Global Justice to fight Inequalities and to eradicate Poverty

Strategic Plan 2023 - 2030
“The Global Call to Action Against Poverty can take its place as a public movement alongside the movement to abolish slavery and the international solidarity against apartheid”

- NELSON MANDELA

“Make Poverty History” speech at the start of the Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP), Trafalgar Square, London - 2005
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Dear Colleagues,

We are experiencing the rise in extreme poverty and hunger for the first time in the last decades – while obscene inequality is reaching ever new hights. This is not a coincidence.

A world that has achieved very high and unprecedented technological advancement has the means and adequate resources to end poverty. Various factors are responsible for rising poverty and inequalities and they are interrelated. Climate change contributes to poverty and hunger. The COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated the situation followed by the war in Ukraine. The cost of living has exponentially increased due to rising food and energy costs, which affects the people living in extreme poverty the most who could hardly make ends meet and eat only once per day.

Nevertheless, the response of the governments to the crisis also shows: If there is political will policies can be changed in short time and immense resources can be mobilised. But the interventions during the pandemic were more of short-term in nature. The political will to address poverty and inequalities is missing because the rich and powerful who wield influence over national and even global politics don’t want to tackle the underlying causes of global inequalities and injustice. Under such circumstances the SDGs will not be achieved.

With this strategy leading up to 2030 we want to contribute to change this situation. We are convinced that only a bottom-up process – from local to global - the active involvement and mobilisation of people who are affected by gender inequality, discrimination, exclusion and poverty can achieve desired political change. A movement of the many existing grassroots initiatives and organisations working for the rights of the people is the our hope and mission!

The Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP) as a global movement brings us together in the fight for justice and for solidarity. GCAP continued since 2005 for three reasons: a. the need for a global movement small and mid-size civil society organisations working with marginalised communities b. the strong involvement and leadership from the Global South and 3. the successes of our actions.

However, we need to be stronger. This Strategic Plan is about making the work stronger, bolder and more visible for a greater impact until 2030. With concrete objectives and results, this document outlines key approach towards

2. SDG and Leave No One Behind;
3. Strengthening the movement for global justice and solidarity

It was great to have worked together with our members on this new strategy - to feel the energy and motivation of members makes us hopeful. A big thanks for all who have contributed to the process and are committed to its implementation!

Let us implement this strategic plan together. The rich experiences and backgrounds of members from different countries, regions and constituencies make us strong to shoulder bigger responsibility: Global Justice to fight inequalities and to eradicate poverty!

In Solidarity,

Georgina Muñoz Pavon, Co-Chair
Oumar Sow, Co-Chair
Paul Divakar Namala, Co-Chair
Ingo Ritz, Director
The Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP) developed a 6-year strategy for 2016-2022 in 2015, and a 3-year plan for 2016-2019 was implemented based on this. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the plans had to be adapted to the challenges posed by the pandemic in the coming years (2020-2022). The new strategy for the period 2023-2030 takes into account the changes brought about by COVID-19 and other ongoing global developments and crises including climate change, war and inflation, and contains strategic perspectives up to 2030.

Objectives of the Strategic Plan 2023-2030

- To provide greater clarity in our collective theory of change and better strategic planning of priorities and programmes including projects.

- To be developed, owned, and supported by all GCAP members through a transparent and democratic process.

- To strengthen GCAP’s internal and external communication to achieve the objectives of the strategy.

- To mobilize resources by better promotion of the work and strategy to donor partners and political partners, thereby strengthening the organization and its members.

Strategy Development Process

We developed our 8-year strategy for 2023-2030 through an inclusive and democratic process, with input from members, colleagues, partners, and advisors. The process started in November 2021 with a discussion on GCAP’s identity. It then included an analysis of the political situation, online workshops on the strategy, regional meetings in Bratislava and Brussels and online assemblies (May and June 2022), and bilateral meetings with members.

The draft strategy was discussed at the Global Council call in New York (July 2022) and presented to members at the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) in New York in the same month, followed by discussions at regional meetings for Asia (held in Bangkok in November 2022), for Europe (held in Berlin in December 2022), and for Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean.

The final strategy document benefitted from inputs from People’s Assemblies at national level, as well as from constituency groups and global levels, as well as a further round of bilateral discussions with members. In total, input was received from 44 National Coalitions and four Constituency Groups. The final draft was presented to the members in a global call and discussed in regional calls. The Global Council then agreed on a final proposal, which was approved by the General Assembly in an online process.
State of the World

The world we live in is full of contradictions - there is enough food to feed everyone on the planet, yet more than 800 million people go hungry and live in extreme poverty.

This number has increased in recent years. In 2020, a shocking 2.4 billion people, or more than 30% of the world’s population, were moderately or severely food insecure and lacked regular access to adequate food. At the same time the richest 1% captured 54% of new global wealth in the last decade.

Humanity is facing overlapping and interconnected crises. Seven years after the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, we are almost at the halfway mark to the 2030 Agenda deadline. We are way off target for achieving the Goals on time. The vision and promise of social justice and human rights for all, and a fair, rights-based, equitable, and ecologically-just world for all appears more remote than ever.

The political, financial, economic, and social architecture, as well as the individuals who lead these systems, are failing us. The crisis and the context of global injustice has its roots partly in colonial history and deepening inequalities brought about by a shift from public policy to benefit all, to neo-capitalism, where social well-being for all is trumped by profit seeking by the few, and the poorest suffer the consequences.

The situation is very serious as today less than 50% of people worldwide have access to social protection, with the lowest coverage - 11 per cent - in sub-Saharan Africa. Global warming has put one million species at risk of extinction and is already affecting hundreds of millions of people, and on current predictions will cause a 2.7-degree rise in temperature by the end of the century. Gender inequality remains a persistent problem in every society, hindering the advancement of half the world’s population. Ageism, ableism, discrimination on the basis of class, work, descent, origin and ethnicity, lack of access to education, health care, reproductive and sexual rights, decent work opportunities, and under-representation in economic and political processes compound women’s struggles across their life course, as do the rampant violence and discrimination they face on a daily basis.

Increasing polarization and intolerance of expression, identity, pluralism, and beliefs, in the name of nationalism, religion, and supremacy, are on the rise worldwide. Shrinking civic space and threats to human rights defenders are silencing those who dare to speak truth to power.

The COVID-19 pandemic has not only exposed inequalities, it has also exacerbated existing inequalities. Rising food and energy prices, loss of livelihoods, climate change, environmental degradation, wars, and critical gaps in health care, including inequities in the fight against COVID-19, are pushing women and excluded people to the margins and making our planet uninhabitable.

Austerity, the lack of universal social protection, discrimination, slavery, violence, and the deterioration of civic space have further exacerbated inequalities and exclusion. Meanwhile, elite private interests have profited. Youth and older persons fear for the world we live in now and will bequeath to future generations, while the rich and powerful use their resources to maintain their privilege.

At the current pace, unless there is radical change, the world will not meet its 2030 SDG commitments until 2065, and it will take nearly 300 years to achieve gender equality.

Yet, amid crises, there is solidarity; amid pain, there is hope. The only way forward is towards a transformative and radical change. We, the people, are undeterred.
At the current pace, unless there is radical change, the world will not meet its 2030 SDG commitments until 2065, and it will take nearly 300 years to achieve gender equality.
Key Achievements since 2016

1. Creation and coordination of SDG networks: GCAP has formed broad civil society SDG networks at different levels.

Several National Coalitions of GCAP have formed national SDG Networks in their countries. These networks bring together local and national CSOs, and are supported by the GCAP Global Secretariat with information, capacity building, and funding. A major success has been the ‘Make Europe Sustainable’ Project, which has supported SDG networks in 15 EU member states. These networks regularly engage in advocacy and dialogue with their governments and parliaments.

In Asia, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), the national SDG networks have consistently engaged with the public to raise awareness on the SDGs, link their work to the SDGs, and engage with governments to help incorporate SDGs into national laws and policies. They also engage in SDG monitoring. This often involves supporting community and local networks to empower them to work on government commitments through mobilization, awareness-raising, accountability, and advocacy actions ensuring social and political activities support intergenerational and intercultural work alliances from a gender perspective, and with a human rights approach.

We have also formed regional SDG networks, including the Asia Civil Society Partnership for Sustainable Development (APSD) and SDG Watch Europe, and hosted the secretariat of both networks in their initial phases.

Globally, we initiated the Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD) platform together with three other global CSO umbrella organizations to ensure coordination and a strong civil society voice. A4SD is hosted and managed financially and administratively by GCAP.

