NEED A CLIMATE EXPERT?
THINK REFRAME.

YOUR GUIDE TO SOME OF THE BEST BLACK, BROWN, ASIAN, PEOPLE OF COLOUR AND UK BASED INDIGENOUS PEOPLES FROM GLOBAL SOUTH WHO ARE CLIMATE EXPERTS, CAMPAIGNERS AND ADVOCATES LIVING AND WORKING IN THE UK.

CLIMATE REFRAME

ENTER →
Do you need a climate or environmental expert? Are you in the media or organising climate conversations at national or international events?

Is the lack of diversity, support and resources hampering your work? Are you looking for your community?

This is your guide to some of the best UK-based black, brown, asian, people of colour indigenous peoples from the Global South, who are climate and environmental experts, campaigners and advocates.

Join Reframe and become part of a connected community of climate allies from Campaigners to Business Entrepreneurs, Legal and Policy Experts, Scientists to Architects, Youth Activists to Philanthropy, all from racialized communities based in the UK. For networking, training, mentorship, well-being and camaraderie - this is your home.
The climate and environment movement is predominantly white and its lack of diversity hampers climate action. To help redress this imbalance, Climate Reframe was launched in 2019 as a list of 100 UK based environmental and climate justice activists, experts and advocates from racialized minority backgrounds.

The list was intended to help make it easier for the media and those working in the climate and environment movement to find climate experts from diverse backgrounds. Since launch, many Reframers have benefitted from more local, national and international media exposure and Reframe itself has provided media training opportunities and support for its members.

The idea of the Reframe list is simple and it has worked. And this is important in dismantling bias and institutional racism that results in a climate movement that is skewed and imbalanced with media and funding opportunities continuing to go to mainly male and white-led organisations. Climate Reframe is about challenging and changing this reality but it is also about so much more.

Climate Reframe is committed to supporting the climate and environment movement in its transformation towards greater justice, equity, diversity and inclusion (JEDI). Climate Reframe will do this by modelling a more intersectional, intergenerational and equity-focused movement.

We are building a community that is testing and piloting some of the best ideas for what an intersectional, wellbeing and solidarity-based society could look like. We do this by having regular retreats and workshops for our members who want safe spaces to take forward their visionary ideas.

We are here to champion and support the work of many of our racialised experts including facilitating their participation in UN and national climate conferences, by organising media training, hosting community film screenings, learning spaces and much more. This is a networked space for community building, for healing, for allyship.
Please email us on hello@involveddesign.com and admin@climatereframe.org if your image is being used and we will update image credits accordingly.

CATEGORIES:

- ACADEMICS & EDUCATION
- ACTIVISTS & CAMPAIGNERS
- BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURS
- CHARITIES & PHILANTHROPISTS
- COMMUNITY ORGANISERS
- CULTURAL CREATIVES
- DECOLONISING MOVEMENTS & DIASPORAS
- ENVIRONMENTALISM & WELLBEING
- GOVERNMENT & LOCAL AUTHORITIES
- JOURNALISTS & WRITERS
- LEGAL EXPERTS
- POLICY EXPERTS
- SCIENTISTS & TECHNOLOGISTS
- URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN
- YOUTH ACTIVISTS

ABOUT CLIMATE REFRAME ➔

ALL SPEAKERS BY NAME ➔

CONTACT ➔
ALL SPEAKERS BY NAME:

1. Aditi Shah
2. Adnan Raja
3. Afshleen Rashid Kabir MBE
4. Ahlyah Ali
5. Aisha Stewart
6. Alexandra Wanjiku Kelbert
7. Ama Josephine Budge
8. Ana De Menezes
9. Angela Francis
10. Angela YT Chan
11. Anneka Deva
12. Anu Henriques
13. Anusha Shah FCE
14. Areeba Hamid
15. Aruna Chandrasekar
16. Arun Rao
17. Arwa Aburawa
18. Asad Rehman
19. Ashish Ghadiali
20. Augusta Senensie
21. Ayesha Tandon
22. Beatriz Lobo
23. Beth Collier
24. Binyam Yakob Gebreyes
25. Brianna Craft
26. Brianna Francis
27. Bryony Benge-Abbott
28. Chaitanya Kumar
29. Charise Johnson
30. Cleo Lake
31. Clive Lewis
32. Councillor Maroof Raouf
33. Dave Fuller
34. Daze Aghaji
35. Derek Bardowell
36. Dina Zayed
37. Dominique Palmer
38. Dorothy Grace Guerrero
39. Dr Amiera Sawa
40. Dr Husna Ahmad OBE
41. Dr Jaise Kuriakose
42. Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock MBE
43. Dr Miatta Fahnbuleh
44. Dr Miriam R. Aczel
45. Dr Mya Rose-Craig
46. Dr Sarabjaya Kumar
47. Elena Ng
48. Eli Manderson Evans
49. Elsie Owusu OBE
50. Emily Botobo N'Dombarxh Dola
51. Farah Ahmed
52. Farah Caswell
53. Farhana Yamin
54. Farihah Choudhury
55. Farzana Khan
56. Fatima Zahra-Ibrahim
57. Fehinti Balogun
58. Feimatta Conteh
59. Felipe Viveros
60. Francesca Fisher
61. Francisca Rockey
62. Hafsa Hafeji
63. Haroon Mota
64. Harpreet K Paul
65. Hirra Khan Adeogun
66. Ian Solomon-Kawall
67. Imaduddin Ahmed
68. Indy Johar
69. Isis Thompson
70. Janine Francois
71. Jasmine Ketibulah-Foley
72. Jessica June Ahmed
73. Jini Reddy
74. Jolly Oluka
75. Josina Calliste
76. Joycelyn Longdon
77. Juan del Gado
78. Judy Ling Wong OBE
79. Kamran Shehzad
80. Karen Larbi
81. Katie de Kauwe
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**Contact**

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ACADEMICS & EDUCATION

1. Ana De Menezes
2. Ashish Ghadiiali
3. Beatriz Lobo
4. Dr. Jaise Kuriakose
5. Imaduddin Ahmed
6. Joycelyn Longdon
7. Manish Joshi
8. Maxwell A. Ayamba
9. Professor Tahseen Jafry
10. Tasmin Alexander
11. Zarina Ahmad

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ANA DE MENEZES

BASED: LONDON

Ana holds an MSc Environmental Science from the University of East Anglia and an MSc Development Studies from the University of Antwerp. Prior to joining the LSE, she worked as a research assistant at UN-Habitat and as a trainee Programme Assistant at UNESCO.

Ana’s research focuses on health-related impacts of climate change. She is especially interested in the impact of mosquito-borne diseases on labour productivity. She received the 2018 LSE-IDB Postgraduate Essay Prize for her paper on climatic and non-climatic determinants of vector-borne diseases under climate change scenarios in Brazil.

“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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
Ashish is a filmmaker and activist who works for racial justice and environmental justice in diverse contexts. He is Strategic Advisor on Climate Justice at the University of Exeter’s Global Systems Institute, co-chair of the Black Atlantic Innovation Network at UCL for the Study of Racism and Racialisation and advisor to the Decolonisation and Representation Process at The Box in Plymouth. Ghadiali is the Co-Founder/Co-Director of Radical Ecology, a new CIC that works across culture, research and policy to build community and advance climate justice. He was also publisher of the 2019 Open Letter to XR and regularly contributes to The Guardian and Observer. Formerly, he was a member of the co-ordination committee of the COP26 civil society coalition and part of the team that set up the Freedom Theatre in Jenin Refugee Camp in 2006. More recent projects include the public gatherings Sensing the Planet (2021) and Equilibrium (2022), delivered in association with Serpentine, that have brought together notable and new decolonial thinkers, artists and activists.

“\nIt takes many people to effect a complete change in any system.”

John Coltrane
Beatriz is responsible for development and delivery of iniva's public programme working with artists and key partners to implement artistic production through research, radical art education, unlearning, and wellbeing practices. The curator is responsible for instilling a practice of care in building relationships with artists of African, Caribbean, Asian, Middle Eastern, Indigenous and Latin American descent and their communities.

SOCIAL MEDIA:

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“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.”
Dr. Imad Ahmed is a Climate Advisor at the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change where he is overseeing the institute’s programme to roll out embedded Climate Finance Advisors in counterpart governments in Africa.

He is an Honorary Research Fellow at UCL, a member of the Liberal International Climate Justice Committee and on the academic board of the Paddy Ashdown Forum, a member institution of the European Liberal Forum.

As a transactions advisor to the Government of Rwanda, he structured several firsts and contributed significantly to Rwanda’s 2016 Law on Governing Public Private Partnerships.

Dr. Imad has published thought pieces regarding women’s rights, the rule of law, identity, finance and macroeconomics, innovation, international development and climate change with major outlets including the Financial Times, The New York Times, The East African, Internationale Politik, Dawn (Pakistan), and GQ India. In 2021 he published a book on the nexus between climate change and hydropower in Zambia with Springer Nature.
JOYCELYN LONGDON

BASED: CAMBRIDGE
ORGANISATION: CLIMATEINCOLOUR & UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE (PHD RESEARCHER IN TECHNOLOGY AND CONSERVATION JUSTICE)

I am a Cambridge University PhD student and environmental advocate. My research takes an interdisciplinary approach, combining machine learning, bioacoustics and environmental justice to investigate the role of technology in forest conservation from a justice perspective. I am also the founder of ClimateInColour, an online education platform and community for the climate curious. Its purpose, to make climate conversation more accessible and diverse.
MANISH JOSHI

HE/HIM  
BASED: GLASGOW  
ORGANISATION: UNIVERSITY OF STRATHCLYDE STUDENTS’ ASSOCIATION (CEO)

With extensive experience in philanthropic and business sectors – at local, national and global levels – as well as experience in strategy, organisational design and governance and stakeholder management, Manish is currently the Chief Executive of the University of Strathclyde’s Student Union.

Manish graduated from Strathclyde University himself with a BA (Hons) in Economics. Previously he has held roles in which he has developed talent, fostered diversity and built high performing teams including as Chief Executive of Network Care and Director of Stakeholder Engagement at Global Call for Climate Action. Manish also has voluntary experience as he is currently a trustee of the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) and had served as an advisor to both COP26: Stop Climate Chaos Scotland and the European Climate Foundation: Movements Fund.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”
Nelson Mandela

SOCIAL MEDIA:  

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:  

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MAXWELL A. AYAMBA

BASED: SHEFFIELD
ORGANISATION: SHEFFIELD ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT (SEM) (FOUNDER/MANAGING DIRECTOR)

Maxwell is the Founder/Managing Director, Sheffield Environmental Movement. Currently PhD Research Student in Black Studies, Department of American & Canadian Studies, University of Nottingham, M4C/AHRC. He is an environmental journalist by profession, former Associate Lecturer/Research Associate, Sheffield Hallam University. Co-Founder, 100 Black Men Walk for Health Group which inspired the national play “Black Men Walking” in 2018.

First Black person to serve on the Board of the Ramblers Association UK. Named in 2021 one of the 70 most remarkable people in the history of the Peak District National Park since 1951. In 2021, Maxwell received the National Lottery Award in the Heritage category. He authored papers and chapters in books in relation to minoritised communities and the UK environment.

“The idea that sometimes people hold a core belief that is very strong and when they are presented with evidence that works against that belief, the new evidence cannot be accepted. It would create a feeling that is extremely uncomfortable called cognitive dissonance. And because it is so important to protect the core belief, they will rationalize, ignore, and even deny anything that does not fit in with the core belief.”

Frantz Fanon’s Cognitive Dissonance
“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.”

Professor 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.
Tasmin Alexander

SHE/HER
BASED: GLASGOW, LONDON
ORGANISATIONS: UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW (PHD
STUDENT POPULATION AND ECOSYSTEMS HEALTH)
REED ECOLOGICAL NETWORK (MEMBERSHIP OFFICER)

Tasmin is a PhD student focused on dog-mediated Rabies, using epidemiological modelling, social and economic approaches. Her PhD is funded by the James McCune Smith Scholarship at the University of Glasgow.

