

VCA

VOICES FOR JUST CLIMATE ACTION



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ABBREVIATIONS

AMwA	Akina Mama wa Afrika
Avina	Fundación Avina
BASE	Building Approaches to fund local Solutions with climate Evidence
CAN	Climate Action Network
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CDKN	Climate and Development Knowledge Network
COP	Conference of the Parties
CPI	Corruption Perception Index
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ESG	Environmental, Social and Governance
FLLOCA	Financing Locally Led Climate Action Program
GloPro	Global Programme
GoNL	Government of the Netherlands
HIVOS	Humanist Institute for Development Cooperation
HRD	Human Rights Defenders
JPT	Joint Programme Team
LGBTQIA+	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer/questioning, asexual
LLA	Locally Led Adaptation
MoFA	Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NbS	Nature-based Solutions
NCQG	New Collective Quantified Goal
NLGF	Next Level Grant Facility
OH	Outcome Harvesting
PMEL	Programme Monitoring and Evaluation
PoVs	Power of Voices Programmes
RT	Regional Team
SBs	Subsidiary Bodies
SDI	Slum Dwellers International
SDI-K	Slum Dwellers International - Kenya
SSN	SouthSouthNorth
TF	Taskforce
ToC	Theory of Change
ToT	Training of Trainers
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
VCA	Voices for Just Climate Action Alliance
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over the last two years, the Voices for Just Climate Action (VCA) Alliance has worked with underrepresented groups and local civil society organisations in seven selected countries to amplify their voices for just climate action. Climate-related disasters and environmental degradation in these low - and middle-income countries lead to significant social and economic costs. Poor and vulnerable people stay trapped in a vicious circle. There is limited space for people to raise their voices and make their needs known to decision-makers. Within these challenging contexts, the VCA Alliance continues to work closely with at least **186 local partners** at approximately **36 sites** across **seven countries**.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Forging new alliances and strong partnerships.

The six Alliance Partners and their contracted partners have continued to forge stronger linkages and collaboration. Working together, supporting each other, and developing long-term relationships allows the VCA to achieve far more than it could achieve alone. In each landscape, the Alliance has strengthened or established multi-stakeholder structures, processes and connections of grassroots local civil society to those at the national, regional and global levels and thus expanded the VCA ecosystem of influence. These are the crucial mechanisms for achieving VCA strategic interventions, including co-creating and documenting compelling local climate solutions and positioning them for implementation within national and international initiatives, the NLGF and BASE initiatives and the coordinated lobby at different policy levels.

Over the past year, the number of contracted local partners increased from 150 to 186. The relationships that are built within the Alliance allow us to significantly extend our reach, nurture the capacity of marginalised groups and magnify the impact of our policy work. The endless diversity of our local partners enriches the Alliance with essential contextual knowledge and expertise, skills, unique capacities, multiple levels of accountability and legitimacy.

Illustrative examples showing the wide reach of the VCA in its regions include the new alliance between **VCA Bolivia and Paraguay** and the PULSANTE Platform. Through this new collaboration, the Womens Collective of the Gran Chaco mobilised women from Bolivia, Argentina, Paraguay, and Brazil to be part of the [XV Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean](#), the main regional intergovernmental forum on women's rights and gender equality within the UN system. In **Kenya**, the VCA Alliance is working with **563 Climate Action Groups** in Kisumu, Nairobi, to coordinate climate actions such as river and forest rehabilitation, waste management and recycling. The total membership of these action groups currently consists of **10,134 people**.

Enhanced capacities to advocate and deliver on local solutions

Across and beyond all seven regions, VCA local partners and the underrepresented were capacitated to speak with a loud, collective voice on behalf of others and the environment; to be able to build and bring forward solid cases and solutions; to be able to communicate effectively and to exert influence on climate-related issues.

Building a pipeline of local climate solutions; Concrete evidence underpinning our policy and advocacy efforts

Almost all the VCA Alliance Partners have adopted the LLA Principles, positioning the Alliance as a key advocate of LLA. VCA recognises that our advocacy efforts need to be underpinned by strong evidence which reflects the Indigenous and traditional knowledge held by our partners. In collecting this evidence, citizen science approaches are key to ensure that civil society partners contribute, collect and use the data that is generated. The VCA Kenya undertook two research studies to document local solutions co-created by women to ensure climate resilience. The **Indonesia** team documented locally-shaped climate solutions implemented by communities, including traditional conservation practices to protect marine areas, local food utilisation for food security, agroforestry and community-based forest management. Both the **Bolivia** and **Paraguay** teams conducted baseline studies on Nature-based Solutions, identifying a range of locally-led solutions that could be scaled up. VCA **Zambia** held six dialogues centred around identifying local solutions. All these studies will contribute to the design of a vast database of initiatives that can be matched to funding mechanisms and can be used for joint lobbying for increased public finance towards local climate action in 2023 and the following years.

Demonstration of locally based climate solutions

VCA **Kenya**, through the local partner Muungano Wa Wanviji, with the support of SDI-K, put out a call for applications for innovative urban climate solutions in informal settlements in Nairobi, Nakuru, and Kisumu counties. Following the completion of the call and assessment of the applications, a total of 107 groups from Kisumu, Nairobi, and Nakuru Counties received financial support ranging from Kshs 50,000 to 100,000 (347- 695 EUR). This support not only boosted the implementation of these solutions, but it also increased the institutional capacity and visibility of these informal groups. For instance, one of the supported groups, the 'United Waste Management Youth initiative in Kisumu managed to secure extra funding provided by the County Government to scale up their initiatives further. Another example comes from VCA **Paraguay**, where the food security of 5 Indigenous communities (Guarani, Whenayek and Tapiete) was greatly enhanced through supporting local agroecological gardens and implementing efficient water management techniques. Finally, over the past year, water and sanitation issues have received increased attention within the alliance, resulting in a broadening VCA portfolio of locally-led WASH solutions.

Alternative storytelling and its positive contribution to amplifying voices

Sharing testimonies and the untold experiences of unique minorities, women,

youth, Indigenous and other rural and urban marginalised groups played a pivotal role in influencing climate agendas. A few successes are highlighted here. In **Bolivia**, the Indigenous communication “Step by Step with Charagua Iyambae Autonomy” was launched and reached over 14,000 people. In **Tunisia**, the Association for promoting digital culture (ATDCE) produced videos that target young people (aged 18-25) on climate change and its relation with religion. Those videos have reached more than 12,000 people, engaging activists and experts on climate and sociology to exchange knowledge on climate action.

At the **global** level, VCA developed online communication tools to amplify the work done within the Alliance. The current platforms consist of: The Voices for Just Climate Action [website](#), the ‘Voices in Action’ newsletter, the @WeAreVCA Twitter account, a Voices for Just Climate Action [LinkedIn](#) page and a YouTube account.

Meaningful representation in international policy arenas

Global policy arenas today remain dominated by the most powerful actors of wealthy nations, large INGOs and the private sector. Even though voices from underrepresented groups are increasingly heard during these events, many barriers exist for (grassroots) small organisations to attend these conferences and participate effectively and meaningfully.

Further to the capacity building on policy and advocacy, local partners and underrepresented groups effectively participated at the Gobeshona Conference as well as the COP27 in Egypt. Voices of women, youth and Indigenous communities were amplified through the presentation and showcasing of videos at side events as well as engagement with decision-makers, donors, other organisations and stakeholders. At COP27, the Alliance was represented by at least 31 participants from the Alliance, the majority comprising representatives from local partners and grassroots organisations. The VCA delegation had clear demands/asks for the international community at these forums. Finally, during the last quarter of the year, VCA applied for and was granted a sum of Euro 30,000 to enable the participation of grassroots communities at the UN 2023 Water Conference.

Ensuring climate finance reaches the most at local levels

Developing countries face various challenges in accessing climate finance for local climate solutions, including overly complex application procedures, prohibitive demands for co-financing, and knowledge and capacity constraints in accessing funds. During the period under review, the VCA engaged in evidence-based advocacy for the purpose of securing funds for climate action. Global and national mappings and climate finance studies have been conducted or commissioned by the VCA Alliance. Such studies increased Alliance Partners’ as well as local partners understanding of climate finance and allowed for targeted and efficient lobby strategies. Successes were booked at the most local levels, for example, in Indonesia, where several villages and districts allocated funds to climate adaptation initiatives.

In addition, two new funding mechanisms were developed within the Alliance. The

BASE initiative, Building Approaches to fund local Solutions with climate Evidence' serves to articulate advocacy messages and to mobilise additional funds for partners on the ground. Secondly, the Next Level Grant Facility (NLGF), has been set up to direct funds to the hardest-to-reach groups the VCA Alliance works with. **NLGF and BASE are tailored to the VCA local contexts and will generate much-needed evidence on financing locally-led climate actions.**

Local and national advocacy successes and policy influence

As a result of VCA CSO engagement and capacity strengthening, the programme successfully contributed to blocking, adopting and influencing several national and local policies, frameworks and laws. Notably, VAC **Brazil** supported the campaign: "The Most Urgent Law in the World", thereby succeeding in having climate security established as a fundamental right by the federal government. The Human Rights Commission of the Upper House of Parliament in **Paraguay** agreed on a draft version of a public policy for the Integral Protection of Defenders and Journalists. In **Bolivia**, the creation of the Observatory of the Escazu Agreement enabled the signed agreements to be disseminated nationally among organisations and environmental defenders that knew little or nothing about its content. This allowed local actors and Indigenous Peoples representatives to present testimonies about environmental rights violations, leading to significant attention to these issues and sparking the interest of other environmental observatories to collaborate.

On a **global** level, VCA has made two submissions to the New Collective and Quantified goal on climate finance (NCQG) based on broad discussions within the Alliance informed by the lived experience of women and rights-holders, considering their needs and priorities.

CROSS CUTTING THEMES

All projects carried out by the Coalitions in VCA deal with several cross-cutting themes that are highly valuable to the departments of Inclusive Green Growth and Social Development (IGG), including climate-resilient approaches, food security, management of water, drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, and women rights and gender equality. Although these themes are all represented strongly in the outcomes generated in 2022, **about 72% of the results contribute to climate-resilient approaches, highlighting the significant contribution of the VCA program to this theme.**

MOST IMPORTANT LESSONS LEARNED:

- The conceptualisation of some concepts is still a challenging task that VCA Alliance and local partners are required to address. Key concepts of the VCA program should be contextualised and translated into local languages based on the specificity of the country.

- To guarantee accurate climate information, CSOs and media need more capacity to avoid disinformation and misinformation and to enable new narratives where the inclusiveness of climate action policies is a key indicator
- It remains a challenge for (especially smaller) CSOs to diversify their funding base, and a key lesson in this regard is that in the capacity strengthening support, it is essential to specifically focus on capacities related to resource mobilisation
- VCA partners implement successful interventions which are not documented. Thus, there is a need to enhance knowledge management at all levels of the Alliance and enhance knowledge-sharing activities to ensure that both the regional and global teams are aware of the work that is being undertaken in the different areas.



Photo credit: Njawa Simukoko, Inonge Sakala

1. INTRODUCTION

The Voices for Just Climate Action (VCA) programme (January 2021- December 2025) has the long-term goal that by 2025, “local civil society groups have claimed a central role as empowered innovators, facilitators, and advocates of climate solutions.” It is funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs Directoraat Generaal Internationale Samenwerking (DGIS) through the DSO Power of Voices policy framework, in partnership with the Inclusive Green Growth (IGG) department. The programme is implemented by four strong Southern CSOs, Akina Mama wa Afrika (AMWA), Fundación Avina, Slum Dwellers International (SDI) and SouthSouthNorth (SSN), and two Global CSOs, Hivos and WWF-Netherlands.

These CSOs work closely with at least 186 local partners at approximately 36 sites across the 7 countries, namely Bolivia-Paraguay (Chaco-Pantanal); Brazil (Amazon); Indonesia (Papua, West Papua, East Nusa Tenggara, DKI Jakarta, DIY Yogyakarta); Kenya (Bomet, Homabay, Kajiado, Kilifi, Kisumu, Kwale, Lamu, Makueni, Marsabit, Nakuru, Nairobi, Narok, Siaya, Turkana); Tunisia (Gabes, Kairouan, Kasserine, Kerkennah Islands, Sejoumi); Zambia (Chikankata, Chirundu, Chongwe, Itezhi Tezhi, Kafue, Luangwa, Lusaka, Rufunsa, Siavonga).

The programme's Theory of Change (ToC) revolves around three mutually reinforcing pathways of change:

- Diverse civil society is collaborating on a shared agenda, co-creating scaled, locally shaped solutions that benefit people and nature.
- Amplified citizens' voices shape public debate on the just transition to low carbon and climate resilient futures.
- Civil society's contributions to climate solutions are considered in our countries' policy, practice, and budget allocations.

The programme uses an inclusive and rights-based approach to create widespread societal support for locally shaped climate solutions. This includes building broad-based climate alliances at country level, bridging divides (urban-rural, gender, youth), and amplifying voices in new, unusual ways. In addition, it influences national and global policies and financial flows (e.g., climate finance, private sector investments) in support of these locally shaped solutions.

The programme's first year was focused on setting up the structures and processes towards a solid foundation to tackle climate challenges. In addition, efforts were put into building strategic and strong partnerships, and this was accomplished by identifying partners, contracting, contextualising the Theory of Change (ToC), defining assumptions and indicators, defining (global) basket indicators from local indicators, baseline analysis on basket indicators and selecting themes, as well as annual planning which was further deepened after onboarding of local partners.

AIM & SCOPE OF THIS REPORT

This report provides an overview of the progress made by the Voices for Just Climate Action Alliance in 2022, the second year of programme implementation. It describes the results and outcomes achieved so far and reflects on what aspects of the programme are on track and where more attention is needed. This report aims to provide a comprehensive overview of where the programme stands and how we are operationalising our Theory of Change. This report is the consolidated result of the annual reports of the seven countries where VCA is implemented, one report focusing on activities in the Netherlands and one on the VCA global programme. All these reports used input from outcome-harvesting exercises conducted with the teams in the first months of 2023.

The VCA Alliance has developed into a very rich programme, operating at many different levels across and beyond its implementation sites. It should be noted that this report can never reflect all the results and outcomes achieved in 2022. Although this report aims to provide a complete and comprehensive overview, it cannot reflect the actual spread and distribution of the work done by the Alliance Partners in the regions. Throughout the report, examples are generally attributed to the implementing 'VCA regional teams' comprising of all active Alliance members collaborating in the site. In some instances, a specific Alliance member is mentioned when deemed appropriate. However, most examples are considered collaborative achievements.

2. CHANGES IN CONTEXT AND RISKS

2.1 DEFORESTATION AND OTHER ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES

In **Brazil**, increased use of aerial spraying of pesticides was reported in several areas in the Amazon. Illegal gold mining intensified in Indigenous territories, unleashing high levels of mercury in water bodies, endangering both people and nature. Among the most affected are the Munduruku people in the Tapajós river basin (Pará State) and in Yanomami's region, in the Orinoco – Amazonas basin bordering Venezuela.

Bolivia was ranked second amongst Latin American countries with the highest advance of [deforestation](#). Gold mining (legal and illegal), and hydrocarbon exploitation in protected natural areas and Indigenous territories, have increased. In December 2022, the National Forestry Institute of Paraguay released official deforestation figures for the 2017-2020 period. These official data recognise the deforestation of 667,076.5 hectares during this period in the Paraguayan Chaco, although the unofficial figures are even higher. The Paraguayan government, through the updated NDC, rather than committing to significantly cutting emissions from deforestation, propose a trajectory of [increasing emissions from deforestation](#) (mainly in the Chaco) [up to 27% by 2030](#).

2.2 CLIMATE INDUCED PRESSURES

In 2022, almost all the VCA-implementing countries reported severe flooding and droughts. Flooding and resulting landslides, and severe drought affected urban centres and rural areas, leading to soaring injuries and fatalities in the population living in risk areas. Climate disasters such as floods, drought and overheating create hunger and poverty. As such, governments may not allocate funds towards climate change but may prioritise programmes to reduce hunger and malnutrition.



Zulma, from the Yshir community in Paraguay, showing how her territory is under threat.

In **Bolivia and Paraguay**, there were severe droughts, leading to uncertainties in crop yields and timelines, causing losses in production systems. The Chaco Region is currently experiencing the most intense drought of the last 80 years, linked to the "triple episode" of the 'La Niña' phenomenon (2020, 2021 and 2022), which is generating a worrying humanitarian situation in various areas of Paraguay and Bolivia, with consequences to food security and the livelihoods of the populations residing in this region. According to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the drought is expected to extend until the end of the first quarter of 2023. Drought increases the vulnerability of communities, especially Indigenous communities in the region.

At the beginning of 2022, a big flood hit Jayapura-Papua, Indonesia, and extreme weather was also noted in the East Nusa Tenggara Province. The impact of extreme weather resulted in flooding, landslides, high waves, and intense winds in several areas, which were also influenced by Tropical Cyclone Ellie. Those areas are the sites where the VCA Alliance and its partners operate. At the national level, 1,524 flooding events have been recorded in 2022. This amount is equivalent to 43.1% of the total national disaster events. There were also 1,062 extreme weather events, including 634 landslides, 252 forest and land fires, 26 tidal waves/abrasions, and four drought events.

Kenya has experienced one of the toughest droughts in a lengthy period, and the adverse impacts have been devastating, with reported deaths of human beings, wildlife, and biodiversity loss. Some of the rivers and lakes are in a bad state.

In **Zambia**, [heavy rains and flash floods](#) caused widespread damage to homes, farmland, and livestock. Many communities were isolated, without adequate healthcare and access to education. Furthermore, sanitation facilities had been completely submerged, exposing the population to an elevated risk of waterborne diseases. It is estimated that nearly [15,000](#) people from 3,500 households were affected by flooding in Southern Province by January 2023. Zambia also experienced two major [cyclones](#), cyclone Ana in January 23-25, 2022, and Gombe, on March 8-14, 2022. The cyclones in Zambia increased the vulnerability of the affected communities to climate change leading to the loss of property and livelihoods. The Alliance, through budget tracking, aims to build a case for creating a climate fund to address issues of building adaptation, resilience, and disaster risk reduction and management to increase the resilience of communities to the impacts of climate change to come.

2.3 POLITICAL CONTEXTS

In **Paraguay**, the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control ([OFAC](#)) sanctioned Horacio Manuel Cartes Jara, the former President of Paraguay, and Hugo Adalberto Velazquez Moreno, the current Vice President, for their involvement in the rampant corruption that undermines democratic institutions in Paraguay.

In October 2022, the much-anticipated general election was held in **Brazil**. This was undoubtedly a challenging year for CSOs in Brazil, marked by the intensification of the political dispute for the presidency, characterised by polarisation and extremism. Lula's election bodes a stark change in economic, environmental, and socio-political vectors, offering promising outcomes to promote inclusive and active civic spaces. Indigenous Peoples, women and the LGBTQIA+ community were actively engaged in the electoral dispute and in the post-electoral period. Indigenous women were nominated to higher-echelon mandates in the Legislative and the Executive houses, both in national and subnational government. Notwithstanding, those vulnerable groups still suffer from persistent and even deepened socio-economic vulnerability because of years of segregation policies and economic crisis.

In **Kenya**, a new government was also ushered in. Voters elected the President, members of the National Assembly and Senate, county governors and members of the 47 county assemblies. The current President of the Republic of Kenya, elected in August, has embraced climate change mitigation as a priority issue and is the leading light in the Committee of African Heads of State and Governments in the sector. He created a State Department of Environment and Climate Change led by a Principal Secretary, showing government commitment to address the impacts of the climate crisis. To show its commitment to the region, Kenya will host the Africa Climate Summit in September 2023. This is an opportunity for VCA to showcase its work and influence the agenda of the meeting by participating in the planning platforms. Further, many of the counties in Kenya have passed climate change related laws

which will be pivotal in addressing climate change induced pressures at the devolved units. Civil society organisations, including partners under the VCA programme, have played a crucial role in enacting these legislations. This is evidenced by the membership of the various committees that were developed as a result, including the Ward Climate Change Committees that have provisions for the inclusion of the youths, people with disabilities, special groups, minorities and CSOs at the ward level.

