CLIMATE REFRAME
Amplifying BAME Voices in the UK Environmental Movement

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WHAT?
The Climate Reframe project will highlight some of the best Black, Brown, Asian, People of Colour and UK based Indigenous Peoples who are climate experts, campaigners and advocates living and working in the UK.

Their diverse roles include the following:

- Activists & Campaigners
- Business & Entrepreneurs
- Community Organisers
- Cultural Creatives
- Environmentalists and Naturalists
- Journalists & Writers
- Legal Experts
- Policy Experts & Academics
- Political Candidates
- Scientists & Technologists
- Urban Planners & Architects
- Youth Activists
This list is by no means exhaustive and we could have included 100 different people, and have many still to discover. It’s not meant to be the final word on the subject, but the beginning of a recognition of all the amazing people out there with something invaluable to contribute.

**WHY?**
The climate crisis is one of the most urgent and crucial issues in the UK public agenda but the representation of BAME climate experts invited to add their voices and perspectives in the media, at climate conferences, and working groups is desperately lacking.

We want to make it easier for media, funders, conferences and campaigns to find them and strengthen their work by including their expertise and perspectives throughout 2020 in environmental and climate reporting and in the lead up to the COP26 climate negotiations in Glasgow.

The environmental movement in the UK needs to reflect the political and social realities facing BAME communities. We want to give a platform to BAME environmentalists, experts, advocates and more who are proposing both strategies and solutions for dealing with the climate crisis. This platform will help create a pathway towards more BAME expertise and perspectives in the media.

**WHO HAS PUT THIS TOGETHER?**
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#ClimateReframe

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Ahlyah is a British Muslim campaigning for climate justice and systems change with UK Youth Climate Coalition and a volunteer organiser for the 16th Global Conference of Youth (COY16) ahead of COP26. Previously at Friends of the Earth, Ahlyah helped develop their Ramadan climate campaign and organise their first Youth Gathering, creating an inclusive environment to engage a diverse network of young climate activists. During her time at Friends of the Earth International as a Climate Justice & Energy Program Volunteer, Ahlyah helped develop campaigning resources for a global day of action across Friends of the Earth Groups in October 2018; carried out research on the IPCC 1.5 report, and supported planning work ahead of COP24. Ahlyah is currently an intern at Médecins Sans Frontières UK/Doctors Without Borders.

“Climate justice is migrants justice. To solve the climate crisis requires transforming our world into one that is just. Anything less is ecofascism. And we will not stand for anything less.”
ALEXANDRA WANJIKU KELBERT

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: BLACK LIVES MATTER & WRETCHED OF THE EARTH

Alexandra is a lecturer, researcher and London-based activist with Black Lives Matter UK. She is interested in the politics of food, gender, social change, race and environmental justice.

“I am interested in thinking about solidarity and intersectionality, not as boxes we tick but as a commitment and a working understanding that the major systems of oppression are interlocking. I believe that intersectionality must be a framework for action and a blueprint for practice.”
Fatima, 27, has spent nearly a decade as a climate justice campaigner. Many of those years were as an activist with the UK Youth Climate Coalition mobilising young people around climate change. She has also been a senior campaigner for WeMove.eu, a citizens movement for a progressive EU, and global NGO Avaaz. During her time at Avaaz, she helped lead the organisation’s climate campaigns and ran the biggest public-backed advocacy push for a long term goal in the Paris Agreement. Fatima was also one of the lead organisers of the People’s Climate March that brought more than one million people onto the streets ahead of the 2014 Climate Summit and again in the run-up to COP21. Now she is a Co-director of Green New Deal UK.

“A Green New Deal is our best chance to meet both challenges at the scale required. Embracing it will help us to build a future that works for everyone, everywhere, while helping us avoid irreversible ecological collapse.”

Based: London
Organisation: Green New Deal UK

Fatima-Zahra Ibrahim
JUDY LING WONG CBE OBE

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: BLACK ENVIRONMENT NETWORK

Judy is a painter, poet and environmentalist and is best known as the Honorary President of Black Environment Network, with an international reputation as the pioneer in the field of ethnic participation in the built and natural environment. She is a major voice on policy towards social inclusion. She pioneered an integrative approach to environmental participation, bringing together social, cultural, ecological and economic concerns. Through connecting mainstream organisations with urban-based ethnic minority communities, BEN enables them to engage with the environmental and heritage sectors.

“Inclusive, multicultural participation for everyone is the key to a future that serves everyone.”
Kumi Naidoo is a South African-born human rights activist of Indian descent who was the Secretary-General of Amnesty International until December 2019. Naidoo was also the first African head of Greenpeace.

“A movement only becomes a movement of substance, size, and power when the artists say ‘we want to add our voice’.”
MINNIE RAHMAN

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND CAMPAIGNS MANAGER,
JOINT COUNCIL FOR THE WELFARE OF IMMIGRATIONS

Minnie is a writer and campaigner specialising in migrants’ rights, climate change and social justice. After working in both the European and UK Parliament for five years as a political advisor, she helped coordinate the campaign to uncover the Windrush scandal with the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants. She is now leading on campaigns to scrap the “hostile environment” and to get new rights for undocumented migrants.

“You can’t have climate justice without migrant justice.”
Nish Doshi

BASED: EDINBURGH

Nish has been involved in the climate justice movement for over a decade, after growing up in several of the UK’s ex- and on-going colonies and seeing first-hand how “international development” was causing climate change. Within the UK they have been actively campaigning for decolonising (not as a metaphor) the climate movement by centring First Nation voices and calling for national accountability on colonialism. They love building connections and networks and organising from the grassroots. They also love trees.

“Climate change is not just an environmental movement – it is climate justice, a rallying call from the global south, for us to realise that climate change is the symptom of global social injustice. Scotland says it is leading the world on climate action, yet continues to fail to state its commitments to the global south, especially considering its role in colonialism and the slave trade. Our movements need to realise that it’s not just about cutting emissions, it’s about changing our relations – between us and the non-human world, but also between all of us, ourselves.”
Simmone is an award-winning changemaker, campaigner and activist who has contributed to environmental, social and cultural work in Bristol, London and across the UK. She interned at the City of London Corporation as part of the Air Pollution and Noise team where she first contributed to a report exploring air pollution, race and class – sparking her passion for climate justice and liberation from all unequal systems of power and oppression. Previously the Fossil Free Campaigns Coordinator at People and Planet, Simmone developed her skills and campaigning around climate justice, collective liberation and solidarity and uses facilitated workshops and panels as her medium to educate, spark conversation and dismantle power.

A quote I love is by Audre Lorde, American poet, writer, activist and academic:

“When we speak we are afraid our words will not be heard or welcomed. But when we are silent, we are still afraid. So it’s better to speak.”

This quote always reminds me of another world free from unjust systems of power can be imagined, visualised and achieved if we can work together and continue to love and show solidarity through our interconnected liberation struggles primitively.
Suzanne is an activist and campaigner, working on climate justice, indigenous rights and mining issues listed as one of the most popular voices on the Environment in 2018 by the Evening Standard. She is founder of the UK Tar Sands Network, which worked for a decade to campaign against UK corporations and financial institutions invested in the Alberta Tar Sands. Suzanne has led campaigns to shift the insurance sector from underwriting coal and tar sands projects & artistic interventions to highlight environmental injustice in the Niger Delta, Gulf Coast and the Arctic. She has been working hard to amplify the voices of indigenous delegations at the international climate negotiations. She is a producer-writer, lecturer, anti-oppression trainer and currently a research fellow at the University of Brighton examining race, media, art and climate justice.

"For a long time the expertise and knowledge of BAME campaigners has been overlooked by the climate movement although we have been at the forefront of environmental justice and climate campaigns that have created the current momentum we see in the movement today. This project was essential to reframe the climate crisis as one that is deeply rooted in the legacy of colonialism & environmental racism and to lift up the existing leadership in our communities is erased by mainstream environmentalism."
ZUNAIRA MALIK  

BASED: LONDON

Zunaira is a campaigner focused on climate and environmental issues and she currently works with young people in environmental education with Action for Conservation. She has attended civil society events at COP21 and COP22 with Islamic Relief. Her activism focuses around environmental education and making environmental messaging more relevant and relatable, hoping for a more inclusive movement. She believes there is no climate justice without social justice and proposed climate solutions must take frontline communities and the people of the Global South into consideration. Zunaira’s activism is inspired by the principles of justice and balance in Islam and she believes exploring common values within the different groups of people in society will bring about change.

“In a globalised world facing the global threat of climate change, we need to adopt global solutions and a Green New Deal that will improve all aspects of our society without sacrificing anyone. Making sure our movement is representative of everyone in society will be a start and to do this we need to stop making ‘environmentalism’ something that is exclusive to other justice movements…”
NAOMI ALEXANDER NAIDOO

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: FINANCE INNOVATION LAB

Naomi is a community builder for systems change. She is Community Manager at the Finance Innovation Lab, building and supporting a community of innovators, influencers and changemakers who are transforming the financial system for people and planet, including green fintechs, responsible investors and more. In particular, her work focuses on supporting people with marginalised identities in financial systems change. She is also an organiser with POCIMPACT – connecting, recognising and supporting people of colour working on social and environmental impact.

“\nThe financial systems change we need for climate justice will involve radically reshaping and reconfiguring power in finance, developing new climate-positive financial products and services, democratising investment, and supporting marginalised communities to be leaders in the financial system of the future.\n"
Naresh is a partner at design firm Pentagram and a practitioner of what he calls “communications with a conscience.” He began his career in London, where he worked as a copywriter for the advertising agency HHCL and went on to establish two agencies of his own; St. Luke’s and Karmarama. In 2007, Ramchandani decided to harness the persuasive power of design for the good of the planet, and co-founded Do The Green Thing, an environmental charity that uses playful and provocative means to encourage people to live greener lives. Today, Do The Green Thing has a network of over 500 creatives around the world who donate their time and talent to help tackle the issues, behaviour and assumptions and that are making modern life so damaging to the planet.

