



# CAN 5-YEAR STRATEGY

2025 TO 2030

## ABSTRACT

The Climate Action Network (CAN) presents its 5-year strategy for 2025-2030. This strategy aims to address intersecting global crises—climate change, social and economic injustices, and human rights violations—by driving systemic change and advocating for a just, equitable, safe, and compassionate world. CAN’s work is guided by foundational principles such as equity, justice, human rights, decoloniality, intersectionality, climate justice, and systemic transformation. The strategy emphasises bottom-up, node-driven approaches, prioritising Global South representation and connecting people with policy. The strategy underscores the urgency of bending the curve on climate action by 2030. CAN commits to leveraging its network power, implementing this strategy collaboratively, and driving impactful change during this critical decade.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The CAN Secretariat is pleased to present this final 5 year strategy for 2025-2030. This is the result of our consultations with the network, survey results, numerous engagements with our Nodes and the outcomes of the CAN Annual Strategy Meeting held in Rio de Janeiro in February 2025. A draft strategy paper that pulled together all of this work formed the basis for the Annual Strategy Meeting discussions in February 2025. Following the ASM, a post-ASM consultation was held and this final strategy reflects the feedback received in that consultation as well.

The strategy is presented in the graphic form of Trees with branches and roots. We have a Tree that presents the consolidated pillars of work and then a tree for each thematic pillar together with branches that represent the key prioritised interventions within that thematic area. The roots of the tree represent the internal institutional actions needed to implement the work in each pillar. The institutional transformation pillar is represented in a separate graphic as the roots and covers the additional institutional areas of work that are not covered under the thematic pillars.

### **1. SETTING THE SCENE and CONTEXT**

The world continues to face a plethora of compounding crises that threaten the very foundations of our existence. Unfathomable devastation is wreaking havoc across the globe as we witness a genocide livestreamed on our phones with the perpetrator conducting war crimes with impunity, supported and armed by their allies. The spread of conflict in the Middle East region potentially threatens a regional war. Other wars and conflicts continue to rage, from Ukraine to Sudan and Congo. These wars and conflicts, whilst resulting in untold death and devastation in the lives of people, nature and climate, have also triggered global economic crises, which in turn have exacerbated social and economic injustices and have undermined the credibility of multilateralism and international law. Furthermore, regional tensions, a breakdown in the rule of law, absent or co-opted state institutions, illicit economic gain and the scarcity of resources exacerbated by climate change are key drivers of conflict.

The aftermath of the pandemic has also produced a further concentration of wealth and corporate power, and the expansion of economic inequalities between and within countries, with debt levels, especially in the Global South, reaching staggering levels. A period of high inflation, relatively stagnant wages and stalling growth have contributed, at least in the short term, to a rise of reactionary right wing politics in several regions with regressive climate and energy policy and actions that violate civil liberties and human rights. The second Trump era has taken all these challenges to their extreme, including the Tariff wars, the domestic repression, the smashing of legal institutions and the continued arming and support for a genocide. Alongside, however, there is also fresh awareness of the injustices baked into existing political and economic systems, and the contemporary institutional structures meant to govern them.

The hostile global environment has spawned increasing attacks on basic human rights across the world. Freedom of expression, the right to dissent, freedom of the press and civic space are

all being severely challenged. The ascent of the far right in parts of the Global North, the increasing political and corporate capture of the mainstream media and disinformation all contribute to an overall sense of uncertainty and instability in the world. All of this while we face ever increasing and devastating climate impacts that have taken tens of thousands of lives and deprived millions of their livelihoods. The World Meteorological Organization now projects that the world will definitively breach the 1.5°C warming threshold before the end of this decade and blow through the carbon budget for 1.5°C soon after that. The real world costs of this are already plain, visible and devastating. Despite the clear urgency, the multilateral architecture after WWII established to facilitate collaborative climate action continues to be undermined and eroded. The outcome of COP29 in Baku is a stark example of this malaise, where the failure to provide the trillions needed in public climate finance was underpinned by an unacceptable abandonment of the obligations and historical responsibility of the Global North to provide the finance needed to undertake climate action in the Global South. In the short term, the implications are very likely to be seen in the form of weak, unambitious national climate plans, NDCs. In the long term, COP29 is yet another significant moment in the hollowing out of the architecture of the Paris Agreement and the Rio Convention on climate.

As with the genocide in Gaza and other wars and conflicts, the international community has been incapable of acting with urgency to end these interconnected crises of climate, genocide, wars and inequality, has not been able to protect those most impacted and has not ensured that justice is served.

It is in this challenging and bleak context that CAN's responsibilities as the largest civil society network working for climate and social justice become even more critical. The way we not only view and perceive these multiple crises, but importantly, how we choose to address them, will inevitably prove whether we are a true ally of those who are suffering the consequences of these crises and whether we decide to stand on the right side of history.

The past five years have shown there is no questioning the important role CAN plays in contributing to fight for systems change. The next 5 years will need us to strengthen and deepen the **where and how** we want to contribute to turn the tide from social and economic injustice and ecosystems collapse to dignity for all, especially the most vulnerable, while respecting our planetary boundaries.