At the time of reporting, **Indonesia** was preparing for the general election that will take place in February 2024. During this time, most of the office bearers hold interim positions. This has been affecting VCA advocacy efforts as they will be reluctant to make policy changes while holding temporary positions. It is widely perceived that the level of democracy has decreased, and there is little room for citizens to speak out their opinions and concerns or undertake peaceful actions. This perspective was reiterated by Indonesia's Corruption Perception Index (CPI), which showed a decrease of 4 points from 38 in 2021 to 34 in 2022. The significant decline was recorded by Political Risk Services (PRS), which indicated a setback of democracy, exacerbated by extra payment and bribery related to export-import permits, conflict of interest between politicians and businesses, and corruption in the political system. Hence, considerable effort is needed to cut an extraordinary conflict of interest and the opening of larger civic space in policy formation. In addition, the parliament passed a new criminal code in December 2022, which according to experts and activists, will undermine environmental protections and facilitate the prosecution of environmental defenders. The code contains prosecution exemption for companies violating environmental laws, reduced punishment, the increased possibility of choosing a fine over a jail sentence for convicted violators, and a higher burden of evidence for environmental crimes. The code could also be used to prosecute environmental defenders protesting public work projects on the pretext of insulting the president.

Tunisia is undergoing a difficult democracy transition process since the revolution of 2011. Yet 10 years after the Arab Spring, the establishment of a sustainable democracy remains a struggle despite the progress made. In 2021, Tunisia experienced a radical change at political level in which the parliament was frozen, and all powers were held together, putting at risk the newly democratic pathway. In 2022, many political events happened, including adaptations of the CSOs legal framework and the environmental framework. Between January and March 2022, the Tunisian government launched an online public consultation to gather recommendations on public services provided and how to improve them. Furthermore, on July 25th 2022, a referendum was organised where Tunisian citizens voted for a new constitution proposed by the president. In December 2022, legislative elections took place to establish a new parliament. The president has made many changes to the electoral process and legal framework and proceeded with random new decrees and laws. At the economic and social levels, the situation is getting worse than in 2021. The annual inflation rate in Tunisia soared for the 15th straight month to 10.1% in December of 2022, from 9.8% in November, reaching the highest point since December of 1984.

The social and economic crisis in Tunisia have led to a shortage of essential livelihood products (oil, milk, cereals, coffee, etc.) and a fuel crisis. Obviously, social stability has been hugely affected by the economic crisis. According to official Italian figures, more

than 32,000 migrants, including 18,000 Tunisians, arrived in Italy illegally from Tunisia in 2022. Civic space has been affected by the president's official position regarding foreign funding and administrative controls on CSOs. The most affected CSOs are those working on democracy-related matters (governance, elections, monitoring of parliament activities, etc.).

Since the change of the **Zambia** government in 2021, the government has continued to support and produce positive policies and strategies, such as a Green Growth Strategy and a review of climate change-related policies, maintaining a vision of engaging citizens. This has positively impacted civic engagement on policies of interest, public debate, open lobbying, advocacy, as well as information sharing and knowledge brokering. Some examples of platforms that have supported civic engagement include social media, Ward Development Committees (WDC), District Development Coordination Committees (DDCC), Provincial Development Committees (PDC) and Constituency Development Fund (CDF) committees.

2.4 THREATS AGAINST ACTIVISTS AND INFRINGEMENT ON RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

[Front Line Defenders' Global Analysis 2022](#) provides a panorama of threats faced by Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) in all regions of the world. A large share of this concerned HRDs who are actively working on Indigenous, tenure and environmental rights, usually in the context of economic (exploitation) initiatives. *"In a grim milestone, for the first time, we saw more than 400 targeted killings of human rights defenders in 2022. Latin America remained the deadliest region in the world for human rights defenders."* Defenders working on land, Indigenous Peoples' and environmental rights were the most frequently targeted group, accounting for almost half (48%) of the total killings. Brazil accounted for 26 murders. In December 2022, a well-known activist was murdered in the Amazon, Brazil, and the incident gathered a lot of media coverage. This inadvertently led to more apprehension and threats against the VCA's communication and legal advisory services.

Despite an assault on human rights and the rule of law in many countries, HRDs showed remarkable courage and persistence in advocating for more democratic, just, and inclusive societies in 2022. Partial mitigation measures were adopted by VCA **Brazil**. These included financial support for transferring family members to safer locations. Three member organisations of VCA coalitions suffered cyber-attacks. Tapajóss de Fato and Suraras do Tapajós suffered an attempt to invade and hack their social networks, and the COIAB account was hacked during the event Acampamento Terra Livre - ATL. Activist security and protection investments have been forecasted, given the complexity that this challenge represents.

President Lula's walk into office positioned Brazil back to the global climate fora. At COP27, weeks before walking into office elected President Lula highlighted challenges on Amazon deforestation, the importance of multilateralism, global governance and climate justice at COP27. Lula also proposed the 1st Summit of

Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, proposed Brazil to host COP30 in 2025 in an Amazonic city and proposed an agreement with Indonesia and Congo on tropical forests, bringing back the importance of South-South cooperation.

In **Indonesia**, there has been no significant progress on the bill related to Indigenous rights. The Alliance of Indigenous Peoples of the Archipelago (AMAN) highlighted the growing pressures on Indigenous Peoples resulting from Indonesia's new Transmigration schemes and Food Estate Programme, both threatening irreparable harm on Indigenous Peoples due to the reported massive seizures of traditional Indigenous lands.

In **Paraguay**, protests by Indigenous peoples denouncing encroachment on their territories have been recurrent throughout the year in the region. [Conflicts over land](#) have continued in Paraguay, where between November 1st, 2021 and October 30th, 2022, 13 evictions occurred that affected approximately 5,755 people, of which at least 87 people were prosecuted. Many of these evictions were in Indigenous communities where the state has violated acquired land rights.

2.5 DUTCH POLICY

The Africa Strategy of the Dutch Private Sector was launched on Tuesday, November 26th. The Africa Strategy document strongly reflects the local African context and contains solutions that have been successfully initiated, tried, and tested by African organisations and citizens. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is encouraged to integrally involve African citizens and CSOs in implementing the Dutch Africa strategy. Only then will the strategy have a chance of contributing to that bright future for the African continent.

In 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced it is working on a feminist foreign policy. The policy is important because women make up half the world's population. Yet, it is rare to find a place where they are equally represented in areas where decisions are made about their lives (in politics and management boards, for example). The Netherlands is keen to reduce inequality and achieve gender equality all over the world. The Dutch Feminist Foreign Policy provides an opportunity to ensure an intersectional and decolonial approach in promoting demilitarisation, conflict prevention and non-violence. Women worldwide must be able to claim their universal rights and know that they are safeguarded from violence.

The focuses of feminist foreign policy are rights, representation, resources, and reality checks:

- They must be represented and take part in political decisions (representation).
- There must be sufficient resources to achieve these goals (resources).
- Circumstances differ worldwide, and a particular approach will not have the same effect everywhere.

2.6 GLOBAL CONTEXT

In 2022, the priority theme of the 66th Commission on the Status of Women was “Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies, and programmes”. This theme was instrumental in driving an increase in the analysis of a wide range of gender issues related to the climate crisis. Further, it opened opportunities for women and girls in all their diversities to engage with key gender policy-makers at the national, regional, and global level.

There is a confluence between Biodiversity and Climate at both UNFCCC COP27 and CBD 15, and both were strong on financing local climate and biodiversity action. CBD proposes to phase out or reform harmful subsidies by 2030 by at least \$500 billion per year and to increase \$200 billion per year of the domestic and international flow of funding for biodiversity from developed to developing countries to reach at least \$20 billion per year by 2025 and a total of 30 billion per year by 2030. The challenge is to track these funds and the ability to land at the local level.

The Bridgetown agenda introduced at COP27 by Prime Minister of Barbados, Mia Mottley, to reform the global financial systems gained momentum. Still, it is also receiving criticism from CSOs for not going far enough to change World Bank's power and risks consolidating it. The need improve equity within global climate financial systems is recognised, and debates on different models are advancing.

Over 80 governments, leading global institutions and local and international NGOs have already endorsed the Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) principles and are advocating their endorsement by others. This is a welcome condition; it enhances the scope for the VCA network to influence their effective implementation, and accountability. The primary focus for VCA regards the quality and scale of implementation to avoid tokenism and symbolic pronouncement.

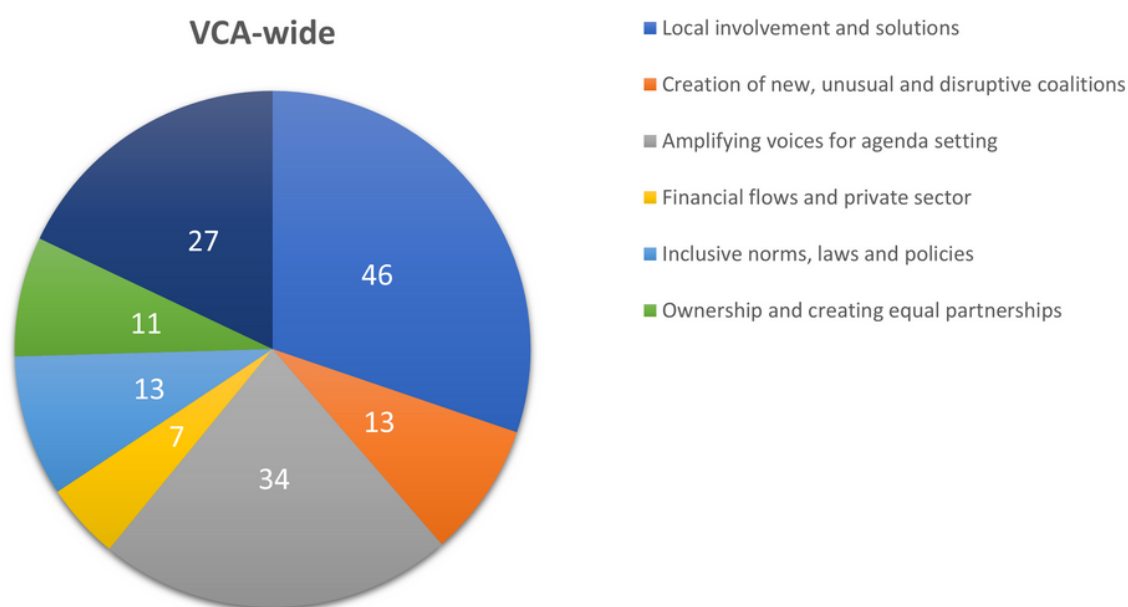


Brazilian local partners campaigning for the defence of their territories.

3. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2022

The activities conducted in 2022 contributed to the main outcomes of the programme. In total, 290 outcomes were collected during outcome harvesting. These outcomes were classified into the following categories; local involvement and solutions, creation of new unusual and disruptive coalitions, financial flows and private sector, inclusive norms, laws and policies, and ownership and creating partnerships.

Figure 1 below shows the percentage of outcomes contributing to a VCA-relevant theme. Outcomes can contribute to multiple themes, explaining why the total percentage is higher than 100. The figure indicates that VCA has achieved many outcomes on local involvement and amplifying voices and inclusivity. In contrast, larger outcomes like policy change and private sector engagement still require more attention, yet generally, these require more time. This illustration is followed by details on how these outcomes were achieved.



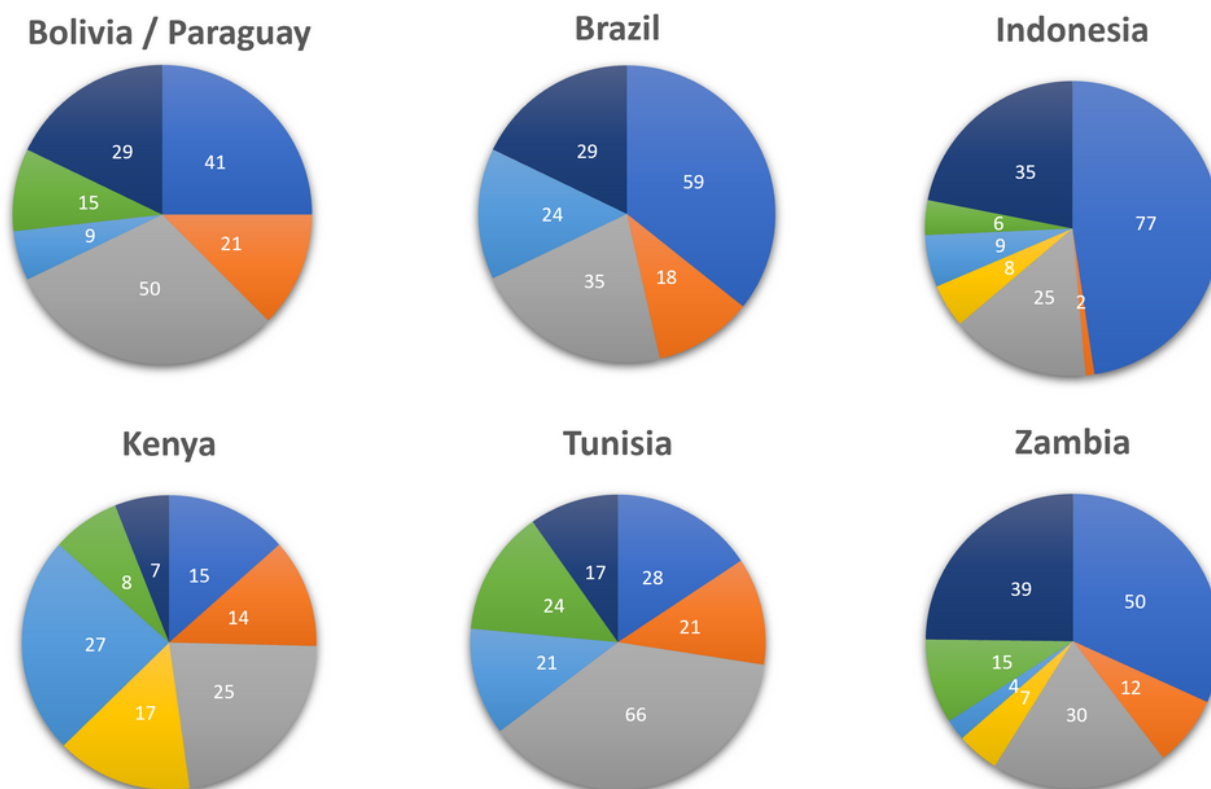


Figure 1: Percentage of outcomes contributing to a VCA relevant theme.

3.1 FORGING NEW ALLIANCES AND STRONG PARTNERSHIPS

At the global and country level, the six VCA Alliance Partners have maintained a synergic way of working and coordinating programme implementation to achieve climate justice tactics as well as supporting the delivery of local solutions. This has been done through regular meetings and check-ins where partners continue to reflect on how they are working, and sharing experiences and best practices for improved functioning. The Alliance collaborated on numerous engagements, including joint advocacy efforts. Alliance Partners work to complement each other in influencing the climate agenda. However, more harmonisation is required, and the Alliance plans on building and adopting plans that feed into each other's work. The Alliance will increase its efforts in convening regular knowledge-sharing and learning spaces for all stakeholders.

Over the past year, climate and human rights actors were brought together, creating a vibrant network of CSOs generating knowledge on climate justice and climate action. At the time of reporting, the number of contracted local partners had increased from 150 to 189. The VCA is conscious that the relationships we build with our partners and collaborators allow us to leverage resources and extend our reach, nurture the capacity of marginalised groups and widen the impact of our policy work. These local partners bring on board inherent knowledge, skills, and capacities;

organisational and personal connections; geographic and thematic diversity and expertise; access to policy arenas; links to marginalised groups; legitimacy and synergy. Working together, supporting each other, and developing long-term relationships allows the VCA to achieve far more than it could by itself.

The graph below shows the number of contracts with CSOs, the number of CSOs that have received grants and those that are in the process of being contracted as of 31st April 2022. All the regions, except for Indonesia, recorded an increase in the number of contracted local partners.

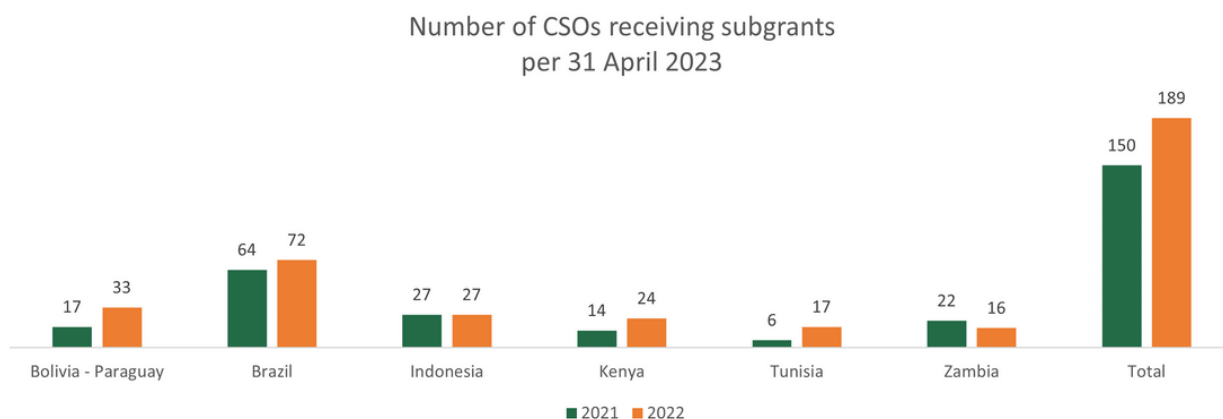


Figure 2: Number of CSOs receiving subgrants per 31 April 2023 across the Alliance

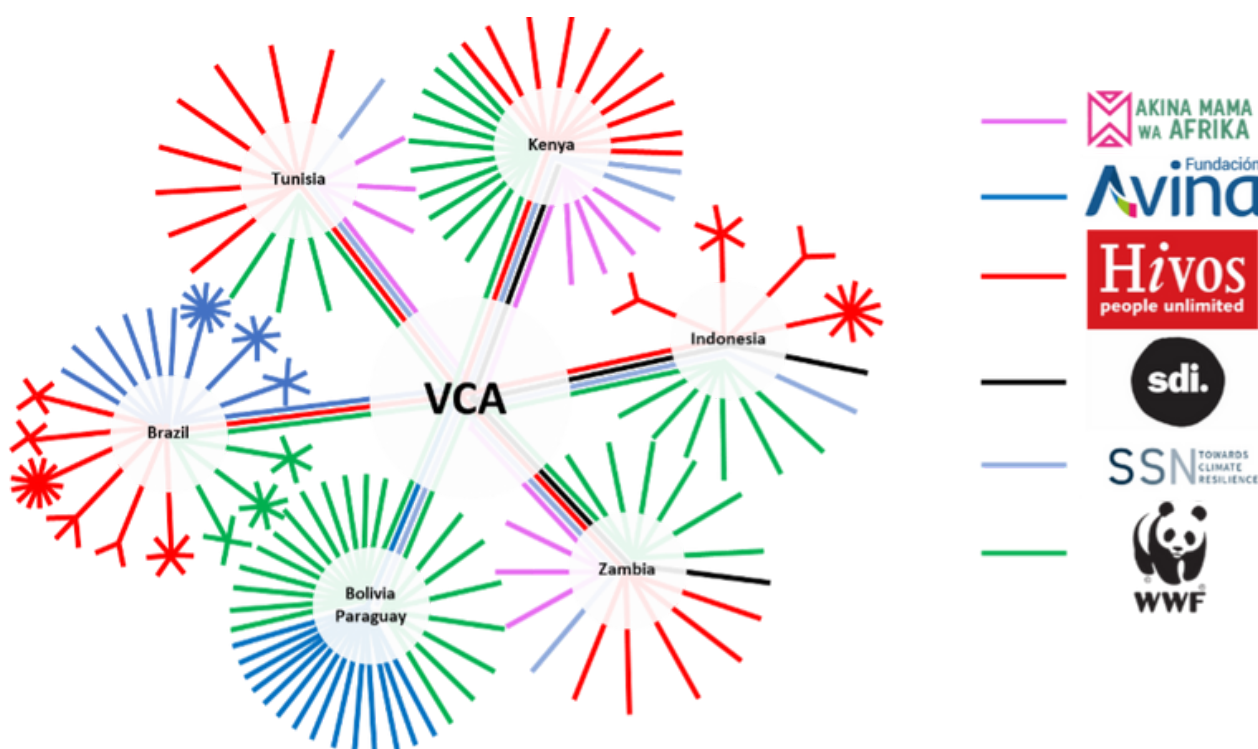


Figure 3: Number of CSOs receiving subgrants per 31 April 2023 per region. Each line ending depicts a contracted CSO. Colours indicate which Alliance member they have been contracted by. The clusters of lines in Indonesia and Brazil show the collaborations of multiple CSOs through coalitions.

At the initial stage of collaboration between Alliance members and local partners, each member employed their own approach to collaborate with their respective local partners. Each Alliance Partner collaborates with their local partners using task forces or specific forums, each chaired by different local partners to ensure the power and decision-making is with the local partners' side.