Naresh Ramchandani

Based: London
Organisation: Do The Green Thing

“Our flag is creativity vs Climate Change.”
RAJIV JOSHI

BASED: LONDON, GLASGOW & NEW YORK
ORGANISATION: FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE B TEAM, MISSION 2020, & BRIDGING VENTURES

Rajiv is an activist, economist, and business leader. He is a Founding Member and former MD of The B Team, a not-for-profit initiative formed by a group of the world’s most influential CEOs to catalyse better business practices for people and planet. He is currently developing a platform for cultural transformation and radical collaboration called Bridging Ventures and is Special Advisor to Mission 2020, convened by former UN Climate Chief Christiana Figueres. Rajiv is Executive-in-Residence at Oxford University’s Said Business School and Research Scholar at Columbia University, School of International and Public Affairs. He previously drove the Global Call to Action Against Poverty, founded by Nelson Mandela, was a Trustee of Oxfam, and is former Chair of the Scottish Youth Parliament.

“To help accelerate the transition to a net-zero emissions economy and unleash a new era of sustainable economic prosperity for all, it’s critical that many more business leaders join this growing movement for change.”
SAFIA MINNEY MBE

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: FOUNDER OF PEOPLE TREE & REAL SUSTAINABILITY

Safia is an award-winning social entrepreneur, internationally recognised for the company she founded, People Tree. She is a pioneer for sustainable fashion (and the first clothing company to receive organic certification for cotton and Fair Trade certification for supply chain). Safia has led People Tree as Global CEO for 20+ years in Japan & the UK.

“We need to identify as citizens and caretakers of our planet, not consumers. We must come up with different ways of thinking about and making fashion – and now. We don’t have the luxury of time.”

Photo credit: Odi Caspi
Sam’s pioneering vision (Morning Gloryville) brought a new era of clubbing and relating to the world stage. Getting people to wake-up at 6am dancing sober to DJs such as Fatboy Slim, Basement Jaxx, Carl Cox was previously inconceivable. Furthermore, growing a community of 200,000 people within eighteen months was a huge success. Now known as the Disruption Doctor, Sam plays vital parts in various activist campaigns, movements and brand activations that influence culture. Her mission is inspiring questions around Sovereignty Reclamation and sharing ways for people to participate in for-good-entrepreneurship and acts of service. Sam is proudly queer and lives by Indigenous African principles.

"People are trees and trees are people. As we put our attention to climate change, let’s also put our attention and efforts to economic and racial justice.”

**SAMANTHA MOYO**

**BASED: LONDON**

**ORGANISATION:** [TAMUKA GLOBAL](#)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**

![Instagram](#) ![Facebook](#)

**PUBLICATIONS:**

![Podcast](#) ![Twitter](#)
Sharlene has written about the climate crisis through the lens of race and class, and global inequality. Her interests include sustainability, wellbeing, technology, and responsible business and frequently highlighting issues surrounding climate migration. She is a champion at the Pentland Centre for Sustainability in Business at Lancaster University where she works with marketing students annually on how they can leverage their knowledge of communications and advertising to help combat the climate crisis. She has spoken about plastics, the global aviation industry, business travel, and is setting up workshops on how to communicate about eco-anxiety.

“"It is futile to talk about the climate crisis without recognising that firstly, capitalism, the colonial project, and structural inequality played a role in creating the crisis. It is then imperative to address the fact that those at the bottom – women and non-binary people, ethnic minorities, those of working-class background – are more likely to be acutely impacted by the climate crisis, while those higher on the social ladder will be able to pay their way out. As climate-induced gentrification and precarious employment begin to enter the UK, we must acknowledge that those of minority backgrounds will be most impacted. And while research might suggest this is because of a lack of education or political misinformation, it is perhaps more likely because our voices are not being heard.”
COMMUNITY ORGANISERS
Farzana is a writer, director, cultural producer and award-winning Arts educator. She is the co-founder and Director of Healing Justice London. She has a background in Youth and Community work particularly focused on arts-based education projects both in the UK and internationally. She was also the former creative and strategic director at Voices that Shake and is currently a Fellow at the International Curatorial Forum. Recently, in collaboration with the Stuart Hall Foundation, she launched and curated the Black Cultural Activism Map. Farzana was recently awarded Writer in Residence at Toynbee Hall, working on 'All Water Has a Perfect Memory' a screenplay exploring trauma, poverty, womanhood and bodily dignity amidst gentrified East London and ecologically violent times.

"The heart of climate justice has to be about how we dignify life – all kinds of life but especially those most marginalised and vulnerable. My work looks at climate justice through the lens of gender justice, disarming the chronic unsustainability that all systems of oppression tie us to and unlearning the brutalisation of our bodies. Here I believe, transformative climate justice practice connects with disability justice. #DisabilityJustice is the effort to dismantle ableism, as Mia Mingus says: ableism is 'nations of whose bodies are considered valuable, desirable and disposable'."
Jolly is the Development Officer for SCOREscotland Green Futures Project since its inception in 2013. Her background is community education and development and her experience of working on a climate change project has compelled her to advocate for environmental protection and climate justice, as well as change her own behaviour in order to protect the environment. She is particularly passionate about the impact of climate change on food security, and holds an MPhil in Demography, Certificate in Carbon Literacy, and City and Guilds Energy Efficiency Awareness. Jolly also volunteers her time at Tripod - a grassroots collective that supports groups fighting for social, economic and environmental justice.

"We have to care for this planet. It is the only home we have and the only home we share. We cannot just wash climate change off and hope it won’t affect us."
Kamran Shehzad

Based: Birmingham
Organisation: Bahu Trust

Kamran is a grassroots community activist, Sustainability Lead for the Bahu Trust and the Climate Change Advisor to the Mosques & Imams National Advisory Board (MINAB). He is passionate about working and empowering people to guide behavioural change within their communities and simplifying the language on climate change and climate friendly living. Kamran is also the Community Capacity Builder for Faith For The Climate and has helped developed a number of faith based community toolkits, video messaging campaigns and resources to promote sustainability and positive environmental behaviour for various faith communities. Kamran has been awarded ‘chartered environmentalist’ status by the Society for the Environment (SocEnv), and is a full member of the Institute for Environmental Management & Assessment (IEMA).

“People argue that religion is incompatible with science and that they conflict with each other – I don’t buy that argument, many of the greatest scientists of our time have been inspired by their faith and science. I would say that faith teachings are complementary to science, and provide solutions to the climate crisis in order to safeguarding the planet.”
Kennedy is a campaigner, trainer and facilitator who first came into activism through grassroots organising in London. Fast forward to today, and he’s worked on a breadth of issues including trade justice, community land ownership, migration and climate. A couple of years ago he started coaching younger campaigners and co-founded black activist and organiser network, KIN. Currently, he’s leading on a project working with grassroots groups across London to build a vision of what a just climate transition in the capital could look like in order to then advocate for this vision to be recognised, resourced and implemented.

"To rise to the challenge of climate breakdown, we need to transform the values that underpin our current economy and society. We need to move away from extraction and move towards restoration, from competition to cooperation, from the hoarding of wealth and power to its redistribution. Only then can we start moving towards communities, cities, countries where people don’t just survive, but people and planet can prosper. Every day I meet folks who are fighting for this and that brings me incredible amounts of hope and determination."
Nonhlanhla Makuyana is an organiser and an educator. They’re a facilitator with Campaign Bootcamp, Stir to Action and the cofounder of Decolonising Economics. Their work focuses on the reclamation of histories violently silenced and erased by legacies of white supremacy and empire in our collective stories of the economy.

“Unless Black lives matter, we will never be liberated as people or planet.”

Nonhlanhla.Makuyana5@gmail.com
RAKESH PRASHARA

BASED: NORTH EAST ENGLAND
ORGANISATION: GREENS OF COLOUR

Rakesh started out volunteering with Greenpeace and Co-ordinating the Newcastle Greenpeace group. As local campaigns against fossil fuel exploration became more prominent, he got involved leaving behind his Greenpeace role. Rakesh continues to support local campaigns against opencast coal mining in the North East while also fighting for more systemic change as the Membership Secretary of Greens of Colour, the BAME Green Party group and as a member of the facilitation group at Edge Fund.

"People of Colour and working-class people are under-represented in the Climate movement, leading to them being overlooked in many instances; this needs to change if this movement is ever going to affect real change."
Samia is an environmental activist and co-founder of Seize the Vote, a community organisation that encourages underrepresented youth to engage in political debate and forums. She is an advocate for reducing air pollution in London and is interested in sustainable cities and global environmental justice.

"As an environmentalist living in East London, my main concern is air pollution because it is known as a silent killer and I find it unfair that areas like mine that are occupied by minorities are affected by the decisions of local councils. Making environmental issues a spoken topic within the community is difficult; let alone making it an intersectional topic."
Serayna promotes climate justice, intersectionality and diversity in designing sustainability solutions, having worked in a Corporate Sustainability team and realising the field is the second least diverse sector in the UK. She is a volunteer at climate action hub, Camden Think & Do, where she leads the climate justice project. She also delivers workshops on anti-racism, exploring the (in)visible Britain’s colonial imprint in sustainability education, information and action. Serayna co-created ‘Diaspora Dialogues for our Future’, for BAME towns to discuss environmental and social issues through colonialism and system oppression. Serayna is interested in diaspora empowerment, social justice and decolonisation.

“"We are in such dire times. We cannot have system change without pausing to reflect on a silenced past rooted in unequal distribution, racism and violence that has shaped our world today. We can find our voices, words and narratives when we are in a dialogue together, caring for each other.”