Regionally and globally, these networks have been successful at bringing in a wider civil society into their fold, supported by awareness-raising, capacity building, encouragement to national networks to evaluate SDG progress by assessing local progress and writing independent civil society reports, and facilitating civil society interface with UN mechanisms to ensure diverse representation.
2. SDG Monitoring

SDG monitoring at the national level, often in cooperation with Members of Parliament and the media, has made national governments more accountable. We have championed civil society space about the SDGs, in all countries even ones hostile to civil society which has contributed to making the implementation of the 2030 Agenda stronger. The focus on leaving no one behind, with the inclusion of the most excluded, hard to reach groups, has been central to all our actions.

We have financially supported SDG monitoring through the publication of Spotlight Reports and SDG Scorecards in 65 countries that have submitted Voluntary National Review (VNRs). As part of the SDG processes we have supported capacity building through webinars, toolkits, and sharing of lessons learned, bilateral interface by the Secretariat members, funding, publication of results on websites, and giving a voice to civil society in UN processes with travel funding and organization of events, in particular to ask questions at the HLPF in New York following the submission of VNRs by governments.

3. Act4SDGs Mobilisation

The largest mobilization for the SDGs was initiated by GCAP in 2017. We approached the UN SDG Action Campaign and launched the campaign with the Global Day of Action on 25 September 2017, the Anniversary of the SDGs. We collaborated with A4SD and other CSOs in the campaign, and over the years, more and more CSOs joined. Now, thousands of organizations are involved in the Global Week of Action to Act4SDGs. GCAP continues to co-organize the Global Week of Action with the UN SDG Action Campaign and other co-organizers. The GCAP National Coalitions around the world have actively mobilized every year. This has included the FliptheScript stunt in 30 countries in 2022. Such mobilization created public pressure on governments to ‘walk the talk’ on the SDGs.
4. People’s Assemblies

The first Global People’s Assembly, held as a parallel event during the UN SDG Summit 2019, was a huge success, drawing 300 delegates from 80 countries representing 220 people’s movements, community organizations and CSOs to give voice to people facing discrimination and exclusion. Since then, we have established a bottom-up process with People’s Assemblies at the community and national levels. In 2021 and 2022, we organized national assemblies in 27 countries and online Global People’s Assemblies at the UN General Assembly which in 2022 had 1380 participants from 123 countries. The People’s Assemblies have proved to be a robust platform for bringing civil society community representatives together to provide inputs to the UN leadership, UN General Assembly and the SDG Summit. They are invaluable for collating the views and demands of the most marginalized groups and for presenting them to political representatives, providing inputs for practical policy-making and implementation.

5. Faces of Inequality Campaign

We conducted research and worked with marginalized groups to bring marginalized communities directly into the fight against inequality. Community-level analysis by people themselves shows the different faces of inequality - from poverty to extreme wealth. This has brought issues and concerns of excluded people into UN processes and has given them a voice. Here are three examples:

- **Leave No Woman Behind:** Our work with women facing multiple discrimination has highlighted the intersectionality of various forms of discrimination faced by women with disabilities, older women, widows, women from the indigenous communities, refugee women, and women from the Communities Discriminated by Work and Descent (CDWD). We facilitated the travel of leaders of the women with disabilities in Africa to New York to participate in the Global People’s Assembly and the UN SDG Summit and to represent their issues and concerns. Such consistent advocacy on the issue, has been a stepping stone to changes in law, for example a new law in Mali for Women with disabilities.

- **Faces of Migration:** Through this campaign we have challenged existing views on migration. Through people’s stories we have changed the public dialogue and policy from “us vs them”. It has shown how people are affected by structural and pervasive inequalities, and how implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide a pathway to create a situation for migrants and refugees.

- **Communities Discriminated by Work and Descent (CDWD):** We have raised the issues of discrimination, indignity and exclusion of the CDWD communities in various papers and research and UN forums. Our consistent advocacy has resulted in the acceptance of the Global Forum of Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent (GFOD) as a new Other Stakeholder Group at the UN.
6. Response to COVID-19

The pandemic demanded that GCAP members act together globally to protect the most marginalized people and groups from being excluded from governments’ pandemic-related interventions. The solidarity and strength of global connections was evident within the first few weeks and months. There was a vibrant exchange of information, an eagerness to learn from each other, and to advocate that no one is left behind - especially older and people made vulnerable by disability and exclusion - to achieve better health, economic, and social impacts.

- **Advocacy on the Special Drawing Rights (SDR):** GCAP is part of the civil society advocacy coordinated by Latindadd that pushed the IMF to provide 650 billion USD for SDRs for the Covid-19 response in August 2021, of which 240 billion went to low- and middle-income countries, which helped with financing for social protection and other expenditures during the crisis.

- **People’s Vaccine:** GCAP successfully campaigned for vaccine equality by calling for the COVID-19 vaccine to be made a People’s Vaccine and for a TRIPS waiver of COVID-19 vaccine tests and treatments at the WTO. It worked with 20 countries in Asia and Africa to ensure that marginalized groups are not left behind in the vaccination process.
About us

The Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP) is a global movement of over 18,400 civil society organisations (CSOs) organized in 66 National Coalitions and in constituency groups.
Our Vision

A just and sustainable world where every human being across the life course lives in peace and dignity, is free from hunger, poverty and violence and all forms of discrimination and can participate in democratic processes and protect their rights.

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Our Mission

To build the movement for Global Justice and Solidarity – by fighting inequalities within and between countries to eradicate poverty in a bottom-up process, involving people facing discrimination and exclusion and with leadership from the Global South.

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Our Identity

GCAP is a global civil society movement fighting for global justice to end poverty and inequality with strong leadership from the Global South:

- **Ending poverty and inequalities:** GCAP fights for social, economic and gender rights and climate justice to end poverty and inequalities. We advocate and mobilise for the effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their principle of Leaving No One Behind, challenging practices, institutions and processes that perpetuate oppression, discrimination and the structural causes of poverty and inequalities.

- **People’s voice:** GCAP is primarily formed by many small and medium-sized civil society organisations with a strong grassroots connection, especially of people facing discrimination and exclusion. They organise themselves into democratic coalitions and constituency groups in a bottom-up process at national, regional and global levels to amplify people’s voices.

- **Global solidarity:** The character of GCAP is marked by global cooperation and solidarity with a majority leadership from the Global South to support peoples’ struggles as part of the global justice movement.
Our Strength

- Strong political leadership from the Global South.
- A focus on the structural aspects of inequalities.
- Proven ability to mobilize millions of people in support of rights-based advocacy.
- A solid grassroots foundation, consisting of thousands of small and medium-sized civil society organisations.
- A real bottom-up process led by marginalized groups and women’s organisations.
- Long experience of advocacy at national level, in regional processes and globally at the UN and G20/G7.

Our Role

1. To provide a global identity and voice for grassroots and community organisations organised in national coalitions and global constituency groups and opportunities for national mobilisation on key global moments, leading up to global mobilisation and advocacy. To facilitate members’ access to international processes including SDG intergovernmental forums and human rights mechanisms.

2. To support members with information on global issues and processes and build members’ capacity on thematic issues and on institutional strengthening of their work.

3. To amplify evidence from research and analysis by National Coalitions and Constituency Groups at the national level by making this work known and visible through concerted advocacy and mobilisation at global forums.

4. To provide a platform for cross-country and cross-regional sharing, learning, critical thinking and dialogue.

5. To support members in mobilising resources for national-level work and in constituencies, by linking them with donor partners and by jointly raising funds.
Our Values and Principles

We will continue to stand by our Core Values and Principles -

- **Feminist, human rights based approach**, requiring us to base our work on realising the human rights of all people according to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to put the agencies of women, children and excluded people at the centre of all our perspectives and actions – including in internal processes – such as the principle of gender balance at all levels.

- **Equality and Diversity**, requiring us to ensure opportunity to every person, irrespective of their identities of age, gender, abilities, race, caste, ethnicity, sexual orientation and identity, linguistics among other intersections.

- **Inclusion** of people discriminated and excluded socially, economically, culturally and politically - in our areas of work, in our teams and in our governance structures.
  - Leave No One Behind! We believe that people who are among the furthest behind, are to be included first – those who are discriminated, excluded and segregated.
  - Nothing About Us, Without Us! We believe that people are active agents of change in their own lives and should decide and speak for themselves.

- **Justice** - fair and just processes and decisions, guiding our attitude, behaviour and actions internally and for external relations.

