

## Together for climate action: with whom and for what?

The motto of COP 27 in Sharm el Sheik, Egypt, is "together for implementation" (#together for implementation). As the first COP focused on "implementation," we witnessed a cacophony of voices and proposals competing to sell business opportunities, technology, financing (and debt) to achieve decarbonization, climate neutrality, and a place in the net-zero (net zero emissions) future.

Facing this great "climate fair" and considering what the term "climate action" has been pointing to in practice, we, Brazilian civil society organizations and movements, understand that it is crucial to ask: together with whom and for what?

The center of our concerns is, in particular, with **the offensive of the markets to structure mitigation actions linked to land, forests and the promotion of so-called Nature-based Solutions (Nbs)**, since climate actions in this sector have been configured as a great opportunity for investments - and therefore for profits and financial speculation - which cannot be equated with true sustainability and the just transition that the world needs.

We reaffirm here our position that **forests must remain outside market mechanisms**. Forests are the space of enormous biodiversity and of many indigenous peoples, traditional communities, quilombolas and family farmers who seek dignified and sustainable coexistence with their ecosystems. They must be the object of public policies and governance systems, transparent and democratic.

It has been a historical negotiating position of the Brazilian State - as well as of various segments of civil society in the country reiterated over the years - **to keep forests out of carbon markets**. We have confronted and resisted the countless formulations that throughout the climate negotiations have been trying to subordinate forests, lands, territories and populations of the global South to the logics and mechanisms linked to markets and financial speculation - even in the name of climate.

Instead, we advocate that **international climate finance for forests and to combat deforestation** be subordinated to structuring public policies and funding sources within the framework of the public budget, i.g., institutionally, to public governance and to sovereignty - following what is established in Article 5 of the Paris Agreement and the Warsaw Framework for REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation), which provides for payments for effective results for the conservation and recovery of forest areas. We also advocate that **international donations related to these results should be untied from the public budget spending cap**.

This COP is the first after the conclusion of the Paris Agreement Rule Book, finalized in Glasgow, in November 2021, in which the centrality of Article 6, which deals with the international transfer of mitigation results and the operationalization of carbon markets in the implementation of the Agreement's goals - or how, after all, mitigation results will be credited and computed in the global spreadsheet of the climate account - was sacramentized. Section 6.4 of the Article deals specifically with the carbon market under the UNFCCC, under the "sustainable development mechanism" format. The current technical negotiations on Article 6.4 are advancing rapidly, given the interest of certain actors to operationalize this access to private and financial sector actors - *to the detriment of the responsibility of developed country states* - and is being promoted as the main way to finance and bet for mitigation.

We represent voices from Brazilian civil society that disagree with the vision that bets on the centrality of carbon markets and naturalizes the narrative that the private sector would be the key partner with a preponderant role in financing, in the implementation of climate actions and in the transition of the economic model towards a 'greener' economy. Instead, we argue that developed countries and the largest historical drivers of global warming emissions must meet their commitments to financing targets and make available payment-by-results resources, as well as take the loss and damage agenda seriously.

Climate action cannot serve to deepen injustices or promote environmental racism and climate debt. It is necessary to produce a climate action that is able to repair the actualized effects of coloniality, and offer reconstructive solutions against extreme climate effects, without shifting the burden of combating climate change to indigenous and quilombola peoples, traditional and rural communities, while global corporations, including fossil fuel producers, disclaim responsibility for the pollution that their economic activities have historically caused by accounting for forest carbon credits in their sustainability balance sheets.

Signatures:

Articulação dos Povos Indígenas do Brasil (APIB)

Coordenação dos Povos Indígenas da Amazônia Brasileira (COIAB)

Coordenação Nacional de Articulação das Comunidades Negras Rurais Quilombolas (CONAQ)

Confederação Nacional dos Trabalhadores Rurais Agricultores e Agricultoras Familiares (CONTAG)

Coalizão Negra por Direitos

Conselho Nacional das Populações Extrativistas (CNS)

Central Única dos Trabalhadores (CUT)

Fórum Mudanças Climáticas e Justiça Socioambiental (FMCJS)

Fórum Brasileiro de ONGs e Movimentos Sociais (FBOMS)

Grupo Carta de Belém (GCB)

Marcha Mundial de Mulheres (MMM)

Marcha Mundial por Justiça Climática/ Marcha Mundial do Clima

Memorial Chico Mendes

Movimento de Mulheres Camponesas (MMC)

Movimento dos Sem Terra (MST)

Movimentos dos Pequenos Agricultores (MPA)

FASE

INESC

Instituto de Referência Negra Peregum

Terra de Direitos

Uneafro Brasil