Serayna Keya Solanki
Based: London/Leicester

SERAYNA KEYA SOLANKI

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Serayna recommends this read, the Bali Principles of Climate Justice - they were first written in 1991 and reiterated in 2002. They are incredibly relevant for our climate solutions today.

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ZARINA AHMAD

BASED: KILMARNOCK, SCOTLAND
ORGANISATION: CEMVO SCOTLAND

Zarina is the Climate Change and Environmentalist at Council for Ethnic Minority Voluntary Organisations (CEMVO). CEMVO is a race equality organisation working to build the capacity of the Ethnic Minority Sector. Her work combines two important social justice issues; Equality and Climate Change. She has been in the environmental sector for over ten years working predominantly on climate change and over seven years, focusing on race equality. The aim has been to change the landscape of the environmental sector, ensuring there is more engagement and inclusion of diverse communities and raising voices from the Ethnic Minority sector by creating platforms and providing training.

“In the UK, there is a risk of not recognising that the climate crisis is also a race issue, and climate injustices are being perpetuated. Climate justice has to be a true movement for all of those who are impacted.”
CULTURAL CREATIVES
Addy is a frontline NHS doctor and multi-award winning film producer. He focuses on healthcare and social impact films, combining his clinical experience with creative storytelling. His latest film, *Samaritan*, is a fictional story about two opposing characters, set in a post-apocalyptic UK affected by climate change. Adnan is passionate about utilising narrative filmmaking to raise awareness and educate audiences on societal topics.

“We all have mental health, including the planet Earth.”
FEHINTI BALOGUN

BASED: LONDON

Fehinti is an actor, theatre maker and activist. As an actor he has worked in theatre, film and television, with recent performances in Blue Door at Bath Theatre Royal, BBC Radio 4’s retelling of Oliver Twist and the upcoming BBC HBO drama ‘January 22nd’. Alongside his acting career, he delivers talks on climate change aimed at a more rounded inclusion in the conversation on behalf of Extinction Rebellion. As a result of these talks he has toured London and southern England, discussing climate change and taking part in international climate discussions.

“I’m a normal person, and I have to do normal things – so often I forget that we are living in a climate emergency and I go into a mixture of shock and sadness. Judging others does not get us anywhere, but I equally don’t believe accepting where we are works either. We have to keep pushing, innovating and making activism in all its forms accessible and available to the whole of society – including those on the fringes. Which is why I am writing and developing work from the perspective of my diaspora because representation is just one of the many things that will take us forward.”

Photo credit: BBC
Isis Thompson

Based: London

Isis is an award-winning documentary maker working in film and audio. She has produced work for Ch4, BBC Radio 4 Audible and is currently a consultant on the Mothers of Invention Podcast. Her work aims to treat the heaviest stories with a lightness of touch. Isis is also an activist (for Wretched of the Earth) and challenges us to consider how we can make vital activism truly global and inclusive in her upcoming podcast ‘It's not easy being Green & Black’.

“My latest work looks into some of the issues that keep many People of Colour out of the UK environmental movement. At this critical point in climate history, nothing is more important than the stories we tell and who tells them. POC must be given the space to make their own climate stories, and gatekeepers must accept they are not the audience for whom this work is made, but that it still needs to be made.”
Janine is a black feminist Agitator, Academica Lecturer at Central Saint Martins and University of the Arts London. Her PhD explores, ‘if art museums can be ‘safe(r) spaces’ to discuss race and cultural difference within a teaching and learning context,’ at Tate and the University of Bedfordshire.

The climate injustice movement has a race problem, and we need to acknowledge how the global majority affected by this issue are all non-white people. We need climate justice and not change. We need a movement that is intersectional and acknowledges that we are in this problem because of 500 years of white western colonialism and capitalism. We need redistributions of resources to communities and activists most affected and fighting on the front lines.”
JASMINE KETIBULAH-FOLEY

BASED: BRISTOL
ORGANISATION: GREEN & BLACK AMBASSADORS INITIATIVE

Jasmine is a presenter on Bristol’s Ujima Radio and is part of a National Lottery-funded initiative: Addressing marginalised communities inclusion in ‘green issues’ by asking hard questions, researching and taking action.

“We need to start looking at issues such as climate change as a positive opportunity. An opportunity to address inequalities, so that we can build a better future together, not for just a few... That and also people of colour were already doing things considered ‘green’. I’m just not sure people bothered to ask. We’re out here too doing our bit too you know, so we should be talking at the environmental table as well.”
KOOJ CHUHAN

BASED: MANCHESTER & LONDON
ORGANISATION: VIRTUAL MIGRANTS

Kooj is a digital artist, filmmaker and creative producer. He has worked with international artists such as Keith Piper and Shahidul Alam. He is the founder of artist collective Virtual Migrants and film company; Metaceptive, where he artistically interweaves social justice, environment and diversity. Virtual Migrants (founded in 1998) connects art, digital media and performance with new aesthetics and perspectives exploring race, migration and global justice. They create, exhibit, perform and distribute work and installations in galleries, performance venues, public and community spaces. Kooj is currently working on issues around race, refugees, and climate justice as well as other linkages.

"We are connected with climate through every facet of our lives, crossing over with sectors of health, industry, austerity, wars and conflict, over-consumption and consumerism, construction, transport, colonial exploitation, farming, global injustice, and so on. When are we going to represent this properly in a way that includes everybody? And when are we going to recognise the racial exclusion of people who haven’t caused the problem but who suffer the worst consequences? Most of all, who should pay for the damage - taxpayers or the companies and nations most at fault?"
Leah Borromeo

Based: London
Organisation: Disobedient Films

Leah is a journalist and filmmaker and co-founder of Disobedient films. She is interested in sustainability reporting, developing and directing documentary ideas for multiple platforms and leads on the creation and development of ‘Climate Symphony’. Climate Symphony is a data sonification project that takes narratives from climate change data and tells the story of our warming planet through sound.

“Art can’t ‘change the world’. Nothing we make or do can. What art does is create meaning, colour understanding and keep conversation alive.”
LOUIS VI

BASED: LONDON

Louis is a music artist, rapper and has studied Zoology. He uses his platform to spread awareness of climate change, green politics, and how nature can help solve issues that People of Colour face in inner cities. He was the creative director, writer and presenter for The World is (Y)Ours - a short film encouraging young POCs to register to vote based on climate issues.

“I think it’s important to make young people of colour understand that although you may not see yourself represented - the places that we’re so proud of coming from are actually on the frontline of climate change. Depending on what generation we are, the places where we live and now call home [in the UK] is the place which is disproportionately affecting the places we are all proud of being from.”
Nicole Itano

Based: London
Organisation: Executive Director of TVE

Nicole is the executive director of the global media non-profit tve, which uses the power of storytelling to drive real world action for a more sustainable future. Nicole came to TVE from WWF-UK, where she was Director of Media and Content and led global media outreach for the Our Planet project, in partnership with Netflix. Prior to that, she headed Save the Children UK’s award-winning creative team. Nicole joined the non-profit sector after a decade in international journalism, where she reported from more than 50 countries for many of the world’s leading media outlets. She is also the author of a book about the global AIDS epidemic.

“There has never been a greater need for compelling storytelling to cast light on what we are doing to our planet and give us hope that we can find a better way of co-existing with the rest of life on earth.”
TANYA RAMSURRUN

BASED: LONDON
ROLE: DIRECTOR

Tanya is the director of the The World is [Y]Ours – a short film produced by POCC, which looks at climate change from the perspective of black and brown people in Britain. The film explores through a number of contributors, how actions in Western countries can negatively affect the ancestral homes of black and minority ethnic communities across the world. Tanya is also the Head of Branded Film at production collective, My Accomplice.

Tanya asks:

‘How can we rise up and make sure we have our say this year?’
YASMIN BEGUM

BASED: CARDIFF
ORGANISATION: CO-FOUNDER 1919 RACE RIOTS COLLECTIVE

Yasmin is a writer and campaigner from Cardiff. She is interested in the links between mining, environmental racism, state violence and gentrification in Wales. She is raising awareness on devolved policy around air pollution levels, the Penrhyn Quarry and the links between the 1919 race riots and drugs to the Anthropocene. Her latest project, ‘Dadgoloneiddo’r Archif (Decolonising the Archive), explores the legacy of Welsh people and Welsh people of colour throughout history using decolonial theories.

“Our climate emergency needs to be more than words. We need to do better, we need to act, and it starts here with a sharp difference in everything we do.”
ENVIRONMENTALISTS & NATURALISTS
Beth is a Nature Allied Psychotherapist and ethnographer who teaches natural history and woodland living skills. She is Director of Wild in the City, supporting people of colour to feel belonging within and learn about nature in the UK, creating opportunities for the representation of black leadership and challenging racism within the environmental field. She has theorised our relationships with nature from a psychotherapeutic perspective, developing a modality of practice for ongoing client work. Beth is one of the first to conduct in-depth ethnographic research into people of colours' relationship with nature in the UK; white attitudes towards black presence in green spaces and the development of cultures which shun nature. Beth also hosts the Black Nature Narratives podcast.

"There are many talented and passionate black environmentalists within the UK but our voices rarely get through the gates. There is significant racism within the environmental field, a colonial mindset persists and messages become internalised by black communities that we do not belong. We need to ensure equity in funding and institutional support to ensure that black perspectives on the natural world and our relationship with nature can be heard."

IAN SOLOMON-KAWALL

BASED: LONDON & SURREY
ORGANISATION: HIPHOP GARDENS / MAY PROJECT GARDENS

Ian is an eco-artist with over 20 years experience of leading positive social change and raising awareness for a multitude of social issues through the powerful words and rhythms of Hip Hop music and a non-exhaustive passion for the environment and conservation. Ian combines his love for music and love for nature; grounded in a deep respect for the beauty and abundance of Pachamama (Mother Earth), issues of global food security and local food growing systems, to entertain and educate. He is co-founder of community-led food growing space, May Project Gardens, which he designed using permaculture principles. Here he mentors young people, nurtures ideas and fuels passions through music and a connection to the environment through a leadership programme, Hip Hop Gardens.

