

CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT CHARTER

OXFAM

PLANNED ACTIONS & TARGETS



OXFAM

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1. INTRODUCTION

Fighting for climate justice is one of Oxfam Strategic Framework main pillars. Oxfam recognizes that we are in a climate emergency which is wreaking havoc across the globe, and it is the poorest communities and women who are paying the heaviest price.

We have a vision of a **just and sustainable world**. A world where people and the planet are at the center of our economy. Where women and girls live free from violence and discrimination. Where the climate crisis is contained. And where governance systems are inclusive and allow for those in power to be held to account.

Oxfam's actions are guided by feminist principles and our organizational values:

- ✿ Equality - We believe everyone has the right to be treated fairly and to have the same rights and opportunities.
- ✿ Empowerment - We acknowledge and seek to expand people's agency over their lives and the decisions that impact them.
- ✿ Solidarity - We join hands, support, and collaborate across boundaries in working towards a just and sustainable world.
- ✿ Inclusiveness - We embrace diversity and difference and value the perspectives and contributions of all people and communities in their fight against poverty and injustice.
- ✿ Accountability - We take responsibility for our actions and inactions and hold ourselves accountable to people we work with and for.
- ✿ Courage - We speak truth to power and act with conviction on the justice of our causes.

2. TIMELINE

The actions listed in this document are aligned with the ambitions in the [Global Strategic Framework](#). Oxfam operationalizes the objectives from the Global Strategic Framework into a concrete 3-year Horizon Plans periods. The current Horizon Plan covers the financial Years of 2023 /2027. The actions listed will be fully integrated in the Horizon Planning exercise and the monitoring of the implementation of these Horizon Plans. The Horizon Plans contain more concrete targets and measures.

Oxfam's Humanitarian Approach includes the systematic consideration of Safe Programming. The protection of the environment is part of the 'do-no-harm' approach and the provision of sustainable solutions to communities in need is a key element of Oxfam's Humanitarian vision.

Oxfam's **Humanitarian Horizon Guide for 2023-2027** aims to ensure that all Oxfam actions are linked to the benefit of the people and communities we are committed to support. The document introduces four focus areas in need of collective strengthening, energy, and action to realize this vision: **Environmental sustainability** is one of the key strategic enablers highlighted to realize progress in each of these focus areas providing a list of proposed actions to be systematically included in programs as of 2023. **The aim is that most programs will have been able to incorporate the proposed actions and progressed this critical area of work by the end of the Horizon Planning cycle 2027.**

3. OUR ACTIONS FOR THE CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT

To address the climate and environmental crises, we have been and continue adapting our work and ways of working on three main areas of interventions:

- **Programming**
- **Internal operations**
- **Advocacy**

The following objectives and targets present a non-exhaustive list of what we are doing or intend to do in relation to each of the 7 commitments of the Charter.

Commitment 1: Step up our response to growing humanitarian needs and help people adapt to the impacts of the climate and environmental crises.

1. Step up adaptive programming that integrates climate change, collaborating internally with the Right-Resilience & Response team which focuses on the work across the Nexus and other.
2. Diversify Oxfam's funding portfolio to increase critical humanitarian capacity on country level as well as to add more localization and funding for local actors in particular RLOs and WROs which are key to help people respond and adapt to the impacts of the climate and environmental crisis.
3. Advocate to ensure that those most affected by the climate crisis are included in Loss and Damage funding streams.
4. Strive to increase the efficiency and more importantly the effectiveness of our work through innovation by testing methods that can expand quality, reach, and impact. This is particularly important with view of Anticipatory Action in face of climate change. Oxfam intends to expand Anticipatory Action across the confederation during the Horizon period of 2023-2027 and build on innovative approaches which combine local information/indigenous knowledge systems and scientific triggers for AA.

Commitment 2: Maximize the environmental sustainability of our work and rapidly reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

Oxfam aims to reach Net-Zero emissions by 2045. To do that we will establish a decarbonization roadmap with intermediary targets. We also aim to reduce our environmental footprint beyond emissions, reviewing our ways of working and adopting eco-friendly practices.

