



Save the Children

CHILDREN'S CLIMATE DEMANDS FOR COP29



Children across the globe have come together to set a new agenda for the fight against climate change. Their voices are clear; united by a shared concern and hope for impactful change, they demand immediate and decisive action from global leaders.

This paper captures key recommendations that children from around the world hope you will use to advocate for urgent climate action. The children who worked on these recommendations want you to use your power and position to represent their voices at COP29, by integrating their calls into your discussions, national addresses, and negotiations. Together, we can make sure children's needs and demands are at the heart of solutions for a safer, healthier, and more sustainable world.

About this paper

From September to October 2024, hundreds of children from 20 countries¹ took part in COP simulations ahead of COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan. They imitated the COP processes, discussed their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), climate finance, just transition, and the essential services they rely on. Children from each country wrote their own outcome statements capturing lived experiences and powerful calls for a safer, healthier, and more sustainable world.

This paper consolidates the shared calls from children across various countries, presenting common demands they wish policy makers, advocates, businesses and thought leaders to champion in their COP29 engagement.

It provides a roadmap to guide more ambitious NDCs, more equitable climate finance, accessible essential services, and a just transition to a green economy.

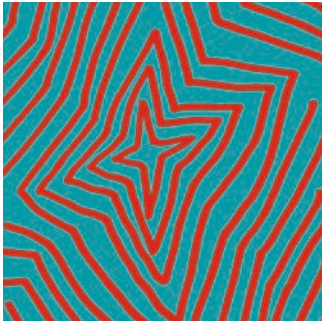
We invite you to use this paper in discussions and negotiations, bringing children's voices to the forefront and ensuring their urgent needs shape the climate policies of today and tomorrow.



Cover: 'Today's World', a drawing by Anum from Pakistan

Children from Korea crafting their national COP outcome statement

¹ Colombia, Denmark, Haiti, Kenya, Korea, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa and Tanzania. At the time of writing this paper, COP simulations were still being run in Bolivia, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Nepal, South Sudan, Thailand, and Vanuatu.



Children's demands for decision-makers

Essential children's services in climate action

- ★ Prioritise climate resilience healthcare.
- ★ Prioritise mental health support.
- ★ Integrate climate literacy into school curricula.
- ★ Create community-based programs that empower children to take part in sustainable practices.
- ★ Promote food security with climate smart agriculture.
- ★ Strengthen water infrastructure and safety measures.
- ★ Protect children from violence and exploitation amid climate displacement.

National climate plans and accountability

- ★ Incorporate children and youth participation in climate policy making and monitoring.
- ★ Enhance accountability for child-focused climate actions.

Climate finance

- ★ Allocate funds for the most vulnerable communities.
- ★ Support initiatives for children and youth.
- ★ Invest in adaptation.
- ★ Strengthen funding for Loss and Damage.
- ★ Improve transparency and accountability.

Mitigation and just transition for children

- ★ Create pathways to green jobs.
- ★ Focus on renewable energy and sustainable practices.
- ★ Expand and support community-led environmental initiatives.

1

Essential children's services in climate action

As the climate crisis deepens, children are among the most affected, especially in terms of access to vital services that support their growth, health, and education. Without dedicated support for essential services in climate policy, the long-term well-being of children is at risk.

Why this matters to COP29

Addressing essential children's services within climate action is critical for building resilient communities and safeguarding children's rights and futures. COP29 offers a unique platform to ensure that basic services like healthcare, education, food, and water infrastructure are integrated into national climate plans and international commitments. By prioritising these services, world leaders can directly improve the lives of children, who are often the most impacted by climate change. Focused, child-centred action at COP29 is not only a commitment to sustainable development but a moral imperative to protect children's fundamental rights in the face of an escalating climate crisis.

Key asks

Health – Prioritise climate resilience healthcare

Provide free healthcare for children affected by climate crises, with 24-hour health facilities with qualified medical staff and access to services focused on rising cases of malnutrition and climate-related diseases.