“For people and organisations to define the way we work in the environmental / climate / sustainable change movement and encourage more time indoors than in Mother Nature is confusing. Working with Nature should always start at the Root i.e bottom up - not top down.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS:
Josina Calliste

Based: London
Organisation: Land in Our Names (LION)

Josina is a health professional, landworker, activist and community organiser. She co-founded Land in Our Names (LION) in June 2019 in order to uproot & disrupt systemic issues of land as they pertain to people of colour in Britain. She loves nature walks & hopes to one day found an eco-village with anti-racism and women’s empowerment at its heart.

"We must all do what we can to address environmental degradation – locally and internationally. Reparative justice frameworks are relevant to every climate conversation. I’m so grateful I discovered a passion for food-growing which led me to land justice organising and nourishing spiritual ecology – this is what playing my part looks like."
One of Scotland’s leading environmentalists, Lang has worked for global conservation organisation WWF for over a decade and has been integral in their work addressing issues relating to climate change, clean energy, and marine protection. Lang was appointed Director of WWF Scotland in 2013 and is a key player in WWF’s UK and international network where he advises on communications and campaigns. He also acts as the Deputy Executive Director for Advocacy & Campaigns at WWF-UK. A biologist by study, his interest in the natural world stems from childhood and has led to him becoming an influential and dedicated environmentalist.

"The news that Glasgow will host COP26 is very exciting. This will be a vital milestone in the global response to the growing climate crisis. The fossil fuel era began in Scotland and in 2020 the global community must come to Glasgow and say that this will be the last fossil fuel generation and that we are ready to take on the climate and nature emergencies we face."
"Climate breakdown is already impacting people around the world with flooding in many parts of the UK and much worse problems in the Global South. My mum’s family is from Bangladesh where there are almost 4 million climate refugees - where unseasonal rains have left our village without rice for food or planting the next crops."

MYA-ROSE CRAIG

BASED: BRISTOL

Seventeen-year-old British Bangladeshi Mya-Rose, also known as ‘Birdgirl’, is a prominent naturalist and environmentalist, who is passionate about birds. She obtained her ringing licence when she turned 16 and became the youngest person to see half the world’s birds aged 17. In February 2020, she became the youngest person to be awarded an honorary Doctorate of Science, for her five years of campaigning with her organisation Black2Nature, leading the fight for equal access to the natural environment for BAME people, organising teen nature camps and her high profile conferences, Race Equality Nature. Mya has also set up an Extinction Rebellion chapter and helps organise Youth Strikes, Youth for our Planet and attends meetings in Downing Street and Parliament.
Patrick is a biologist and TV presenter. After studying Cancer Biology at the University of Bristol, Patrick decided to pursue a career in wildlife filmmaking and was an integral crew member for a number of BBC productions including 'Frozen Planet' and more recently 'Attenborough: 60 Years in the Wild'.

"The animals and plants of this planet will save our lives but only if we save them first."

Patrick Aryee

Based: London
Organisation: BBC
Born in Brick Lane in the heart of the East End of London to immigrant parents from Bangladesh, Shaira uses intersectional, lived experiences for positive social change by bringing creative ways to bring communities together in East London to improve their lives collectively. She does this through craftivism, working in women’s refuges using social and therapeutic horticulture, and making herbal remedies for refugees in Calais. As a POC grassroots activist, she advocates for more BAME and LGBTQ+ leadership representation in the environmental sphere. She currently works at Wen (Women's Environmental Network) and the Ella Baker School of Transformative Organising.

“From the climate emergency, displacement of people, unequal societies, the hostile environment to the rise of racism and fascism, it’s all connected. We have to fight local and global injustices together by bridging communities together and from learning from each other. Women of colour are key to bringing about positive change; quite often these women are working hard for their communities behind the scenes and so it's important to see more faces and spaces opening up for them. It would be great if our work influences the next generation of activists and marine biologists.”
JOURNALISTS & WRITERS
AMA JOSEPHINE BUDGE

BASED: LONDON

Ama is a writer, curator and activist whose work navigates intimate explorations of race, art, ecology and feminism, working to activate movements that catalyse human rights, environmental revolutions and queered identities. Her work challenges neo-liberal feminisms, working to activate and catalyse movements that emphasise human rights, ecological revolutions and de-gendered identities. Ama is a Guest Curator with Theatre Deli and a PhD candidate in Psychosocial Studies with Dr Gail Lewis at Birkbeck. Her research takes a queer, decolonial approach to challenging climate colonialism in Sub-Saharan Africa with a particular focus on inherently environmentalist pleasure practices in Ghana. Ama is also a member of Queer Ecologies 2020.

"That which I have termed Intimate Ecologies is a form of relation to the non-human – i.e. all that lives around us – acknowledging the stewardship, co-dependency and intimately intertwined modes of “becoming with” that have been championed by indigenous communities across the Global South for centuries. These communities now find themselves on the front line of catastrophic environmental change they did not create, facing social and ecological genocide at the hands of climate colonialism. In contrast, returning to an ontology of Intimate Ecologies makes for sustainable and infinitely diverse possible Black futures in which humans are in constant transformation, co-creating an abundant ecology not because we have to to survive, but because we desire to, to truly live."
Anu Henriques is the founder and co-editor-in-chief of Skin Deep, a creative powerhouse that is working to redefine culture, amplifying voices of colour through discussions of race, politics and activism. The online platform, biannual print publication and live events tell the stories others don’t. Skin Deep collaborates with creatives, musicians, writers, artists and activists to produce and platform original and thought-provoking content which is fresh and accessible.

"There are hundreds of untold stories of black and brown environmentalists, from the UK and beyond. These are the activists and organisers whose work has laid the foundations for a climate movement with justice at its heart. I hope that Skin Deep is able to keep sharing the histories of those climate justice giants on whose shoulders we stand, as well as platform the voices of those activists leading the fight in 2020. We want Skin Deep to help flood the movement with young POC, inspired by stories of campaigns fought and won, armed with proud histories, who know this is their fight too."

Based: London
Organisation: Skin Deep Mag
Aruna is an independent journalist and storyteller from India. She tries to tell complicated stories differently and as a means to answer collective questions around development, energy and the future of frontline communities at risk in a fast-warming world. These questions have led her on a journey from Central India’s coalfields to the Conference of Parties on climate change and now to Oxford’s Environmental Change Institute. As an independent journalist, her work has appeared in the New York Times, The Guardian and many more. Aruna’s work has been recognised by the Mumbai Press Club, the Shriram Financial Journalism Awards and anti-bribery non-profit TRACE International.

"The UK’s climate movement is genuinely powerful to witness as an outsider looking in. I’m always pleasantly surprised to see ‘Rebel for Life’ stickers in Oxford windows and students occupying college lawns calling for divestment, but my mind drifts to indigenous activists back home taking on UK mining companies being falsely arrested as Maoist rebels. It’s inspiring to see net zero coded in law, but cities like Mumbai will be under water by the time the UK gets there. The UK climate movement has the world’s attention now and there are lessons for the world in how to rapidly decarbonise an economy that grew in wealth and power from exploiting fossil fuels. The movement can only grow stronger if we share knowledge, resources and concern for what’s happening beyond our borders."
ARWA ABURAWA

BASED: LONDON

Arwa is a freelance journalist and documentary filmmaker interested in social and environmental issues. She has covered issues such as the water crisis in Iran, the life of sugarcane workers in El Salvador and farming communities in Burkina Faso. Previously a producer for Al Jazeera English’s environmental and medical shows, her work has been published in The Guardian, HuffPost, AdBusters and DW, amongst others. Arwa graduated from The University of Manchester and has a master’s in International Journalism. She is also an IWMF and One World Media fellow.

"I think the environmental movement in the UK is still an uncomfortable place for people of colour and that there need to be more significant efforts to bring these marginalised non-white voices, their perspectives and their priorities to the foreground. The UK environmental movement often talks about climate change as a future problem when we know that it is already making life for many communities of colour difficult right now. It often overlooks the vital work of climate justice activists across the world as well as the inequality which underpins the challenges we face when it comes to climate change."
JINI REDDY

BASED: LONDON
JOURNALIST AND AUTHOR

Jini is a travel and features journalist and author of the forthcoming book Wanderland. With an unusual but timely eco-spiritual theme, it charts her journey to connect with the magical in the landscape in Britain, while touching on themes of identity and belonging. Her first book, Wild Times, was published in 2016.

“Travelling with an expansive mindset, no matter how near or far from home, and in a spirit of deep respect and gratitude for the earth makes a journey infinitely richer. That’s been my experience anyway. Given the ecological crisis we’re in the midst of, I don’t think I’m alone in feeling this way.”
NABIL AHMED

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: CO-FOUNDER OF INTERPRT

Nabil is a transdisciplinary scholar and writer. He leads INTERPRT, an environmental justice project that investigates and advocates for the criminalization of ecocide under international law. INTERPRT works in collaboration and cooperation with international criminal lawyers, scientists and civil society organizations worldwide with a focus on extraction, the legacy of nuclear testing and climate crimes. The group’s long term research has been exhibited most recently at the Warsaw Biennale/The Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw, Beirut Arts Centre and The Museon Museum for science and culture in The Hague. He has written for Third Text, Candide: Journal for Architectural Knowledge, MIT Press, Routledge, Documenta, Sternberg Press, Scientific Reports, Archeological and Environmental Forensic Science, among others.

