

To: Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) ·  
Cc: Danielle Magalhaes, Global Climate Action Team Lead, UN Climate Change

## An appeal to the UNFCCC & State parties at COP27

The climate crisis is among the most critical and complex issues our planet and its people face. Human rights and climate action are increasingly indivisible and the need to transition to cleaner energies has never been more urgent. Yet this transition will be set up to fail if it focuses solely on being fast, and not on also being just.

We represent a wide range of movements and organizations, working for climate justice, human rights, labour rights, and corporate accountability. The profit driven extractive model which has underpinned the global energy model has not provided the economic benefits or development promised to many countries, and has entrenched existing inequalities, including around access to and ownership of energy, and gender inequality. It must be transformed. COP27 offers a defining moment to accelerate the transition away from fossil fuels and set the compass resolutely towards the energy transition. Meeting this immense challenge requires swift and coordinated global action, as well as redirection of private and public investments to renewable energy projects.

Disregarding the rights of local communities and Indigenous populations in the race to a decarbonized economy by 2050, in particular those impacted by the boom in the extraction of the minerals needed for the transition, and by land-intensive renewable energy projects, is short-sighted. It will result in numerous human rights violations and a failure of the responsibility of governments to protect human rights as established by the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. It is already causing widespread abuse of land, water, and Indigenous Peoples' rights: [495 allegations](#) of human rights abuses were tracked so far in relation to transition minerals mining since 2010. But it will also continue to fuel opposition, conflict, and result in delays to both projects and achieving our global climate and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) targets. Such conflict has already [resulted](#) in at least 369 attacks on human rights, labour and environmental defenders around the world since 2015, including 98 killings, related to renewable energy projects, and [148 attacks](#), among them 13 killings, related to transition minerals mining.

The limits of non-legislative, market-based approaches to improve corporate respect for human rights are also clear: 78% of 1000 most influential companies, across 68 countries and 26 industries, [scored zero on all indicators](#) measuring their voluntary steps towards human rights due diligence. Mandatory human rights due diligence is necessary to close the accountability gap.

For real progress to be made at COP27, world leaders need to actively promote responsible renewable energy by:

**Recognizing that human rights are central to the climate response.** The profit driven extractive model has entrenched and exacerbated inequality, and contributed to driving conflict, environmental damage, attacks on communities and defenders, while simultaneously playing a significant role in emissions. An energy transition based on this model will fail. Governments must position human rights at the core of their climate plans for it to be successful and sustainable long term. This means that alongside commitments to expand renewable energy generation, Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) need to include specific provisions to ensure that land rights, especially women's land rights, are protected, Indigenous Peoples' Rights, rooted in respect for their right to self-determination, are upheld, and project benefits are equitably shared with marginalized and directly impacted communities;

**Adopting new ambitious green policy and regulatory frameworks that protect workers, local communities and Indigenous Peoples** while directing foreign and domestic investment flows into

responsible renewable energy infrastructure: specific consideration should be given to upholding Indigenous Peoples' right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) as well as the individual and collective rights of customary land rights holders; and to the safety of human rights, labour and environmental defenders;

**Legislating to put an end to the most egregious corporate abuses** through the introduction of [gender responsive](#) mandatory human rights, environmental and climate due diligence;

Supporting an equitable energy transition by ensuring that renewable energy development results in **equal access to clean, reliable, and affordable energy for their populations**, including for female-headed households;

Adopting policies to prioritise reduced energy and material demands by wealthier countries as well as **increased efficiency, responsible product design and the recycling of minerals** to minimise the environmental and human impacts of mining activities and **move away from the extraction-to-exhaustion model of production**.

In addition, we support the asks in [the 2021 Declaration on Mining and the Energy Transition](#), including centering the human rights of Indigenous Peoples, frontline communities, and workers throughout the renewable energy value chain.

