



report on my visit to the Climate Justice Camp

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Climate Justice Camp-Lebanon

I will present my participation in the Climate Justice Camp in Lebanon, I was nominated by the Arab Youth Sustainable Development Network (AYSUN) to represent my country, Yemen, and to convey our voices as young people about the most important environmental issues in Yemen and what interventions and procedures are necessary to adapt to climate change and mitigate its effects. The camp included about more than 400 participants, male and female, from 100 countries. The attendees, male and female, participated in 100 interactive workshops, told stories, exchanged experiences, built networks, developed strategies, and much more. The concept of climate justice came from the climate changes that the world is experiencing today as a result of economic activities that greatly affect the climate situation. The countries of the Global South live in climate injustice resulting from changes for which historical responsibility is borne by global companies, most of which are based in the countries of the North. Therefore, climate justice emerged to address the root causes. To social injustice, environmental devastation and economic domination. Therefore, the concept of social justice seeks to achieve an environmental and social balance to enhance justice and equality for all, whether in the present or in the future.

The camp was held in Lebanon in the Hammana area, far 26 km east of Beirut, in a mountainous environment covered with the pine trees for which Lebanon is famous. Participants were distributed among rooms, villas, and caves. The workshops were held in two periods, the morning period lasting three hours, while the evening period starts from three o'clock until nine o'clock in the evening.

I will list to you the details of the activities and workshops that I attended and participated in during my stay in the camp, fig (1). These workshops dealt with various issues of climate change, global warming, and climate justice, in addition to the presence of a living library that divides participants into groups, each group headed by a person who tells us his story and issues, fig (2).

One of the workshops was entitled "The Just Transition from Fossil Fuels to Solar Energy," which was prepared by one of the Arab networks. This workshop dealt with the experience of the Arab Morocco in their transition to solar energy, what are the sources of renewable energy in Morocco, and their strategy for renewable energy, as in 2009 Morocco adopted an energy strategy based mainly on The development of renewable energies and regional integration and how renewable energies have enabled the stimulation of local development in the regions that host generating stations according to a sustainable model that includes social, economic, cultural and environmental aspects.

The second workshop, entitled "The Intersection between Urbanism and the Environment," addressed the impact of urban expansion on the environment and biodiversity and what are the consequences of that, as cities are responsible for 75% of carbon emissions, and construction and reconstruction are among the largest of these impacts. The real estate sector contributes 40% of carbon emissions, and it is expected that the sector's area will double in

2050 from this expansion. They also discussed how to find alternative and fair ways for the real estate economy.

The third workshop on plastic pollution, which is the main driver of the climate crisis, as more than 99% of plastic is made from fossil fuels. What are the pros and cons of using it, as the negatives certainly outweigh the positives? We called on the leaders of countries in our region to support a strong international treaty that combats plastic pollution.

In addition to other workshops, such as the COP 28 workshop, which dealt with the United Nations agreements on climate change and the application of these agreements, and what are the outcomes of the previous COP held in Sharm El-Sheikh, and what are their requirements in the next COP, and another workshop that dealt with the Loss and Damage Fund, which is considered one of the most important outcomes of COP27, and they raised several questions and questions. About this fund, whose financing policy has not yet been clarified.



Fig (1): show my participate in some workshops

Regarding the living library, one of the participants spoke about the Ababda group, which is the most important and oldest tribe in Egypt. Historically, most of them were nomadic Bedouins who lived in the region between the Nile and the Red Sea. They were forced to move from your region to the desert and their land was exploited for commercial and economic projects. The lecturer spoke about the difficulties and challenges facing the worship community and how they tried to adapt, but they cling to their rights and property rights to the land.



Fig (2): Part of the living library and participants tell their stories and lived experiences

In addition to social activities and training that were held early in the morning, and local community visits, one of the visits was to an area severely affected by forest fires, and its members told us how they are trying to move forward and adapt to it.

The camp left a huge positive impact internally by providing opportunities and platforms for learning and communication. As I work in the Arab Youth Sustainable Development Network (AYSDN) as a partnerships officer, this opportunity was an important opportunity to communicate and network with others and other entities, and it is expected that will reflect positively on our performance in the network. The camp also contributed to shaping my perspective on environmental issues and strengthening my role in the field of environment and climate justice. It further deepened my understanding of the challenges and issues facing humans in different parts of the world. I received great inspiration from the participants who told their stories and successful experiences. It stimulated in me the spirit of responsibility and movement towards building a clean and sustainable society, and that I could be part of a larger movement aimed at bringing about positive change.

My recommendations for the upcoming camps are to create a sustainable environmental volunteer initiative or campaign for the host country, through which we leave our impact and our slogan in this country as a form of gratitude, first, and to further communicate our message, second.

Finally, I would like to praise them for having achieved the true meaning of climate justice by providing the opportunity for all countries to attend, especially the Arab countries that are most affected by climate change and that suffer from wars, so their voice has become forgotten in some conferences, for example Yemen. Thank you for your insistence that the voice of Yemen be present despite the complex procedures in Our country, I was happy to participate and be with you, and I found the opportunity to tell the other participants from different countries about my country, Yemen, and explain to them the challenges that Yemen is suffering from as a result of climate change, and what our demands are in order to achieve climate justice.