This Talanoa Submission is the product of dialogues conducted across three continents involving CSO and NGO staff, primary stakeholders, politicians, community and religious leaders in 13 countries.

**Where are we?**

We are responsible for climate change and it is causing poverty and suffering.

Quranic verses and Hadith that clearly show the responsibility of people on looking after the earth as they were put on earth as a vicegerent. Human action is contributing towards climate change and environmental degradation and it is our responsibility to take action. (11)

Creating climate change through cutting of trees, overuse of chemical and plastic products, urbanization, digging of wells, poor waste management, and use of concrete, distraction of Ozone layer, wastage of rain water, underground changes and natural disasters; irresponsible energy consumption; unnecessary air travel and driving. (10) (21) (23)

Suffering form climate change through Heat waves. Lack of rains and droughts, forest fires, extreme temperatures, intense rainfall, and erosion of the coasts sea level rise, high salinity, increased cyclones, tidal surges, erosion snowmelts, etc. causing massive reduction in crop and fodder yield, loss of forest and biodiversity, is affecting lives, livelihoods, education, food security, water and sanitation leading to tension and disputes due to limited natural resources such as grazing lands. (1)(15) (19) (18) (6) (14)

Women

Increase in violence and abuse towards women especially in land tenure; women and children suffer because they have to fetch water from further away. Increase in women's work load to provide more income means less time to participate in awareness campaigns, trainings, developmental programmes that address women's rights. (6) (18)

Health

More skin problems and chest infections, flu etc. allergies never seen in past, disease vectors increasing intensity and frequency of dengue-fever, malaria epidemics; diarrheal disease; hepatitis-C; nutrition-related illness, psychological problems, increase in disease vectors and in the frequency of epidemics. (1) (2) (7) (11) (23) (20)

Food security & Livelihoods

Growing food insecurity; livelihoods stress. Overall development including poverty reduction strategies are being impeded. (13) (18) (20)

Livestock & Agriculture

Unknown diseases; milk quality and yield affected. (2) increase in pests, reduced wheat and maize production low (1) (2) (11)

Increase on pests that destroy crops like leading to food insecurity (11)

Water

Insufficient and irregular rain, poor rainfall distribution; disrupted rainfall calendar irrigation badly affected, water-table 35% deeper, reduced river levels, springs drying, water for drinking depleted, People moving from water stress to shortage, fishing and farming affected.

(1) (2) (9) (13) (16) (4) (6) (14)

Energy

Trees for shade lost and electricity use increased, hydroelectric generation reduced through low water levels, electricity shortages; urbanisation concentrating energy leading to greater air pollution impacting human health. (6) (11) (10)

Global warming may not only be causing more destructive hurricanes, it could also be shaking the ground beneath our feet. (10)

Displacement

Loss of homestead and agricultural land and limited livelihood forcing displacement of thousands of people putting pressure on urban resources and causing inter-communal clashes. (13) (16) (17) (20)

Environment

Deforestation causing floods and soil degradation deforestation; ecosystems threatened; loss of biodiversity and indigenous species. Declining quality of nature-based tourism. (11) (13) (14) (17)

Governance

Poorly enforced and implemented national climate change management policy and environment protection laws, lack of government interest in agriculture and livestock and waste of resources. Citizens in marginalised rural areas lack information on climate change and technologies and approaches that contribute to mitigation and adaptation. (1) (11) (17).

There are many solutions to reduce the effects of climate change which are not yet being adopted (7) (8)

**Where do we want to go?**

Social and food security, resilience, clean environment and energy.