- **Democratic processes and culture** for ensuring accountability and transparent processes.

- Focus on **Global South inclusion and leadership**, requiring us to re-conceptualise global issues from a Global South perspective, and with Global South leadership, together with those of the Global North.

- **Global Solidarity**, requiring us to ensure collaborative processes and a majority leadership from the Global South to support people’s struggles as part of the global justice movement.

- **Peace** – is understood to encompass justice and human rights for all – and not only as the absence of violence.
GCAP Members and Constituencies

GCAP is formed mainly by many small and medium-sized civil society organisations with grassroots base— including organisations of the excluded people. Over 18,400 of these CSOs, across Africa, the Arab Region, Asia, Latin America and Caribbean and Europe are organised as National Coalitions and Constituency Groups, in a bottom-up process at the national, regional and global levels.

The National Coalitions and Constituency Groups are the basis of GCAP. Each National Coalition mobilizes and advocates throughout the year, on the issues relevant to their country or constituency.

National Coalitions

The National Coalitions have a wide national reach and include grassroots/community, local and national CSOs. They work on locally and nationally relevant priority areas, which are also in alignment to GCAP’s priority areas of work. Each National Coalition has its own governance structure wherein members are periodically elected following a democratic process. As national members, they bring local and national perspectives to the regional and global work.

GCAP has National Coalitions in 66 countries - 22 from Africa, 11 from Asia, 10 from Latin America and the Caribbean and 23 from Europe. By 2030, we plan to expand the National Coalition base to 70-75 countries. GCAP has also regional members in different regions.

Constituency Groups

The Constituency Groups bring together grassroots, national and regional organisations. They are key to working with some of the most excluded groups in a concerted way – specifically to their needs and context. We currently have the Women
and Feminists Constituency Group, Social Justice Task Force and Youth Constituency Group. We are in process of forming the Constituency Group of Older People. In the coming years, we plan to have new Constituency Groups, including Indigenous Peoples and Persons with Disabilities.

Through these groups we work with feminist, rights-based and rightsholder movements and organisations around the world that work with and for the rights of excluded people, including those who are socially excluded and left behind. We work with the women, men and youth from within the socially and economically excluded communities.

GCAP’s **Social Justice Task Force** is the Constituency Group of the Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent (CDWD) including modern slavery. GCAP formed the Social Justice Task Force in 2018 as a global advocacy forum for issues of the CDWD. The Global Forum for DWD (GFoD) convenes the task force, which received the status as Other Stakeholder in the Major Groups and Other Stakeholders process at the UN due to the joint advocacy.

**Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent (CDWD)** are some of the most excluded, segregated, and discriminated groups at the global and local level within their social, economic, political, and cultural systems.

The consequences of this marginalization are the deprivation and systematic exclusion from education, health, access to water and sanitation, employment, voting rights, equal access to land and housing, access to religious institutions in the public sphere.

These communities include Haratine (Sahel, West Africa), Bantu (Sudan), Roma (Europe), Burakumin (Japan), Dalits (formerly known as ‘untouchables’) in South Asia, Quilombo and Palenque (South America).

**Regional Networks**

Regional Networks play an important role in some of the regions. The Arab NGO Network for Development is GCAP’s connection to the Arab region. In Latin America and the Caribbean the alliance with LATINDADD is key to strengthen the work in the region and also for the global thematic work on financial justice. Also in Africa, Asia and Europe the cooperation with thematic networks gives us more capacity and a wider reach.

**Economic Reform must be feminist and transformative in Latin America**
Alliance Building

We form alliances with broader civil society working on various themes as part of our strategy to strengthen the collective voice of civil society and our impact.

GCAP has initiated and also joined various alliances of broader civil society organisations at different levels and on different themes, towards strengthening the collective voice of CSOs and their impact. GCAP has co-founded Action for Sustainable Development, the Asia Civil Society Partnership for Sustainable Development and SDG Watch Europe. Action for Sustainable Development is hosted by GCAP. Alliance building in our focus areas of work is important for work on Social Protection, Health including COVID-19 vaccines, Tax and Debt issues. We have therefore been active within coalitions such as the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors, People’s Vaccine Alliance, Civil Society Financing For Development Group, Coalition for the UN We Need, among others.

With the alliances we are able to coordinate civil society, raise awareness and build capacity on the issues, mobilise people and media to put pressure on their governments, and advocate for policy and implementation level impacts and monitor the SDG implementation.

Civil Society calls to Act4SDGs on the Global Day of Action in 2017 during UNGA in New York
CSO Engagement Mechanisms in UN Processes

GCAP is an active member of the Major Groups and Other Stakeholders (MGOS) which inputs to and monitors government progress in implementing the SDGs. It brings representatives of National Coalitions and excluded groups into UN processes. Major Groups and other Stakeholders (MGoS) allow for a structured civil society engagement and contribution to UN processes on sustainable development. GCAP and its members are active in three constituency groups of the MGoS

- NGO Major Group
- Women’s Major Group
- Global Forum of Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent (GFOD)

Representatives of GCAP and other civil society organisations handed over a declaration to the UN Secretary General Antonio Gutteres in July 2019
GCAP Strategic Plan 2023-2030

Priority Areas Of Work For 2023-2030

1. **Fighting Inequalities to eradicate Poverty** in the framework of global justice – contributing to sustainable peace

2. Intersectional approach for **Gender Equality** and **Inclusion of communities facing discrimination and exclusion** as cross cutting area of work

3. **Global Justice** in the relations between the Global South and North through three major Policy Priorities:
   - **Social Justice** - Social Protection Floors for all and Universal Health for all
   - **Climate Justice** – For the most affected people and areas
   - **Financial and Economic Justice** – Tax & Debt Justice under a new financial architecture to finance Social and Climate Justice, Trade Justice and Decent Work

4. **SDGs and Leave No One Behind**

**Frameworks:** For GCAP, the 2030 Agenda with the SDGs at its heart, is the most important guiding framework for development up to 2030. We also work within the framework of human rights treaties and mechanisms, and international and regional agreements such as the Beijing Platform for Action, the Paris Agreement (UNFCCC) and the African Union’s Agenda 2063. National development plans also provide platforms for engagement.
Relevance of the Priority Areas

1. Fighting Inequalities to Eradicate Poverty

In the last few decades, the wealth of the super-rich has significantly increased – even more during COVID-19, while more people have fallen into poverty and hunger.

During the pandemic, an additional 198 million people fell into extreme poverty – 860 million people now live in extreme poverty. Over 820 million people are hungry. The causes of poverty and inequalities are systemic and deliberate. The economic structure is heavily skewed in favour of the rich, and social structures further push those from impoverished and excluded communities to the margins and beyond. We prioritise to work with people and groups that have traditionally been facing exclusion and discrimination; women, widows, Communities Discriminated by Work and Descent (CDWD), indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, older people, migrants and refugees, and LGBTQI+.

While governments pay much lip service to tackling poverty and inequalities, unless structural causes are tackled most of this is mere sloganeering.

The rich and the elite have increased their control over political establishments, with policies that increasingly favour the rich elite. Thus, the nexus between corporate and political interest has led to another form of inequality – that of political inequality. Those at the bottom of the social and economic pyramid yield insignificant influence on the country's politics, and are increasingly unable to decide the fate of democracy. Such a scenario has democracy and human rights vision and practice as violence against people living in poverty by the elite is endemic. The call for justice for the poor is being ignored and even silenced in well-established democracies. We are witnessing new forms of autocracy coming to power through elections. The voices of civil society and independent media that speak truth to the power and raise the concerns of the disadvantaged groups are being systematically silenced.

While this is the general scenario in the countries, the other form of inequality is the gap between the Global South and the North. Low- and middle-income countries have little control over their economic decision-making due to unfair political processes for example in the International Financial Institutions like IMF and World Bank and extortive debt mechanisms, which gives donor countries a lot of room to exert conditionalities and decide their fate.

Many rich countries have shown no qualms in openly siding with the corporations that have refused to share COVID-19 vaccine-related technology with the Global South. This has resulted in vaccine inequality and has cost many lives that could probably have been saved - had greed not prevailed over the public good.

