

TIME TO ADAPT: ACCELERATING CLIMATE ADAPTATION FOR HEALTH EQUITY

Catalyzing Solutions for Community Action

This infographic and supporting report are the outcome of a year-long dialogue of the Collective Minds Climate Council, convened by Foundation S and the Africa-Europe Foundation. Climate Council members serve as advisors and advocates to increase awareness of the impact of climate change on health and to accelerate policy change and global financial support for climate adaptation.

Climate change has damaged health and health systems irreversibly, constituting a new **global health emergency**. Local adaptations to increase health resilience, led by communities themselves, are urgently needed, even as we work to mitigate the future impacts of climate change.

Climate change's **severe and accelerating** impact on human health and health systems risks hard-won gains in global health and poverty reduction.

Preventable environmental issues cause **1 in four 4 deaths** globally.



If left alone, the health impacts of climate change could push an additional

132M people into extreme poverty by 2030.

The poorest countries and people shoulder the **heaviest** burden of climate change while contributing the least to its causes.

The African continent makes up just

17% of the **global population** but accounts for only...



< 4% of **greenhouse gas** emissions. However, it experiences almost...

35% of all **global mortality** attributed to climate-related disasters.

Despite the urgent need in impacted countries, funding for climate adaptation is **inadequate**.

< 1.5%



of all **climate finance** went toward health adaptation in **2020**.

FLIP OVER

The toll of climate change on human health is directly felt by individuals, families, and communities. **Local communities are best placed** to build effective, efficient, and sustainable solutions but too often **are excluded from decision-making**.



Urgent global action is needed to accelerate **local solutions** that **strengthen resilience** against the health impacts of climate change

The Way Forward

Avenues for increasing health resilience to climate change through local adaptation include:

Putting local communities at the center

Communities in South America are leading development and management of early-warning flood systems with **Gran Chaco PROADAPT's** support.

Building and applying evidence on local solutions

The **Pawanka Fund** finances climate adaptations built on Indigenous knowledge, with assessment efforts led by Indigenous people and shared with other Indigenous groups.

Channeling flexible financing to communities

Local actors in Antigua and Barbados have enhanced direct access to grants and loans via the **Sustainable Island Resources Framework**.

Fostering an enabling environment for local adaptation

Local Adaptation Plans for Action in Nepal devolve planning and funding to local government units, community groups, and civil society organizations.

Call to Action

We call on the global community to join us in acting at speed and scale to address the climate–health emergency. We must:



Prioritize local solutions driven by communities



Break silos for local action with lasting impact



Support a resilient local health workforce and its infrastructure



Catalyze flexible financing for local communities

