

## Act Church of Sweden's Action Plan for Environment and Climate Change 2022-2023

Following up on Act CoS's Environment and Climate Change (ECC) baseline and recommendations of Sida's Environment review (2021):

Action	Who (responsible function)	When	Suggestions/Comments/ Links	Status (August 2022)
<b>1. Ensure that ECC is supported by strategic direction and known (staff and partners)</b>				
<i>a. Strengthen strategic direction and approach to ECC in the programme revision process (including bridging outcomes and progress markers, risks, capacity development plans and budget)</i>	International Programme Director, Karins AZ International Director of Strategic Planning, Coleen	March-December 2022		In progress
<i>b. Annually prioritize activities in Act CoS's ECC Action Plan in line with PMERL and programme revision processes</i>	Head of Unit for OD, Carina Björnlund	August 2022 – checked annually		August 2022, CB+MK
<i>c. Adapt the locally led adaptation principles (signed by Act CoS, 20201222) as part of resilience thematic area and interventions, including DRR &amp; CCA.</i>	PM and Partners, Resilience coordinator, ECC advisor	As part of our strategic thematic area for resilience and planning stage of interventions	<a href="https://www.wri.org/initiatives/locally-led-adaptation/principles-locally-led-adaptation">https://www.wri.org/initiatives/locally-led-adaptation/principles-locally-led-adaptation</a>	Not started
<i>d. Ensure that Regional Section and relevant staff members are aware about the ECC-related policies, positions, strategic directions guiding Act CoS international work</i>	Climate and Environment experts, KLIV ECC focal person, Act CoS (MK)	1-2 learning events per semester.	<a href="https://www.svenskakyrkan.se/miljomal">https://www.svenskakyrkan.se/miljomal</a> <a href="https://www.svenskakyrkan.se/agenda2030/svenska-kyrkans-fardplan-for-klimatet-">https://www.svenskakyrkan.se/agenda2030/svenska-kyrkans-fardplan-for-klimatet-</a>	Not started
<b>2. Develop tools and methods</b>				
<i>a. Update partner assessment guidelines ensuring ECC perspective</i>	Head of Unit for OD, Carina Björnlund	March-June 2022		In progress, need revision
<i>b. Focused partner dialogue and internal introduction training to ensure clearer ECC-perspective</i>	International Programme Director, Karin AZ International Director of Strategi Planning, Coleen Heemsker	Systematize learning 2022-2023	Might be digital, in collaboration with ACT members	Not started
<i>c. The risk matrix (including ECC) will be improved, as part of the programme revision process and in response to CHS Mid-term review process</i>	International Programme Director, Karin AZ International Director of Strategi Planning, Coleen Heemsker	May-December 2022		In progress

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<b>3. Partner collaboration</b>				
d. <i>Inform partners on the application process and requirements (including programme frames, areas of priority, as well as ECC perspective)</i>	International Programme Director, Karin AZ International Director of Strategi Planning, Coleen Heemserk	June 2022	<a href="https://www.svenskakyrkan.se/act/partner-collaboration-and-project-support">https://www.svenskakyrkan.se/act/partner-collaboration-and-project-support</a>	In progress
e. <i>ECC perspective, including risks, strength, and capacity needs, is included as part of project assessment</i>	Head of Unit for OD, Carina Björnlund	March –September 2022 –		Partly, in progress
f. <i>The pilot initiative to map Gender and Climate capacity of the ACT Forum Ethiopia’s member organizations to be followed up with an action plan for capacity and joint initiatives.</i>	Head of Unit for OD, Carina Björnlund	March- September 2022	Joint effort by ACT CoS, ACT Forum Ethiopia and the ACT Secretariate	In progress
g. <i>UN high level meetings (Stockholm+50, COP27 and 28). Act CoS will ensure the participation of local partners and participants in collaboration with ACT Alliance and LWF</i>	Policy Director, Eva Ekelund	June 2-3, November 11-18 2022 and November 2023		Completed
<b>4. Capacity and Competence</b>				
h. <i>Revisit recommendations from Sida’s ECC review following the programme revision (Competence mapping in-house w regional program staff+partners, need for environmental focal persons in each unit/region)</i>	International Programme Director, Karin AZ International Director of Strategi Planning, Coleen Heemserk	February 2023	Linking cross-cutting issues (gender, faith and conflict). Ensuring risk-informed development for strengthened resilience/locally led anticipatory actions (DRR, CCA, Early warning systems, protection etc)  <b>Suggested learning events related to:</b> <a href="#">Sendai Framework</a> for DRR- Resilience network session <a href="#">ECC anticipatory humanitarian action</a> (charter) – request Red Cross <a href="#">Gender and Climate Justice</a> – request ACT Alliance + Forum Ethiopia <a href="#">Gender inclusive Resilience and CCA</a> – request Stockholm Environment Institute (2022) <a href="#">Gender, Conflict and Climate</a> – Xx 2022	In progress
i. <i>Actor analyses carried out in the Regional Programme Revision Teams, ensuring resource persons/partners on ECC</i>	International Programme Director, Karin AZ International Director of Strategi Planning, Coleen Heemserk	February-November 2022		In progress

