitarian assistance in situations of crisis. CSOs have often alleviated government constraints in terms of service provision on the continent and they have positioned themselves as development partners of choice.

The African Development Bank values the perspective of civil society organizations in terms of the increasingly important role of climate change considerations and renewable energy as a good basis for Africa's sustainable development. The 2022 Forum's purpose were therefore to provide opportunities for Civil Society, the Bank, African leaders, International Institutions and African Climate Change Champions and Ambassadors to share their views on the role of Civil Society on the issue of climate adaptation for resilient growth in Africa, discuss key challenges, options and mainly opportunities to engage Civil Society on this substantial agenda. The Forum's rationale were built around stakeholders structured dialogue toward the COP27 and showcasing CSOs best practices at the community level.

Format

The 2022 Civil Society Forum was held from October 6-7 on hybrid format. Panelists, Bank's Civil Society Committee and Coalition on the road to COP27, representatives from CSOs in Côte d'Ivoire met physically for Day 1 while Day 2 was 100% virtual. Main audience across the Continent went virtual through the Bank's dedicated platforms.

All the events scheduled in the agenda were effectively organized.



Overview of the sessions

The first day of the Forum was divided in three sessions: the Inaugural Session (comprised of the Opening Ceremony and a High-Level Conversation with the President and Civil Society Representatives) was followed by an Accountability Session on the Bank's Civil Society Engagement and the day ended with an Induction Session for the participants.

The second day had four main sessions; These were (i) Four parallel roundtable sessions; (ii), Four parallel CSO-led sessions;(iii) A Multilateral Development Institutions - Civil Society Engagement session, and (iv) The closing ceremony.

Summary of Key Discussions

DAY 1

Session 1: Inaugural session

Opening Ceremony

In her welcome remarks, **Dr Beth Dunford**, Vice-President, Agriculture, Human and Social Development Complex, stressed the fact that civil society is a major actor of development and a stakeholder alongside Governments, Development Institutions and the Private Sector. She reiterated that the 2022 Forum is in line with the Bank's agenda on climate change and energy transition and a unique opportunity for all the stakeholders to meet, share views, key challenges, and opportunities on a very pressing agenda. The theme of this forum is critical as it is for future generation of the African Continent.

Dr Kevin Kariuki, the Bank's Vice-President for Power, Energy, Climate and Green Growth Complex, who gave the introductory remarks underscored the high expectations of the forum and reiterated that the 2022 CSO Forum would provide the opportunity to build on and generate momentum on progress from COP26. He observed that promises that had been made during COP26 were not respected which is why the Bank works towards bridging the finance gap and is also the first Multilateral Development Bank to meet parity between adaptation and mitigation in finance. He added that compliance with the objectives of the Paris Agreement was important, including more use of renewable energy, to decarbonize some sectors and to strengthen regional interconnection to move towards an African electricity market.

Kolyang Palebele, President of Pan-African Farmers Organization and member of the Bank-Civil Society Committee, reiterated in his address, the importance of civil society as a transformative force for the Continent. He stated that Climate change and green growth were an opportunity for small-scale farmers to adapt to modern value chains and comply to international standards, if supported to meet the requirements. He also made an appeal for financial institutions to develop specific products for rural producers. He appealed to the participants that the Malabo commitment to shared prosperity and investment in agricultural infrastructure must be respected.

The event was graced by the presence of His Excellency Ambassador Wael Badawi, the Egyptian Ambassador to Côte d'Ivoire; His Excellency Ambassador Lee Sang Ryul, Ambassador of Korea to Côte d'Ivoire and the representative of the Ivorian Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development, Sidi Braïma Dagnogo.

Ambassador Badawi commended the forum for protecting Africa's future and reaffirmed that the Forum was, in line with Egypt's vision to engage CSOs on the field of environmental protection, climate change and energy. He stressed that Egypt wants an inclusive COP27, an African COP that promotes solidarity to reach effective solutions, based on justice with common and differentiated responsibilities.

Ambassador Lee Sang Ryul on his part commended the Bank and CSOs for their mutual engagement. He reiterated his country's commitment to supporting energy projects, institutional capacity building and growth on the Continent.

Mr Sidi Braïma Dagnogo, praised the support and efforts of the African Development Bank towards Côte d'Ivoire. He said his country had committed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30.4% during the revision of its nationally determined contribution. He stated that the issues of adaptation and renewable energy were major challenges for his country and the continent. He hoped that the forum would allow for a structured dialogue towards an effective participation of CSOs on behalf of African communities during COP27.

