

## **Joint Submission from Save the Children and UNICEF for the TED11 and 3<sup>rd</sup> AHWP of the NCQG process**

The last Technical Expert Dialogue (TED) and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ad Hoc Work Programme (AHWP3) on the New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance (NCQG) provide a crucial opportunity to build convergence on key outstanding issues. Significant advancements in the NCQG discussions should be made to ensure an ambitious outcome at COP29 that has climate justice and human rights, including children's rights, at its core and delivers adequate climate finance to the children most vulnerable to the consequences of the climate crisis and their communities, in an affordable, accessible, inclusive, and predictable manner.

Our submission focuses on the adequate reflection of the rights and needs of children in the NCQG, acknowledged as an important consideration in TED10 summary report,<sup>1</sup> alongside other key issues that we believe should be at the forefront of discussions at TED11 and the AHWP3. This submission is also informed by the expert dialogue, mandated by the global stocktake (GST) decision at COP28, that was held at SB60 to discuss the disproportionate impacts of climate change on children and relevant policy solutions in this regard. The dialogue was attended by more than 200 participants from Parties, groups and organisations and made recommendations on the need for greater attention to children in international and national climate policies and finance including in the NCQG.

In this context, we propose that TED11 and the AHWP3 offer opportunities for Parties and non-Party stakeholders to discuss the following issues:

**Mainstreaming children's rights and needs:** To adequately address children's rights and needs, we propose that the following inputs are included in the updated input paper for discussions at TED11 and AHWP3:

- **Affirmation of children's rights under the NCQG:** The context section should include an explicit reference for the NCQG and its principles to respect human rights, **including the rights of children**, Indigenous Peoples, and gender equality and intergenerational equity, to bring language in line with preambular paragraph 11 of the Paris Agreement.
- **Child- and gender-responsive climate finance:** The NCQG should incorporate a goal on delivering child- and gender- responsive climate finance at the scale required, ensuring that climate finance addresses the unique vulnerabilities and needs of children and women and supports their agency, thereby promoting inclusive and equitable climate action. With [less than 2.4% of climate finance](#) from key multilateral funds supporting projects that incorporated child-responsive interventions over 17 years, this proposal has the potential to contribute to addressing the funding gap for children.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Tenth technical expert dialogue under the ad hoc work programme on the new collective quantified goal on climate finance. Summary Note (unfccc.int) para 24

<sup>2</sup> Some funders like the Green Climate Fund are working with partners to bridge this gap especially in the areas of health and education



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The proposal also aligns with Decision 1/CP.28 (paragraph 18, Annex II.III), which states that a wide variety of sources [...] should be made available in ways that ensure the **new and existing funding agreements target people and communities in climate-vulnerable situations, including children**, and [General Comment 26 on children's rights and the environment, with a focus on climate change](#) which calls for provision of **"climate finance for climate action that upholds children's rights."** (Paragraph 112)

- **Dedicated paragraph on children:** Children are disproportionately vulnerable to climate change, due to their unique physiology and stage of development, as recognized by Parties during the expert dialogue on children and climate change held at SB60. Decision 1/CMA.5 paragraph 178 encourages Parties to implement climate policy and action that is gender-responsive, fully respects human rights, and empowers youth and children. In this context, the negotiating text on the NCQG on climate finance should include a dedicated paragraph on children, as done for gender and Indigenous peoples in the updated input paper for the 2<sup>nd</sup> AHWP meeting. We propose the following language for the dedicated paragraph on children:  
***"Ensure that the NCQG takes into account the diverse and heightened climate change vulnerabilities of children, including through measures to respond to the disproportionate impacts of climate change on children, and to empower them to be agents of change."***
- **Explicit reference to thematic targets under the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience:** As noted in Decision 2/CMA.5, paragraph 24, means of implementation for adaptation, such as finance [...] are crucial to the implementation of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience. Adequate funding of the Framework's thematic targets of health, water and sanitation, food security and nutrition and adaptive social protection is essential for children's wellbeing and development, as funding needs of these sectors grow. Adaptation needs of the health sector in lower-income countries alone is estimated at US\$11 billion per year. The NCQG therefore must respond to the funding needed for targets under decision 2/CMA.5, paragraph 9. Children's education and child protection must also be prioritised. We propose the following language to link the NCQG to these targets:  
***"Recognizes that the NCQG must also respond to the funding needs of the thematic targets agreed under the UAE Framework for Global Resilience."***

**Needs of the groups most vulnerable to climate change:** The climate crisis disproportionately impacts groups such as children, youth, women, Indigenous Peoples, people with disabilities and displaced people. Addressing the needs of vulnerable groups is a matter of climate justice. Yet NCQG discussions have not sufficiently focused on this key issue to date.

- TED11 and AHWP3 should have a dedicated focus on how the needs of the most vulnerable groups will be considered and addressed through the NCQG, including the role of a quantitative sub-goal for vulnerable groups as recipients of climate finance. This should also entail discussions on the impacts on these groups, drawing from the outcomes of the expert dialogue on children and climate change, as well as other relevant sources and their role as stakeholders in evaluating the effectiveness of climate finance flows.



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- The NCQG should include metrics for monitoring and reporting that capture outcomes for recipient groups of climate finance. For children, this could include child-sensitive indicators to measure impact of funding on outcomes such as child health, educational attainment, nutritional status and access to essential services, particularly in climate-vulnerable areas. A baseline for monitoring could be provided by existing global data on the overlap between children's exposure to climate risk and their vulnerability based on access to essential services, which is available in the [Children's Climate Risk Index](#).

**Quantum:** Several developing country Parties and their negotiating groups have brought forward proposals on the NCQG quantum. TED11 and the AHWP3 should provide a platform for deliberation on these proposals, aiming to initiate consensus-building on the quantum.

- The NCQG quantum should be ambitious and reflect the assessed urgent and long-term needs including the climate finance needs of the worst affected communities, particularly women and children.
- The NCQG must include additional provision for loss & damage finance as the third financing pillar, prioritising targeted and significant allocation of funds to rebuilding and recovering child-critical services.
- The NCQG should include thematic subgoals on mitigation, adaptation and loss and damage to ensure a balance between the three finance categories, to deliver on the needs of children and communities on the frontlines of the climate crisis.

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