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j. <i>The Environment and Climate Charter for Humanitarian Actors to be signed</i>	International Director of Strategi Planning, Coleen Heemskerk	October 2022	Page for signing: <a href="https://www.climate-charter.org/">https://www.climate-charter.org/</a>	In progress
k. <i>Initiate dialogue with ACT members who have signed the ECC charter for experience exchange. Building on existing comparative mapping of needs, resources and planned actions</i>	International Director of Strategic Planning, Coleen Heemskerk Head of Unit for OD, Carina Björnlund	March 2022 - ongoing	Christian Aid, NCA, LWF and FCA - First initial dialogue was conducted 20220204. Followed by a bilateral exchange meeting with FCA 20220225	In progress
l. <i>Align ECC Action plan to comply with the ECC charter's commitments</i>	International Director of Strategic Planning, Coleen Heemskerk Head of Unit for OD, Carina Björnlund	July-August 2022		Completed
m. <i>Dialogue with the Swedish Red Cross Federation regarding a Swedish Community of Practice for signatories of the charter</i>	Head of Unit for OD, Carina Björnlund	After signing		In progress (initial talks), to be followed up
<b>5. ECC Advocacy</b>				
n. <i>Ensure that Environment perspectives are included in Climate Justice Policy Dialogue and other policy areas when relevant</i>	Policy Director, Eva Ekelund	August-February 2023		Partly, in progress
o. <i>Strengthen ECC policy dialogue on regional and country level</i>	International Programme Director, Karin ZA	Starting January 2023-	Need for capacity strengthening? Check regional policy advisors	Initial steps been taken (pilot Ethiopia ACT Forum)
p. <i>Advocacy for climate funding for locally led CCA + Loss and Damage</i>	Policy Director, Eva Ekelund	September 2020 – December 2023	As member of the Swedish reference group for the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and at global climate negotiations (COP27 an Cop 28)	In progress, ongoing
<b>6. Funding for ECC</b>				
q. <i>Global Funding Unit together with Regional Unit is actively exploring and seeking collaboration w ACT Alliance, DCA, Cordaid, LWF to explore funding opportunities</i>	International Director of Strategic Planning, Coleen Heemskerk International Programme Director, Karin AZ	Starting September 2022 and onward	Example: Cordaid has been able to get funding from the GCF for gender inclusive resilience (entrepreneurship) in Rwanda. The aim of the initiative in Ethiopia is to do something similar	Issue raised w GFU, to be started

## Suggested plan and actions to ensure Act CoS’s compliance in relation to the Environment and Climate Charter for Humanitarian Actors’s seven commitments

Minimum 4 commitments to be met – need to check!

Commitment	Key elements	Act CoS action	Suggested targets by the charter – to be developed into Act CoS’s own targets
<p>1. Step up our response to growing humanitarian needs and support those who are the most at risk to the impacts of the climate and environmental crises</p>	<p><b>Focus:</b> CCA, DRR and Anticipatory Action across all work (preparedness, response and recovery)  <b>Action:</b> Sound risk analyses, based on available climate and environment science and data, including local and indigenous knowledge.  <b>Support to:</b> Those (rights holders) most at risk, consider influence and power (gender, age, disability, structural inequity, legal status) impacting on peoples capacity and vulnerabilities</p>	<p>The new Act CoS Strategy for 2023-2028 (climate and environment perspective visible + providing directions to step up the efforts in an integrated manner, as well as priority area for policy dialogue) – <b>this needs to be translated into the country, regional and humanitarian programmes and followed up in the partner dialogue for the new strategic phase (during 2022)</b></p> <p>ECC is part of risk assessment – however need to ensure this is carried out, monitored and reported in a systematic way relevant to the interventions.</p> <p><i>In line with CHS 3.6 on risk management and 9.4 ECCIA and 9.6 resource management</i></p>	<p>☑ By 2025, climate and environmental risks will be identified, minimized and managed across all our programs.                  ☑ By 2025, climate and environmental risks will be factored in all our programmes and humanitarian operations.                  ☑ We will reach 250 million people with activities to address the rising climate risks by 2025.</p>
<p>2. Maximize the environmental sustainability of our work and rapidly reduce our greenhouse gas emissions</p>	<p><b>Follow principle</b> of “do no harm”                  Avoid, minimize and manage ECC damage as part of humanitarian assistance  <b>Sound environment policies and systematic assessment</b> of ECC impact of all work</p>	<p>At organizational level this is in place (covered by CoS National level policies, environment certification/miljödiplomering, roadmap for climate + action plans, including carbon footprint compensation by using Fair fund)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We will adopt an environmental policy by 2024.</li> <li>● We will systematically assess the environmental risks of our programmes and implement mitigation measures to reduce the most severe ones.</li> <li>● Our organization will be climate neutral by 2050.</li> </ul>