“We can fight against impunity in a warming world by recognising ecocide as an international crime.”
Campaigning for a better Britain every day is at the heart of what the Daily Mirror does everyday. This is why fighting for a cleaner, greener country is at the forefront of their agenda. As the newspaper’s first environment editor, Nada has had a string of exclusives, helped win a campaign and have a weekly column tackling the issues at the heart of our changing world. Each week she helps to expose, reveal and report on the environmental, conservation and science stories from on our doorstep to the far corners of the globe – crunching down complex issues to explain how and why they affect the lives of our readers. Nada was awarded the Science and Environment Journalism prize at the British Journalism Awards in 2019.

Last August, I travelled to Greenland to witness firsthand the impact of climate change. Here I found a community battling to adjust to its new reality in the midst of a 22C heatwave. The melting ice is not only having a catastrophic impact on sea levels but also having a human impact too tearing families apart and threatening livelihoods, identities and lives. The trip resulted in a three-day series and a powerful front-page helping to break down the barrier that climate change is only an issue for readers of a certain class or broadsheets, as well as breaking down the science for all to understand.
Selina is a writer, essayist and social researcher whose work focuses on social and environmental justice, education and global politics. Selina views art (in her case, poetry) to be a massive and powerful tool of social change that she uses as often as possible for this reason. As such, much of her poetry touches on social and environmental justice as well as identity, nostalgia and belonging.

"I think there is a certain class within the environmentalism movement. I have gotten a lot from people who use the climate justice lens in everything that they do - individuals who look at social justice issues that intersect with food, health, their local area and politics. For me, that's what engages people in understanding climate issues."
ZAKIYA MCKENZIE

BASED: BRISTOL

Zakiya is a nature writer and journalist who has worked the environmental beat in 3 different regions of the world. She was the 2019 writer-in-residence for Forestry England and is a Bristol Green and Black Ambassador, tasked with engaging inner-city families with nature-based activities year-round. Zakiya is also a PhD student on the Caribbean Literary Heritage project at the University of Exeter, researching the history of West Indian journalists in the UK and regularly leads nature writing workshops. She is also a volunteer producer/presenter at Ujima 98Fm community radio station in Bristol. She has written for BBC Wildlife and Smallwoods Magazine and has appeared on Radio 4’s Woman’s Hour, Farming Today and on Inside Out West.

“Environmental injustice affects the most vulnerable people in society most; that means poor people, Black people, people in developing countries, the uneducated, single parents etc. will have fewer resources to mitigate against and respond to the effects of a worsening climate. Climate justice is, therefore, social justice! An equal society gives more people the chance to survive.”
BINYAM YAKOB GEBREYES

BASED: EDINBURGH

Binyam is currently a researcher at the UK-based think-tank, the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). He works closely to support and advise the Least Developed Countries (LDC) group at the UN climate negotiations, helping to ensure their concerns regarding adaptation are reflected throughout the process. He is experienced in providing training on climate change and other environmental and policy issues for representatives from LDC countries. Before joining IIED, Binyam served as an environmental law expert and national climate change negotiator for the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of Ethiopia. His fields of expertise also cover other multilateral negotiations, including the Minamata Convention on Mercury on which he served as a representative for the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia from 2015-2018.

“For the Least Developed Countries, adapting to the impacts of the climate crisis is a vital necessity. They are doing their level best, and what they need is equally urgent and bold action from developed countries to curb their emissions and avoid a global catastrophe.”
Husna has an OBE and is the CEO of Global One 2015, which is a faith based International NGO focused on women. She has a PhD in International Environmental Law from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London University and is a board member of Faith for the Climate, Faith In Water, and Palmers Green Mosque (the MCEC). At the UN, she is co-Chair of the Multi Faith Advisory Council to its Inter-agency Task Force on Religion and Development and she also sits on the Steering Committee of The World Bank’s Moral Imperative Initiative. As an author and thought leader, Husna has presented many papers internationally, focusing particularly on faith and the environment.

"For me ethics is about moving away from greed and self interest but the irony of it is that we are facing the greatest catastrophe today – climate change – because of a lack of ethical behaviour. My organisation, Global One, is tackling many of the SDGs, and it was founded on the basis and belief that there is a need for more Muslim women to emerge as leaders and change-makers, inspired by their faith teachings, and not blocked but encouraged and supported by their faith communities. It holds this ambition equally for women everywhere and thus integrates the participation, equal opportunities and leadership of women in all of its projects."
Farhana is an international environmental lawyer, author and an activist with three decades of experience providing legal and strategic advice to leaders of vulnerable nations on climate negotiations, finance and development policy. In April 2019, she glued herself to Shell’s London headquarters as part of Extinction Rebellion’s protest at the oil firm’s lack of climate action. As well as authoring numerous books and IPCC reports, she has played a key role in drawing up international treaties, and the landmark Paris Agreement on climate change in 2015. The NGO she set up, Track 0, is widely credited with getting the goal of net-zero emissions by 2050 into the Paris Agreement.

“Climate Justice and social justice are two sides of the same coin. Even in the UK, the poorest communities bear the brunt of air pollution. Our social and economic systems must put planetary safety and the needs of people above the relentless pursuit of private profits. We cannot allow a privileged few to leave our young to cope with the massive burden of irreversible change, possible collapse of food systems and social & psychological breakdown.”
Harpreet K Paul

Based: London & Oxford

Harpreet is a human rights lawyer, climate justice advocate and a PhD candidate at the University of Warwick’s Law School where her research focuses on climate justice for loss and damage. She has previously worked at Global Policy Forum, Amnesty International, REDRESS and Electronics Watch and is a qualified solicitor.

"Just climate change action must overhaul the social, economic, cultural and political inequities that got us here. The past and present is riddled with painful and resilient stories of peoples and communities on the frontlines of climate change impacts, neoliberal globalisation, and marginalisation. As we fight to transition to a world rooted in dignity, well-being and agency for all, we must also hold those most responsible to account for the heartbreaking consequences of prioritizing profit over people and planet. To fail is to surrender to the knowledge that my daughter will age in a world described as "incompatible with an organised global community." The only alternatives are collective empowerment and action, rooted in a radical but strategic hopefulness in our capacity to be and do better."
Tessa Khan

Based: London
Organisation: Urgenda

Tessa is Co-Founder & Co-Director of the Climate Litigation Network, a global web of lawyers, campaigners, and activists helping citizens take their governments to court in pursuit of climate action. The Climate Litigation Network was born after Tessa heard about the citizens of The Netherlands suing their country to force them to reduce emissions, to help many more such cases be brought to courts around the world.

“Governments have been breaking their promises to take the climate crisis seriously for too long, while ordinary people and communities are left to live with its impacts. That’s why so many people are now asking their government hard questions in court. Litigation is helping to empower those most affected and is giving them a real platform to be heard.”
Ana De Menezes

**Based: London**

**Organisation: Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change & The Environment**

Ana’s research focuses on health-related impacts of climate change and economic labour. She is especially interested in how climate change amplifies the risk of mosquito-borne diseases. Ana is interested in analysing the discrepancies in health-related impacts and outcomes that stem from differences in income, gender, and race.

"Mitigation policy is imperative to avoid the exacerbation of negative health impacts of a changing climate, particularly of infectious diseases transmitted by mosquitoes such as Malaria, Zika and Dengue Fever. It has also the potential of reducing health inequities among disadvantaged groups of the population and providing health co-benefits, as the reduction of respiratory diseases associated with air pollution."
ANIELA FRANCIS

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: WWF UK

Angela is the Chief Advisor of Economics and Economic Development at WWF UK. She provides advice across WWF’s climate, food, nature programmes and leads on trade and industrial policy for a green transition.

“Halving the UK’s environmental footprint by 2030 is a huge challenge and a huge opportunity, it means transforming the whole economy - transport, housing, agriculture, manufacturing and finance - so it really works for people and the planet.”
As Regional Secretary for the Northern TUC, Beth has raised awareness of the need for consideration of Climate Change and a “Just Transition” within Unions. For Unions, the ‘green economy’ (and beyond) must recognise unions and bargain with them to ensure good quality jobs with terms and conditions at least as good as those in energy, transitioning and carbon-intensive sectors.

“New green jobs must be good jobs. Every new job created by the move to a low-carbon economy should be just as good, if not better, than those it will replace. That means trade union recognition, decent pay, terms and conditions, high standards of health and safety, and a fair pension.”
Brianna Craft

Based: London
Organisation: IIED

Brianna is Senior Researcher on Climate Change at the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). She started working in the UN climate negotiations in 2011 and witnessed the adoption of the Paris Agreement first hand. Brianna works to further equity in this forum for the world’s poorest countries, which have done the least to cause climate change but are the most vulnerable to its impacts. She currently supports the Least Developed Countries (LDC) Group at the United Nations Framework on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations. She works with LDC representatives to negotiate outcomes on technology development and transfer, that benefit the world’s poorest.

“2020 is a critical year. We face an unprecedented climate crisis and a period of uncertain geopolitics. Leadership has never been more necessary. The UK will direct the UN climate negotiations this year, ahead of November’s Climate Summit (COP26) in Glasgow. Its government and people must ally with those living in the world’s poorest countries – who have done the least to cause the climate emergency but who die because of it. Only by working together can we achieve outcomes that match the scale of the crisis.”
BRIANNA FRANCIS

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: LONDON BOROUGH OF HACKNEY COUNCIL

Brianna is currently a Management Trainee at the London Borough of Hackney Council. Her traineeship entails the delivery of various projects within the borough. Her environmental science background covers water resource management and climate change (science and policy), which inspired her water resource development work in Nepal. This also drove Brianna’s research into the climate impacts of Small Island Developing States (SIDS), in recognition of her Caribbean heritage, and land-use change associated with Brazilian soy agri-business. Her previous experience as an Environmental Sustainability Coordinator at Julie’s Bicycle which focused on the delivery of Arts Council England’s sustainability programme utilised her working knowledge of data analysis and identifying best practices within the industry.

