

CLIMATE CHANGE

COP28 concludes with historic agreement to try to tackle the climate crisis

The United Nations Climate Change conference, COP28, has concluded with a historic agreement to transition away from fossil fuels and to try to rein in accelerating climate change.

Key messages

- Declaration recognizes need to transition away from fossil fuels
- It aims to keep Paris Agreement 1.5°C goal within reach
- It voices concern at accelerating pace of climate change
- It reflects WMO scientific input
- It urges more adaptation financing, including through Early Warnings for All

The United Nations Climate Change conference, COP28, has concluded with a historic agreement to transition away from fossil fuels, triple renewable energy and increase climate finance for the most vulnerable. It aims to keep alive the goal of the Paris Agreement to try to limit long-term global average near-surface temperature to 1.5°C above the pre-industrial era.

The agreement – whilst less ambitious than many had hoped – calls for more decisive climate action in the face of rapidly accelerating climate change and more dangerous extreme weather that is leading to massive environmental, economic and societal upheaval.

Source: <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/cop28-concludes-historic-agreement-try-tackle-climate-crisis>

CLIMATE CHANGE

WorldFish calls for small-scale fisheries' inclusion in COP28 loss and damage fund

As the COP28 begins in Dubai, WorldFish, an international research and innovation organization

reducing hunger, malnutrition and poverty across Africa, Asia and the Pacific, strongly advocates for the inclusion of small-scale fisherfolk in the Loss and Damage Fund, initiated at COP27 and due for operationalization at this year's COP.

“Over 58.5 million people are employed in small-scale fisheries, these fisheries are global lifelines,” says Dr. Essam Mohammed, Director General of WorldFish,

Small-scale fisheries, both marine and freshwater, face significant threats from climate change. Rising temperatures, ocean acidification, and extreme weather events disrupt ecosystems, affecting fish populations and habitats in rivers, lakes, and oceans. These changes can result in reduced catches, or loss of traditional fishing grounds, impacting the livelihoods, nutrition and food security of millions dependant on this sector.

WorldFish calls for the swift operationalization of the Loss and Damage Fund, stressing the need for straightforward access and rapid disbursement of grants, especially for marginalised communities like small-scale fisherfolk.

Emphasizing lessons from the Green Climate Fund's challenges, WorldFish suggests a more inclusive, responsive approach to funding, ensuring

broad accessibility beyond governmental reach, involving grassroots organizations, and local communities.

“Incorporating small-scale fisheries in the Loss and Damage Fund is essential for justice and equity. COP28 is our chance for transformative action to protect millions of lives, livelihoods and lay the groundwork for shared prosperity,” says Dr. Essam Mohammed,

WorldFish's other key recommendations for COP28 include:

Investment in Sustainable Aquatic Food Systems to maximize their potential as a climate solution. These systems play a key role in climate change mitigation, nourishing billions, and fostering economic growth, especially in low- and middle-income countries.

Increase South-South collaborative efforts to accelerate adaptation of proven innovations and technologies that sustainably manage fisheries and can climate-proof production.

For more information visit worldfishcenter.org/cop28

Source: <https://www.icsf.net/newss/world-news-worldfish-calls-for-small-scale-fisheries-inclusion-in-cop28-loss-and-damage-fund/>

ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

Red Ibero-Americana de Pesca Artesanal de Pequena Escala (RIPAPE) RIPAPE brings together 25 organizations of fishers from 17 countries

The Red Iberoamericana de Pesca Artesanal de Pequena Escala translates to Ibero-American Network of Small-Scale Artisanal Fishing (RIPAPE) in English. It is made up of over 25 fishing organizations from 15 countries in Latin America, Spain and Portugal. Established in May 2020 in the city of Cadiz, it represents more than 20 million artisanal fishers, men and women. It promotes social responsibility in their fishing communities based on the principles of ethical, socio-environmental and economic viability. It also aims for greater visibility and social and political recognition. Its priorities are the fight against climate change, incorporation of gender policies, and improving the quality of life of people in coastal communities dedicated to a sector in which more than 10 per cent of the world's population works.

RIPAPE seeks to provide a space for strengthening and supporting artisanal fishing organizations, promoting reflection and exchange of experiences that allow for



responses to challenges. The projects of 2023 have been based on two objectives: to strengthen projects and improve marketing of quality local products to meet the objective of the 2030 sustainability agenda and enhance the living conditions of artisanal fishermen; and to strengthen the role of women in our communities and identify the social deficiencies of our fishing populations so as to channel

demands before governments and international bodies.

The network also works towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 1 (End poverty in all its forms) and SDG 2 (End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable fishing). It does that through the identification and differentiation of products in local markets, through improving marketing through the motto 'fish less, sell better'.

It believes that small-scale fishers' heritage and cultural values make them stronger; sustainable and biodegradable materials are part of its objectives. Other goals include effectively regulating fishery exploitation; ending over-fishing and illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing; addressing fisheries subsidies; increase the economic benefits

of sustainable aquaculture; facilitate small-scale fisher's access to marine resources and markets; and implement the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

As an organization created for the service of small-scale artisanal fishing communities in Latin America, Spain and Portugal, RIPAPE aims to set a benchmark for environmental, economic and social wealth, while preserving the incalculably rich cultural and heritage roots of the region.

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