Having a stand-alone Goal on Inequality (SDG 10) in the Agenda 2030 - another success of the work of GCAP - is important, and gives space to rewrite the way wealth is distributed. However, the steps taken by member states are very small. A financial transaction and wealth tax on the rich is a suggested policy decision, which could make a phenomenal contribution to financing social protection mechanisms. There are many such steps which ought to be taken by the member states.
2. Cross-Cutting: Gender Equality and Inclusion of Communities facing discrimination and exclusion

Discrimination and structural inequalities - within and amongst countries - leave individuals, families and whole communities discriminated and excluded. People face discrimination because of the identities they hold or belong to – such as their age, class, gender, race, descent and work, ethnicity, abilities, location, sexual orientation, age, language, and many more – often multiple and intersecting.

Gender Inequality, including the intersecting dimensions, affects the rights, responsibilities and opportunities of people of all genders – women, men, trans people and gender diverse people, children and families – of all ages and backgrounds. However, women, girls and trans people are disproportionately affected by discrimination and prevented from realising their full potential. Two-thirds of all illiterate people worldwide are women. Gender gaps persist in all human development indicators, decision making, pay and leadership. Women of all ages also bear the burden of care - caring for the sick, older persons and children. Women with disabilities, older women, indigenous women, women from communities discriminated on work and descent (DWD), women from religious minorities are highly vulnerable to the effects of discrimination and the denial of their rights. They face the additional burden of discrimination due to identity, class, age, disability and gender. For example, WHO estimates that women with disabilities are 2-4 times more likely to experience intimate partner violence than women without disabilities. Gender inequality is also a major cause and effect of hunger and poverty. UN Women estimates that 60% of chronically hungry people are women and girls.

Discrimination based on people’s birth into certain castes/social groups, which also assign them into designated occupations based on their descent, affects over 260 million people worldwide. Considered as ‘unclean’, because of
their ‘designated’ occupations, these communities are forced to live in segregated living spaces, with severely restricted access to public and private services such as housing, water and sanitation, health, education, social protection, land and employment.

Gender Inequality and Social Exclusion are the most perverse and unacceptable results of structural inequalities and discrimination - often multiple and intersecting. It is a grave form of human rights violation. Gender inequality and social exclusion erode people’s right to equality, justice and a life of dignity. It has multi-dimensional effects and marginalises affected people in many and intersecting ways – impacting on livelihood, security, employment, income, property, housing, health, education, skills, and cultural capital, citizenship, legal equality, democratic participation, common resources, family and sociability, humanity, respect, and more.

3. Global Justice

Social Justice with focus on Inequalities - Social Protection Floors for all, including Health

Social Protection

The right of all to social security is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This right is governed by standards developed by the International Labour Organisation, which include Recommendation 202 on social protection floors, now encapsulated in target 3 of the first Sustainable Development Goal, to End Poverty for all. Regional protocols and national policies enshrine this right of all to social protection.

In the years following the 2008 financial crisis, many countries extended or put in place some kind of social protection programme. Still, however, less than 50% of the world’s population is covered by social protection, with very low coverage in sub-Saharan Africa. The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the decrepit state of social protection systems across the world and also demonstrated the need for them. But many governments that introduced social protection measures during the pandemic have not yet created infrastructure and secure finance for social protection over the long term. The debt crisis has ushered in austerity programmes, further gutting access to social security provision and essential public services.

Social protection provision with accountable and transparent delivery systems are a proven, direct and fast-acting mechanism to end poverty and reduce inequalities. Social protection is a Universal right, enshrined in the Universal Declaration of
Human Rights, the social security standards and guarantees of the ILO, regional human rights protocols, and contained specifically in Sustainable Development Goal 1, target 3 on social protection floors.

Many studies and experience demonstrate that having the right to social protection across the life course unleashes individual creativity and capacity for all ages and provides resilience in the face of ‘natural’ calamities, climate change, pandemics and economic crises. It is people centred investment in the long-term growth, peace and stability of countries and communities.

Many governments, UN agencies, NGOs and CSOs are calling for the speedier implementation of SDG 1 target 3, which provides for the Social Protection Floor -health services for all, and basic income security in childhood, maternity, old age and at times of disability. This must happen for the Sustainable Development Goals to be achieved, and for “Leave No One Behind” and “A Life of Dignity for All” to be more than mere slogans.

Secure finance and technical input to achieve the goal is needed. This is the basis for the call for a Global Fund for Social Protection, based on principles of solidarity, realising human rights, and accountability between citizen and state.

Health

The COVID-19 pandemic caused an unprecedented loss of life and livelihood. The COVID-19 vaccines, developed in short time, could have saved a lot of lives had they been equitably distributed. The greed of the pharmaceutical industry and rich countries did not allow this to happen by blocking a TRIPS waiver. Vaccine inequality was palpable. By the end of 2022, the global vaccination stood at 64%, while Africa had only 28% of its people vaccinated.

The pandemic also exposed the fragility of the world’s health systems. There were not enough doctors, beds or medicines for governments to undertake COVID-19 care and vaccination, and for people to access treatment. Many already excluded groups lacked access to healthcare. Older and disabled people were disproportionately affected. There should be Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in every country, covering every person across the life course.

Climate Justice - For the most affected people and areas

While the world’s attention was focused on the COVID-19 pandemic, the climate and biodiversity crises continued unabated. We are approaching a point of no return. Unless we act now, humanity will be the cause of a 2.7 degree warming by the end of the century. One million species are at risk of extinction. Food security is severely compromised and could collapse. During the pandemic, when populations were already suffering from its effects, 140 million people went through the devastating impacts of floods, droughts, storms, and wildfires. In this process 660 million older people and children under the age of five live in areas affected by heatwaves and have been disproportionately affected by illness and death.

Fossil fuels must be phased out in the coming years – until 2030 the emissions have to been reduced 45% in order to keep the 1.5 degree target alive. Recent developments show that the use of fossil fuels is actually increasing. We need climate justice that responds to the dangers of fossil fuels and can guarantee the health and well-being of people now and in the future and of planet earth and nature.

Biodiversity loss and the climate crisis exacerbate existing inequalities. Those least responsible for contributing to biodiversity loss and climate change are hit hardest – the most affected people and areas (MAPA) - for example indigenous peoples,

In 2022, GCAP Malawi demand free and universal vaccination, #PeoplesVaccine
small farmers, fisherfolk, older people, persons with disabilities, women, widows, children. Indigenous knowledge, skills, rotational agriculture and crop cultures are at risk of being completely lost. The most affected people have very poor access to political processes – at national level, and internationally, at the climate COPs. The ESCAZU agreement in Latin America and Caribbean creates opportunities for justice and for participation of the most affected people.

**Financial and Economic Justice – Tax and debt justice under a new financial architecture to finance social and climate justice, Trade Justice and Decent work**

While most people are struggling with the burdens of the pandemic and climate crises – including job loss and lower wages – the earnings and assets of financial traders, many corporations and billionaires have literally skyrocketed. Unless the failures of the international tax system are urgently addressed, countries will continue to lose billions of public revenue dollars from tax abuse by multinational corporations and other illicit financial flows.

In addition, lower tax revenues and currency depreciations, coupled with higher expenditures to combat COVID-19 and deal with ‘natural’ disasters, have led to a sharp increase in the debt of low and middle-income countries. The debt crisis is compounded by the fact that many of the loans are illegitimate - driven by predatory lending, burdened with onerous and inequitable terms, failing to comply with legal and democratic norms, incurred by private corporations but assumed by the public sector, or simply stolen.

Indebted countries must prioritise social needs for the public good and not cut social spending in order to prioritise debt service payments. We need a fair, timely, transparent, binding and multilateral framework for debt crisis resolution, under the auspices of the United Nations, to address unsustainable and illegitimate debt.

Developing countries need access to highly concessional financing, under a fair financial architecture designed to meet the SDGs and deliver the Climate agenda.

Economic relations between the Global South and North are characterised by deep inequities especially in trade. This includes supply chains and associated exploitation of workers and the environment. These relations have to be made fair and sustainable for a global economy that promotes well-being of all and of the planet.
4. SDG and Leave No One Behind with focus on Inequalities and Poverty

In 2015, GCAP welcomed the 2030 Agenda as an ambitious framework for ending poverty and inequalities by 2030. We recognised that while the 2030 Agenda has some inconsistencies, such as weak accountability of member states, the higher priority given to economic growth (SDG 8) than to redistribution, and some ambiguity of targets, such as within SDG 10 – but the overall direction of 2030 Agenda offers a pathway for transformation if it is fully realised.

Now with the impact of COVID-19, wars, conflicts, debt crisis, austerity and inflation, the 2030 Agenda is entirely off track. The Decade of Action is at risk of becoming as much a lost decade as the 1980s.