“The narrative may exclude us but we have voices too.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS:
CHAITANYA KUMAR

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: GREEN ALLIANCE

Chaitanya is the head of energy and climate policy at Green Alliance where he focuses on projects surrounding local authority climate emergencies and consumer benefits of electromobility. His previous work includes working as the South Asia campaigns leader at 350.org, an international climate campaigning group. He was responsible for designing and executing political and educational campaigns, to move India and other key South Asian countries away from coal and towards cleaner forms of renewable energy. Chaitanya's expert interests lay in energy finance, transition and access.

“The UK environment sector finally has its moment in the sun with environmental issues gaining significant political and public attention. The time is now to genuinely work together and complement our different strengths to ensure a clean, just economy is delivered to British citizens and that they can truly benefit from it.”
DHARA VYAS

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: HEAD OF FUTURE ENERGY SERVICES AT CITIZENS ADVICE

Dhara is the Head of Future Energy Services at Citizens Advice. She is a member of the Advisory Panel for the UK Climate Assembly.

"The UK’s commitment to becoming a net-zero society by 2050 will have major implications for the way we live our lives. To meet that target we’re going to have to change the way we heat our homes, switch to electric vehicles and to embrace new technologies. But crucially we’re going to have to get the public’s buy-in.

I’m working to make sure that people are at the heart of net zero policy. Our work at Citizens Advice is about making sure the transition to a low carbon future is fair, with support for people to make the changes. Crucially, we’re also keen to ensure that the costs of decarbonisation do not disproportionately hit those who can least afford it."
DOROTHY GRACE GUERRERO

BASED: LONDON & SOUTH EAST
ORGANISATION: GLOBAL JUSTICE NOW

Dottie has been Head of Policy and Advocacy at Global Justice Now since 2017. Her work in social movements and NGOs spans thirty years. She currently works on and writes about corporate accountability, climate change, migration, trade and investment, China and other related economic justice concerns. She is originally from the Philippines and has lived in The Netherlands, Germany, Thailand and South Africa before moving to the UK. She previously worked with the Transnational Institute (TNI), African Women Unite Against Destructive Resource Extraction (WOMIN), Focus on the Global South (an Asian regional organisation), Asienhaus Deutschland and the Institute for Popular Democracy in the Philippines. She also worked as guest lecturer in MA Development Programs in universities in Asia and Germany.

“Considering the UK’s role in global political economy, history and efforts to find global climate solutions at all levels, we in the UK environmental movement have tremendous opportunities and responsibilities to ensure that those solutions are based on justice and reciprocal solidarity with the rest of the world.”
Amiera is a feminist academic who has explored the intersections of climate, environment, gender and security. She has a PhD in water governance and human rights and is experienced in developing and promoting multi-disciplinary research - through natural science, social science and participatory research – and using it to influence key stakeholders. She has recently worked closely with governments and the UN to build capacity around the linkages between climate change, gender and security. Amiera completed her post-doc at the Grantham Institute for Climate Change, Imperial College London where she co-led a DFID and UK Research Council funded project with IBA Karachi on the linkages between climate change responses, legalisms and gender in Pakistan.

"International and local climate spaces continue to be highly patriarchal and elite. I regularly experience this intersectional power but just imagine how much more it affects women and girls in the world’s poorest countries who are bearing the brunt of extreme weather. It is so important to consider and consult local women and girls in climate action – and to engage them as leaders – to ensure we protect their hard-won rights and truly reduce the impacts of climate change. When we work together and make sure their voices are heard, we can do so much more to save the planet!"
ELENA BLACKMORE

BASED: MACHYNLLETH, WALES
ORGANISATION: PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH CENTRE

Elena recently led the Framing Equality project at the Public Interest Research Centre (PIRC). She has been involved in and co-authored several PIRC publications, including Common Cause for Nature (on rebalancing cultural values, environmental consciousness and social change in conservation), Valuing Equality, the Common Cause Handbook and Building Bridges (on the framing of human rights in the UK). She is most interested in how our cultural stories shape oppression and the ways we interact with each other and the natural world.

“I believe the environmental movement can only truly be successful when it is centred on and led by the voices of those who are most impacted by environmental issues, and fully incorporates an understanding of historical responsibility - through the lens of imperialism and racism. This requires some deep work from some bits of the movement, but we must and can do it!”
Miatta is the chief executive of the New Economics Foundation and the first chair of the Climate Crisis Commission to help deliver a sustainable Croydon. The independent body is launching on March 12 2020. It will tackle the climate and ecological emergency where it will draw on findings of a new citizens’ assembly on ways to lower the borough’s carbon footprint.

“The urgent need to reduce our environmental impact is now well understood across society, but politics has lagged behind and we have not seen the transformative solutions required. The transition to new low-carbon industries and ways of living must happen quickly, but must also be used as an opportunity to improve the wellbeing of workers, minorities and the poorest in our society.”
Professor Tahseen Jafry leads the pioneering Centre for Climate Justice at Glasgow Caledonian University. Her research interests include the justice and equity aspects of climate change, gender and poverty targeting, the management of natural resources, the geo-political nature of climate justice and the psycho-social impacts of climate change. Tahseen is a qualified engineer and social scientist and has over two decades of research and development experience. She lectures in environmental management, sustainability and climate justice and supervises Masters and doctoral theses.

“Depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, the list goes on. We need to work together to develop a deeper understanding of the scale of the problem and address these health risks, particularly for the poorest who have little or no access to recovery and support.”
Rosamund is the co-founder of the Ella Roberta Family Foundation that was set up after the death of her beloved daughter in 2013 from a rare and severe form of asthma. Formerly a teacher in Higher education, Rosamund now serves as a World Health Organisation Africa advocate for Health and Air Quality. She is passionate about raising awareness of indoor air quality, how it disproportionately affects social demographics, and how the public can make informed decisions for their health. Rosamund is also informing UN discussions on environmental racism and is interested in emerging research on air pollution.

“Rosamund KISSI-DEBRAH

It’s our human right to breathe clean air and it’s not as if there aren’t solutions. I’m passionate about advocating for better air quality and raising awareness on the implications.”
Syed has over 20 years of experience working in the sustainable energy industry ranging from Friends of the Earth, the Combined Heat and Power Association, the Greater London Authority, and Arup. Syed established Energy for London a research and campaigning organisation supporting London’s progress to becoming a low-carbon city. He is currently policy advisor to the Green Gas Certification Scheme, a Director of the All-party Parliamentary Renewable and Sustainable Energy Group (PRASEG), a Trustee for National Energy Action (NEA), and a Board member of the Solar Trade Association. Syed helped establish Community Energy London in 2017, where he is currently the Chair, and was appointed by the Mayor of London as a Commissioner of the London Sustainable Development Commission (LSDC).

“My entire professional career has been based around working to shift the UK’s energy industry to a more sustainable, secure and affordable system that also responds to the impacts of climate change. As the energy transition has moved the sector to a more decentralised model, I have increasingly focussed on cities, and how they will play their part in the climate emergency.”
POLITICAL CANDIDATES

#ClimateReframe
CLEO LAKE

BASED: BRISTOL
ORGANISATION: BLACK ART MOVES

Cleo was the former Lord Mayor of Bristol from 2018–19. She was the Green SW MEP Candidate in 2019 and is currently the Director of Black* Artists On The Move. Cleo also sits on the Avon Fire Authority - chairing the People and Culture Committee, providing support and scrutiny through a significant transformation journey. At a national level, Cleo is also a Diversity Champion with Fire Services in the LGA and on the Fire Strategic Resilience Board and Fire Management Committee. She has been sharing her knowledge about the global climate crisis, and its implications on as many platforms as possible including through her barnstorming speech outside Bristol City Hall for an unprecedented African heritage led protest in 2016 for Black Lives Matter.

"I welcome the attention that calling a climate emergency has brought, but in my heart, I feel that what we need is a global inequality emergency declaration with everyone fighting as hard for that as they are for this. Because inequality in the way resources are grabbed, in the way resources are consumed, life chances between those that have everything and those that have nothing. The way humanity has collapsed, values and ethics have been skewed, the way First Nation wisdom and care for the Earth has been sidelined. This constant and ongoing inequality propelled at least from the time of industrial revolution and enslavement and colonisation - underpins the climate emergency. Yet we see even in the climate movement itself that inequality is rife to the extent that activists of colour get cropped out of publicity."
CLIVE LEWIS

BASED: NORWICH SOUTH
ORGANISATION: LABOUR PARTY

Clive has been the MP for Norwich South since 2015. He is part of the All Party Parliamentary Climate Change Group and he has seconded the cross-party Green New Deal bill, tabled by Green MP Caroline Lucas.

“If you want your children and grandchildren to avoid food shortages, to avoid power shortages, to avoid biological degradation, biodiversity loss – if you actually want a planet that’s inhabitable – then we need to make some choices together, now, and some of them are about quite dramatic changes to how we live.”
CLLR KALTUM OSMAN RIVERS

BASED: SHEFFIELD
ORGANISATION: GREEN PARTY NORTH

Kaltum is the first African female Green Party Local Councillor in South Yorkshire where she initiated and supported the Green New Deal UK in engaging communities in Sheffield. She is an anthropologist and has produced research publications about health, housing, education, disability and immigration. Alongside this, Kaltum is a Postgraduate student progressing to a PhD candidate at the University of Sheffield.

"I believe that every parent wants what’s best for their children. Climate change affects communities across the world, we must make commitments to address the climate crisis for the sake of generation to come."

SOCIAL MEDIA:

LinkedIn
Twitter
MAGID MAGID

BASED: SHEFFIELD
ORGANISATION: ACTIVIST, WRITER & FORMER GREEN PARTY MEP FOR YORKSHIRE & HUMBER

Magid is a Somali-British politician and activist who recently represented Yorkshire & Humber as an MEP at the European Parliament. He was previously the youngest ever and first refugee Lord Mayor of his beloved city, Sheffield. He is an anti-racist, environment campaigner and was recently named one of TIME’s 100 rising stars shaping the future of the world. Magid is also a custard connoisseur.

