

**GREENER
FAIRER
FUTURE
NOW**



Photo: Shutterstock.co

**CLIMATE CAMPAIGN
ACTION GUIDE**



OXFAM

WHY ARE WE CAMPAIGNING?

Climate change is threatening humankind. Extreme weather is wrecking lives, homes and livelihoods, and pushing people deeper into poverty. While the climate crisis is affecting us all, it's hitting some communities worse—and it's the people who've done the least to cause it who're suffering the most.

People facing poverty often don't have access to the support needed to survive and recover from extreme weather, such as clean water on tap during a drought, or house insurance to help rebuild after homes are destroyed by floods. And many rely on growing their own crops for food or to sell, with no back-up when crops fail due to unpredictable weather.

It's an injustice that our ability to cope with the climate crisis is based on where we live, what resources we have available, and what part of society we belong to. For instance, many rural and indigenous communities around the world rely heavily on natural resources which are hit by the rapidly changing climate – crops aren't growing, and rain isn't falling. And there's often little recognition or support for these communities by the authorities, meaning they're left facing extreme vulnerability as they struggle to find ways to survive.

What's more, the unfair expectations that women face mean they're the ones more likely to go hungry when food is short, and to fall back on unsafe work when harvests fail. They're likely to be the ones walking further to collect water when it's scarce during more frequent and harsher droughts, often at risk to their own safety.

It is not too late to avoid the worst effects of climate change – but we must take urgent action now. Individuals and communities in the UK play a key role in holding our government to account, and pushing for a fairer more sustainable future where everyone has the tools they need to survive and thrive. COP26, this year's UN climate summit in Glasgow, is a crucial make or break moment for global leaders to take decisive action – to urgently reduce global emissions and significantly increase finance to support the communities feeling the worst effects of the climate crisis.

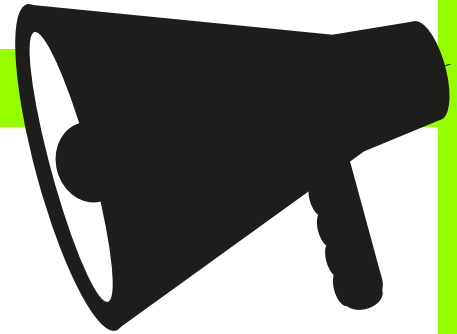
WHAT ARE WE CALLING FOR?

We are calling on the UK government to:

DO THE RIGHT THING AT HOME: Take urgent action to reduce the UK's carbon emissions, including reversing the decisions to build a new coal mine in Cumbria and to license new oil and gas exploration in the North Sea, and reversing the cuts to international aid that will mean more people trapped in poverty and more people left vulnerable to the climate crisis.

PUSH OTHER NATIONS TO DO BETTER: As hosts of COP26, call on all countries to commit to their fair share of emission reductions to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C by 2030. Rich countries with the greatest responsibility for causing the climate crisis and the greatest capacity to act need to go furthest fastest.

INCREASE FUNDS TO HELP PEOPLE COPE WITH THE CLIMATE CRISIS: Leading by example, call on all rich country governments, to significantly and urgently increase finance to communities being pushed deeper into poverty by the climate crisis.



SIGN THE PETITION AT [OXFAM.ORG.UK/COP26](https://oxfam.org.uk/cop26)

March For Climate Justice

Join people across the world in our global virtual march for climate justice, as we build up the pressure on our governments ahead of COP26, the crucial UN climate summit in Glasgow this November.

We have a huge opportunity to do what it takes - right now in 2021 - to keep the vital goal of 1.5 degrees celcius within reach.

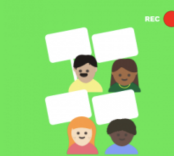
Join us by uploading a photo or video of you and your placard.

WORLD CLIMATE MARCH

Join our digital
march to the **COP26**
UN Climate Summit



WHAT WE ARE ASKING YOU TO DO



1

JOIN THE
MARCH
↑↑↑



2

UPLOAD
YOUR
PHOTO OR
VIDEO
↓↓↓



3

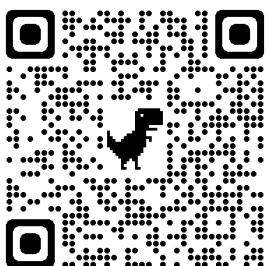
SHARE
WITH
YOUR
FRIENDS
!