**This strategy aims at signalling continuity in our journey while accelerating the pace of delivery. What carries on? The values and principles we have been working on for the past five years. What changes? The boldness, the audacity and the sites of struggle in which we carry our demands for change and for solutions that benefit the majority and that takes us closer to achieving the 'World We Want' and need to survive.**

## **2. PRINCIPLES AND FOUNDATIONAL ELEMENTS**

CAN agreed on a number of fundamental principles and foundational elements in the course of our journey over the past five or so years. These have served to guide the work of the network:

- **Equity, Justice, Human Rights and Science at the centre** - *decided at the ASM in*

*Costa Rica in 2029*

- **Bottom-up, Node-driven network** - Nodes carry our priorities, notably building power. For the strategy to be successful, it is crucial that each regional and/or national Node localises the strategies and the areas of intervention according to their specific context and priorities - *decided at our 5 year strategy meeting in Arusha in 2020*
- **Connecting People and Policy** - *decided in Costa Rica*
- **Global South representation, voice and priorities** - *decided in Arusha*
- **Decoloniality – addressing the power imbalances** - We shall deepen and expand the process of understanding power structures in the network, including those relating to systemic racism; gender and other forms of oppression and/or discrimination; and work to address these to bring about safe spaces for equitable and meaningful participation, shifting of resources, wider representation and strengthened collaboration - *decided in Arusha*
- **Transforming systems – system change** - *decided in Arusha and reaffirmed with further details in Bali in 2023*
- **Intersectional approach** – linking climate to other forms of injustice, discrimination and marginalisation - *decided in Arusha*
- **Climate Justice** - *now in the Charter as well as further expanded in “CAN’s Framework for Transformation: 2024-2028” adopted at the General Assembly in 2024.*
- **Shifting from Business as Usual** - *decided in Costa Rica*

### 3. THEORY OF CHANGE

CAN’s overarching Theory of Change is simple: it is through the power of people that change happens. This theory is based on a number of historical events that have demonstrated its truism; the anti-slavery movement, the women’s suffragette movement, the anti-colonial movements, civil rights movement, the anti-apartheid movement among others. A theory of change is therefore not more than an explicit expression of need and action. For example, an expression of need: we must change systems (neocolonial, extractive, racialised, capitalist, patriarchal, unsustainable economic and political systems) if we are to tackle the climate crisis. Second, an expression about how this can happen: We can make this happen IF we shift politics - and we can shift politics if we build power, ideas, practices and influence, advocate for them and communicate them.

In the context described in the earlier section, it is clear that in order to bring about systemic change we would need to shift the current politics, at multiple levels. To do so we would need to:

- **Build power**
- **Build ideas**
- **Build practices**
- **Build influence**

In order to change the system we need to firstly understand and define the system/s, and the underlying drivers of the multiple crises and not just the symptoms. We need to unpack what we mean by building power, ideas, practices and influence. All of these approaches reinforce each other - and none of them can singlehandedly shift politics on their own.



Theories of change can apply to individual thematic objectives as well as overarching goals. This strategy for the next five years, applies the theory of change to multiple workstreams. Shorter term, more focused approaches to winning will of course be developed. Nonetheless, all of them should keep contributing to the big picture: small wins that do not build power and shift politics can't be seen as systemic victories.

## 5. CAN's 2025 - 2030 Strategy

During the next five years CAN will continue working to change the systems that cause the climate crisis and other intersecting crises. We will work for the just, equitable, safe and compassionate 'World We Want' and will do so through disrupting the current system and ensuring that the transitions to get us there are indeed just.



The pillars of the new strategy for 2025-2030, while separated into thematic areas, are all interconnected exactly because we are dealing with systems and systems change. For example, when we deal with solutions to the climate crisis such as the scaling up of renewable energy, we do not do this just because it brings down emissions, we do this because it is also a driver of positive economic and social change and development. So too, addressing ecosystem integrity, for example, is critical because ecosystems are the foundations of life itself, and we will not be able to build just and equitable economies and social systems without it. And without fighting to protect our fundamental human rights we will not be able to build the power to change the very systems that are causing the violations of human rights and which undermine and risk the very foundations of a 'World We Want'.

Furthermore, there are some pillars that are cross-cutting in nature, for example, Just Transition. The challenge with treating these as cross-cutting issues is that they are not given the full weight and prioritisation as a pillar of work and are often left as an afterthought. Making cross-cutting issues a pillar in their own right ensures that work will take place on a focused and sustained basis. This does not preclude the important consideration of these elements as cross-cutting within other pillars of work. This will be explicitly threaded through the final strategy. With this understanding that there are interconnections between the different pillars of the strategy being proposed, this is the suggested direction of travel for CAN's 2025-2030 strategy.

**Overall Goal: Climate Action for a Just, Equitable, Safe and Compassionate World for All**

The consolidated 5-year strategy captures our thematic pillars as well as the foundation of institutional transformation. We go into each of these pillars of work for the next 5 years with a focus of what we will do in this first year of 2025 as a means to kick off our 5 year strategy. The kick off in 2025 is located within a 5 year arc and the detailed planning for each subsequent year will take place at our Annual Strategy Meetings each year.