Through this mechanism, we have gained insight into the importance of giving local partners a voice in determining the programme's priorities. Alignment on approach and key messages, and agreement on branding is critical to ensure productive collaboration and reduce tensions. It is vital to establish clear mechanisms on decision-making and approval processes for the Alliance or other collective action work. There is strong recognition that Indigenous Peoples have their own voices and prefer to communicate their experiences themselves: supporting the participation of these groups in civic decision-making spaces concomitantly with the articulation of the climate justice network to make their voices visible is a prerequisite. Narratives about climate change must reflect territorial realities.

Decolonizing, simplifying and respecting are necessary to maintain vibrant partnerships. Finally, there is no climate justice without linguistic justice. VCA and regional teams strive to ensure linguistic inclusion in events, always considering the translation from/to Brazilian-Portuguese, Bahasa, Spanish and French. Even though, at times, this is challenging and costly to facilitate.

Furthermore, the Alliance prioritised building coalitions, collaboration, collective action, and multi-stakeholder forums to amplify our voices for just climate action. For example, VCA **Brazil**, (and **Bolivia** and **Paraguay**), joined the PULSANTE platform, another programme of the Avina Foundation, and selected proposals to strengthen social mobilisation for climate justice in the Brazilian Amazon. Through cooperation between VCA and PULSANTE, the Women's Collective of the Gran Chaco mobilised women from Bolivia, Argentina, Paraguay, and Brazil to be part of the XV Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, the main regional intergovernmental forum on women's rights and gender equality within the UN system.

VCA **Paraguay** collaborated with the Union of Indigenous Communities of the Yshir Nation (UCINY), to recover and preserve ancestral Yshir territories. VCA Kenya has been working with 563 climate Action Groups in Kisumu, Nairobi, with a total membership of 10,134 persons. These groups are primarily engaged in climate actions, including river and forest rehabilitation, waste management and recycling, eco-schools, urban farming, and arts.

In **Indonesia**, eight climate networks or forums were established or reactivated to initiate dialogues with the government, amplify the voices for locally shaped climate solutions, and strengthen collective action for climate action. Among them, are Kame Gelekat Lamaholot, youth local champion network in East Flores and Lembata District; Momang Lino, youth local champion network in Manggarai and East Manggarai District; and Nelayan Bersatu, a fisherfolks organisation, and the Extinction Rebellion chapter in Kupang City. Furthermore, these established networks and fora came together in several multi-stakeholder forums and initiatives, such as a joined

secretariate to advocate for the climate agenda in Lembata District, a climate change multi-stakeholder working group in Rote Ndao District, a climate change task force in East Nusa Tenggara Province, and a Disaster Risk Reduction Forum that addresses climate change and maladaptation issues in East Nusa Tenggara Province. Establishing and reactivating these networks and forums is important to expand opportunities in amplifying marginalised groups' voices and discussing challenges related to climate justice to influence the narrative and policy.

VCA **Kenya**, through AMwA facilitated the mobilisation and creation of three community networks and fora that have leveraged existing formal and informal spaces to contribute to climate discourse and action. This was done through various interventions, for example, by facilitating eight alumni of the African Women Leadership Institute (AWLI) with seed grants for implementing Community Action Projects (CAPs). Through this process, the alumni were able to transfer the knowledge and skills they gained from the feminist and transformational leadership development training. Consequently, the alumni created a network of over 600 young women and climate activists who are champions of feminist climate justice in their different counties. Furthermore, a team of 15 community women champions was built in Rusinga and Mfangano that will lead the grassroots mobilisation and organisation of women through community self-help and women groups into climate action debates. Additionally, Siaya County CSOs formed an advocacy network for joint approaches in shaping climate action in Siaya County through engagement with the County Government. A partnership in Lamu with the Kenya Civil Society Platform for Oil and Gas (KCSPOG) was also established to work with the community on the impacts of oil and gas extraction and coal power mining. Discussing the impacts on the environment and exploring how the community can work together to hold the government and prospective investors accountable.

VCA **Tunisia** partnered with the Heinrich Boell Foundation, the Social and Economic Rights Forum, Tunisie Verte Network, Stop Pollution, and many other organisations to spread climate justice principles. Also, an unusual partnership between a youth movement, VCA partner Cinema Pour Tous and six media channels was established for joint advocacy.

VCA **Zambia** partnered with the Institute of Architects and People in Need, two member organisations of the Governance cluster under the 'Gender Is My Agenda Campaign' (GIMAC) of the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) with Oxfam. The partnerships are advocating energy poverty, gender, food security and resilient infrastructure development.

At the **global** level, VCA increased collaboration with the Global Resilience Partnership, Race to Resilience, CAN, CDKN, Locally Led Adaptation Community of Practice, Women and Gender constituencies and other alliances within the Power of Voices Framework.

The VCA Movement component saw an increase in the number of youth activists or organisations, from 50 to 65, who have reached out to collaborate. They connect internationally to enhance their power and reach. They span across both the Global

North and South and beyond the VCA countries. Thus, they provide a broader ecosystem of CSOs that connect through VCA, which can reach 250 if we add the subcontracted partners. To maintain their engagement, VCA convened bi-monthly dialogue sessions among them and with VCA to determine actions to collaborate. These have largely revolved around capacity building, joint lobbying efforts and representation in forums such as the Global Youth Summit and connecting with each other on, for example, youth in Valuing Water Initiative by RvO, as well as the Women and Gender Constituency.

3.2 CAPACITY STRENGTHENING ON DELIVERING LOCAL CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

The VCA adopted a multifaceted approach to building capacities of target groups. The activities are need driven and conducted in partial fulfilment of the overall goal of the VCA to ensure that the target groups are empowered innovators, facilitators, and advocates of climate solutions. Figure 4 shows the number of partners that reported an increased capacity per capacity area. The blue colour denotes organisational capacities and green relates to VCA specific capacity needs.

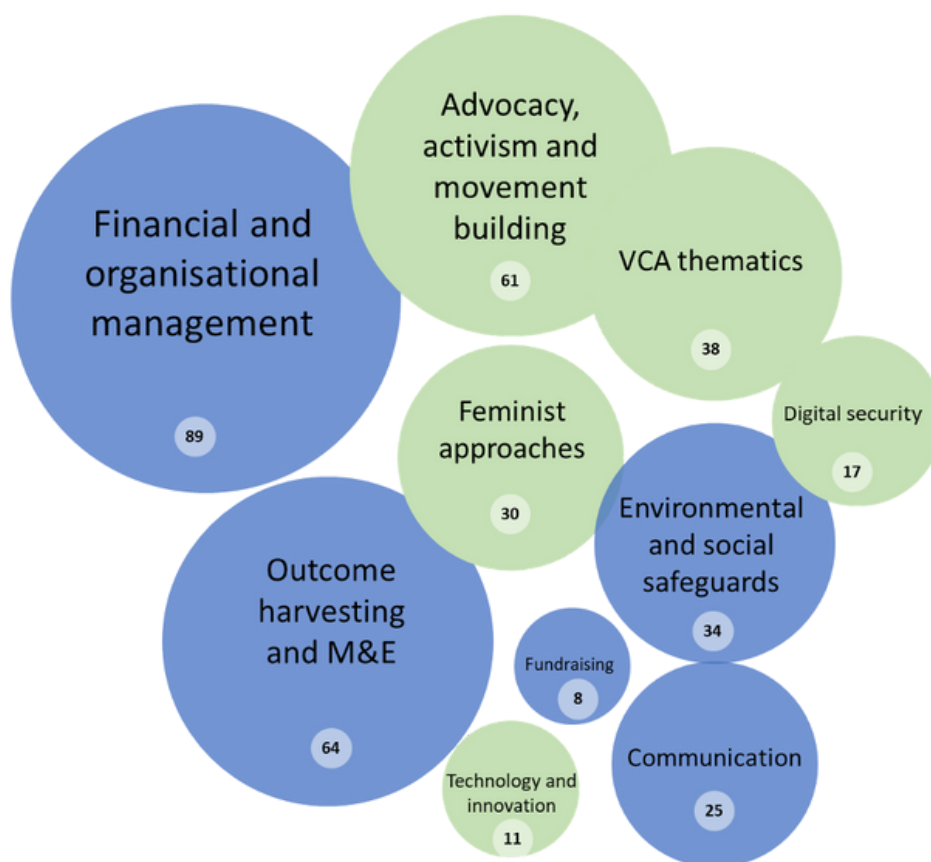


Figure 4: Number of partners that reported an increased capacity per capacity area. *Blue indicates organizational capacities strengthened. Green refers to VCA specific capacity needs.*

VCA local partners and the underrepresented were capacitated to speak with a loud, collective voice on behalf of others and the environment; to be able to build and bring forward solid cases and solutions; to be able to communicate effectively and to exert influence on climate related issues.



Capacity strengthening on climate solutions in Kenya. Photo credit: Global Nature Conservation

3.2.1 Local Partners empowered to influence policy processes

On a **global** level, in preparation for COP27, the VCA facilitated the participation of local partners in capacity strengthening webinars focusing on the many facets of the UNFCCC COP. The webinars outlined the process for gaining accreditation to the UNFCCC as an organization as well as the history of the conference and what to expect during the event. Webinars discussed how the negotiations work and signalled opportunities for participation both in the conference and in the negotiations. As a result of the information from the webinars the organizations Projeto Saúde e Alegria, ACESA, Escola Familiar Agrícola and Onça D'água from Brazil successfully completed procedures to be accepted as an observer entity of the UNFCCC COP.

In **Zambia**, local partners were trained to develop and facilitate the implementation of an inclusive Climate Change Advocacy and Communication Strategy. The training identified climate change information and knowledge gaps towards addressing climate change and amplify locally led climate solutions and inclusion of affected marginalised groups. The training was conducted by the Panos Institute Southern Africa (PSAf) with support from SouthSouthNorth (SSN).

In **Bolivia**, at least 108 Indigenous communicators, community leaders and defenders were trained in effective participation and advocacy in public policies for inclusive and sustainable local development in the face of climate change, mainly in the Chaco region. Furthermore, in **Paraguay**, as part of the actions to strengthen the Huguá Po'i Community advocacy actions, CODEHUPY leveraged VCA support with workshops for Indigenous communicators and communicators of the National Organization of Independent Aborigines (ONAI), on communication tools and digital security. At least 27 young people participated, including members of the Mbya Huguá Po'i community, that have been affected by evictions under de Zavala-Riera law. These capacity-strengthening activities are important, to communicate, transmit, and advocate their lived experiences and realities.

VCA **Brazil** facilitated the participation of community leaders from Belém and Santarém at the Amazon Social Forum – FOSPA. This helped to heighten their awareness of policy issues and position them as effective social actors. Noting their position as opinion leaders, they can influence their communities and act as multipliers for the VCA programme. In addition, there was wide production, dissemination, and articulation with the press on issues on climate change. A workshop was also organised for women in the Volta Grande do Xingu (State of Pará) to discuss and lobby against the illegal mining on Xingu River. The women were able to influence men and this change in behaviour is significant for the change in dynamics between genders, due to the promotion of environmental and collective care. The institutional strengthening of the organisations of the Agroecology Coalition for the Protection of Forests in the Amazon enabled the creation of the Popular Observatory of Socio-biodiversity and Climate Policy of Maranhão. The Observatory was created from preparatory meetings and the seminar (Un)development, Climate Change and Popular Resistance in Maranhão, which took place in the city of São Luís (MA) in December 2022. With the presence of 57 participants, mostly young people, and women, from 32 civil society organizations, the creation of the Observatory is an unprecedented initiative of consultation and listening to civil society that intends to consolidate an agenda based on the climate debate. This is an important milestone for future articulations of joint actions in defence of public policies and social interventions against climate change and for the dissemination of organizational and productive practices that respect socio-biodiversity.

A CSO forum was held in Jayapura, Papua - **Indonesia**. This event brought together all the Alliance members and 14 partner coalitions, involving more than 30 organisations of diverse types, ranging from national-local, rural-urban, to youth-older, etc. This facilitated space for various partners to relate to each other, strengthen learning mechanisms for several key principles and thematic issues under VCA such as LLA, NbS, Human rights approaches, connecting movements, intellectual property rights, participatory mapping, and climate finance. The CSO forum agreed on several priority issues such as the way of working since VCA consists of many partners and issues, the importance of knowledge management, and key national advocacy priorities (e.g., climate finance, the meaningful participation in decision-making processes, food security and local food policy, Indigenous rights, etc.) that need to be followed up and brought to the national level.

VCA Kenya, through Hivos and WWF Kenya, supported youth to effectively engage in the Conference of Youth in Kenya (LCOY Kenya). As a result of their participation at this conference, the youth were able to hold the government accountable for the lack of progress on the energy transition and climate goals in Kenya, as well as to strategize going into the global LCOY and COP27. The youths drafted a position paper that would feed into the Conference of Youth at the UNFCCC negotiations. With the assistance of Hivos, a VCACOP27 champions for climate justice grant was launched in collaboration with the Young Women Christian's Organization (YWCA). The grant was used to build the capacity of at least 287 youths across the country on COP policy processes. Three youth and local partner YWCA were then supported to attend COP27 and deliver this messaging through participation inside events organised by YWCA and youth movements. This group produced a position paper on the Kenya COP27 position and presented this to the Ministry of Environment – Climate Change directorate.

The Kenya Climate Change Working Group (KCCWG) was supported by WWF Kenya to develop a manual on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and climate diplomacy. After the manual was developed, a national UNFCCC simulation and training on climate diplomacy was held just before COP27. This provided an opportunity for the stakeholders to have a practical feel of negotiations as the workshop also incorporated a role play whereby the stakeholders had an experience of how negotiations take place. The recipients of this training now spreading their knowledge, following the training of trainers (ToT) principle.

Also in Kenya, to enable all departments in Kajiado County to plan and mainstream climate change into their programmes, at least 35 members of staff were trained on climate change. After the training, a Kajiado County Climate Change Working Group which brings together all the county ministries and agencies was established. In collaboration with the Legal Resource Foundation (LRF), VCA Kenya developed a local climate action toolkit for community capacity building on climate action to support community sensitisation on climate change and fast-track climate action at the grassroots. To comprehend how the tool works, 18 Community Climate Mobilisers (CCMs) were inducted on the project and trained on the Toolkit as ToTs to lead the community conversations on climate change and climate action. The CCMs are leading in movement creation on climate action where communities are becoming conscious of their own environment, and climate, and undertaking actions to reverse the adverse effects of climate change. In pursuit of enhancing climate action through amplified storytelling, VCA Kenya - Hivos build the capacity of 14 young journalists and communication experts in climate change communication using a fellowship approach.

Finally, VCA Kenya through AMWA, facilitated consciousness raising activities which enhanced the capacity of 25 actors working on climate justice to adopt and integrate feminist approaches to their work, for a just climate transition. This was also done through mediums such as caravan roadshows, radio talk shows, the use of arts and creatives such as puppet shows, local arts groups and social media such as TikTok. Through this we have seen more awareness on climate change impacts with community members engaging in environmentally friendly actions, such as proper waste management and recycling. This activity reached approximately 5117 people.



Women empowerment and capacity strengthening in Kenya. Photo credit: Global Nature Conservation

3.2.2 Local partners trained to develop and deliver locally led climate solutions

VCA Tunisia conducted workshops on new techniques for water harvesting, use, and preservation, as well as composting in Tozeur. A designer who benefited from a training cycle developed a natural cooler that can mitigate climate effects in urban areas by reducing emissions and energy consumption in summer, strengthening the resilience of citizens to heat waves. This solution can be scaled and adopted by cities.

The VCA Zambia conducted 40 training sessions for local communities in all VCA ten districts. A total of 2,547 people participated in these capacity-strengthening activities. Topics of these trainings included specific adaptation practices such as water management, forest management and sustainable agriculture, as well as social influencing, participatory slum upgrading, rights (WASH, Gender), climate finance, leadership, and climate justice. They also facilitated six trainings for women-led cooperatives focusing on linkage creation for extension services such as energy, food systems, water, agriculture, and community development. A total of 89 women participated in the training. The women-led cooperatives are now incorporating green ideas into their applications towards accessing the Constituency Development Fund.

3.3 DOCUMENTING CONCRETE EVIDENCE TO UNDERPIN POLICY AND ADVOCACY EFFORTS

By the time of reporting almost all the VCA Alliance Partners had adopted the LLA Principles, positioning the VCA as one of the key advocates of LLA. In 2022 VCA started exploring how the partners implement LLA activities and what can be learned from their experience. The first preparatory meeting to explore how LLA currently lives in VCA was organised in collaboration with MoFA, CDKN and IIED. VCA is also actively involved in the LLA Community of Practice. To build attention and place LLA on the agenda, VCA and MoFA drafted a strategic plan towards COP27 and UN Water Conference. It is envisaged that LLA will also be placed at the top of the agenda at the forthcoming COP28. With a hands-on approach on LLA, VCA recognises that our advocacy efforts need to be underpinned with evidence, reflecting Indigenous and traditional knowledge systems that are often at the very basis of locally shaped and nature-based solutions. Citizen science approaches are key to ensure that civil society partners can collect and use key data and evidence for climate action.

Many of the VCA countries conducted scoping studies to identify opportunities for locally led (nature based) climate solutions. These studies contribute to the design of a vast database of initiatives that can be matched to funding mechanisms and can be used for joint lobbying for increased public finance towards local climate action in 2023 and following years. The VCA **Kenya** undertook two research studies to document local solutions co-created by women to ensure climate resilience. The **Indonesia** team documented locally shaped climate solutions that are being implemented by communities, including traditional practices of conservation to protect marine areas, local food utilisation for food security, agroforestry, and community-based forest management. Both the **Bolivia** and **Paraguay** teams conducted baseline studies on Nature-based Solutions, identifying a range of locally led solutions that are now assessed on their scalability.

VCA **Bolivia** conducted a study that revealed the perceptions of urban Indigenous People about climate change and its effects. Using a two-eyed seeing approach methodology, this pioneering study allows us to better understand the way Indigenous People inhabiting "rurban" spaces (peri-urban areas), such as the metropolitan region of Santa Cruz, experience climate change on an everyday basis and how this affects the dynamics within their own territories.

VCA **Kenya** through AMWA conducted social-ecological assessments on climate-led solutions in Rusinga and Mfangano. 30 capacity assessments were conducted of Beach Management Units to document the gender composition and women leaders to improve gender mainstreaming. They developed a baseline study report on Gender and Climate Change Vulnerability in Kwale, West Pokot and Nyandarua counties highlighting the state of gender and climate change. Finally, case studies of Indigenous climate solutions were documented. From this baseline, a policy brief was developed which has been presented to the different County governments for consideration when making policy decisions. In addition, several knowledge products were developed such as an Intergenerational Climate Change Education Guide in

English, Kiswahili, and Braille to reach diverse groups, animated videos on climate change, as well as a documentary highlighting the voices and demands of women regarding climate justice.

VCA **Paraguay** organised a dialogue with the National Department on Climate Change of the Environmental Ministry (MADES). Representatives of smallholder producers, agroecological family farming, Indigenous communities, 'campesino' organizations, and SCOs were present. The dialogue sought to address the unfavourable official national position towards organic farming and agroecology for COP27 by permitting an interchange on climate change, mitigation, and adaptation measures. Inputs were articulated in the official national position for COP28.

VCA **Zambia** held six dialogues focusing on agroecology, water, energy, waste management and food systems. Through these community dialogues four proposals on sack gardening were submitted to different financiers of which two were matched already.



Traditional food practices strengthen the resilience of communities in Indonesia

3.4 SUPPORTING LOCALLY LED (NATURE-BASED) CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

As indicated in the foregoing, through various capacity building activities, there has been enhanced support in the demonstration of locally led climate solutions in all VCA sites. These solutions are categorised according to those that protect, manage, and restore ecosystems to address socio-environmental challenges. These include solutions that provide safe water for domestic consumption and sanitation i.e. the provision of sanitary facilities, hygiene, housing in informal settlements etc.

VCA Indonesia facilitated several initiatives in In East Nusa Tenggara. This includes reforestation through planting trees, plant sorghum to address food insecurity during prolonged dry seasons. Sorghum can grow in dry and arid environments affected by water scarcity. Besides the cultural aspect, sorghum cultivation has become a climate change adaptation strategy of local communities. Communities are also utilising livestock waste for biogas production. Furthermore, they have created artificial coral reefs and planted mangroves along the seashore.



Mangrove restoration is an important locally led, nature based, climate solution in Indonesia.

Many examples come from VCA Kenya. Firstly, through the local partner Muungano Wa Wanviji, with support of SDI-K a call was placed for applications for innovative urban climate solutions in informal settlements in Nairobi, Nakuru, and Kisumu counties. Following the completion of the call and assessment of the applications, a total of 107 groups from Kisumu, Nairobi, and Nakuru Counties received financial

support ranging from 50,000 to 100,000 Kshs (347- 695 EUR). This support not only boosted the implementation of these solutions, but it also increased the institutional capacity and visibility of these informal groups. For instance, one of the supported groups, the 'United Waste Management Youth initiative' in Kisumu managed to secure extra funding provided by the County Government to further scale up their initiatives.