Participate by making a 30 second video of you marching, take a photo with a placard or use a video/photo of yourself at a climate march you joined before. Share it on social media with the hashtag #WorldClimateMarch

Upload the video or photos at

worldclimatemarch.org

Your submissions will be displayed on the website and could be displayed on the streets of Glasgow during COP26. Let's make our voices heard.



IF WE DON'T CREATE CHANGE NOW, THEN WHEN?



#WORLDCLIMATEMARCH #WORLDCLIMATEMARCH #WORLDCLIMATEMARCH #WO

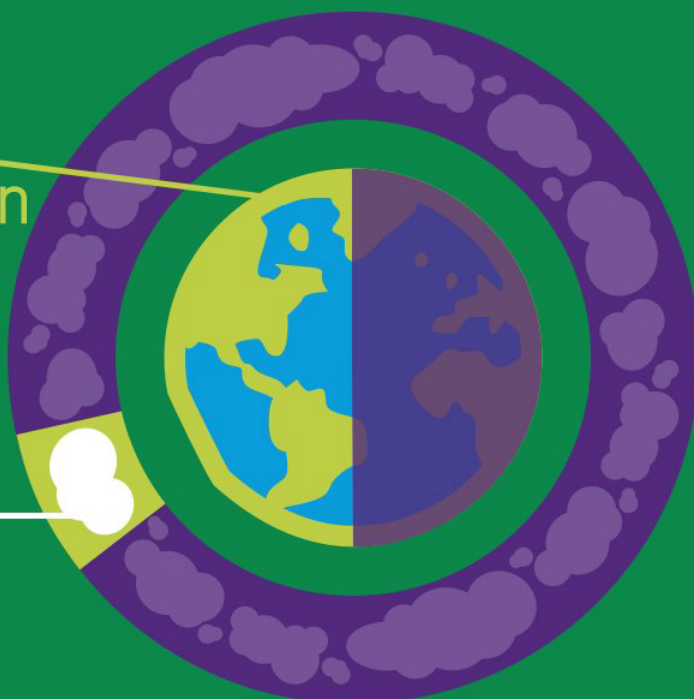
CLIMATE JUSTICE

We're all experiencing the effects of climate change, but it's an injustice that the people who have contributed the least to climate change often suffer the worst impacts and often have less say in decisions that affect them, due to their lack of economic power.

Climate justice is about asking governments to take a fair share of the action: recognising that countries have contributed different amounts to the problem, have different amount of resources (money) at their disposal to address the problem, and therefore action should be proportionate to these things.

Overall UK emissions are still well above what is sustainable, and we are among the world's biggest emitters, so our Government has one of the biggest parts to play in cutting global emissions, and financially supporting countries and communities most vulnerable to impacts of climate change to cope and adapt.

The **POOREST HALF** of
the world's population
—3.1 billion people—
is responsible for
just **SEVEN PERCENT**
of carbon emissions.



Based on cumulative emissions between 1990 and 2015

POVERTY AND LACK OF RESOURCES: People facing poverty often don't have access to the tools needed to survive and recover from increasingly extreme and unpredictable weather (e.g. house insurance to help rebuild after homes are destroyed by floods, clean water on tap during a drought, irrigation systems for farmland), and many rely on growing their own crops for food or to sell, with no back-up when crops fail.

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN: The unfair expectations that women face mean they're more likely to go hungry when food is short, and to fall back on unsafe work when harvests fail. They're likely to be the ones walking further to collect water when it is made scarce by more frequent and harsher droughts, often at risk to their own safety.

MINORITY OR MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES: Many communities around the world rely heavily on natural resources – rural and indigenous communities in particular. The supply of these resources is being hit by the rapidly changing climate – crops aren't growing, and rain isn't falling. And there is often little recognition or support for these communities by the authorities, meaning they are left facing extreme vulnerability as they struggle to find ways to survive.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been a crisis on top of a crisis for many communities who were already seeing their lives and livelihoods devastated by the climate crisis.



COP26 – NOVEMBER 2021 – GLASGOW

COP (Conference of Parties) is the the UN's annual climate change summit bringing together nearly 200 countries under the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The 26th COP summit will be hosted by the UK in Glasgow in November 2021. It will be the most significant summit since 2015 and the landmark Paris Agreement where countries committed to keep global warming to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, and to pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5°C. Paris was a great start, now we need to urgently push for more ambitious commitments and concrete action to reduce emissions and provide funding needed to ensure a fairer future for everyone.

