



Global Youth Demands for the 30th Session of **THE CONFERENCE OF PARTIES (COP30)**

Prepared by
The Loss and Damage Youth Coalition

Background

The Loss and Damage Youth Coalition (LDYC) is a global youth network established in 2020, born from the urgent call by young people worldwide to hold leaders accountable for addressing the adverse impacts of climate change. It is a vibrant and inclusive space composed of young activists, policy experts, researchers, storytellers, negotiators, educators, trainers, communication specialists, and other professionals from both the Global South and North. The LDYC fosters borderless partnerships among youth, empowering them to engage and take action on loss and damage at local, national, regional, and international levels.

To date, the LDYC has grown to over 1,400 members across more than 100 countries. Together, we empower frontline communities to elevate their lived experiences and dismantle the inequalities that undermine climate justice. We envision a world where loss and damage are addressed in a just and equitable manner, where developed countries

take responsibility for their outsized contributions to the climate crisis, and where the rights of future generations to a stable and safe environment are upheld. Since COP26 in Glasgow, coalition members guided by the Advocacy Working Group have spearheaded consultations to shape global youth demands on loss and damage, aligned with the “#LossAndDamageFinanceNow!” campaign. These demands are open for endorsement by global citizens of all ages, youth, children, and elders, and serve as a foundation for initiating both formal and informal dialogues with governments to highlight urgent needs, concerns, and priorities for climate justice. For more of the LDYC’s activities, see [here](#).

Gearing up for COP30, the Loss and Damage Youth Coalition, supported by advisers, experts, and the voices of frontline communities, is preparing its journey to Brazil with the following demands.

Core Demands For COP30

One

“Loss and Damage” must be recognised as a standalone agenda item under the UNFCCC, recognising it as a third pillar of climate action (i.e. alongside adaptation and mitigation). Its inclusion will guarantee the consideration of climate justice issues experienced by developing countries and frontline communities in the short- and long-term visions of the Convention and of the Paris Agreement.

Two

We call for a “loss and damage gap report” to inform and strengthen the role of loss and damage finance mechanisms to mobilise new, additional, accessible and grant-based finance that meets the scale of the needs of developing countries and frontline communities to take actions to respond to loss and damage.

Three

All developing countries must have direct access to the Loss and Damage Fund without heavy administrative or debt-exacerbating burdens. The Fund should be directly accessible for communities as active stakeholders to guide community-led and national responses action for loss and damage.

Four

Climate finance must be clearly defined to ensure transparency and accountability for climate action (i.e. mitigation, adaptation, and loss & damage). This definition should be firmly rooted in the principles of equity, and of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.

Five

Climate action, especially actions to respond to loss and damage, must respect and recognise the role of community-based knowledge and of all marginalised frontline communities (Indigenous Peoples, women, youth, among others), while ensuring their full and effective participation from policy making to the implementation of climate action. Action for Climate Empowerment measures should strengthen meaningful engagement mechanisms for children (ages 0–15), youth (ages 15–35), women, and frontline communities. These mechanisms must be responsive to specific national circumstances and ensure inclusive access to the full cycle of climate action, from policy design, implementation, and stakeholder participation, including in the development and execution of strategies to address loss and damage.

Six

The reform of international financial architecture must ensure the global financial system delivers direct, accessible, needs-based, equitable climate finance that empowers developing countries in decision-making and shifts from loans to grants, especially to those most vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change. Accessing climate finance should never exacerbate debt burdens for the most impacted developing countries. Climate finance must come from public sources of finance, in a grant-based manner.

Seven

Countries must submit their updated Nationally Determined Contributions, collectively limiting the warming to 1.5°C by the end of this century, with economy-wide emission reduction targets before COP30. Developing countries must include quantifiable and cost-estimated actions to respond to loss and damage.

Eight

The just and equitable transition must focus on ecologically-aligned job creation, local capacity retention, sustainable development, and social protection for developing countries and frontline communities to strengthen the holistic approach for action to respond to loss and damage, recognising its complexity at the community, local, national and regional levels.

Nine

For a clear picture of the status of climate action, all countries should be encouraged to report on the actions taken to respond to the economic and non-economic effects of climate change. Developed countries should report on the financial and technical support provided, while developing countries highlight their needs and priorities, including on loss and damage.

Ten

The climate finance goal agreed at COP29 should ensure that the \$300 billion USD is directly accessible to all developing countries, while also prioritising public finance mobilisation in the roadmap to 1.3 trillion, and clarifying quantifiable targets for adaptation and loss and damage.