

Quarterly Advocacy Newsletter

EMPOWERING VOICES
DRIVING CHANGE
October 2025



Youth Lead the Charge for Climate Justice! 🌱

Youth Empowerment in Action: From Local Impact to Global Influence 🌍

Across Ethiopia, young people are taking the lead in the fight against climate change. During the Global Climate Action Week in Genja Cluster, youth and marginalized groups united to raise awareness on climate responsibility and environmental protection. The event featured a tree-planting campaign, educational workshops on eco-friendly lifestyles, and a vibrant photo exhibition celebrating youth activism. This youth-led movement demonstrated that when empowered, young people are not just participants they are catalysts for sustainable community transformation. Their leadership underscores ActionAid Ethiopia's commitment to fostering youth-driven climate resilience and environmental stewardship.

In Addis Ababa and across LRPs (Local right program), youth took center stage during International Youth Day 2025 under the theme **"Local Youth Actions for the SDGs and Beyond."**

- In Semen Bench, 200+ young people planted indigenous trees and led SDG awareness campaigns.
- In Ameya, 241 youths engaged in volunteerism and advocacy against gender-based violence through art and dialogue.



In this newsletter you can expect:

Youth Empowerment

Women Empowerment

Collective Actions

Economic Justice

Finance for Development

ActionAid's participation in Africa Climate Summit II



Youth Empowerment in Action: From Local Impact to Global Influence 🌍

In Guna, youth supported 1,845 students with school materials and assisted elders through solidarity initiatives.

These collective actions showcased how youth are bridging local activism with global development goals, proving that inclusive progress begins at the grassroots.



Women's Voices Transforming Communities 🌸

Through the Women's Rights Program (WRP-III) in Semen Bench, women are moving from literacy to leadership. Functional adult education has become a tool for advocacy; enabling women to challenge harmful practices, lead violence prevention efforts, and participate actively in community decision-making. By working through local structures such as Idirs and religious institutions, ActionAid and its partners are strengthening gender-sensitive governance and creating spaces where women's voices drive social change.



Collective Action Against Harmful Practices 🖐️

In Elfeta LRP, communities stood united against Harmful Traditional Practices and Violence Against Women and Girls. Supported by students, women's groups, volunteers, and local authorities, this initiative sent a powerful message: cultural justifications can never excuse harm.

Through community dialogue, advocacy, and education, the movement is shifting mindsets and building momentum toward safer, more equitable societies.

Advocating for Economic Justice: Rethinking Financing for Development 💬

ActionAid Ethiopia convened a high-level Advocacy Dialogue on Alternative Financing for Development, bringing together civil society, academics, and government representatives to tackle structural inequalities, debt crises, and shrinking public budgets.

Key advocacy outcomes included calls for:

- Progressive tax reforms and gender-responsive budgeting
- Debt cancellation and financial justice for Global South countries
- CSO collaboration to counter restrictive aid policies
- Greater public accountability in domestic resource use
- Participants echoed a shared conviction: advocacy is not just influence it's a form of resistance and renewal. As one closing remark stated, "We're not here only to serve; we are here to awaken."

ActionAid Ethiopia at the African Climate Summit II: Championing Green Jobs and Youth Leadership for Climate Justice



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The Africa Climate Summit II (ACS II) in Addis Ababa served as a highly impactful advocacy platform for ActionAid Ethiopia and other ActionAid Africa countries, amplifying their collective voice on climate justice, gender equality, and just transitions.

Through active participation in key clusters including gender, youth, agroecology, and resource mobilization ActionAid showcased African-led solutions and influenced critical policy dialogues around climate finance, agroecology, and feminist leadership. Events such as the Gender Day, youth-focused side sessions, and the agroecology exhibition elevated the visibility of women, young people, and grassroots communities, demonstrating ActionAid's commitment to inclusive, rights-based climate advocacy. Collaborative engagements with partners like Oxfam, FEMNET, and Equal Rights strengthened regional alliances and positioned ActionAid as a credible leader in shaping equitable climate narratives.



The overall, the summit significantly enhanced ActionAid's visibility, credibility, and coordination across its African programs. It fostered meaningful partnerships with policymakers, CSOs, and development actors, driving momentum for Africa-centered climate solutions. The strong participation of women and youth, coupled with strategic policy engagement, reinforced ActionAid's mission to link local realities with global advocacy. Despite logistical challenges such as translation and material preparation, the engagement demonstrated the power of collective advocacy in influencing regional climate agendas and advancing ActionAid's vision for social and climate justice across the continent.

For more information on our impactful work, please use the following channels:

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A Few Notes To Remember

This participation reaffirmed ActionAid Ethiopia's leadership in regional advocacy, connecting grassroots climate action with policy influence at continental level. The side events also strengthened AAE's visibility as a trusted voice for youth empowerment, economic justice, and climate resilience in Africa.

Looking Ahead

As we close this quarter, ActionAid Ethiopia remains steadfast in amplifying the voices of those most affected by inequality. From youth mobilization to women's empowerment and fiscal justice advocacy, our collective efforts are shaping a more just, resilient Ethiopia. Together, we advocate not just for change, but for transformation!

#AdvocacyForJustice
 #YouthLeadChange
 #ActionAidEthiopia