



CLIMATE CHANGE AWARENESS AND ACTION WORKSHOP REPORT



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Theme: Empowering Youth and Volunteers for Climate Action

Location: LEAF Organisation Office, Jebel Lemon, Sherikat, Juba

Report Prepared by: LEAF Organization, South Sudan

Date of Report: October 12, 2025

Executive Summary

On October 11, 2025, LEAF Organization held a Climate Change Awareness and Action Workshop under the theme **“Empowering Youth and Volunteers for Climate Action”**. The event was organized in response to the upsurge of climate crisis in the country. From the 2024 floods that displaced over 400,000 people to the heatwaves in 2024 and 2025 respectively that closed schools and disrupted daily lives. These events have undoubtedly shaped the South Sudan climate situation. One of the programs under the LEAF Organization’s plan to develop climate-resilient communities aims to provide the knowledge and tools to the youth and volunteers for local climate action.

More than 20 youth volunteers, students, teachers, and regional climate experts came together to build capacity and inspire grassroots leadership. It directly aligned with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) **13 (Climate Action), 4 (Quality Education), and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)**. The participants went through both foundational learning and practical engagements, enhanced by expert presentations from Tanzania, Kenya, and Uganda who provided cross-border perspectives into the causes, impacts, and solutions to the climate emergency.

Some of the key outcomes were a growing understanding of climate change from the participation of individuals, strengthening of regional collaboration, and successful preparation of youth leaders on the anticipated October 31, 2025, Climate Change Awareness Campaign. The challenges of confined space and unreliable power supply were conquered by adaptive planning, local partnerships, and sound community involvement.

1.0 SESSION ONE

1.1 INTRODUCTION

LEAF Organization, a national NGO in South Sudan focused on environmental education, climate-smart agriculture, environmental stewardship and forest restoration, organized this one-day workshop to address the urgent climate challenges facing the nation. The event served as a critical platform to mobilize and prepare local volunteers for grassroots action, linking their efforts to global sustainability frameworks.

1.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

The overall objective was to empower volunteers with the knowledge and skills to lead community climate change awareness on 31st, October, 2025

1.3 Specific Objectives

The workshop was designed to achieve the following specific objectives:

- Enhance understanding of climate science, including causes, impacts, and solutions.
- Strengthen skills in climate advocacy, communication, and policy engagement.
- Foster collaboration between youth, volunteers, regional experts, and local institutions.
- Define clear roles and responsibilities for volunteers in grassroots action, particularly for the **October 31** awareness campaign.

1.4 PARTICIPANTS

The workshop engaged a diverse and passionate group of stakeholders:

- Over 20 youth volunteers and students from Juba and surrounding areas.
- LEAF Organization staff and local teachers
- Regional climate experts from Tanzania, Kenya, and Uganda (joining virtually)

1.5 WORKSHOP SESSIONS AND EXPERT PRESENTATIONS

The workshop was structured into interactive sessions, supplemented by expert presentations from regional specialists.

1.6 Welcome and Introductions

The workshop commenced with opening remarks by Mr. Manyok Andrew John, Executive Director of LEAF Organization, who warmly welcomed all participants and expressed gratitude for their commitment to addressing South Sudan's climate challenges through local awareness and climate action. This was followed by participant introductions, designed to foster collaboration and a shared sense of purpose, where over 20 attendees, including youth volunteers, students, teachers, and regional experts, shared their names, backgrounds, and personal motivations such as a student's concern over flooded farmlands creating a cohesive and motivated group atmosphere



LEAF Executive Director, Mr. Andrew Manyok during the workshop.

1.7 Introduction to LEAF Organization

Mr. Manyok Andrew John, the Executive Director of LEAF, opened the session by discussing LEAF's mission to empower communities through sustainable practices and its vision to build climate-resilient livelihoods. He stated that LEAF was founded in response to the growing climate emergency in South Sudan — one that remains appallingly unattended. He also described recent climate catastrophes, including the disastrous floods in 2024 that displaced over 400,000 people and the heatwaves in 2025, which drove temperatures to 45°C, rendering schools unusable. Mr. Manyok then gave a brief introduction to the day's thematic discussions under the topic of understanding climate change before passing on to Dr. Issa Abdilah for the continuation of the presentation on the causes of climate change.

2.0 SESSION TWO

2.1 Expert Presentation 1: Understanding the Causes of Climate Change

Presenter: Dr. Issa Abdilah (University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania).

Key Content:

Dr. Issa Abdilah distinguished weather as short-term atmospheric conditions from climate as a long-term average, explained the greenhouse effect as the trapping of heat by gases, and highlighted human-driven causes of climate change, including fossil fuel burning (75% of global GHG emissions), deforestation, unsustainable agriculture, and improper waste management. He linked these to daily activities like using petrol cars, cutting trees for firewood, and poor waste disposal, showing their contribution to global climate change

Call to Action: Emphasized that every individual action, from planting a tree to reducing waste, counts.

3.0 SESSION THREE

3.1 Expert Presentation 2: Impacts of Climate Change in South Sudan.

Presenter: Dr. Esther Nawenja (RAASE Energy Consult and MUBS, Uganda).

