



GLOBAL  
CENTER ON  
ADAPTATION

## Youth Communiqué

9 July 2025, Nairobi, Kenya

Excellencies,

**We, the young people gathered here in Kenya, present this communiqué with our aspirations** — and our trust in global leaders to rise to this decisive moment for climate action and adaptation.

**Many of us participated in the GCA Youth Academy on Adaptation and Leadership last year, gaining knowledge and skills to lead change.** As Kenyans, we are proud that one youth organization from every African country will join a Train-the-Trainers program here in Nairobi in September 2025.

We are also proud to **organize the Youth Adaptation Forum in Kenya on 5 September. The outcomes will be presented at COP30.**

Excellencies,

**We call on major emitters to stay true to the promises made under the Paris Agreement.** There is no time left for delay or backsliding.

**We urge all high-emitting countries to urgently scale up action on mitigation, deliver on climate finance commitments,** and support a fair and equitable transition away from fossil fuels.

**The year 2025 is crucial.** Governments must show bold ambition through enhanced Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs). These policies must recognize the power and potential of youth to lead resilient futures.

**We emphasize that meeting the Global Goal on Adaptation is not optional,** it is essential for the survival, dignity, and future of millions on the frontlines of the climate crisis.

We call for urgent and sustained action in the following priority areas:

### 1. Education and Capacity Building

Equip youth with the knowledge, tools, and opportunities to lead climate adaptation and resilience at all levels.

### 2. Creation of Green and Resilient Jobs

Invest in climate-smart employment — especially in sustainable agriculture, agro-business, and adaptation-focused entrepreneurship.

### 3. Nature-based Solutions

Promote and invest in solutions that work with nature — from restoring ecosystems to protecting water resources and enhancing biodiversity.



#### 4. Local and Indigenous Knowledge

Recognize and integrate indigenous and traditional knowledge in climate policies and practices, ensuring they guide community-led adaptation.

#### 5. Meaningful Youth Participation

Ensure young people are included not only in consultation, but in decision-making and implementation – as full partners in adaptation action.

#### 6. Empowerment of Young Women

Support and amplify the leadership of young women in climate action, ensuring gender-responsive policies and equal access to opportunities.

#### 7. Increased Finance for Adaptation

Mobilize accessible, predictable, and youth-inclusive finance to support locally led and youth-led adaptation initiatives.

#### 8. Youth-Led, Locally-Led Adaptation

Support and scale innovative, youth-led adaptation solutions rooted in local knowledge, needs, and contexts.

**We proudly acknowledge the role of the Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) in strengthening youth-led adaptation across Africa.**

**We call for the continuation and expansion of the African Adaptation Acceleration Program (AAP) to support youth-led adaptation in its next phase.**

**We call for meaningful support and resources for vulnerable countries and communities to adapt and thrive in the face of worsening climate impacts.**

Our generation will inherit the consequences of today's decisions.

We demand accountability, ambition, and solidarity.

We are not just the leaders of tomorrow – we are leading today.

**We call upon global leaders to partner with us and build together a resilient world for all!**