ASB Latin America

Climate Charter Action Plan

2025–2030

Institutional roadmap for climate action, environmental risk management, and sustainable programme delivery

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This Action Plan translates ASB Latin America's commitments under the Climate and Environment Charter into a practical roadmap through 2030. It sets out how the organization will strengthen climate adaptation, reduce environmental risks, improve the sustainability of its operations and projects, and build evidence-based, locally led responses across Central America, Colombia, and Venezuela.

ASB Latin America – Climate Charter Action Plan

Central America (Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador) and northern South America (Colombia and Venezuela) are among the regions most exposed to prolonged drought, extreme rainfall, and El Niño/La Niña cycles. These shocks, combined with environmental degradation, are increasing humanitarian needs, undermining food security and access to safe water, and disproportionately affecting persons with disabilities, women, girls and boys, and Indigenous and Afro-descendant communities.

In response, ASB Latin America integrates inclusion, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), food security, and climate monitoring throughout its institutional management and project cycle. We prioritize evidence-based and nature-based solutions, as well as anticipatory measures for hurricanes and floods. Working alongside partners and local authorities, we strengthen essential services, protect livelihoods, and promote community-led adaptation.

As signatories to the Climate and Environment Charter, we recognize that transformation begins within our own organization. This means fostering sustainable workplace habits, responsible resource use, environmentally responsible procurement, and protocols to prevent and respond to environmental risks. This internal commitment reinforces the coherence and credibility of our field interventions.

This document translates the Charter into concrete objectives and actions for Central America, Colombia, and Venezuela, and sets the direction of ASB Latin America through 2030, in alignment with the Sendai Framework and the Regional Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Plan (PRGIR 2024–2030). Its overall objective is to strengthen response and adaptation capacities in the face of the climate crisis, with particular emphasis on prolonged drought and the resulting food insecurity in the Dry Corridor.

Implementation Horizon

Planning Horizon	Coverage
2025–2030	Seven commitments covering programmes, operations, governance, learning, and external engagement.

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

> **Objective:** Identify, minimize, and manage climate and environmental risks across all projects and programmes.

Climate Services and Participatory Monitoring

- Integrate the organization and establishment of climate monitoring networks, with a particular focus on youth participation, into food security and climate adaptation programmes. — 2025
- Install agrometeorological monitoring equipment. — 2025–2030
- Promote the use of weather forecasts and climate projections to inform project stakeholders, improve agricultural decision-making, and prepare anticipatory action plans for droughts and floods. — 2025–2030

Early Warning Systems and Anticipatory Action

- Prepare and implement Early Warning Systems for droughts and floods.

Programmatic Integration and Environmental Safeguards

- Identify, reduce, and manage climate and socio-environmental risks across all projects through prior environmental analysis, including NEAT+ and related tools, in order to reduce risks and maximize positive impacts; with the exception of projects that, by nature, do not generate negative impacts. — 2026–2030
- Strengthen, together with local partners, municipal authorities, and relevant entities, the integration of Climate Change Adaptation (CCA), Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), and Anticipatory Action (AA) into projects in the area of Food Security and Climate Change.

Resilient Production and Nature-Based Solutions

- Integrate the principles and practices of Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA), Nature-Based Solutions (NbS), and climate-resilient livelihoods into projects supported by ASB Latam.
- Promote the design and construction of water harvesting and recharge infrastructure, such as infiltration wells for aquifer recharge and water capture structures for productive use, as well as the implementation of drip irrigation in agricultural activities.

Capacity Building and Community Awareness

- Develop training and awareness-raising programmes on the risks posed by climate variability and climate change for the most at-risk community groups, including through peer learning and exchange of experiences.

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

> **Objective:** Manage and use natural resources, including water for human consumption and productive use, responsibly and efficiently, while applying the Do No Harm principle in both office operations and the ecosystems where ASB Latam projects and interventions are delivered.

Projects – Conservation, Restoration, and Small-Scale Compensation

- Promote project-based actions for forest conservation and restoration, participation in forest incentive schemes, and other mechanisms that contribute to the small-scale compensation of greenhouse gas emissions.

Projects – Water for Human Consumption

- Design and implement drinking water systems that are planned and managed in line with regulations and standards for appropriate and sustainable use.
- Promote the use of water filters for household consumption.

Projects – Water for Productive Use (Water Efficiency)

- Install drip irrigation systems for agricultural production within projects under the Food Security and Climate Change programme.
- Support rainwater harvesting systems, including water recharge zone management, runoff storage reservoirs, and rooftop rainwater collection for irrigating agricultural plots.

