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

Newsletter





« 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 ADF 16 replenishment, as it holds great promise for supporting the most vulnerable in the face of climate change devastations. »

Dr Adesina Akinwumi- President of the African Development Bank

Opening remark during the CSO Forum 2022.

« This year's Civil Society Forum has particular significance. We are mindful that the 2022 gathering's outcomes help solidify Africa's voice as we head towards COP27. This is our opportunity to ensure community-level voices have an audience, and civil society best practices are showcased, and replicated at a larger scale. »



Dr Beth Dunford , Vice-President Agriculture, Human and Social Development.

Presentation of welcome remarks



«The Bank is committed to engaging in permanent and constructive dialogue with all African Climate Change stakeholders, including the Civil Society, to deliver tangible results and ensure a successful COP27 for Egypt and for Africa. »

DrKevinKARIUKI,Vice-President, Power, Energy, Climate and Green Growth Complex, AfDB

Presentation of Introductory remarks

« To achieve climate resilience and a just energy transition in Africa should be designed to be inclusive and 'leave no one behind'. This transition requires careful consideration of its equity implications and the challenges associated with current energy poverty, low energy consumption and the energy needs necessary for economic growth and transformation. »



Kolyang PALEBELE, President, Pan African Farmers Organization



"The Korean government is putting its major aid effort in the following areas including agriculture, energy, public health , basic social infrastructure in response to the needs of Africa and in line with the High 5s of the African Development Bank"

Ambassador of the Republic of KOREA to Côte d'Ivoire His Excellency Mr Lee Sang RYU

"Egypt will like that the outcome of COP27 addresses the social and economic dimensions in order to implement sustainable development goals in their wider dimensions , and also to provide appropriate financial support to economic and just energy transition, as well as other steps leading to a breakthrough in climate action and resilience"

Eyptian Ambassador to Côte D'Ivoire, His Excellency Mr. Woel Balawi



High Level Conversation with the President of the Africa Development Bank Group and two CSO representatives





"I believe that we can further strengthen the collaboration between CSOs and the Bank by developing a clear roadmap and strategy for financing projects that involve CSOs"

Soumaya Zaddem, Co-Partner Youth Consortium, Africa Youth Advisory Board on Disaster Risk Reduction of African Union

“We are in a sector where there is imminent danger. The real terrorism today is the climate. Increasing initiatives in climate change will help civil society engage more and carry out more actions.”

Salif Traoré , CSO Champion, Artist, President Magic System Foundation, Ambassador for UNESCO and UNHCR





Accountability Session

The objective of this session was to share feedback from civil society and Bank staff to relevant stakeholders on the engagement of civil society in the implementation of Bank-funded operations across the continent. Short videos of each of the projects were shared to provide information on the highlighted projects. These videos set the stage for discussions on the accountability session.

« During the 2020 civil society forum, the president of the African Development Bank said, and I quote: during the next forum, I would like to see civil society organizations share with the bank the experience of collaboration that we have had with it. The accountability session is precisely to respond to this accountability exercise. »

Zeneb Touré – Civil Society and Community Engagement Manager, AfDB - Moderator of the session

« The African Development Bank assisted in providing water for the host communities, the refugee community, hospitals and schools. »

Joel BIZURE
Project Coordinator, World Vision, Zimbabwe





Induction session

« Most of the policies that the Bank has are being updated and revised, and some of it is in response to civil society or recommendations from civil society. »

Ms Maria Mulindi, Director Special Programmes Office of the President, AfDB



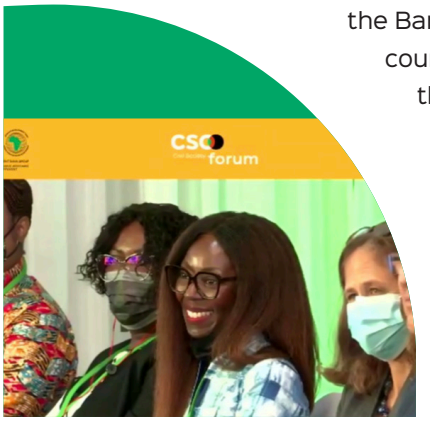
The induction session aimed at introducing civil society to the Bank's policies and operations. During the CSOs regional forum held in 2021 in all the regions, it was noted that some of the information shared on the Bank's website was not reaching civil society.

The session was organised to ensure that there exists a common understanding between the Bank staff and civil society on the role that CSOs play.

The Bank value the perspectives of Civil Society organizations in terms of the increasingly important role of climate considerations and renewable energy at a group basis for Africa sustainable development.