Tasmin is also the Membership Officer at the Racial and Ethnic Equality and Diversity (REED) Ecological Network. She has been a member of the Network since its conception and is passionate about increasing representation and opportunities for POC ecologists. Her role is dedicated to engagement with members - sharing opportunities related to jobs, volunteering, networking, up-skilling, socialising and resource support.

"Prejudice is a burden that confuses the past, threatens the future and renders the present inaccessible.”

Maya Angelou

SOCIAL MEDIA:
ZARINA AHMAD

BASED: KILMARNOCK
ORGANISATION: PHD RESEARCHER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

Zarina Ahmad is an award-winning PhD researcher at the University of Manchester, freelance community practitioner, activist and member of the ClimateXChange Directorate. She has been in the environmental sector for over ten years working predominantly on climate change and over seven years, focussing 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.”
ACTIVISTS & CAMPAIGNERS

1. Ahlyah Ali
2. Alexandra Wanjiku Kelbert
3. Asad Rehman
4. Fatima Zahra-Ibrahim
5. Judy Ling Wong OBE
6. Karen Larbi
7. Kumi Naidoo
8. Minnie Rahman
9. Nish Doshi
10. Rosamund Kissi-Debrah
11. Simmone Ahiaku
Ahlyah Ali

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY

Ahlyah is a British Muslim campaigning for climate justice and systems change. She previously worked at UK Youth Climate Coalition as a volunteer organiser for the 16th Global Conference of Youth (COY16) ahead of COP26. At Friends of the Earth, Ahlyah helped develop a Ramadan climate campaign and organise their first Youth Gathering, creating an inclusive environment to engage a diverse network of young climate activists. During this role, 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 a Publishing Assistant at the Royal Society of Chemistry.

“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.”
“The climate crisis isn’t only a crisis of carbon, it’s a crisis of poverty, inequality and injustice rooted in 500 years of exploitation of both people and the planet. We must uproot this system of racialised capitalism that sacrifices those who are black, brown, indigenous or poor in the relentless pursuit of profit. Build a movement of movements that connects our issues and demands to ensure that everyone has the right to live with dignity and in harmony with our planet.”

Asad Rehman is Executive Director of War on Want and a leading climate justice activist whose work has helped reframe the climate crisis as a crisis of neoliberalism, inequality and racism. Asad has led climate justice groups inside the UNFCCC, and was co-founder of the Global Campaign to Demand Climate Justice, is currently co-ordinator of the Global Green New Deal Project and was also one of the founders of the COP26 Coalition.

Over the last 35 years, he has worked with many social movements both globally and nationally including the anti-racist movement, the anti-globalisation movement and the anti-war movement.
FATIMA-ZAHRA IBRAHIM

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: CO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT GREEN NEW DEAL UK

Fatima 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.”

“ALSO WORKING WITHIN:
POLICY EXPERTS

SOCIAL MEDIA:  

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
Judy Ling Wong CBE OBE

SHE/HER
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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
Karen Larbi

SHE/HER
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: PURPOSE UNION (SENIOR ASSOCIATE)

Karen is a diversity, equity and inclusion advocate, social change trainer and public speaker. She was formerly a Trainer at Campaign Bootcamp, a charity dedicated to ensuring that people most impacted by injustice lead campaigns that affect them.

She is the Founder of POC In Nature, an online platform dedicated to helping people of colour explore the healing power of nature, environmental justice and land-honouring ancestral traditions. She is an England Advisory Committee Member at the RSPB, the UK’s largest nature conservation charity.

Karen is also a mental health advocate, formerly working at Rethink Mental Illness on a world-leading anti-stigma campaign, and is the Co-founder of Black Woman Heal United Kingdom, the UK chapter of an international movement to help Black women heal and reclaim their spirits, minds and bodies from the effects sexual abuse and violence.

“"We are called to assist the Earth to heal her wounds and in the process heal our own - indeed to embrace the whole of creation in all its diversity, beauty and wonder. Recognising that sustainable development, democracy and peace are indivisible is an idea whose time has come.”

Wangari Maathai

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
KUMI NAIDOO

BASED: UK / SOUTH AFRICA
ACTIVIST

Kumi Naidoo is a Black South African 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. At 15, he organised school boycotts against the apartheid educational system in South Africa and was eventually forced into exile in the United Kingdom until 1990. Naidoo returned to South Africa and was asked to lead the process to formally register the African National Congress as a political party. Kumi then served as the official spokesperson of the Independent Electoral Commission, the overseer of the country’s first democratic elections in April 1994. He is a senior advisor for the Community Arts Network and a special advisor to the Green Economy Coalition. He is professor of practice, Thunderbird School of Global Management at Arizona State University, and continues to serve as a global ambassador, Africans Rising for Justice, Peace and Dignity. Naidoo is a visiting fellow, Oxford University, and honorary fellow, Magdalen College. He is currently setting up the Riky Rick Foundation for the Promotion of Artivism in honour of his late son and rapper Riky Rick.

“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

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.

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

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
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.”

Please email us on hello@involveddesign.com and admin@climatereframe.org if your image is being used and we will update image credits accordingly.
Rosamund Kissi-Debrah

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: THE ELLA ROBERTA FAMILY FOUNDATION

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.

“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.”
SHE/HER  
BASED: LONDON  
ORGANISATION: NUS CAMPAIGNS & PROJECTS OFFICER (LIBERATION)

Simmone is an award-winning changemaker, campaigner, writer, facilitator and educator who has contributed to environmental, social and cultural work in Bristol, London and across the UK. She has worked on air pollution, divestment and climate justice campaigns and currently uses facilitated workshops to explore climate colonialism, and examples of climate resistance and movements from the past and present-day.

“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.”

Audre Lorde

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURS

1. Aisha Stewart
2. Dr Miatta Fahnbulleh
3. Naomi Alexander Naidoo
4. Nonhlanhla Makuyana
5. Rajiv Joshi
6. Safia Minney MBE
7. Samantha Moyo
8. Sandra Guzman
9. Sharlene Gandhi

CONTACT
Aisha Stewart

She/Her
Based: Bristol
Organisation: Business West (Net Zero Business Advisor)

Aisha is Net Zero Business Advisor at Business West, working with small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) across the South West on their decarbonisation journey. As part of her role, she delivers workshops to help businesses understand how to start their carbon reduction journey and provides tailored support to staff leading sustainability strategies within their organisation.

Alongside her job, Aisha sits on the Board for Bristol Energy Network, which is a membership organisation for community groups and individuals in Bristol with an interest in developing local energy projects and tackling fuel poverty.

She has a Bachelors of Environmental Studies from the University of Waterloo in Canada and completed a Certificate in Sustainability and Behaviour Change from the University of California San Diego.

“I’m grateful to have the opportunity to work in a sector that I’m passionate about. Meeting incredibly inspiring and passionate people through my work and volunteer experiences and at various events has been an important part of my journey. The change that we need for a low carbon future cannot be done on our own and opportunities to listen and learn from each other and collaborate are important for that transition.”

Social Media:

Publications & Links to Work:
Jolly is a R&D Principal Technologist at AVEVA. Prior to this, she was a 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. She 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."
Dr Miatta Fahnbulleh

Based: London
Organisation: New Economics Foundation (Chief Executive)

Miatta is the chief executive at the New Economics Foundation and a prospective parliamentary Labour candidate for Camberwell & Peckham. She has a wealth of experience in developing and delivering policy to empower communities and change people’s lives. Miatta has been at the forefront of generating new ideas on reshaping our economy inside government and out. Prior to joining NEF she was Director of Policy & Research at the Institute of Public Policy Research. Before this, she has worked at senior levels for the Leader of the Opposition, the Cabinet Office, and the Prime Minister’s Strategy Unit. Her work has included the development of policies from devolution to local economic growth, housing, energy and climate change and transport, driving forward the Government’s economic devolution agenda in England, and localism and local economic growth. Miatta has a Masters and PhD in economic development from the LSE and a BA in PPE from Oxford.

“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.”

Social Media:

Publications & Links to Work:
NAOMI ALEXANDER NAIDOO

BASED: LONDON

Naomi Alexander Naidoo is a community builder for systems change. She specialises in building networks, communities and communication strategies on social and environmental issues, including gender equality, climate justice, anti-racism and ethical finance, and particularly focuses on the intersection of technology and social justice. Most recently, she led movement building and partnerships at Chayn, a non-profit supporting survivors of abuse across borders. Naomi has an academic background in philosophy, with a focus on the ethics of climate change. She is a trustee of Kinning Park Complex, and an advisor to the Make My Money Matter pension campaign and Money Movers, a peer-learning project supporting women to take climate action with their personal finances.

“The 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.”
NONHLANHLA MAKUYANZA

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: DECOLONISING ECONOMICS (CO-FOUNDER)

Nonhlanhla is an educator, creative, and new economics organizer. They are the co-founder of Decolonising Economics, a grassroots collective working to build a new-economy movement that is rooted in racial justice and decolonial struggle. Nonhlanhla's work explores the “felt” and “lived” experiences of the economy, through organizing with environmental- and land-justice grassroot groups such as Wretched of the Earth and Land In Our Names, delivering experiential workshops and documenting the wonder that is the Black and Brown solidarity economics movements in the United Kingdom through film and writing.

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

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
RAJIV JOSHI

BASED: GLASGOW
ORGANISATION: ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR CLIMATE ACTION AT COLUMBIA CLIMATE SCHOOL

Rajiv Joshi is a community organiser, economist, and social entrepreneur working to bring about a regenerative future for all. He is the Associate Dean for Climate Action at Columbia Climate School, where he also supports the Center on Global Energy Policy and served as an Adjunct Scholar at Columbia’s School of International and Public Affairs.

Raj was invited to serve as a Lead Author of the Decisive Decade Inquiry into the Future of Climate Action, Commissioned by ex-UNFCCC Chief, Christiana Figueres – Convenor of the Mission 2020 campaign – together with Oxford University Said Business School where he served as an Executive in Residence. The Inquiry examines ways of driving large-scale collaboration for systems change in the face of a convergence of interconnected crises. He is the Founder of Bridging Ventures, a not for profit platform to broker partnerships, incubate initiatives and provide invaluable advice and content curation.

“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: DO THE GREEN THING

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.”
SAMANTHA MOYO

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: TAMUKA GLOBAL

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.”
SANDRA GUZMÁN

BASED: KENT
ORGANISATION: CLIMATE FINANCE GROUP FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (GFLAC) (FOUNDER)

Sandra is the founder of Climate Finance Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (GFLAC) which tracks and elaborates national strategies on climate finance flows and needs. She is the author of the Sustainable Finance Index and created other methodologies related to climate finance tracking. She has consulted on Climate Finance at the UNFCCC on the first report on the determination of the needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement. Sandra was also the former General Director of Climate Change Policies at the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Mexico. She holds a PhD in Politics from the University of York and an MA in Environment Policy and Regulation from the London School of Economics and Political Science. She was awarded ‘Intellectual of the Year’ in 2018 by Marie Claire Magazine and selected as one of the 34 ‘Global Change-Makers’ by the Chevening Scholarship of the UK Government.

SOCIAL MEDIA: 

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK: 
Sharlene Gandhi

Based: London

Sharlene is a journalist working at the intersection of business, work, technology and environmental sustainability. Currently, she is based in Toronto, Canada, where she works as a technology and data reporter for Future of Good, covering social impact work across Canada and beyond. Her research and data journalism have spanned a number of topics, including Indigenous land rights, agricultural justice, climate technologies, behavioural change in the context of environmental sustainability, and new organizational ownership models. She has been published by the likes of the Stanford Social Innovation Review, the Centre for Feminist Foreign Policy, gal-dem, Courier Media and Dazed, and has worked with IKEA, Social Enterprise UK, Global Action Plan, Rich Mix, Sustainability First and Universities UK on communicating about the environment to the general public. She is also currently the host of shado’s Bookshelf, a monthly social justice book club, where reading themes have covered Indigenous water rights and garment workers’ rights, among other topics. She has also had an essay on placemaking published in Nature is a Human Right, an anthology dedicated to increasing access to green space.