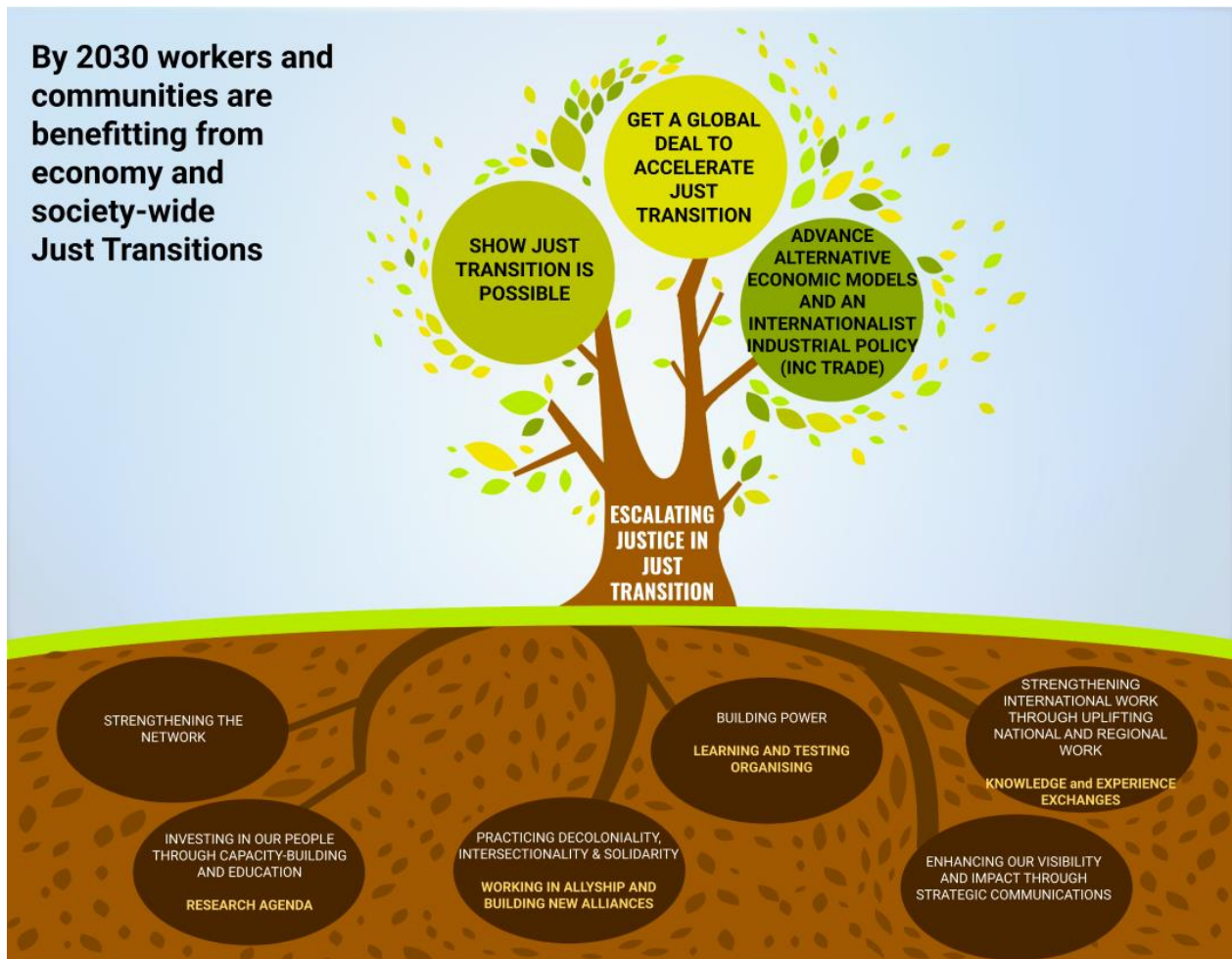
We will implement this strategy through the following key pillars of work together with the prioritised areas of intervention within each pillar:

### **5.1 Escalating Justice in Just Transition**

Just transition allows us to centre the climate discussion on people, justice and the systemic change needed. Adopting an economy and society-wide approach, the emphasis of our work will be to ensure climate action and all the sectoral transitions critical for staying within planetary boundaries (including phase out of fossil fuels, “phase in” of renewable energies, approaches to transition minerals, shift from industrial agriculture among others) deliver dignity for all through the realisation of just transition strategies.

Building on the past years’ solid steps, the network will strengthen the connection between global and regional/national/local needs and demands: We will work to win a global deal on Just Transition to accelerate the pace and depth of just transitions at local/national level; we will build the evidence that just transition is possible, developing the proof of concept of Just Transition strategies in a few countries as part of our building power approaches; and as part of our efforts to transform economic and financial systems, change the rules of the game and challenge the systemic barriers that prevent countries to implement just transition strategies, the network will work to advance alternative economic models and an internationalist industrial policy which includes addressing our approach to trade policies.

**By 2030 workers and communities are benefitting from economy and society-wide Just Transitions**



The interventions that CAN will work on in the next 5 years are:

*5.1.1. Getting a Global Deal to Accelerate Just Transition*

*5.1.2. Showing Just Transition is Possible*

*5.1.3. Advancing Alternative Economic Models and an Internationalist Industrial Policy (incl. Trade)*

To kick off this work we will be prioritising the following in 2025:

*Goal for 2025: Get the best possible outcome on Just Transition at COP30 as a key step to make just transition a reality and for climate action to get popular support*