Furthermore, SDI Kenya and Muungano wa Wanavijiji, through the VCA programme, supported climate innovations and initiatives in different communities across the three counties. For instance, the United Destiny shapers from the Nyalenda settlement in Kisumu County rehabilitated the riparian zones of the river Auji in Komb Green solutions in Korogocho was supported to rehabilitate and transform a former crime hotspot, into a safe space for the community by increasing forest cover and making spaces for recreation. Further, Muungano wa Wanavijiji and SDI Kenya also supported community dialogues on climate issues with local leaders and other climate change actors in different settlements. Through these processes, climate action groups in Kisumu County were able to influence the county's budgetary allocation on environmental issues.

Hivos supported the development and execution of the Mombasa County Climathon, an ideation convened by Dutch social enterprise Crosswise in which participants develop local climate solutions, which were pitched for additional financial and technical support. The Climathon brought together 800 local community members and 200 challenge participants. 15 viable solutions were pitched from which five were selected for additional support. The solutions centred on biowaste management in relation to food waste, e-waste, and behavioural change on climate.

Another example comes from VCA Paraguay, where food security of five Indigenous communities (Guarani, Whenayek and Tapiete) was enhanced through supporting local agroecological gardens and implementing efficient water management techniques. This sustainable agricultural production model, which incorporates rainwater harvesting systems, is now being replicated in other communities (e.g., Yerobiarenda and Tentami) under the leadership of Guaraní women, in coordination with the Autonomous Regional Government of the Gran Chaco. A similar example comes from VCA Brazil, where youth, farmers and babassu coconut breakers were involved in the production and distribution of fruit and timber seedlings. This action has stimulated the appreciation of local seeds, practices, and traditional knowledge in the production of these species.

VCA Zambia, through the Green Agriculture Youth Organization (GAYO) established local seed banks and farming methods that are drought-resistant in Kanakantapa and Kasis- Zambia. The women and youth of Kanakantapa make use of various climate-smart solutions such as organic fertilizer, cassava and cowpeas that are climate-resilient as well as energy alternatives like fire blocks made from maize cobs and ash.

In Tunisia, The Alliance successfully established the first formal Fisherwomen and Agriculture Development Group in Kerkennah Island. About 50 women in Kerkennah are now part of this formal group, collectively organizing their participation in

decision-making and bringing their recommendations about climate change issues to the national level. This group has been able to secure funding for concrete local nature-based solutions related to the preservation and the restoration of the endemic palm of Kerkennah.



The restoration of Palm trees is a nature based solution in Tunisia.

3.4.1 Locally led Water Solutions

Water and Sanitation initiatives form an important part of the VCA portfolio, and VCA local partners have made efforts in demonstrating the efficacy of WASH initiatives that are locally based. These various WASH initiatives include alternative water technologies and rainwater harvesting. In the Sukapura Ward of **Indonesia**, the VCA team successfully influenced the North Jakarta City Government, to allocate funds for the community construction of three communal wastewater treatment plant facilities (WWTP) which cost around EUR 5,600. In addition, it persuaded Yogyakarta City to use its government's funds to construct biopores as local-based initiative to conserve rainwater into the ground. The biopores cost was around USD 170 per package, where every urban village received two biopores set per package.

VCA **Kenya** also applied effective rainwater harvesting techniques in Makueni County, Isiolo, Wajir, Marsabit Garissa and Marsabit, Homa Bay. These include Zai pits, rainwater harvesting ponds, drip irrigation systems, climate smart farming and participatory rangeland management. Through these initiatives, water security and food production was improved. Climate-smart farmers benefitted from improved seeds, irrigation, agrometeorological support, advisory services and cultivated improved drought-resistant crops and livestock.

VCA **Zambia** provides a success story on sanitation in informal settlements. The Zambia Homeless and Poor People's Federation is now a key stakeholder of the Kanyama Participatory Slum Upgrading Project that is being spearheaded by the Government of Zambia and UN Habitat. The inclusion of the Federation as part of the project is a giant step towards inclusive and participatory urban planning. The partnership will see over 1000 federation members participating in different slum

upgrading activities such as slum greening and livelihoods support. Furthermore, VCA Zambia is also jointly advocating for Inclusive City-Wide Sanitation as a climate adaptive measure that is just in the context of the urban poor and vulnerable communities.

To further expand the water and sanitation efforts, VCA through the RVO budget for the UN Water Conference, identified at least 20 local partners that are addressing challenges related to water and sanitation. The Alliance will continue to work closely with these partners to enhance the delivery of these solutions through targeted technical and financial support, using known and yet to be explored funding mechanisms.

3.5 ALTERNATIVE STORYTELLING AND ITS POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO AMPLIFYING VOICES

The sharing of testimonies and the untold experiences of unique minorities, women, youth, Indigenous and other rural and urban marginalized groups played a pivotal role in influencing climate agendas. A few successes are highlighted here. In **Bolivia**, the Indigenous initiative "Step by Step with Charagua Iyambae Autonomy" was launched. Having generated 50 articles, 49 reports and 81 live broadcasts, this initiative achieved more than 600 new followers, articles shared more than 25 times, more than 3200 reproductions and reached almost 14,000 people. The Bolivian radio digital "Ñande ñee" has developed 18 programmes and 4 reports, being shared 110 times with 3330 reproductions and more than 10500 people reached.

During the Pan-Amazonian Social Forum (FOSPA) event in **Bolivia**, 57 Indigenous organisations met to discuss common agendas on themes such as collective rights to water and forests, self-governance of the territories, and free, prior, and informed consent. As a result, the "Trinidad Letter" was elaborated and presented to the World Assembly for the Amazon and to the Tribunal of Justice and Defence of the Rights of Pan-Amazonian and Andean Women. Another significant milestone of the FOSPA event was the "Belém Dó Pará Letter", which includes the demands and proposals of Indigenous organizations. This was presented to the President of Bolivia, demonstrating the value of partnerships towards achieving common agendas.

In **Indonesia**, youth representatives made great efforts in creating podcasts and YouTube channels to raise awareness about climate change and food-related issues.

In **Paraguay**, the Network of Indigenous Radios, which unites community Indigenous radios in the Chaco, was strengthened with the implementation of a work plan, including technical assistance for five radios (Enxet Sur, Enlhet Norte, Nivaclé and Angaite IPs). In addition, 11 Chaco communities (six in Paraguay and five in Bolivia) accessed internet connectivity, indirectly benefiting 5,000 people.

SDI-Kenya supported KYCTV (Know Your City Tv) to train young people from Kisumu, Nairobi, and Nakuru Counties in videography, photography, and writing skills.

The young people have started to document and showcase stories of change and amplify community voices on various aspects of climate change. The use of their skills for economic stability was also emphasised. One of the films on the effects of floods in the informal urban settlement of Nyalenda, Kisumu County, was recognised during the Journalism Awards festival organised by the Association of Grassroot Journalists Kenya (AGJK) in the Environment and Climate Change Category.

SouthSouthNorth (SSN), Arid Lands Information Network (ALIN), Pan African Media Alliance for Climate Change (PAMACC), ThinkOut and Africa Uncensored hosted a knowledge-sharing session on Understanding Communication and Media in the context of VCA Kenya. The aim of this session was to understand better how communication and media are used within the VCA programme and Kenya region and to unpack how these tools can be used to amplify the work conducted by the Kenya regional team and local partners. PAMACC has recruited participants who have engaged in climate change solutions to be involved in long-form journalism pieces. This was done in Eastern Kenya (Meru County), North-eastern (Garissa), Nyanza (Kisumu), the coastal region (Mombasa), and Western (Kakamega) Kenya. The stories are to be rolled out in 2023. Leveraging media engagements, several partners engaged the media, be it local, mainstream or digital, to reach out to community members and other stakeholders in their areas of operations.

VCA Kenya, through Caritas Maralal, held 14 radio talk shows in collaboration with several duty bearers like the meteorological department, National Droughts Management Authority, Agriculture, livestock, and tourism departments. Some of the topics that they had a discourse on during the shows included early warning and preparedness, weather forecasting, the interconnectedness between the environment and human life, Indigenous conservation practices and opportunities available for integration. The organisation also used bulk SMS to reach over 11000 people with messages around climate change mitigation.

Meanwhile, in Marsabit County, PACIDA, with coalition member Thinkout Kenya played an instrumental role in documenting the impacts of the long-term drought in the arid county. Marsabit is the largest and most Northern County in Kenya, and the communities and local government are quite marginalised from national government structures and media, as well as funding for climate adaptation and mitigation. The partnership resulted in the production of several stories on the drought, climate finance, and policy at county level. The organisations also ensured the amplification of these stories in national broadcast and media features. This included up to 10 minutes of prime airtime, usually dedicated to politics for features to highlight the impacts of the drought. This directly spurred national government's response to the drought in Marsabit and led to follow-up from international media stations ITV (UK), The Guardian, and Reuters, which then went on to produce their own stories. All the stories are also captured on the dedicated platform Voices for Climate.

Following a study done on gaps, barriers, and opportunities for effective climate communication in Kenya, VCA Kenya media partner, Africa Uncensored, over 2022, trained 97 journalists (over 50 % being women) from several counties (Kisumu, Mombasa, Nairobi, Uasin Gishu, and Machakos Counties) on climate change

communication including the psychology of climate communication; framing of climate change issues; covering policy and climate justice issues; pitching climate stories, covering the climate finance landscape in Kenya and policy and environmental governance. This fellowship programme led to the production of a [documentary on climate refugees](#), six video climate explainers¹ and [seven media stories](#) from more than 50 pitched by the trained journalists. The latter, which was supported by a storytelling grant from Africa Uncensored, saw four women out of seven journalists being supported. Five of the stories produced touched on the gender dimensions of climate change.

In **Tunisia**, the Alliance co-hosted a session with Cinema Pour Tous on Climate justice and amplified storytelling for Alternative and Associative Media in Southern Tunisia during a Climate Camp. This was an opportunity to initiate debating on local climate solutions and local narratives not yet heard and shared in media. In addition, the Association for promoting digital culture (ATDCE) produced videos that target young people (aged between 18 and 25) on climate change and its relation with religion. Those videos and discourses have reached more than 12,000 followers on digital platforms, including Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram. The video has gathered more than 6,000 interactions and comments. Experts on climate, sociology and activists were engaged in increasing knowledge exchange on climate action.

In **Zambia**, the Alliance strengthened the capacity of 60 journalists and 45 youths in Lusaka, Chongwe, Kafue, Itezhi tezhi, Chirundu, Mazabuka, Chikankata, Siavonga and Rufunsa in the use of social media for raising climate change concerns. This resulted in more journalists and youths covering climate change issues from communities on Facebook, WhatsApp groups, and KYCTV. Media partners such as Free Press International and Kalemba embarked on writing or presenting climate change stories in a much more captivating way ensuring high engagement.

In **The Netherlands**, Through Hivos, VCA collaborated with the Climate Crisis Coalition in organising the Climate Action Conference and the Climate March, which brought over 10,000 people together, calling for climate justice in Rotterdam in June 2022.

At the **global** level, VCA developed online communication tools to amplify the work done within the Alliance. The current platforms consist of: [The Voices for Just Climate Action website](#), a “Voices in Action” bi-monthly newsletter, the [@WeAreVCA](#) Twitter account, a [Linkedin page](#) and a [YouTube channel](#).

From May to December 2022, the website had a total of 441 visits. 178 were returning visitors. The “Voices in Action” is a bi-monthly newsletter which, since its inception in 2021 until December 2022, has grown its mailing list to 397 subscribers. The number had already risen to 463 subscribers at the time of reporting. Six newsletter editions were distributed in 2022.

¹ Available on Africa Uncensored YouTube channel

From March to December 2022, the LinkedIn page had 1,034 page views, 376 unique (new) visitors and 602 followers. Our page currently has a total of 727 followers. From January to December 2022, the YouTube channel had a total of 1,192 views, 35.1 watch time hours and gained 64 subscribers.

The Communications task force is exploring introducing additional social media platforms, such as Facebook and Instagram, to amplify further the work done within the Alliance.



Rogerio Mendez from Brazil recording a message from the Amazon; *"When we take care of our forests, we take care of the whole world"*.

3.6 MEANINGFUL REPRESENTATION IN INTERNATIONAL POLICY ARENAS

Further to the capacity building on policy and advocacy, local partners and underrepresented groups effectively participated in the Gobeshona Conference as well as the COP27 in Egypt. Voices of women, youth and Indigenous communities were amplified through the presentation and showcasing of videos at side events as well as through engagement with decision-makers, donors, other organisations and stakeholders. At the Gobeshona Conference, VCA convened a side event entitled 'Unravelling the injustices in climate decision-making'. This session opened a space for representatives of women, youth, Indigenous and other rural and urban marginalized groups to share their rich experience and challenges with participating in policy processes and decision making for climate action. The session exposed and unravelled the underlying uncomfortable injustices associated with the inaccessibility of the policy processes for specific groups. Furthermore, in the event 27@27, raw video

messages from VCA local partners and associated youth movements were shown, illustrating the variety of local solutions that are being implemented by these grassroots organisations.



At COP27, the Alliance was represented by at least 31 participants from local partners and grassroots organisations. At these forums, the VCA delegation had clear demands and asks to the international community. For more detailed information on VCA engagements during COP27 & the UNFCCC, see annexe 7

VCA was represented at the 66th Commission on the Status of Women, where the priority theme focused on agreeing on steps that the world must take to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies, and programmes. To advance African women and girls' positions, AMwA, under the auspices of the VCA and together with African feminists and women's rights organisations in Africa, collated a which AMwA presented to delegates from the European Union Commission, Germany, Poland, Israel and Liechtenstein during the Vienna Virtual Cafe dialogues held on 9th, 16th and 23rd March 2022 that were organised by the Commission on the status of Women global secretariat. During the Vienna Cafes, AMwA presented proposals that called upon the delegates to prioritise the issue of climate finance and advance proposals that accelerate access to finance for locally-led climate solutions, and for loss and damage.

Finally, during the last quarter of the year, VCA applied for and was granted a sum of 30,000 EURO, to enable the participation of grassroots communities at the UN 2023

Water Conference (UNWC). As co-host of the UNWC, the Government of The Netherlands (GoNL) emphasised the importance of inclusiveness in the preparatory activities and of the meaningful participation of all groups, also of those whose voices are usually not heard in international (UN) Conferences. The GoNL acknowledged that targeted actions are needed to ensure that the needs and best practices of youth, women, Indigenous and other grassroots groups, within and beyond the water sector, could be shared and would influence the results of the Conference. Also, it is recognised that the involvement of those groups in the 2023 process contributes to their longer-term empowerment and influencing capacity.

3.7 ENSURING CLIMATE FINANCE REACHES THE MOST AT LOCAL LEVELS

The [Climate Finance Report](#) by the Climate Change Association & Finance for Tomorrow indicates financing for developing countries still falls below 100bn. While finance for adaptation increased by 53% to 7.5% it still falls significantly short. Mitigation still counts for 90% of the financing. Developing countries face various challenges in accessing climate finance for local climate solutions, including overly complex application procedures, prohibitive demands for co-financing, and knowledge and capacity constraints in accessing funds.

3.7.1 Evidence-based advocacy for climate finance

During the period under review, the VCA strengthened its efforts in evidence-based advocacy for the purpose of securing funds for climate action. To begin with, in early 2022, the VCA Global Programme and SSN hosted a workshop on climate finance, consulting experts from SSN to inform and refine the VCA climate finance strategy. Three major areas of focus emerged from this workshop; i) the need to bridge the demand and supply side through alternative funding mechanisms for locally led solutions; ii) Influencing UNFCCC frameworks and processes, specifically providing input to the NCQG on Climate Finance; and iii) Strengthening civil society engagement with the Green Climate Fund.

Hivos published a [discussion paper](#) on climate justice in climate finance. This paper strongly argues why finance should flow to local levels by demonstrating good examples of locally led climate solutions. The paper provides clear recommendations to governments, international donors, and funds to increase and secure financial resources flowing to the local level.

This study highlights [that African countries](#), specifically, face numerous challenges in accessing climate finance for local solutions. A set of demand and supply side barriers to accessing these finance flows was identified. It was found that the current incentive system continues to favour the funding of large, centralised projects that manage to navigate the complex climate finance disbursement architecture within many countries. The findings of this study and the resulting VCA policy positions were shared through the African Regional Forum for Sustainable Development, in a side

event that was attended by officials from the **Zambian Biodiversity Finance Initiative**, **The Zambian Ministry of Green Environment** and the **National Treasury of Government of Kenya**. During the event, policymakers showed keen interest in CSOs facilitating learning on best practices among African countries.

VCA Tunisia conducted a study on national climate finance flows, which provided recommendations on strategies to public, private, and civic actors to enhance access to finance by local communities. This study was conducted in a participatory way, consulting key public climate actors. This study served as a basis to inform VCA capacity strengthening activities as well as collaborations with climate actors. At COP27, the study led to a GCF focal point verbally committing to collaborate with VCA partners and include some local partners in the funding available.

VCA Zambia conducted an analysis of the **Constituency Development Fund (2 million USD)** set up by the Zambian government. Policy gaps have been identified, and evidence-based recommendations for the allocation of climate funds to the local levels are being made.



In Tunisia, Palm Tree oases are disappearing fast. The restoration of Palm Tree Oasis in Kerkennah will benefit local communities, the local economy and will make the islands' ecosystems more climate resilient.

3.7.2 Alternative Funding mechanisms for locally led climate solutions.

VCA Paraguay is implementing a **Payment for Environmental Services** mechanism for Indigenous Peoples, which secures funding and territorial security to several Indigenous Communities in the **Gran Chaco** and **Pantanal Ecoregions**. This has been a

major step towards establishing a funding mechanism that guarantees the certification of forest reserves. With funding from Conservation International, WWF-PY supported the certification of **112.256** hectares of forest reserve benefitting six different Indigenous Peoples (Guarani, ñandeva, Ayoreo, Ishyr, Nivacle, Guarani Occidental, toba-Maskoy) in four Ecoregions. This system provides the communities that are the guardians of the vital bio- and culturally diverse ecosystems with an opportunity to generate an independent alternative income.

Several examples of significant efforts made in allocating funds to local actions come from **Indonesia**. Civil society and marginalised groups successfully influenced the funding and budget allocation from village funds and local government budgets for climate action. For example, Hokeng Jaya Village, (in the East Flores District), allocated IDR 25 million (EUR 1,550) to a sustainable food garden programme to promote local food production for climate change adaptation. Similarly, Kawalelo Village (in the East Flores District) allocated 20% of village funds to support communities in growing local foods. Furthermore, the head of the East Manggarai District allocated funds to purchase seeds for 400 hectares of land to support sorghum and other local food cultivation to increase food security conditions and enhance resilience towards climate change following VCA partners' and communities' input.

VCA co-developed the 'Building Approaches to fund local Solutions with climate Evidence' (BASE) fund, serving to articulate advocacy messages and to mobilise additional funds for partners on the ground. VCA initiated a concept for fundraising to build on BASE to mobilise funds for implementing local climate solutions, especially those amplified through VCA. A Press Conference was held at COP27, on the 11th of November, to launch the fund. This initiative works collaboratively to promote funding of locally driven solutions using approaches that will ensure rigorous climate rationale, simplicity, and speed to generate evidence of climate impact and promote collective advocacy for changing climate financing practices. The initiative is coordinated by Avina and Partners include VCA, the United Nations University, the Institute for Environment and Human Security, REOS Partners, GFLAC, SKOLL, IPRIGHTS and BRAINFOREST.

Lastly, in 2022 the setup of the Next Level Grant Facility (NLGF) in the VCA Alliance was initiated. The NLGF is a funding mechanism specifically designed to direct funding to the hardest to reach target groups of the VCA programme. It is developed in such a way that informal groups, informal or grassroots CSOs and activists or EHRDs can easily apply for small grants that are quickly disbursed. The NLGF funds emergencies that directly impact the work of local climate advocates in the VCA countries. The first half of 2023 will focus on the selection of fund managers and adapting the NLGF frameworks to the specific VCA regions, so that they reflect locally apt, inclusive, fair, and transparent decision-making processes and outcomes. The local NLGF frameworks are developed collaboratively and should be supported by the regional VCA Alliance.