Social Media:

Publications & Links to Work:

“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.”
CHARITIES & PHILANTHROPISTS

1. Aditi Shah
2. Derek Bardowell
3. Dina Zayed
4. Dr Sarabjaya Kumar
5. Eli Manderson Evans
6. Farhana Yamin
7. Nalini Tarakeshwar
8. Natalie Armitage
9. Nicole Itano
10. Yasmin Ahammad
Aditi Shah

ORGANISATION: Impatience Earth
(DIRECTOR OF CLIMATE PHILANTHROPY)

Aditi is the Director of Climate Philanthropy at Impatience Earth where she helps donors become more confident in giving away their wealth to climate solutions. Prior to joining Impatience Earth, she worked at various social enterprises and nonprofits across food systems, social justice, and education sectors, with a focus on building out their operations and strategy. She also sits on the UK board of the Global Greengrants Fund.

She’s passionate about how we can use business as a force for social justice and environmental regeneration, with particular expertise in sustainable food systems and racial justice work.

“Sentiment without action is the ruin of the soul.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
Derek Bardowell is a writer, transformative coach, and CEO of Ten Years’ Time, a philanthropy education firm that helps ambitious donors and foundations to repair harm and rebalance power by resourcing racial and economic justice with care and confidence.

Derek advocates for reparations and works at the intersection of race, culture, and philanthropy. He has written for many publications and newspapers including The Times, The Guardian, Time Out, and British GQ, and contributed to anthologies such as The Weeklings: Revolution #1 and Black British Lives Matter.

After moving into the nonprofit sector, he directed award-winning youth programmes for the Stephen Lawrence Trust. From 2009 to 2019, Derek has been responsible for distributing over £150 million to good causes in 34 countries.


“Making a life, not making a living.”

Ella Baker
DINA ZAYED

BASED: LONDON / CAIRO, EGYPT
ORGANISATION: CLIMATE EMERGENCY COLLABORATION GROUP (PROGRAMME DIRECTOR)

Dina is an interdisciplinary social scientist, communicator, strategist, participatory facilitator, and researcher with nearly 15 years of experience working on the intersections of climate adaptation, participatory governance, and international development and climate policy and politics. Dina is a Programme Director at the Climate Emergency Collaboration Group (CECG), a philanthropic pooled fund established to accelerate multilateral climate action and support advocacy and movement building around the climate agenda. She is currently leading CECG’s work on climate adaptation, as well as equity and inclusion to support civil society and Global South participation in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Dina has held positions in and consulted for a range of research, advocacy, media, and international organizations, including the International Finance Corporation, UNWomen, the Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers, Reuters, 350.org, and the Arab League. She holds several degrees including a PhD in Development Studies from the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), an MSc in Environmental Change and Management from Oxford University.

"Climate change is a crisis of justice, and of political imagination and democracy. We cannot address any without addressing all. To challenge and confront systems of power that undergird the climate crisis across all scales, we need interdisciplinary thinking and intersectoral collaborations and alliances.”
Dr Sarabajaya Kumar is Director of Impatience Ltd and an Associate Professor in Voluntary & Non-Profit Sector Policy and Leadership at University College London (UCL). Her research interests are in Accountability, Governance, Ethical Leadership, and Equality. She has been working on social justice issues including gender and disability equity for the last three decades. She is keen to ensure that disabled people are included in the climate justice movement because currently there are tensions between disability activists and climate justice activists.
Eli Manderson Evans

HE/HIM 
BASED: LONDON, MANCHESTER 
ORGANISATION: BLAGRAVE TRUST (CEO)

Eli joined the Blagrave Trust as CEO in 2022 heading their mission to bring lasting change to the lives of young people; investing in them as powerful forces for change and acting upon their right to be heard in pursuit of a fair and just society. Eli previously worked as the Head of Social Justice at the philanthropy advisory organisation Ten Years’ Time. He also served as a strategic advisor at Impatience Earth. Eli was also a founding partner of the hyper local community climate project, Greener Together, based in the Alma Street neighbourhood in Stratford which has recently transitioned to community ownership. Eli is currently involved in a connected initiative, Grow Together which supports local authorities in London to resource community-led environmental change that addresses issues which matter to residents whilst building local capacity to address the climate crisis on their terms.

“You cannot have climate justice without racial justice. It isn’t justice if it doesn’t include everyone.”
Vanessa Nakate

SOCIAL MEDIA: 

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:

“Also working within: 
COMMUNITY ORGANISERS 
DECOLONISING MOVEMENTS & DIASPORAS”
Farhana is a climate lawyer, author and activist working with foundations. She is currently coordinating the Climate Justice & Just Transition Donor Collaborative which aims to try to shift power and resources to those on the frontlines. Farhana has three decades of experience providing legal and strategic advice to leaders of vulnerable nations on UN climate negotiations. As well as authoring numerous books and IPCC reports, she has played a key role in climate diplomacy and is widely regarded credited with getting the goal of net-zero emissions by 2050 into the landmark Paris Agreement. In April 2019, she glued herself to Shell’s London headquarters as part of Extinction Rebellion’s protests the fossil fuel industry’s lack of action. She is an Honorary Fellow of Somerville College, Oxford and Coordinator of Climate Reframe.

“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 & psychologial breakdown.”
NALINI TARAKESHWAR

SHE/HER
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: UBS OPTIMUS FOUNDATION (HEAD OF PROGRAMS AND MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING)

Nalini provides oversight and direction to our program and grant making strategy in health, education, child protection and climate/environment. I have been working in private philanthropy for over 15 years, following my academic career in psychology and public health.

“No mud, No Lotus.”
Thich Nhat Hanh
Natalie Armitage

She/Her
Location: London
Organisation: The Blagrave Trust (Policy and Climate Manager)

Recovering from the world of international Human Rights – Natalie went on to work for Black and racially minoritised communities in the UK including UK Black Pride, The Ubele Initiative and lately, an organisation in Jamaica called Regeneration Foundation. Natalie is a wellness practitioner that now works for Blagrave Trust, looking at ways to get funding to BIPOC Climate Justice Activists.

“Extractivism of earth and humans is fundamental part of the Colonial Project of Europe over the world. The first step towards regeneration is to replenish those who are over extracted from, in turn the earth.”

Publications & Links to Work:
Nicole is a communicator and campaigner, working to ensure a just and equitable transition to a post-fossil fuel future. Originally born in the United States, she is an immigrant to the UK and now a proud Londoner and global citizen. After a decade in international journalism, reporting from 50 countries for many of the world’s leading media outlets, Nicole held a number of leadership roles in international non-profits. She was Director of Media and Content at WWF-UK, where she led global media outreach for the Our Planet project, and Head of Creative at Save the Children UK. Nicole is now working in climate change philanthropy, supporting innovative campaigning and communications for solutions that meet climate and social priorities. She is specifically working to support impacted communities tell their own stories and promote their own solutions.

“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.”
YASMIN AHAMMAD

She/Her
Based: London
Organisation: Impatience Earth (Co-Managing Director)

Yasmin is co-Managing Director at Impatience Earth, where she educates philanthropic donors about climate change, particularly the importance of viewing the climate crisis through a justice lens. As a Brit with joint Bangladeshi and Filipino heritage, she developed an acute awareness of the climate crisis from a young age. She has lived in Mexico, Bangladesh, Singapore and Thailand, spending almost a decade working in the latter. She has worked in solidarity with indigenous and Burmese migrants and refugees on the Thailand-Myanmar border, and grassroots movements across Asia fighting for land rights, trade justice, climate justice and food sovereignty through Focus on the Global South, an activist think-tank headquartered in Bangkok.

“Action is the antidote to despair.”
Joan Baez
COMMUNITY ORGANISERS

1. Anneka Deva
2. Farzana Khan
3. Jolly Oluka
4. Kamran Shehzad
5. Kennedy Walker
6. Kwesia X
7. Rakesh Prashara
8. Saif Osmani
9. Samia Dumbuya
10. Sana Yusuf
11. Sunita Ramani
Anneka Deva leads Money Movers, a movement of women taking climate action by moving their personal finances, through the power of peer-support. Money Movers’ goal is to empower 30,000 women to move £1billion for the planet. Anneka is also Partnerships Director at Huddlecraft, specialists in peer-powered approaches to learning and change. She has previously worked for The Advocacy Academy and the University of Birmingham, and she founded TEDxBrum in Birmingham.

Anneka also hosts gatherings for womxn who care about climate justice in Birmingham, and is working on creating alternative organising spaces for people who haven’t yet found a welcoming home in climate movements.

“I believe it’s essential for all of us to find our place within the climate movement, no matter who we are, how much we know, or where we are starting from.”

SHE/HER
BASED: BIRMINGHAM
ORGANISATION: MONEY MOVERS (DIRECTOR)
Farzana is the co-founder and Executive Co-Director of Healing Justice Ldn. Her practice works on building community health, repair and self-transformation rooted in disability justice, survivor work and trauma-informed practice working with communities of colour and other marginalised and underrepresented groups. Farzana has over 10 years of background in Youth and Community work particularly focused on arts-based education projects both in the UK and internationally. Farzana is the former creative and strategic director at Voices that Shake, bringing together young people, artists and campaigners to develop creative responses to social injustice. She ran this working at Platform London, a climate and social justice organisation working across arts, education, research and activism. Farzana is a trustee of International Curatorial Forum and Stuart Hall Foundation. She also sits on the advisory board of Kids of Colour.

“"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 ‘notions of whose bodies are considered valuable, desirable and disposable’.”"
KAMRAN SHEHZAD

BASED: BIRMINGHAM

FAITH INSPIRED SOCIAL & CLIMATE JUSTICE ACTIVIST

Kamran is a grassroots community organiser and activist, Kamran works with a number of organisations including Faith for the Climate, Faith for Earth (United Nations Environment Programme), the Bahu Trust and the Islamic Foundation for Ecology & Environmental Sciences.

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 has developed a number of faith inspired community toolkits, video messaging campaigns and resources to promote sustainability and positive environmental behaviour for faith communities.

A ‘chartered environmentalist’ and a full member of the Institute for Environmental Management & Assessment (IEMA). Kamran served on the Civil Society & Youth Advisory Council to the Presidency of COP26 and has recently been appointed to the Multi-Faith Advisory Council to the United Nations Interagency Task Force on Religion and Sustainable Development (UN IATF).

“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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
Kennedy is a campaigner and trainer who first came into activism through grassroots organising in London. They worked on a breadth of issues including trade justice, community land ownership, migration and climate. In 2020, they started coaching younger campaigners and co-founded black activist and organiser network, KIN. Currently, Kennedy offer trainings and workshops in movement building, facilitation, framing and messaging and campaign strategy.

"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."
Kwesia, from Deptford, is the founder of City Girl in Nature.

Once homeless and struggling with her mental health, Kwesia was presented with an opportunity of a lifetime to join a three week expedition with the British Exploring Society to a Peruvian Amazon Rainforest. There, she experienced the beauty of nature, where there was no judgement, just life teeming with energy and opportunity and bonds of friendship and loyalty with strangers who had to discover ways to live and work together in order to be successful.

Upon her return, City Girl in Nature was born from Kwesia’s desire to give back to her community and share her love and passion for the outdoors, and belief that everybody should have the chance to be healed, to be nourished, and to live abundantly.

“I want to give back by promoting my passion and love for nature to engage young, vulnerable people in inner cities.”

Based: South East London
Organisation: City Girl in Nature (Founder)
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 now works for Tipping Point UK as the Regional Organiser for the North East of England supporting grassroots groups and providing a platform for more diverse voices to be heard within the Climate movement.