It is therefore more important than ever, to continue to monitor the implementation of the SDGs, from the national to the global levels, and to hold governments accountable for the implementation of 2030 Agenda. With 2023 as the halfway mark, there is an opportunity to advocate that governments direct, redirect or accelerate actions and policies for inclusive, people centred, accountable policies which benefit all, where necessary, from a multi-dimensional approach.

GCAP Approach to the Work on Priority Areas 2023-2030

We will continue to use a multi-dimensional and inter-linked approach, to address the intersections, in our priority areas of work - for facilitating the change that we want to see.

Intersections

- Rights-based, feminist and inclusive lens
- Leadership from the Global South
- Nurture, escalate and amplify the up process voices from local to global
- Rights-based, feminist and inclusive approach

Activities across all Priority Areas

- Research and Analysis
- Awareness raising and Capacity Building
- Mobilisation and campaigning in a bottom
- Advocacy and Monitoring on inequalities and SDGs
- Civil Society Coordination and Alliance Building

GCAP has focused campaigns on ‘Leave No Woman Behind (LNWB)’ and ‘Leave No DWD Behind’. The campaigns highlight the rights violation of those at the intersection of the identities they belong to –gender, being a member of an indigenous community, or from communities discriminated on work and descent (CDWD), being old, and/or a widow, and/or women living with disability. The lessons and experiences of the campaign are internalised in all our work.

- We will continue to apply a rights-based, feminist and inclusive lens to all our work, as well as governance structures, teams and leadership positions.
• We will encourage our National Coalitions and Constituency groups to continue to apply a rights-based, feminist and inclusive lens to their respective areas of work, teams and leadership positions.

• We will learn how to better support people and communities facing multiple discrimination and who are at the intersection of their non-conforming or non-dominant identities.

Leadership from the Global South

GCAP’s character is one of global cooperation and solidarity with a majority leadership from the Global South to support people’s struggles as part of the global justice movement. The Global Council, which is the executive body of GCAP, is represented by two members (at least one women) from each of its four regions – Asia, Africa, LAC and Europe, and one member from the Social Justice CDWD Task Force. This ensures a majority representation from the global south in the Global Council. All three global Co-Chairs are currently from the Global South.

• We will continue to strengthen and further build leadership from the Global South – who themselves are from people facing discrimination and exclusion themselves or are working with them.

Nurturing, escalating and amplifying the voices from local to global

We do this by participating in regional intergovernmental UN platforms like APFSD (Asia Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development), Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development of the Economic Commission on Latin America (ECLAC), by facilitating discourses through side events at the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development and organising a parallel People’s Assembly as people’s voice at the annual high level week of the UN General Assembly and the UN SDG Summits every four years.

• We will ensure that community representatives, community based organisation’ representatives get the platform to represent their issues and concerns.

Activities Across All Priority Areas

• Research and Analysis
• Awareness raising and Capacity Building
• Mobilisation and campaigning in a bottom up process
• Advocacy and Monitoring on inequalities and SDGs
• Civil Society Coordination and Alliance Building
Theory of Change

What is the Problem?
Limited action and accountability by governments on Agenda 2030 and SDG achievement
Structural inequalities within and between countries have deepened
Inadequate or no universal social protection and health coverage - people’s capacity to withstand crisis compromised
Deepening inequalities, hunger, poverty, exacerbating human right violations and impacting well-being
Entrenched and persistent gender inequality, violence and exclusion of marginalized people and their communities from basic services and violation of their human rights
Patchy international solidarity and critical pressure on issues that affect the Global South

What is the Impact of the Problem?
People’s civil, social, cultural, economic, political and human rights are compromised
Severe impact on the lives and aspirations of already marginalised people – those who are already left behind and are at the margins of development
Persistent inflation deepening food insecurity, poverty and the financial crisis
Governments cut social spending and make the cost of living crisis worse for the poorest, in violation of their human rights obligations

Who will we work with and influence?
Coordinated civil society coalitions create a collective force together with
Women – especially women facing multiple discrimination due to age, disability, widowhood, sexual orientation and ethnicity
Youth
Older persons
Communities discriminated by Work and Descent (CDWD)
Persons with disabilities
Indigenous peoples
Migrants and Refugees
LGBTQI+

Stakeholders we engage with
- Governments
- UN processes – SDGs, FFD, Human Rights mechanisms
- G20, G7, IFI
- UN Major Groups and other Stakeholders
- CSO Allies and Partners
- Regional mechanisms – AU, EU, CEPAL, Asia Forums

Internal Stakeholders -
18,400 CSOs, across Africa, the Arab region, Asia, Latin America and Caribbean and Europe organised within National Coalitions and Constituency Groups

What will GCAP do?
Facilitate processes to escalate and magnify excluded people’s voices to policy-influencing mechanisms such as national regional and global SDG forums and human rights mechanisms
- on inequalities, poverty, hunger, human rights, financial crisis
- through excluded people’s perspectives, and views from the global South

GCAP will
Monitor, advocacy and mobilise for better and more accountable SDG implementation with a focus on Leave No One Behind, inequalities, human rights compliance and poverty
Organise a robust global Campaign for Social Justice 2030, focusing on
- Social Justice: Social Protection Floors for all and Universal Health coverage
- Climate Justice: For the most affected people and areas
- Financial and Economic Justice: Just and sustainable tax system, social and climate financing

What GCAP aims to achieve? (Intended Impact)
Governments will step up on their commitments to achieve Agenda 2030 and the SDGs
Governments will commit finance and technical resources to achieve Social Protection Floors for all and Universal Health coverage
The interests and calls for action of the most affected people and regions are at the centre of Climate negotiations
Putting in place just and sustainable Finance and Tax system within and between the Global South and North

GCAP’s Strategy Goal up to 2030
To contribute to reduced inequalities, to the eradication of poverty, to the upholding of and respect for human rights and the achievement of the SDGs by 2030 – so that all human beings across the world across the life course live their lives in dignity and justice, without fear of discrimination, within planetary boundaries, and are free from hunger and violence, are able to participate freely and without fear in democratic processes and have their human rights protected and upheld.
Road to 2030
GCAP Strategic Plan 2023-2030

Objectives, Results and Main Activities

Goal of the Strategy
To contribute to reducing inequalities, to the eradication of poverty and the achievement of the SDGs by 2030 – and that all human beings across the world across their life course live a life in dignity and justice within planetary boundaries, free from hunger and violence, and where they can participate without fear or hindrance in democratic processes and have their human rights protected and upheld.

KEY AREA
Global Justice to fight inequalities and poverty:
• Social Justice
• Climate Justice
• Financial and Economic Justice

SDGs and Leave No One Behind with a focus on inequalities and poverty

Strengthen GCAP as movement for global justice and solidarity

OBJECTIVES

Objective 1: The movement for global justice and solidarity achieves concrete improvements of policies at national level and reduced injustices in the relations between the Global South and North through
• Social Justice: Social Protection Floors for all and Universal Health Coverage
• Climate Justice: For the most affected people and areas
• Financial and Economic Justice: Tax & Debt Justice under a new financial architecture to finance Social and Climate Justice, Trade Justice and Decent work

Objective 2: Civil society in 70 countries, with the participation of excluded people, are involved in the successful achievement of the SDGs and the ‘No One is Left Behind’ Principle with the focus on inequalities and poverty (SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 13, 16, 17); and commitment to a new agenda post 2030.

Objective 3: GCAP as movement for global justice and solidarity is strengthened by active and robust National Coalitions and global Constituency Groups, with a strong leadership from the Global South, including from excluded people, with enhanced capacities and well-functioning processes of participation, governance, communication and exchange, and supported by adequate and sustainable funding.
OBJECTIVE 1:

Global Justice to fight inequalities and poverty –
- Social Justice
- Climate Justice
- Financial and Economic Justice

The movement for global justice and solidarity achieves concrete improvements of policies at national level and reduced injustices in the relations between the Global South and North through

- Social Justice: Social Protection Floors for all including health
- Climate Justice: For the most affected people and areas
- Finance and Economic Justice: Tax & Debt Justice under a new financial architecture to finance Social and Climate Justice, Trade Justice and Decent Work

To achieve this specific objective, we will work for the following Results:

**Result 1: Social Justice** - National plans for social protection floors for all and universal health coverage (including the People's Vaccines) are either achieved in all countries or at least concrete plans towards them are in place and international support, both technical and financial is strengthened, especially for the LDCs, including the establishment of the Global Fund for Social Protection.