In his opening statement, **Dr. Akinwumi Adesina**, reaffirmed the importance of African civil society advocacy work and its role in monitoring the achievement of the Continent's climate objectives. "Africa is suffering, choking and is in economic distress from the impact of climate changes that it did not cause. The continent loses every year billions of US dollars and needs per year 125 billons dollars to adapt to climate change". He also stressed the importance of the African Development Fund's Climate Action Window, which will provide twenty million farmers with access to climate-smart agricultural technologies, and twenty million farmers and pastoralists with weather-indexed insurance. It will also rehabilitate one million hectares of degraded land. President Adesina therefore urged CSOs to strongly defend and support the Bank's replenishment efforts (ADF16) for climate finance to mobilize up to 13 billion US dollars in resources as it will help support the most vulnerable against the ravages of climate change. The Bank's goals can only be achieved by putting people at the centre of its actions. He went further to state that the people served by the Bank can be far away, but Bank must ensure that their concerns are carried to places as the CSO Forum to make their voices heard and their pain understood.

High Level Conversation with the President

The President of the African Development Bank held a high-level dialogue with two renowned CSO leaders: Salif Traoré alias A'salfo, Ivorian artist and president of Magic System Foundation and a UNESCO ambassador, as well as Soumaya Zaddem of the African Youth Advisory Council on Disaster Risk Reduction of the African Union. Ms Zaddem emphasized the need to support women and youth negotiators at COP27 by building their capacities and ensuring their effective participation. According to A'salfo, Africans are told to get off fossil fuels, but it cannot be possible without resources. The ecological imperative should not be a constraint to the Continent's development. Green growth must be equitable for Africans. The President of the African Development Bank, Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, recognized once again the crucial role played by Civil Society Organizations and renamed them Ceaseless Surveillance Obligated (CSO) as they have the duty to hold the Bank and other stakeholders accountable.

Session 2: Accountability session on Bank's Civil Society Engagement

At the 2020 CSO Forum, the President said: "At the next Civil Society Organizations Forum, what I would like to see are civil society organizations on the platform sharing how they have worked with the Bank to deliver concrete outcomes". This session was dedicated to sharing testimonies, collaborative results, tell stories of changes and impact on the lives of the communities from collaboration between CSOs and the Bank. This highly interactive session was moderated and facilitated by **Zéneb Touré**, Manager of the Bank's Civil Society and Community Engagement Division. Testimonies and discussions were on cases of collaboration in DRC, Zimbabwe, Ghana, but also success stories from Ethiopia. Short videos were projected to highlight success stories in each country.

Eliane Munkeni, President of the National Commission of Women Entrepreneurs and Vice President of the Federation of Enterprises of DRC gave a powerful testimony on how the Bank supported her organization at their beginnings in 2016 for a Training of trainers (TOT) training for women entrepreneurs and how they have grown since. 12 Women Trainers had been trained in the eleven provinces of the country. After three hundred women trained by the beneficiaries of the TOT, 110 women entrepreneurs Projects were supported by the Bank. Today, a total of three thousand women have been trained with the financial support of new donors as the Bank's initial grant, helped build trust within the donors' community. **Dieudonné Boenga**, Coordinator of the Project in support of Private Sector Development and Job Creation in the DRC, strengthened the testimony given and enlightened participants on the support provided by the Bank to women entrepreneurs in DRC.

Joel Bizure, Project Coordinator, World Vision, Zimbabwe. Close to 16 000 Refugees coming from various African countries live in Zimbabwe. World vision is aiding with the support of UNHCR. But the Bank help the organization to enhance its support to the entire refugee community but beyond to the host community. Supporting the host community creates balance and contributes to harmony and stability between both communities. According to **Erick Mariga**, Principal Fragility and Resilience Officer at AfDB, since 2018, the Bank has engaged in innovative solutions to support livelihoods of vulnerability communities. CSOs help to provide sustainable solutions especially in no areas of traditional support for the Bank. They even continue to deliver beyond the life expectancy of projects supported by the Bank.