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	<p>(programme, procurement, logistic and premisses). Measure and reduce greenhouse gas emissions according to global goals. Support emission reduction through conservation and restoration of forest and land, complement reduction efforts.</p> <p><b>Responsible management and use of natural resources</b>, including water and proper waste management of all work.</p>	<p>Needs to be followed up with partners by reviewing their programme interventions, procurement routines, logistic and premisses.</p> <p><i>In line with CHS commitment for environment: Commitment 3, 8 and 9 (3.6 risk management, 3.7 green procurement, 8.8/policy, 9.4/EECA, 9.6/resource management)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Single-use plastics will be eliminated from our programmes and premisses by 2022.</li> <li>● All our e-waste will be recycled by 2025.</li> <li>● We will reduce our greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2030, compared to 2018 levels.</li> <li>● We will reduce our travel-related emissions by 50% by 2025.</li> <li>● All our premisses will be carbon neutral by 2025.</li> </ul>
<p>3. Embrace the leadership of local actors and communities</p>	<p>By <b>material, financial and capacity support</b> for CC and environmental risks.</p> <p><b>Learn from local, traditional and indigenous knowledge</b> on mitigation and adaptation, including nature-based solutions.</p> <p><b>Invest in locally led responses.</b></p> <p><b>Ensure meaningful and inclusive participation</b> and leadership of local actors and people (in design, management, implementation and evaluation) of programmes.</p>	<p>Act is a signatory of the locally-led climate adaptation principles – to be rolled out internally in the organisation. – as part of the roll out of the new strategic plan (upon Sida’s approval end of December 2022)</p> <p>We have tools for locally-led actions (sclr) – to be rolled and applied systematically as part of “anticipatory actions to strengthen resilience” (CCA and environment protection)</p> <p>We advocate with donors and Swedish duty bearers (ongoing: climate finance, loss and damage, locally-led and gender justice/gender transformative actions)</p>	<p><b>Considerations on Targets</b></p> <p>Many of the Principles for Locally Led Adaptation can be transformed into concrete targets that notably commit organizations to dedicating a portion of funding to local-level actors, deepening local engagement in decision-making, and increasing the percentage of programs that build on existing local initiatives. Organizations may choose to endorse the principles as part of their targets, or draw inspiration from them in developing targets that are aligned with their mandate and size.</p> <p><b>Examples of Potential Targets</b></p> <p>By 2022, all our advocacy efforts will be informed by local voices and priorities, using appropriate methods and taking concerted action to ensure equal and equitable representation.</p>