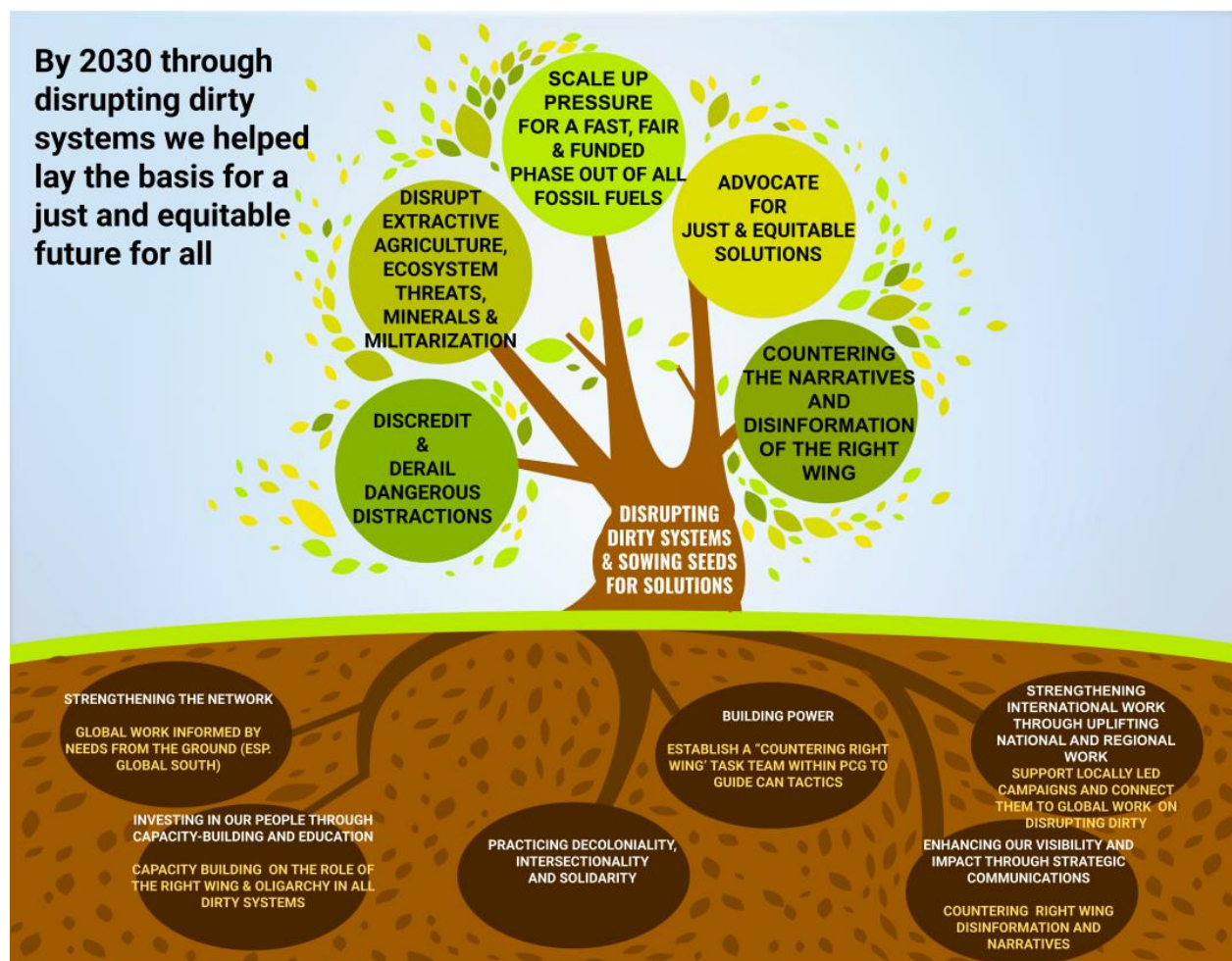
1. Push in the UNFCCC and in other multilateral spaces to achieve a COP30 outcome on Just Transition that centres justice and equity and accelerates the delivery of just transition for all, seeding the work for national work in 2026
2. Listen to the needs from workers and communities and connect their demands with the global Just Transition conversation.
3. Build CAN knowledge base on industrial policy, alternative economic models and trade to start shaping our vision on how those can be mobilised to build the world we want
4. Consolidate CAN voice in the transition minerals' debate

To be able to deliver these priorities we will:

1. Strengthen alliances and coalitions with key constituencies and social movements, including trade unions
2. Building knowledge and capacity about different aspects of social justice and just transition
3. Mobilise on Just Transition rooted in local conversations/ needs

## 5.2 Disrupting Dirty Systems and Sewing Seeds for Solutions

While we work on transitioning away from existing polluting systems towards new sustainable systems, we will need to continue to fight against and disrupt these existing systems at the same time. For example, there is no use in working on transforming our energy systems away from fossil based systems to renewable energy systems if we just leave fossil fuels to expand. There is no space for the new and the old to co-exist. The destructive forces of the old are too powerful and resourced to hand over power without a fight and the old must be forced out. There is also an urgent need at this critical point of this decade to expose the common drivers of the dirty systems in order to effectively combat them.



The interventions that CAN will work on in the next 5 years are:

- 5.2.1. Scaling up pressure for a fast, fair and funded phase out of all fossil fuels*
- 5.2.2. Disrupting extractive Agriculture, Ecosystem threats, Minerals and Militarisation*
- 5.2.3. Discrediting and derailing Dangerous Distractions*
- 5.2.4. Advocating for Just and Equitable Solutions*
- 5.2.5. Countering the narratives and disinformation of the Right Wing*

To kick off this work we will be prioritising the following in 2025:

*Goal for 2025: Through our exposure we have increased public awareness about the threats of dirty systems and support for our solutions*

1. Advancing the Global Fight to End Fossil Fuels Campaign
2. Elevating the work on other extractivist and dirty systems such as Big Agriculture, Ecosystem threats, Transition Minerals and Militarisation
3. Continue the Big Shift Global Campaign push to end fossil fuel (including gas) funding in MDB's
4. Launch and roll-out the Don't Gas the Global South Campaign
5. Targeted push-back against Dangerous Distractions
6. Building positive narratives on Renewable Energy
7. Work to strengthen regulatory frameworks to scale up Renewable Energy

To be able to deliver these priorities we will do the following internally in the Network:

1. Establish a Task Team to deal with a strategy for the Right Wing challenge
2. Scope out the work on Militarisation in the Network
3. Provide Renewable Energy campaign support to Nodes
4. Pilot a few Nodes as demonstration models of renewable energy as a contributor to alternative development models

### **5.3 Justice for Climate Impacted Communities**

Climate-related impacts are on the rise, and the associated cost of these impacts are growing. While at the same time, the pace and scale of the delivery of adaptation and loss and damage finance is not addressing the need. As CAN we therefore need to continue to push the issue of addressing climate impacts as a critical priority. One of the major successes of the previous 5-year strategy was winning the fight to establish the Loss and Damage Fund and getting it operationalised. This work continues and we need to also now build momentum on supporting the building of adaptive capacity on the ground. Moreover, while we have focused our efforts on addressing the issue mainly within the UNFCCC, it is becoming increasingly important to also use our presence at local, national and regional levels to help with building thriving communities on the ground through support and solidarity with locally-led initiatives.