Benjamin Boakye, Executive Director of the African Center for Energy Policy in Ghana testified that the relationship with the Bank started years ago. But in 2015, the Bank wanted to deploy a policy action on power regulation and ensuring bridging the supply and demand side of accountability. The African Center for Energy Policy got involved in the regulation of electricity tariffs. It contributed to shaping information and fighting corruption in the power sector. The Regulator even developed a platform where relevant information is shared. More organizations are now engaged on power issues. They contribute to national conversations on proposals to be shared with the regulator. **Eyerusalem Fasika**, Country Manager, Ghana, AfDB, gave the Bank's perspective by supporting the African Center for Energy Policy. Focus was also on the role of the Bank in facilitating this collaboration with civil society and Government in such a complex sector.

Eticha Misganaw, Executive Director, Stand for Vulnerable Organization, Ethiopia shared a unique and inspiring success story to be duplicated by CSO across the Continent. It

all started with engagements, experience sharing, and capacity building provided by the Bank. The Bank's High5 strategy was first integrated in the organisation's strategy. Then from a social entrepreneurship training provided by the Bank, new small scale business models have been developed in areas such as bakery, pastry, restaurant, housing, etc. in different cities. All was financed by own savings. For the guest house, based on the initial initiatives, a commercial bank agreed to give loan. All this is possible thank to the initial engagements with AfDB.

The Accountability session, ended with a contribution from **Rita Effah**, Coordinator/ Senior Climate Finance Officer, AfDB. Climate funds used by CSOs to improve the lives of communities with grants between US$250,000 and US$1 million. This Fund should be considered as a demand driven fund aiming at bringing resources to communities that need it the most. Working with CSOs is key in achieving this goal as they are at the heart of the community engagement. The presentations were followed by a questions and answers session. The Forum 2022 especially through this session, has made it possible to highlight that the Bank-Civil Society partnership is in March. The experiences, good practices and successes presented with their inherent challenges confirmed that the Bank achieves better results with this people-centered approach, a tripartite dialogue with all stakeholders on its operations and projects.

Session 3: Induction session for Civil Society Organizations

Maria Mulindi, Director, Special Programmes, chaired this very interactive session aimed at informing key stakeholders and strategic partners on the Bank's vision and strategies, policies, and procedures.

Njeri Martha Kinyoho, Senior Civil Society Officer, AfDB, made a presentation on the Bank's Civil society engagement (CSE). It was mainly about the historical outline of the Bank's CSE, the Bank's CSE in the delivery of the High 5s (inclusion/participation, ownership, risk management, transparency/ accountability and maximizing impact), the three-tier Engagement with Civil Society: corporate (Dialogue & Outreach and instruments & resources) ; Regional/ country (Regional Dialogue and Country level engagement and dialogue) and Project levels (Supporting project task teams for mainstreaming and CSE engagement in the project cycle).

Al-Hamndou Dorsouma, Director Climate Change & Green Growth Department, AfDB , structured his intervention around the following key points: The Bank values the partnership with Civil Society Organisations, in this regard, the Bank, as part of its new strategic framework on climate change and green growth adopted last year, is committed to working with African CSOs in supporting the African common position on climate change, in recognizing the Africa's special circumstances on climate change and advocating for enhanced access to means of implementation by Africa. In the run up to COP 27, the 2022 CSO Forum presents a critical and timely opportunity to engage with African CSOs on key issues at stake for Africa, including the importance of adaptation and climate resilience, the need to harness Africa's mitigation potentials, and the criticality of climate finance access

by African countries. Beyond the COP 27, the Bank and the CSO community needs to engage in a permanent and constructive dialogue to step up efforts in supporting Africa's priorities on climate change and green growth moving forward. He also highlighted the importance given by the Bank on adaptation (67%) to climate change in comparison to mitigation. The new tools, strategy, and action plan (with 40% of investments on climate action) developed by the Bank with the participation of CSO, will give the opportunity in addressing the Continent's climate change challenges.

Issa Maman-Sani, Director, Environmental and Social Safeguards Department, AfDB: the overarching objective of the Bank it is to ensure the cultural and socio-economic development of the African people. Projects could sometimes cause negative externalities. The Bank has therefore quite early perceived the need to consider the social and environmental impact of its interventions to ensure the sustainability of all the resources. The Environmental and Social Safeguard Policy dates to 2013 and after 9 years of implementation, based on an evaluation in 2019, the policy is being revised to reduce the burden on those preparing the loans documents and those receiving them. CSO have actively contributed to the update of the policy document. He ended his contribution by commending CSOs for their critical role of CSOs in the environmental and social safeguards field. CSO are the third eye of the Bank on the field to ensure the best possible implementation of projects.