“Climate change is unfair - it was created by the privileged few but will disproportionately hit disadvantaged groups the hardest and strongest. Our response to the climate crisis needs to be just and inclusive because climate change is not solely an environmental issue, that’s why climate justice is empty without social justice.”
NANNETTE YOUSSEFF

BASED: LONDON & NORWICH
ORGANISATION: GREEN PARTY COUNCILLOR

Nannette is a 24 year old Young Green and serves as the Councillor for Nelson Ward, Norwich. She is of joint Egyptian and British heritage, and spent most of her childhood in the Global South with her parents, who worked in the non-profit sector. Through this experience she became aware of global inequality, and dedicated herself to becoming a voice for the Global South in the Global North. She previously worked at WWF on building advocacy and environmental campaigns, and is currently studying for her MSc in Public Policy at University College London.

“Good climate activism is activism which not just acknowledges the unique experiences POC have with the environment and the racist history of the environmental movement but acts upon it.”
RASHID NIX

BASED: LONDON

Rashid is a youth mentor, educator, journalist, social commentator and parent. His real political awakening was when his Brixton housing estate was targeted for regeneration, thereby dividing a closely-knit community. Rashid spent five years at Westminster REC as a mentoring expert, designing programmes for hard to reach young people as well as serving as a community representative, training police officers. He mobilized residents, but it was the shortcomings of local politicians that led him to the Green Party and stand for office in local and national elections, raising their profile amongst BME voters.

“Ironically, those who make the most noise about protecting nature’s biodiversity often come from the least diverse organisations! The reality is we are all in this thing together.”
TRYONE SCOTT

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: YOUNG GREENS

Tryone joined the Green Party 6 years ago and has been a campaigner for climate justice ever since. He recently stood as a candidate in the 2019 General Election in Hackney South and Shoreditch and saw the Green Party vote share double. He has contributed to articles about the climate crisis and spent many days and nights demonstrating on the streets. Born in Germany, to a German mother and British-Jamaican father, Tyrone feels these multicultural roots have contributed to his concern for a crisis which is global and affects us all. He also works for a housing charity as a Community Organiser helping lead local campaigns and serves as a Campaigns Officer for the Young Green Party of England and Wales.

“There is still so much more work to do for the climate movement to be more racially diverse and inclusive. From questioning the notion of what it means to be ‘arrestable’ at a protest to ensuring we amplify the voices of ALL of those affected by climate change, there is work for all of us to do. Myself included.”
ANUSHA SHAH FICE

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: DIRECTOR, RESILIENT CITIES - ARCADIS UK

Anusha is a leading chartered engineer, Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers, thought leader, speaker, panellist and a passionate advocate for diversity, inclusion and fairness. She is currently the Director of Resilient Cities at Arcadis UK. She is the past chair of the Thames Estuary Partnership (a charity working towards sustainable management of the Thames Estuary). She is also a Royal Academy of Engineering Visiting Professor at King’s College London where she aims to inspire the next generation to design infrastructure and places by keeping climate change, sustainability and inclusive design at the forefront. Anusha’s leadership and management on numerous high-profile engineering and environmental projects drives her desire to make societies inclusive, safe, climate-resilient and sustainable.

“Non-discriminatory and unbiased in its impact, climate change challenge calls for a diverse and inclusive workforce and a complete overhaul in the way we think, plan and act. The time has come to break down silos. Engineers need to work with artists, politicians, activists, and all sections of society, not only to respond to the urgent need to reduce carbon emissions but also prepare to adapt to the changing climate. It’s time to put ‘green’ before ‘grey’ infrastructure and use technology for good so that we leave assets and not liabilities for our future generations. Climate crisis presents us with a huge opportunity to re-design our cities and countryside keeping the health, happiness and wellbeing of everyone at the core.”
Ayesha is a Climate Science Communicator at the Met Office. Her job involves helping members of the government and the general public to easily understand important aspects of climate science through the use of briefings, webpages, and infographics.

She graduated from the University of Exeter in 2019 with an MSci in Natural Sciences – a degree combining science, maths, and computing, for which she specialised in climate science.

Ayesha is a bookworm and a keen writer and has published work with the climate journalism group, Carbon Brief.

“This is an incredibly exciting time to be working in climate! As more people voice their concerns about our warming planet, the issue of climate change is capturing media attention in a way that it never has in the past. I find it very motivating to see a growing number of people, especially in younger generations, who are passionate about protecting our planet, keen to learn more about climate change, and willing to take action!”
Charise Johnson

Based: London

Charise is a science and environmental policy researcher and an advocate for just and equitable public policies. She believes that evidence-based policies are necessary for upholding democracy; that governments must be transparent about the evidence used in decision making to protect the health and safety of the public and environment.

With experience in environmental justice and health, ocean conservation, and community partnership-building, her interests are innumerable and interdisciplinary, but can all be categorised under the umbrella of science and society. Charise holds a BA in Psychology, an MS in Environmental Science, and considers herself a jack of a few trades.

“Science is important but can only take us so far. The arts, humanities, and social sciences play a crucial role in culture, behaviour and ultimately policy change.”
We won’t climb out of recession, or meet the challenges of climate change, by thinking small. To my mind, climate change is one of the biggest challenges we face today. But it will not be solved if we act in isolation. We need to break barriers and join forces to find solutions to this global problem.”
Dr. Jaise Kuria Kose is a Climate Change lecturer at The University of Manchester. His expertise includes developing pathways that translate global temperature targets to energy and carbon policy and modelling environmental and engineering performance of energy generation and demand. His current research includes evaluation of greenhouse gases from large hydropower reservoirs, setting climate change targets and carbon budgets, understanding variability and resilience challenges from renewables, and smart grid solutions enhancing operational resilience of the electricity grid. He has worked closely with various local/regional governments to set carbon emission budgets and targets that are consistent with United Nations Paris Climate Agreement. His PhD examined how smart grid technologies could be utilised to address the challenges of operating a decarbonised electricity grid.

"Local governments should set evidence based climate targets to take effective action for mitigating climate change. At the same time use of local knowledge from various stakeholders are essential for the delivery of such targets."
Farah Caswell

Based: London
Organisation: Sustainability Engineer at Foster + Partners

Farah is an English-Iranian sustainability engineer at Foster + Partners. She graduated with an MEng from Imperial College London with an emphasis on masterplan and infrastructure water and waste. Farah is an expert in sustainability governance and engineering principles that contribute to low-impact, responsive and sustainable design, championing the UN Sustainable Development Goals. She has been instrumental in steering the practices’ sustainable tracking methodology, which sets standards and follows progress through critical appraisals, championing innovation. In her spare time, she volunteers at IYDA, a grassroots organisation for migrant and refugee children, young people and families from Farsi-speaking communities in London.

“Changes that must happen are both cultural as well as to do with the use of technology. It requires senior level leadership and policy change; as well as enthusiastic individual participation.”
Miranda is a Principal Curator and museum scientist at the Natural History Museum, London. With over two decades worth of collections management and curatorial skills she cares for a plethora of historically important specimens from both the HMS Challenger and RRS Discovery oceanic expeditions. She is passionate about the role museum exhibitions play in our understanding of the natural world and her research interests lie in Ecology, Zoology and Marine Biology.

“I’m an advocate for the use, cultural and scientific application of Museum collections to inform the climate change debates when looking at the future sustainability of our planet. By working with all cultures, it enables understanding of our impact and responsibility as humans in the natural world.”
MIRIAM R. ACZEL

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON

Miriam is a President’s PhD Scholar (2016–2020) at Imperial College London’s Center for Environmental Policy, pursuing a doctorate supervised by Karen E Makuch. Her research areas include international energy and environmental law and policy; global environmental change and climate science; greenhouse gas removal technologies; human rights and environmental justice; environmental and public health; and citizen science. Miriam’s doctoral research focus is on international regulation of hydraulic fracturing to extract shale gas in the UK, USA, France, China, and Algeria.

“I believe that today’s most important problems—such as climate change, natural resource depletion, habitat loss, global hunger, poverty—aren’t constrained by arbitrary state borders, and so in order to work towards sustainable solutions, it’s crucial to promote global collaboration as well as engagement of a wide variety of opinions and diverse voices.”

PUBLICATIONS:
URBAN PLANNERS & ARCHITECTS
AFSHEEN RASHID KABIR MBE

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: REPOWERING

Afsheen is a pioneer of community energy in an urban setting. As co-founder and co-CEO of Repowering, she has created the first and largest community energy project on social housing in the UK. In addition, Afsheen chairs Community Energy England and is a Board member of Friends of the Earth.

"At Repowering, we work with communities to plan, fund and build their low carbon future. We want to ensure a just transition where those who cannot afford to invest in renewables or own their homes are not left behind by the wider changes that are happening as part of the transition to a low carbon economy."
Dave is responsible for creating the momentum on the ground that brings Repowering’s community-owned projects to life. He works with schools and communities across London, developing solar projects that reduce their carbon footprint while creating an income stream for local projects. An experienced community activist, Dave has cooked for over 100 people at a fracking site in Lancashire, taken part in climate demonstrations at COP21 in Paris and helped build an adventure playground in Senegal. He has a background in education, music and performance.

