

**Session Title: Aligning Public Finance to 1.5C and A Just Energy Transition for Africa**

**Date: 12th November, 2022**

**Time: 11.30-13.00**

**Venue** **Akhenaten*, Blue Zone, COP27***

**Background**

During COP26 at the end of 2021, 34 governments and 5 international financial institutions signed a statement to stop supporting fossil fuel projects by the end of 2022 and increase their public finance for a clean energy transition. This has been the result of years of campaigning by many CSOs around the world. Public finance plays a major role in enabling fossil projects to go ahead. Although governments promised to stop with fossil finance abroad by the end of 2022 at Glasgow, few have actually taken steps to do so. In 2022, there was a call to ensure the COP26 statement was implemented with integrity. Moreover, the success that has been achieved in Glasgow, due to CSOs’ concerted efforts, has generated a pushback from industry and conservative political forces. For example, over the past months we have seen a growing number of media spins by industry/ governments, pushing for policy exceptions in relation to the Glasgow statement so as to ensure that fossil support towards Africa can still take place, framing this as a development need. Debunking this development myth has called for a solid and broad unified response from civil society in the global South.

With COP27 hosted on the African continent (Sharm-El-Sheikh, Egypt) there is an opportunity to get more countries to sign-on to the COP26 Statement and increase pressure on national governments and financial institutions to stop (financing) expansion of current or near-future fossil fuel projects, such as the Mozambique LNG project, the EACOP pipeline and Offshore Cape Three Points. This event will provide insights from different countries—including Ghana, Uganda, South Africa and Kenya—with speakers taking a close look at the trends, challenges, and opportunities associated with ending fossil fuels, as well as the avenues to support the energy transition.

**Speakers**

• Moderator: Mrs. Portia Adu-Mensah, National Coordinator, 350 Ghana Reducing Our Carbon (350 GROC)

•Mr. Samuel Okulony, CEO, Environmental Governance Institute (EGI), Uganda

• Mr. Kenneth Nana Amoateng, Chief Executive Officer, AbibiNsroma Foundation, Ghana

• Ms. Charity Migwi, Africa Regional Campaigner, 350.org, Kenya

•Thando Lukuko, Coordinator, Climate Action Network, South Africa

• Mr. Musa F. Sowe, National Alliance for Agroecology, The Gambia

**Session agenda and running order**

1. Welcome Address and Opening remarks – Richard Matey **[5 mins]**

2. Introduction of Moderator

3. Introduction of Panel members – Moderator **[5 mins]**

4. First Round of Statements/ Background Context [25 mins]

1. Mr. Musa F. Sowe (Introduction on impacts of climate change in Africa) **5 min**
2. Thando Lukuko (Work of financiers and impact of LNG projects in South Africa) **5 min**
3. Samuel (Presentation on EACOP and impact on communities) **5 min**
4. Kenneth (Community impacts of WAGP/Offshore Cape Three Points) **5 min**
5. Charity (Presentation on common examples of community ownership as key principle of a Just Energy Transition) **5 min**

5. Panel Discussion **[30 mins]** - Moderator

5. Questions from the Audience & Reflections **[10 mins]**

6. Closing Statements **[2 mins each – 10mins]**

6. Wrap up and Call to Action **[5 mins]**

**Guiding Questions**

**Questions for Samuel**

How can we ensure that public finance factually supports just transition in a “just” manner, i.e., mitigating community level impacts, mitigating rising human rights violations?

Would ECAs and their financial instruments at all be able to play a meaningful role in fostering a just energy transition in the global South?

**Questions for Charity**

What can we do as African CSOs ensure our governments commit to transitioning to clean energy? What can our governments do to make sure renewable energy initiatives are people-centered?

How do we promote a democratized energy system that fosters the participation and ownership of local communities with regards to their energy access?

**Questions for Musa**

We hear many financial institutions mention that midstream oil and gas projects are needed because it would protect us from the energy crisis in Africa. What would you say to that? Is this a mere greenwashing effort?

How can the African continent transition away from fossil fuels and push for multilateral development bank financing to clean energy?

**Questions for Thando**

What lessons have been learned through civil society efforts in your country/region (both successes and failures) that you can share with others to accelerate a just transition from fossil fuels to renewables?

In what ways can we push for clear policy framework for a just energy transition, which prioritises investments in renewable energy that promote local participation and ownership of distributed renewable energy initiatives?

**Questions for Kenneth**

What can be done to empower local communities to speak and stand against the further development and expansion of ECA backed projects like the offshore Cape Three Points project which has impacted communities in the Western region?

What is needed to move ECAs and private banks that finance fossil fuels in your country / jurisdictions to withdraw from fossil fuels and turn to renewable funding instead?