Nathalie Beatrice Chinje-N Bodiong, Lead Advisor –AfDB's Disclosure and Access to Information (DAI) secretariat, structured her presentation with an overview of the DAI policy (background, objectives and governance structure and information classification). Then she shared key recommendations from the implementation review including enhanced engagement with CSOs. She concluded with an analysis on CSO engagements in terms of facts, resources, and communication.

David Simpson, Director, Independent Recourse Mechanism (IRM), AfDB indicated that IRM aims at strengthening accountability and providing more effective recourse to people affected by Bank-financed operations. With a very practical case study, he presented the IRM and its different complaint-handling functions.

Yero Baldeh, Director, Transition States Coordination Office, AfDB. In his presentation, he highlighted the Bank's increased collaboration with CSOs in fragile States to address fragility. The main objective is to increase resilience across African regions, countries, and communities. Three priority areas have been identified to achieve this goal: strengthening institutional capacity, building resilient societies, and catalyzing private investment. Emphasis has also been made on increase engagement on building regional resilience and increase the role of the private sector. The presentations were followed by a questions and answers session.

The second day of the meeting was opened by a keynote speech by Malado Kaba, Bank's Director of Gender, Women and Civil Society Department, built on the outcome of the inaugural panel and various discussions held the first day. She reiterated her strong belief that civil society actors are key partners in addressing the challenges and finding sustainable and resilient solutions to the climate change. She reminded that the choice of the 2022 CSO Forum theme

demonstrates the Bank's strong commitment to addressing the Continent's climate, vulnerabilities, and transitioning toward next zero by 2050.

The inevitable transition should not compromise the need for universal access to energy services and the achievement of the sustainable Development goals. Africa is the least climate - resilient region, in the world with high vulnerability to climate change and low readiness for adaptation to climatic shocks. It also has some of the lowest per capita climate, finance, influence in the world. Climate change, therefore, poses substantial risks to African economies. It threatens the lives and livelihoods of millions of people and could undo hard development gains achieved so far. Three trillion and 1,6 trillion dollars will be needed over 2020 to 2030 to implement the Continent's Climate action commitments and nationally determined contributions. If this trend continues, a climate financing gap of about one hundred billion dollars a year will remain to 2030 undermining Africa's efforts to support climate, resilience, and just energy transition.

Session 4: Four Round Table Parallel Sessions

Roundtable 1:

Building Resilience for local development: Role of communities and grassroots organizations: The session led by **Augustine Njamnshi**, Chair of the technical and political committee of, Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance aimed at sharing best practices and discussing ways to amplify communities' voices on the frontlines of climate impact. "Which is crucial to ensuring inclusive and transformative resilience that accelerates climate justice and a just transition". The session also aimed at exploring how successful locally led adaptation strategies can be scaled up with access to climate finance. Recommendations for COP27 from local actors on the priorities for supporting African communities to enhance their adaptive capacities were also made. The panelists were Pauline Nantongo, Africa CSO Biodiversity Alliance; **Ahmed Fathy**, CEO Egypt Youth Love Coalition for climate change and **Al-Hamndou Dorsouma**, Director Climate Change & Green Growth Department, AfDB.

Roundtable 2:

Gender & Climate Finance: from barriers to actionable solutions: Chaired by **Soumaya Zaddem**, Africa Youth Advisory Board on Disaster Risk Reduction of African Union, this session shed light on climate finance in their relationship with gender issues. Women in Africa represent a large share of entrepreneurs (58%) and play a significant role in economic development and social progress. However, access to finance remains one of the key obstacles to their effective contribution to development outcomes within the continent and globally. For instance, the financing gap for African women in agriculture value chains, which employs most of them and requires climate-resilient agriculture practices, is estimated at USD15.6 billion. This also means significant gender gap, especially in Sub Saharan Africa, which negatively affects women and that can potentially be closed only in 121.7 years. This has a direct incidence on the likelihood of the continent to achieve its full growth and development potential. Strategies to advance the issue of gender and climate finance in Agenda of COP 27 and to promote smart insurance particularly in drought and disaster affected areas in Africa have been explored.