“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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Bars
SAIF OSMANI

HE/HIM
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: BETHNAL GREEN NATURE RESERVE (TRUSTEE)

Saif became an activist by accident and now has 20 years of experience. His knowledge was gained by working on local campaigns that affected embedded communities, from saving street markets, BAME community spaces, housing estates and small businesses.

His parents come from Bangladesh, a green country with resources that’s also plagued with ecological disasters while striving for economic success.

As an artist and architectural designer, Saif often addresses the issues affecting the communities around him from the topics or projects he chooses. Saif believes it’s vital to give people license to express their views so that they do not feel hopeless against larger forces.

“Stop acting so small. You are the universe in ecstatic motion.”

Rumi

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
SAMIA DUMBUYA

SHE/THEY
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: SEIZE THE VOTE (CO-FOUNDER)

Samia is a community organiser, facilitator and events producer. They are a climate justice activist with a deep interest in engaging communities by exploring and building collective tools to create change. Their main focus is creating and designing spaces and toolkits for climate conversations to develop into climate action. Samia mainly works with youth networks and has recently started to work for consulting firms that wish to integrate climate action into their work. They are the Communications Lead for The Resilience Project, a youth-led project that aims to equip young people with navigating their eco-anxiety. They are also the co-founder of Seize the Vote, a community organisation that encourages underrepresented youth to engage in political debate and forums. They have experience working with Friends of the Earth Europe and Change.org as a campaigner and a Climate justice and energy campaigner. Overall, they aim to strengthen community cohesion and action by ensuring these spaces are authentically inclusive and represent the realities we all live in.

“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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:

VOLUME-UP
SHE/THEY
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: SEIZE THE VOTE (CO-FOUNDER)
SANA YUSUF

SHE/HER
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: FRIENDS OF THE EARTH (CLIMATE CAMPAIGNER)

Sana Yusuf is a climate campaigner at Friends of the Earth England, Wales and NI. She is currently working on FOE’s Warm Homes campaign.

“The earth is not dying, it is being killed, and those who are killing it have names and addresses.”

Utah Phillips
SUNITA RAMANI

SHE/HER
BASED: BRISTOL
ORGANISATION: GREENHOUSE COMMUNICATIONS (ACCOUNT MANAGER)

As an Account Manager at Greenhouse Communications, Sunita leads on campaign strategy, media and digital activation and day-to-day account management to support businesses, organisations and activists working to drive positive environmental change across a range of sectors, including food systems, air pollution, education, and conservation.

Sunita brings her background in grassroots climate campaigning to inject alternative, activist approaches to communications projects, and always seeks to tell the stories of marginalised voices most affected by the climate and biodiversity crises.

“"The only dream worth having is to dream that you will live while you are alive, and die only when you are dead. To love, to be loved. To never forget your own insignificance. To never get used to the unspeakable violence and vulgar disparity of the life around you. To seek joy in the saddest places. To pursue beauty to its lair. To never simplify what is complicated or complicate what is simple. To respect strength, never power. Above all to watch. To try and understand. To never look away. And never, never to forget.”
Arundhati Roy
CULTURAL CREATIVES

1. Adnan Raja
2. Angela YT Chan
3. Bryony Benge-Abbott
4. Elena Ng
5. Farah Ahmed
6. Fehinti Balogun
7. Feimatta Conteh
8. Isis Thompson
9. Janine Francois
10. Jasmine Ketibulah-Foley
11. Juan del Gado
12. Kooj Chuhan
13. Leah Borromeo
14. Louis VI
15. Marwa Ali
16. Rabia Begum
17. Sai Murray
18. Tanya Ramsurrun
19. Thimali Kodikara

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ABOUT CLIMATE REFRAME ➔ ALL SPEAKERS BY NAME ➔ CONTACT ➔
ADNAN RAJA

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: MEDFEST

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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
Angela YT Chan is an independent researcher, curator and artist specialising in climate change. Her work examines climate narratives as a starting point to question how power influences the unjust realities of climate change. Experimenting with video work, conversations, illustrations, writing, curation, organic materials and data science, she is interested in people and climate justice centred approaches. Angela often considers the timelines of climate change, and how we live in overlapping unfinished histories – legacies and futures – shaped by systems of people, technologies and environmental ecologies. Her recent research-art commissions span climate framings, speculative fiction, water scarcity and conflict, and has held residencies with Arts Catalyst, FACT/Jerwood Arts, Sonic Acts, Abandon Normal Devices and more. Angela has produced curatorial projects and workshops as Worm: art + ecology (2014–2021), and continues to collaborate with artists, activists and youth groups under her own name. She co-directs the London Science Fiction Research Community. She is a visiting lecturer at art schools and is also a research consultant, having worked in international climate and cultural policy (UNCOP26) and on climate and sustainability projects for major cultural institutions. Angela has recently trained in data science and works expansively and interdisciplinarily across climate investigations.

“Counter-narratives against dominant systems that we investigate, storytell and act on all strengthen our fight towards climate justice.”

Angela YT Chan

SHE/HER
BASED: LONDON, NOTTINGHAM
INDEPENDENT RESEARCHER, CURATOR AND ARTIST
SPECIALISING IN CLIMATE CHANGE
BRYONY BENGEB-ABBOTT

SHE/HER
ARTIST AND CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Bryony is a British-Trinidadian artist and creative director whose practice explores diverse ways of perceiving the natural world, building on a professional background in public engagement with contemporary science and social history.

Working within an ecocentric and decolonial framework, her practice moves between public realm installations developed in collaboration with academics, artists and activists to studio painting with creative writing. She is particularly interested in ecocentrism and embodied ecology, experimenting with different ways to create environments and experiences that illuminate human-nature interconnectedness and strengthen feelings of kinship.

“Violence comes from being outside nature.”
Jay Griffiths, Wild

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
ELENA NG

SHE/HER
BASED: NORWICH
ORGANISATION: EYE FILM AND TV (DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE AND PRODUCTION), ROYAL TELEVISION SOCIETY

Elena is an Entrepreneur and a Senior Event & Marketing producer, with over a decade of international experience, working in Asia, Middle East and UK. She is actively involved in creating tv and movie productions, that focuses on the environmental impact from science development, food production, fashion and agriculture. Telling the real stories, from real people to inspire others.

With her passion and entrepreneurial mindset, Elena is looking to spread awareness about climate change in the community, by bridging the gap between traditional and new generation media.

"You Is Kind, You Is Smart, You Is Important."
The Help (2011) - IMDb

SOCIAL MEDIA:

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Farah Ahmed is the Climate Justice Lead at Julie’s Bicycle. She manages the Creative Climate Justice programme; developing resources, training and advocacy for the cultural sector; and connecting environmental, racial and social justice with creative activism. She leads on the development of the Creative Climate Justice Hub, a library of climate justice resources for the arts and culture sector; and The Colour Green Lab, a free environmental training programme for POC in the arts.

Their interests lie in how art and culture can centre stories and solutions from the frontlines of climate impacts, and how we can imagine and enact anti-colonial and anti-capitalist ways of being. Farah believes in the power of building a cultural movement for climate justice which is accessible, radical, well informed, and grounded in deep care for the human and non-human world.

Farah is also on a number of advisory boards, focusing on grassroots-led creative and civic action for climate justice.

“Standing up for climate justice is not a choice, especially for POC around the world who are feeling the impacts of the crisis first hand. We need to respond with creativity, with courage, and with the knowledge that we are part of a deep and intricate collective ecology. We must fight, and we must win.”

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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."
Feimatta is the Environmental Sustainability Manager for Factory International. She leads on development and delivery of a holistic strategy that embeds best practice in environmental sustainability as a core principle for the organisation. She advises and work with all teams to integrate environmental sustainability into their work.

She is a trustee of Artsadmin and Invisible Dust, a facilitator of the GMAST network which brings together the cultural and creative community across Greater Manchester to address the climate and ecological crisis and she sits on the advisory committee for the Theatre Green Book.

Feimatta has worked across sustainability, technology development, digital culture and the arts for over 15 years, for organisations including the LSE, Arcola Theatre, Arcola Energy and FutureEverything. Outside of work, Feimatta is deeply involved with an educational children's camping charity – she enjoys building communities and helping young people interact with nature.
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

Jasmine is a broadcast journalist and presenter on BBC1 Extra. Previously, she co-hosted Ujima Radio’s Black & Green Futures, a show focusing on community action on environmental issues in Bristol and beyond. Jasmine is also a 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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
Juan Delgado

HE/HIM
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: QISETNA (CREATIVE PRODUCER)

Juan is a moving image artist working on social art projects. He examines the lived experience of humans facing forced migration due to war, climate, and colonisation.

“The truth about climate justice does not require just thinking about climate science; it requires action in any area of our daily life. As a moving image artist, my current practice aims to engage with local communities in the Arctic circle and those impacted by a climate shift and deep adaptation”
Kooj is a digital artist, filmmaker, creative producer, director of Crossing Footprints, consultant for Oldham Libraries and a member of Manchester Art Gallery’s Climate Justice Group. He founded artist collective, Virtual Migrants, which delivered the ‘Climate Justice, Science and Refugees’ project and ‘Continent Chop Chop’ trans-media performance. Kooj created the ‘Buy This’ installation of refugee voices, the interactive climate piece ‘Chamada From Chico Mendes’ and ‘Footprint Modulation’ climate migration exhibition. Crossing Footprints have been running Climate Connections in Oldham strengthening the voice of migrant and low income communities. We facilitate creative climate activism within groups such as Ayna Bangladeshi theatre and African arts group Amani Creatives.

KOOJ CHUHAN

BASED: MANCHESTER
ORGANISATION: CROSSING FOOTPRINTS AND VIRTUAL MIGRANTS

“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?”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:

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LEAH BORROMEO

SHE/THEY
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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
Louis VI

BASED: LONDON

Louis is a music artist, rapper and Zoology graduate. 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.

Louis released his 2023 album Earthlings, by the Guardian and 'Mixing Amazonian rainstorms, British birdsong and uncomfortable truths on the climate crisis, the London rapper-producer’s richly musical work moves up a gear’.

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 its 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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
Marwa is an illustrator and writer who explores strong themes of love, being and nature within her artforms. Most recently Marwa worked in Norway for Child’s press. A worldwide journalism organisation where she took on the role of encouraging, supporting and developing young voices. She worked throughout Arendalsuka, the biggest geopolitical festival in the country, where she held one-one workshops with all children in order to implement educational change such as a love-based curriculum and outdoor nature learning. Marwa also indulges in spoken word. Leading from the heart, her performances of playful imagination provide perspectives towards a more vulnerable, liberating and giving world.
Rabia is a student, visual artist, and climate change activist based in Liverpool and Manchester. She has co-curated the Climate Justice Gallery at Manchester Art Gallery and showcased a piece on behalf of Museum Association on Museums for Climate Justice.

She has sat on the Manchester Climate Change Youth Board and spoke at nation-wide events such as: Ripples of Hope Festival on Environment and The Planet with local and international activists and local MP’s. Rabia has spoken on BBC Politics North-West together to discuss Net Zero Climate and at Manchester Histories Festival: ‘Climate Change is a Race & Migration Issue’ panel by Crossing Footprints.

Rabia has worked on several projects with young people in Manchester. Some examples include hosting environmental workshops with families seeking refuge and asylum, hosting workshops and installations at libraries across Greater Manchester, worked as a Youth Co-Researcher, and worked with various national organisations such as Local Alternatives and Crossing Footprints.

“When we look back, I want to know that I did something (however big or small that may be) to help make a change. We are guardians of this planet and this is our home. It is our duty to look after it, each other and ourselves.”

RABIA BEGUM
SHE/HER
BASED: MANCHESTER
FREELANCE ARTIST

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CULTURAL CREATIVES

SAI MURRAY

HE/HIM
BASED: LEEDS
ORGANISATION: RACIAL JUSTICE NETWORK, PARCOE,
VOICES THAT SHAKE!