**By 2030 vulnerabilities of climate impacted communities are addressed through urgent financing and locally-led interventions leading to thriving communities**



The interventions that CAN will work on in the next 5 years are:

- 5.3.1. *Breaking down the barriers and fighting for access to resources for locally-led initiatives*
- 5.3.2. *Ensuring that institutions for Adaptation and Loss and Damage deliver*
- 5.3.3. *Support the building of thriving communities on the ground across all sectors*

To kick off this work we will be prioritising the following in 2025:

*Goal for 2025: To shift the politics to ensure that Adaptation and Loss & Damage are political priorities, especially funding for locally-led initiatives and connecting with actions on the ground*

1. Shifting the politics through narrative and storytelling from the ground, especially on adaptation
2. Work for a strong outcome on Adaptation and Loss & Damage at COP30
3. Advocacy for a new finance goal for Adaptation
4. Continue our work on financing for Loss & Damage
5. Linking our work on Adaptation and Loss & Damage to reparations through the ICJAO on Human Rights and Climate Change
6. Establish a Task Team on Renewable Energy for building the Adaptive capacities of

communities

To be able to deliver these priorities we will do the following internally in the Network:

1. Building the capacity of the network on addressing climate impacts
2. Mapping the existing adaptation work of members on the ground to understand challenges and barriers
3. Node-to-Node learning and sharing of best practices

#### **5.4 Fighting for Economic and Financial Justice**

The economic and financial systems are key drivers of the current destructive global system. No work on systems change can ignore these critical pillars of the overarching system. CAN escalated its work on finance system change in the last year of our 5 year strategy, with the main focus on getting qualitative public grant-based climate finance at the scale of developing countries' needs. The fight to transform the financial system as well as continuing the fight on climate finance continues into the next 5 year strategy. In the context of climate finance, the network will continue its work to increase the quality of the finance (pushing for public and grants for every area of climate action, centering the role of UNFCCC climate funds, adopt a robust definition of climate finance, ...) and push back against false solutions (exclude commercial loans from climate finance, counter the promotion at any cost of the private sector and the MDBs, ...). CAN will also deepen its work on economic justice issues, in particular on debt and tax justice. The network will strengthen its collaboration with economic justice allies, learning from their expertise on the topics. On debt justice, CAN aims to support the wider calls for a deep transformation of the current debt architecture as well as for debt cancellation for developing countries. The work on debt justice also connects with the work on qualitative climate finance, in particular the push back against debt inducing instruments and other false solutions. On tax justice and resource mobilisation, the network will adopt common principles to guide our work on the matter, establish joint structure with tax justice allies and ramp up our advocacy strategies around key avenues to raise public finance by making polluters and profiteers pay, also by bringing members and nodes experiences at the national and regional levels.



The interventions that CAN will work on in the next 5 years are:

- 5.4.1. *Global support for Debt Justice*
- 5.4.2. *Change the System for Tax Justice*
- 5.4.3. *Reclaim Public Finance*

To kick off this work we will be prioritising the following in 2025:

1. Deepen our work on resource mobilisation and explore space to advocate for making polluters and profiteers pay
2. Contribute to the call for the establishment of an intergovernmental process to adopt a UN Debt Convention
3. Advocate for the adoption of debt sustainability for developing countries in relevant fora e.g. G20, COP etc
4. Work on getting an outcome that reflects the necessary qualitative elements of climate finance at COP30
5. Push back against MDB's role as the key player in delivering climate finance
6. Continue making the case for public finance in other thematic areas and push against false solutions

To be able to deliver these priorities we will do the following internally in the Network:

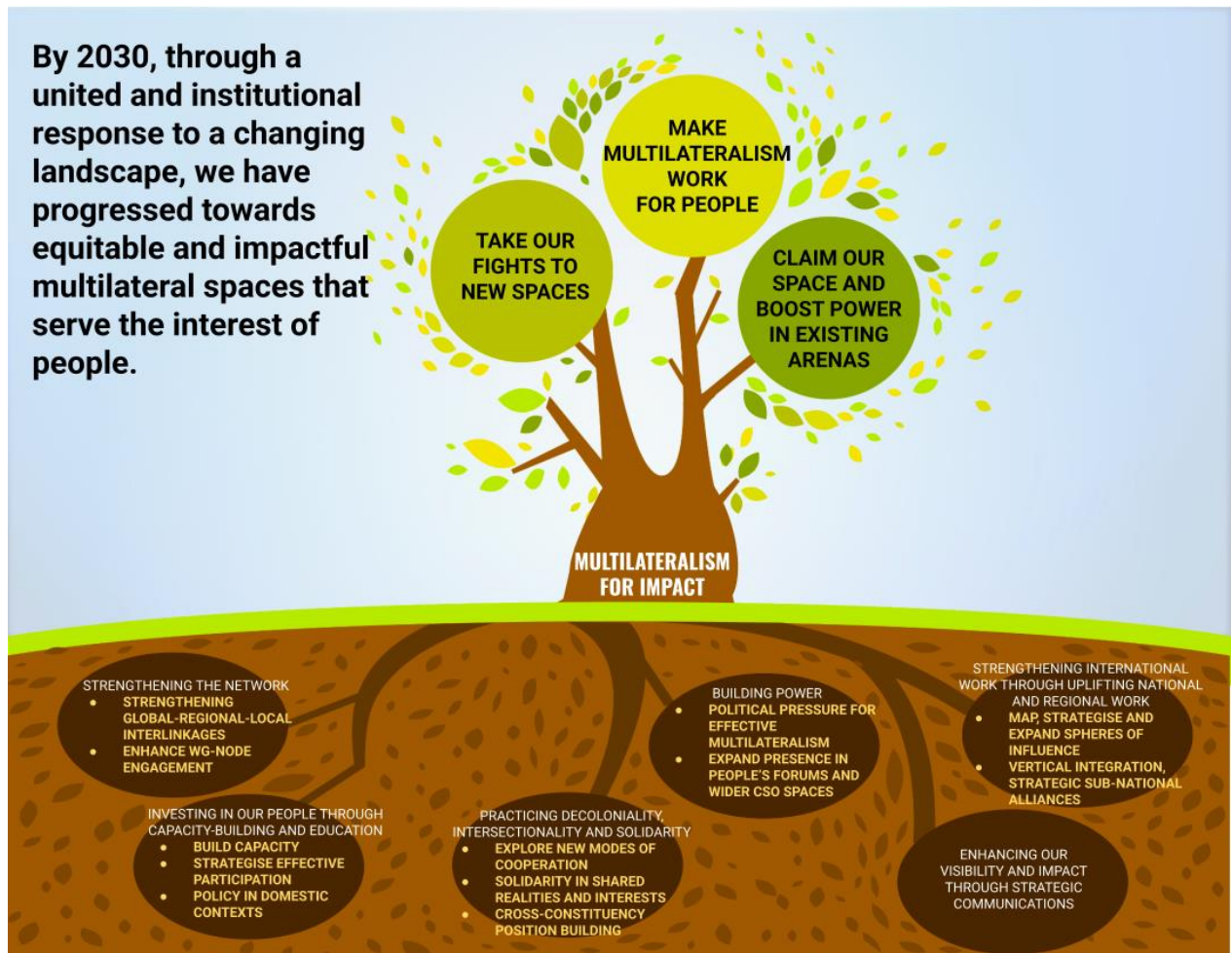
1. Building the capacity of the Network on how to engage on resource mobilisation and system change through tax justice

## 2. Deepen our work with Economic Justice allies

### **5.5 Multilateralism for Impact**

CAN has always held the position that multilateralism and multilateral fora is the one space for all countries to have a voice, be heard and have “equal” status at the decision-making table. This does not come without challenges, including which states are recognised and the lack of recognition in multilateral spaces of the sovereignty of Indigenous People. While all countries do have a seat at the table, it is clear that the usual powerful actors in the world still hold the power within these processes. They can veto (in the Security Council), and they can obstruct, delay and withdraw (UNFCCC etc) if the decisions do not meet their interests. There is also the challenge that agreements tend to be the lowest common denominator, incremental in nature, and usually do not meet the scale of action required to address global crises or the urgency with which change must happen. However, with all these challenges there is currently no other game in town. Civil society recognises this and therefore engages in these processes to try and keep the pressure for more ambition. There is no doubt that multilateralism needs an overhaul, it must be transformed in order to meet the challenges of today. Given the shifts in geopolitics, and recognising that this is a key influence in these multilateral processes, civil society needs to sharpen its understanding, strategies and tactics in relation to geopolitical drivers, including deciding which spaces are not “legitimate”. To ignore this will put all our goals for building the world we want at risk as well as the achievements we have made.

By 2030, through a united and institutional response to a changing landscape, we have progressed towards equitable and impactful multilateral spaces that serve the interest of people.



The interventions that CAN will work on in the next 5 years are:

5.5.1. Making multilateralism work for people

5.5.3. Taking our fights to new spaces

5.5.4. Claiming our space and boost our power in existing arenas

To kick off this work we will be prioritising the following in 2025:

*Goal for 2025: Through cross-network collaboration, we lay the foundation for diversification of CAN's engagement in multilateral spaces, while also strengthening our presence and rights at the UNFCCC*

1. Lay the ground for CAN's engagement in diversified multilateral spaces
2. Strengthen our engagement with the G20
3. Strengthen the relevance of multilateral policy positions in national and regional contexts
4. Identify realities on the ground to influence our engagement in new multilateral spaces
5. Actively engage in the reform of the UNFCCC to ensure the effective and meaningful participation of civil society

To be able to deliver these priorities we will do the following internally in the Network:

1. Mapping CAN's engagement in different multilateral spaces
2. Develop a network engagement strategy for BRICS

## 5.6 No Climate Justice without Human Rights

We have witnessed increasing attacks on basic human rights across the world in recent years. Human Rights Defenders and Climate Activists have borne the brunt of these attacks. These include killings, imprisonment, violent repression of protests, litigation, criminalisation, doxxing and targeted disinformation campaigns among others. These attacks are not only carried out by the State and its machinery but also includes corporates (e.g. using SLAPP), powerful vested lobbies and even individuals. While CAN has also increased its work at a global level to protect and defend human rights this has tended to be limited in scope, usually happening while at COPs and reactive when there are incidents. The sustained attacks on human rights requires sustained work by civil society. It is with this in mind that we are adding an explicit pillar of work focusing on Human Rights, recognising that this is a cross-cutting issue and will also need to be included in all other pillars of work.