**Result 2: Climate Justice** - The interests and calls for action of the most affected people and areas are articulated, visible and taken notice of, and are included in climate negotiations – on adaptation, mitigation and loss and damage.

**Result 3: Financial and Economic Justice** - For financing Social and Climate Justice: Tax justice is needed – progressive tax systems, an end to tax avoidance and evasion, debt justice, financing through ODA/SDR and a more just financial system between the Global South and North; including an international tax body under the auspices of the UN, a sovereign debt work out mechanism, fair trade and full respect for labour rights.

**Result 4: Mobilisation for Global Justice 2030** to bring different civil society actors together in a campaign for a successful World Social Summit in 2025 and Financing for Development Conference 2025.
Main Activities to achieve the expected results in a bottom up process from the local to the global – one building on the other:

1. **Capacity Building:** Prepare teaching materials (online toolkits) and organize webinars and trainings for National Coalitions and Constituency Groups and their members from grassroots and community organisations - on the **topics important for their work** as social protection, vaccine inequality, universal health coverage, climate justice, climate finance, tax, debt, ODA and SDRs for example:
   a. **Social Protection:** Training of Working Group members by the ILO Training Centre in Turin, national capacity building trainings by the African Platform for Social Protection in 15 countries in Africa
   b. **Universal Health Coverage:** Regional training and Webinars with participants from 9 Asian and 11 African Countries
   c. **Fiscal Policies:** On national budget and investments/spending on social policies
   d. **Climate finance:** Webinars on climate finance in 14 countries in Latin America and as well in Africa and Asia

2. **Organise:** For each thematic priority one or two members take the lead to coordinate the work on the topic. This will include capacity building and the convening and management of working groups and task forces:
   - **Leave No One Behind:** Swadhikar and the Inclusivity Project
   - **Social Protection:** GCAP Africa
   - **Health:** GCAP Asia
   - **Climate Justice:** 11.11.11
   - **Financial Justice:** Latindadd

**Working Groups and Task forces coordinate the thematic work for example:**
- Youth Constituency Group and Working Group on Climate Justice
- New in 2023: Working Group on Social Protection
- New in 2024: Working Group on Financial Justice
3. **Research:** Well researched position papers to articulate the issues of marginalized groups, to continue and strengthen work underway within the Faces of Inequality campaign- on themes like discrimination, vaccine inequality, social protection, universal health coverage, application of fiscal policies, debt policies and impacts, climate finance, etc.

4. **Advocacy**
   a. **Local:** Support members to work with their members for local advocacy.
   b. **National:** Dialogue with governments and members of parliaments in capitals and constituencies to achieve concrete improvements on
      - Social Protection: Development of national implementation plans to achieve social protection for all by 2030 and the ratification and implementation of the African Union Protocol on Social Protection
      - Health: on Vaccine Inequality, UHC and The Pandemic Treaty
      - National Coalitions and Constituency Groups led by intergenerational and Youth organisations work with the people and areas most affected by climate change
      - Perspectives of excluded and marginalised people are brought into national and international policy discussions
      - More progressive tax systems and debt management to combat austerity
   c. **Regional:** With regional institutions like the African Union and its civil society mechanisms, European Institution like the European Commission, Council and Parliament, including its the Policy Forum on Development (PFD), UNESCAP and ECLAC/CEPAL including the work on the ESCAZU agreement and with sub-regional forums like SADEC and SAARC
   d. **Global:**
      - Coordinated advocacy positions within GCAP and with other partners
      - Joint public letters and calls to action on GCAP topics to key institutions
      - Advocacy talks and exchange of letters with embassies of influential countries and EU embassies around the world ("Embassy actions")
      - Coordination with like-minded governments and groups including the AU and EU at the UN
      - Engaging with UN human rights mechanisms like Special Rapporteurs
      - Use of global summits and the processes around for advocacy
         - **SDG Summit 2023 and 2027:** The topics of Social, Climate and Financial Justice will be included in the advocacy for the SDG summit.
         - **Summit of the Future 2024:** Ensure participation of civil society from the Global South
         - **UN World Social Summit 2025**
            - Develop Roadmap towards the World Social Summit 2025 together with other civil society organisations
            - Agree on key demands on Social Protection and financing
            - Conduct advocacy on key demands in national capitals and with missions of Member States at the UN and the UN agencies involved
            - Prepare advocacy demands for the summit
            - Follow up the implementation afterwards
         - **UN Financing for Development Summit 2025:** Organise participation of marginalized people, coordinated advocacy with partners
            - Agree on CSO key demands for negotiations
            - Dialogue with UN delegates and Member States on FFD CSOs proposals
            - Active participation in UN preparatory meetings and the HLPF for FFD4
         - **Climate COPs:** Enable participation of youth and other marginalized groups, support them to participate in the negotiations, organize actions in the COP and outside for media
         - **Other UN and international summits and related processes** for example the UN Commission for Social Development, Commission on the Status of Women, G20, G7, World Health Assembly for advocacy and side events
            - Participate and have policy dialogue at official and alternative CSO summits and actions at G7 and G20 – like co-organising the People’s 20
5. Mobilisation for Global Justice 2030: Building a strong global mobilisation - the ‘Global Justice 2030 Campaign’ - online and offline – for Social and Financial Justice to fight inequalities and eradicate poverty, leading to the World Social Summit in 2025 (proposed by the Secretary General of the UN) and the Financing for Development Conference 4 in 2025
- Building on People’s Assemblies – with its agreed declarations and trust being built in the process
- Leadership from the Global South – the campaign will be jointly developed by the different regions, and have a strong involvement of the Global South from the inception stage.
- Networks of small and midsize CSOs, people’s organizations, trade unions and social movements will lead the campaign
- It will be a decentralised campaign with flexibility of participation and topics
- A core group will start the process, building on work of the last few years, for example the Global to Act4SDGs and People’s Assemblies and ’ Joint campaign calls. CSO networks and INGOs will be included from the beginning and there will be coordination in informal talks
- Meetings of representatives from different networks
- Involvement of professional public relation experts, mostly on a pro-bono basis, and engagement with internationally known activists and intellectuals
- Launch of the campaign in 2024
- Global Justice March organised bring people on the streets in all regions with their issues and demands
- Other actions and stunts locally and at key events
- Support on climate to southern campaigns, such as “Time is running out, the future is now” for joint actions in successive COPs.

6. Alliance Building and Networking:
- The national and global People’s Assemblies (activity 4 under Specific Objective 2) are used as a process to build cooperation between different civil society networks and social movements
- GCAP participates and contributes substantively to alliances
  - Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors
  - People’s Vaccine Alliance
  - Finance Justice Movement: In the Civil Society Financing for Development Group in cooperation with Latindadd
  - Climate movement: Work on Escazu Agreement in Latin America, 11.11.11 in Europe
  - UN Reform: Coalition for the UN we need (C4UN)
  - People’s 20 (on G20): 2023 in India, 2024 in Brazil and others in the following years
OBJECTIVE 2:

SDGs and Leave No One Behind with a focus on Inequalities and Poverty

Civil society in 70 countries, with the participation of excluded people, are involved in the successful achievement of the SDGs and the ‘No One is Left Behind’ Principle with the focus on inequalities and poverty (SDGs 1,2,3,4,5,10,13, 16,17); by means of implementation and accountability of the SDGs by UN member states and commitment to a new agenda post 2030.

To achieve this specific objective, we will work for the following Results:

**Result 1:** Civil society coalitions in 70 countries will present monitoring reports of progress of SDG achievement at respective country level, backed by qualitative and quantitative evidence, and are supported in their demands for
- Effective implementation of SDGs
- Bold and transformative policy measures and actions with the focus on Leave No One Behind, reducing inequalities including gender inequality, social hierarchy and poverty.

**Result 2:** The People’s Assemblies function as an annual bottom-up process that coordinates joint civil society positions and collates the voices, demands and perspectives of marginalized people from the local to the national, regional and the global level, via the UN.

**Result 3:** Advocacy on ‘Faces of Inequality’: The voices and demands of national civil society coalitions of excluded people are supported and connected into various regional and global policy processes for the achievement of the SDGs with a focus on inequalities, poverty and Leave No One Behind.
Key groups include:
- women – especially multiple discriminated women like women with disabilities, CDWD women, older women including widows, women in slums
- youth
- older people
- communities discriminated by work and descent (CDWD)
- persons with disabilities
- indigenous peoples
- migrants and refugees
- LGTBQI+

**Result 4:** People are mobilised and demand from their government the effective and accountable implementation of the SDGs

**Result 5:** Civil society alliances on the SDGs at national, regional and global levels enable the collective voice of civil society to be more substantial, united and stronger
**Result 6:** Civil society will influence the post-2030 framework (post SDGs) for
- Stronger and more concrete goals and targets especially related to inequalities and global justice
- Stronger commitments to financing for development
- Evidence of greater accountability of governments to their citizens in their national reports
- Increased participation of civil society including marginalized groups.