Sai is a writer, poet, performance and graphic artist. His art
addresses issues of self, societal and ecological repair. He is a
founding artistic director of youth arts education initiative Voices
that Shake!; a founding member of the Racial Justice Network’s Race
and Climate collective; an organising member of PARCOE (the
PanAfrikan Reparations Coalition in Europe) and a member of Virtual
Migrants. Poetry/ theatrical commissions have included: the Black
Cultural Activism Map; Continent Chop Chop; Weatherfronts: Writing
Climate Change; Action Saro-Wiwa: The Ogoni 9 Living Memorial;
Re–Membering: A Creative Journey to Wholeness; C Words: Culture,
Carbon, Climate, Capital. Sai’s first poetry collection, Ad-liberation
(“Social commentary at its best…”, The Jamaica Gleaner), and his
novella, is published by Peepal Tree Press.

“How far is this journey for us?
To return to the origin of things?

To return to a time
Before monocrops of concrete
And glass
Punched skyward,
Fertilised by Afrikan blood.

This journey begins
with libation
A baptism
Of water, Fire. Burning free.
Remoulding. Rising again.”

From ‘Return’ – poem
commissioned by Platform
London to mark the journey
of Sokari Douglas-Camp’s
Battle Bus (the Living
Memorial to Ken Saro-Wiwa
and the Ogoni 8) to Nigeria.

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS
& LINKS TO WORK:

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also working within:

JOURNALISTS & WRITERS

bars
TANYA RAMSURRUN

BASED: LONDON
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?’
Thimali Kodikara

SHE/HER
BASED: NEW YORK CITY / LONDON
ORGANISATION: MOTHERS OF INVENTION PODCAST
(SERIES PRODUCER & HOST)

Thimali is series producer and co-host of the groundbreaking podcast, Mothers Of Invention, highlighting feminist solutions to the climate crisis around the world. Using humour and creative storytelling, she co-hosts the show alongside former Irish president and chair of The Elders, Mary Robinson and comedian, Maeve Higgins.

Thimali has spoken on climate justice and climate media across the US & Europe, including COP26 in Glasgow. In her commitment to ensuring climate narratives in mainstream media, Thimali has advised albert [BAFTA], All3Media, Good Energy Project, and was twice invited to judge the Edinburgh TV Awards “Climate Impact Award” having helped develop its criteria. Additionally, Thimali judged the Willy Brandt Documentary Film Award for Freedom & Human Rights at the Berlin Human Rights Film Festival, as well as EarthXFilm Festival where she presented Oscar-winning documentary, My Octopus Teacher, its first major prize.

Thimali has been recognised by The New York Times, Columbia Journalism Review and the BBC for her innovations in climate storytelling.

“People will protect what they can relate to.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
DECOLONISING MOVEMENTS & DIASPORAS

1. Areeba Hamid
2. Farihah Choudhury
3. Felipe Viveros
4. Franceska Fisher
5. Tatiana Garavito
6. Yasmin Begum
7. Josina Calliste

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Areeba studied political science and development in India and worked for the Economic & Political Weekly before starting at Greenpeace India as a campaigner. From 2006–2020 Areeba worked across campaigns and geopolitical contexts, at senior levels in several Greenpeace offices around the world. She campaigned on issues like marine conservation, coal expansion in India, rainforest destruction in Indonesia, and tar sands in Canada and North America. In 2020, Areeba joined The Sunrise Project to lead their Global Finance program aimed at getting big financial institutions to get out of backing fossil fuels.

Greenpeace UK appointed Areeba as their Executive Director, alongside Will McCallum in 2022. Born in India, she will be the first woman and first person of colour to lead Greenpeace in the UK.

“There is no thing as a single-issue struggle because we do not live single-issue lives.”

– Audre Lorde
Farihah Choudhury

SHE/HER
BASED: HAMPSHIRE
ORGANISATION: HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITIONIST)

Farihah is a public health nutritionist, working to achieve food justice and better food systems. She is a British-Bangladeshi climate activist championing fair fashion, green travel and all things sustainable food. Farihah works in local government and is a freelance consultant, writer, content creator and speaker.

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
Felipe is a British-Chilean multi-media artist, independent researcher and strategist. Felipe's work focuses on the intersection of transition design, on-line organising, storytelling and systems change. He helped to co-found Choose Earth, an indigenous led storytelling platform and has served as the European representative of the GNH Centre Bhutan, the board Chair of / The Rules and at the Sacred Head Waters Initiative. Felipe holds an MsC from Schumacher College and is a member of the UN Harmony with Nature initiative.
FRANCESKA FISHER

SHE/HER
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: STUDENT ORGANISING SUSTAINABILITY (SOS-UK)

Franceska is a project coordinator for inclusion & climate justice at SOS-UK. Her work revolves alot around The RACE Report which is to push diversity and inclusion within the environmental sector. She also had the pleasure of hosting the “If You Don’t Know” podcast on BBC1Xtra, where she spoke on being black and working in the environmental sector. Franceska also spends her spare time working with a local charity - Voyage Youth - who lead and mentor black young people into positive progress.
Climate reparations acknowledges that ways of trading, our relationships to one another and the natural world, and our social relationships all changed irrevocably under colonialism. These histories set us on a trajectory that led to colonisers both being responsible for the devastation wrought by brutal colonial practices like slavery, and disproportionately for the greenhouse gas emissions driving unprecedented floods, storms, droughts, disease spread and more. At its core, climate reparations is about coming together to imagine how to repair these injustices and how we can nurture the worlds of care and repair.

Tatiana is an organiser and facilitator with over ten years experience of working on issues around race, migration and climate justice. She has led strategy development processes for social justice organisations, facilitated work exploring liberation, and delivered training on movement building across the UK and in Europe. She currently leads the Care & Repair work at Tipping Point UK; an organisation supporting grassroots groups build their power and organise bold and regular action together for systems change.

Tatiana Garavito
SHE/HER
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: TIPPING POINT UK (CARE & REPAIR LEAD)

“Climate reparations acknowledges that ways of trading, our relationships to one another and the natural world, and our social relationships all changed irrevocably under colonialism. These histories set us on a trajectory that led to colonisers both being responsible for the devastation wrought by brutal colonial practices like slavery, and disproportionately for the greenhouse gas emissions driving unprecedented floods, storms, droughts, disease spread and more. At its core, climate reparations is about coming together to imagine how to repair these injustices and how we can nurture the worlds of care and repair.”
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, 'Dadgoloneddo'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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:

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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."
ENVIROMENTALISM & WELL-BEING

1. Beth Collier
2. Daze Aghaji
3. Francisca Rockey
4. Hafsah Hafeji
5. Haroon Mota
6. Ian Solomon-Kawall
7. Nazia Sultana
8. Patrick Aryee
9. Shaira Begum
10. Tina Gandhi
11. Zunaira Malik

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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.”

BETH COLLIER

BASED: LONDON

“Social Media:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:

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Daze Aghaji is a London based Youth Climate Justice Activist who focuses on Regenerative Cultures, Intersectionality, Radical Social Justice and Youth Political Engagement in her work. Described by The Guardian as “a ball of energy, conviction and warmth”, Daze’s advocacy for radical systemic change has led her to work with many leading charities, institutions, governments and grassroots change-makers globally. Known best for her high profile political campaigning, she has sued her government, ran for election and lobbied institutions for meaningful change.

She is currently an Artist in Residence at Phytology, the Bethnal Green Nature Reserve, Artistic Environmental consultant at the Gate Theatre, Speaker as well as a Climate Justice Consultant working alongside global corporations and governments. Daze’s work is rooted in deep love, duty and care for all life; she continues to passionately organise with many grassroots campaigns and organisations for climate justice.

"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."

Photo credit: Talia Wooln

SHE/HEY
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: PHYTOLOGY

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:

Francisca is an award-winning geographer and campaigner who is regularly involved in social campaigns, and charity fundraising. She is also a writer and public speaker featured in mainstream and online media. In April 2020, Francisca founded Black Geographers, an online network supporting the next generation of black geographers and geoscientists. The network has grown to a community of 13k+ individuals and has collaborated with a wide range of organisations from Earth Minutes, Delta Simons, Esri UK, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and Hudl Youth Development Agency, Natural Environment Research Council to Birmingham University, and The Royal Geographical Society (with IG).

“Living in a utopia within your mind is good because you’re not just imagining what we live in now and the systems we live in now, the inequality we live with now - you’re actually thinking, ‘This is not the best it can be, it can be better’.”
Hafsah Hafeji

SHE/HER
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: SUSTAINABLY MUSLIM

Hafsah is a horticulturist working as an outdoor teacher and school gardener. She has worked in the industry for the past 3–4 years engaging inner-city young people with the natural world. Her work allows her to support a cause she has written and spoken about which is the lack of access to green spaces for BAME communities and the knock on effects this has on health and their relationship with the natural world. She believes nature education is one of the first steps in bridging that lack of access and aspires to work on making nature education an essential part of education. Hafsah has contributed to publications discussing access to green spaces such as ‘Radical Landscapes’ by Tate Liverpool as well as various magazines, worked with organisations such as ‘Nature is a Human Right’ and has also been a panellist on talks such as ‘How to make gardening accessible for all’.

“I believe that understanding, interacting and observing the natural world around us is an essential step in becoming reliable caretakers and champions for it.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:

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HAROON MOTA

HE/HIM
BASED: COVENTRY
ORGANISATION: ACTIVE INCLUSION NETWORK / MUSLIM HIERS (FOUNDER/DIRECTOR)

Haroon is an adventure and thrill seeking Athlete who has for over a decade been setting himself ambitious fundraising challenges; running multi marathons and climbing mountains around the world, raising millions of pounds for charity and inspiring so many from the South Asian & Muslim Communities to follow in his footsteps.

Haroon has a strong passion for increasing diversity and inclusion in outdoor fitness, which led him to create the Active Inclusion Network and launching projects such as Muslim Hikers, which has rapidly grown to become the largest community in the world for Muslim interested in the outdoors. The organisation now hosts an extensive monthly hiking programme recognized to be the largest known regular walking events in the Country; promoting safety, confidence and awareness of the outdoors.

“Be the change you want to see in the world!”

SOCIAL MEDIA: 

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
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 & LINKS TO WORK:
Nazia Sultana is the founder of Sustainably Muslim – which aims to inspire and empower Muslims to serve the environment and their community through education and social action – and a speaker, workshop facilitator and consultant focusing on faith-based activism.

“I hope more people can understand how Islam is a holistic religion that provides Muslims with the framework to live an ethical, sustainable and moral life.”
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.”
“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.”

BASED: LONDON

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 has previously worked at Tipping Point UK, Wen (Women’s Environmental Network) and the Ella Baker School of Transformative Organising.

SOCIAL MEDIA: 

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:

SHAIRA BEGUM
I have worked in the energy efficiency sector since 2010, specialising in domestic retrofit, specifically developing local strategy/policy to assist fuel poor vulnerable households and then delivering schemes to implement this. I have experience in managing and delivering large value retrofit schemes across the whole of Greater Manchester for all tenures. Since 2014, based in the Low Carbon Team, I have been managing the Greater Manchester Combined Authority’s Energy Company Obligation Framework. I have an MA in Theology and Religious Studies from Cambridge University and in a former life I was a practising Commercial Property Solicitor.

In my spare time I am a Theatre Critic for Bolton FM and a lay preacher for the Unitarian organisation.

“Low cost, efficient renewable energy should be available to all and not just the wealthy.”

