

SOUTHERN AFRICA REGION CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK PROFILE

WHO ARE WE

Southern Africa Region Climate Action Network (SARCAN) is a non-governmental and not for profit organization. SARCAN is a network of member organizations from all over the region committed to combating harmful climate change. This network is based on trust, openness and democracy. It is first a network of organizations brought together by a common concern. The network of independent members of SARCAN act in terms of their own mandates and organizational aims and objects.

SARCAN's goal is to promote Government and individual action to limit human induced climate change to ecological sustainable levels. SARCAN members work to achieve this goal through information exchange and the coordinated development of CSO/NGO strategy on international, regional and national climate issues. SARCAN has national network hubs that coordinate these efforts around the region. SARCAN members place a high priority on both a healthy environment and development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the future generations to meet their own needs.

The overall objective is to connect, mobilize and influence climate action in the SADC region.

Preamble

CAN Notes that:

The earth is under severe threat from harmful climate change, which is being influenced by humans through our constant and still fast-growing production of greenhouse gases. CAN as a network faces this threat with the common concern of its members all over the world.

CAN Vision

The vision of SARCAN is a world striving actively towards and achieving the protection of the global climate in a manner which promotes equity and social justice between peoples, sustainable development of all communities, and protection of the global environment. SARCAN unites to work towards this vision.

SARCAN Mission Statement

- ❖ SARCAN's mission is to support and empower civil society organizations to influence the design and development of an effective global and local strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and ensure its implementation at international, national and local levels in the promotion of equity and sustainable development.
- ❖ To protect the atmosphere while allowing for sustainable and equitable development in the SADC region.

- ❖ Ensuring and realizing socio-economic, environmental and climate resilient communities which take actions to mitigate climate change impacts whilst using natural resources wisely.

SARCAN Specific Objectives

- ❖ To organize, support, inspire and co-ordinate its members to take effective action on climate change, either as one global voice, or in the regions where members operate.
- ❖ To prevent dangerous climate change through awareness and capacity building of governments and citizens worldwide.
- ❖ To promote, co-ordinate and organize the participation and contributions of non-governmental organizations in SADC on environmental, social, economic and natural resources development of the SADC region .
- ❖ To promote and facilitate networking and peer learning in support of multi-sectorial , trans-boundary accelerated implementation of continental sustainable and climate resilience programs.
- ❖ To promote and support all environmental, social, political and economic activities by organizations aiming at the benefit of a substantial or significant part of the African community including a special focus on such other activities that are meant to promote directly or indirectly, the well being of the disadvantaged groups of the community including women and children.
- ❖ To promote and facilitate the interaction, consultations and exchange of information and experiences among all regional CSOs &NGOs and relevant institutions, including government and to promote the linking up of organizations with any international and bilateral bodies for the purposes of furthering the above objectives.
- ❖ To protect the global climate from dangerous human interference.
- ❖ To be the conscience of the world concerning issues of climate change.
- ❖ To promote the protection of the global climate from dangerous human interference; and so to facilitate the radical transformation in the way we use resources, the land and energy.
- ❖ To prioritize sustainable development that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- ❖ Empower poor and vulnerable communities to speak directly in a way that is effectively heard, about the negative impact of climate change on their ways of life, about its potential for conflict, and about what ought to be done by way of a response, in terms of fairness and justice
- ❖ To undertake a broad based lobby and advocacy program or strategy with the intention of improving policies formulation and legislative enactment by the Governments in the African continent, raising awareness on issues pertinent to the fulfilment of CANZIM's objectives and affecting social change through press releases, press conferences, news articles, media campaigns ,face-to-face meetings with decision makers ,informal contacts at receptions, and working visits with decision-makers.
- ❖ To affiliate and partner with any regional, international, continental or bilateral bodies as the Board of Directors may decide and which affiliation is consistent with and for the purpose of furthering the above objectives.

SARCAN Strategies

- ❖ Active participation in the regional, continental, international climate change negotiations and all other relevant fora.
- ❖ Raising awareness and pushing issues onto the regional, continental, global agenda to influence the climate change decision-making process.
- ❖ Placing new climate change, equity and sustainable development issues on the regional ,continental, global agenda.
- ❖ Contributing to the establishment of global, regional, national and local climate change agendas through mobilizing a genuinely inclusive civil society process at all levels.
- ❖ Promoting a nuclear free future
- ❖ Ensuring the gains at the global level are translated into concrete benefits at the continental, regional, national and local level, and are implemented effectively and work to benefit vulnerable groups and countries
- ❖ Facilitating a process for developing campaigns and negotiating strategies at the regional , continental, global level.
- ❖ Holding global institutions and the private sector accountable for their actions and ensuring they respond to social and environmental concerns.
- ❖ Developing and disseminating knowledge that is crucial to addressing the trans-national challenges of climate change.
- ❖ Addressing the participatory gap through the creation of inclusive processes.

Focus Areas

- ❖ **Sustainable Agriculture**
- ❖ **Environmental Rights and Governance**
- ❖ **Green Energy**
- ❖ **Climate Financing**
- ❖ **Natural resources governance**
- ❖ **Disasters and Conflicts**
- ❖ **Environment, climate change, peace and security**

Primary activities

- ❖ **Information sharing**
- ❖ **Capacity Building**
- ❖ **Lobbying on common positions**
- ❖ **Co-ordination of media messages**
- ❖ **Co-ordination of research efforts**
- ❖ **Co-operation with other NGO groupings**
- ❖ **Mobilization of public support and awareness**
- ❖ **Any other activities which would promote the SARCAN objectives**

SARCAN core values represent the guiding principles of the organization's culture , including what guides stakeholders' priorities and actions within and outside the organization.

- **Environmental stewardship.**
- **Community sustainability and Social justice.**
- **Recognition of power relations.**
- **Transparency and accountability to our stakeholders.**
- **Engaging plurality of partners and perspectives.**
- **Continuous learning across all our work**
- **Poverty reduction**
- **Equity, Integrity and compliance**