A coordinated strategy at local, national and international level to fight climate change and to achieve sustainable development goals (20)

Indebtedness abolished along with IMF/World Bank (20) (22)

Social protection to the most vulnerable groups in the community, individual access to basic services and an effective social safety net. Social welfare departments should engage with other departments for the upcoming plans of climate change, social welfare should also create awareness among communities. Reduction in resource based conflicts (10) (15) (17)

Informed society where all champion for climate change mitigation and adaption including integrating climate change to faith and education(17)

More simple life rather than use of luxuries (8)

Waste

Streamlined waste water and garbage management by local government, streamlined water saving technologies, recycling of organic waste, conservation of underground resources, incentives for people to enhance systems, environmentally alternatives to plastic bags in use.(1) (4) (5) (2) (17) (6) (7)

Water

Water harvesting, storage and check dams lessening increase seepage raising water table beside and increasing supply. People using water saving techniques, and consuming less water (6) (2) (11) (17)

Livestock and Agriculture

Improved breeds of animals and crop varieties tolerant to the effects of climate change. Increased forest cover and forest reserves. Improved livelihood and food security using climate smart technologies (14) (17)

Cities

Urban built roads and streets, proper water sanitation, and tree planting, air polluting vehicles banned (10)

Energy

Strong strategies to protect the environment from oil and gas industries. Affordable alternative sources of energy available (10) (11).

**How do we get there?**

“It is necessary to reduce these effects before the unpleasant happenings” (7)

Where they are informed about the hazards, local communities know what is needed. They have practical ideas relevant to their context. Resources should be concentrated accordingly

Public understanding and engagement

Reducing the impact of climate change is not the responsibility of any particular group or sector but everyone is responsible for it. There are many solutions to reduce the effects of climate change which are not yet being adopted (7) (8)

Education awareness, social media dissemination of climate information plans and policies particularly to local and remote communities, strong relationship between organisations, religious institutions, community leaders, government, international community. Platform of stakeholders NGOs and State to encourage the participation of communities in the design and implementation of projects and programmes. Links with organisations, activists, students, academia lawyers, journalists, and departments to campaign on awareness. (1) (13) (14) (17) (18) (5) (2) (11)

Ensure community participation in policy-making related to climate change with local initiatives supported through national dialogue and policies. Strengthen the capacity of the beneficiaries. Promote roles of local communities in accountability and monitoring of municipalities and other local governmental parties stakeholder’, to ensure best practises and transparency Resilience community instead of humanitarian. Focus on resilience programming (6) (14) (15) (13) (18) (16) (23)

Advocate on the protection of the environment; Develop integrated projects; Use renewable energies; Create synergy of action between the different technical partners; Minimize the effects of climate change; (13)

Governance

Government departments should work actively and in coordinated manner. Invest on human health and the delivery of efficient and effective services to reduce climate hazards. Strictly apply policies, laws and strategies for the reduction of greenhouse gases, governance and adaptation related measures for water management, livestock and agriculture (7) (8) (2) (13) (23)

Promote community resilience by supporting sustainable livelihoods. reduce the vulnerability of rural communities(13) (15)

Easy climate finance to implement (NDC and) adaptation plans (20)

Agroecology

“We shouldn’t wait for miracles to happen. Why don’t we go out a plant more trees?” Farmer Rashid(1) Plant trees, care for them and increase the forest land (2) (11) (12) (23)

Practicing irrigation farming, climate resilient agriculture modelling interventions, livestock vaccination to combat food insecurity, urban farming and gardening for healthy food and environment (1) (11) (7) (14)

Stop growing crops along river banks which is destructive to the environment.

Women

Member of District Forum Mrs Naila Ameer stated that the role of women was always there and has become highly prominent in recent years. The seasons are shifting and water level is decreasing in rural areas. Water is a pillar of human well-being and environmental stability, without water and access to it, the is no food security. “I remain at home and practically involve in social work at village level” This is a key role. She expressed the need to capacitate local women in climate change resilience. (1)

Women can be trained as climate change leaders to lead the activities to cope with climate change issues (1)

Construction

Climate sensitive construction, reducing use of wood, use of cement etc. which absorb heat. Housing which is not weather friendly can cause psychological as well as environmental problems (2) (5)

To secure the community from diseases and wastage of water the existing drainage system need to be maintained and properly streamlined (2)

(1-10) Pakistan (11) Malawi (12) Niger (13) Mali (14) (19) Somalia (15) Palestine (Gaza) (16) South Sudan (17) Kenya (18) Jordan (20) Bangladesh (21) (22) United Kingdom (23) Russia