



GIFSEP 2021-2025

STRATEGIC PLAN





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What We do



Mobilize

We mobilize communities to respond to the impact of climate change



Build Capacity

We train communities to build resilience and adapt to a changing climate



Advocate

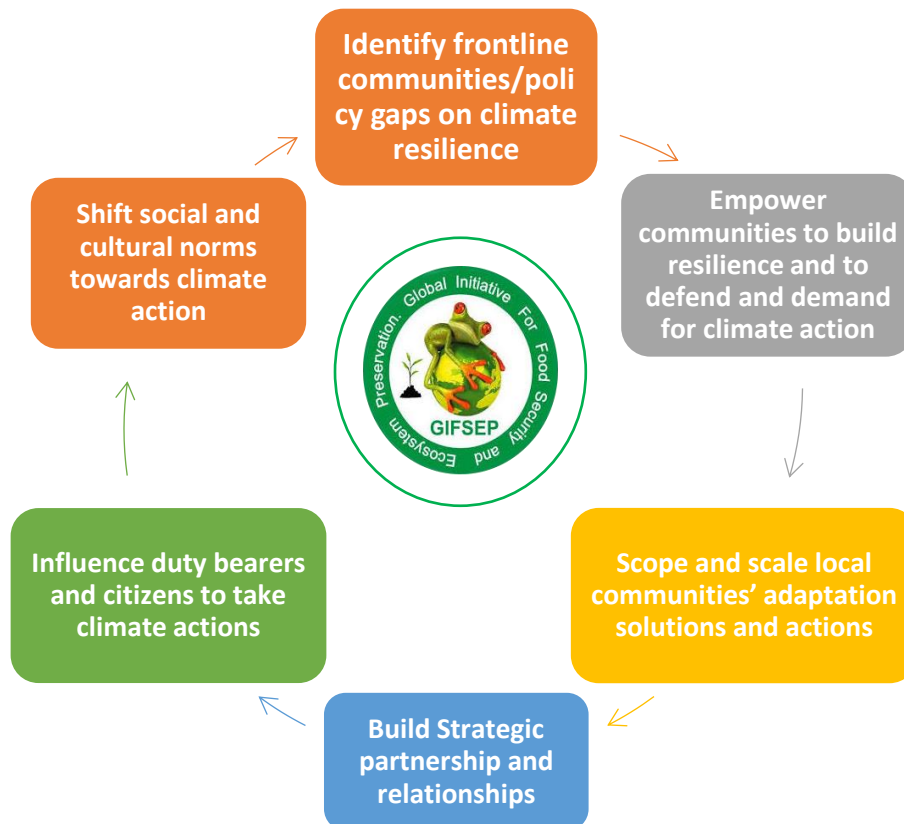
We advocate for equity, Climate and environmental justice issues



Lobby

We lobby policy makers to make policies that guarantee a sustainable future

GIFSEP's Theory of Change





GIFSEP strategic plan (2021-2025) presents the overarching goal, principles of engagement, strategic objectives, outcomes and pillars of results delivery that will guide our operations over the 2021-2025 period. It situates GIFSEP in the evolving global context and articulates its contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development particularly goal 1, goal 2, goal 7 and goal 13.

Agenda 2030 offers clear evidence that GIFSEP's mandate of mobilizing communities and enabling inclusive and sustainable transformation of frontline communities, notably through climate adaptation planning and resilience building, is of absolute global relevance today and over the coming decade. After several years of growth, GIFSEP is now recognized for its experience, knowledge and performance in this domain; it stands ready to achieve greater impact and it is well positioned to play a larger role in helping frontline communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change on agriculture, livelihood and energy and contribute significantly towards fulfilling the Agenda 2030. In doing this, GIFSEP has to work in a way that is more inclusive, innovative and inspiring.

Inclusive:

By mainstreaming gender and involving youths and people living with disabilities in its activities

Innovative

By strengthening the quality of GIFSEP's programmes with new ideas and modern technology as well as being cost-effective in appropriating available resources.

Inspiring

By motivating frontline communities and duty bearers to take actions that cater for the environment.

Strategic Focus

Climate Adaptation Planning

Adaption planning is a process of adjustment to the impacts of climate change, including actions taken to reduce the negative impacts of climate change, or to take advantage of emerging opportunities.