Office – Energy Efficiency (Lighting and Cooling)

- Light only the areas that are in use and adjust lighting levels to actual needs.
- Switch off lights whenever they are not needed, even for short periods.
- Organize workspaces to make the greatest possible use of natural light.
- Open shutters, curtains, and blinds, and keep windows clean to maximize daylight.
- Ensure that any replacement bulbs are upgraded to LED lighting systems.
- ASB Latam staff commit to maintaining air conditioning between 23°C and 24°C.
- Turn off air conditioning units and lights when leaving the office.
- Unplug power adapters at the end of the working day, as devices continue to consume energy even when switched off.

Office and Projects – Water Conservation

- Turn off taps when not in use to avoid wasting water.
- Monitor meters and pipework to detect leaks or excessive water consumption, both in offices and in community drinking water systems.
- Notify maintenance services immediately in the event of faults to prevent water losses.

Office – Materials and Waste

- Reduce, reuse, and recycle materials, including continued paper reuse and recycling.
- Eliminate the use of plastic or polystyrene plates and containers; use glassware and BPA-free reusable utensils instead.

Projects and Office – Low-Carbon Mobility and Project Travel

- Adopt a virtual-first principle by assessing in advance whether meetings and accompaniment activities can be carried out remotely; justify in-person travel based on technical requirements, on-site verification, or critical coordination needs. — 2025–2030
- Establish a flight policy: fly economy class, prioritize direct flights where operationally feasible and cost-efficient, reduce stopovers, and combine visits and agendas to cut travel frequency. — 2025–2030
- Prioritize ground transport for regional journeys where safe and operationally feasible; optimize routes, apply fuel-efficient driving practices, and keep vehicles properly maintained. — 2025–2030

Projects and Office – Sustainable Events, Workshops, and Training

- Apply a sustainable events guideline: avoid single-use plastics, provide water stations, encourage reusable bottles, and reduce printed materials through a digital-first approach; where printing is necessary, use recycled paper and double-sided printing. — 2025–2030
- Select venues with strong environmental practices and ensure accessibility and inclusion. — 2025–2030
- Procure catering based on local and seasonal menus, including a vegetarian option, while minimizing packaging and disposable items. — 2025–2030
- Reuse logistics materials and ensure proper event waste management through clearly labelled bins and an assigned focal point. — 2025–2030
- Offer hybrid or remote formats where appropriate to reduce travel. — 2025–2030

Commitment 3: Embrace the leadership of local actors and communities

> **Objective:** Strengthen local leadership in the management of climate and environmental risks by ensuring inclusive and meaningful participation, especially of women, youth, Indigenous peoples, and persons with disabilities, and by integrating local knowledge with technical information in programme design, implementation, and evaluation.

Community Capacity on Natural Resource Management

- Train producers and community structures in the management of forest, water, and soil resources. — 2025–2030

Governance and Local Leadership

- Strengthen partner organizations to promote local leadership in areas such as climate monitoring, local ROCC infrastructure, Water Boards, and Water Committees. — 2025–2030
- Establish local decision-making mechanisms, including committees with gender-balanced representation and documented agreements, for project prioritization and follow-up. — 2025–2030

Inclusive Participation

- Ensure the participation of groups in vulnerable situations in climate change and food security projects, with due attention to gender equity, disability inclusion, and Indigenous

peoples, supported by basic accessibility protocols such as translation into Indigenous languages and reasonable accommodation. — 2025–2030

Integration of Local Knowledge and Technical Evidence

- Link traditional and Indigenous knowledge with climate information, for example participatory mapping and Early Warning System data, to support community adaptation and anticipatory action plans. — 2025–2030

Accountability and Participatory Monitoring (Practical Approach)

- Promote community participation in monitoring and evaluation through simple processes such as the selection and review of Most Significant Change (MSC) stories, participatory photo documentation, and community logbooks of practices and observed changes. — 2025–2030
- Implement simple feedback and complaints mechanisms, such as suggestion boxes, WhatsApp, and short surveys, with documented tracking and response. — 2025–2030
- Hold community feedback and validation sessions at the close of key activities or milestones, using accessible formats such as notice boards, plain language, and local audio or radio. — 2025–2030

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

> **Objective:** Strengthen our collective ability to reduce risk, anticipate and act early, and combine science and technology with local and Indigenous knowledge; produce and share accessible data and analysis where feasible; and integrate climate and environmental risk across the project cycle to support the sustainability of livelihoods.