"We can create positive social change at the same time as fighting climate change, as long as we ensure we make space to hear those voices who aren’t usually heard. The best way to do this is to work with communities to create change, instead of forcing change onto them. People often know the solutions to the problems that surround them, they need resources and support to bring those solutions to life."
Elsie Owusu OBE

BASED: LONDON

Elsie is an urban designer and architect and RIBA council member. She was the co-lead architect for the UK Supreme Court and the master planning team for Green Park Station. Her current projects include: Guest Artists Studios (GAS), studios/residencies for the artist Yinka Shonibare CBE in Lagos; the new Kumasi City Hall and Royal Museum in Ghana and a new eco-home in Sussex. Elsie is a director of JustGhana Ltd, promoting sustainable investment and good governance in Ghana - specialising in architecture, arts and STEM education for Ghana’s disadvantaged children and young people, facing challenges of climate change. In 2003, she was honoured by the Queen for services to architecture as Founding Chair of the Society of Black Architects.

“This year our work in Ghana will focus on environmental education for children and young people from urban and rural communities affected by the effects of the climate change in Ghana.”
SARA TELAHOUN

BASED: BRISTOL
ORGANISATION: ANTHESIS GROUP

Sara is an experienced climate change consultant with a background in greenhouse gas emissions accounting for local authorities and cities. In her current role, Sara supports local authorities in the UK in developing their strategies to respond to the climate emergency, through running workshops, engaging key local stakeholders, reporting and recommendations. Sara currently sits on Bristol City Council’s ‘One City’ Environmental Sustainability Board, advising the council on methods to accelerate action towards the city’s goals including reaching zero emissions by 2030. She is also a mentor through the Catalyse Change programme, where she actively supports marginalised young women and girls interested in sustainability to get the confidence to succeed in their career paths.

“My work focuses on quantifying where local councils currently stand in terms of their emissions, how that fits into the climate change commitments the UK has, and helping them to plan what they need to do to avert the worst of the climate crisis. I help local authorities understand their responsibility and maximise their impact with their limited resources and different levels of influence.”
Simeran serves as the UK manager for CDP’s Cities, States and Regions Team. She supports cities in the UK to understand how disclosing their targets, emissions and actions will help monitor their progress towards achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement. She works with partners to help deliver tools to provide insight to local authorities on how they can accelerate climate action. Simeran is also a member of the Bristol Advisory Committee on Climate Change and Manchester’s Zero Carbon Advisory Group. She has supported an increase of 170% in the number of cities globally disclosing to CDP since 2015. Simeran has a Masters in Global Affairs from the University of Toronto.

“Over 250 local authorities across the UK have declared a climate emergency following the release of the IPCC 1.5 report, which called for urgent action to halve global emissions by 2030. To do this, these local authorities will need to focus their resources on the right actions and transparently track their progress. The climate crisis is, and will continue to impact the lives of people from multiple backgrounds and walks of life, which is why climate action must consider the wider social context to ensure we are brining every person along the transition towards a safe, and climate-secure world.”
Maria is a city and an urban place strategist, focusing on collaborative art, design, innovation, and funding models that are inclusive, equitable and environmentally progressive. She joined the Foundation for Future London from Living Space Project, the urban placemaking think tank consultancy that she founded. Maria also sits on governance boards of organisations and advisory groups which hold a strong place-led, culture, climate change and heritage focus.

She’s the author of the “must read” book, ‘The Place Making Factor’.

“"We all need to be committed to tackling climate change whether it's through philanthropy, music, science, arts, culture, innovation, school or community action. It’s equally important that whatever platform we use is committed to the principles of inclusion and equality.”
Daze Aghaji

Based: London
Organisation: Extinction Rebellion Youth

Daze is a freelance climate activist, speaker and a coordinator of Regenerative Culture at Extinction Rebellion Youth UK. She has been working in the field of social change since her first job working at Amnesty International. Since then, she has found her place in the social change movement, in the fight for climate justice and youth engagement in politics. Daze is best known for running for the European Parliament in May 2019, being the youngest person to run in an European Election. She works in collaboration with NGOs worldwide and speaks on topics like intersectionality, mental health and wellbeing, youth activism and climate justice. She has featured in Global PR campaigns like Patagonia’s Facing Extinction. Daze aims to aid marginalised people in acknowledging their agency and acting upon it.

“A lot of the time, ethnic minorities and young people aren’t truly represented. I will change that... I am not standing [for election] with my own views – I am standing as a vessel for everyone.”

Social Media:

Publications:
EMILY BOHOBO
N’DOMBAXE DOLA

BASED: BRIGHTON
ORGANISATION: YOUTH4NATURE

Emily is a member of youth-led climate organisations and international network, Youth4Nature. As a climate organiser, she focuses on advocacy and policy issues around agriculture and food systems, adaptation and resilience, and intersectionality and just transition.

“We know something is rotten within our world, hurting and screaming through us. Many people are taking action, although not simply due to fear or panic, but because of something more powerful: hope. Alarm and despair might dominate the rhetoric of climate activists and social justice organisers, but our ability and strength to push through these negative and distressing feelings comes from our belief in positive, transformative change. Sometimes consciously, often unconsciously.”
Jessica is a 16-year-old UK Student Climate Network (UKSCN) activist. She helps plan UKSCN's strikes and supports the international coordination and communications teams as well as raising awareness in making a case for a Green New Deal. She has recently started to help plan workshops on the links between race and the climate movement. Jessica's Nigerian heritage drives her desire and interest to educate people on how Climate change impacts People of Colour in the UK and in the Global South.

“We need to give people of colour a platform to contribute in the climate conversation. Our stories exist and are constantly overlooked. These are the perspectives we need to pay attention to.”
BASED: MANCHESTER

Lillia is a 10 year old from Oldham, Greater Manchester in the UK with an interest in nature and the environment. Lillia was inspired by the injustice of oil pipelines on indigenous land, the Earth Guardians Movement and Greta Thunberg leading her to begin striking regularly with Youth Strike Manchester and Fridays for Future from January 2019.

"From crops all the way to humans - we are all going to be affected by climate change. I am striking because we want to change the laws to make us more Climate friendly."
LOLA FAYOKUN

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: UK STUDENT CLIMATE NETWORK

Lola is an 18-year-old climate activist and Politics student at LSE. She is heavily involved in the UK Student Climate Network, the grassroots organisation which hosts the youth climate strikes in the UK. Her work here is focused on promoting anti-racism in the environmental movement and promoting the Green New Deal. She is also a Labour Party volunteer, organising as a Havering & Dagenham Young Labour’s Campaigns and Membership officer and as LSESU Labour Society’s BAME officer.

“We have a once in a lifetime opportunity to get this right. Right doesn’t just mean emissions reductions. Right means creating a new, prosperous world for all, one in which our economies have been restructured along social and environmental principles to ensure everyone has a good quality of life, no matter where in the world you were born. Right means taking responsibility, changing our ways, and acting out of solidarity, rather than for personal gain. Young people in the UK are leading the way with this call, we’re able to shout the loudest and it’s time those in positions of power start properly listening.”
Princess is an 18-year-old climate activist and Action for Conservation (AFC) youth trustee. She is extremely passionate about young people. Her interest in nature is rooted in her African heritage and particularly through her parents. This encouraged her to start volunteering in secondary school at the River Cray, where she cleared away plastic waste and built homes for wildlife. She became an AFC ambassador, gave speeches about nature and has made films about the plastic crisis. She is currently part of AFC’s Penpont project, the world’s first youth-led regeneration project.

“Young people are not just ‘the future leaders of tomorrow’, but we are the changemakers of today. And, if BAME voices aren’t heard in the climate crisis and the environmental sector today, then we compromise everyone’s tomorrow.”
YOUSSRA ELMAGBOUL

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: SOAS

Youssra is the Co-President of Equality & Liberation at SOAS Student Union. During her studies of Development Economics at SOAS, she gained a deeper understanding of the colonial legacy that still influences the world today. In her work, Youssra aims to facilitate marginalised groups to mobilise and act in resistance against ableism, sexism, racism, homophobia, transphobia or any other form of oppression. She is interested in advocating for Climate Justice in the context of racism, inequality and a decolonial lens.

“Climate Justice that does not acknowledge how we got to this crisis point and who the main actors and contributors have been, is not justice at all but a continuation of the destructive forces that have brought us to this point.”
ZAMZAM IBRAHIM

BASED: MANCHESTER
ORGANISATION: N.U.S

Zamzam is a Swedish born, British student activist and the current President of the National Union of Students in the UK. Over the years, she has campaigned and pioneered work on building global alliances for climate justice, anti-racism and gender equality. As the daughter of refugees, she has campaigned for years on improving the rights of refugees and asylum seekers with an emphasis on pivoting her work around climate justice by shifting the focus of the work on climate change in NGOs to look at its impact on the Global South. Through this work, she’s worked in partnership with school-strikers and campaigners across the world, uniting students in a vision for a just and sustainable world. She has addressed a wide range of conferences around the world where young people and students come together to try and solve the problems of our time.

“At a time of political turmoil across the globe, the climate crisis at our door and more human rights violations coming to light. I believe the hope of a greater tomorrow lies in the hands of us young people.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS:
If you’re interested in obtaining a copy of this publication with the contact information of the climate advocates and experts included, please email Aisha at aisha@docsociety.org.
Climate Reframe was initiated by the people behind Mary Robinson's feminist climate podcast Mothers of Invention at Doc Society in London with the input of researchers, campaigners and activists in the climate community (thank you all).

For Doc Society, Aisha Younis (now a full time MA Environmental student at Sussex University) has led alongside our climate justice consultant, Suzanne Dhaliwal. Thanks to everyone who contributed their time and ideas to put the list together.

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Design by Involved.

Thanks to you for reading and to everyone who will help get this PDF into circulation.

WHAT NEXT?
Climate Reframe is intended as a community project to be shared and is open ended to ensure we can continue to build this community of experts. If you or your organisation is interested in helping take the work forward, please get in touch.

Follow the #CLIMATEREFERENCE conversation on Mothers of Invention's social media:
CLIMATE REFRAME
Amplifying BAME Voices in the UK Environmental Movement