

**SHARE  
SHOW  
SHOUT  
FOR CLIMATE  
JUSTICE**

Supporter Toolkit



## BACKGROUND

The world's poorest nations are living on the frontline of the climate emergency. Climate change isn't a future threat for them - it's already a matter of life and death. Extreme weather events like heatwaves, droughts and floods are becoming more frequent and intense with every passing year. This comes on top of huge debt burdens carried by many countries, leaving their capacity to deal with crises like climate change and the global pandemic hollowed out.

A simple fact lies at the heart of the climate crisis: those who have done the least to cause

it are those who are suffering most. As a hub of the industrial revolution, Scotland bears a huge historic responsibility alongside other rich nations for fuelling climate change. Even today, knowing what we know about the impact of our emissions, we still use more than our fair share of the planet's resources. The most vulnerable among the world's poorest communities, mainly women and people of colour, are paying the highest price for our failure to act sooner.



## SCOTLAND MUST STEP UP

The eyes of the world will be on Scotland in November when the UK hosts the UN COP26 climate change negotiations in Glasgow. Let's make sure when world leaders arrive in Scotland they see a country which understands its responsibility to do everything it can to build a fairer, greener world by sharing the burden of the climate crisis with poorer nations.

The Scottish Parliament elections in May offer us an opportunity to chart a new course towards climate justice. As we rebuild from the pandemic, the decisions made by politicians this year will shape our societies for decades to come.

We've already promised to cut our emissions faster than most other rich nations. That's really important, but this alone is not enough to help those already struggling on the frontline of the crisis. To genuinely tackle the global climate crisis, the most affected communities need urgent financial support now to help them adapt to and recover from climate impacts.

Now is the time to use our collective voice to ensure that the next group of MSPs elected to the Scottish Parliament will stand up for international solidarity.



# WHAT IS THE CLIMATE JUSTICE FUND?

When Scotland established the Climate Justice Fund in 2012, with cross-party support in the Scottish Parliament, it was a major step forward in facing up to our historic responsibility for climate change. Since then, the Fund has supported communities in Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia and Rwanda to deal with the impact of climate-related disasters and adapt to a changing world. Positively, amid a global need to raise new money to help those impacted by the climate crisis, the Fund is additional to the money committed in Scotland to support international development projects.

However, the value of the Fund has been frozen at £3 million for the past five years. At the same time, the losses and damage suffered by the world's poorest nations in events like storms, cyclones and floods has gathered apace and changing weather patterns are unravelling progress on development.

We want to see the next Scottish Government use its revenue-raising powers to address this imbalance by significantly increasing the Climate Justice Fund. By raising the new money needed in fair ways, such as through a high-emitter tax, Scotland can renew its global leadership and send a clear message to all rich countries to increase their own commitments before and at COP26 in Glasgow.

These are tough times for all of us but we don't need to make a choice between looking after our neighbours in Scotland and showing solidarity with our global neighbours - we can and must do both. The Climate Justice Fund is a price worth paying for building a fairer world for everyone.

Act with us now to persuade political parties and your local candidates to pledge more climate finance for those who need it most.



## THREE WAYS TO TAKE ACTION

### 1. SHARE THE MESSAGE

Help us spread the word about the role Scotland can play in delivering climate justice by sharing our video on social media. If you're on Twitter or Instagram you can also tag in the party leaders to let them know that this is an issue which lots of voters are thinking about ahead of the Scottish Parliament elections.

 **On Twitter**, tag #ClimateJusticeScot and include @NicolaSturgeon @Douglas4Moray @AnasSarwar @patrickharvie @willie\_rennie @lornagreens

 **On Instagram**, tag #ClimateJusticeScot and include @nicolasturgeon @Douglas.ross.mp @anassarwarmsp @Patrick.harvie @willie.rennie @lornagreens

### 2. SHOW YOU CARE

Right now, we might not be able to march for climate justice but we can still show that we care. You can join our online rally for climate justice by making your own sign or placard and sharing a photograph or video of yourself on social media.

Try to take your photograph or video outside in a place where you go for fresh air during lockdown, whether it's your garden, local park, nature reserve or beach. You can get creative with your signs using scrap paper, cardboard or even nature itself to deliver the message!