3.8 LOCAL AND NATIONAL ADVOCACY SUCCESS AND POLICY INFLUENCE

As a result of VCA CSO engagement, the programme successfully contributed to blocking, adopting, and implementing several national policies and laws. VCA **Brazil** supported the campaign: "The Most Urgent Law in the World" to influence the approval of the admissibility of the Constitutional Amendment 27/2021 (Climate PEC), which would establish climate security as a fundamental right in the Brazilian constitution. In addition, Quilombola leaders mobilised the populations of the territories Santa Rosa dos Pretos and Santa Maria dos Pinheiros in Itapecuru-Mirim to elaborate the Community Consultation Protocol. VCA Brazil in collaboration with the Coalition Voices of Tocantins for Climate Justice with the Tocantins State Public Ministry contributed to the support against the Environmental Licensing Law. They successfully influenced the alteration of text of the law, which violated constitutional rights of farmers, Indigenous People, and communities.

The changes in the law contribute to addressing major socio-environmental impacts, such as indiscriminate aerial spraying of pesticides, deforestation, and many other negative socio-environmental impacts. In Morros, Maranhao State, farmers presented a proposal for a Municipal Law on Agroecology and Organic Production to the Municipality. In the second half of 2022, the proposal was submitted. This is a popular initiative that demonstrates the protagonist role and awareness of farmers and highlights that agroecology guarantees healthy and sustainable food systems, besides promoting climate justice. This process was started in 2019, but it was the VCA-Brazil Programme that funded the mobilization and promoted engagement through meetings, workshops, and technical advice.

In **Indonesia**, local partners successfully advocated two regulations to include recommendations from CSOs and marginalised groups to support just climate transitions. Firstly, the Head of the Asmat District in Papua Province signed District Decree on the recognition and protection of Asmat Indigenous People and Pomar Sirau Clan's customary territory. This decree is critical to protect Indigenous rights and to manage sustainable natural resources. Furthermore, on the local level, the Head of Womom Village issued decree No.1 about the Womom ecotourism group formation. The Head of Tanah Merah Village approved a recommendation from the fishing community to formulate village regulations for mangrove protection.

VCA **Kenya** has been working with its partners to influence policy at the sub national level through joint lobby and advocacy. In anticipation of FLLOCA funds incoming in 2023, counties have been establishing policy and regulations to support community participation in climate finance flows. VCA has undertaken efforts in several counties including Homabay, Marsabit, Nakuru, Narok and Samburu counties. Hivos partner CUTS was able to mobilise and sensitise Homabay county community members and the political class (newly elected County Assembly Members) on the need of a climate change policy in addressing the adverse impact of Climate Change in the County. They were also inducted for their role in policy formulation and implementation. As a result of these engagements and collaboration with like-minded organisations,

Homabay County was able to put in place a robust Climate Change Act and anchored a fund in it. The fund ringfenced 2% of the total County development budget towards climate action. In Samburu County, WWF Partner Caritas Maralal facilitated through capacity strengthening, supporting public participation and strong collaboration with the county government officials the passing of two key policies on Climate Change and Sustainable Forest Management and Tree Growing. These policies will contribute to a policy and regulatory environment that supports adaptation actions for the arid county, as well as participation of citizens in anticipation of FLLoCA funding.

Simultaneously, PACIDA, a Hivos partner working in Marsabit was able to put in place and build capacity of 10 Ward Climate Change Planning Committees as stipulated in the Marsabit Climate Change Act. This structure is critical in channelling climate finances to the grassroots for climate action. In addition, they have developed the Mulika2 Tracking Tool which will be used for following ups and tracking of expenditures at the ward levels. The tool has already been shared with the ward climate change planning committees.

In Nakuru County, VCA Alliance members and local partners collaborated to influence the Nakuru County Government to establish Ward Climate Change Planning Committees (WCCPCs); a mechanism that enables communities to directly influence climate finance flows. ADA Consortium, ALIN, NACOFA (all WWF partners), SDI Kenya and Muungano wa Wanavijiji, and WWF jointly worked to train government officials on the need for participatory planning, supported the establishment of the County Climate Change Fund regulations. The team has also jointly supported the formation of 55 WCCPCs, a requirement of the regulations that ensures that local communities understood the purpose of the WCCPCs and were committed to supporting their establishment. In addition, a member of Muungano wa Wanavijiji has been elected to one of the WCCPCs. ADA Consortium also undertook a similar exercise in Narok County that has led to the formation of one WCCPCs as well as capacity strengthening of government officials on the importance of citizen inclusion in climate processes. This will continue into the next year.

VCA was also involved in influencing Kenya's COP27 position at a subnational and national level. Representatives of youth and women CSOs and CBOs, and community self-help groups from Kisumu City developed the first Kisumu City COP27 position paper and presented it at the National CSOs pre-COP27 position development.

The Human Rights Commission of the Upper House of Parliament in **Paraguay** agreed on a draft version of a public policy for the Integral Protection of Defenders and Journalists. VCA in Paraguay has also contributed strongly to the dossier, The Right to a Future, which contains 20 pressing stories about the environment, development, and human rights in Paraguay. The report was elaborated in the aftermath of the UPR cycle, where a shadow report was published, focused on Human rights and the environment. The dossier was developed in a multi-actor way with CSOs, grassroots organisations, independent investigative journalists, and alternative media for graphic design.

In **Tunisia**, VCA has joined national organisations and coalitions to influence legal frameworks related to environment and climate change, including the Environment Code, climate law, and the Low Carbon Strategy.

VCA has succeeded in bringing together climate and non-climate civil society organisations in Tunisia and having a unique climate brand.

The VCA Alliance has made two submissions to the New Collective and Quantified Goal on climate finance (NCQG) based on broad discussions within the Alliance and informed by the lived experiences of the women and rights holders VCA represents, taking into account their needs and priorities. The submissions were made on October 10th 2022, and the 20th of February, 2023 to the Ad-hoc working programme on NCQG based on decisions CMA.3 and CMA.4. The submissions recognise that locally led solutions should be at the centre of the global response to climate change and the imperative to adequately finance, connect and scale up local solutions to respond to climate change and achieve the 2030 agenda for sustainable development.

Since December 2022, VCA **Bolivia**, in collaboration with NUR University, alongside with Capitanía del Alto y Bajo Izozog (CABI) worked on a proposal to facilitate a dialogue processes on territorial integrity and climate change in Indigenous territories within the lowlands of Bolivia. The initiative expects to contribute to the linking of Indigenous territories' agenda with the objectives of sustainable forest management in the Bolivian NDCs. This project could benefit the conservation of almost 5 million hectares of forest and more than 8,000 people.

In **The Netherlands**, VCA, in collaboration with other PoVs, provided comments in response to the Dutch international climate strategy. It was noted that The Netherlands is dependent on other countries to achieve its climate goals, as expressed in the letter to the House of Representatives. What the Dutch government missed was the recognition that other countries depend equally on Dutch commitment to achieve their goals. As a rich and densely populated trading country, the Netherlands has moved many of its production processes abroad, resulting in a huge impact on the environment and human rights beyond its borders. The global Dutch climate and environmental footprint is the largest in the EU. By signing the Paris Climate Agreement, the Netherlands has committed itself to several crucial principles, such as "the polluter pays", and "common but differentiated responsibilities". These principles are of great importance in defusing the climate crisis.

The key asks were that the Ministry include the following points in the international climate strategy:

1. The Netherlands is reducing its greenhouse gas emissions even faster, both indoors and beyond its borders, for example through subsidies, investments and the agreements in line with the 1.5-degree target.
2. The Netherlands is committed to a fair energy transition, with access to critical raw materials, distributed fairly between rich and poor countries.
3. The Netherlands pays its fair share (1.7 billion) of the internationally pledged climate finance and makes this money new and additional to the ODA. The

Netherlands ensures that local organizations can participate in deciding on the use of this money, as is also laid down in the Locally Led Adaptation Principles.

4. The Netherlands is committed to a separate fund for climate damage.

4. COLLABORATION WITH MOFA, EMBASSIES AND OTHER POVS

Formal and informal meetings between the VCA and MoFA were held during the year. The Annual Policy Dialogue was a platform to deliberate on MoFA developments, the BHOS policy note, and multi-annual plans. Other key topics were discussed, such as EHRDs, locally-led adaptation, climate finance and youth engagement. All parties agreed on collaboration at COP27 and the UN 2023 Water Conference. In addition, VCA was invited to contribute to the various policy documents, including the International Climate Strategy, the Africa strategy and the Embassy toolkit concerning human rights.

4.1 ENGAGEMENTS WITH EMBASSIES

The VCA values the collaboration with the Dutch Embassies in all the implementing countries. While there has been considerable success in developing relations in some countries, a few have experienced challenges.

Bolivia

At the end of 2022, VCA Bolivia had not yet had an opportunity to contact the respective embassy. This is complicated by the fact that there is no embassy in Bolivia. The VCA Bolivia team appreciates the invitation from the Embassy to meet and is available to participate in meetings as deemed necessary and to coordinate joint activities.

Brazil

During the years 2021/2022, the VCA Brazil team had three conversations with the Embassy. Staff from the Embassy participated in the launch event of the VCA programme in 2021. Since there has been a change of the focal point of the Embassy, the team has now scheduled a meeting for the first quarter of 2023 with the Embassy. Next to this, the VCA Brazil team expects to have a close relationship with the Dutch focal point responsible for human rights in Brazil, as agreed at the Annual Policy Dialogue with VCA-MoFA in October 2022.

Indonesia

Usually, every year VCA Indonesia has a regular meeting with all the PoV partnerships and the Embassy (there are 16 partnerships in the country) to discuss potential collaboration. VCA Indonesia has managed to collaborate with one of the other PoV partnerships (Green Livelihood Alliance) in the Asia-Pacific Climate Week. After that, no tangible collaboration with the Embassy or other PoV partnership has formed. In Indonesia, the Embassy also has its own specific grant (using a similar framework to PoV) directly managed by them for climate issues. Their partner for this grant, Pattiro, is more involved with the Embassy such as their involvement in EU climate week in Indonesia. By the end of this reporting period, VCA-Indonesia was in discussion with Pattiro to search for collaboration opportunities. For 2023, VCA Indonesia aims to get more involved with the Embassy and host joint webinars or discussions especially around the climate and rights nexus.

Kenya

The momentum for engagements with the Embassy has come from the Embassy. They have held several Partner's Days which have focused on discussion of issues such as synergies between Power of Voices programmes, and elections, including assessing ways in which the Embassy can provide support. In addition, the Embassy has reached out to VCA specifically for support when organising field trips and events, seeking to link our creative partners and representatives from informal settlements; and for input on strategy such as the Dutch government's involvement in the World Bank's Financing Locally Led Adaptation (FLLoCA) programme. The collaboration with the embassy is going smoothly and the embassy has given VCA several chances to highlight their work.

Paraguay

Paraguay does not have a Dutch Embassy, yet they have been in contact with the Embassy in Buenos Aires. In November 2021, the former ambassador, Mr. Niewenkamp and his committee, together with the Dutch counsel in Paraguay made a field visit with the VCA team to the remote Municipality of Bahía Negra, in the Paraguayan Pantanal, where they met several local partners, including Ishyr Indigenous communities. Unfortunately, the diplomatic team in Buenos Aires has rotated in August 2022 and contact with the current ambassador has not yet been established. Yet the team is planning to do so.

Tunisia

VCA Tunisia has continued to pursue engagement with the Dutch Embassy. While the Alliance has yet to constructively engage officials at the Embassy, it remains hopeful for future opportunities to cocreate and advance climate justice in Tunisia. A meeting with the Dutch Embassy took place in 2022 to present the VCA programme and the progress so far. The VCA focal point for Tunisia met the Ambassador of youth and education in June 2022 in an informal meeting. Notable challenges are that the contacts are temporary and climate change is not a priority for the Embassy in Tunisia.

Zambia

The Embassy in Harare indicated their willingness to receive regular updates on the programme implementation. VCA Zambia welcomes this suggestion and would be glad if a contact person can be shared for frequent provision updates. Quarterly updates and virtual meetings can be held for this purpose.

Plans are in place to help improve communication and collaboration. It is worth noting that the VCA invited all the respective embassies to the Annual Consultation Planning Meeting between VCA and MoFA. This is an important platform for all embassy representatives to have an insight into the plans developed for their countries as well as to appreciate what other countries are doing.

4.2 CONNECTING ACROSS PVP CLIMATE JUSTICE CONSORTIUMS IN THE NETHERLANDS

Comprising of VCA, Oxfam Novib, Defence Milleu, African Activists for Climate Justice led by PACJA and in consortium with Natural Justice, FEMNET and Africa Youth Commission, the PVP Climate Justice Consortium has convened quarterly meetings. Initial meetings focused on sharing information about our programmes, countries where we work and opportunities for collaboration and synergy.

5. COLLABORATION WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Most of the countries do not yet have tangible partnerships with the private sector. However, VCA Indonesia recently finalised research on climate finance, which includes an analysis of funding from philanthropy organizations for climate to bolster climate finance that can reach local levels. This will be pursued further in 2023.

In **Zambia**, mechanisms to leverage green private investments are key in improving long-term climate action. To scale up successful project cases to programmes of sustainable market level, it is important to adopt a holistic approach for private sector engagement in climate change and green growth.

This approach will focus on supporting a range of policy reforms and regulations to promote climate change mitigation and adaptation and improved environmental performance, an enabling policy environment for private climate investments, along with the use of limited public finance for mechanisms to leverage green private investment. The Alliance is focusing on mobilising green investments, promoting green private sector development, and harnessing skills and knowledge for green growth.

6. GLOBAL ALLIANCE COORDINATION

Internal coordination and collaboration among the VCA partners remained positive throughout 2022. The Alliance Partners continued to work closely together to deliver the programme. The structures and processes that were put in place at the beginning of the programme were strengthened using a flexible and adaptive learning centred approach and project governance structure. These include the Steering Committee, Joint Programme Team (JPT), Programme Advisory Committee (PAC), National Advisory Committees (NAC) and several key Task Forces (TF) such as Finance, Communications, and Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (PMEL) as well as the Regional Teams (RT) and the Global Programme Team (GloPro). The programme notes the ever increasing need to strengthen the local to global approach by ensuring that advocacy messages are informed by the needs and priorities of local people.

Efforts have been made to ensure that RTs are consulted, either via meetings or surveys when the GloPro has prepared plans and strategies in the different workstreams, to ensure linkage and relevance. Events at global level where VCA has been engaging have been jointly shaped by regional and global level staff and have had local partners as speakers. Concrete example of this was the taskforce for COP27 which had a mix of regional and global level staff who co-created the strategy, side events and engagement plans. The same has been the case for the planning for the UN 2023 Water conference. The Alliance convened the first in-person meeting that brought together VCA staff from across the Alliance countries and taskforces. The meeting was held in Cape Town, South Africa and was hosted by the Alliance Partners South Africa, namely SDI and SSN. The meeting was held from the 5-9 September 2022 and was attended by at least 45 participants. Participants were drawn from all the implementing countries of the programme and made up of at least 16 different nationalities. The meeting achieved the following objectives:

- Outlined the perspectives of Alliance Partners on their contributions to the programme and the added value of the Alliance organisations and the programme.
- Articulated the progress made in delivering the programme at the local and global scale.
- Exchanged experiences in applying key concepts at local and global scales for better insights, further collaboration, and synergy across and beyond individual partners and regions.
- Examined the importance of the VCA methodologies and measures for improvement.
- Discussed the framework, process, and accountability measures as well as next steps for VCA small grants for the purposes of further enhancing local ownership.
- Defined what it means to lead from the south and steps to fulfil this core pillar of the VCA vision.
- Explored modalities for aligning messages and using the partners' diversity.

However, there is a clear need to do more to enhance the local to global approach. Further defining initiatives and procedures in the overall management of the programme are some of the issues that the programme will take forward. The improvement of listening processes, with the adoption of previous consultations with and involvement of RTs, which capture suggestions and questions from grassroots organizations and territories, can be a way to overcome this gap. There is also a need for opportunities to exchange more experience, for example: between regions on specific thematic issues such as successful advocacy methods, human rights and locally-led approaches.

7. PLANNING, MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

The VCA uses outcome harvesting (OH) as the primary monitoring methodology for the programme, for its qualities to capture the complexities of L&A results and for the involvement of local partners in monitoring. In early 2022 the PMEL working group organised a training on OH for a group of 30 people, consisting of representatives from local partners in each region. These subsequently worked with local OH consultants to further train local partners in the methodology during 2022, resulting in 64 CSOs reporting an increased capacity on OH. In preparation for the Mid Terms Review to be conducted in July/August of 2023, the VCA developed the TOR and engaged the services of the same consultant who conducted the baseline study.

8. GRIEVANCE MECHANISMS

The Alliance has ensured that all stakeholders are aware of the VCA grievance mechanism and email address (grievance@voicesforclimateaction.org) since its introduction in September 2021. During the inception of the programme, as well as during the Annual Reflection and Planning Meetings, stakeholders were taken through various grievance management processes and partners have been encouraged to include the grievance email on their website and information materials. During the reporting period, two complaints were raised against local partners in Tunisia and Zambia. The matters were addressed by the respective Alliance Partners and were also brought to the attention of the Ministry.

9. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

All projects carried out by the Coalitions in VCA deal with several cross-cutting themes that are highly valuable to the departments of Inclusive Green Growth and Social Development (IGG), such as food security, management of water, drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, women rights, gender equality and rights and security. Figure 5 below shows the percentage of outcomes showing a result on these cross-cutting themes.

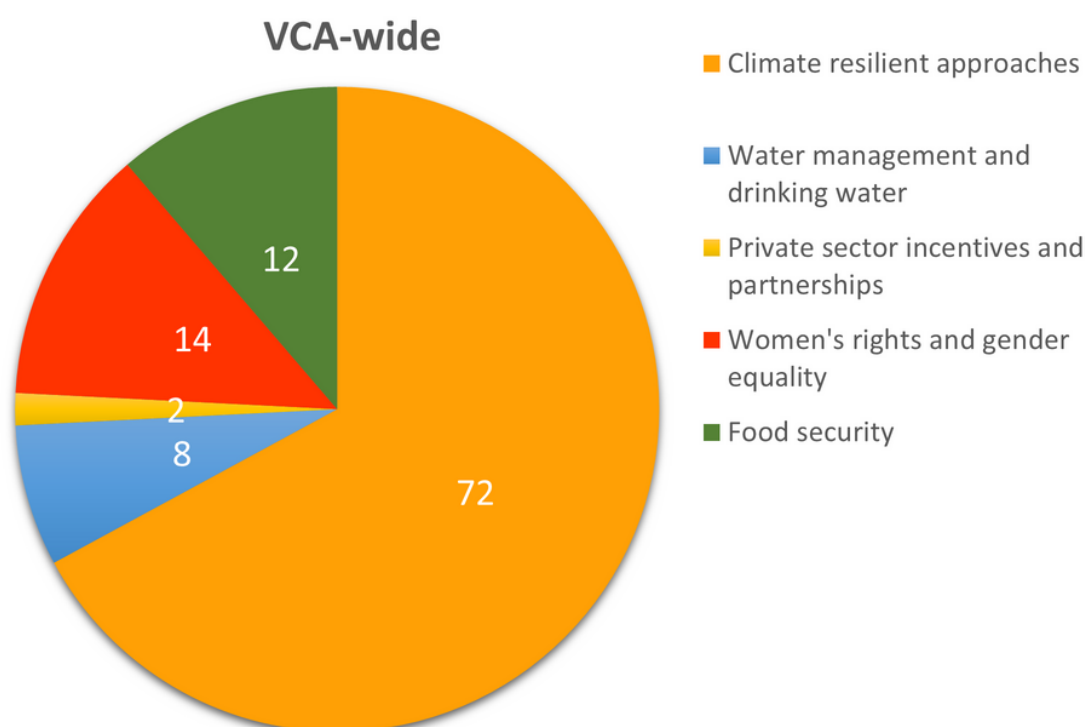


Figure 5: Percentage of outcome showing a result on cross-cutting themes
 NB: the Rights and security theme was not scored.

Food security

Food security and sovereignty are prominent issues in the context of the many territories in the **Brazilian** Amazon. Food security is highly threatened by advance in agribusiness, deforestation, mining, and attempted exploitation, which are widely opposed by VCA partner organizations. For example, the importance of the Landless Workers Movement (MST) in the country's family farming agenda is highlighted, emphasising the area of action of the Voices of Tocantins Coalition for Climate Justice. The National Council of Rubber Tappers (CNS) also focuses on the socio-bioeconomy agenda.

In **Indonesia**, the areas in which VCA works, East Nusa Tenggara, Papua, and West Papua, share common challenges on food security, the impacts of hydrometeorological disasters and forest management in particular. VCA projects amplified the importance of local resources, including local food as a means of climate change mitigation and adaptation while also strengthening the community's livelihood.

Management of water and drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene

In **Brazil**, some VCA coalitions act on the water agenda in their territories, focusing on the right of access to water, water management and sanitation. For some, it is an important line of action. Organizations such as Movimento Tapajós Vivo live in contexts where their ways of life depend on the dynamics of rivers and fight for their right and protection.

