

RESULTS SUMMARY

African Climate Caravan

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PROJECT	<i>Title:</i>	African Citizen's Climate Caravan 2024
	<i>Partner:</i>	Jeunes Volontaires pour L'Environnement (JVE) International
	<i>Country:</i>	Mali and Burkina Faso (plus 14 other countries in Africa)
	<i>Period:</i>	1st August 2024 – 15th December 2024

CHANGE	<p>The African Climate Caravan (ACC) enhanced participation and influencing of community groups, esp. youth, on national and regional climate agendas in Africa. In Burkina Faso a citizen declaration was formulated through local consultations, and it is now recognized by government. In Mali community-led recommendations on climate-smart agriculture led to formation of a national taskforce to integrate them into policy. The ACC presented a petition for inclusive climate policy signed by people from 50+ countries to state officials at COP29.</p>
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CONTEXT	<p>Africa is on the frontline of the climate crisis, despite contributing just 4% of global greenhouse gas emissions. Compounded by political instability, food insecurity, and limited fiscal space, the ACC emerged as a timely and strategic initiative in the lead-up to COP29. Recognizing the need to strengthen partnerships and engage both local and national authorities, the ACC elevated the voices of frontline communities – ensuring their lived experiences were represented in key decision-making spaces from national to global level.</p>
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CONTRIBUTION	<p>At local level partners contributed to awareness raising on climate change, locally led adaptation, and community resilience. These efforts brought together young people, women, and marginalized groups, fostering inclusive dialogue and action. The ACC succeeded in strengthening regional partnerships that amplified the voices of frontline communities towards regional stakeholders. Oxfam mobilized financing, provided strategic oversight to ensure alignment with the campaign's goals and offered technical guidance and visibility support.</p>
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IMAGES	<div><p>Photo credit: Oxfam</p></div> <div><p>Photo credit: Oxfam</p></div>
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACTIVITIES

Coordination and facilitation were central to the ACC. Oxfam in Africa (OIA) co-led planning with JVE International, national movements, and Oxfam country offices, supported by a Steering Committee. Activities included joint development of action plans, budgeting, and communication strategies, alongside regular coordination meetings. Capacity building was integrated through a “learning by doing” approach, directly engaging youth, women, and marginalized communities. Workshops and awareness sessions were held to educate about climate justice, advocacy, and adaptation. Mobilization reached over 43,000 people across 16 countries with over 1,000 CSOs participating. Strategic advocacy involved submitting joint declarations and petitions, and securing space at the African Group of Negotiators, the African Ministerial Conference, and COP29, where community demands were presented. The campaign successfully connected grassroots voices with regional and global policy processes, reinforcing climate justice narratives and pressing for equitable climate finance.

LESSONS

Building on previous experiences and lessons learnt from the “Drumbeat Climate Caravan to COP27”, the 2024 ACC had a strong foundation, but there are still lessons to carry forward. The caravan successfully facilitated direct engagement between African climate negotiators and grassroots activists, bridging community perspectives with high-level discussions. There is a need for stronger collaboration between caravan partners and Oxfam country offices and to make the setup for implementation more lean. In some contexts, limited internal coordination and capacity made it harder to fully connect with national movements. Still, the ACC proved that even with fewer resources and less momentum than in 2022, meaningful change is possible when communities lead. Strengthening internal alignment and investing in long-term partnerships with local actors is essential to deepen impact and sustain the movement in future iterations.

EVIDENCE

The outcomes of the 2024 Climate Caravan are documented in the internal 2024 African Climate Caravan Report. In Burkina Faso, the National Council for Sustainable Development’s recognition of a citizen declaration highlights a direct response to the Caravan’s mobilization. In Mali, the formal submission of community recommendations to national authorities and the establishment of a taskforce to explore policy integration further underscore the Caravan’s influence. Elsewhere, external evidence of impact includes the public presentation of the African Caravan Petition at COP29 (<https://www.africacimatecaravans.com/>), along with widespread visibility through posts and videos shared on platforms such as Facebook, X, and YouTube.

DOMAINS

Development strategy priorities:

Insert strategy priority

Changes in the lives of people facing poverty, marginalisation or vulnerability

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Changes in laws, policies and practices that affect people’s rights

-

Changes in the capacity of organisations and communities to support rights

X

Changes in partnerships and collaborations that support people’s rights

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Changes in participation of groups facing poverty, marginalisation or vulnerability

X

Changes in local leadership of development and humanitarian work

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