Senegal

66 Provide free health care for children who are victims of climatic phenomena with an adapted technical platform and dedicated staff 24 hours a day. **99**

Peru

66 Diseases such as dengue, bronchitis, and pneumonia are becoming more common. Malnutrition, food insecurity, and mental health issues are also on the rise. We need more healthcare centres and qualified medical staff to address our right to health. **99**

Sierra Leone

66 We call for enhancing health services. Strengthening healthcare systems will help mitigate the health impacts associated with climate change. **99**

New Zealand

66 Establish a global disaster response unit within the World Health Organisation (WHO) dedicated to providing medical aid to communities affected by Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)-related crises and alleviating the global shortage of IV fluids during disasters. **99**

Health – Prioritise mental health support

Implement sustainable counselling and therapy programs to help children cope with climate-related trauma and stress, offering safe platforms for expression and support.

Malawi

66 Offer sustainable counselling and therapy services to children that have been affected to cope with the trauma. **99**

Sierra Leone

66 Implement mental health support programs to address the psychosocial effects experienced by children due to climate-related stress. **99**

Denmark

66 Address the fear and concern among children about their future due to the climate crisis by providing mental health support and creating platforms for children to express their concerns and ideas. **99**

Philippines

66 Increase access to mental health resources for children affected by climate change impacts including natural disasters and environmental stressors. **99**

Education – Integrate climate education into school curricula

Ensuring children gain essential climate knowledge, resilience skills, and an understanding of sustainable practices. Programs should prioritize hands-on learning, fostering a generation equipped to address environmental challenges and advocate for community well-being.

Tanzania

66 We request that the Government should ensure climate education is embedded it into the school curriculum so that children are educated and informed at all school levels about how to protect themselves and participate in climate action initiatives. **99**

New Zealand

66 Integrate Indigenous sustainable agricultural practices into school curriculums, ensuring that traditional farming methods are taught to future generations. **99**

66 We call for the creation of educational programs focused on climate resilience and adaptation. **99**

Korea

66 For climate crisis education, transition from a theory-based, one-way teaching method to hands-on, participatory education that helps children recognize the climate crisis's impact on their lives (rights) and leads to active engagement in response activities. **99**

Pakistan

66 We, the children of Punjab urgently ask the government and leaders to take action against climate change which is harming our health, education and safety. **99**

Mozambique

66 Integrate environmental education into the national education system as a mechanism to contribute to climate literacy and promote good environmental practices. **99**

Malawi

66 We children in Malawi, urge government to integrate climate education into school curricula to empower us with knowledge and skills to combat environmental issues. **99**

Colombia

66 We want environmental education and climate change programs to be implemented in our schools, and we want to be able to participate in monitoring these programs. **99**

Niger

66 Institutionalize a national education program relating to the environment and development for children and young people in Niger. **99**

Nigeria

66 Start environmental clubs in schools to teach students about climate change and sustainability. **99**

Education – Create community-based programs that empower children to learn about and lead their own climate action initiatives from an early age

These initiatives should equip children with the skills to participate actively in climate action within their communities, fostering a sense of responsibility and empowerment in addressing environmental challenges.

Rwanda

66 Through eco-clubs, we started learning how to do smart agriculture, so we requested the government and its partners to build the capacity of other schools across Rwanda to cascade it to children as one of possible solutions to climate change. **99**

Kenya

6b We want county and partners to advocate for the revival of children driven initiatives such as 4K Clubs, Environmental clubs, and exchange programs debating on environmental and climate change topics. **99**

Nigeria

6b Launch a nationwide 'Green Schools' initiative, promoting sustainable practices, renewable energy, and environmental education in our schools. **99**

6b Establish a 'Climate Action Corps' program, engaging young Nigerians in tree planting, waste management, and community-led conservation efforts. **99**

6b Develop and implement a comprehensive 'Waste-to-Wealth' strategy, promoting recycling, composting, and sustainable waste management practices. **99**

Rwanda

6b We initiated an Oxygen Fund in our school. It enables us to implement activities to address climate change. We recommend the government to scale up the initiative to other schools across the country, for our peers to join efforts in addressing climate change. **99**

Somalia

6b We urge global leaders to invest in training and resources that empower us to lead climate action initiatives and represent our communities. **99**

Colombia

6b We want the budget for environmental education in our schools to be increased, because it's better to learn how to take care of the environment from a young age, to ensure a better future. **99**

Food and nutrition – Promote food security with climate smart agriculture

Invest in agricultural programs that enhance sustainable practices, improving food security and resilience in communities most affected by climate impacts. Initiatives should focus on supporting local farmers, promoting crop diversification, and implementing school feeding programs to combat malnutrition among children.