In **Indonesia**, water management is also closely intertwined with all partners and project areas, as water is a fundamental need for people. For instance, in East Nusa Tenggara, many climate actions advocated by the community and VCA partners are related to water conservation as well as inclusive-water and coastal related infrastructure. Regarding WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene), SPEAK Indonesia (SDI's partner) has a strong focus on improving access to WASH, especially in informal and slum areas of Jakarta and Yogyakarta city. This involves advocating the connection between climate change and basic services such as WASH and water rights of communities, particularly those living in slum areas.

Paraguay focuses on water governance and management through the MIAS-Chaco (Mesa Intersectorial de Agua y Saneamiento para el Chaco), access to drinking water for Indigenous communities, through the strengthening of community governance and sanitation committees. A focus on strengthening community livelihoods with a gender focus was added through the set-up of a regional programme focused on the Pantanal Chaco landscape (PaCha) of Bolivia, Brazil, Argentina, and Paraguay, with private funding from a Spanish textile company. The project aims to promote incentives for sustainable forest management led by IPLC women; empowering women by providing a female-generated income source. Alternative economic drivers will also prevent deforestation, and is seen as a mitigation measure for threats to biodiversity and people in the landscape, such as forest fires and human-wildlife conflicts.

Women's rights and gender equality

The climate crisis is not “gender neutral.” Women and girls experience the greatest impacts of climate change, which amplifies existing gender inequalities and poses unique threats to their livelihoods, health, and safety. As the VCA, we see women leadership as key to ensuring the voices of marginalised groups are heard. For us, the term “gender justice” best signifies our intersectional approach that centres the diverse needs, experiences, and leadership of people most impacted by discrimination and oppression. The VCA programme works to ensure that the voices and narratives

of those who have been most marginalised, specifically women, are central to climate discourse.

Through adopting a feminist intersectional approach, we advocate for and prioritise the inclusion, engagement and participation of women and other minority groups in creating, developing, implementing, and monitoring policy responses to and plans on climate change and disaster relief. We do this through facilitating capacity strengthening of climate actors on feminist advocacy and movement building, as well as feminist leadership development. Through this process, we hope to develop a critical mass of feminist and transformational leaders who will challenge and transform power relations for a just and sustainable climate transition.

Furthermore, we document women's experiences and lived realities to influence, shape and inform conversations concerning climate policies and programmes. In addition, we facilitate the participation of women in national, regional, and global climate spaces and decision-making processes. VCA **Brazil** has prioritised and promoted women's roles in the Climate Justice agenda in the country, in all its actions. Of the 71 organizations that make up the network in Brazil, seven are formed exclusively by women. In all VCA events, national and international women have been protagonists. VCA **Zambia** has noted that in the programme sites, cultural practices still hinder women from amplifying their voices.

Rights and security

The VCA programme adopted the rights-based approach that enhances various human rights that are trampled on by climate change. Examples of human rights that are affected by climate change include the right to food, shelter, and civil protection in **Brazil**, this was the topic that received the most attention, due to the context. Progress was made in the dialogues on security protocols. On an emergency basis, for example, support was provided for the relatives of the murdered activist in the state of Tocantins.

Climate Resilient Approaches

VCA **Brazil** contributed to the mobilization of the campaign to support the approval of the Climate Constitutional Amendment Project, with the objective of including climate security in the Federal Constitution of Brazil and an Advocacy Commission was created, which has been developing activities and training courses and has a calendar of actions and strategies. In addition to participating in the COP with the promotion of events and dialogues with government representatives on the subject. Coalitions have offered training on the subject, and an initiative has mobilised the creation of the Belém municipal forum on climate change. VCA **Indonesia** has initiated a collaboration with GNDR (Global Network of Civil Society organisations for Disaster Risk Reduction) to explore more on the connection between climate change and DRR (Disaster Risk Reduction). Prior to COP27, we teamed up to send a letter containing several cross-cutting key messages to the Indonesia delegation.

10. LESSONS LEARNT

Notable progress was made in 2022. The VCA will continue to look for more impactful interventions to expand its influence, and achieve significant outcomes. Over the past year, important lessons were learned:

Lessons learned on coalitions and networks: The programme utilised an existing network to develop or strengthen multi-stakeholder forum focusing on climate justice issues. At the same time, it also engaged with the existing multi-stakeholder forums to incorporate climate justice issues into their agenda. The aim was to ensure that the issue became more inclusive while considering the context and power dynamics in each location. For public narrative changes and campaigns for just transition, we learnt that to reach public audiences and non-conventional stakeholders, we need to use their interest as the entry point. Creative campaigns (such as art, culture, music, film, etc.) were beneficial to reach/approach non-conventional audience.

Lessons learned on capacity strengthening: the conceptualisation of some concepts is still a challenging task that VCA Alliance and local partners are required to address. Key concepts of the VCA programme should be contextualised and translated into local languages based on the specificity of the country. The regional teams and local partners required more capacity building to be able to transfer knowledge and provide more evidence. In 2023, the profiling and promotion of local climate solutions are considered as a key objective. There is also a need for in-depth discussions to create more tangible connections between the urban and rural constituencies.

Lessons learned on amplifying voices: despite the progress made in having great presence in public spaces and making proper VCA narratives, the sustaining and dissemination of knowledge and stories need more efforts to reach wider public. To guarantee accurate climate information, CSOs and media need more capacity to avoid disinformation and misinformation, and to enable new narratives where inclusiveness of climate action policies is a key indicator. Media should be able to facilitate debates on just transition, climate finance accountability and just climate action.

Generally, The UNFCCC COP space is becoming less inclusive, and CSO spaces have shrunk due to the restrictions put in place by host countries. A report by Global Witness, together with Corporate Accountability and Corporate Europe Observatory, has identified at least 636 fossil lobbyists who were granted access to COP27, 26% more than COP26, a greater number than the ten most impacted countries' delegations altogether and twice as many fossil fuel lobbyists as delegates from the official UN constituency for Indigenous Peoples. Hence, COPs are becoming a space for doing business, just another frontier for capitalistic opportunism. This negatively impacts the broader public's perception of the efficiency of negotiations, CSOs advocacy and the entire process around it.

Lessons learnt on diversifying funding opportunities to implement locally shaped climate solutions: It remains a challenge for (especially smaller) CSOs to diversify their funding base, and a key lesson in this regard is that in the capacity strengthening support, it is essential to focus on capacities related to resource mobilisation specifically. Funding ensures legitimacy and continuation – building on the foundations that are built or strengthened. The funding to the local level is still quite difficult to track from the Netherlands since a substantial part goes through multilateral agencies and the private sector.

Lessons learnt on documentation: VCA partners implement many successful interventions which are not documented. There is a need to enhance knowledge management at all levels of the Alliance and enhance knowledge-sharing activities to ensure that both global and regional teams are aware of the valuable work that is being undertaken in the different areas. Time needs to be dedicated to analyse the many successes in light of the greater VCA impacts, contributing to an even stronger and more comprehensive narrative on climate justice.

11. CONCLUSION

The UNFCCC COP27 was held against the backdrop of the most severe impacts of climate change recorded in a year. The VCA implementing countries were not spared from the devastation. VCA focused on local emerging civil society, CBOs, CSOs, groups and associations, premised on the belief that investments in early-stage activities and targeted support can help elevate emerging CSOs to become change agents that, if empowered and supported, can yield positive results for their communities and constituencies.

In most countries, results have been impressive and a strong basis for further lobbying and advocacy work has been built, paving the way for local organisations to take the VCA legacy forward. VCA recognises that due to the scale and complexity of the programme, it is not possible to show all the significant results. Hence, the VCA is working on consolidating and synthesizing the ambitions on key aspects of the programme to be more impact driven, clearer and specific to be challenging and transformative. VCA will ensure that we are continuously checking that each reform is not simply seeking change within the current system but is one step towards the vision of change, resulting in a formidable movement.

We would like to thank the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, especially the departments of Inclusive Green Growth and Social Development, for its collaboration and willingness to engage and to create enabling conditions for civic space.

ANNEXE 1 - OVERVIEW OF LOCAL PARTNERS

List of local partners contracted and active in 2022

ANNEXE 1.1 BOLIVIA/PARAGUAY

CONTRACTING PARTNER	LOCAL PARTNER	LATEST CONTRACT IN 2022	TYPE OF ORGANISATION	LEADERSHIP
Fundación Avina	El Surtidor	17/11/2022 - 17/4/2023	Media	Youth led
Fundación Avina	Mingara	07/10/2021 - 07/04/2023	National NGO	Women led
Fundación Avina	SUNU	22/10/2021 - 22/04/2023	National NGO	Women led
Fundación Avina	FortaleSER	22/08//2022 - 15/02/2023	National NGO	
Fundación Avina	Naturaleza para la Vida	27/05/2022 - 27/03/2023	National NGO	Women led
Fundación Avina	Revista Muy Waso	23/08/2021 - 23/03/2022	Media	Women and LGBT+ led
Fundación Avina	Global Voices	22/09/2021 - 22/03/2023	Media	
Fundación Avina	NATIVA	08/11/2021 - 11/05/2023	National NGO	
Fundación Avina	APCOB	23/08/2021 - 23/08/2022	National NGO	IPLC led
Fundación Avina	CERDET	12/10/2021 - 12/10/2022	National NGO	IPLC led
Fundación Avina	Fundación Jubileo	01/12/2021 - 01/12/2022	Foundation (Catholic)	
Fundación Avina	FAN	12/09/2022 - 12/09/2023	National NGO	
Fundación Avina	FUNDESNAPE	31/10/2022 - 31/10/2023	National NGO	
Fundación Avina	LIDEMA	13/06/2022 - 13/12/2022	National NGO	Women led
WWF PY	FAPI	01/07/2021 - 30/05/2024	National NGO	IPLC led
WWF PY	CAMSAT	11/10/2021 - 10/03/2022	Umbrella grassroots federation, Community-based, Faith-based	
WWF PY	Asociación de Familiares de víctimas de Marina Kue	08/10/2021 - 20/06/2022	Grassroots movement, Community-based	

ANNEXE 1.1 BOLIVIA/PARAGUAY CONT.

CONTRACTING PARTNER	LOCAL PARTNER	LATEST CONTRACT IN 2022	TYPE OF ORGANISATION	LEADERSHIP
WWF PY	UCINY	01/12/2021 - 21/10/2022	Grassroots movement, Community-based	IPLC led
WWF PY	Guyra Paraguay	17/12/2021 - 20/12/2023	National NGO	
WWF PY	OPADES	14/01/2022 - 31/10/2022	National NGO	Youth led
WWF PY	Ecopantanal	22/07/2022 - 14/04/2023	Local NGO	Youth led
WWF PY	CODEHUPY	14/03/2022 - 15/08/2023	National NGO	
WWF PY	Global Infancia	13/06/2022 - 06/01/2023	National NGO	
WWF PY	GEAM	20/07/2022 - 16/05/2023	National NGO	
WWF PY	Made in Paraguay	22/04/2022 - 14/04/2023	Media	
WWF PY	Pro Comunidades Indígenas (PCI)	22/06/2022 - 10/07/2025	Local NGO, working with indigenous and rural communities	
WWF Bolivia	NATIVA	31/01/2022 - 30/03/2023	National NGO	
WWF Bolivia	SBDA	15/12/2021 - 31/05/2022	National NGO	
WWF Bolivia	ORE	15/04/2022 - 15/02/2023	National NGO	IPLC led
WWF Bolivia	CIPCA	01/04/2022 - 02/12/2022	National NGO	IPLC led
WWF Bolivia	ARAAKUARENDA	01/06/2022 - 31/10/2022	Foundation	IPLC led
WWF Bolivia	COMUNA	15/11/2022 - 15/11/2023	National NGO	IPLC led
WWF Bolivia	FIDES	In process	National NGO	IPLC led

ANNEXE 1.2 BRAZIL

CONTRACTING PARTNER	LOCAL PARTNER	LATEST CONTRACT IN 2022	TYPE OF ORGANISATION	LEADERSHIP
Fundación Avina	Instituto Sociedade, População e Natureza - ISPN Coalition of 11 members	01/11/2021 - 01/01/2025	National NGO	Women, youth and IPLC led
Fundación Avina	Projeto Saúde e Alegria - PSA Coalition of 7 members	01/12/2021 - 01/01/2025	National NGO	Women, youth and IPLC led
Fundación Avina	Associação Comunitária de Educação em Saúde e Agricultura - ACESA Coalition of 5 members	01/12/2021 - 01/01/2025	CSO	Women, youth and IPLC led
Fundación Avina	Coordenação das Associações das Comunidades Remanescentes de Quilombo do Pará - Malungu	01/12/2022 - 31/03/2023	CSO	Women, youth and IPLC led
Fundación Avina	Tapajós de Fato	01/12/2022 - 31/03/2023	CSO	Women, youth and IPLC led
Fundación Avina	Gueto Hub	01/12/2022 - 31/03/2023	CSO	Youth led
Fundación Avina	Liga de Cuidados Integrals à Diversidade Sexual e de Gênero - LACIGS+	01/12/2022 - 31/03/2023	CSO	Youth and LGBTQIAP+ led
Fundación Avina	Conselho Indígena Tapajós e Arapiuns - CITA	01/12/2022 - 31/03/2023	CSO	Women, youth and IPLC led
Fundación Avina	Articulação dos Povos Indígenas do Amapá e Norte do Pará - APOIANP	01/12/2022 - 31/03/2023	CSO	Women, youth and IPLC led
Hivos	COIAB Coalition of 12 members	01/03/2022 - 01/03/2024	CSO	Women and IPLC led
Hivos	Instituto Equit Coalition of 4 members	01/12/2021 - 01/12/2023	CSO	Women led
Hivos	Movimento de Pimpadores Coalition of 4 members	01/01/2022 - 01/07/2023	CSO	Artist led
Hivos	Open Knowledge Brasil Coalition of 6 members	01/03/2022 - 01/03/2025	CSO	Women led
Hivos	Rede Interação Coalition of 2 members	01/12/2021 - 01/11/2023	CSO	

ANNEXE 1.2 BRAZIL CONT.

CONTRACTING PARTNER	LOCAL PARTNER	LATEST CONTRACT IN 2022	TYPE OF ORGANISATION	LEADERSHIP
Hivos	Instituto Tucunduba Coalition of 3 members	01/02/2022 - 01/03/2023	CSO	Women and youth led
WWF-BR	Comitê Chico Mendes Coalition of 4 members	01/12/2021 - 01/12/2024	CSO	IPLC led
WWF-BR	Associação Coletivo Cultural Coalition of 7 members	01/12/2021 - 01/12/2024	CSO	
WWF-BR	Escola de Ativismo Coalition of 5 members	01/12/2021 - 01/03/2024	National NGO	

ANNEXE 1.3 TUNISIA

CONTRACTING PARTNER	LOCAL PARTNER	LATEST CONTRACT IN 2022	TYPE OF ORGANISATION	LEADERSHIP
AMwA	Tunisia Youth Impact (TYI)	01/04/2022 - 31/03/2024	National NGO	Women and youth led
AMwA	Tunisia Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies (TIPCS)	01/04/2022 - 31/03/2024	National NGO	Youth led
Hivos	ATPNE	01/03/2022- 31/07/2023	CSO	Women and youth led
Hivos	AAO (project has been suspended in August 2022)	01/01/2022 - 08/2022	CSO	
Hivos	Collectif Creatif	01/02/2022 - 30/06/2023	CSO	Youth led
Hivos	ATDCE	01/07/2022 - 30/09/2023	Media organization	Youth led
Hivos	Observatory of food sovereignty and Environment (OSAE)	01/07/2022 - 31/08/2023	CSO	
Hivos	La Ruche	01/07/2022 - 30/09/2023	CSO	Women and youth led
Hivos	Tunisian Youth Impact	01/12/2021 - 31/12/2023	CSO	Youth led
Hivos	New Generation for Development and Environment	01/12/2022 - 31/10/2023	CSO	Youth led
SSN	Nawaat	01/05/2022 - 31/12/2023	Media organisation	
WWF NA	ACDD	01/01/2022 - 30/06/2023	CSO	Women and youth led
WWF NA	ACG	01/01/2022 - 31/12/2023	CSO	Women and youth led
WWF NA	Essaida FM	01/08/2022 - 28/02/2023	Media organization	
WWF NA	Express FM	01/08/2022 - 31/03/2023	Media organization	
WWF NA	Cinema pour tous	01/08/2022 - 31/03/2023	Coalition/Consortium/Alliance	Women and youth led

ANNEXE 1.4 KENYA

CONTRACTING PARTNER	LOCAL PARTNER	LATEST CONTRACT IN 2022	TYPE OF ORGANISATION	LEADERSHIP
AMwA	Community Advocacy and Awareness (CRAWN) Trust	01/12/2021 - 30/11/2022	National NGO	Women and youth led
AMwA	Women's Empowerment Link	01/12/2021 - 30/11/2022	National NGO	Women and youth led
AMwA	Siaya Muungano Network	01/12/2021 - 30/11/2022	CBO	Women and youth led
AMwA	Lamu Women Alliance	01/01/2022 - 31/12/2022	CSO	Women and youth led
Hivos	Africa Uncensored (in a coalition with Youth for SDGs Kenya)	01/06/2022 - 14/10/2022	other	
Hivos	Legal Resources Foundation (in a coalition with Econews Africa and Ujamaa Kenya)	01/09/2021 - 31/10/2022	National NGO	
Hivos	Pastoralist Community Initiative and Development Assistance (in a coalition with Juhudi Mashinani and Thinkout Kenya)	01/10/2022 - 31/12/2022	National NGO	IPLC led
Hivos	Kenya Insitute of Puppet Theater (KIPT)	01/07/2022 - 30/09/2022	CBO	
Hivos	SusWatch-Kenya	01/08/2022 - 15/11/2022	National NGO	IPLC led
Hivos	Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS)	01/08/2022 - 15/11/2022	National NGO	
Hivos	Youth and Urbanism	01/07/2022 - 30/09/2022	CBO	Youth led
Hivos	Young Women's Christian Association Of Kenya (YWCA)	01/09/2022 - 30/11/2022	National NGO	Women and youth led
SSN	ALIN	01/09/2022 - 31/08/2023	National NGO	
SSN	PAMACC	01/06/2022 - 30/06/2023	Media organisation	
WWF Kenya	Arid Lands Information Network (ALIN)	01/01/2022-31/12/2022	National NGO	
WWF Kenya	The Adaptation Consortium (ADA)	01/01/2022-31/12/2022	Coalition/Consortium/Alliance	
WWF Kenya	National Alliance of Community Forest Associations (NACOFA)	01/01/2022-31/12/2022	Coalition/Consortium/Alliance	

ANNEXE 1.4 KENYA CONT.