The demands will be developed with members and broader civil society.

**Main Activities to achieve the expected results in a bottom up process from the local to the global – one building on the other:**

1. **Capacity Building on SDGs and Leave No One Behind (LNOB):** To GCAP members and civil society organizations as part of Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD)
   a. Send regular information about SDG processes at the UN by email in an easy to read form and translated into Spanish, French and Arabic
   b. Toolkits on local and national advocacy, monitoring and mobilization and how to include excluded people
   c. Webinars on VNRs and how to include excluded people, including exchange of lessons learnt and good practices
   d. Individual coaching of national coalitions working on VNRs

2. **Research and Analyses, Monitoring and Advocacy** regarding SDG implementation at local and national level with focus on LNOB, especially for Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), with national governments
   a. Publish national level civil society reports and SDG score cards
      - 2023: 40 countries: VNR and others for the SDG Mid-Point
      - 2024: 20 countries: Mainly VNR
      - 2025: 40 countries:
      - 2026-2030: 20 countries each year: Mainly in countries doing a VNR
   b. Regional Reports: EU SDG Report in 2023
   c. Develop recommendations/ action priorities for governments and communicate them with governments, Members of Parliaments (MPs), media, UN.
   d. Share all the reports widely through joint events and on the dedicated page on the Action for Sustainable Development website.

3. **Leave No One Behind:** Bottom-up process from grassroots and community organisations being part of Constituency Groups that bring the voices of excluded groups into regional and global fora of governments (including UN, AU and EU) and civil society:
   a. Convene closed ‘safe space’ sessions on specific forms of discrimination with expert practitioners.
   b. Include key demands of excluded groups in an ethical and confidential manner in national SDG reporting
   c. Form communities of practice to ensure mutual learning

4. **Organise People's Assemblies** from the local to the global level with a broad coalition of CSOs and ensure participation of marginalized groups, including women facing multiple discrimination, youth, older people, Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent (CDWD), persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, migrants
a. National People’s Assemblies include the following elements
- Capacity Building from GCAP by a toolkit backed up by joint planning calls to support the planning and implementation of People’s Assemblies
- Four to ten community and constituency assemblies at grassroots/local level in each country to prepare inputs for the National People’s Assemblies
- One or two days meetings at national level
- Agreement on charter of demands
- The results are brought to the governments by a letter/statement and dialogues with Heads of State are achieved at the UN General Assembly or UN summits like the SDG summit
- Press conference and media work
Number of countries total at least 40 (most countries do a People’s Assembly each year or every two years, therefore the numbers below cannot be added):
  2023: In at least 25 countries
  2024: In at least 25 countries
  2025: In at least 35 countries
  2026 and following: 25-35 countries

b. Bring together the outputs of the national People’s Assemblies as a two days Global People’s Assembly – a civil society summit alongside the SDG Summits 2023 and 2027 in New York and during the World Social Summit 2025. This will include:
- Joint civil society workshops
- Direct participation of marginalized people in the summit so that their voices are heard within the summits, as well as governments and media
- Learning and networking sessions to share best practice in civil society engagement
- Agreement on a declaration to be brought to all Member States
- The Global People’s Assembly results to be presented in the SDG summit and/or UN General Assembly
5. **Advocacy at regional and global level** to present results from the national SDG reports and the People’s Assemblies with a focus on Leave No One Behind –
   a. Bring demands and perspectives from the bottom up process into official Regional UN Forums on Sustainable Development, the annual High Level Political Forums on Sustainable Development and the SDG Summits 2023 and 2027
   b. Organise side events to highlight and discuss the messages
   c. Participate in debates, interactive dialogues and panel discussions – including the Partnership Forum of the EU
   d. Meet official government delegations, UN officers and CSOs
   e. Submit written statements prior to sessions;
   f. Make oral statements.

6. **Mobilisation**: Mobilise to #Act4SDGs in the **Global Week of Action** in September each year – around the SDG Anniversary on 25th September and during the UN General Assembly high level week and at other international days or events:
   a. Coordination and political leadership of GCAP in the Global week of Action in cooperation with the UN SDG Action Campaign each year
   b. Preparation each year of a toolkit for the Global Week to Act4SDGs
   c. Organise coordinated local, national and global stunts/actions during the week to ensure stronger visibility in the media
   d. Mobilise excluded people to bring their own voices into the media
   e. Social Media and Media work: Press conferences, work with television, radio and newspapers
   f. 8 March, International Women’s Day on SDG 5 Gender Equality

7. Coordinate civil society **SDG Alliances/Networks as part of the coordination of Action for Sustainable Development** -
   a. Support national SDG coalitions/networks
   b. Support regional SDG alliances with contributions to joint leadership, including the following regional groups: APSP, SDG Watch Europe, Latindadd, ANND, PIANGO
   c. Global Coordination of Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD) and cooperation with other CSO Umbrellas like CIVICUS, Forus, Climate Action Network
   d. Organizing partner of the NGO Major Group and participation in the Women’s Major Group;
   e. Be part of CSO engagement mechanism at the UN

8. Coordination of civil society and advocacy work on the **framework/global plan post-2030**:
   a. Informal exchange from 2023/2024 being formalised from 2025.
   b. Bottom-up process leading to joint proposals
   c. Coordination for joint civil society advocacy
OBJECTIVE 3:

Strengthen GCAP as movement for Global Justice and Solidarity

GCAP as a movement for global justice and solidarity is strengthened by active and robust National Coalitions and global Constituency Groups, with strong leadership from the Global South, including from marginalised and excluded people, with enhanced capacities and well-functioning processes of participation, governance, communication and exchange, and supported by adequate and sustainable funding.

To achieve this specific objective, we will work for the following Results:

**Result 1:** Strengthened youth involvement and youth leadership at all levels: From the local communities, in National Coalitions, global Constituency Groups and in the global leadership of GCAP

**Result 2:** The governance of GCAP is further strengthened especially the leadership from the Global South and the participation of members in GCAP processes including its organizational development

- Registration and Office in the Global South
- Members are informed about political processes and GCAP processes and members participate in democratic, participatory and inclusive processes at regional and global level
- Members take responsibility within working groups and task forces
- Members have the means, capacities and capabilities to participate in online processes in efficient, effective and safe way. Digital processes are improved to enable meaningful participation.
- National Coalitions are strengthened by the enhanced inclusion of marginalized groups, and have increased capacity for advocacy and mobilization with priority given to activities of grassroots and community groups at local level to contribute to the national work.
- Strengthened Constituency Groups for better coordination of people facing discrimination and exclusion and for more diversity

**Result 3:** The civic space of GCAP members and related civil society is protected and members suffering human rights violations are supported.

**Result 4:** Sufficient, diversified and sustainable funding for National Coalitions, Constituency Groups and the regional and global work

**Result 5:** More visibility of work of GCAP and for the advocacy demands on SDGs, social, climate and financial justice
Main Activities to achieve the expected results:

1. Work with youth organisations to **strengthen youth activities** in GCAP: Together with the Youth Constituency Group young people from countries where GCAP is activities are actively approached to participate in
   a. Exchange: Interactive and motivating events where young people speak about their experiences, aspirations and hopes
   b. Planning: Call and in person meetings (for example during the Climate COPs) for joint planning of activities
   c. Implementation of joint activities co-organised in a decentralised way including online actions, stunts, advocacy

2. **GCAP is registered in the Global South**, has an **office in the Global South**, two thirds of the Secretariat including senior positions are based in the Global South and further proposals of the Governance Reform process are implemented as part of GCAP’s organizational development

3. Regular communication via weekly emails to **inform and involve members** about political processes at the UN and those related to the SDGs, and GCAPs work on social, climate and finance and economic justice

4. Advocacy for **civic space and Solidarity actions** for members facing repression in their countries – by supporting them financially, logistically and politically – according to the situation of the individual case