The interventions that CAN will work on in the next 5 years are:

*5.6.1. Building and Protecting Civic Space*

*5.6.2. Centring Human Rights in Climate Action*

To kick off this work we will be prioritising the following in 2025:

*Goal for 2025: The foundations have been laid for stronger network engagement on Climate Justice and Human Rights work*

1. Advancing and strengthening international, regional and national legal frameworks for human rights-based climate action
2. Contribute to the work of the UN Special Rapporteurs on Environmental Defenders, Human Rights and Climate Change, the Human Right to a Healthy Environment amongst others.
3. Developing a Defending the Defenders program
4. Facilitating capacity-building and strengthening safety and security for climate activists work

To be able to deliver these priorities we will do the following internally in the Network:

1. Building the capacity of the network to engage with the relevant legal frameworks, for example the ICJAO and Escazu
2. Explore the option of establishing a Network rapid response mechanism for defending defenders
3. Capacity building and building alliances to support safety and security work

## **6. IMPLEMENTATION, STRATEGY AND TACTICS**

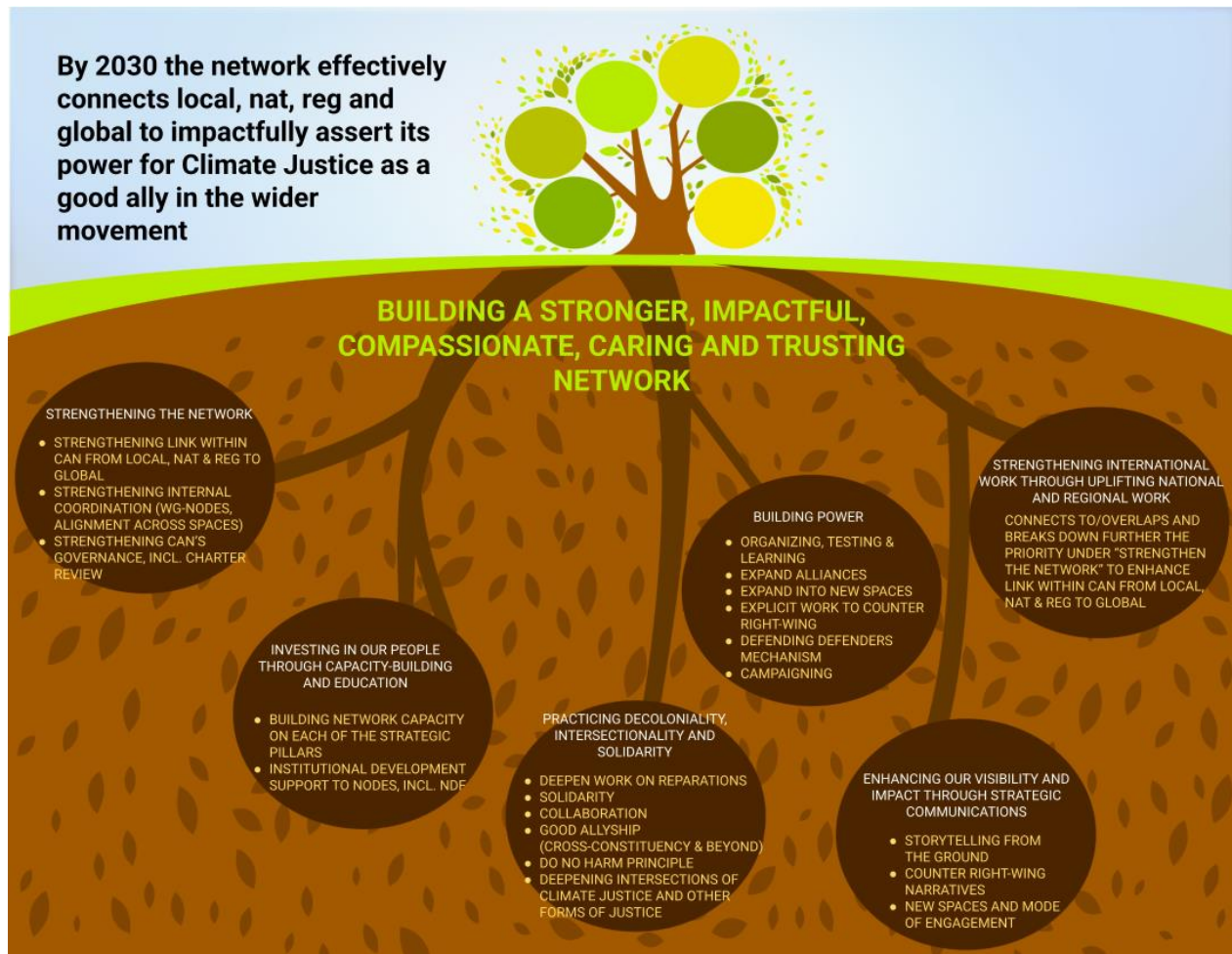
In order to effectively work on changing the system and implement this 5 year strategy, and recognising the huge size and diversity of CAN as a network with over 2,000 members in over 140 countries, this strategy is intentionally broad, covering the full range of what we as CAN could collectively contribute to changing the system. CAN will need to be strengthened, building off the achievements of the previous years. The implementation of this strategy will not all be done at the same levels of intensity and will not all be done by every member, Node or the CAN Secretariat nor at the same time. There are areas of work that members and Nodes will focus on in terms of alignment with their own strategies and would add to the overall network-wide strategy. There are areas of work that the CAN Secretariat will facilitate and lead on behalf of the network and there are areas of work that we would support where allies are leading the work. We would also need to pivot more strongly towards national and regional level work being the central space in which climate actions are implemented. While CAN's "bread and butter" work continues in the UNFCCC, we need to recognise that this is not where change happens and where implementation takes place but on the ground at national levels.

