# ECOS 8<sup>TH</sup> ACE DIALOGUE PRESENTATION

BY

**DOLPHINE MAGERO** 

#### INTRODUCTION

ECOS, the UN Climate Education, Communication, and Outreach Stakeholders community, is a network of networks, which aims to serve as a bridge between parties and non-party stakeholders to advance Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE).

- A coalition of organizations believe that an ACE focus constituted body is the entrance for promoting ACE in a sustainable way.
- This body would have balance representation from parties and non parties stakeholders to ensure the integration of ACE across the UNFCCC

### NON-PARTY STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- Non-Party Stakeholder participation can advance all six elements of ACE, from climate education through to international cooperation.
- Civil society actors need to be fully engaged in developing and defining climate change policies at all levels.
- Public participation needs to go beyond mere presence at workshops and must ensure meaningful participation from the most vulnerable groups.
- A just transition and recovery must be underpinned by ACE perspectives, through inclusive and participatory processes, which enable communities to articulate culturally sensitive, consented and comprehensive policy frameworks.
- Therefore non-party participation should be, not only a theme, but one of the main features of a new ACE Work Programme.

#### CONT.

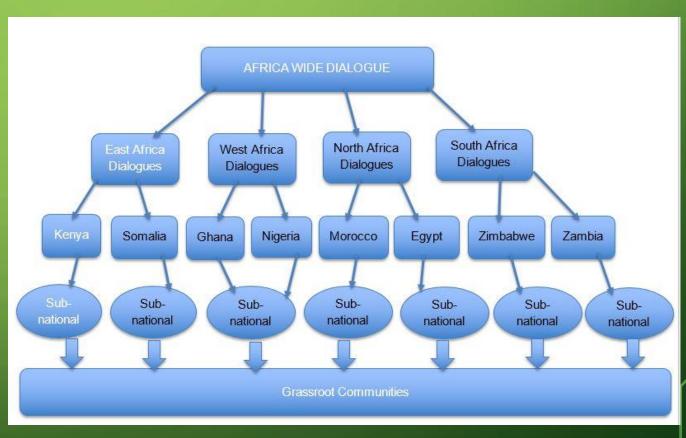
- Ongoing, human rights-based, direct engagement of multi-stakeholders in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) process, helps to accelerate concrete action- - by enabling and supporting synergies and collaborations between initiatives, right through from the grass roots to international scales.
- In other words, inclusive, structured and transparent ACE action-focused networks, supported by groups such as ECOS, can help with successfully implementing policies that address many different local contexts and scales.

#### CASE FOR AFRICA

- Africa is among the most vulnerable regions to the impacts of Climate Change. This stems from the lack of economic stamina to effectively adapt and mitigate to the impacts of climate change. This is attributed to the fact that most countries in the continent are still in the developing state and thus are trying to find a balance between development and climate action.
- Africa faces a great challenge but where there is challenge there is also great opportunity . climate opportunity requires climate education through Action for Climate Empowerment for effective grassroot actions. For this to occur there is need for creation of domestic grassroot enabling environments. This begins with appointment of ACE National focal points which has been lacking in most countries.
- The work of ACE has therefore been left to non-state actors who work in a bid to match up to the efforts of their governments. In most countries, government ACE engagements is being driven through official processes such as mainstreaming climate change into education curriculum.
- There is need for efforts to change the perception of most African governments who view ACE work as noise and advocacy rather than a tool for implementation of NDCs and NAPs.
- Locally led Climate Action, driven by community needs to be anchored on ACE where science, indigenous knowledge and policy must work in collaboration at localized scale.

# ECOS AFRICA ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY





#### ECOS YOUTH ENGAGEMENT





#### **ECOS ENGAGEMENT**





# LOCAL LEVEL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT





#### CONCLUSION

- Through ECOS, one of our main objectives is to support parties coordination with domestic networks of ACE actors for **knowledge-sharing**.
- These connections can also ensure non-party representation in the design of national ACE policies. As Parties devise their national strategies for ACE, ECOS can help ensure inclusion of existing action-focused networks and leadership nodes, whilst also widening participation, and impact of a comprehensive, equitable and effective implementation of ACE.
- To this purpose, we have created the #Learn4Climate campaign, calling for an ambitious commitment from Nations on people-centered climate action. Additionally, as ECOS, a "network of networks" for ACE-related agents, we will convene Non Party Stakeholders to align objectives.
- We have also designed an ECOS Africa Engagement Strategy through which we will work with key networks such as AYICC, PACJA, JVE among others to ensure we begin to address ACE issues at regional level as well as at the local grassroot level.
- For us, ongoing, direct engagement of multi-stakeholders in the UNFCCC process helps accelerate concrete action that is also responsive to and inclusive of different contexts. Please go to climateecos.org to learn more.

#### CONCLUSION

- In order to ensure further tangible progress, we suggest the next ACE Work Programme should include specific **common goals/targets**, with an annually-assessed Action Plan, which is linked to an enhanced ACE Dialogue for maximum flexibility and up-scaling of regional collaborations.
- By defining and providing common targets and metrics to guide reporting, tracking and evaluation, the aim is to progress and synergise regional NPS efforts.

We also must find a way of closing the chronic gap in financial resources which has kept us from reaching our full potential for action. In particular for African countries it is important to ensure the availability of sufficient financial and technical resources for the implementation of ACE.

• This could be done in various ways: one option is setting aside a dedicated global fund for ACE initiatives; another is establishing a platform or marketplace to facilitate linking ACE project proposals from Parties and NPS to possible funders.

#### CONCLUSION

- Since climate empowerment makes a just climate transformation smarter, more affordable and more effective, an ACE WP should be **systematically integrated and aligned across the Convention,** meaning: the 2030 Agenda, linkage to Global Stock-takes on route to 2023 and beyond, inclusion of **ACE in NDCs**, and integration in other areas.
- Countries need to appoint a well trained ACE national focal point, provide clear mandates, and mobilize sufficient public and private sector financial resources to fully address the gap in the deployment and up-scaling of ACE activities, design, and implementation.
- This includes the gender-responsive and intergenerational ACE National Strategies that incorporate indigenous, traditional and frontline community knowledge. We will share our full Doha Work Program submission recommendations on the future of ACE in the chat.

# KEY LINKS

ECOS Website general: <a href="https://climateecos.org/">https://climateecos.org/</a>

ECOS submission on "recommendations and view on future work to enhance the implementation of Article 6":

https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/SubmissionsStaging/Documents/202003091355--ECOS%20Submission%20on%20Future%20Work%20of%20ACE%20(para3).pdf