1. Build and adopt a vision and a strategy on the environmental sustainability of Oxfam's operations. This shall be completed in 2024.
2. Establish a baseline of our global carbon emissions, based on data from year 2022-2023.
3. Define decarbonization scenarios.
4. Set a reduction target for carbon emissions for 2030.
5. Support both program and operations with new or revised environmental guidance and socialize this with countries and regions.
6. By 2026, Oxfam will systematically assess the environmental risks of humanitarian programs and implement mitigation measures to reduce the most severe ones.
7. Increase the proportion of WASH humanitarian responses/programs operating on cost-effective and sustainable energy.

Additionally, Oxfam has adopted in 2023 a Responsible Flying Policy and a Land-based Carbon Removal & Offset policy, that will be embedded into each affiliate and country policy or strategy.

Commitment 3: Embrace the leadership of local actors and communities.

1. Increase work with communities, local partners, in particular RLOs and WROs, and institutions in designing and implementing responses to climate and environmental disasters and promote their leadership in humanitarian action.
2. Support knowledge and capacity of partners in preparedness, **environmental donor requirements** and environmental screening tools.
3. Work to ensure the knowledge of local communities increasingly and systematically inform our understanding of the environmental risks of our interventions and possible ways to mitigate them.
4. Ensure that those most affected by the climate crisis are being heard in national, regional, and global discussions about securing environmental sustainability.

Commitment 4: Increase our capacity to understand climate and environmental risks and develop evidence-based solutions.

1. Capture, collect and disseminate learning and guidance, for country teams to use in programing, specifically for conflict and fragile contexts.
2. Resource efforts to understand the impact of climate and environmental crisis (through research) and develop programs or innovations to address this.
3. Increase capacity to collect and analyze research for evidence-based solutions.
4. During 2023-27 Oxfam will work with its partners to better understand the linkages between climate change, crisis, and conflict.
5. 2023-27 Oxfam will invest in humanitarian intelligence/analysis to understand the predictable impacts of the climate crisis on humanitarian work and aim to scale preparedness accordingly.

Commitment 5: Work collaboratively across the humanitarian sector and beyond to strengthen climate and environmental action.

1. Co-lead the Global Solar and Water Initiative and provide leadership to the humanitarian sector on solar water pumping. Oxfam has been co-lead of the Global Solar and Water Initiative since 2016.
2. Oxfam will map and engage in environmental working groups at global levels **ensuring the inclusion of a gender lens throughout.**
3. Share learning and expertise in global networks & communities of practice.
4. Ensure programmatic insights guide and inform Oxfam's participation in global discussions and where possible invite voices from country teams, partners and the communities we work with to join the table of global conversations.
5. Strengthen work across the Nexus and in building climate resilience especially in fragile/ conflict settings.

Commitment 6: Use our influence to mobilize urgent and more ambitious climate action and environmental protection.

Oxfam is part of a global movement for social justice aiming for lasting solutions, tackling the inequalities that keep people poor and vulnerable, and campaigning for genuine, durable change. Oxfam's Climate Justice strategy aims to tackle the systemic drivers of the crisis, and build a movement to demand a just, equal and feminist transition that advances human rights for all. Influencing will always be part of our programming approach as we advocate to change norms, behaviours, policy, and practice. We mobilize to transform the systems that perpetuate poverty and injustice.

One of our key objectives is that the voices of feminist organizations, youth, and indigenous peoples are amplified in climate negotiations, and lead the transition towards greener and fairer economic solutions.

The recently adopted Global Climate Influencing Strategy identifies the following as long-term outcomes:

1. By 2026, Oxfam has made inequality a mainstream issue in popular and political debates about the climate change, leading to increased support for a just, equal and feminist transition.
2. By 2026, Oxfam has secured increased and new sources of finance for adaptation, just transition and loss & damage, and ensured benefits by/access to frontline communities.
3. By 2026, people most impacted by the climate crisis have the power to participate and influence decisions that affect their lives. Oxfam has helped strengthen the climate movement and weakened the influence of powerful vested interests.
4. By 2026, Oxfam has catalysed the scaling up of equitable access to responsibly produced renewable energy and a fast, fair and funded phase out of fossil fuels.

To achieve these, we will rely on three modes of interventions which are Campaigning, Movement strengthening and Advocacy.