These are some example posts you could share alongside your message:

Climate change kills the poorest first – even though they are least responsible for the crisis. Time for Scotland to increase the Climate Justice Fund  
**#ClimateJusticeScot**

Frozen budget, burning planet. Around the world, the impact of climate change is getting worse and the poorest pay the highest price. Time for Scotland to unfreeze the Climate Justice Fund  
**#ClimateJusticeScot**

The Climate Justice Fund shows the best of Scotland – international solidarity in action. Time to increase the budget and deliver more support to the poorest on the frontline of the crisis  
**#ClimateJusticeScot**

### 3. SHOUT OUT LOUD

This will be an election campaign like no other and it's important that local election candidates hear from you directly so they know that there is a real demand for Scotland to do more to champion climate justice. The more voices we have, the louder our call.

Having a one-to-one conversation with your local election candidates over a virtual cuppa on Zoom (or another video-meeting platform) can be a really powerful way to make an impact. Even a fifteen-minute conversation about climate justice can go a long way.

Talking to your local candidates can feel daunting if you haven't done it before so here are some of our top tips for making the most of your experience:

#### Contact your local candidates

You should be able to find the contact details for your local candidates on social media, local press or on the leaflets that will arrive through your letterbox. You can send a message to as many or as few candidates as you like. It is easier to meet with only one candidate at a time so if you only have time for one or two conversations you should research the candidates and decide which political parties you want to approach first.

Send them an email to ask for an appointment for a Zoom meeting to talk about our campaign for climate justice.

You can use template email below to help:

Dear xxx,

I live in [enter the name of your town or constituency] and I would like to arrange a video call with you to talk about climate justice and why it matters to me in the Scottish Parliament elections.

The poorest communities around the world are bearing the brunt of the climate crisis even though they did little to contribute to the problem. I am backing a campaign for Scotland to demonstrate its commitment to international solidarity by not only reducing our emissions quickly and deeply, but by significantly increasing the Climate Justice Fund to help the most vulnerable communities adapt and survive. (Link to video) Please let me know a date and time that would suit you to meet on Zoom or a similar online platform.

Best wishes

[your name]

## Make a plan

You don't need to be a climate expert to talk to your local candidates but it does help to think in advance about the main points you want to focus on during the conversation.

For example, there are a few different angles which you might want to highlight during the call:

- Scotland's Climate Justice Fund has been frozen for five years but during this time extreme weather events like droughts or storms are becoming more frequent, causing hunger and poverty for millions in the global south.
- With world leaders due to descend on Glasgow this year for the UN COP26 climate summit, Scotland can inspire other rich nations to take action if we lead the way on climate justice. By increasing the Climate Justice Fund by fairly raising new money, and then calling on others to do the same at COP26, the Scottish Government can stand shoulder to shoulder with the most impacted communities.
- Scotland's world-leading targets to reduce emissions are not enough on their own. The people most affected by climate change can't wait until 2045 for rich countries like Scotland to reach net-zero, they need help to deal with climate impacts now.

It is good to bring a couple of facts to the meeting but you don't need to overwhelm the candidate with figures and statistics. They will be most interested in hearing about why climate justice matters to you personally. If you would like to read more about these issues, Stop Climate Chaos Scotland has produced two short briefings which can help:

### Delivering Climate Justice at COP26

- <https://www.stopclimatechaos.scot/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Delivering-climate-justice-at-COP26.pdf>

### Financing Climate Justice

- [https://www.stopclimatechaos.scot/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Financing-Climate-Justice-Summary\\_FINAL-Oct-1.pdf](https://www.stopclimatechaos.scot/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Financing-Climate-Justice-Summary_FINAL-Oct-1.pdf)

If they agree with you, then please ask them to say so publicly by sharing our video on their own social media channels using the tag **#ClimateJusticeScot**.



## Follow up

Send an email to the candidate to thank them for arranging the meeting with you – it's a useful way to build the relationship for next time and remind them of any commitments they made. If the candidate goes on to win the election, this is another chance to get in contact with them again to ask for an update about their party's plans for promoting climate justice in the next parliament.

**Please email [campaigns@sciaf.org.uk](mailto:campaigns@sciaf.org.uk) to let us know how your meeting went or if you need any extra support to take part.**

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