Key Content:

Dr. Esther Nawenja detailed the environmental impacts of climate change, including increased flooding that displaced over 800,000 people in 2021, prolonged droughts, and advancing desertification, before linking these social impacts to health outbreaks like cholera, mass displacement, and resource-based conflicts, and highlighting the economic impacts with threats to agriculture, on which 90% of the population relies, risking to push over 1 million more into extreme poverty by 2030, ultimately showing how these environmental, social, and economic impacts interlink to create a vicious cycle of vulnerability.

4.0 SESSION FOUR

4.1 Expert presentation 3: Climate Action/Solution

Presenter: Mr. Manyok Andrew, Executive director

In the key content, he made a clear difference between two big strategies for dealing with climate change. One is mitigation. The other, adaptation.

Mr. Manyok talked about how mitigation aims to cut down greenhouse gas emissions. That way, it slows or even stops global warming. He pointed out some international setups that help with this. Like the Paris Agreement from 2015. And groups such as the UNFCCC and the COP meetings, which guide what countries do around the world.

He went over several key ways to do mitigation. Transitioning to renewable energy sources came up. South Sudan has good potential there, especially with solar and hydro power. Then afforestation and reforestation efforts. Sustainable transport options too, like walking or biking, or switching to electric vehicles. Smart agriculture practices. Carbon capture and storage (CCS), and carbon pricing mechanisms.

On the other side, adaptation means building up resilience against the climate change impacts we can't avoid. Thing is, some effects are already here.

He gave examples for adaptation. Climate-smart agriculture, for instance, using drought-resistant crops. Better water management systems. Things like rainwater harvesting or restoring wetlands. Early warning systems to alert people. Climate-resilient infrastructure, such as raising homes so floods do not wreck them. Planting trees to ease heat stress, proper waste management programs, and educating communities.

To wrap it up, he got the participants involved in an interactive exercise by sharing how tree planting work for both mitigation and adaptation. Basically, a dual-action solution that encourages people to think about integrated approaches in climate action.

4.2 Expert Presentation 4: Roles of Communities, NGOs, and Volunteers in climate action

Presenter: Dr. Caston Kioni (University of Nairobi, Kenya).

This part of session four was led by Dr. Caston Kioni, stressing how pressing the need was for climate action in South Sudan. He reiterated the horrific climate impacts the country has had in the past few years from floods to heatwaves. More importantly distressed communities and education were disrupted. Such a background created a good premise for the goal of this session – to explore ways communities, NGOs, and volunteers work together to address climate change, especially in readiness for the forthcoming Climate Awareness Campaign on October 31, 2025.

In the core of the session, Dr Kioni engaged on the specific roles that each and every group serves; communities are the frontline action, NGOs such as LEAF education, provide resources and policy support, and volunteers – the bridge connected both in grassroots engagement. Indeed, he emphasized collaboration, local knowledge, and youth involvement in climate solutions such as tree planting and climate-smart agriculture.

In conclusion, he encouraged teachers and students to put practical efforts into local initiatives on climate discussion within education and participation in the October 31 campaign to turn awareness to real, lasting change.

5.0 SESSION FIVE

5.1 Climate change Communication & Conclusion

In the closing session, Mr. Manyok Andrew John, LEAF's Executive Director, led a Q&A on effective climate change communication, emphasizing actionable messaging. Participants engaged in a tree-planting activity, symbolically planting a few seedlings to promote sustainability. The session concluded with networking, fostering connections among volunteers, experts, and local institutions. Volunteers departed motivated to lead the October 31 Climate Awareness Campaign.

5.2 Interactive and Group Activities

- **Group Discussions:** Participants analyzed how daily actions contribute to climate change.
- **Role-Playing:** Practiced communicating climate issues effectively.
- **Tree Planting Exercise:** A symbolic and practical session where 5 seedlings were planted.
- **Action Plan Development:** Groups developed sketches for water conservation projects and draft advocacy proposals.

5.3 Outcomes and Achievements.

- **Knowledge Enhancement:** Participants gained a clear understanding of the science and local impacts of climate change.
- **Skill Development:** Volunteers acquired practical skills in advocacy, community mobilization, and communication.
- **Partnership Strengthening:** Collaboration with regional experts and local institutions enhanced resource-sharing and credibility.
- **Action Orientation:** Volunteers were prepared and motivated to lead the October 31 Climate Change Awareness Campaign

5.4 Challenges and Mitigation

Challenges	Mitigations Strategy
Power blackout (solar dependency)	Prioritized energy use for essential equipment (projector, laptop).
Inadequate furniture	Borrowed desks and chairs from Salaam Schools.
Limited office space	Capped participation to 20 to ensure a productive learning environment

5.5 Lessons Learned

- **Adaptability is Critical:** Flexibility in logistics and energy management ensured seamless delivery.
- **Community Support Enhances Reach:** Collaboration with local schools expanded resources and engagement.
- **Small Groups Foster Deeper Interaction:** Limited attendance allowed for meaningful facilitator-participant interaction.
- **Expert Integration Adds Depth:** Virtual presentations provided high-quality, regional perspectives that greatly enriched the learning experience.