Based on a survey and feedback from our consultations, there is recognition that the adoption of a new approach to strategy and tactics, known as the Escalation Strategy, has proven to be successful. Using our collective power, together with other allies and combining both the inside and outside work on one big fight has borne fruit. However, we need to learn from this and adjust accordingly. Enhancing our strategies and tactics in the next 5 years is imperative. The urgency to accelerate climate action is palpable. CAN has an immense responsibility to get this right and fast.

Our success is dependent on how strong, effective and powerful we are as a network. Using our network power to deliver impact is our challenge. To lay the foundations for strengthening our network, the following institutional strengthening and transformation strategy has been agreed

to:

## 6. Building a stronger, impactful, compassionate, caring and trusting Network



The interventions CAN will work on in the next 5 years are:

**6.1 Practicing Decoloniality, Intersectionality and Solidarity:** we will continue to build on our work in these areas. We will take forward our first engagements on Decoloniality and turn this into a more sustained engagement in the network. Addressing power structures in the network is a critical part of this work, and it is also about understanding decoloniality as part of our approach to system change and integrating it into all the work we do, so that we can contribute to decolonising structures and systems in the world beyond our own network. Additionally, we will continue to forefront intersectionality and climate change and how gender, sexual orientation, race and class impacts this work. This includes strengthening our practice of how we act as a good ally to other movements, and how we do no harm in all our ways of working. We will also need to build a common basis for how we stand in solidarity with others, how we step up in our visibility and how we act with principles and unity.

**6.2 Strengthening international work through uplifting national and regional work:** In the next 5 years we will need to strengthen our delivery on being a bottom-up Node-driven network. We need to more effectively ensure that the amazing work that our Nodes and

members do at national and regional levels inform the work of our network at global levels and help contribute to enhancing pressure for our demands and strengthen ambition at all levels. This is CAN's unique strength being present in over 150 countries. Supporting our Nodes in their critical work on the ground is a priority, especially the role we should play in amplifying this work.

**6.3 Building Power:** we will continue building the campaign and mobilising muscle of the network. In addition, we need to get better at building this capacity at national and regional levels. We will continue strengthening and expanding our movement alliances at a global level. We also need to replicate these alliances in our regional and national spaces as well. In the next 5 years we should improve our ability to not only build power but to use our power more strategically and impactfully.

**6.4 Investing in our people through capacity-building and education:** It is imperative that we invest in a sustained capacity-building and learning program in the network. Building leadership, institutional development support to Nodes to e.g. address resource inequities, strengthen governance, membership engagement and strategic collaboration, and ensuring knowledge and information is constantly updated is critical in a rapidly changing context.

**6.5 Enhancing our visibility and impact through strategic communication:** The network's visibility through communicating what we do, and more importantly to build support for our ideas, becomes ever more critical and complex. In the next 5 years we should build communications capacity and abilities to be a front-runner in influencing narratives, public perceptions and thought-leaders, and inspiring people to act. We need to be a counter to disinformation and misinformation.

**6.6 Strengthening the Network:** CAN's ability to convene, coordinate and unite behind a common program of work and to provide leadership in the wider ecosystem we work in is based on our Network structures. Our PCG, ACG, Node Coordinator Meetings, Policy Working Groups, Communications Working Group etc form the engine room of our work in the Network. We need to ensure that they continue to be fit for purpose. There is a need for constant review and improvement and this is necessary for our preparation for implementing our next 5-year strategy as well. Reviewing our governance and ensuring it remains fit for purpose for implementing this strategy is another critical element of this area of work. In addition we need to urgently address the issue of resource mobilisation to ensure the delivery of our work in the network.

To kick off this work we will be prioritising the following in 2025:

*Goal for 2025: The network enhances its ability to effectively connect local, national, regional and global to impactfully assert its power for Climate Justice as a good ally in the wider movement*

1. Review of CAN's Charter and Statutes to enhance governance and accountability
2. Review and strengthen the Node Development Fund
3. Institutional capacity building for Nodes
4. Deepen CAN's understanding of Reparations and how we can work on this
5. Advance our Decoloniality and Intersectional work - prepare Do No Harm Principles
6. Process of deepened reflections on how to stand in solidarity
7. Strengthening good allyship with and collaboration with cross constituencies and movement partners
8. Review our policy processes and structures to make it fit for purpose
9. Building an understanding of our 2000 members to further unlock the power of the

network

10. Continue strengthening our campaign and mobilisation muscle, including through campaign training.

Please note that a lot of the work in this institutional pillar is integrated directly into the thematic pillars and these interventions listed are those that go beyond any particular thematic pillar.

## **7. CONCLUSION**

The next five years will be critical. Scientists have warned us that this is the critical decade and that 2030 is a key milestone by which we have either bent the curve or we set ourselves on a path to climate chaos. The despairing state of the world we are living in is a further catalyst for why we need to act with urgency and impact and with our values. CAN's 5 year strategy has to respond to this challenge. We need to collectively ensure that this 5-year strategy is implemented and has impact. The strategic allocation of responsibilities between Nodes, members and the CAN-I secretariat will be captured in Annexures. We will also need to do a risk assessment. These will be added to this paper when finalised.

**Let us use our power and get to work!**

## **8. Annex 1: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN BY NODES AND MEMBERS** *(Still to be completed)*