TINA GANDHI
SHE/HER
BASED: MANCHESTER
ORGANISATION: GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY (PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY OFFICER)
Zunaira Malik is an environmental educator and has worked with young people for over four years to inspire and support them to take action on environmental issues. She has been involved in campaigning and environmental engagement with the Muslim community, attending civil society actions around COP21, COP22 and COP26 and was a judge to curating the BBC Woman’s Hour Power List in 2020, highlighting 30 diverse women in the UK making significant contributions in the movement. She is currently studying a masters in Land & Ecological Restoration at the Eden Project, a site that houses one of the biggest indoor rainforests in the world, as her interest grows in restoring natural systems and conserving carbon sinks which will be vital in the fight against climate 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…”

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GOVERNMENT & LOCAL AUTHORITIES

1. Arun Rao
2. Cleo Lake
3. Clive Lewis
4. Councillor Maroof Raouf
5. Kefentse Dennis
6. Magid Magid
7. Natasha Carlin
8. Neil Origanti
9. Rashid Nix
10. Tyrone Scott
11. Zahrah Ali
ARUN RAO

HE/HIM
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY
(SENIOR POLICY AND PROGRAMMES OFFICER, CLIMATE MITIGATION TEAM)

Arun has spent almost a decade working in urban sustainability, energy, and climate change. This includes over 4 years in fast-paced, international climate NGOs and with city governments where he has led research, numerous public and private stakeholder relationships, and provided technical advice. He has also spent almost 3 years at Citizens Advice advocating for consumer rights in the energy market.

His varied experience and background in engineering have allowed him to address specialised policy challenges faced in climate change mitigation.

Alongside this work, he passionately advocates for EDI with every organisation he engages with and is interested in supporting and uplifting prospects for under-represented groups in the environmental sector.

"If we save Tuvalu we save the world."

Hilda Heine

SOCIAL MEDIA:
Cleo Lake is the former Lord Mayor of Bristol (2018-2019) and was more recently candidate for Police Crime Commissioner for Avon & Somerset securing almost 65,000 votes to finish 3rd. During her term as a Green Party Councillor she was instrumental in getting a Reparations and Atonement motion passed at Bristol City Council.

Involved within the arts and culture sector for almost two decades, Cleo’s experience includes being Chair of St Pauls Carnival, Radio producer and presenter on Ujima 98FM, an ADAD (Association of Dance of the African Diaspora) Trailblazer, writer in residence at the Arnolfini and a Bristol + Bath Creative R&D Inclusion fellow.

As a community engagement professional, Cleo was recently the lead researcher and consultant for the pioneering Bristol Legacy Steering Group commissioned, Project T.R.U.T.H. Cleo is a research associate at Bristol University on the UKRI funded ‘Decolonising Memory : Digital Bodies In Movement’ project.

"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."

Cleolake
BASED: BRISTOL
ORGANISATION: BLACK ART MOVES

Social Media:

Publications & Links to Work:
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.”
Maroof has supported the Green Party for many years and officially joined in 2019. He has recently been involved in getting the Islamophobia Defined Motion to Conference and is a big supporter of making sure people in power are held to account. Maroof has said that “Those who are being oppressed deserve a voice” and he has been active in speaking up for the oppressed by speaking at many protests and bringing their causes to wider attention.

Maroof is a proud immigrant who can speak multiple languages and has worked across a number of different countries. He has also got a wide range of experiences with many different cultures and people around the world. He currently lives in Sheffield and works as a teacher.
KEFENTSESE DENNIS

HE/HIM
BASED: BIRMINGHAM
ORGANISATION: GREENS OF COLOUR (THE GREEN PARTY CHAIR)

Kefentse has a strong ethical interest in tackling climate change. His passion for environmentalism has led him to continually update his academia within Geography.

“The Greatest Threat to Our Planet is the belief that Someone Else will Save it.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:

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Magid Magid is a Somali-British race and climate justice activist and author who came to the UK as a refugee aged five. He is the Founder & Director of Union of Justice, a European, independent, people of colour led organisation dedicated to racial justice and climate justice. He was a member of the European Parliament representing Yorkshire & the Humber, Mayor of his beloved city, Sheffield and was also an elected councillor representing his community. Magid was also named one of TIME’s 100 rising stars shaping the future of the world.

"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.”
NATASHA CARLIN

SHE/HER
BASED: SEFTON
ORGANISATION: LABOUR PARTY COUNCILLOR (COUNCILLOR FOR BLUNDELLSANDS, SEFTON)

Natasha is a 24-year-old, Black and White Afro-Caribbean Labour Councillor in Sefton, North Liverpool. She is a freelance educator for Show Racism the Red Card, the UK’s leading anti-racism education charity. She is part of the Liverpool Climate Coalition and has been involved with various youth environmental and anti-racism campaigns. Her main focus is on making the connection between the climate crisis with historic and systemic racism and power. Natasha is a currently a PhD student researching Over-policing and vulnerability in minoritised communities at the University of York.

"Now more than ever, it is crucial that we make the connection between systemic racism and the lack of urgency that the global north has towards the climate crisis. We must tackle the systems of oppression that allow many to turn a blind eye to the destruction global north corporate greed is causing. We must take a restorative approach towards the climate crisis, which creates a new world over where human life and community is valued over economic growth and greed.

We have an opportunity to create a caring and compassionate world that gives reparations to the global south and allows us to rethink the way we live our day-to-day lives for the sake of humanity. People of colour, indigenous peoples need to be at the center and the forefront of this movement. climate justice needs to be social and racial justice."

SHE/HER
BASED: SEFTON
ORGANISATION: LABOUR PARTY COUNCILLOR (COUNCILLOR FOR BLUNDELLSANDS, SEFTON)
Neil just moved to London from Australia and is currently working in the government in childhood transport policy. Neil is looking to keep developing in the field and lead projects that will help young people to develop healthy movement habits and to transition them away from fossil fuel dependent forms of transport.

“Gentrification in the 21st century is arguably a faster, meaner process with a bigger footprint than ever before. At the neighbourhood level though, it’s often, as they say, the little things that matter most.”

Leslie Kern
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.”
TYRONE SCOTT

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: SENIOR MOVEMENT BUILDING & ACTIVISM OFFICER - GLOBAL GREEN NEW DEAL AT WAR ON WANT

Tryone is working on advocating for a Global Green New Deal at War on Want. Prior to this, he was a Green Party member for several years and has been a campaigner for climate justice. He recently stood as a candidate in the 2019 General Election in Hackney South and Shoreditch where he 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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
ZAHRAH ALI

SHE/HER
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATIONS: GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY (SENIOR POLICY AND PROGRAMMES OFFICER, CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION)

Zahrah is a policy professional who has experience in climate change mitigation, the energy transition and zero emission transport in a city context. During her studies (a BSc in Environmental Science and an MSc in Global Energy and Climate Policy), she developed a specific interest in marrying climate action planning and decarbonisation of the transport sector.

She has predominantly worked in the public sector, including a local authority in London, Transport for London and now the Greater London Authority. In these roles she has led climate action plans and electric vehicle policy planning, as well having worked on other areas such as London’s green recovery post-pandemic, zero emission zones, transport decarbonisation policy, consumption based emissions and solar PV. In her current role she is working to deliver the Mayor’s net zero by 2030 ambition. She has a deep interest in racial and climate justice and climate-induced migration, and volunteers at a community centre for refugees, migrants and asylum seekers which further aids her understanding of these topics.
JOURNALISTS & WRITERS

1. Ama Josephine Budge
2. Anu Henriques
3. Aruna Chandrasekhar
4. Arwa Aburawa
5. Brianna Craft
6. Jini Reddy
7. Nabil Ahmed
8. Nada Farhoud
9. Selina Nwulu
10. Rabina Khan
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.’”

ALSO WORKING WITHIN:

ACTIVISTS & CAMPAIGNERS

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
Anu Henriques

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: SKIN DEEP MAG

Anu is the founder and co-director of Skin Deep, a collective that makes space for Black creatives and creatives of colour to work towards justice through cultural production. She has worked across all areas of the organisation – print, online and live events. Alongside Skin Deep, she has worked in Film and TV development and production for the past 6 years. As Associate Director of Rocks (2019), a collaborative film about the joy of sisterhood, Anu worked alongside director Sarah Gavron, co-writers Theresa Ikoko and Claire Wilson, and the cast and creative team. She is also the co-director of We Are Bridge, an organisation set up to ensure the legacy of new and emerging talent within the Film & TV industry.

“...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.”
ARUNA CHANDRASEKHAR

BASED: LONDON

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 Aburawwa

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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:

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“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 Craft

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: IIED (AUTHOR AND SENIOR RESEARCHER)

Brianna is Senior Researcher on Climate Change at the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). She works to further equity in the UN climate change negotiations for the world’s poorest countries, which have done the least to cause the climate crisis but are the most vulnerable to its impacts. Based in London, Brianna researches climate diplomacy.

Brianna also writes books focused on climate justice. She is the author of Everything That Rises: A Climate Change Memoir (April 2023) and We Don’t Have Time For This (July 2024).
Jini Reddy

Based: London
Journalist and Author

Jini is the author of the critically-acclaimed ‘Wanderland’, shortlisted for the Wainwright Prize for UK Nature Writing and the Stanford Dolman Award for Travel Book of the Year. She has contributed to anthologies, including the landmark Woman on Nature, written an award-winning guidebook, ‘Wild Times’, and her texts have been displayed at exhibitions in London, notably Kew Gardens and the Southbank Centre. As a journalist and travel writer she has written extensively for national press and 2019 was named a National Geographic Woman of Impact. In her work, she now occupies a cross-genre space where place, spirituality, nature and culture meet. Jini was born in the UK to parents of Indian descent from South Africa and raised in Montreal, Quebec. She now lives in London.

“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.”

Photo credit: Lisa Beechick

Social Media:

Linkedin
Instagram
Twitter

Publications & Links to Work:
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.”

Social Media:

Publications & Links to Work:
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.

Based: Brighton
Organisation: Daily Mirror

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.

Social Media:

Publications & Links to Work:
Selina is a writer, researcher and independent consultant, having worked extensively in the civic sector in a number of NGO organisations within research, education and social policy. She has been a voice for climate justice for over 10 years, working with a number of grassroots, charity and arts organisations to strengthen narratives around the gaps between race, justice and the climate crisis.

Her poetry and essays have been widely featured in a number of journals, short films and anthologies, including the critically acclaimed anthology New Daughters of Africa. Her work has been translated into several languages and exhibited in Athens, New York, Poland and Ireland. She was Young Poet Laureate for London 2015-16 and shortlisted for the Brunel International African Poetry Prize 2019. She is also a 2021 Arts Award Finalist for Environmental Writing. Her debut full length poetry collection, A Little Resurrection, was published by Bloomsbury in 2022 and is both a Poetry Book Society recommendation and an Irish Times book of the year.

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.
RABINA KHAN
SHE/HER
BASED: LONDON
AUTHOR

Rabina is a former councillor and special advisor in the House of Lords. She has written for the Independent, i, the Guardian, Huffington Post, Washington Post, The National UAE, Alarabia News and ByLine Times and regularly appears in the media. She has spoken at the University of Cambridge, BBC Radio 4, won the European Diversity Awards in 2014 and was a nominee at The National Diversity Awards 2021. Rabina speaks on housing, climate change inclusion and social justice. Her political memoir My Hair Is Pink Under This Veil was published by Biteback and chronicles her early life and political career dismantling stereotypes about Muslim women in Britain. Rabina is a Journalist Diversity Fund and Aziz Foundation Scholar completing her NCTJ.

"Mia Mottley is the first female Prime Minister of one of the smallest and most climate-vulnerable countries in the world, Barbados. She received widespread recognition at last year’s event because of her common-sense approach to climate change and her call to make international financial systems work for those most affected by the crisis. She called out Western nations for becoming richer yet being responsible for most of the world’s climate crises at the cost of poorer nations becoming the victims. Mottley has pushed Barbados to develop a bold plan to phase out fossil fuels by 2030. The annual climate change summit needs more women like her. So where are they?

