



Communiqué

Issued at the National Multistakeholder Dialogue on Climate Policy Implementation in Ghana

Date: July 10, 2025

Venue: Fiesta Royale Hotel, Accra, Ghana

We, the undersigned participants of the National Multistakeholder Dialogue on Climate Policy Implementation, gathered in Accra on July 10, 2025, under the theme:

“Strengthening Inclusive Climate Governance: A National Multistakeholder Dialogue on Climate Policy Implementation in Ghana,”

Representing a broad coalition of stakeholders; including government institutions, civil society organizations, the private sector, academia, traditional authorities, youth and women’s groups, and frontline communities, we issue the following communiqué as a collective voice for action.

Recognizing:

- The growing threat climate change poses to Ghana, through increased floods, droughts, deforestation, biodiversity loss, and environmental degradation, which endanger lives, livelihoods, ecosystems, and the nation’s development aspirations;
- Ghana’s national policy frameworks and global commitments, including the National Climate Change Policy (NCCP), the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), as critical roadmaps for climate resilience;
- That, there is an urgent need to strengthen climate governance architecture to ensure they are robust, transparent, inclusive, accountable, and rooted in the realities of local

communities and vulnerable populations especially for those most impacted by climate related actions.

We affirm our shared commitment to advancing a climate resilient society as we work towards:

1. Promoting inclusive climate governance that guarantees active participation of all especially marginalized groups such as women, youth, and rural communities, while strengthening transparency and accountability mechanisms across all levels of climate action.
2. championing the localization of Ghana's climate priorities particularly the **NDCs** by empowering Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Assemblies (MMDAs) with the capacity, resources (financial and technical), to meaningfully integrate climate actions into the development planning agenda.
3. Advocating for fair and accessible climate finance by championing financing mechanisms that are gender-responsive, equitable, and prioritise the most vulnerable communities.
4. Institutionalising inclusive multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms as essential vehicles for continuous learning, policy formulation, and cross-sectoral collaboration to ensure that climate policies and actions are informed, participatory, locally relevant, and responsive to the needs of all stakeholders, especially the most vulnerable.
5. Strengthening coordination and accountability among key public sector institutions notably MEST, EPA, NDPC, Forestry Commission, Ministry for Climate Change and Sustainability, and the Ministry of Finance, to align national budgets and sectoral plans with climate goals and local development needs.
6. Strengthen collaboration among key ministries, departments, and agencies to ensure policy coherence, efficient resource use, data sharing, and integrated climate and resource management.
7. Promoting a culture of environmental stewardship by empowering Ghanaians to view the protection of natural resources as a civic responsibility, encouraging the adoption of sustainable lifestyles, active reporting of environmental violations such as illegal mining, and collective action to safeguard the environment.
8. Bridging the climate awareness gap through targeted public education and outreach initiatives, with a strong emphasis on empowering youth and engaging local communities to foster informed and inclusive climate action.

We call on:

1. Government of Ghana to:

- Integrate fully the NDCs into District Medium-Term Development Plans (DMTDPs), backed by sustained technical support and capacity building for MMDAs so that climate change mitigation and adaptation measures are mainstreamed into local planning processes, enabling districts to contribute meaningfully to Ghana's national climate commitments;
- Operationalize inter-agency coordination frameworks to foster seamless collaboration across national and subnational levels in climate planning;
- Introduce and sustain mandatory transparency and accountability measures for monitoring climate finance inflows, allocations, and expenditures at all levels including the private sector, and CSOs, and the district level;

- Create policy incentives and tax relief schemes to attract private investment in climate-smart technologies and sustainable infrastructure to drive innovation, scale up sustainable solutions, and promote inclusive green growth;
- Institute performance-based funding mechanisms to encourage MMDAs to adopt participatory budgeting approaches and enhance citizen oversight;
- Recognize, engage and formalize the role of traditional authorities and other community stakeholders in climate governance, especially at the district level, from planning to monitoring;
- Invest in building the capacity of traditional leaders and community level actors to enhance capacity for meaningful engagement, climate education, adaptation, and behavioural change communication at the grassroots;
- Leverage indigenous knowledge systems and values that foster locally led climate adaptation and conservation strategies that are context driven and sustainable.
- Immediately revoke **L.I. 2462**. This regulation that permits mining activities in forest reserves, undermining Ghana's forest protection efforts, climate commitments, and the rights of forest-fringe communities. Its revocation is essential to stop any ongoing or future attempts to legalize environmentally harmful activities in these ecologically sensitive areas.
- Rescind **Executive Instrument 144**. We urge the Government to restore the Achimota Forest's full status as a protected reserve and prevent the release of any part of it for private or commercial use. Preserving the Achimota Forest as a national heritage and ecological sanctuary is vital for Accra's urban resilience, biodiversity protection, and the well-being of future generations.
- Improve land use practices and strengthen national policies for soil and land management, supporting regenerative agriculture and sustainable land use.

2. Civil Society to:

- Champion the establishment and sustainability of community climate watch platforms and citizen-led accountability mechanisms to empower communities to track climate commitments, report violations, and hold duty bearers accountable;
- Intensify grassroots advocacy through the empowerment of local organizations, particularly youth- and women-led groups to strengthen civic engagement, promote social equity, and ensure that climate actions reflect the priorities of those most affected;
- Scale up proven CSO-led monitoring models and integrate them into official climate governance structures to enhance transparency, strengthen accountability, and ensure community-informed oversight of climate policy implementation;
- Forge stronger partnerships with traditional authorities and local governments to ensure inclusive, informed, and culturally grounded policy dialogue and implementation.

3.Private Sector to:

- Align operations, particularly in agribusiness and extractives, with Ghana's climate goals, by embracing environmentally responsible practices such as climate-smart agriculture, ecological restoration, responsible waste management, and adherence to environmental impact assessment standards;
- Actively engage in co-financing mechanisms, including blended finance models, to support climate adaptation and mitigation projects at the community level;
- Deepen Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) aimed at building local climate resilience and sustainable livelihoods for all.

4. Academic and Research Community to:

- Support data-driven planning by integrating climate data, forecasts, and risk analysis into district-level development processes including disaster preparedness, land-use planning, infrastructure design, agricultural programming, and natural resource management;
- Bridge knowledge gaps through targeted research and knowledge sharing;
- Produce user-friendly tools and evidence-based resources to inform decision-making and policy development;
- Disseminate research findings broadly through policy briefs, the media, and community-based platforms to increase their practical relevance and uptake.

5. Media to:

- Play a proactive role in demystifying climate policies and issues for the general public, particularly in local languages and rural contexts;
- Collaborate with stakeholders to generate locally relevant stories, data, and success narratives that inspire action;
- Strengthen accountability through investigative journalism, especially around climate finance flows and project delivery;
- Act as a bridge between citizens and policymakers by promoting feedback loops through radio, social media, and community fora.

Conclusion:

We, the undersigned, reaffirm our collective dedication to climate action that is just, inclusive, transparent, and locally grounded.

We believe that only through shared responsibility, mutual accountability, and unwavering political will can Ghana fulfill its climate commitments and chart a path toward a greener, more resilient, and sustainable future for all.

This communiqué therefore serves as both a roadmap and a rallying call to work together, rise together, and secure the future of our planet and people. Indeed, there is no better time than now to act decisively.

Issued in Accra, Ghana – July 10, 2025

Signed by: Participants at the National Multistakeholder Dialogue on Climate Policy Implementation