Risk Identification and Closing Data Gaps

- Improve understanding of evolving climate and environmental risks and opportunities in the short and long term. — 2025–2030
- Identify data gaps and strengthen participatory data collection, such as community weather monitoring and multi-year record keeping. — 2025–2030

Capacity Building (ASB and Partners)

- Deliver a training workshop for ASB staff and partners on response actions and Nature-Based Solutions. — 2025

Evidence Generation and Learning

- Develop studies and knowledge products to demonstrate the effectiveness of adaptation actions, improvements in food security, and access to water for consumption, domestic use, and productive purposes. — 2025–2028
- Compile and disseminate good practices, such as integrating risk into livelihoods and applying NbS/CSA approaches. — 2026–2030

Data Management, Exchange, and Access (Cross-Sectoral)

- Share and exchange project-generated climate information with the humanitarian sector, agriculture actors, government institutions, and the private sector, prioritizing accessible formats and open data where feasible. — 2025–2030
- Establish and promote data partnerships between ASB, implementing partners, meteorological and hydrological institutes, universities, and similar entities in order to improve data quality and coverage. — 2025–2028

Programmatic Integration Across the Project Cycle

- Integrate climate and environmental risk into the design, planning, and implementation of ASB projects with partners, using checklists and minimum criteria. — 2025–2028
- Use technology and communication tools, such as dashboards and plain-language summaries, to support decision-making and communicate results. — 2025–2030

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

> **Objective:** Drive practical collaboration among local, national, and international actors to share useful knowledge and align climate and environmental action practices. Participate in and/or co-organize learning and evidence-sharing initiatives, such as workshops, roundtables, or webinars, at national or regional level.

Exchange Among Climate Charter Signatories in the Region

- Promote collaboration and peer learning among NGO signatories to the Climate Charter through regional workshops, roundtables, and webinars, fostering aligned and consistent practice.

Shared Data and Knowledge (ASB and Partners)

- Share project-generated climate and environmental information in simple, accessible formats with humanitarian actors and authorities. — 2025–2030
- Establish and promote targeted data collaborations, such as with meteorological institutes or universities, where feasible and safe, in order to improve the quality and coverage of available information. — 2025–2028

Applied Research and Learning

- Develop applied research or short technical notes in partnership with universities and academic centres where they add direct value to projects. — 2025–2030
- Systematize and disseminate good practices in short formats, such as one- to two-page briefs or 60-minute webinars. — 2025–2030

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

> **Objective:** Mobilize more ambitious climate and environmental action through evidence-based advocacy, ensuring that our interventions align with and contribute to national and international frameworks, with a strong focus on vulnerable populations.

Evidence-Based Advocacy

- Translate programme evidence into policy messages, including briefings and recommendations for decision-makers, donors, and partners.

Programmatic Coherence

- Ensure that all new proposals explicitly state their alignment with NDCs, NAPs, Sendai/Anticipatory Action frameworks, and inclusion/disability policies, clearly indicating their intended contribution.

Local Dialogue and Coordination

- Facilitate regular dialogue spaces between communities and authorities to track the implementation of climate laws and plans and to highlight priority needs.

Participation in Policy Processes and Compliance

- Participate, where relevant, in NDC/NAP processes with a focus on groups in vulnerable situations, and promote compliance with international agreements such as the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework through sectoral platforms.

Commitment 7: Set targets and assess our progress as we implement our commitments

> **Objective:** Establish clear governance, a baseline for the Plan, and a simple, practical monitoring system using quantitative and qualitative KPIs to measure progress, manage risks, and adjust the Climate Action Plan on an annual basis.

Governance

- Establish the task force responsible for technical leadership and coordination.
- Hold bi-monthly meetings for planning and monitoring, and an annual workshop to review progress and set priorities for the following year.

Baseline and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- Develop the Plan baseline in Q1 2026 and define Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for each commitment, combining quantitative and qualitative measures with simple interpretation criteria.

Annual Reporting

- Publish an annual report with a concise, decision-oriented overview.

Annual Reporting Framework

Component	Description
Scope by level	Office, operations, and project levels.
Indicators	Combination of quantitative and qualitative indicators.
Key sections	Results by commitment, flagship efforts, risks and next steps, lessons learned, and adjustments for the following year.

Closing Remarks

This document establishes a practical framework for climate and environmental action, grounded in local experience and the best available evidence.

We recognize that contexts will continue to evolve. For that reason, we will maintain a continuous cycle of review and learning, prioritizing what works and correcting what does not.

We invite partners, communities, and counterparts to continue building sustainable and inclusive solutions for the region, together.