Roundtable 3:

Inclusive and Transformative Food Systems in Africa: Addressing Climate Change and Adaptation for Local Agricultural Communities/Smallholder Farmers: Under the leadership of **Gilles Yabi**, President Wathi think tank, this session gathered the following panelists: **Rosaria De Paoli**, Director, Istituto Cooperazione Economica Internazionale, **Kolyang Palebele**, President of the Pan african Farmer's Organisations and Dr. **Eklou Attiogbevi Somado**, **Manager of the Division in charge of Agriculture, AfDB.** They discussed the need to create high quality avenues to support agricultural adaptation based on localized knowledge and expertise and to explore concrete interventions that can build resilience to climate change and equitably feed the Continent especially marginalized communities. The means to effectively inform smallholder farmers and rural farming communities on climate smart technologies was also explored.

Roundtable 4:

Just Energy transition: Roles of African Development Bank, African Civil Society and other Stakeholders: Moderated by **Grace Ronoh**, Programme Officer, Access Coalition. This session gave the opportunity to: Provide participants an opportunity to understand the AfDB's approach towards ensuring a just energy transition for Africa; discuss the views of the African Civil Society on the topic of just energy transition ahead of COP27; analyze the support of the AfDB in terms of investments and initiatives that support Africa in its just energy transition pathway and agree on actions points for joint engagements between the Bank and CSOs. The panel was comprised of: **Rolande Aziaka**, CEO Welfare Organization, **Samba Fall,** head of systemic and climate transitions at ENDA energy and **Franklin Gbedey**, Manager, Renewable Energy Division, Desert to Power Initiative lead, AfDB represented by **Regina Nesiama Miller,** Principal Renewable Energy Specialist.



DAY 2

Session 5: Four parallel CSO-led sessions

Four sessions took place under the leadership of CSOs on the following themes:

- Principles and safeguards for a just, people-centered, pro-poor energy transition in Africa: The case of Africa Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI), by Alliance Panafricaine pour la Justice Climatique (PACJA) et Coalition Africaine pour l'Accès et l'Energie Durable (ACSEA).

- From talk to action: Enhancing African communities' resilience to the impacts of climate change in Mozambique, Uganda, and Kenya, by Fondation AVSI - Innovations pour la lutte contre la pauvreté.

- Community forestry - an asset to engage in inclusive climate change resilience building for local development in Africa, by Conseil National des ONG de développement du Congo.

- Community-Based Initiatives for Climate Resilience - Success Stories & Best Practices, by South African Institute of International Affairs - Centre africain pour la politique énergétique - Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment.

Session 6: Multilateral Institutions Civil Society Engagement session

The session moderated by **Basil Jones**, Programme and Policy Coordinator for the Bank's Gender, Women and Civil Society gave the opportunity to exchange on how multilateral institutions intervening on the Continent work with CSOs and push for the African climate change and green growth agenda. It was also the opportunity to engage on multi stakeholders' approach in both engaging with CSOs and in developing collaboration and strategic partnerships between multilateral institutions.

Qualitative and interactive contributions were made by the following panelists: **Betty M. Wangozi**, African Union Citizen and Diaspora Directorate, **Milano Flavia Silvina**, Inter-American Development Bank, **Ker-Lindsay Biljana Radonjic**, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, **Ahmed Berthe**, Islamic Development Bank and **Arona Soumare**, African Development Bank. The Key message is that collaboration between multilateral Institutions is essential for achieving green growth and address climate change. In addition, CSE has become critical for all multilateral institutions.

Closing session

Two interventions punctuated the closing ceremony.
Zéneb Touré, Manager of Civil Society and Community Engagement Division, AfDB, presented a summary of the achievements of the two days Forum and the main points of action retained in view of the COP27 and beyond. **Zéneb Touré** reminded the audience that the Bank's engagement with civil society is on marche. She welcomed this important step towards COP27 and congratulated all the actors who contributed to the success of the Forum 2022.

Cheick Fayçal TRAORE, on behalf of the Bank Civil Society Committee and all the Civil Society Organisations, also welcomed the success of the Forum. He insisted on the call for action from all to bend the negative curve of the climate threat. In his speech, he made a special appeal to African youth to take the torch of commitment for the Africa we want, this Africa that holds the keys to its destiny towards economic prosperity and inclusive green growth. He ended his speech by reminding us that the Committee and civil society organizations are more than ever ready and determined to play their part, that of remaining constructive stakeholders contributing to the resilience of local communities.



Lessons learned

These eloquent results have also generated lessons learned and success factors that will be capitalized upon to consolidate the Forum's utility trajectory.