Gender inequality, combined with the climate crisis, threatens the health, income, family life, safety and financial security of women and girls around the world. Their voices are critical – they are the potential change-makers at all levels of climate action and decision-making.”
LEGAL EXPERTS

1. Binyam Yakob Gebreyes
2. Harpreet K Paul
3. Katie de Kauwe
4. Tessa Khan

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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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:  

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
HARPREET K PAUL

BASED: 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 prioritising 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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
KATIE DE KAUWE

SHE/HER
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: FRIENDS OF THE EARTH (LAWYER)

Katie joined FoE in July 2018, having previously worked in private practice. She has expertise in public and environmental law litigation and worked on FoE’s case regarding the in-principle policy support for Heathrow expansion, which went to the Supreme Court in December 2020. In addition, she has experience of the law relating to protest rights, and has worked on FoE’s interventions in cases challenging anti-protest injunctions.
TESSA KHAN

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: UPLIFT

Tessa is a climate change lawyer and Executive Director and founder of Uplift, a research and campaigning organisation focused on a just energy transition in the UK. She is an expert in oil and gas policy, and was previously co-founder and 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.

“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.”
POLICY EXPERTS

1. Angela Francis
2. Augusta Senessie
3. Chaitanya Kumar
4. Dorothy Grace Guerrero
5. Dr Amiera Sawas
6. Dr Husna Ahmad OBE
7. Nannette Youssef
8. Puninda Thind
9. Simeran Bachra
10. Syed Ahmed
Angela's passion is changing human systems – energy, production, consumption, trade, and planning – to bring them in line with our environment. As an economist she focused on productivity, innovation, and low carbon growth in UK, Europe, and the Caribbean where she was Regional Economist and Climate Attaché for the FCO. She found her home in environmental sector, at Green Alliance and then WWF, where she started as Chief Advisor on Economics and is now Director of Policy Solutions leading the work of the climate, finance, economics, production, and consumption teams on net zero and nature restoration.

“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.”

Angela Francis

Based: London
Organisation: WWF (Director of Policy Solutions)

“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.”
AUGUSTA SENENSSIE

SHE/HER
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: WALINDA LINGO (FOUNDER & HEAD OF RESEARCH)

Augusta is a British – Sierra Leonean policy consultant and researcher working at the intersections of environmental, displacement and indigenous policy.

Seeking to use anthropological and non-traditional research methods to transform global policy priorities, she heads research at Walinda Lingo, a multimedia & ethnographic research consultancy specialising in rural, displaced and indigenous communities across Africa and other Most Affected People and Areas (MAPAs) in the global south. Her studies have allowed her to consult with UN Institutions, DfID (now FCDO), and the Zambian Ministry for Youth and other stakeholders within international policy and development. Her recent studies explored connections between climate and sexual exploitation in The Gambia; and water & resource insecurity in the Sahel.

She is the Founding Member of an International Research Hub, in partnership with the University of Johannesburg, committed to using gender empowerment in the advancement of the Sustainable Development Goals & Agenda 2063.

“To think is easy. To act is difficult. To act as one thinks is the most difficult.”
Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe

SOCIAL MEDIA:
PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
Chaitanya Kumar

BASED: LONDON & SOUTH EAST
ORGANISATION: NEW ECONOMICS FOUNDATION
HEAD OF ENVIRONMENT AND GREEN TRANSITION

Chaitanya leads NEF’s work on the Green New Deal, just transition and other environmental programmes. He was previously Head of Climate and Energy Policy at Green Alliance in the UK and before that was based in New Delhi as South Asia campaigns leader for 350.org. He has an MSc in energy policy from the Science Policy Research Unit at Sussex University.

“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.”
DOROTHY GRACE GUERRERO

BASED: LONDON & SOUTH EAST
ORGANISATION: GLOBAL JUSTICE NOW

Dottie is Head of Policy and Advocacy of Global Justice Now. Originally from the Philippines, she has a background in the anti-dictatorship movement in her country, as well as in the global and Asian regional anti-globalisation work. She writes and campaigns on climate and economic justice issues around corporate power and hegemony, just transition, Global South debt issues and climate reparations, migrant justice, and trade. She is one of the organisers and Spokespersons of the UK COP26 Coalition that organised the People's Summit in Glasgow during COP26. 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, Asienhaus Deutschland and the Institute for Popular Democracy in the Philippines.

"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."
Dr. Amiera Sawas is the Chief Research and Engagement Office at Climate Outreach, which is an organisation that works with people from all walks of life to engage with climate change. They advocate for a social mandate on climate change – where everyone, regardless of their background or identity – feel part of the climate story and feel they have agency to take action and hold decisionmakers to account. Amiera has diverse experience in development, climate and human rights work, in various countries including the UK, Sweden, Pakistan, Jordan and Kenya. As a child of Syrian and Irish parents, also of working class heritage, the histories and impacts of colonialism have been a major theme in her life. Amiera believes passionately in recognising and promoting the voices and leadership of the people facing the most systemic disadvantages – especially black and migrant women. Amiera has a PhD in Human Geography, a Masters in Global Politics and a Bachelors in Psychology.

“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!”

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Dr. Amiera Sawas

BASED: NORTH WEST

ORGANISATION: CLIMATE OUTREACH (CHIEF RESEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT OFFICER)
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.
A dedicated and passionate environmental campaigner, Nannette works at the Runnymede Trust, Britain’s leading race equality think tank, developing their climate work and was one of the co-authors of a major report with Greenpeace UK entitled ‘Confronting Injustice: Race and the Climate Emergency’ which demonstrated the role UK governments, corporations and colonialism had played in creating and maintaining the environmental emergency.

Nannette previously served a three year term as a Green city councillor in Norwich as its youngest member and only member of colour.

“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.”
PUNINDA THIND

SHE/HER
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: CLIMATE CHAMPIONS

Puninda is Finance Nature Lead with the UN Climate Champions Team where she is focused on catalyzing and mobilizing finance sector action to address biodiversity loss and nature-related risks and opportunities. Puninda is deeply committed to building a sustainable, prosperous, equitable future. She previously worked at the intersection of sustainable investing and climate resilience for 9+ years, where she helped organizations across various sectors operationalize credible sustainability strategies.

Puninda holds an MSc in Sustainability, Enterprise, and Environment from the University of Oxford. She has participated in several UN conferences of Parties including COP27 advancing meaningful youth and civil society engagement in policy processes.

Puninda is a member of the board of directors for Threading Change, an international youth-led ethical fashion organization, and Leading Change, which supports the development of young sustainability leaders. She is also active in climate advocacy as a member of the Global Shapers Community, an initiative of the World Economic Forum.

"Hope is a discipline."
Mariame Kaba

‘ALSO WORKING WITHIN:
DECOLONISING MOVEMENTS & DIASPoras
COMMUNITY ORGANISERS

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
Simeran serves as a Principal Consultant at Anthesis where she is leading on providing strategic and technical support to cities and local authorities on their response to the climate and ecological emergency. She has expertise and experience in supporting local authorities in developing climate action plans, monitoring progress on net zero targets and facilitating stakeholder engagement. Prior to Anthesis, Simeran worked at CDP where she worked with UK local authorities helping them disclose their targets, emissions and actions. Simeran is passionate about ensuring that we are building just, equitable, diverse, inclusive and accessible places for people to live and thrive.

"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 bringing every person along the transition towards a safe, and climate-secure world."

SOCIAL MEDIA:  

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:  

"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 bringing every person along the transition towards a safe, and climate-secure world."

SOCIAL MEDIA:  

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
“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.”

Syed Ahmed

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: ENERGY FOR LONDON

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).

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:

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Scientists & Technologists

1. Anusha Shah FICE
2. Ayesha Tandon
3. Charise Johnson
4. Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock MBE
5. Dr Miriam R. Aczel
6. Farah Caswell
7. Lang Banks
8. Miranda Lowe
9. Ruwandzino Matsika
10. Serayna Keya Solanki

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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 Tandon

SHE/HER
BASED: SOUTH WEST
ORGANISATION: CARBON BRIEF (SCIENCE JOURNALIST)

Ayesha is the science journalist at Carbon Brief – a UK-based website covering the latest developments in climate science, climate policy and energy policy. She has published a wide range of content, including write-ups of new science papers, in-depth climate science explainers, and analyses.

In 2022, Ayesha won a European Geosciences Union journalism fellowship to report on climate-driven migration in Thailand. She also co-founded the Global South Climate Database – a publicly available, searchable database of scientists and experts in the fields of climate science, policy and energy.

Ayesha holds an MSci in natural sciences, specialising in climate science, from the University of Exeter. She has also worked at the UK Met Office as a climate science communicator.

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 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.”

**Charise Johnson**

**SHE/HER**

**BASED: LONDON**

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Maggie is a space scientist, broadcaster and author who has a passion for presenting science to general audiences. Maggie studied at Imperial College, where she obtained a degree in Physics and a PhD in Mechanical Engineering. Since then, Maggie has spent much of her career making novel, bespoke instrumentation in industrial and academic environments. She has worked on projects aiming to improve the better understanding of climate change, including the recently launched ESA Aeolus satellite, which measures wind speed in the Earth’s atmosphere with the aim of better weather and climate change predictions. Maggie is the founder of Science Innovation Ltd; through this, she conducts public engagement activities. To date, she has reached over 350,000 school children around the world, engaging them with the incredible wonders of space.

“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.”
Miriam is a Postdoctoral Scholar at the California Institute for Energy and Environment (CIEE) at University of California, Berkeley, working on the Oakland EcoBlock pilot project. She is also an Honorary Research Associate at the Centre for Environmental Policy (CEP) at Imperial College London, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Miriam’s research areas include low-carbon energy transformation; renewable energy generation; electric grid technologies; energy justice and resilience; greenhouse gas removal technologies and policy; international energy and environmental law and policy; global environmental change and climate science; human rights and environmental justice; environmental and public health; and citizen science.

She is co-founder and current co-director of the 501-c3 educational non-profit Amir D. Aczel Foundation for Education and Research in Science and Mathematics.

"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.”
FARAH CASWELL

BASED: LONDON
SUSTAINABILITY CONSULTANT

Farah is a Sustainability consultant with over 10 years of experience influencing change and providing international sustainability strategic and design advice first-hand to senior executives on global major public and private projects, leading design teams to address innovation and sustainable development in their construction projects.

As a chartered environmentalist and chartered engineer, she has worked directly with a range of industries including development companies, investment firms, sovereign wealth funds and real estate companies to understand ESG factors in each of their contexts.

“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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA:
Lang Banks

BASED: PERTH
ORGANISATION: DIRECTOR OF WWF-UK, SCOTLAND

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.”
Miranda Lowe

BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

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.”
Dr Ruwadzano is an Analyst for the Quadrature Climate Foundation advising on developing and accelerating global climate solutions to meet the Paris Agreement. Ruwa is a Zimbabwean national, an environmental scientist and a climate and development specialist with over 10 years’ experience working at the interface of science, policy and practice in Africa and other regions in the Global South. A deep climate generalist, she has worked as Africa Regional Coordinator for the UN Global Compact advancing corporate sustainability across Africa; Research and Policy Advisor at ActionAid International; and as a Carnegie Research Fellow at the Global Change Institute at WITS University in South Africa. Her work has included research and decision-making support on energy transition planning, food systems, climate risk, adaptation and resilience planning for national government, and the humanitarian sector. She holds a Doctorate in Environmental Sciences, a Postgraduate Diploma in Energy Leadership from WITS University, and a certificate in Climate-related Financial Risk from the University of Oxford.

“I am, because we are; and since we are therefore I am.”

S. Mbiti

RUWADZANO Matsika
SHE/HER
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: QUADRATURE CLIMATE FOUNDATION (ANALYST)

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Serayna’s freelance work spans across dodging international dystopian disasters to local community world-building through education, arts and heritage. She works with Hands Off Mother Earth! - an international network of climate justice organisations opposing the large-scale climate manipulations of ‘geoengineering’ that undermine the radical transformation needed across our social, economic and cultural systems. Working across campaigns, policy and research with international allies has helped her develop a deeper climate justice perspective inline with equity, rights and justice. In 2022, she got to observe the IPCC negotiations! In the UK, Serayna had curated and co-hosted ‘Grandmothers’ Garden’ which is an online arts and heritage centred climate justice programme for People of Colour. Serayna is also a part-time co-author and advisor to the ‘Climate Experience’ project, the largest UK-based survey of People of Colour experiences and relations to climate change (individual and systemic) causes and solutions. Serayna has also been a co-researcher with the ‘Country-side for all project’ focusing on the stories of her South Asian diaspora community in Leicester!