5. Strengthen existing and build new **constituency groups**:
   a. Each Constituency Group has members from at least 10 countries in three to five regions
   b. Each Constituency Group elects two or Co-Chairs and has a person functioning as secretariat
   c. Each constituency group prepares plans for their work and participates in global processes.
   d. 2023 - 2025 strengthen the existing constituency groups
      - Social Justice Task Force of CDWD
      - Women and Feminists
      - Youth
      - Older People (in process of formation)
   e. 2024 to 2027: Build new constituency groups of
      - Persons with disabilities
      - Indigenous people
      - Potentially also others like LGBTQ+
6. Strengthen existing **National Coalitions** and include new National Coalitions
   a. Accountability of governance processes: Regular elections, transparent reports and finances
   b. Inclusion of representatives of women, youth, older people and different marginalized people in National Coalitions
   c. New National Coalitions: 2 countries per year, Target 2030: National coalitions in at least 75 countries

7. National Coalitions and Constituency Groups are supported to **strengthen grassroots and community organisations** at local level
   a. Providing information to members of members
   b. Toolkits and materials on participatory research, inclusion into national advocacy and mobilisation processes
   c. Training of multipliers from national coalitions to work with local organisations

8. **Capacity Building:** Webinars and trainings of National Coalitions and Constituency Groups for institutional strengthening
   a. Regional: Twice per year
   b. Global: Twice per year
   c. Topics (will be finalized based on the needs and choice of the members)
      i. Inclusion of excluded groups
      ii. Communication: Social media, mainstream media
      iii. Governance:
      iv. Digital tools and security
      v. Advocacy
      vi. Mobilisation
      vii. Fundraising

9. Facilitate online and offline **exchange, learning and partnership** between members from different regions
   a. Regional exchange and learning in calls and meetings
   b. Exchange and learning between two regions (online)
   c. Exchange and Partnerships between national coalitions from the Global South and Global North

10. Democratic, participatory and inclusive discussions, processes and **governance:**
    a. Regular updates on GCAP processes are sent to all members monthly by email
    b. Global Assembly: In person Global Assemblies in September 2023 in New York, 2026 and 2029 – with the option to participate online, plus annual online Global Assemblies
    c. Global Council: Elections in Autumn 2023 after the Global Assembly, and every three years; the Global Council meets at least quarterly
    d. Regional Assemblies: One face to face meeting in each region per year, at least two online Regional Assemblies per year and in each region
    e. Regional Councils: Elections in January 2024, every three years, the Regional Councils meet quarterly

11. **Digital Infrastructure:** Provide members with easy accessible online tools and create digital processes that make GCAP processes more transparent and make it easier for members to coordinate and to contribute to internal discussions, research, advocacy, exchange and mobilisation.

12. **Fundraising:**
    a. Update GCAP global fundraising strategy from 2018 (update planned for 2024)
    b. Diversify donor partners – include more governments, foundations, civil society: Target: Four bigger donor partners, at least six small or medium partners
    c. Strengthen regional fundraising efforts to make each region independent
    d. Targets of the global GCAP fundraising strategy:
       2023: 1 million Euro
       2024: 1,3 million Euro
       2025: 1,5 million Euro
2026 - 2030: 1.5 to 2 million Euro per year

e. Support fundraising activities of the members – by connecting them to calls and donors and giving feedback and inputs to their proposals.
f. Create others mechanisms of fundraising especially to support local and national members

13. Development and implementation of our communication strategy for 2024 to 2030 (developed in 2023):
   a. Supports visibility, mobilization and advocacy at national and global levels
   b. Informs and motivates members and civil society organizations
   c. Creates support from potential partners and donors
   d. GCAP Social media is visible with much higher numbers of followers and reach – especially by involving young members of National Coalitions and Constituency Groups
   e. Website: Gives a good picture about all members and is more interactive
   f. Newsletter: Double subscribers from 5000 to 10,000 emails from civil society
   g. Mainstream media: Update email lists, develop contacts, support National Coalitions in their media work

14. Strengthened decentralised global Secretariat with sufficient capacity to coordinate and support the implementation of the strategy with
   a. Efficient internal processes
   b. Sufficient capacity and technical knowledge including
      i. Regional Coordinators in each region
      ii. Strong finance, administration and fundraising team
      iii. Advocacy, Mobilisation and Communication leads

15. Review of the implementation of the strategy:
   a. Each elected Global Council will agree on milestones and indicators for the implementation of the strategy for their three year term in coordination with Regional Councils (at the beginning of their terms in 2024 and 2027).
   b. In each Annual Planning process the implementation of the strategy will be reviewed using a results assessment framework for the results, milestones and indicators.
   c. A mid-term review of the strategy is planned at the end of 2026.
GCAP Commitment and Accountability to Members and the Movement

The road to 2030 is full of challenges. The fight against inequalities and poverty – to work towards creating a just and sustainable world for all people - particularly in the face of entrenched interests that benefit from the status quo - is a formidable challenge that requires us to re-invigorate our network and build new partnerships and alliances.

With the new Strategic Plan for period 2023-2030, GCAP is moving forward with renewed vigour and rekindled passion.

We reaffirm that, we will -

• Be transparent and democratic in all our structures, processes, actions and decisions.

• Stand by GCAP values to promote a Global South leadership, remain feminist, rights based, inclusive and diverse; we will amplify local voices to global platforms.

• Establish accountable monitoring and evaluation processes to guide our actions towards our vision and mission; take mid-plan stocktaking and adopt corrective measures.

• Establish processes to develop functional leadership across regions, in a structured and planned manner.

• Generate resources to take forward our plans and ideas

• Be dynamic, vibrant and visible

• Create more spaces and opportunities for learning and sharing and documenting good practices, within and across regions.
GCAP Governance Structure

GCAP is a network of networks, with a strong bottom up structure of National Coalitions and Constituency Groups from 66 countries, building the base for a Global Coalition. Each National Coalition and Constituency Groups mobilizes locally, nationally, regionally and globally throughout the year, on the most relevant issues within the overall strategic directions of GCAP.

Today, we form a strong and cohesive body of 66 National Coalitions from as many countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and Europe, and four Constituency Groups. Together, we are committed to achieving our mission with objectivity, transparency and accountability and to following democratic norms and processes in our governance, to achieve all our plans and actions. Our key governance structure includes –

Global Assembly: The Global Assembly is the name of the General Assembly of GCAP. It comprises representatives from each of the National Coalitions, Constituency Groups and Regional Networks. It is the ultimate decision-making body of GCAP. The Global Assembly meets every three years in person and in between in online meetings.

Global Council: Is elected from the Global Assembly every three years and is the Board of the GCAP Global Foundation. Its members comprise two elected members (at least one woman) from each region, and up to five members from Constituency Groups – one from one constituency group.

The Global Council provides strategic direction to GCAP in the implementation of mandates of the Global Assembly and its Declarations. It also reports periodically to the Global Assembly members on its work. Global Council meetings are facilitated by three elected Co-Chairs, with gender and Global South representation (at least one woman and at least two from the Global South).

At the regional level, each Regional Assembly in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America and Caribbean, comprises representatives from each National Coalition, Constituency Groups and Regional networks in the Region. The Regional Assemblies elect or form a Regional Council in each of this four regions every three years. The Regional Councils update the National Coalitions about the discussions. Proposals for new National Coalition members are required to be approved by the Regional Councils, followed by Global Council’s confirmation.

Global Secretariat: The Global Secretariat implements GCAP’s daily operations and the decisions of the Global Assembly and the Global Council. The Regional Coordinators are part of the Global Secretariat and implement the decisions of the Regional Assemblies and Regional Councils. The Global Council appoints the Director of the secretariat and regularly reviews their work.

The Global Council and the Secretariat ensures that all National Coalitions, Constituency Groups, Regional Organisations and Regional Councils get regular updates on the work of the Global Council and Secretariat. This increases the transparency and the scope for participation.
# GCAP National Coalitions

## Africa
- Botswana
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Ghana
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mauritius
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Rwanda
- Sénégal
- Sierra Leone
- Sudan
- Tanzania
- Togo
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

## Asia
- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Cambodia
- China
- India
- Japan
- Nepal
- Pakistan
- Philippines
- Singapore
- Sri Lanka

## Latin America and Caribbean
- Argentina
- Brazil
- Colombia
- Dominican Republic
- Guatemala
- Mexico
- Nicaragua
- Paraguay
- Peru
- El Salvador

## Europe
- Albania
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Estonia
- Greece
- Hungary
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Portugal
- Romania
- Russia
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- United Kingdom

**Count by Region**
- Africa: 22
- Asia: 11
- Latin America and Caribbean: 10
- Europe: 23
- Total: 66