Why is Climate Justice ActionAid’s Policy Agenda?

Climate Change is a “broad range of global phenomena created predominantly by burning fossil fuels, which add heat-trapping gases to Earth’s atmosphere. Climate change threatens and exposes people to food and water scarcity, increased flooding, extreme heat disease, and economic loss and as a result leads to human migration, conflict, and undignified life. Women and girls are among the most impacted with the climate change exacerbating existing power inequalities.

Countries and communities that have done the least to cause the climate problem are the ones facing the worst impacts. It is therefore urgent that the world not only stops future climate change, but also protects the lives and livelihoods of people in the Global South who are already suffering because of the climate change. Climate Justice is one of programme priorities (Priority 3) of ActionAid Ethiopia which reads ‘Strengthen Rights to Resilient Livelihoods and Promote Climate Justice’.

ActionAid’s Climate Justice intervention

- Recognizes the disproportionate impacts of climate change on low income communities and disadvantaged communities around the world, the people and places least responsible for the problem.
- Seeks solutions that address the root causes of climate change and in doing so, simultaneously address a broad range of social, racial, and environmental injustices.
- Links human rights and development to achieve a human-centered approach.
- Recognizes the climate crisis as a social, political, economic as well as an environmental problem.
- Recognizes the vicious circle that connects Climate Crises and Debt Crises our country is swamped in.
What can we do about it?

- Ensuring representation, inclusion, and protection of the rights of the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

- Promote equity, assure access to basic resources, and ensure that young people/children can live, learn, play, and work in healthy and clean environments.

- Campaigning and advocating through strengthened collective voice and action of the community, civil society, including social movements.

- Building the community resilience and Adaptation through practicing Agroecology and different adaptation techniques. This will support local communities in developing their own solutions and allow them to benefit directly from local climate action and moderate potential damages of climate change.

- Climate Change Education and Engagement helps people understand and address the impacts of the climate crisis, empowering them with the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes needed to act as agents of the change.

- Advocate for Redirecting Funds Away from Fossil Fuel to Renewable Energy; Away from Loans and to increased and sustainable grants

- Advocate for Agroecology Practice and not Industrial Agriculture!