"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.”
URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN

1. Afsheen Rashid Kabir MBE
2. Brianna Francis
3. Dave Fuller
4. Elsie Owusu CBE
5. Hirra Khan Adeogun
6. Indy Johar
7. Leo Horn-Phathanothai
8. Maria Adebowale-Schwarte
9. Pandora Batra
10. Ravina Singh
11. Sara Telahoun
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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA: 

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
BRIANNA FRANCIS

SHE/HER
BASED: LONDON

Brianna is currently a Senior Sustainability Consultant at Savills UK within the sustainability team. Her work covers waste and circular economy, social sustainability and sustainability strategy. Previously at London Borough of Hackney, working within the Policy and Strategic Delivery and Environment and Sustainability teams, her work delivered against Hackney’s environmental agenda and wider inequalities work to facilitate the borough’s net-zero pathways and empower the local community to take climate action. As a climate activist, intersectionality remains at the heart of her work, advocating against structural racism and championing climate justice.

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

SOCIAL MEDIA:

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Dave Fuller

Based: London
Organisation: Repowering

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.”

Social Media:

Publications & Links to Work:
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.”
From June 2023, Hirra will be the interim co-director of campaigns and impact at Possible. She currently leads Possible’s landmark programme – Car Free Cities – to kickstart the process of making private cars obsolete in our cities, accelerating the move to a zero-carbon Britain built by and for everyone. To date, she has helped secure an agreement to rollout London ULEZ’s expansion, helped 1,000 people to reduce their car use via the “Going Car Free” campaign, and inspired Lambeth Council to introduce ambitious kerbside parking space reduction. She regularly shares her expertise in sustainable urban transport in the media and at events like the IPPR Labour Party Conference alongside Ed Miliband MP. Hirra also organises Just Our Climate, a coalition made up of people of colour who want to progress climate action in Tower Hamlets. Before joining Possible, she worked at Amnesty International UK, extensively explored British Muslim identities, and used evidence and insight around the experiences of underrepresented people to drive positive change.

“"To win the fight against climate change we need a mass movement that activates rapid change at the personal, social and structural levels.""
Indy is focused on the strategic design of new super scale civic assets for transition – specifically at the intersection of financing, contracting and governance for deeply democratic futures. Indy is co-founder of darkmatterlabs.org and of the RIBA award winning architecture and urban practice Architecture00, a founding director of open systems lab (digitising planning), seeded WikiHouse (open source housing) and Open Desk (open source furniture company).

Indy is a non-executive international Director of the BloxHub (Denmark Copenhagen) - the Nordic Hub for sustainable urbanization and was 2016-17 Graham Willis Visiting Professorship at Sheffield University. He was also Studio Master at the Architectural Association – 2019–2020, UNDP Innovation Facility Advisory Board Member 2016–20 and RIBA Trustee 2017–20. He has taught & lectured at various institutions from the University of Bath, TU-Berlin; University College London, Princeton, Harvard, MIT and New School.

Most recently, he was awarded the London Design Medal for Innovation in 2022.

“Living in a utopia within your mind is good because you’re not just imagining what we live in now and the systems we live in now, the inequality we live with now – you’re actually thinking, ‘This is not the best it can be, it can be better’.”

Social Media:

Publications & Links to Work:

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Leo Horn-Phathanothai

HE/HIM
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATIONS: WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE (DIRECTOR, STRATEGY AND PARTNERSHIP), WRI ROSS CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE CITIES (HEAD OF WRI UK OFFICE)

Leo is an author, non-profit leader and climate mobilizer committed to realising the promise of a climate-safe world in which humans thrive in balance with nature. He has worked with governments and cities around the world to turn sticky sustainable development challenges into irresistible opportunities for communities and businesses. He heads the World Resources Institute UK Office and is a Director at the WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities, which works with cities to help them transform into resilient, inclusive, low-carbon places that are better for people and the planet.

Leo is a Professor of Practice at the SOAS Centre for Development, Environment and Trustee of ChinaDialogue, an independent organisation dedicated to promoting thought-leadership and forging a common understanding of China’s urgent environmental challenges. He also serves as adviser to HERO Labs, the first subscription-based platform providing a basic income for climate mobilizers around the world.

"Music doesn't lie."

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
Maria Adebowale-Schwarte

Based: London
Organisation: Foundation for Future London (CEO)

Maria is a city and an urban place strategist, focusing on collaborative art, design, innovation, and funding models that are inclusive, equitable and environmental justice progressive. She is the CEO, at the Foundation for Future London and founder of 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.”
Pandora Batra

She/Her

Based: Brighton

Organisation: World Resources Institute
(Strategic Engagement Manager, Climate and Cities)

Pandora is a Strategic Engagement Manager at the Climate Program and Ross Center for Sustainable Cities. Before this, she managed engagement at the Coalition for Urban Transitions working with key national government decision makers, and helped to shine a global spotlight on the urgent need for national government action to transform towns and cities. Prior to WRI, Pandora worked at CDP where she was responsible for global engagement with cities disclosing their climate and environmental data through the platform. She managed key partnerships and coordinated global communications campaigns. Before CDP, Pandora worked as a risk and resilience research consultant at ODI and a trainee with the European Commission in New Delhi, India.

Pandora holds an MSc in Climate Change and Development and a BSc in Physical Geography and has spent much of her spare time volunteering with youth climate organisations in India and the UK.

“Until you dig a hole, you plant a tree, you water it and make it survive, you haven’t done a thing. You are just talking.”

Wangari Maathai
As someone who supports local authorities with their climate action, I use this opportunity to ensure that councils are engaging the most vulnerable and marginalised members of their community. It’s absolutely critical that actions intended to prevent and build resilience to the impacts of climate change support those at greatest risk. Climate change is not just an environmental crisis but also a humanitarian one.

Ravina works with local authorities all across the UK, encouraging transparency around the climate action their council is taking by reporting to CDP. She runs events and works with partners to support knowledge exchange on local climate action, highlighting best practice that protects both people and planet in an equitable way. Ravina is also a member of the CDP team promoting Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility (JEDIA) both internally and through their external facing work.

RAVINA SINGH
SHE/HER
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: CDP (UK CITIES MANAGER)

Ravina works with local authorities all across the UK, encouraging transparency around the climate action their council is taking by reporting to CDP. She runs events and works with partners to support knowledge exchange on local climate action, highlighting best practice that protects both people and planet in an equitable way. Ravina is also a member of the CDP team promoting Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility (JEDIA) both internally and through their external facing work.

SOCIAL MEDIA:

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
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 and developing climate action strategies. Sara is also a Trustee for climate action charity Possible, supporting the organisation achieve its vision of a zero carbon society, built by and for the people of the UK. She is also a mentor through the Catalyse Change programme, where she actively supports marginalised young women interested in sustainability to succeed in their career paths. Sara previously sat on Bristol City Council’s ‘One City’ Environmental Board, where she worked with key stakeholders to advise the council on methods to accelerate action towards the city’s goals including reaching zero emissions by 2030.

“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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA: 

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
YOUTH ACTIVISTS

1. Dominique Palmer
2. Dr Mya Rose-Craig
3. Emily Bohobo N'Dombaxe Dola
4. Jessica June Ahmed
5. Lillia Adetoro

6. Lola Fayokun
7. Mahnoor Kamran
8. Princess Emeajuwa
9. Zamzam Ibrahim

ABOUT CLIMATE REFRAME ➔
ALL SPEAKERS BY NAME ➔
CONTACT ➔
Dominique Palmer

SHE/HER
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: CLIMATE LIVE

Dominique is a Climate Justice Activist, Public Speaker, Writer, Model, and organizer. Her role at Climate Live is Coordinator and international representative, and she works on London team outreach. She is a steering committee member for the Youth Climate Justice Fund, a member and organizer of the HERO U.K Climate Justice Circle, and part of organizing a new international youth bridging movement with youth activists from FFF, YOUNGO, and other organizations.

Additionally, she is an ambassador for Global Choices as an Arctic Angel, and a champion for the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.

“I believe it’s essential for all of us to find our place within the climate movement, no matter who we are, how much we know, or where we are starting from.”

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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. Her latest book publication, Birdgirl, is available to order now.

“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.”

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**Dr Mya-Rose Craig**

*She/Her
Based: Bristol
Organisation: Black2Nature, Founder*

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. Her latest book publication, Birdgirl, is available to order now.

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**Social Media:**

LinkedIn: [link]
Instagram: [link]
Twitter: [link]
Facebook: [link]

**Publications & Links to Work:**

Birdgirl: [link]
Black2Nature: [link]
“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.”

Emily Bohobo N’Dombaxe Dola

SHE/THEY
BASED: BRIGHTON
ORGANISATION: YOUTH4NATURE

Emily is a projects, campaign/policy and research professional in the third sector, focused on social, climate and environmental action. Active in the international climate justice movement since 2018, Emily is a member of groups such as Youth4Nature and YOUNGO, focused on climate policy and advocacy issues around adaptation and resilience, livelihoods and food systems, nature and land, and intersectionality and just transition.

With a background in Development and Social Anthropology, Emily's interests are political economy, social ecology & policy/institutional processes.
JESSICA JUNE AHMED

SHE/HER
BASED: LONDON
ORGANISATION: UK STUDENT CLIMATE NETWORK

Jessica is a 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.”
LILLIA ADETORO

BASED: MANCHESTER

Lillia is from Oldham, Greater Manchester. She has 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 a climate activist and LSE Politics graduate. 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.”

SOCIAL MEDIA: 

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:

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MAHNOOR KAMRAN

SHE/HER
LOCATION: STOKE-ON-TRENT
ORGANISATION: GOOD ENERGY | BRIGHT GREEN FUTURE (CLIMATE JUSTICE ADVOCATE AND YOUTH BOARD MEMBER)

Mahnoor is an eighteen-year-old Pakistani-born student and Climate Justice advocate. Mahnoor is on Good Energy’s Good Future Board to advise and challenge the renewable energy supplier on their initiatives, business policies and ethics. In 2023, she will work alongside the thinktank Sustainability First and energy regulator Ofgem on their Youth Forum.

Mahnoor grew up between South Asia, one of the most climatevulnerable regions, and the Middle East, a net exporter of oil and gas. Upon moving to the UK, her understanding of marginalisation and inequality enforced on society’s most disadvantaged solidified when she witnessed that people of the Global Majority were most affected by the climate crises.

Mahnoor has advised businesses, industry leaders, the Department for Education and leading environmental charities on how to tackle the underrepresentation of POCs in the sector and embed climate Justice into their work. Previously, she worked on planning sustainable housing in Oman and was a judge on ECO-UNESCO’s Young Environmentalist Award.

"You always told me it takes time. It's taken my father's time, my mother's time. My uncle's time. My brother's and my sister's time. My niece's and my nephew's time. How much time do you want for your 'progress'?"

James Baldwin

SOCIAL MEDIA: [LinkedIn] [Instagram] [Twitter]

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS TO WORK:
“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.”

Princess is a 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.
SHE/HER
BASED: MANCHESTER
ORGANISATION: SOS UK (CO-FOUNDER)

Zamzam is a British-Somali activist, she has spent the past decade representing students and young people advocating on various causes related to social justice, education, and the environment. As a young climate activist, she co-founded Students Organising for Sustainability UK (SOS-UK). She is also a co-founder of the Muslim Leadership Foundation. In 2019, she co-launched the Climate Education Bill, which calls for mandatory climate education in schools throughout the UK. She’s the Former Vice President of European Students Union (ESU), and Vice Chair Muslim Leadership foundation (MLFUK) and the former National President of the National Union of Students in the UK (NUSUK). She currently serves as a board member of SOS international and SOS UK, and working as consultant Julie’s Bicycle amongst various other projects.

“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.”
CONTACT
CLIMATE REFRAME

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