It is time to rethink how the energy transition can be used to advance our human rights agenda. A climate agenda arising from neoliberal reforms that maintain existing industrial models is opening doors to unsustainable investments and continues to see nature merely as an object of consumption or to be exploited as an economic resource. It expects communities that contributed the least to the climate crisis to bear the brunt of the transition, without benefiting from it and without being able to shape it. As such, it cannot meet the challenge of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to meet the Paris climate commitments – it will continue to be resisted, delayed, and could ultimately backfire.

Signed:

Business & Human Rights Resource Centre & Indigenous Peoples' Rights International (IPRI)

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350.org

ACCA

ACCION CONTRA EL HAMBRE

AIPNEE

AJI

ALTSEAN-Burma

AMDV

ANAFAE

ASONOG

Above Ground

Accountability Counsel

African Resources Watch (AFREWATCH)

Akad Cultural Institute

Amazon Watch

Amnesty International

Andrew Lees Trust (ALT UK)

Anti-Slavery International

AsM Law Office

Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA)

Asociación de Investigación y Especialización sobre Temas Iberoamericanos

Association pour l'Integration et le Developpement Durable au Burundi, AIDB (Indigenous Forum in consultative status with the UN ECOSOC)

Associação indígena de Artistas e artesãos de Alter do Chão - Kuximawara  
Bangladesh Indigenous Youth Forum  
BankTrack  
Batani Foundation  
Both ENDS  
Broederlijk Delen  
CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation  
COMPPART Foundation for Justice and Peacebuilding  
Canadian Health Assoc for Sustainability & Equity (CHASE)  
Canadian Network on Corporate Accountability  
Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD)  
Center for Development Programs in the Cordillera  
Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO)  
Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI)  
Centro Hondureño de Promoción Para el Desarrollo Comunitario (Cehprodec)  
Centro de Investigación y Educación Popular (CINEP/PPP)  
Centro de Promoción para el Desarrollo Comunal INTI  
Chandpur Shwapna Chua Foundation  
Cidse  
Coalition for Wetlands and Forests  
Comision Jurídica para Los Autodesarrollos de Los Primeros Andinos Originarios (CAPAJ)  
Community Care for the Environment in Timika Papua  
Community Empowerment and Social Justice Network (CEMSOJ)  
Congrès Mondial Amazigh  
Cordillera Peoples Alliance  
Corporación de Apoyo a Comunidades Populares Codacop  
Council of Shor People Olders  
Crane Institute for Sustainability  
Cultural Survival  
DKA Austria  
Derechos Humanos y Medio Ambiente - DHUMA Puno  
Development Alternatives  
Development Education Community Project  
Diaguita Cacicazgotacquia Indigenous community  
Diálogo y Movimiento, A.C.  
Due Process of Law Foundation  
EarthRights International  
Earthjustice  
Earthworks  
Ebiil Society, Palau  
El Pueblo Indígena Bubi de la Isla de Bioko (EPIBIB)  
Environmental Justice Foundation  
Environmental Rights Foundation  
European Coalition for Corporate Justice  
Extinction Rebellion Zurich  
FIAN  
FIAN Belgium  
FIAN Germany  
FIDH (International Federation of Human Rights)  
FOCUS DROITS ET ACCES  
FTQ-Construction  
Fastenaktion  
Federación por la Autodeterminación de los pueblos indígenas (FAPI)  
First Peoples Worldwide  
Fondation du Docip  
Forest Peoples Programme  
Forum Nobis PLLC  
Friday For Future DRC  
Friday For Future Goma  
Fridays For Future Fukuoka