CONTRACTING PARTNER	LOCAL PARTNER	LATEST CONTRACT IN 2022	TYPE OF ORGANISATION	LEADERSHIP
WWF Kenya	Nature and People as One (NAPO)	01/01/2022-31/12/2022	National NGO	
WWF Kenya	The Coastal Marine and Resources Development (COMRED)	1/1/2022-5/2/2023	National NGO	
WWF Kenya	Global Nature Conservation (GNC)	01/06/2022 - 31/12/2022	CBO	Women and youth led
WWF Kenya	Caritas Maralal	01/01/2022-31/12/2022	Faith-Based	
WWF Kenya	Clean Cooking Association of Kenya	01/01/2022-31/12/2022	Association	
WWF Kenya	Kenya Climate Change Working Group	01/01/2022-31/12/2022	Association	
WWF Kenya	Friends of Lake Turkana (FOLT)	1/1/2022-5/2/2023		Women led

ANNEXE 1.5 ZAMBIA

CONTRACTING PARTNER	LOCAL PARTNER	LATEST CONTRACT IN 2022	TYPE OF ORGANISATION	LEADERSHIP
AMwA	Zambia Alliance for Women	01/11/2021 - 30/11/2022	National NGO	Women led
AMwA	Women's Life and Wellness Foundation	01/11/2021 - 30/11/2022	National NGO	Women led
AMwA	Community Technology Development Trust	01/11/2021 - 30/11/2022	National NGO	Women led
Hivos	Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR) and Kasisi Agricultural Training Center (KATC)	01/11/2021 - 30/11/2022	National NGO	Women led
Hivos	Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition (CSO-SUN) and Green Agriculture Youth Organization (GAYO)	01/11/2021 - 30/11/2022	National NGO	Women and youth led
Hivos	Keepers Zambia Foundation (KZF) and Edutainment Health Foundation (EHF)	01/11/2021 - 30/11/2022	Local NGO	Women and youth led
Hivos	Zambia Governance Foundation (ZGF)	01/11/2021 - 30/11/2022	National CSO	Women led
Hivos	Free Press Initiative (FPI) and Kalemba Media	01/11/2021 - 30/11/2022	Media organisation	Women led
SDI	Peoples Process on Housing and Poverty in Zambia		National NGO	
SSN	Panos Institute of Southern Africa & Zambia Institute of Independent Media Alliance	01/07/2022 - 30/06/2023	NGO & Media organisation	
WWF Zambia	Centre for Environment Justice	01/10/2021 - 01/12/2022	National NGO	Youth led
WWF Zambia	Consumer Unity and Trust Society International, Lusaka	01/10/2021 - 07/12/2022	International NGO	Women and youth led
WWF Zambia	House of Ruth Fondation	01/10/2021 - 07/12/2022	National NGO	Women and youth led
WWF Zambia	Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance Zambia (CSAAZ)	01/10/2021 - 07/12/2022	National NGO	Women and youth led
WWF Zambia	Zambia Institute of Mass Communication	01/10/2021 - 01/12/2022	Media Institution/NGO	Multiple led
WWF Zambia	Wildlife and Environmental Conservation Society of Zambia (WECSZ)	01/10/2021 - 07/12/2022	National NGO	Multiple led

ANNEXE 1.6 INDONESIA

CONTRACTING PARTNER	LOCAL PARTNER	LATEST CONTRACT IN 2022	TYPE OF ORGANISATION	LEADERSHIP
Hivos Adaptation Coalition	Yayasan Penabulu (Lead)	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	National CSO	Local CSO: IPLC – led
	Yayasan Koordinasi Pengkajian & Pengelolaan Sumber Daya Alam	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	Local CSO	
	Yayasan Lembaga Pengembangan Masyarakat Lembata	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	Local CSO	
	Perkumpulan Yapeka	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	National CSO	
	Perkumpulan Sinergantara	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	National CSO	Women led
	Koalisi Perempuan Indonesia untuk Keadilan dan Demokrasi	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	National CSO	
	Perkumpulan Konsil LSM Indonesia	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	National CSO	
	Perkumpulan Desa Lestari	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	National CSO	
	Pusat Kajian Sains Keberlanjutan dan Transdisiplin – Institut Pertanian Bogor	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	National CSO / Research Institute	
Hivos Civil Coalition	Koaksi Indonesia (Lead)	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	National CSO	Local CSO: IPLC-led
	Yayasan Pikul	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	Local CSO	
Hivos Kopi Coalition	Perkumpulan Hutan Itu Indonesia (Lead)	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	National NGO	Youth led
	Perkumpulan Teras Mitra	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	National NGO	
Hivos Pangan Baik Coalition	Yayasan Kehati (Lead)	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	National CSO	Local CSO: IPLC led
	Koalisi Rakyat untuk Kedaulatan Pangan (KRKP)	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	National CSO	
	Yayasan Ayu Tani Mandiri	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	Local CSO	
	Yayasan Ayo Indonesia	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	Local CSO	
	Yayasan Pembangunan Sosial Ekonomi Larantuka (YASPENSEL)	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2024	Local CSO	

ANNEXE 1.6 INDONESIA CONT.

CONTRACTING PARTNER	LOCAL PARTNER	LATEST CONTRACT IN 2022	TYPE OF ORGANISATION	LEADERSHIP
Hivos-SDI	SPEAK	01/09/2021 - 31/03/2023	National NGO	Women led
SSN	Consortiums for Knowledge Management Brokers (C4Ledger), led by Konsorsium untuk Studi dan Pengembangan Partisipasi (KONSEPSI) West Nusa Tenggara-Indonesia	01/07/2022 - 31/06/2024	National NGO	
WWF	Yayasan Alfons Suwada Asmat	27/07/2021 -	Local Faith Based CSO	
WWF	Pt. PPMA	27/07/2021 -	Local CSO	Women led
WWF	Ingger Wewal	27/07/2021 -	CBO	Women led
WWF	PIONER	27/07/2021 -	Local CSO	Youth led
WWF	Panah Papua	27/07/2021 -	Local CSO	Youth led
WWF	Perdu	27/07/2021 -	Local CSO	IPLC led
WWF	BRWA	27/07/2021 -	National NGO	

ANNEXE 2 - SCS BASKET INDICATORS

		BOLIVIA/ PARAGUAY	BRAZIL	INDONESIA	KENYA	TUNISIA	ZAMBIA	TOTAL	
Indicator IATI code SCS06	# of CSOs included in SPs programmes	SCS061 # of women-led CSOs included in SPs programmes	4	0	7	1	1	6	19
		SCS062 # of youth-led CSOs included in SPs programmes	3	0	4	1	5	1	14
		SCS063 # of CSOs (not youth- or women- led) included in SPs programmes	26	72	16	16	5	4	139
		SCS064 # of CSOs which are both women- and youth-led included in SPs programmes	0	0	0	6	6	5	17
		33	72	27	24	17	16	189	

ANNEXE 3 - LOCALLY-LED CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

The programme has started identifying and implementing locally shaped climate solutions: VCA Results in 2022. Wherever possible and relevant, links were inserted within the global annual report. Note that the list below is not exhaustive as most countries are still in the process of confirming with the local partners.

NB: Locally shaped climate solutions referring to action that protect, manage and restore ecosystems to address socio-environmental challenges/local partner led conservation actions (including energy efficient stoves etc)

ANNEXE 3.1 INDONESIA

VCA PARTNER/S	REGION/AREA	DESCRIPTION OF LOCALLY LED SOLUTION	BENEFITS	RESOURCE LINK
Hivos	Tanah Merah	Planted 20 hectares of mangrove forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protecting community from the devastating impact of last year's tropical storm Seroja. replenishing some of the ocean's fish stock improving the local economy 	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resourcing-mangroves-to-protect-homes-and-livelihoods/
Hivos Yayasan Humanis dan Inovasi Sosial KRKP Yayasan ayo Indonesia Kehati Yaspensel	East Nusa Tenggara	Planted trees for reforestations. Mass prayers and rituals. Restoring the planting of sorghum to address food insecurity during prolonged dry season.	<p>Sorghum can grow in dry and arid environments affected by water scarcity.</p> <p>Besides the cultural aspect, sorghum cultivation has become a climate change adaptation strategy of local communities</p>	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/people-living-in-drought-prone-areas-of-east-nusa-tenggara-experience-the-impacts-of-climate-change-first-hand/
Hivos Yayasan Humanis dan Inovasi Sosial Barakat Konsil LSM Indonesia Yapeka Desa Lestari Sinergantara Koalisi Perempuan Indonesia Koppesda Panabulu Foundation	East Nusa Tenggara	Created artificial coral reefs, the bio-reef-tek to replace damaged coral reefs. Planted mangroves in the seashore. Reforestation in the springs. Planted fruit trees as alternative food	Preserved Muro at sea and on land to maintain local foods	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/in-lembata-island-of-east-nusa-tenggara-the-transmission-of-traditional-knowledge-has-been-a-fundamental-aspect-to-protecting-the-environment/
United Destiny Shapers	Nyalenda settlement in Kisumu County	Rehabilitated the river - start up	River rehabilitation model for Kisumu county as a result of peer to peer learning exchange to Komb Green solutions in Nairobi	www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Yx

ANNEXE 3.2 KENYA

VCA PARTNER/S	REGION/AREA	DESCRIPTION OF LOCALLY LED SOLUTION	BENEFITS	RESOURCE LINK
Komb Green Solutions	Nairobi County, Korogcho informal settlement	River Reparation reclamation and rehabilitation, capacity strengthening and mentorship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 forest cover and carbon sinks • improved safety/converting a crime spot into a safe zone 	Fbk:- www.facebook.com/people/Komb-green-solutions/
Hivos	Makueni County, Isiolo, Wajir, Marsabit Garissa and Marsabit, Homa Bay	Applied effective rainwater harvesting techniques, i.e Zai pits, rainwater harvesting ponds and drip irrigation systems. Climate smart farming. Participatory rangeland management.	Secured their water security and improved food production. Sand dams have increased the water supply for the farmers in the county, which in turn has improved water and food security. Proper utilisation of the grazing fields by ensuring there is pasture throughout the year. Climate-smart farmers benefitted from improved seeds, irrigation, agrometeorological support, markets, climate, and advisory services. Farmers have cultivated improved drought-resistant crops and livestock.	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/locally-led-climate-actions/

ANNEXE 3.3 ZAMBIA

VCA PARTNER/S	REGION/AREA	DESCRIPTION OF LOCALLY LED SOLUTION	BENEFITS	RESOURCE LINK
SDI Youth and women federation groups	George and Kanyama compound	Climate smart agriculture practices (conservation farming, village banking, mat weaving, agroecology, organic sack gardening and black soldier fly larvae farming)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of soil erosion increased crop yields reduction of crop production costs and high biomass integration 	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/photo-highlights-from-vca-alliance-climate-justice-tour-in-zambia/
Keepers Zambia Foundation (KZF) (Civil Society for Poverty Reduction) CSPR Kasisi Agriculture Training Center (KATC)	Chamulimba, Kanakantapa & Chalimbana ward in Rufunsa and Chongwe Districts	Tree planting and climate-tolerant crops and intercropping of sunflower, soya beans and popcorn. Women make traditional clay stoves using organic materials such as clay and cow dung.	Through the use of clay stoves, households rely less on firewood and charcoal for cooking each month	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/voices-for-just-climate-action-alliance-team-continue-site-tour-for-climate-justice/
Green Agriculture Youth Organization (GAYO)	Kanakantapa and Kasisi	Forming local seed banks and farming methods that are drought-resistant. The women and youth of Kanakantapa make use of various climate-smart solutions such as organic fertilizer, cassava and cowpeas that are climate-resilient as well as energy alternatives like fire blocks made from maize cobs and ash and Rockets stoves that uses grass-like branches to cook.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate-smart agriculture, alternative energy Increased soil and crop quality 	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/the-intensified-climate-change-fight-in-zambia/
Conservation Smart Agriculture Alliance Zambia (CSAAZ)	Chinyunyu, Chikankata	Rural communities have co-created an improvised structure from a natural spring from which they harvest water sustainably. They practice integrated farming (fish ponds)	<i>These solutions have helped their livelihoods of conservation farming & fish farming.</i>	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/voices-for-just-climate-action-alliance-team-proceed-to-chikankata-district-in-climate-justice-visit/
House of Ruth Foundation	Magoba Ward, Kafue District	Develop and manage community forests, create village banking groups and create sustainable livelihoods		https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/voices-for-just-climate-action-alliance-team-enroute-to-kafueflats-landscape/
Crown TV Zambia	Musaya Ward	Climate smart agriculture and crop integration Fish farming. Maximised rain water recieved to create fish ponds.	Climate smart agriculture and crop integration	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/fish-farming-as-a-lucrative-business/

ANNEXE 4 - WATER AND SANITATION SOLUTIONS 2022

The programme has started identifying and implementing water and sanitation solutions: VCA Results in 2022. Wherever possible and relevant, links were inserted within the global annual report. Note that the list below is not exhaustive as most countries are still in the process of confirming with the local partners.

NB: Water and sanitation -referring to safe water for domestic consumption and sanitation i.e. provision of sanitary facilities/hygiene/housing in informal settlements etc

ANNEXE 4.1 KENYA

VCA PARTNER/S	REGION/AREA	DESCRIPTION OF LOCALLY LED SOLUTION	BENEFITS	RESOURCE LINK
Friends of Lake Turkana (FoLT)	Turkana basin	Capacity building of county and national government on national and international frameworks to advance climate justice in light of oil extraction, policy analysis on national and international frameworks to address climate justice, awareness on climate change agenda in Turkana	Protection of Lake Turkana and its ecosystem	www.friendsoflaketurkana.org/index.php/en/
Muongano Wa Wanavijiji, with the support of SDI-K	Kisumu, Nairobi, and Nakuru Counties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste management 13 groups, Recycling waste 13 groups • river reclamation and rehabilitation 33 groups • urban farming (kitchen gardening vertical gardens,hydrophobic farming 22 groups • climate advocacy and awareness 9 groups • trees nursery and tree planting 16 groups 	107 groups received financial support ranging from Kshs 50,000 to 100,000 to help youth groups scale up innovative solutions in informal settlements.	https://www.muungano.net/browseblogs/2023/1/11/muongano-wa-wanavijiji-november-2022-newsletter

ANNEXE 5 - KNOWLEDGE OUTPUTS AND RESOURCES

ANNEXE 5.1 BRAZIL

VCA PARTNER/S	DATE	TYPE	LINK
Hivos	25.05.2022	Local Voice article	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/telma-and-her-indigenous-community-fighting-for-the-amazon/
WWF	20.06.2022	News article	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/journalist-and-environmental-defender-killed-in-amazon/
Avina, Hivos Brazil, IEB, WWF Brazil	21.06.2022	News article	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/note-of-condolence-and-solidarity/
Avina, Hivos Brazil, WWF Brazil	04.11.2022	News article	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/a-voice-for-just-climate-action/

ANNEXE 5.2 INDONESIA

VCA PARTNER/S	DATE	TYPE	LINK
Hivos, Yapeka, Desa Lestari, Koppe SDA, Koalisi, Konsil LSM Indonesia, Sinergantara, Penabulu Foundation, Barakat	28.04.2022	Video article	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/in-lembata-island-of-east-nusa-tenggara-the-transmission-of-traditional-knowledge-has-been-a-fundamental-aspect-to-protecting-the-environment/
Hivos, Geng Motor, Kampanye Positif Untuk Hutan Indonesia, Terasmitra	28.04.2022	Video article	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/in-kupang-of-east-nusa-tenggara-young-people-has-an-increasingly-strong-social-and-environmental-awareness/
Hivos, Pikul, Coaction Indonesia	28.04.2022	Video	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/local-community-members-especially-women-living-in-coastal-areas-of-east-nusa-tenggara-steward-earths-critical-ecosystems/
Hivos, KRKP, Kehati, Yaspensel, Yakasan Ayo Indonesia	28.04.2022	Video	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/people-living-in-drought-prone-areas-of-east-nusa-tenggara-experience-the-impacts-of-climate-change-first-hand/
Hivos	25.05.2022	Local voice article	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/yuliana-campaigns-for-the-climate-with-saplings/
SDI, SPEAK	07.09.2022	Blog	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/women-sanitation-and-climate-change/

ANNEXE 5.3 KENYA

VCA PARTNER/S	DATE	TYPE	LINK
Hivos	24.05.2022	Video	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/miti-tree-nursery-in-nyeri-county/
Hivos	26.05.2022	Video	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/a-parks-second-chance/
Hivos	13.06.2022	Video	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/planting-mangroves-by-the-sea/
Hivos	13.06.2022	Video	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/greening-drylands-in-magadi/
Lensational	17.06.2022	Voice article	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/a-treasure-trive-of-untold-stories/
Hivos	07.09.2022	Blog	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/call-to-action-against-desertification-and-drought-in-kenya/
SSN, Arid Lands Information Network (ALIN), Pan African Media Alliance for Climate Change (PAMACC), ThinkOut, African Uncensored	14.11.2022	Online event resource	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/knowledge-sharing-session-understanding-communication-and-media-in-the-vca-kenya-context/
Hivos	23.11.2022	Opinion piece	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/locally-led-climate-actions/
	28.11.2022	News article	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/lamu-women-want-climate-fund-deal-fast-tracked/
Hivos		Local voice article	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/young-kenyan-activist-fights-for-climate-justice/

ANNEXE 5.4 PARAGUAY

VCA PARTNER/S	DATE	TYPE	LINK
Avina, WWF	07.09.2022	Local voice video	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/a-voice-for-just-climate-action-zulma-franco/

ANNEXE 5.5 TUNISIA

VCA PARTNER/S	DATE	TYPE	LINK
Hivos, WWF, SSN, AMwA	14.11.2022	Local voice video	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/a-voice-for-just-climate-action-zakaria-hechmi/
NAWAAT	28.04.2022	Video article	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/water-scarcity-in-tunisia-the-threat-of-food-security/

ANNEXE 5.6 ZAMBIA

VCA PARTNER/S	DATE	TYPE	LINK
Hivos	08.07.2022	Local voice article	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/women-take-on-climate-change-in-zambia/

ANNEXE 5.7 GLOBAL

VCA ALLIANCE PARTNER	DATE	TYPE	LINK
VCA Movement	17.05.2022	Infographic	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/three-key-points-which-will-inform-the-movement-building-teams-roadmap-to-cop27/
Hivos	25.05.2022	Paper	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/mobilizing-finance-for-local-climate-change-solutions/
AMwA	31.05.2022	Publication	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/the-intersectional-feminist-climate-justice-guide-abridged-version/
Hivos	31.05.2022	Blog	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/a-call-out-for-locally-led-climate-solutions-in-commemorating-world-environment-day-2022/
VCA Movement	14.07.2022	Infographic	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/roadmap-to-cop27-dialogue-session-3/
WWF	07.09.2022	Blog	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/a-word-of-justice-on-world-environment-day/
WWF	25.11.2022	Video	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/vcas-2727-video-trailer/
WWF	25.11.2022	Video	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/resources/vcas-2727-full-video/
Hivos	14.10.2022	Blog	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/making-global-climate-finance-work-for-local-solutions/
Hivos	14.10.2022	Blog	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/climate-justice-should-be-at-the-centre-of-cop-27-the-africa-cop/
AMwA	14.10.2022	News article	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/akina-mama-wa-afrika-launches-a-feminist-intersectional-climate-justice-guide/
Comms Task Force	03.11.2022	News article	https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/news-and-views/vca-at-cop27/

ANNEXE 6 - POLICIES, LAWS AND FRAMEWORKS INFLUENCED, BLOCKED OR ADOPTED

Within all VCA sites, many activities aimed at lobbying local, regional and national governments have been undertaken. Activities include workshops, dialogues, research, and campaigns undertaken by VCA local partners or (in collaboration with) Alliance members. Such lobby and advocacy processes often take a lot of time for results to show, however many big and small success were booked over the past year. This table provides an overview of cases in which such efforts led to direct changes in local, regional or national policies, laws and frameworks.

NB. This is a first indication, based on outcomes recorded by the regional teams. This table is not exhaustive.