5.6 Next Steps and Recommendations.

- Launch the October 31, 2025, Climate Awareness Campaign.
- Expand climate education programs to other regions in South Sudan.
- Strengthen virtual platforms for continued expert engagement.
- Secure additional funding for infrastructure (e.g., enhanced solar capacity, training materials).

6.0 Appendices

- ❖ Workshop Agenda
- ❖ List of Participants
- ❖ Sample Certificates
- ❖ Expert Presentation Slides
- ❖ Pictorials

Annex 1: Workshop Agenda



Learning, Environment, Agriculture & Forestry Organisation

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DATE: 11TH OCTOBER, 2025

LEAF VOLUNTEERS: CLIMATE CHANGE AWARENESS & ACTION WORKSHOP

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

S/N0.	ACTIVITY	TIME	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE
1.	Reporting	8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	All Attendees
	SESSION ONE		
2.	Welcome Message	9:00 AM – 9:05 AM	Executive Director
3.	Introduction	9:05 AM – 9:15 AM	All Attendees
4.	Objectives of the Workshop	9:15 AM – 9:30 AM	Executive Director
5.	Group Activity 1	9:30 AM – 9:50 AM	All Attendees
6.	Introducing LEAF Organization	9:50 AM – 10:20 AM	Finance Officer
7.	Tea Break	10:20 AM – 10:40 AM	All Attendees
	SESSION TWO		
8.	Understanding Climate Change	10:40 AM – 11:20 AM	Invited Expert (Dr. Issa)
9.	Group Activity 2	11:20 AM – 11:30 AM	All Attendees
	SESSION THREE		
10.	Impacts of Climate Change	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Invited Expert (Dr. Esther)
11.	LUNCH BREAK	12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	All Attendees
12.	Climate Change: Global Trend VS Local Reality	1:30 PM – 1:50 PM	Executive Director
	SESSION FOUR		
13.	Climate Change Action/Solution	1:50 PM – 2:50 PM	Executive Director
14.	Roles of Communities & NGOs	2:50 PM – 3:10 PM	Program Manager
15.	Roles of Volunteers	3:10 PM – 3:20 PM	Program Manager
	SESSION FIVE		
16.	Climate Change Communication	3:20 PM – 3:40 PM	Executive Director
17.	Group Activity 3	3:40 PM – 4:50 PM	All Participants
18.	Q&A Session	3:50 PM – 4:00 PM	Executive Director/All
19.	Closing	4:00 PM – 4:15 PM	Executive Director
20.	Tree Planting	4:15 PM – 4:30 PM	All Participants
21.	Networking & Departure	4:30 PM – 5:00 PM	All Participants

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Annex 2: Attendance Sheet



**Learning, Environment, Agriculture
& Forestry Organisation**

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Date: 11/10/2025

Climate Change Awareness and Action Workshop
Theme: Empowering Youth and Volunteers for Climate Action

ATTENDANCE FORM

SN	NAME	GENDER	AGE	TELEPHONE NO	SIGNATURE
1.	PETER OTUDUHA ALBINO	M	27	0924889009	
2.	Michael Michael Malek	M	28	0988818816	
3.	Martin Saha Michael	M	33	0922943012	
4.	NABITOSI HAMIDAH	F	28	0910180224	
5.	ANGETH DENG CHOL	F	17	0923995139	
6.	AYEN PRISCILLA AYEN	F	19	0981407678	
7.	Madenver Dak Turuk	F	17	0924481888	
8.	Anyewi John James	M	28	0929613315	
9.	Deng Michael AJAC	M	35	0928579514	
10.	Mary Keth Ghai	F	19	0988600033	
11.	KUIR SOLOMA BOL	F	19	0927572844	
12.	NAKWANG MERCY L	F	19	0926073196	
13.	AWUR AMOL BIAK	F	16	0921644997	
14.	SARAH YAR MANGAR	F	16	0924071472	
15.	LINDA LEAH	F	32	0927100350	
16.	AJHOK MALUAL AJHOK	M	21	0980041283	
17.	Mamyok Andrew John	M	42	0927857200	

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SN	NAME	GENDER	AGE	TELEPHONE NO	SIGNATURE
18.	Issa Abodilah	m	40		
19.	Esther Nawanja	F	41		
20.	NINO GAI	M	23	0922692221	
21.	RUBEN BLOP	M	18	0981695856	
22.					
23.					
24.					
25.					
26.					

Annex 3: Certificate of participation



Annex 4: Pictorials



Mr. Andrew Manyok the Executive Director awarding certificates of participation to some of the participants



Participants following during the workshop as one of them asks a question.



LEAF CEO, Mr. Andrew Manyok leading one of the sessions during the workshop.



Participants enjoying refreshments during the workshop, the soft drinks were provided in metallic bottles as a way of showing the value Leaf attaches to environmental consciousness since the metallic bottles can be recycled.



Volunteers and Executive Director. Mr. Andrew Manyok during the tree planting session



Volunteer participants discussing why they care about the environment.

THE END