The UK has taken the right steps domestically on global issues of significance in relation to the COP (NDC ambition and climate finance) but the UK's record and credibility is undermined by the decision to allow a new coal mine in Cumbria (currently being reviewed) and the recent decision to allow new licences for oil and gas exploration in the North Sea. Additionally UK aid cuts have damaged the UK's standing on the world stage and trust of developing countries, both of which a crucial to negotiating a successful COP outcome as President.

The eyes of the world will be on Glasgow – as hosts of the summit, the UK Government must honour their responsibility to secure ambitious commitments that will limit global warming and deliver the funding that communities on the frontlines of the crisis desperately need.

They must do everything they can to ensure this COP is a success.

AS THE YOUTH, WE ARE THE FUTURE OF THE WORLD

In 2019, Malawian school students and climate activists Jessy and Isaac travelled to London with Send My Friend To School, with the support of Oxfam. They shared their personal experiences of climate change with UK school students and addressed activists gathered in London to protest against climate change.

In March 2021, writer James Chavula and photographer Thoko Chikondi caught up with them and their families at home in Malawi, to see how they continue their activism.

Here, Jessy tells her story, with James.

CLIMATE CHANGE AFFECTS US A LOT

Crops dry before they mature because we receive too little rainfall. Since the rains stop before our crops are ready for harvesting, we experience hunger every year.

People in Nsanje District are displaced by flooding every year. Teachers cannot teach because they are thinking about their destroyed homes and what they are going to feed their children. I failed to go to school because my parents couldn't pay school fees every time crops did not do well.

We eat nsima [a sort of corn porridge] as lunch and supper. Most people grow maize, groundnuts and soya beans. We use maize flour to make nsima and usually sell the other crops to buy extra food and other basic needs. Families like mine sell the surplus [crop] to send children to school. If we harvest too little, we have nothing to sell.

"MOST FAMILIES IN MALAWI HAVE NO MEANS TO SUPPORT THEMSELVES AND IMPROVE THEIR LIVELIHOODS. THEY DEPEND ON FARMING, BUT CROPS DON'T DO WELL DUE TO A CHANGING WEATHER PATTERN. THIS WORSENS HUNGER AND POVERTY."

When we are hit hard, they have to choose between sending a boy or a girl to school. The boy child wins because it is our culture. Many Malawians think that a girl child is less important than a boy, so they send a boy to school and leave girls to do household chores or marry young. I feel sad because boys and girls are equal. Both can change the world if they are given a chance to learn.



Credit: Thoko Chikondi

OUR LEADERS ARE NOT DOING A GOOD JOB

They don't realise the impact of climate change that my community and I are experiencing. Poor countries are paying a huge price for massive emissions from wealthy nations. Maybe our leaders need civic education to become aware of the harsh effects of climate change and start doing something about it.

"WE WON'T OVERCOME CHALLENGES CAUSED BY CLIMATE CHANGE IF LEADERS CONTINUE TO JUST TALK ABOUT IT INSTEAD OF TAKING DECISIVE ACTION TO MAKE THE PLANET A BETTER PLACE FOR EVERYONE, EVEN THE UNBORN."

It is very important for us to demand action so that we can have a good environment and a fair place for us.

I felt great [when I learnt that Isaac and I had been selected to go to London]. That's when I realised that I am part of a youth movement that can bring change to the world. For a person like me to stand in public and talk about the effects of climate change on my country, it wasn't easy. I realised that even young people can speak their mind and change the world. The trip has changed my life.

"I HAVE SELF-CONFIDENCE AND I CAN SPEAK TO ANYONE ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE. IF I SEE SOMEONE DESTROYING THE ENVIRONMENT, I TELL THEM TO STOP IT. WHEN I MEET FELLOW YOUNG PEOPLE, I ENCOURAGE THEM TO AMPLIFY THEIR VOICE."

I want many young Malawians to take part in the movement. I want to continue campaigning for climate action because I am thinking about generations to come. I want to fight for them to have a better place. I realize that the good thing I want, someone else is also looking for it. It's a good thing to fight for them to have a good thing as well.

READ THE FULL BLOG: [OXFAM.ORG.UK/OXFAM-IN-ACTION/OXFAM-BLOG](https://oxfam.org.uk/oxfam-in-action/oxfam-blog)

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