ANNEXE 6.1 PARAGUAY

REGION/AREA	POLICY/LAW/Framework	DESCRIPTION	VCA ENGAGEMENT	PARTNER
National	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of Chaco'I (Bajo Chaco) - Influenced	SEA is a conceptual map supporting master plan for urban development in the Bajo Chaco area, a flood zone in the Humid Chaco ecoregion. This plan is developed by the Paraguayan national government, through the Ministry of Urbanism	VCA is supporting the SEA, providing technical capacities on strategic territorial planning tools, and ensuring the consideration of different visions of the inhabitants of the territory. A workshop was organised with ministry of urbanism, planning secretariat, ministry of infrastructure, aeronautical direction and ministry of environment, and technical SEA team.	VCA PY
National	Official National Position for COP 28 - Influenced	The national position taken to UNFCCC COP by the Paraguayan government, specifically on organic farming and agroecology.	Following an unfavourable official national position towards organic farming and agroecology at the COP27, a dialogue was organized with the National department on climate change of the Environmental Ministry (MADES). Representatives of smallholder producers, agroecological family farming, Indigenous communities, 'campesino' organizations, and SCOs were present. The dialogue permitted an interchange on climate change, mitigation and adaptation measures. Inputs from this dialogue were successfully integrated in the national position for COP28	WWF-PY
National	Integral law on the protection of Defenders and Journalists - Influenced/proposed	A proposal for an integral law on the protection of Defenders and Journalists has been drafted by representatives of the Senates Human Rights Committee and CSOs	FAPI, as well as civil society organizations and journalists' unions in Paraguay, have worked with the Human Rights Commission of the Senate of the Nation on a draft proposal for a Law for the Protection of Journalists and Human Rights Defenders.	FAPI

ANNEXE 6.2 BRAZIL

REGION/AREA	POLICY/LAW/Framework	DESCRIPTION	VCA ENGAGEMENT	PARTNER
National	Project of Constitutional Amendment 27/2021 (Climate PEC) - approved	The Constitutional Amendment 27/2021, establishes climate security as a fundamental right.	VCA Brazil supported the campaign 'the most urgent law in the world' with active participation and funds. The campaign led to the approval of the amendment by the Constitution and Justice Commission of the House of Representatives of the Federal Government. This result shows that the opinions of civil society are being recognized in the establishment and implementation of climate policies, norms, laws and practices.	VAC Br
State (Tocantins)	Environmental Licencing law - influenced	This law violated constitutional rights and principles, as it harmed the interests of family farmers, traditional people, and communities by violating constitutional principles of transparency, legality, and others. In practice, the law laxed environmental controls to the private sector, causing major socio-environmental impacts, such as indiscriminate aerial spraying of pesticides, deforestation and many other impacts.	VCA contributed with training of local partners, guidance about themes and financial support of the production of videos. The Voices of Tocantins Coalition was recognized as Amicus Curiae of the MPE (Ministry) in the direct unconstitutionality action that was filed against the Legislative Assembly of the state. This allowed for direct contributions to changes in the law's text.	Voices of Tocantins Coalition
Municipality (Morros, Maranhao State)	Municipal Law of Agroecology and Organic Production - proposed	Law proposal drafted by farmers, advocating for the right of farmers to continue producing healthy food with ancestral and sustainable management practices ensuring that their territories are free and sovereign, free of transgenic seeds, pesticides, among other inputs and means of production that are not compatible with their ways of life.	This process was started in 2019, but it was the VAC-BR Program that funded mobilization and promoted engagement (meetings, workshops, and technical advice).	Agroecology for the Protection of Forests of the Amazon
Municipality (Belem)	Municipal Policy on Climate Change	The municipal government now recognizes the emportance of creating institutional spaces for building and monitoring public policies.	This policy is one of the results following the advocacy efforts of the Jandyras network. A special session on climate change was organized with the City Council of Belém; activities include: engagement meetings with the Municipal Secretary of Environment; lobby to reactivate the Municipal Sanitation Council and contributions to the preparation of the proposed laws	Jandyras Network, Mandí

ANNEXE 6.3 TUNISIA

REGION/AREA	POLICY/LAW/Framework	DESCRIPTION	VCA ENGAGEMENT	PARTNER
National	National Environmental Code - Influenced	Policy making processes such as the development of the environmental code are generally centralized in Tunisia. (It hardly happens that local authorities participate in this process on a national scale.)	Mr. Nouredine Fetni, an engineer and working official in the municipality of Mohammedia was facilitated by the alliance to participate in the elaboration of the National Environmental Code workshop after he participated in a two-day capacity-building workshops on 1) local climate actions and 2) climate finance that were organised by a VCA local partner. He highlighted his region's environmental problems in the presence of representatives of the environmental ministry	VCA -T
National	Law Carbon and Climate Resilience Strategy (SNBCCC) - Influenced		The VCA alliance and local partners provided recommendations and contributions to the Law Carbon and Climate Resilience Strategy (SNBCCC) in April 2022. This contribution was submitted to the SNBCCC coordinator. The contribution emphasised the need to ensure a knowledge transfer and local ownership in the climate policy of Tunisia. In addition, VCA has incorporated a recommendation on the involvement of local authorities.	VCA-T

ANNEXE 6.4 KENYA

REGION/AREA	POLICY/LAW/Framework	DESCRIPTION	VCA ENGAGEMENT	PARTNER
National	Finance bill 2022 - Influenced		In collaboration with WWF, CCAK lobbied for tax exemptions of solar products in the Finance bill of 2022. As a result, 16% VAT exemption was passed Ethanol stoves and sustainable pellets and briquettes. further, a VAT reduction of 16% 60 8% was effected for LPG gas. This is of importance to communities and the country as a whole because Clean cooking solutions are vital for reducing toxic emissions in the home, enhancing welfare and reducing afforestation as 68% of Kenyans rely on biomass for energy	WWF-KY, CCAK
National	County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) - Influenced	The County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) guidelines clearly stipulates and reinforces the 1-2% budgetary allocation from the County Government budget towards Climate Change initiatives in the counties. The previous guidelines were not explicit of CIDP fund allocations to Climate Change interventions. Counties were not deliberate on allocating funds to Climate Change initiatives in the past.	From 4th to 8th July 2022, WWF-Kenya, supported the (Financial and Technical) State Department of Planning to finalize the third generation County Integrated Development Plan Guidelines. During this meeting, state department of planning included in the guidelines, the VCA ask on percentage of County towards Climate Change and stipulated that 1-2% of county budget should go towards climate change interventions.	WWF-KY
County (Nairobi)	City County Climate Action Plan 2020-2050		The county has requested support in the formulation of the County Climate Change Act and the financing policy framework. The Alliance further actively engaged in the ongoing policy conversations to ensure recognition and promotion of local climate solutions:	VCA - K

ANNEXE 6.4 KENYA - CONTINUED

REGION/AREA	POLICY/LAW/Framework	DESCRIPTION	VCA ENGAGEMENT	PARTNER
County (Kisumu)	WCCP's (Ward Climate Change planning committees)		Through a community-led process supported the vetting process of WCCPs in the 35 wards of Kisumu County.	
County (Nakuru)	County Climate Fund Regulation - Influenced/adopted	The Climate Change Fund regulations set modalities of allocating Climate Change funds. Without the framework it was difficult and there was no justification for the County to allocate funds for Climate Change intervention. In May 2022, the County Government of Nakuru developed and approved the County Climate (CC) fund regulations, which is the first regulation of its kind.	In May 2022, WWF-Kenya, funded the Nakuru County Government to hold stakeholders' engagement meetings where Climate Change fund guidelines were drafted, validated and approved. In attendance were representatives of the county government, the county assembly, the county environment committee, non state actors like Arid Lands Information Network (ALIN), Slum Dwellers International (SDI), World Vision, National Alliance of Community Forest Associations (NACOFA), Kenya Forest Service (KFS), Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), community based organizations, Indigenous communities etc	VCA - K
County (Nakuru)	County Climate Action Plan 2023 - 2027		Nakuru County Government has invited the participation of Muungano wa Wanavijiji/SDI Kenya, among other VCA partners, in the revision of the county climate action plan 2023-2027	SDI - K
County (Homabay)	Climate Change Act		CUTS were able to mobilise and sensitise Homabay county community members and the political class (newly elected County Assembly Members) on the need of a climate change policy in addressing the adverse impact of Climate Change in the County. As a result of these engagements and collaboration with like- minded organisations, Homabay County was able to put in place a robust Climate Change Act and anchored a fund in it. The fund ringfenced 2% of the total County development budget towards climate action.	CUTS, PACIDA

ANNEXE 6.4 KENYA - CONTINUED

REGION/AREA	POLICY/LAW/Framework	DESCRIPTION	VCA ENGAGEMENT	PARTNER
County (Samburu)	Climate Change Policy & Forest Management Policy - Influenced/adopted		Caritas Maralal contributed to the drafting of the county climate change Policy and Forest Management Policy by facilitating review meetings to incorporate public views into the draft legislation which led to the finalising of the draft bills that were submitted to Members of the County Assembly (MCAs), who unanimously adopted them into laws.	Caritas Maralal
County (Marsabit)	County Climate Finance Framework & Climate Change Fund Act	The Marsabit County Finance Framework will address the status of climate change awareness in the county, national plans and policies relevant to the county government of Marsabit. According to the Marsabit Climate Change Fund Act 2020, a climate finance framework is a pre-requisite to the funding of climate change projects.	In September 2022, the PACIDA consortium facilitated the process of development of the county climate finance framework through consultancy, mobilisation of the actors to contribute to the tool development as well as visibility of the framework. The County Government of Marsabit did not have this framework before this intervention.	PACIDA

ANNEXE 6.5 ZAMBIA

REGION/AREA	POLICY/LAW/Framework	DESCRIPTION	VCA ENGAGEMENT	PARTNER
National	Climate Change Bill	Development of the Draft Climate Change Bill	Supporting the development of the draft bill in collaboration with the Ministry of Green Economy & Environment. In addition, The Alliance lobbied the Parliamentary Caucus on Climate Change and Environment in ensuring the climate change bill is passed as a law.	
National	National Climate Change Policy (2016)	Review of the National Climate Change Policy, in collaboration with the Ministry of Green Economy.	The Alliance organized a workshop with the Ministry of Green Economy, focussing on specific thematic area's including climate financing, debt for nature swaps and Nature-based Solutions. The Alliance specifically lobbied for a climate change fund separate from the National Treasury and the inclusion of a gender lens.	
District (Chikankata)	District Development Plans - Influenced	In 2022, district stakeholders and government agencies (incl. Forestry Department, Water Affairs, Agriculture Department, Social Welfare, and Health Department) in the Chikankata district incorporated climate change in their 2023 District Development Plans.	The Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance Zambia (CSAAZ) conducted trainings and capacity building meetings on the integration of climate change programmes into district development plans. These trainings were conducted in 2022, resulting in district officials and community members welcoming the idea of including climate change into district level development plans.	CSAAZ
District	District Development Plans - Influenced	District to undertake local climate actions that contribute to the realization of the Nationally Determined Contribution, there was need to deliberately include climate change in Integrated Development Plan	In February 2022, ZCCN conducted a stakeholder meeting for Ward Councillors, Council Officers from all line ministries and local CSOs that was aimed at raising awareness on Zambia's Revised Nationally Determined Contributions of August 2021. During the meeting, stakeholders lead by the District Commissioner agreed that for the district to undertake local climate actions that contribute to the realization of the Nationally Determined Contribution, there was need to deliberately include climate change in Integrated Development Plan. The Council officials also requested for support from WWF to undertake activities for inclusion of climate change.	ZCCN, WWF

ANNEXE 6.6 INDONESIA

REGION/AREA	POLICY/LAW/Framework	DESCRIPTION	VCA ENGAGEMENT	PARTNER
District (Asmat)	Decree on the recognition and protection of Asmat Indigenous People and Pomar Sirau Clan's customary territory. - Influenced/signed	The Head of the Asmat District in Papua signed this decree, which is critical to protect Indigenous rights and to manage sustainable natural resources	The issuance of the Decree on the Recognition and Protection of the Pomar Sirau Customary Area by the Regent of Asmat Regency is the result of a series of participatory mapping activities and a series of Asmat local multistakeholder dialogues that have been carried out since March 2022 as well as advocacy by YASA, BRWA and WWF including LMAA, traditional leaders and the community of pomar sirau. This is the first customary territory mapping in Asmat that inaugurated by the regent and after the issuance of the decree, some other neighbouring clans of pomar sirau, such as Joerat and Unir Sirau, asked YASA to implement the customary territory mapping for their customary areas.	YASA, WWF

ANNEXE 7 - ENGAGEMENT WITH THE UNFCCC POLICY PROCESS

Within the context of the UNFCCC, the VCA coordinated three main processes: i) Enhancing capacity of VCA local partners to effectively participate through enhanced knowledge about process, agenda and formal requirements; ii) Creating spaces at the COP for local voices and messages either in person or virtually; and iii) Coordinating key messages to achieve impact.

Capacity strengthening: Since VCA has a wide network of local partners, (at the time there were 100), a survey was conducted to understand their experiences in engaging in global advocacy, priority events and support or capacity strengthening needed to engage at the global level. 60 local partners responded, representing all the regions. Learning how to engage with the UNFCCC COP was prioritised for capacity strengthening and this informed the VCA COP27 strategy. GloPro coordinated information webinars, advocacy and knowledge support and support to coordinate logistics and travel.

Webinars open to the entire network aimed to support effective engagement at the UNFCCC. Topics included: 1) The importance and process for CSOs wanting to gain accreditation to the UNFCCC and 2) History of UNFCCC COP, what to expect during the process, how the negotiations work and opportunities for participation both in the conference and in the negotiations. The webinars resulted in improved engagement. For example, Projeto Saúde e Alegria, ACESA, Escola Familiar Agrícola and Onça D'água completed procedures to be accepted as an observer entity of the UNFCCC COP. These webinars complemented the national level pre-COP awareness and consultative meetings and events undertaken by VCA regional teams.

Facilitating attendance at COP27: In total, the Alliance was represented by at least 31 participants and the majority of those were representatives from local partners and grassroots organizations. This platform was also an opportunity to strengthen the capacities of local partners in relation to advocacy opportunities offered by this global UN event. In line with its key mandate, VCA promoted the inclusion of underrepresented groups by facilitating their attendance as well as effective engagement at the COP. Voices of women, youth, Indigenous communities were amplified through presentation and showcasing of videos at side events as well as engagement with decision-makers, donors, other organisations, and stakeholders.

Creating spaces for local partners: VCA team coordinated to create as many strategic spaces as possible for local partners to connect and amplify their voices and be heard in spaces at COP27. This strengthened solidarity and awareness between different local partners from different continents, for example, linkages could be made through the shared struggles of both rural and urban based partners. Creating the first foundations for strengthened urban – rural connections within the program. Overall, many community members felt that their voices were being heard and this provided the right momentum to sustain their engagement to achieve the desired decisions.

VCA Side Events

The VCA held four side events at the UNFCCC COP and connected to many others through partners. The official events were:

1. VCA, in conjunction with CDKN and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs convened a panel at the at the Benelux/ EIB Pavilion on Saturday 12 November 2022 under the theme 'Locally led adaptation- bringing the agenda forward.'
 - a. The event provided a place for those directly involved with the Locally Led Adaptation Principles to share their experiences. It drew lessons learned, addressed key barriers, and identified opportunities to move this crucial agenda forward. Panellists included representatives from three regions: Alana Manchineri, Communication Manager of the Coordination of Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon, His Royal Highness Chief Bunda Bunda of the Soli people in Rufunsa District of Zambia, Esperanza Karaho, a planning and management specialist from the Ada Consortium, Kenya, and Dr Loade Syarif, the executive director of Kemitraan and a senior lecturer at Hasanuddin University Law School, Indonesia
 - b. By bringing together local Indigenous actors, traditional leaders, civil society and the Dutch ministry, the event was able to facilitate an inclusive conversation on how to take forward LLA. The space allowed speakers to showcase local solutions including community-based deforestation initiatives in Zambia. The discussion highlighted the crucial role of both civil society enablers and finance, with the concrete example of a local level climate fund in Kenya and how this model can support local solutions.
2. VCA convened a side event at COP27 under the theme "Unlocking Finance for local climate action and opportunities for its prioritisation in future finance goals" which took place on Wednesday, 09 November 2022. The objective of the session was to facilitate dialogue among key stakeholders towards a common strategy for unlocking finance for local climate solutions and exploring the opportunities for its prioritisation through the new collective and quantified goal (NCQG).
3. SSN connected VCA to ICCCAD and held a session at the Resilience Hub on November 16th to amplify local voices on both loss and damage and local climate solutions. The event grounded the importance of non-economic losses, and how these are often ignored and unquantified in both reporting and negotiations on loss and damage. The session screened two videos from VCA local partners in Brazil and Tunisia, showcasing local experiences on the ground and the power of local solutions. The video from Brazil shared the story from Rogerio Mendes, Chico Mendes' nephew and working in the reserve. His story highlighted the impact climate change has already had on the reserve and the way of life it sustains for local communities. Angela Mendes (chair of the Chico Mendes Committee) and Laiane da Costa Santos (a youth activist from Brazil, also active in the Chico Mendes Extractive Reserve) were both able to participate in the event in person and reflect on Rogerio's message and the vital role youth play in locally led action. From Tunisia, the VCA video showcased the Oasis of Chenini, where agroecological practices along with local seed varieties are being used by local farmers to improve climate resilience and provide sustainable food systems. Juliet Nangamba, from the Community Technology Development Trust, a local partner in Zambia, also shared their experiences of supporting farmer led seed systems. Both stories

showed commonalities in the struggles facing local farmers, and the diverse and resilient solutions they are driving. But many of these solutions challenge existing systems, and need support to be scaled up. This session provided a platform for local actors from different contexts to share, connect with one another and amplify their stories at COP27.

5. A VCA documentary 27@27, was showcased at COP27 at the Panda Pavilion on 10 November 2022, reflecting 27 minutes of diverse authentic local solutions by local climate activists and VCA local partners. A panel consisting of youth representatives of these climate solutions and international donors (including the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and USAID), discussed the opportunities and challenges in matching these local solutions to appropriate finance.
6. VCA through AMwA and AACJ through FEMNET, PACJA, and ALIN convened a side event in the Green Zone titled “Linking local to global – Sharing experiences on gender and climate finance in Sub Saharan Africa.” Using experiences from the VCA and AACJ programme countries, the session unpacked the peculiar challenges experienced by communities in accessing finance to respond to climate disasters. In addition, the session re-echoed Africa’s broad climate finance vision of debt free, decolonial, anti-capitalist, flexible and long-term climate finance.
7. VCA through AMwA and Hivos also participated/ co-convened and participated in a side event titled “Accelerating gender-smart and socially inclusive climate finance through public and private investments”. The event was organised by the European Investment Bank (EIB), Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) and Hivos. The event was organised in commemoration of the Gender Day at COP27. The session raised several recommendations in addition to one that called for stronger accountability mechanisms within the European Climate Financing agenda which proposes leveraging private finance. During the session, AMwA noted that unlike Official Development Assistance (ODA) which has more advanced and clear mechanisms for ensuring accountability, many private led/corporate leaning financing frameworks lack the desire accountability frameworks particularly to guarantee gender justice. It was also noted that given the current private sector development financing landscape, LDCs risk being left out as many private financiers prefer to fund Middle income and high-income countries.
8. Further, in commemorating Gender Day at COP27, AMwA under the auspices of the VCA collaborated with WGC, Oxfam, FEMNET, Women Environment Programme, and Women for A Change under the auspices of the African Feminist Taskforce for COP27 under the banner, “Standing in our power”. The event, which was held in the African Pavilion provided an opportunity for more than 80 African women and girls to engage with the Chairperson and Vice Chair of the African Group of Negotiators, and further amplify the positions highlighted therein the 27 African women and girls position paper for COP27. To further amplify the voices and share the experiences of African women and girls, AMwA contributed to the mobilisation of African women to participate in a protest that sought to further amplify the demands as highlighted in the position paper.

Through the various events held, through both video stories and in-person participation, local partners were enabled to share concrete examples of locally led climate solutions that could be scaled up, and through this, the Alliance positioned VCA as an effective coalition builder that elevated voices from the global south at COP27.

Key VCA Asks on LLA

- Locally led adaptation is a climate justice solution.
- More climate finance is needed for locally-led adaptation to support the design, implementation, monitoring, and sustaining of adaptation action on the frontlines.
- more decentralised transparent, accessible, patient, predictable finance
- should provide funds for CSOs to be capacitated to function as financial intermediaries with project aggregation function for small-scale local projects, bringing these as proposals to GCF-accredited entities at the national and regional levels.
- donors to ensure transparency of adaptation finance flows to local entities, through making financial data and reports more available, for example.
- local partners to be equipped and resourced to conduct monitoring and evaluation of adaptation, through tracking and reporting systems on how funds are used, to enhance confidence, relationships based on trust, and thereby promoting steady streams of funding.
- Governments and institutions are called to step forward and provide leadership by endorsing the 8 Principles for Locally Led Adaptation and reforming policies, planning processes, and public programmes to promote devolution of decision-making on adaptation actions to regional and local levels, dedicate public expenditure to fund adaptation that aligns with the principles, build strategic partnerships with stakeholders and champions of LLA, i.e. regional, local government, universities, climate institutions and community-based organisations to build capacity for multi-stakeholder collaboration and locally led action, promote communication and public awareness about these opportunities

Key VCA Asks on Climate Finance

- When designing new funding mechanisms, we should follow the logic of receivers. This means that we should look at what is really needed in terms of financing and check whether local civil society organizations can adhere to the often complicated and many threshold criteria. Often, they cannot. Lowering for instance the co-financing goals is needed as well as the heavy administrative burden (that often still includes quantified measurable impacts).
- Funders must move beyond the rhetoric of “scale” and take steps to create mechanisms for local actors to gain access to (global) funds. We need quantity and quality of adaptation finance flowing to the local level
- increase the goal for public adaptation finance. Currently the goal of public vs private finance is 50/50 as well is the goal for adaptation vs mitigation finance. In practice this means that all public finance needs to go to adaptation because private finance is barely invested in adaptation. A lot of adaptation measures are not bankable which means greater indebtedness for the most vulnerable communities

- Increased access: small grant funding and Enhancing Direct Access facilities with simplified access and approval procedures are slowly starting to allow community level projects apply for funding. At the same time, capacity development is helping make grassroots organizations better able to handle the funds and match the global funding system.
- Alternative Funding: Tailored financial instruments that allow direct access, distribute funds into small grants, and secure community engagement in planning and implementation.
- Prescribe principles and indicators to make sure climate finance really ends up at local level, and track this. See also IOB study that indicates that the most vulnerable groups, including small farmers, the poorest and women, are not reached with mobilised funding. This can be a quantified goal, but also the obligation to include local level CSOs in decision making on how money is spent.
- Be transparent about climate finance and how it is measured.
- *Promote an architecture of accountability it is essential for:*
 - donors to ensure transparency of adaptation finance flows to local entities, through making financial data and reports more available, for example.
 - local partners to be equipped and resourced to conduct monitoring and evaluation of adaptation, through tracking and reporting systems on how funds are used, to enhance confidence, relationships based on trust, and thereby promoting steady streams of funding.

