



Black Eco Bloom COP27: Blooming Without Boundaries

Advocacy for Accountability &
Climate Justice

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black eco bloom

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Climate Action Goes Hand-in-hand With Environmental Justice

Women are more likely to face the physical impacts of climate breakdown while at the same time being subjected to gender-based violence. BIPOC communities, worldwide, are on the front lines of the climate crisis as climate change continues to devastate the Global South.

Vulnerabilities to climate change fall starkly along racial lines. The current global power dynamic makes climate change a matter of inequity. The

people who make-up the world's most vulnerable communities are disproportionately Black, Indigenous and people of color. Women, youth, LGBTQIA2S+ individuals, people with disabilities, and climate migrants are among the many people who hold intersecting identities within these communities.

It is critical to address the failure of the existing system to be responsive to universal human needs. Those oppressed most by the system should be provided with protection and support in order to adequately respond to the unjust effects of climate disasters. World leaders must fulfill their responsibilities and act in the collective interest of all.

Attempting to understand the consequences of climate change from a distance, that is without lived experience, can pose a major obstacle to fruitful negotiations. COP spaces must recognize the value of front-line communities' lived experiences and their contribution to sustainable transformations including Indigenous knowledge which can co-exist with academic research and scientific findings. Accordingly, BEB advocates for a mindset shift that includes those who have been left out, all while suffering the consequences of the status quo, towards a system of knowledge that is both inclusive and transformative.

We call for a radical change in global climate efforts. We demand accountability in the form of policies, regulations and financing geared toward increasing the resilience, adaptability and reduction of vulnerabilities for populations disproportionately affected by climate change.

During COP27, all discussions and solutions proposed must acknowledge the colonial and patriarchal systems that have resulted in gaps in resources

and funding for countries in the Global South and Global communities of the African Black diaspora. It is imperative that developing countries have a reliable and adequate financing system. This will enable them to cope with the **loss and damage** caused by catastrophes exacerbated by climate change. Countries from the Global South should not accumulate any debt under this financial mechanism. BEB believes that these financial mechanisms must involve the active participation of BIPOC communities and vulnerable populations.



The Colonial Legacy Bill is Due: Wealthy Countries Must Meet Their Financial Climate Obligations

Those wealthy countries whose economic wealth is derived from the abuse of lands, biodiversity,

ecosystems, people and indigenous nations now owe climate and environmental debts.

During the African COP in Egypt, we call on world leaders to render decisions on Loss & Damage that favor those disproportionately affected by climate change. COP27 and the following COPs must make reparations for Loss & Damage a top priority. The establishment of an advisory body for Loss & Damage must be among the outcomes of this "Climate Justice" COP.

Historically, responsible polluters have a moral obligation to pay a share of the mitigation and adaptation costs and address the loss and damage resulting from their activities. Climate adaptation costs and demands are increasing, and are now greater than the capacity of the existing international adaptation finance flow to bear. It is imperative that the climate financial system recognizes and addresses the financial burden placed on vulnerable communities disproportionately affected by climate change. Currently, there are no financial mechanisms that are appropriately designed to respond to the impact of Loss & Damage and to reflect climate justice principles for the developing world.

Developing countries should not be denied debt-free financial assistance for mitigation and adaptation plans nor the funds to respond to past loss and damage.

Adaptation

Adaptation is intrinsically linked to the vulnerability and resilience of communities. Climate change alters the ways communities are able to cope with disruptions in supply chain, food production, healthcare, safety, clean water and quality of life. A deep understanding and consideration of the ways in which vulnerable communities will need to adapt is critical in order to make any meaningful change.

By delaying adaptation plans, the cost of loss & damage only increases, and as a result the financial burden and health challenges for frontline communities increases.



Black Eco Bloom Demands

1. Climate Justice & Gender Equality

Climate Justice for Black Eco Bloom means the meaningful inclusion and engagement of Black, Indigenous & Women of Colour as necessary contributors to the climate & environmental action space.

In order to achieve a transformational response to climate change, fundamental and structural inequalities in mainstream environmentalism must be addressed.

Vulnerable individuals & communities, such as the communities of the **African Black diaspora** living on the frontlines must directly benefit from climate solutions while meaningfully participating in the creation of these solutions.

2. Power Shift

Climate advisory bodies must ensure that they are inclusive of Black individuals of the diaspora and other marginalized communities by increasing the representation of populations most affected by climate change in **climate governance**.

A **power shift** is necessary to alter systems of oppression and create **systems of empowerment**. Current institutions are ill-equipped to hold space for diverse communities and experiences.

3. Finance

We must end the exploitative and colonial debt-cycle for countries of the Global South. A new grant-based financing system for loss & damage must be established under the UNFCCC financial mechanism that is independent of adaptation and mitigation funding

The Bretton Woods institutions, including the World Bank and IMF, have trapped vulnerable countries in a debt cycle that is exploitative and counterproductive to creating resilience to climate change.

4. A Community-Driven Approach

A climate resilient world begins on the front line and with the local communities, who are most often Black, Indigenous, communities of color and low-income communities; those who need to implement their own solutions and experience climate change's earliest and most dire effects. As part of a fair, equitable and sustainable adaptation and mitigation [loss & damage] action plan, we demand that our communities' needs be at the heart of solution-building and conceptualizing.