Sierra Leone

6b Promote climate-resilient agricultural practices and diversify crops to ensure food security and implement school feeding programs that provide children with essential nutrients to combat malnutrition. **99**

Philippines

6b Climate change impacts food security, which disrupts crop production. We are calling to provide funds and materials to farmers, support initiatives in the agriculture sector, and construct proper drainage and canals. **99**

Malawi

6b For conservation farming, we want you to promote crop rotation and other sustainable farming practices. **99**

Colombia

6b We want to learn how to create food security projects, especially in places where people have less food and money to buy it. **99**

Senegal

6b Strengthen food control and organize awareness campaigns on the challenges of healthy eating for children. **99**

Rwanda

6b The mudslides washed away our crops. So, we experienced shortage of food production which results in the lack of the contribution to school feeding. **99**

South Africa

66 Promote sustainable livelihoods: support businesses, industries, and communities in shifting their approaches to energy use, and sustainable development. **99**

New Zealand

66 Provide tax breaks for healthy foods such as fruits and vegetables and increase taxes on processed foods to incentivise healthier diets. **99**

Water and sanitation – Strengthen water infrastructure and safety measures

Enhance water infrastructure to ensure safe, reliable access to children, especially in vulnerable regions, and support water treatment initiatives to combat disease.

Philippines

66 Invest in infrastructure to monitor and clean recreational water. Ensuring safe access for children. **99**

New Zealand

66 Urge Global North countries to provide financial and technological assistance to regions heavily affected by water-borne diseases. This includes implementing groundwater pumps and creating wells to provide clean, safe drinking water. **99**

New Zealand

66 Advocate for investments in water infrastructure and funding mental health support in disaster-prone areas. **99**

Malawi

66 Government should construct more water infrastructure and more safe water treatment systems. **99**

Protection – Protect children from violence and exploitation amid climate displacement

Ensure that emergency relocation areas are safe and accessible to all children, with attention to their specific needs, such as mental health support, secure facilities, and inclusive services for vulnerable groups.

Tanzania

66 The Government, in collaboration with development partners, should ensure that children are protected and become safe in emergency relocation areas caused by climate change impacts. This includes improving access to essential social services targeting children, especially those with special needs. **99**

Colombia

66 We ask for more attention and special help to be given to places that suffer more from climate change and violence. We want each group of children to be looked at and helped differently, including indigenous and migrant children, so that we can all grow up in a healthy and peaceful environment. **99**

Kenya

66 Provide child friendly post-abuse psychosocial support, HIV testing and support services throughout the county to provide care and protection to children at risk or exposed to HIV. **99**

Philippines

66 Ensure that children are not exposed to harmful risks while still being part of safe, child-friendly Disaster Risk Reduction activities. **99**



2

National climate plans and accountability

National climate plans are critical tools for driving national climate action. Yet, around the world, children and youth are often excluded from the process of developing these plans, even though they will live with their consequences the longest. Children are calling for their meaningful participation in shaping the national climate plans to ensure these reflect the realities of their generation. Children also highlight the need for climate plans to be more inclusive, ambitious, and accountable. Their demands offer clear guidance on what these national plans must address to secure a safer future for all.

Why this matters for COP29

Policymakers must recognize the value of integrating children's voices into national climate strategies. By doing so, they can make Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Action Plans (NAPs) and other key policies not only more ambitious but also more inclusive and representative to the urgent needs of children today and tomorrow. As leaders meet at COP29, this is the moment to ensure that children are no longer sidelined but are active participants in the policies that shape their lives and futures.

Key asks

Incorporate child and youth participation in climate policy making and monitoring

Include children in public consultations and decision-making around climate policy, ensuring that climate strategies reflect their needs and voices.

