



CLIMATE  
JUSTICE  
CHARTER  
MOVEMENT

# NEWSLETTER

#1: August 2021

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Have you signed the  
petition for parliament to  
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endorsed it?  
You can do so [here](#)

## WELCOME TO THE CJCM NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the CJCM Newsletter! This is your space to share information, write articles, and let the movement know what you or your organisation are doing. This is our first newsletter and we welcome suggestions on the format and the kind of information you would like to have.

For any suggestions or information that you would like to share please send an email to [feradam@gmail.com](mailto:feradam@gmail.com)

## EDITORIAL: EARTH DAY ACTIONS

The earth; its ecosystems, its corals, its rivers and forests cannot afford to return to the normal, the normal gave us the climate crisis.

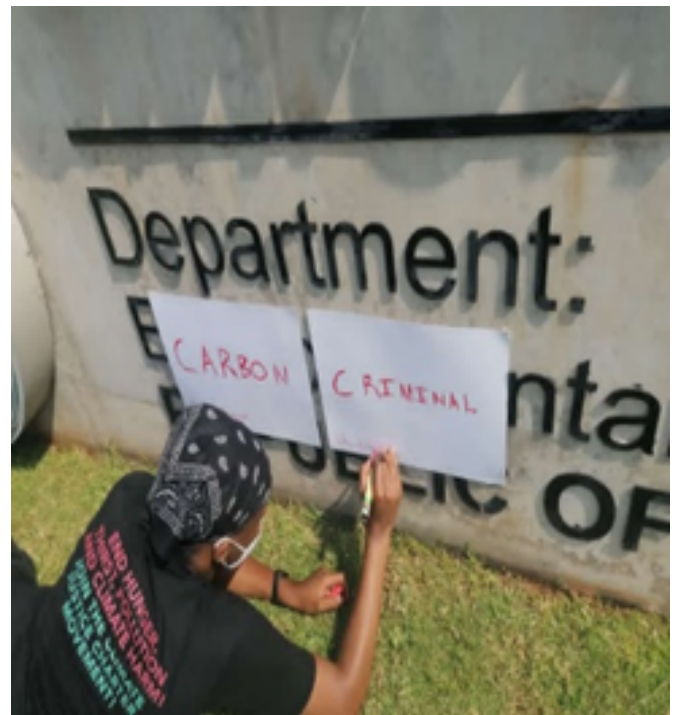
On Earth day, various civil society organisations and communities (41 in total) took to the streets, engaging in dialogue and approaching their local municipalities to hand over the Climate Justice Charter, the Climate Science document and the People's Food Sovereignty act, along with five main demands:

The first demand was that the **climate science must be taken seriously**. This means that all planning in local government must be cognisant of the climate crisis. Local government informed by the climate science must implement mitigation and adaptation strategies to deal with the inevitable increase in climate shocks such as extreme weather events. This will require transformative change in local government approach, changing the reactive nature to a proactive one that is informed by the current science.

Secondly, the **Climate Justice Charter must be adopted urgently**. The charter is a tool for systemic alternatives for transformative change. It sets a pathway for a deep just transition from below. Adopting the charter is a way of choosing earth over carbon. This is why on earth day the peoples charter was circulated in different communities and in different languages. Abanebhongo People with disabilities, distributed the charter in IsiXhosa in the rural areas of Nqamakhwe while House of the People distributed the Charter in Afrikaans across Uptington. Many other groups such as the Collective Movement and the Climate Justice Charter Youth Movement distributed the charter in various languages.

With 30 million people food stressed in South Africa, there has never been greater urgency than now to **adopt the People's Food Sovereignty Act**. This is why it was the third demand to local government. The monocultural, industrial agricultural system has failed. It continues to reproduce inequalities and poverty while a few large scale farms and supermarkets make huge profits. Also, the current agriculture system is extremely vulnerable to climate shocks. It results in a very unstable food supply. The People's Food Sovereignty Act is a pathway out of this hunger crisis. It sets in place strategies for food sovereignty hubs, small scale farms, community food markets and the democratisation of the food supply. Through its hub approach, it sets in place implementable strategies to feed millions. Hunger is not inevitable, adopting the People's Food Sovereignty Act will prove that.

On earth day we also demanded that **community deep just transition**



**community deep just transition demands be supported.** A shallow shift within the system will not work, a deep and just transition in water, climate jobs, eco-housing and the ending of pollution must be supported as a matter of urgency. Investing in water recycling and storage by improving the dilapidated water infrastructure in a country where water demand may exceed supply in less than a decade, should be an urgent priority. This is an opportunity to invest in solar water heaters in homes to reduce electricity demand and lower the electricity bill for low income and middle-income households. Such programs have the potential to create millions of much needed jobs in a country with an expanded unemployment of more than 42%.

Corruption, nepotism and cadre deployment are some of the root causes of de-professionalising local government. As our fifth demand, we demanded that active steps must be taken to address corruption in all of its forms. Sloganeering around corruption

its forms. Sloganeering around corruption has not worked. Concrete actions must be taken. Independent institution such as the National Prosecuting Authority must be funded and capacitated to pursue corrupt individuals. Compromised individuals should not be allowed to run for election or re-election in the upcoming local government election. We did not use earth day as a means of crowd sourcing or mere sloganeering. Instead, we used it to demand concrete steps that should be taken to deal with our present predicament. the curtain is closing; 2050 is too little too late. We have to stop the locking in of carbon and continuation of business as usual.

o **CJCM Assembly, 20 July 2021:** The assembly provided updates on our legal options to advance the Charter, updates on the climate justice deal, the website and the plan for the rest of the year.

o **CJCM panel debate:** Rolling blackouts & the Eskom crisis: what alternatives for the deep just transition? Watch it [here](#)

o **CJCM public talk** with Prof Francois Engelbrecht on the IPCC report and Implications for Africa and SA. Watch it [here](#)

o **THE CJCM WEBSITE IS NOW LIVE!**  
View it at: [www.cjcm.org.za](http://www.cjcm.org.za)



## UPCOMING CJCM EVENTS

Share your upcoming events with us, and we will feature them in this section of the newsletter.