- The establishment of a Task Force was cardinal. Indeed, what would the 2022 Civil Society Forum have been without the group dynamics, the team spirit and the positive vibes of the Bank's Task Force which met each week during 12 weeks with diligence. The Task Force efficiency has confirmed that Bank's engagement with civil society is on marche!

- The format of some of the sessions would benefit from being revisited for future editions of the Forum. The hybrid format does not seem to be adapted to parallel round tables, for example. These sessions would be more relevant in a face-to-face setting. The induction sessions could include more technicians and specialists or Bank actors working directly on the projects in order to draw out the strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for better integration of civil society.

- CSO Led Sessions: The sessions organized by the CSOs themselves were, unexpectedly, the least well attended. In dialogue with CSOs, an innovative approach could be explored in this regard.

Conclusion

constructive dialogue between Civil Society and the Bank that strengthen collaboration and respective interventions. The momentum should be maintained beyond the forum and COP27 to meet the climate change challenges faced by African communities.

Annexes

Annex 1: Photo Gallery on Flick link

Annexe 2: Participation statistics

Attendance	1103 + 874 = 1977
DAY 1: Participants at SOFITEL	139
Day 1: Technical crew at SOFITEL	11
DAY 1: Participants Online	953
DAY 2: Plenary Sessions - Online	411
DAY 2: Roundtables - Online	130
DAY 2: CSO-LED SESSIONS - Online	333

Social Media Engagement	10315 + 8506 = 18821
DAY 1: Facebook	6832
DAY 1: Views	2749
DAY 1: Live	734
DAY 2: Facebook	4728
DAY 2: Views	3778

LIVESTREAM	VIEWS REACTIONS	Vimeo	YouTube	LinkedIn
Opening Ceremony Day 1 14 745 / 16 709	Facebook: 1.5K / 292 LI: 6415 / 357	view 38, Impression 305	(French)View 275, impression 2900 (English)View 96, impression 2400	View 6421 Impression 10455

	Facebook	Twitter	LinkedIn	Stat Gloable
Impression Engagement	22 760 / 1432	69 421 / 2463	40 209 / 1221	132390/5116

Annexe 3: Media links

- Un Forum Banque africaine de développement - Société Civile se tient à Abidjan - LA DIPLOMATIQUE D'ABIDJAN (ladiplomatiquedabidjan.com)
- Civil societies are key to Africa's climate change resilience, says Dr. Adesina - TOP AFRICA NEWS
- MIL-OSI Banking: Civil Society Forum 2022: African Development Bank President reaffirms critical role of civil society in achieving climate goals towards COP27 | ForeignAffairs.co.nz
- Civil Societies Are Key To Africa'S Climate Change Resilienc... | MENAFN.COM
- Civil Society Forum 2022: African Development Bank President reaffirms critical role of civil society in achieving climate goals towards COP27 - The Maravi Post
- https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/civil-societies-are-key-africas-climate-change-resilience-says-dr-adesina-55350
- Côte d'Ivoire : en marge de leur forum avec la BAD, des organisations société civile sondent les engagements de la Banque - Abidjan.net News
- Civil societies are key to Africa's climate change resilience, says Dr Adesina | African Development Bank - Building today, a better Africa tomorrow (afdb.org)
- Afropages - La société civile est un élément clé de la résilience au changement climatique, déclare M. Adesina
- Civil Society Forum 2022 - African Development Bank President Reaffirms Critical Role of Civil Society in Achieving Climate Goals Towards COP27 - allAfrica.com
- AfDB puts civil society orgs at the forefront of climate engagement (engineeringnews.co.za)
- Research Channel | Login
- La société civile élément clé de la résilience au changement climatique - Changement climatique - Témoignages (temoignages.re)
- Civil Societies Are Key to Africa's Climate Change Resilience, Says Dr Adesina - allAfrica.com
- Civil societies essential partners to build Africa's resilience to climate change | Business (devdiscourse.com)
- Civil society participation integral to climate change initiatives (esi-africa.com)
- Civil societies are key to Africa's climate change resilience - Maurice Info (maurice-info.mu)

Annexe 4: Speech of the President

Your Excellencies, Ambassadors
Your Excellencies, Honorable Ministers
Executive Directors of the African Development Bank
Senior Management and Staff of the Bank
Leaders and members of Civil Society Organizations
Distinguished ladies and gentlemen
Good morning, everyone!

