



Climate Change Bill Consultation Process
Presentation to the Portfolio Committee on Environment
Forestry & Fisheries | 30 May 2023

OXFAM SOUTH AFRICA SUBMISSION

Oxfam South Africa works with marginalized communities to challenge and transform systems that perpetuate poverty and inequality in Southern Africa



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KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Free Prior and Informed Consent – The Bill should empathize:

- Principle of subsidiarity: climate planning and decision-making should be taken as closely as possible to citizens, beyond public participation
- Social accountability should be understood as a participatory process in which citizens are enabled to hold politicians, policy makers, and public officials accountable for the services they provide through formalized mechanisms

Independent grievance resolution mechanisms - The Bill should:

- Establish mechanisms for addressing grievances raised by Communities as transparency of the processes, fairness and adequate compensation, income restoration, security of the tenure etc...

Devolved Climate Finance Mechanisms – The Bill should:

- Empathize the participation of civil society and communities in climate finance accountability processes and climate-related finance governance; monitor the use of climate finance through access to information;
- Envisage that South African government assists communities in capacity building on climate finance planning and the implementation of green projects.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) - The Bill should (section -10):

- Take into account the need for gender parity at all levels of decision making and operations of the statutory bodies
- Mainstreaming gender across the Bill; A gender and community-based approach to drafting the climate response plan should be highlighted
- Acknowledge and consider the specific gender needs of both men and women at all levels of planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation;
- Incorporate gender responsive budgeting to ensure that system change does not exacerbate the already dire gendered poverty, inequality and employment indicators

Service delivery - The Bill should:

- Provide guidance about how allocations out of the National Revenue Fund are processed to respond to increased demand for financial provision on an equity scale/needs assessment basis.
- Clarify better how a cooperative governance principle (as stated) would allow an effective climate change response by defining accountability systems between the different levels of Government and within the same level (among Departments)

Loss and damage - the Bill should:

- Prioritize investments in smart climate agriculture and – more in general - prioritize the establishment for provisions for loss and damage

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Workers' rights – The Bill should:

- Define a pathway for a deeper conversation between citizens, government and the private sector (social compacting) for addressing worker's rights issues as a consequence of new climate investments

Investing in DRR and climate sustainable resilience – The Bill should:

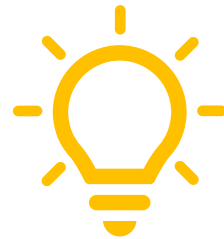
- Provide a pathway for investment in people-centered risk reduction initiatives at local level. (including community-based anticipatory actions, Eco-system based DRR and climate resilient infrastructures and disaster preparedness as key steps of addressing the climate crisis
- Apply the “no one is left behind” principle as the guiding principle for the development of the Local Integrated Development Plan and Local Risks Management Plan

Climate Displacement – The Bill should:

- Better consider the cascading effects of climate displacement on the life of a person and community

The urban climate crisis - The Bill should:

- Give greater attention to the impending urban climate crisis, which is turning into “acute” complex emergency from which people are unable to recover.



DISCUSSION & QUESTIONS



FOR MORE INFORMATION
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