Korea

66 Mandate child representation in policy-making processes related to climate crisis response. Children's experiences with climate impacts should be actively listened to and respected in decision-making. **99**

Colombia

66 We want governments to always listen to us and take us into account when updating all the NDCs in the world, because we believe that from childhood we can help make big changes in society. **99**

Sierra Leone

66 Policies should incorporate child-specific data when assessing climate risks. **99**

Rwanda

66 Children should be represented in international agreements aiming at finding solutions to climate change. **99**

Kenya

66 Encourage children participation in every aspect of planning and at all levels in the county i.e. County budgeting process. **99**

Mozambique

66 Include young people in the spaces and processes of decision-making, updating, monitoring, evaluating the implementation and reporting of the NDCs through public consultations and inclusive workshops with

young people and child protection organizations to incorporate their perspectives into the NDCs. 99

Pakistan

66 Our future is at stake, and we must be part of the decisions that shape it. 99

Tanzania

66 There must be meaningful engagement of children in the fight against climate change by involving us in the preparation of plans, policies, and representation in committees dealing with climate change. This will ensure that children's issues and voices are heard and prioritized in climate actions. 99

Philippines

66 Children, Indigenous Peoples (IPs), Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), and individuals identifying with diverse SOGIE (Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Expression) should be actively involved in discussions and actions. Their participation is critical in creating solutions that reflect their needs and priorities. 99

Peru

66 Include us in decision-making processes related to climate change. Children and adolescents deserve to exercise our right to participate, especially because we are the ones who suffer the most from the consequences of this environmental crisis. 99

Senegal

66 Include children in the development of the education for sustainable development program, in the reflections on the revision and development of strategic documents on climate change such as the second NDC and the just energy transition partnership, but above all the Horizon 2050 vision on climate change, which will affect generations of children. 99

Enhance accountability for child-focused climate actions

Regularly report on how NDC commitments are affecting children and their communities, maintaining transparency and accountability.

Colombia

66 We want to know how much progress we've made and what we can do better. 99

Mozambique

66 Track and report on the progress of climate and environment-related plans on an immediate basis. 99

Nigeria

66 Rising temperatures, illegal cutting of trees, improper waste management, and bush burning are all causing serious problems ... which can make it difficult for us to go to school, play, and stay healthy. 99

Denmark

66 Children are asking for transparency in what is being done about the climate crisis and how they can be part of the solution. 99

Peru

66 To create and promote effective public policies for climate change adaptation and mitigation, it is essential that these actions are implemented urgently to protect our future and that of future generations. 99

66 Establish monitoring groups made up of children and adolescents to address climate change. We also request the implementation of participatory forums to discuss and find solutions to this problem. 99

Senegal

66 The state must ensure responsible and transparent management of the intergenerational fund made up of part of the revenue from hydrocarbon exploitation, with a view to passing it on to future generations. 99



3

Climate finance

Without sufficient and targeted climate finance that prioritises the needs of children,² the world's most vulnerable communities—particularly children—will continue to bear the brunt of climate change. Children have made it clear: climate finance must be more accessible, with a focus on adaptation projects that protect children's rights, build resilient communities, and provide immediate and long-term safeguards from climate impacts. Child-responsive finance ensures resources are directed towards projects that genuinely address the unique experience and needs of children in the face of the climate crisis.

Why this matters for COP29

COP29 presents a crucial opportunity to shape the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance, ensuring funding reaches communities most affected by inequalities and discrimination. It is essential that policymakers prioritize adaptation, resilience, and child-centred initiatives, empowering children, and youth to lead in their communities. Leaders must commit to delivering on these financial promises, ensuring that resources are sufficient, transparent, and impactful.

Key asks

Allocate funds for the most vulnerable communities

Direct significant portions of climate finance to communities that bear the highest risks, particularly children on the frontlines of the climate crisis and those impacted by inequality and discrimination.

Colombia

66 We demand that resources be distributed fairly, to help the most vulnerable places and groups of people and the areas most affected by climate change, because we all deserve a better life and to have our rights respected. **99**

Somalia

66 Funding should be accessible, transparent, and directed towards initiatives that prioritise the needs of vulnerable communities, including

children and youth. We advocate for climate finance that supports equitable access to resources and a commitment to climate justice for a resilient future. **99**

Colombia

66 We want financial support for groups and organizations made up of children and adolescents and for those who are responsible for supporting children's participation. **99**

New Zealand

66 Create a global Climate Resilience fund that can be accessed by children and youth. And that a percentage of the fund must be spent on programs that directly include and or support children and youth. **99**

² To learn more about child-responsive climate finance, check out [Falling Short: Addressing the climate finance gap for children](#) | Save the Children's Resource Centre

Senegal

66 The state must immediately apply family grants to all families who are victims of flooding, coastal erosion, drought, etc. **99**

Korea

66 Increase support for vulnerable groups in the event of climate-related disasters. **99**

Haiti

66 The authorities must support farmers who have lost their crops due to flooding or drought. **99**

Support initiatives for children and youth

Children and young people are already taking action on climate change, leading grassroots initiatives, and advocating for change in their communities. Yet, they often lack the resources and platforms to scale their efforts. Children are demanding support for child and youth-led climate initiatives and greater representation in climate decision-making spaces with safe and meaningful platforms to make their voices heard.