As our knowledge of climate change improves, we can pursue stronger adaptation. Adaptation planning should be based on evidence which can then inform a set of priorities and actions. This evidence might relate to climate change impacts, vulnerabilities and risks but should also account for the needs of different stakeholders, and the capacity of those who will implement the plan.



GOAL

To equip frontline communities with skills and knowledge to adjust to the impacts of climate change and also utilize the emerging opportunities it presents.

Strategic Actions

- ✓ Establish early warning system in frontline communities
- ✓ Engage communities to develop and adopt Climate Risk Registers.
- ✓ Facilitate Participatory Land Use Planning in frontline communities

We will know we are making progress when?

- ✓ Communities are increasingly being able to anticipate climate risk and mitigate against it.
- ✓ Communities are better equipped to take advantage of the opportunities that the changing climate presents
- ✓ Increased number of communities where climate risk register has been adopted.

Climate Resilience Building

Climate resilience can be generally defined as the adaptive capacity for a socio-ecological system to: absorb stresses and maintain function in the face of external stresses imposed upon it by climate change and; adapt, reorganize, and evolve into more desirable configurations that improve the sustainability of the system, leaving it better prepared for future climate change impacts. In other words, it is the ability to prepare for, recover from, and adapt to climate change impacts

GOAL

To enhanced the ability of frontline communities to prepare for, recover from and adapt to climate change impacts.



Strategic Actions

- ✦ Climate vulnerability mapping
- ✦ Equip communities with Nature Based solutions
- ✦ Improve climate risk governance

How will know we are making progress

- ✦ Increased number of communities that are able to adapt to climate change impact using nature-based solutions.
- ✦ Improved climate risk governance structure.
- ✦ Improved interventions for vulnerable communities

Changing the African Climate Narratives

Climate change impacts are widespread, rapid and intensifying globally, with reports suggesting that it will only get worse if immediate actions are not taken to reduce global emission levels before 2030. Unfortunately, the African continent is already bearing the brunt of these impacts due to its nearly total dependent on its rapidly depleting natural resources for livelihood. Consequently, communities' quest to survive in the face of dwindling natural resources such as land and water, have triggered and proliferated conflicts and food insecurity challenges in the region. Many communities have been left desolate and the people destitute with a constant countenance of despair. However, this narrative is often neglected or completely ignored in the global conversation about climate change and its impacts. To change this narrative, African communities need to be empowered to tell their stories unequivocally and in the most compelling way.

GOAL

To develop and spread compelling African Climate Justice narrative.



Strategic Actions

- ✎ Create forums and exchanges, physical and online, that bring together indigenous and local activists, policy makers and practitioners for storytelling, open dialogues, learnings and influence public perceptions and beliefs
- ✎ Collect, collate and present local experiences that build climate-justice narratives, and present them in form of publications, films, recordings etc.
- ✎ Develop digital content around the climate impacts of frontline communities

How will we know we are making Progress?

- ✎ Increased number of frontline communities telling their climate justice stories
- ✎ Increased number of frontline communities' climate justice stories on print and online media
- ✎ Increased digital footprint of communities' climate justice stories and narrative

Improving food systems

Nigeria's food systems are in the throes of a climate crisis. From devastating droughts and desertification up North, to prevailing windstorms and pest infestation and flooding in southern Nigeria. Extreme weather is threatening crops and livestock and putting millions of Nigerians at risk for food insecurity. Although, tremendous effort has been made to increase Nigeria's agricultural production in the last few years, the gains are derailing as a result of the impact of climate change. The evidence is crystal clear, therefore We urgently need to adapt Nigeria's agriculture and food system to climate change.

GIFSEP will be working to close the gap between today's production and the projected demand for food in the future —and we will be working with communities to ensure that any increase is done in the most sustainable manner.



GOAL

To provide communities with the right knowledge, skills and technology to produce high quality food without compromising the future.

Strategic Actions

- ✔ Promote Climate Resilient Agricultural Practices
- ✔ Equip farmers with organic farming skills
- ✔ Scoping and Scaling of indigenous climate adaption practices to enhance food productive

How we will know we are making progress

- ✔ Increased adoption of climate resilient agricultural practices in frontline community
- ✔ Increased adoption of organic farming.
- ✔ Increased adoption of indigenous solutions to climate change in food production.