I am delighted to welcome you to the 2022 Civil Society Forum.The theme of the 2022 Civil Society Forum: Engaging Civil Society for Climate Resilience and Just Energy Transition, is timely. Climate change is devastating the economies of Africa. At the 2nd Ministerial on COP 27 at the recently held UN General Assembly in New York, I made it clear that "Africa is suffering, Africa is choking, Africa is in economic distress from the impact of climate change that it did not cause". Africa loses $7-15 billion annually from the nefarious effects of climate change, an amount that is projected to rise to $50 billion a year by 2030. African countries will need on average $125 billion annually between 2020-2030 to adapt to climate change. The African Development Bank is leading the charge on climate financing for Africa. Together with the Global Center on Adaptation we launched the Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program, to mobilize $25 billion for Africa.

We are addressing the needs of the 37 low-income countries and fragile states in Africa that depend on the resources of the African Development Fund, but which are the most vulnerable to climate change. The ADF countries need $600 billion to tackle climate change by 2030, yet do not get climate finance to help them cope with the deluge of climate change impacts on their peoples, communities, and economies. That is why the African Development Fund is opening a Climate Action Window in the ADF16 replenishment to mobilize up to $13 billion in resources for climate finance for these countries.

The Climate Action Window of the ADF will support 20 million farmers to have access to climate-smart agricultural technologies, support 20 million farmers and pastoralists to have weather-indexed insurance, revamp 1 million hectares of degraded lands, provide 9.6 million people with renewable energy, and provide 840 million cubic meters of water storage. We will need you, the civil society organizations, to strongly advocate for and support the ADF16 replenishment, as it holds great promise for supporting the most vulnerable in the face of climate change devastations. The video we just watched beautifully summarizes the African Development Bank's continued commitment to working with civil society. The African Development Bank is strongly convinced that engaging with civil society is critical for inclusive and sustainable development that truly improves the lives of our people. That is why right at the start of my first term as President of the bank in 2015, I established its Civil Society, Community Engagement and Social Innovation Division within our Gender, Women and Civil Society Department. The six unshakable commitments I made during the 2020 Civil Society Forum are as follows:

1. Strengthen the institutional capacity of Civil Society Organizations.
2. Support the work of Civil Society Organization's advocacy.
3. Strengthen community-level engagement on projects.
4. Support Civil Society Organizations to help accelerate access to finance for women.
5. Strengthen social and environmental safeguards
6. Strengthen engagement with civil society organizations on anticorruption and governance.

I committed to these because I know that the ambitious goals that we have set to achieve for Africa can only be achieved by putting people at the center of all that we do. I have always maintained that when I think of the African Development Bank, what is most important to me is the "Development" part. That is our mission. Therefore, working with communities, the youth, the women, the private sector, and non-state actors such as the civil society is an integral part of how we reach people, and how we are accountable to people. The African Development Bank is unique; we do not just lend to Africa; we know Africa; we are based in Africa; and we are the only multilateral financial institution with a mandate for Africa.

We are Africa's solutions' Bank. Seven years ago, I laid out our vision as a Bank to accelerate the development of Africa – the High 5s: to light up and power Africa; feed Africa; industrialize Africa; integrate Africa; and improve the quality of life of the people of Africa. Within five years, the High 5s have impacted on the lives of 335 million people. The Senegambia Bridge today links Senegal and Gambia for the first time, facilitating movement and trade. The Kazungula Bridge connects Namibia with Botswana and Zambia and has reduced transit time from 14 days to just one hour. The Addis Ababa to Nairobi transport corridor, a $1 billion investment by the Bank, soon to be completed, will expand trade between Ethiopia and Kenya by 400%.
The $20 billion Desert-to-Power project in the Sahel will provide electricity for 250 million people and turn the Sahel zone into the largest solar zone in the world. Even as we are proud of the progress being made, we realize that the challenges facing Africa and its people remain immense. We are not deterred by the challenges. Our task and responsibility are to take them on, and to make sure that the needs of Africa are prioritized as the world copes with multiple challenges.