Niger

66 Finance projects for young people and children to implement resilience actions. **99**

66 Create a legal framework favourable to the implementation of actions linked to the involvement of children and young people in climate action. **99**

South Africa

66 Support and empower youth-led climate initiatives, ensuring their voices are amplified in climate decision-making processes. **99**

Korea

66 Provide financial support for children's participation in climate crisis activities (e.g., transportation subsidies). **99**

Malawi

66 We're calling on the COP presidents, Malawi Government and Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) to establish dedicated, child-centred funding that prioritizes our needs. **99**

Mozambique

66 We children and young people seek to align our priorities for action against climate change with the goals set at national and international levels to ensure that our voices are heard, and our actions are supported. **99**

Colombia

66 We ask that the governments create projects that allow us to actively participate in our communities and that help us strengthen participation groups for children and adolescents. **99**

Invest in adaptation

Dedicate resources to renewable energy, climate resilient infrastructure, and sustainable practices to protect children and communities from climate impacts, ensuring a safer and healthier future.

Nigeria

66 Investing in climate-resilient infrastructure, such as flood barriers and water management systems, can enhance our preparedness and response to extreme weather events. **99**

Malawi

66 Enhance education infrastructure that withstand climate impacts to ensure that schools remain safe havens for learning. **99**

South Africa

66 Invest in climate-resilient infrastructure to lessen impact of climate shocks on communities. **99**

Somalia

66 We call on global leaders to invest in locally led adaptation and resilience projects that reflect the needs and voices of children and young people. **99**

New Zealand

66 We emphasise the need for increased contributions from Global North countries to support climate adaptation in the Global South. **99**

Madagascar

66 Scale up green and sustainable activities like reforestation, cultivation and gardening. **99**

Sierra Leone

66 Invest in resilient infrastructure. Build schools with resilience against extreme weather will ensure continuity in education. **99**

Senegal

66 Place children at the heart of reforestation actions at the school, community, and neighbourhood level green spaces. **99**

66 The state must initiate programs to sensitize adults on children's rights for a healthy environment. **99**

Niger

66 Increase and strengthen adaptation projects in the agriculture and livestock sectors. **99**

66 Advocate for parity in financing adaptation and mitigation. **99**

Strengthen funding for Loss and Damage³

Channel new and additional funds to address both irrecoverable losses and repairable damage caused by climate change and help communities recover from climate-related displacement, disasters, and infrastructure damage.

New Zealand

66 Establish a global wealth tax to support impoverished communities, fund sustainable WASH infrastructure, and ensure that Indigenous populations benefit from this redistribution. **99**

Malawi

66 We urgently need protection from climate-related disasters that threaten our safety, well-being, and future. **99**

New Zealand

66 Establish policies that prioritise the restoration and protection of Indigenous lands, promoting a reciprocal relationship between people and the environment. **99**

Somalia

66 We are witnessing the loss of homes, schools, and essential community spaces. We call on the international community to commit to loss and damage financing, ensuring that countries like Somalia can rebuild and protect future generations from irreversible harm. **99**

Niger

66 Advocate for access to loss and damage funds to be flexible and accessible with a viable and transparent procurement mechanism. **99**

Improve transparency and accountability

Ensure that climate finance distribution is transparent, with mechanisms that track, and report impacts on children facing inequalities and discrimination.

Niger

66 There is insufficient commitment to the annual financing of 100 billion US dollars. **99**

66 Require polluting countries to finance the planned USD 100 billion. **99**

South Africa

66 Strengthen Carbon Tax Payments: encourage companies to reduce emissions and support clean energy. **99**

³ To learn more about Loss and Damage and children's rights, check out [Loss and Damage Finance for Children | Save the Children's Resource Centre](#)



4

Mitigation and just transition for children

A fair and just transition to a green economy is essential for securing a sustainable future. Children are calling for a transition that protects their rights and provides access to education and training for green jobs. This is not just about shifting to clean energy—it is about ensuring that the transition is fair for all, including those most affected by climate change and economic inequality.