Round table sessions

« These round tables have, as you know, a useful purpose in that they are the space for you to discuss in an intense and open way, the priorities that you yourselves have identified with the Bank, during our dialogue at the country level but also from the regional forums that we organized in 2021. »



Ms Malado Kaba, Director, Gender, Women and Civil Society, AfDB

Round table sessions

On Day two of the 2022 CSOs Forum, four parallel roundtable discussions convened with civil society representatives and Bank Staff as panelists. The Roundtable focused on the following four sub-themes:

1. Building Climate Resilience and Support for Rural Development: The Role of Grassroots Networks and Community-Based Organizations

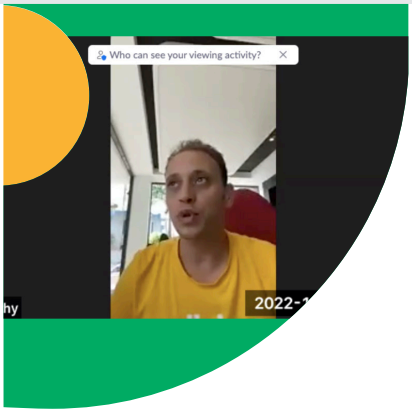
2. Gender & Climate Finance: From barriers to actionable solutions

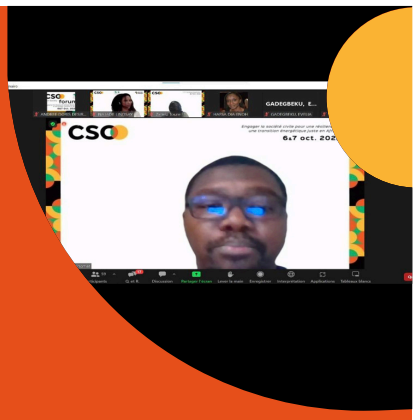
3. Inclusive and Transformative Food systems in Africa: Addressing climate change and adaptation for local agricultural communities/smallholder farming

4. Just Energy transition: Roles of African Development Bank, African Civil Society and other Stakeholders.

« As part of building resilience on climate change, we have to build the capacity of local organisations and be opened to knowledge sharing »

Ahmed Fathy
CEO Egypt Youth Love Coalition for climate change





« We call for urgent action, putting people at the centre of the action, in order to devise the best mechanisms for aid and support for resilience. Exceptional situations call for exceptional measures. »

Closing remark on behalf of Civil Society by Cheick Fayçal TRAORE; Bank-Civil Society Committee Youth Representative



Word from the Task Manager of the Forum

Yes, we can! Yes, we did! Teamwork made the dream work!

What would the 2022 Civil Society Forum have been without the group dynamics, the team spirit and the positive vibes of the Task Force that met for 12 weeks, 12 Thursdays, 12 working sessions of 2 hours each, with diligence and good spirit! What a commitment to the spirit of our One Bank!
This is the place for us to commend the perfect collaboration beyond the traditional roles and functions!

Congratulations to the CSO Committee members, to our CSOs partners, to the entire Task Force, thank you to Senior Management for their trust, and renewed gratitude to each connection in the chain! Together, we have confirmed that the Bank's engagement with civil society is a forward movement! We have kept up the pace, and together, we will stay the course by continuing to irrigate the Bank's operations and projects with the inclusion of communities as stakeholders in our policies and strategies! We changed the narrative together: CSOs are now seen not only as advocates or service delivers but also as enablers for change, policy influencers, project incubators, experts and implementing partners taping into their proximity to the majority of Africa's vulnerable populations. Together with civil society, we are on our way to COP27, resolutely committed to climate resilience and just energy transition.

We have come a long way, but in unison, we can make it work: Teamwork makes the dream work!

Luther Tarwin YAMEOGO, Task Manager of the CSO Forum

Word from Zéneb Touré the Manager

For two days, we had elaborate discussions on Engaging Civil Society for Climate Resilience and Just Energy Transition in Africa. The resilience and active participation demonstrate how we, as a Bank and as civil society, are committed to collaborating to ensure civil society engagement as one of the most effective ways of ensuring inclusive economic growth and a rapid transition to green growth across the continent.

This CSO forum helped us understand that COP27 presents an opportunity for humanity to turn the tides against the existential threat and creates a global platform for all of us to amplify Africa's voice and common position on climate change. The eight (8) action points agreed between the Bank and CSOs will guide the Bank in its work on civil society engagement on climate resilience and just energy transition.

Let us keep the momentum and work towards a better Africa.

Thank you