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		<p><i>In line with CHS commitment: 3.7.b strengthen local capacity, 4.3 local participation all stages of implementation, 5.5 right to complain, 6.4 right to information and participation. 7.5 ensuring local knowledge</i></p>	
<p>4. Increase our capacity to understand climate and environmental risks and develop evidence-based solutions</p>	<p><b>Strengthen collective capacity to reduce risks,</b> anticipate crises, act early and ensure sustainability.  <b>Produce and share accessible and evidence based data</b> and analysis. Improve use of science, evidence, technology and communication to address risks in all activities.</p>	<p>Capacity need mapping and capacity building plan will be developed as part of the programme revision process – (focus 2022-2023 on humanitarian/context were ECC crises is anticipated. Also depends on how HD Nexus will be organized within Act CoS)</p> <p>Good practice: <b>Suggestion to develop learning briefs</b> from existing experience (programmes on livelihood, SRHR, Peace, gender nexus ECC) (roll out 2022 consultancy?)</p> <p>In line with CHS 4.3 mutual learning and exchange, 7.1 lessons learned, 9.4 ECCIA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2025, all relevant staff and partners will be trained on the integration of climate and environmental risks in our programs.</li> <li>• <i>By 2022, our data on climate risks in specific countries will be made available to the wider humanitarian sector.</i></li> <li>• By 2023, we will compile examples of good practices on the integration of climate and environmental risks in livelihood programmes.</li> </ul>
<p>5. Work collaboratively across the humanitarian sector and beyond to strengthen climate and environment action</p>	<p><b>Enhance cooperation across the humanitarian system.</b> Between local, national and international actors.  <b>Work with</b> local and national authorities, environmental, development and human rights actors, international financial institutions, private sector, researchers, suppliers and donors to manage risks</p>	<p>Through the Global Ecumenical Alliances, ACT Forums</p> <p>This is the modality of many country programmes already (however I can we promote more exchange and collaboration between partners at different levels)</p> <p>Act CoS is a member of GNDR w the same purpose to bring different</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2022, we will work in partnership with local and national authorities, civil society organizations and development actors to strengthen water management in conflict-affected cities.</li> <li>• By 2025, we will have undertaken and shared a current and projected analysis of climate and environmental risks across all the geographical locations where we work, informed by primary and secondary data from relevant authorities,</li> </ul>

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	<p>and develop sustainable interventions.</p> <p><b>Help shape people-centred, climate resilient and inclusive development.</b></p>	<p>actors together for more coherent support to locally led resilience/DRR</p> <p>In line with CHS: 6.3 coordination w relevant bodies, 6.5 coordination with national and local authorities, 7.3 research and learning</p>	<p>including research institutes, government and communities.</p>
<p>6. Use our influence to mobilize urgent and more ambitious climate action and environmental protection</p>	<p><b>Call for ambitious action</b> by governments, organizations, private sector and individuals to recue risks, address causes and consequences of climate and environment crises.</p> <p><b>Inform and influence decision makers</b> (laws, policies, investments and practices) based on people’s experience.</p> <p><b>Step up efforts to promote improved implementation</b> of international and national laws, standards, policies and plans for ECC protection.</p>	<p>Policydialogue for climate&amp;environment justice (in line with the road map for climate justice as well as humanitarian)</p> <p>Concords WG for climate and environment justice</p> <p>We are part of ACT Alliance advocacy WG for climate justice</p> <p>We are part of WCC’s advocacy for Care for Creation w both religious and political leaders</p> <p><i>In line with CHS 2.1 advocacy and influence decision makers.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>By 2025, awareness, understanding and implementation of International Humanitarian Law protecting the environment is strengthened among States and parties to conflict.</i></li> <li>• In 2022, we will engage with our governments, and support our partners to speak with their governments, to persuade them to take ambitious climate action, including increasing financial support for locally led adaptation measures.</li> <li>• In 2022, we will facilitate regular meetings between community-members, local government representatives and other partners to support implementation of, and access to finance enabled through, disaster and climate-related laws and policies.</li> <li>• In 2022, we will advocate for the strengthening of disaster and climate-related laws and policies in our dialogues with government and in other relevant fora, highlighting the commitments made under the Sendai framework and the Paris agreement.</li> <li>• We will engage in the formulation of national climate and environment related policy processes such as NDCs and NAPs, to ensure they prioritize action that benefits the most vulnerable people.</li> </ul>
<p>7. Develop targets and measure our progress as we implement our commitments.</p>	<p><b>Rigorously measure and transparent report</b> on ECC impacts of our work.</p>	<p>This is done as part of Act CoS PMER/L system. We must ensure that ECC is integrated, with expected</p>	

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	<p><b>Seek feedback from people served.</b></p> <p><b>Charter's commitment translated into time-bound targets and action plans</b> (within a year if not in place) using relevant standards and guidance.</p> <p><b>Targets to be reviewed annually.</b></p> <p><b>Shift ways of working,</b> changes in mindset and approaches.</p> <p><b>Ensure significant transition and maintenance costs.</b> Invest the necessary resources to achieve commitments.</p> <p><b>Support from donors is essential!</b></p>	<p>outcomes and time bound targets/progress markers, as well as define and report on changes of behaviours etc in relation to ECC.</p> <p>Inform how we seek and report on feedback from rights holders.</p> <p><i>Check what is missing in relation to approach, methods and tools (and for whom).</i></p> <p><i>Decide learning opportunities for whom, what and when. (Increased focus to learn and develop w partners).</i></p> <p><i>Secure funding for necessary investments.</i></p>	