Why this matters for COP29

Children are advocating for a just transition to a green economy, calling for access to education on sustainability, green job creation, and policies that promote fair access to renewable energy. World leaders must ensure that the transition benefits everyone, especially children in communities impacted by inequalities and discrimination, by creating pathways to opportunities and protecting their rights.

Key asks

Create pathways to green jobs

Develop training programs in green sectors, like renewable energy and sustainable agriculture, equipping youth for future employment.

Mozambique

6b Create a practical capacity building platform in the area of agriculture for young people and youth civil society organizations, providing technical training and specialized knowledge necessary for the promotion of sustainable agriculture. **99**

6b Implement specific training programs for young people, enabling them to effectively practice climate law and contribute to the development of environmental policies. **99**

New Zealand

6b Provide educational opportunities around water sustainability, incorporating Indigenous practices. This aims to broaden career paths and increase awareness of sustainable WASH practices. **99**

Somalia

6b The climate training initiatives for Somali children and youth are an example of how such support can build future leaders ready to drive sustainable change. **99**

Korea

6b Climate education should be mandatory in schools and include various activities (e.g., job exploration, plogging, tree planting) to engage children in climate issues. **99**

Focus on renewable energy and sustainable practices

Increase investment in renewable energy and support sustainable practices that reduce environmental impact, creating healthier communities and securing a stable climate future.

Madagascar

6b Support the transition of households towards the use of renewable energies. **99**

6b Promote the use of renewable energy (solar) or the use of ecological stoves. **99**

Mozambique

6b The young people's demands include fair access to clean technologies, the creation of training programs in renewable energies and the implementation of policies that ensure the transition to a green economy, in line with Mozambique's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and the Paris Agreement. **99**

Haiti

6b Stop cutting down trees – instead of cutting them down, plant them up! **99**

6b There is too many factories emitting smoke. **99**

6b Increase the use of renewable energies. **99**

Nigeria

6b Promoting eco-friendly initiatives such as afforestation programs, waste recycling campaigns, and renewable energy projects can help mitigate the adverse effects of climate change and create a healthier environment for our children to thrive in. **99**

Denmark

6b We want more climate friendly means of transport, stricter rules for industries, and environmentally friendly fuel, energy sources, building materials. **99**

South Africa

6b Accelerate Renewable Energy Transition: invest in solar, wind turbines, and hydro powered systems to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. **99**

Nigeria

6b Invest in renewable energy: clean energy sources like solar and wind power, can reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and decrease greenhouse gas emissions. **99**

Expand and support community-led environmental initiatives

Empower communities to lead environmental action by fostering public awareness, promoting sustainable practices, and creating spaces for children's voices in climate discussions.

Korea

6b Launch public awareness campaigns encouraging collective action on the climate crisis. **99**

6b Establish community forums where children can share opinions and ideas on local climate issues. **99**

Malawi

6b Reinstate orchards in schools to provide fruit supplements to school going children and woodlots. **99**

6b Institute child safeguarding by-laws in camps. **99**

Philippines

6b Develop a nationwide awareness campaign, promoting both Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and the overall health and well-being of children. **99**

A global call to action

The voices of children from around the world carry a shared message of urgency and hope. As the generation already living with the consequences of climate inaction, children are calling for immediate and ambitious action to address the climate crisis. COP29 offers an opportunity for world leaders to not only listen but to act on these demands.

By integrating children's voices into climate policies, agreements, and finance, we can ensure a more equitable and sustainable future for all. Let the message from the world's children inspire meaningful commitments at COP29 and beyond.





Annex: The childhood cost of climate change

Children from the countries who ran COP Simulations supported by Save the Children are all experiencing the impacts of climate change differently, and they want to make sure everyone at COP29 understands their realities. It is essential for policymakers, advocates and thought leaders to acknowledge these diverse experiences. By doing so, one can fully grasp why children are calling for urgent, immediate action. This section serves as a critical reminder: effective climate action must reflect the lived experiences of children across all regions.

Colombia

Children report that deforestation and pollution are disrupting access to clean water and impacting local food systems in their communities. They also note an increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, including droughts, floods, and landslides.