To support Africa during the Covid pandemic, the Bank launched a Covid 19 Crisis Response Facility of up to $10 billion. We also launched a $3 billion Fight Covid 19 social bond on the global capital markets, the largest social bond ever in world history. Our support provided countries with resources to meet immediate needs for medical supplies, vaccines, as well as social protection for over 28 million people. To cushion Africa from the effects of the Russia-Ukraine war, the Bank launched a $1.5 billion emergency food production facility. The facility will support 20 million farmers with access to improved seeds and fertilizers to produce 38 million metric tons of food, worth $12 billion. We will avoid a food crisis in Africa. Within 45 days of the launch of the facility, the Bank had approved $1.13 billion in support of 24 countries. That is who we are: a very responsive Bank! I am pleased to note that civil society organizations were included by the Bank in our support to the countries. The CSOs were engaged in consultations on Program-Based Operations and their contributions on enhancing accountability and inclusive governance, including for example, in Namibia, Kenya and Botswana. CSOs were included in the Zimbabwe institutional support for governance and public finance management project, where we went even further to include a specific line item dedicated for the Parliament to have direct engagement with key CSOs on budget allocation, accountability on public spending, debt contracting and inclusive governance and growth.

We carefully assess our engagements with the civil society, learning from our work and experiences and ever seeking to improve. In 2020, the Independent Development Evaluation Unit of the Bank completed an evaluation of the Bank's civil society engagements over the period 2012-2019. The evaluation reiterated the importance of the Bank's engagement with civil society organizations in ensuring inclusive and participatory growth and development in Africa. The evaluation recommended need for enhanced work with and support of civil society organizations to add value to the mandate of the Bank; and the need to engage them more in policy dialogue at country and regional levels.

Here at the African Development Bank, our slogan is "promise made, promise kept". Under my leadership and direction, I tasked the Bank to make clear commitments to CSOs, to ensure full accountability. At the CSO Forum on November 26, 2020, I called for clear actions, with outcomes that are measurable in the Bank's engagement with the civil society organizations. I wanted to see the CSOs on the platform

sharing their views, how they are working with the Bank, and what we can do to further improve our engagements. I am pleased that significant progress has been made across all the agreed areas. On strengthening the institutional capacity of civil society organizations, the Bank provided grants to three civil society organizations: AVSI Foundation, with $782,802 for support for green energy for youth and women in Uganda and Kenya; ICEI – Instituto Cooperazione Economica Internazionale, with $596,283, to support climate resilient agriculture in the degraded marine and coastal Zambezia; and Zenab for Women Development in Sudan, with $304,066, to support building climate resilience for youth and women. To train and build CSOs capacity on electricity regulatory issues, the Bank supported the Africa Center for Energy Policy and West Africa Civil Society Institute to enhance the capacity of CSOs on regulatory issues. To support the climate agenda for Africa ahead of the COP 27, the Bank has so far organized 5 civil society regional forums in 2021 and established an African Development Bank-Civil Society Coalition on the road to COP 27. The Bank has prioritized the inputs of civil society organizations in its work in a significant way. Civil society organizations engagement was integrated into the development of 39 Country Strategy Papers, including 12 since the beginning of the year, allowing them to influence and shape the directions of countries. I am pleased that over 20 projects at the Bank have had civil society participation in their development.

And the Bank has actively engaged with civil society organizations on strengthening compliance with social and environmental safeguards on all Bank-financed projects. You all can be proud of us as your partner on transparency. The African Development Bank was ranked this year as the Most Transparent Institution in the World by Publish What You Fund for our work on public sector operations.

The Bank's new 2021-2025 Governance strategy focuses specifically on civil society engagement to further improve transparency and accountability. Your work as civil society organizations will continue to be supported and promoted by the African Development Bank.

The Bank is increasingly also showcasing the work of the civil society organizations, with the publication of the Voice of Citizens in Africa Newsletter since 2019, which showcases the work of the Bank with civil society. We have just completed a civil society video with a multimedia firm that will further showcase the work of the civil society with the African Development Bank. As we look towards COP 27, the voices of the civil society out of Africa should be on the need for developed countries to meet their $100 billion per year commitment for climate finance.

Your voices should be loud in support of the African Development Fund (ADF) 16th replenishment.

Your voices should be loud in support of the Climate Action Window of the African Development Fund.

Together, let us continue to advance Africa's needs.

Be the "Vuvuzelas" of Africa on climate change.

That is our responsibility, that is our duty, that is our obligation, To ensure that Africa's needs are not ignored.

Let's match forward, together to COP 27 in Sharm El Sheikh. I therefore declare open the 2022 Civil Society Forum.

Thank you very much.