

HEAL THE EARTH

CARAVAN OF HOPE

A Climate Justice Advocacy Initiative



Implemented By: JCED, Tamba Africa Social Circus, Jescom,
Green MAGIS, Silveira House, JENA and Ignatian Youth Network

Abstract

The Caravan of Hope is a co-creative climate justice advocacy caravan making visible the destructive effects of climate induced floods and cyclones on people and nature in Southern Africa with a focus on Zimbabwe Mozambique and Malawi. The Caravan of Hope will cover a distance of approx. 1800 km over 12 days with 30 ARTivists (Artists, Media and Young Climate Leaders) raising awareness on the plight of the Chimanimani, Beira and Chikwawa communities - capturing their stories, amplifying their voices and demanding climate justice through ARTivations, dialogue, street performances and a Heal The Earth Circus production.

The caravan aims to harness the power of voice, art and creativity to inspire hope for our people, planet and future by engaging communities most impacted by the effects of these cyclones and tropical storms. By amplifying the stories of these communities, by adding their voices to the climate discourse, we can bridge the gap between communities most affected and policy makers who will challenge the narratives around our climate future.

General Context

Dineo (2017)

Idai (2019)

Kenneth (2019)

Chalane (2020)

Eliose (2021)

Ana, Batsirai, Gombe (2022)

Since Cyclone Idai in March 2019, Southern Africa has experienced 4 cyclones and 4 tropical storms affecting the lives of more than 3 million people. Countries in Southern Africa most affected by climate disasters specifically tropical storms and cyclones are Malawi, Zimbabwe, Mozambique & South Africa. Of these countries Mozambique is always hit the hardest due to its geographical location which is along the Indian Ocean coast - more specifically La Niña and the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) - worsening the livelihoods of many already poor families who to date have not fully recovered.

Country Context:

IMPACTS OF CYCLONES

Mozambique - Cyclone Idai

- 281 Official Confirmed Deaths in Mozambique
- 600,000 Estimated Number of People Directly Impacted by the Cyclone
- 400,000 Estimated Number of People Displaced
- 1 million Estimated Number of People Without Electricity
- 951,000 Estimated Acres of Crops Damaged or Destroyed
- 17,400 Estimated Houses Damaged or Destroyed

Zimbabwe - Cyclone Idai

- 344 estimated number of deaths, many other missing
- 270,000 estimated number of people including 129,600 children displaced
- Landslides buried whole homesteads, destroyed schools, health facilities and other community infrastructure.

Malawi - Tropical Storm Ana

- 975,600 people (5.4% of the population) directly impacted
- 86,976 people displaced
- 288,371 houses were damaged or destroyed
- 60 confirmed deaths

The Challenge

The Caravan of Hope intends to challenge the narrative around inaction and hopelessness of local (African) communities in addressing climate crises through story-based creative advocacy. A part of shifting this narrative is, communication - most significantly listening - while advocating for Climate Justice in Africa. It is important to sensitize ourselves through immersion in order to sensitize our communities and our policy makers through media, in-person activities, documentation and engagement with the affected communities. An appreciation of differences with patience, care and context is also key as the Caravan travels between 3 countries, cultures, languages & communities. Together we must generate a sense of responsibility, ownership and pride towards the rebuilding and healing of the land, individual, community and region. This involves the uptake of the challenge "heal the earth, heal the people" and the call to educate ourselves, our networks, friends, colleagues and communities to take action and connect to the need for climate justice. This is how we can motivate policy makers, mobilise our audiences and support the communities in pursuit of Climate Justice for Africa.

Goals/Objectives

The Project Goals

- To make visible the disproportionate impacts and devastation of floods and cyclones on frontline communities in Southern Africa.
- To engage the communities and public through promotion of arts and culture as tools for healing, building resilience and Activism.
- To capture and amplify the voices from the margins who are demanding to be heard and prioritised in conversations around climate justice as they are most affected by cyclones and floods as impacts of climate change.

The Team Goals

- Going Green by ensuring that we run a green circus caravan which is conscious of its impacts on the environment and people as we move from community to community.
- Build our knowledge and capacity as climate ARTivists through immersion for education, awareness, sensitisation and engagement on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and resilience building.
- Be part of the African movement and climate discourse, promoting indigenous cultural knowledge as part of climate justice and sustainable development on the continent.

Art4ARTivism

Participant Centred Community Driven

There are 3 integrated workshop activities which will be conducted in each community.

Community Immersion

Interactions with the land, people and culture to encourage reflection & introspection, while fostering a supportive and inclusive community. Becoming present to the situation and applying all our senses.

Caravan ARTiviations

Community centred dialogues, listening to voices from the margins and incorporating role play for processing trauma and activating healing. Complementing story collection with Mbira Therapy and Meditation Sessions for reflection.

Dance-It-Out (DiO)

Stories and Experiences expressed through rhythmic and movement medicine. Releasing trauma and inspiring hope as we gather as one.

Deliverables

Caravan Of Hope: Voices From the Margins Series

A series of stories from survivors highlighting their circumstances, resilience and hope for the future.

Caravan Of Hope: Climate Justice Champions Declaration

A proclamation by the combined country Climate Justice Champions to be presented at the final stop of the Caravan in Lilongwe.

Caravan of Hope: The Documentry

Archiving the journey, stories and experiences of the caravan and the communities.

Caravan Of Hope Production: Heal the Earth

Co-Creative Circus Production inspired by the stories of the Caravan and representing the country of each community.

Work Plan

DESCRIPTION OF WORK	START DATE	END DATE
PHASE 1 Initiation Strategy	August	Sept. 2022
PHASE 2 Planning Process	September	Oct. 2022
PHASE 3 Launch and Execution	October	Oct. 2022
PHASE 4 Closure	October	Nov. 2022

A comprehensive breakdown of the Implementation/Work Plan can be found in Appendix A

Caravaners

Country Co-ordinators:

Zimbabwe - Haleema M

Malawi - Ngoni E

Mozambique: Albert M

Consortium:

JCED: Martha P, Nameka

Youth Office ZW: 2 representatives

JesCom/ Media: Norbert, Simon M,

SAP: Peter Banda

Silveira House: Shingai

Climate Justice Champions: 8 Champions (Zim, Zam, Mal, Moz)

Tamba Africa Social Circus: 10 troupe members

Itinerary

Overview of the Caravan of Hope Activities

15.09

Caravan Orientation

What is Climate Change & Climate Justice? What is the Caravan Of Hope? What are our Objectives, Goals and Responsibilities?

22.09

Workshops Orientation

What is ARTivism? What activities will be carried out during the caravan?

29.09

Safeguarding Workshop

Who are our target communities? What is Safeguarding? Contracts

03.10

Team Building Workshop

Arrival of all Caravaners; Induction and team building meeting.

04.10

Caravan in Chimanimani

Community visit and immersion; activations, documentation, and service.

07.10

Caravan in Beira

Green Sunday; Tour Coastal areas
Community visit and immersion; activations, documentation, and service

10.10

Caravan in Chikwawa

Schools visits
Community visit and immersion; activations, documentation, and service

14.10

Caravan in Lilongwe

Children Climate Justice Summit.

15.10

Caravan Evaluation

Covid Test; Caravan Evaluation; Closing Celebrations

16.10

Caravan Ends

Departure of Caravaners.