**16 October 2021:** CJCM Parliament engagement and online event - Watch this space for more details

Keep up to date with CJCM events by following the CJCM [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) pages.

## NATIONAL NEWS

COPAC/SAFSC/CJCM have worked extremely hard to build and amplify a societal consensus for a #UBIGNOW. We have gone further than most to work out the technical economic detail on how feasible it is. This was communicated to the President by Vishwas Satgar in the aftermath of the

## CJCM UPDATES, ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

o **CJCM Assembly, 24 March 2021:** The Assembly provided feedback and information on the activities to build the CJC Movement including the outreach plan, the latest science, the climate justice deal and UBIG.

unrest in South Africa in July 2021. Most importantly, there is broad support for the idea even with the Sunday Times [editorial](#) supporting UBIGNOW. We have put out our first CJCM policy document as a result of this #UBIGNOW process: [view here](#). Government has to catch up!

A great article on the unrest from Awande Buthelezi and Vishwas Satgar. South Africa is turning on itself. [Read here](#)

Commitment to reducing GHG emissions seems a bit confusing. South Africa sets out to tighten 2030 emissions target. [Read more here](#)

The climate crisis is real and getting worse Durban tackles heat island effect. [Read more here](#)

## REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Cabo Delgado in Mozambique in turmoil because of dirty fossil fuels - Gas fields and jihad: Mozambique's Cabo Delgado becomes a resource-rich war zone [Read more](#).

We cannot drink oil': campaigners condemn east African pipeline project. [Read more](#).

DRC: Artisanal miners are being marginalised by larger ones. [Read more](#).

India may build new coal plants due to low cost despite climate change. [Read more](#).

Rise of atmospheric carbon dioxide continues unabated. [Read more](#).

## PRESS RELEASES AND MEDIA ENGAGEMENTS

18 January: A bleak future: Young people and a dialogue about the climate crisis (CJCM Series: Daily Maverick [article](#) by Raeesah Noor-Mahomed)

7 February: Restoring the balance of nature and reversing food insecurity starts with land reform (CJCM Series: Daily Maverick [article](#) by Mazibuko Jara)

12 February: [Press Statement](#): A Climate Justice Response to SONA

18 February: [Press Statement](#): For a Universal Basic Income Grant Now (UBIGNOW): Launch of Transformative Policy Proposals

23 February: Awande Buthelezi is [interviewed](#) by Femida Cassim on ITV news about the climate crisis

7 March: Young people and the climate crisis: the challenge of building an intersectional justice movement (CJCM Series: Daily Maverick: [Article](#) by The Collective Movement)

19 March: [Press Statement](#): Let's stand together against the threats to our constitutional democracy - the Climate Justice Charter is a compass and beacon to a rights-based society!

21 April: [Press Statement](#): Earth day: Call for SALGA, local and provincial governments to adopt the CJC

22 April: SA activists mark Earth Day with calls for adoption of Climate Justice Charter. Daily Maverick [article](#)



29 April: Government must urgently deal with South Africa's deepening water crisis (CJCM series: Daily Maverick [article](#) by Ferrial Adam)

30 April: Vrygronde Celebrates Earth Day ([Article](#) by Chriszanne Janse van Vuuren from SCLC about earth day actions)

7 May: Precarious planet: Choosing earth, or choosing carbon (Daily Maverick [article](#) dedicated to Prof Bob Scholes who passed away recently and who supported the Climate Justice Charter process. He will be sorely missed)

26 May: Courtney Morgan did an [Instagram live](#) hosted by the Daily Vox. She spoke about climate justice and the CJC: <https://www.instagram.com/tv/CPWA vSnh1hl/>

27 June: Zero waste for households (CJCM series: Daily Maverick [article](#) by Musa Chamane)

6 July: CJCM youth's petition for Tuks to endorse the Charter is profiled in this Daily Maverick [article](#)

22 July: The world and SA is watching: Why hasn't parliament adopted the Climate Justice Charter? [Article](#) in the Daily Maverick coming out of our assembly.

10 August: Vishwas Satgar is [interviewed](#) on Newzroom Afrika about the latest IPCC report: Climate Change a 'code red for humanity'.

11 August: Vishwas Satgar is interviewed on [Radio 786](#) about the latest IPCC report.

## RESOURCES



### CJCM webinar series:

Together with Tshiamo Malatji as our host, we hosted a CJCM webinar series in March - May. Topics included alternatives in the Charter, youth perspectives and constituency perspectives. These talks were based on our Daily Maverick article series.

1. Community owned renewable energy with Sunny Morgan. [View here](#)
2. Young people and the climate crisis with The Collective Movement. [View here](#)
3. Just transition: South Africa's viable alternative with Kaamil Alli. [View here](#)
4. Faith perspective on the Sanctity of Nature with Gabriel Manyangadze and Francesca De Gasparis from SAFCEI. [View here](#)
5. Labour and the Water Crisis with Hamed Deedat. [View here](#)

### Some interesting reads:

We need a progressive and transformative approach to risk assessment: [How to assess the multiple interacting risks of climate change](#)

**For CJCM information and documents visit our new website:**

[www.cjcm.org.za](http://www.cjcm.org.za)