Fridays For Future India  
Fridays For Future Indonesia  
Fridays For Future Sierra Leone  
Fridays For Future U.S.  
Friends of the Attawapiskat River  
Friends of the Earth Canada  
Fulda university  
Fundación Alboan  
Fundación Quantum  
Fédération des Organisations Autochtones de Guyane française - F.O.A.G  
Generation Enough  
Geneva Center for Business and Human Rights (GCBHR)  
Global Citizen  
Global Legal Action Network  
Global Witness  
Gobernadora Pluricultural del Estado de México, República Mexicana  
Grand(m)others Act to Save the Planet - GASP  
Grassroot  
Help Guillermo Win  
House On Fire Germany  
Human Rights Watch  
IPACC Indigenous People African Coordination Committee  
Inclusive Development International  
Indigenous Concerns Resource Center  
Indigenous Environmental Network  
Indigenous First Nation Advocacy South Africa (IFNASA)  
Indigenous Peoples Forum, Odisha  
Indigenous Peoples Global Forum for Sustainable Development, IPGFforSD (International Indigenous Platform)  
Indigenous Rights Advocacy Centre (IRAC)  
Indigenous Women Legal Awareness Group (INWOLAG)  
Indigenous Women and Girls Initiative  
Indigenous knowledge and Peoples Networks, SWBC Nepal  
Inter Pares  
International Indigenous Women's Forum (FIMI)  
International Land Coalition  
International Land Coalition - Latin America and the Caribbean  
International Rivers  
International Service for Human Rights  
International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)  
Kabataang Pulileño  
Klimastreik  
Knowledge Industry Ltd  
Korea Transnational Corporations Watch (KTNC Watch)  
Land is Life  
Lawyers for Human Rights  
Lawyers' Association for Human Rights of Nepalese Indigenous Peoples (LAHURNIP)  
Lelewal Foundation  
London Mining Network  
Malach Consulting  
Maleya Foundation  
Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns  
Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT)  
Milieudefensie - Friends of the Earth Netherlands  
MiningWatch Canada  
NGO Civil Expertise Qazaqstan  
Narasha Community Development Group  
Natural Resource Governance Institute – NRG  
Nepal Kirat Kulung Bhasa Sanskriti Utthan Sangh  
New Brunswick Anti-Shale Gas Alliance, Inc.  
Observatoire d'Etudes et d'Appui à la Responsabilité Sociale et Environnementale - OEARSE

Observatorio Ciudadano Chile  
Osnabrück University  
Oxfam International  
PASTORAL SOCIAL DIÓCESIS DE QUIBDÓ  
Pan African Human Rights Defenders Network (AfricanDefenders)  
Panaghiusa Philippine Network to Uphold Indigenous Peoples Rights  
Peace Brigades International - UK Section  
Philippine Task Force for Indigenous Peoples Rights  
Plant Based Treaty  
Project HEARD  
Project on Organizing, Development, Education, and Research (PODER)  
Protection International  
Publiez Ce Que Vous Payez (PCQVP) - Mali  
Publish What You Pay (PWYP)  
Publish What You Pay - US  
RED ONG's AMÉRICA LATINA  
RMIB-LAC  
Radyo Sagada 104.7fm  
Red Nacional de Organismos Civiles de Derechos Humanos "Todos los Derechos para Todas y Todos" (Red TDT de México)  
Renovate Switzerland  
Rights & Accountability in Development (RAID)  
Rights CoLab  
Rivers without Boundaries International Coalition (RwB)  
Réseau des Populations Autochtones et Locales de Centrafrique (REPALCA)  
SAP-AU Internationale, France  
SETEM Catalunya  
Sierra Leone Land Alliance  
SIRGE Coalition  
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Justice Team  
Society for Threatened Peoples (Switzerland)  
South Vihar Welfare Society for Tribal  
Southern Defenders  
Stand.earth  
Structural Analysis of Cultural Systems (S.A.C.S.)  
Sundargargh Adivasi Manch, Odisha, India  
Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC)  
Swedwatch  
Tebtebba  
The Grail and UFER-United for Equity and Ending Racism  
The International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA)  
Tirap Youth Trust  
Trócaire  
Unissons-nous pour la Promotion des Batwa (UNIPROBA)  
VIVAT International  
War on Want  
Western Mining Action Network - Indigenous Caucus  
Women Working Worldwide  
Women's Earth and Climate Action Network (WECAN)  
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom - WILPF Finland  
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom - WILPF Togo  
Working Group Amazonia Is Life, P4F  
World Benchmarking Alliance (WBA)  
Youth Advocates for Climate Action Philippines / Fridays For Future Philippines  
Youth Climate Save Canada  
Zambia Climate Change Network (ZCCN)  
Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association (ZELA)