

New Deal for Climate Justice



Crab farming projects in Bangladesh are helping women like Kokoli to provide for their families and withstand the effects of the climate crisis. But as the cyclones that hit the region become more extreme, what Kokoli's family need is climate justice.

Together we stop this climate crisis

The climate crisis is leaving people living in poverty hungry, homeless and heartbroken. Every day they battle the worst of a crisis they did not create. This is deeply unjust. We need a New Deal for Climate Justice now.

Why are we campaigning for a New Deal for Climate Justice?

The people Christian Aid works with are not facing a climate crisis. They're already living with it.

From the indigenous communities whose homes have been destroyed by Amazon fires, to the farming communities in Malawi starving because of drought.

These people have done the least to cause this crisis but are now suffering the most. They are also least able to adapt to climate breakdown. This is deeply unjust.

People around the world have been doing what they can to adapt. But their options are limited without changing the economic system that is driving climate change and poverty.

Countries like the UK have grown wealthy through burning fossil fuels, extracting natural resources and using cheap

labour from the global South. It's this system that has created this climate crisis and is driving inequality at the same time.

It will take the best of all of us working for the best of our common humanity to address this. But if we act together, we can build a better world where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.

Governments of wealthy industrialised countries like the UK have a moral obligation to the world's poorest people to act. We need a New Deal for Climate Justice – before it's too late.

What exactly are we calling for?

The New Deal for Climate Justice is a set of policies and actions that add up to the just solutions that we need to tackle the climate crisis.

We are calling on the UK Government to:

1. Transfer its fair share of finance and technology to poor and climate-vulnerable countries.

As the sixth largest historic emitter of greenhouse gases since the industrial revolution began, the UK has a moral duty to massively increase its transfer of finance and technology to poor and climate-vulnerable countries, and to persuade other countries to do the same.

2. Stop fossil fuel expansion and support clean renewable energy instead.

There is no space left in the atmosphere for the burning of more fossil fuels if we are to get climate change under control – and yet the UK Government is still supporting the expansion of fossil fuel-based energy at home and abroad. This must cease immediately.

3. Develop renewable energy without exploiting people or destroying the environment.

In the UK, scaling up access to renewable energy means more wind turbines, solar panels and electric vehicles. All of this relies on minerals largely sourced from countries in the global South where we have a long history of exploiting resources and people. We must ensure that the clean energy transition does not reinvent this broken economic model, respects the rights of communities, and is sustainable.

4. Curb the over-consumption that is driving climate breakdown.

Overconsumption by the world's richest countries is leading to climate breakdown. Reducing our carbon footprints as individuals is important but not enough. We need the UK Government to act to reduce total emissions in the UK. However, the Government currently doesn't accurately measure the UK's carbon footprint because it excludes things consumed in the UK but produced overseas. Crucially, all of this must be included in the UK's carbon footprint, and must be reduced through government action.

5. Invest in decarbonising the UK economy in a way that addresses economic and social inequalities.

The UK Government needs to ramp up public investment in clean energy, transport, and home insulation here in the UK, so that we reduce our emissions to net zero as soon as possible. At the same time this investment should create jobs and training in deprived regions, which will also provide warmer homes and cleaner air for all.

Why is 2020 important?

The year 2020 is crucial for the climate justice movement and the UK Government has a vital role to play.

In November, the UK will host the UN's key climate change talks in Glasgow (COP26). Here, leaders and nations will have the opportunity to set us on a path to a better, safer world.

Five years on from the Paris Agreement, 2020 is a critical year when individual countries should be upping their ambition if we are to have any chance of keeping global warming to 1.5°C. This year could be the one that changes the course of our planet if world leaders make the right decisions.

The UK must show leadership and encourage decisions that bring about the change our global neighbours desperately need.

What can you do?

With the climate talks coming to the UK at the end this year, it's essential that decision makers see there is more public will than ever before to stop this climate crisis.

Stand together with our global neighbours and demand a New Deal for Climate Justice:

1. **Sign the petition online at caid.org.uk/climatejusticepetition**
2. **Download the offline petition at caid.org.uk/climatejusticeofflinepetition and ask members of your church to sign.**
3. **Pray for climate justice. Join our global prayer chain for climate justice at caid.org.uk/prayerchain**
4. **Organise a group to write to or meet your MP to discuss the New Deal for Climate Justice and take action. Check out the MP briefing for the campaign at caid.org.uk/climatejustice-MP-briefing**
5. **Get your church to publicly call on the UK Government to deliver a New Deal for Climate Justice. You can find out how at caid.org.uk/climatejusticeresources**

For more information on the policy asks, FAQ and other great resources, head to caid.org.uk/climatejusticeresources

Contact us

For support, resources or to invite a campaign speaker, call us on 020 75232073 or email campaigns@christian-aid.org