Denmark

Danish children expressed anxiety over their future, as climate-related extreme weather makes them feel unsafe and unheard. They voiced confusion about government action and concern about the effectiveness of policies meant to protect their rights to a healthy environment.

Haiti

Severe droughts and food scarcity impact children's nutrition, health, and safety. The increase in pollution from local vetiver factory smoke and deforestation directly endangers their right to a safe and healthy environment.

Kenya

Children endure climate-driven water scarcity, extreme drought, and poverty leading to malnutrition, health challenges, and educational disruption. Many must leave school to find food and water, face early marriage, and experience increased risks of labour and violence due to displacement and socioeconomic stress.

Korea

Frequent torrential rains and rising fine dust levels in Korea restrict outdoor activities, affecting children's right to play and access to a safe environment.

Increased pest populations and damage to orchards from heavy rains further disrupt daily life, impacting food availability and safety.

Madagascar

Frequent cyclones and deforestation impact children's access to clean water, energy, and food security. The ongoing environmental destruction disrupts their schooling and exposes them to health risks, affecting their ability to live in a safe and healthy environment.

Malawi

The impact of climate change on children in Malawi is severe, marked by increased orphanhood from deadly cyclones, forced displacement due to floods, and rising malnutrition linked to food insecurity. Children struggle with access to education as schools become evacuation centres and face mental health challenges from trauma and social instability.

Mozambique

Extreme weather events like cyclones threaten children's homes and schools, making it harder to access education and creating an unsafe environment. Rising temperatures and erratic weather patterns have affected agriculture, risking food security for children.

New Zealand

Children face increased risks to safe water, housing, food security and health from environmental changes. Extreme weather events compromise sanitation and access to clean drinking water, while disrupting education systems and changing agricultural conditions which endangers food stability.

Niger

In Niger children face severe climate threats like extreme heat, droughts, and floods, endangering their rights to water, health and education.

Nigeria

Frequent flooding in Nigeria displaces families, disrupts schooling, and causes severe food shortages. Children are losing access to stable shelter and resources, threatening their right to security and protection.

Pakistan

Across Pakistan, children are enduring severe climate impacts; heavy smog and extreme heatwaves in Punjab, flash floods and droughts in Balochistan, erratic monsoon and food shortages in Sindh, and glacial lake outburst floods and prolonged droughts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. These challenges jeopardise children's health, disrupt education, and increase their vulnerability to climate shocks.

Peru

Children in Peru are facing a rise in health issues like dengue and respiratory diseases due to rising temperatures and severe flooding. These impacts disrupt their education and access to healthcare, putting their rights to health, safety, and recreation at risk.

Philippines

Climate-related disasters disrupt children's access to education, health, and safety. Vulnerable communities, including Indigenous Peoples and marginalised groups face increased challenges, including food insecurity and limited resources to manage climate crisis.

Rwanda

Heavy rains and mudslides damage crops, causing food shortages and affect school meals programs. Children are experiencing food insecurity and disruption to their education due to the climate's impact on local agriculture.

Senegal

Heat waves, floods, salinisation of the soil and drought are limiting the realisation of children's rights to education, health, and protection from malnutrition, as well as their right to a healthy environment. The recent floods have intensified these risks, jeopardising children's access to essential rights and services.

Sierra Leone

Climate change disrupts children's health, education, and food security. Flooding damages school infrastructure and restricts access in river communities, while increasing temperature and erratic rainfall elevate health risks from diseases like malaria and cholera.

Somalia

Children and youth face dire climate impacts daily, from drought induced food insecurity to the destruction of homes and community spaces. This fragile environment deprives them of safe schools, essential resources, and stability.

South Africa

Children are experiencing severe impacts from climate change, from malnutrition due to disrupted agriculture and contaminated water, to the trauma of displacement that strips them of essential rights like education, healthcare, and community support. Economic strain often leads to child labour and, in some cases, child marriage, as families struggle to survive. Additionally, extreme weather events exacerbate respiratory illnesses, worsening children's health, and well-being.

Tanzania

Tanzanian children report increased violence, health issues, and disruptions to education due to climate change, alongside limited access to clean water and nutritious food. Climate-related disasters destroy critical infrastructure like schools and bridges, forcing some children to relocate far from essential services, where they face harassment risks on their way to school and markets.