Clean Energy Solutions

The energy sector contributes about 60% of Nigeria's total greenhouse gas emissions and will only continue to rise if we maintain business as usual. Through, the Nationally Determined Contributions, the Government of Nigeria have made commitment to reduce this level of emission by 20% unconditionally and 47% conditionally.

However, many communities in Nigeria do not have access to energy and the relatively few people who have access, use dirty energy sources. It is therefore expedient to intensify effort to make clean energy accessible to frontline communities.

In another hand, Cooking is a fundamental part of life. It is an activity that brings families together and has cultural and social significance round the country. In many communities, solid fuels like wood and biomass are often used in traditional stoves for cooking. The use of such polluting fuels and technologies results in household air pollution, causing respiratory illnesses, heart problems and even death.



GOAL

To increase access to clean energy to underserved communities.

Strategic Action

- ✦ Renewable energy
- ✦ Energy efficiency
- ✦ Clean Energy for cooking

How will we know we are making Progress

- ✦ Increased adoption of renewable energy solutions in frontline communities
- ✦ Increased energy efficiency in frontline communities

Influencing Climate Justice

“Climate justice” is a term, and more than that a movement, that acknowledges climate change can have differing social, economic, public health, and other adverse impacts on underprivileged populations. **Climate change impacts exacerbate inequitable social conditions.**

The challenges facing poor local and marginalized communities in Nigeria are multiple and complex ranging from economic crises, to environmental degradation, to natural disasters, and violent conflicts, all of which are increasing poor people’s vulnerability and posing significant challenges to securing their livelihoods. Climate change exacerbates the problem further by creating an additional layer of uncertainty and risk for vulnerable communities to deal with, increasing the severity and frequency of disasters and jeopardizing development gains made to date. If drastic warning signals and/or measures are not put in place the cost of ignoring these impacts will soon become impossible to meet.

Climate justice begins with recognizing key groups are differently affected by climate change. There is therefore the urgent need to address these inequities head-on through long-term resilience building and adaptation strategies.



GOAL

To build strong political will for climate justice

Strategic Actions

☛ Climate Justice audit

Climate justice audit will assess the social economic impact of different categories of people within the society which will provide information for identifying measures to adapt to climate change impacts and build resilience. The audit will highlight the most vulnerable areas, sectors and social groups which practitioners and decision makers can adopt. In turn, this will enhance climate change adaptation options that will be developed and implemented within specified context.

☛ Climate lobby

Political leaders do not inherent have political will, they respond it. The climate lobby serves as an effective tool to building political will towards climate action. It requires building relationship with political leaders and decision makers on the basis of mutual respect and accountability to one another and humanity. It involves engaging the duty bearers on issues that pertains to climate change and the environment. Through climate lobbying, citizens and environmental enthusiast's capacity are strengthened to engage in meaning conversation with political leaders.

How we will know we are making progress

- ☛ Increased data and information on social economic impact of climate change on communities, businesses and government machineries.
- ☛ Increased engagement of political leaders and duty bearers on climate change issues.



Robust Civil Society Participation

Given the nature and extent of the challenges facing humanity, it is our responsibility to take bold and brave action. We would work and create a synergy amongst CSOs and CBOs in every state we work with to tackle social and climate justice across the Nation.

GIFSEP would build connections across civil societies that transcend issues, geographies and organisation types. We will prioritize working through our alliance while also collaborating with new partners and allies. We will facilitate connections that offer opportunities for mutual learning, partnerships and collective action by leveraging 21st century technologies and approaches and share what we learn to help enhance the impact of other civil society alliances and networks. We will connect CSOs with Community Based Organizations, youth, grassroots and social movements. We will support civil society to connect with others as well as CBOs as civil society alone cannot achieve the scale of national change that we need. We must work with others.

GOAL

To Improve Efficiency, Integrity and Accountability of the Civil Society Space in Nigeria

Strategic Actions

- ✦ Strengthening the power of frontline communities to organize, mobilise and take climate action.
- ✦ Collaborate with CSOs, CBOs, development partners to develop mechanism, framework and tools to engage communities, businesses and government.

How we will know we are making progress

- ✦ Increased people led movement at community level
- ✦ Improved public trust on civil society.

