

BRINGING ALL AFRICAN VOICES TO COP26

Strengthening the Participation of African non-Party Stakeholders in the UNFCCC Processes



INTRODUCTION

The 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is one of the most important COPs to take place since the Paris Agreement in 2015. It is particularly important as Parties are in the process of updating their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and there is mounting pressure for countries to raise levels of ambition, reach agreement on climate finance, and finalise the Paris Rulebook and its implementation guidelines.

The African Group of Negotiators – and other negotiating blocs in which African countries participate – have been able to meaningfully contribute to the negotiations. However, other African voices, particularly those of the most vulnerable communities (non-Party stakeholders), have not featured as prominently.

The COP26 negotiations will have direct implications for highly vulnerable African communities, since they will decide the volumes of climate finance allocated. For vulnerable communities, this is a matter of survival in the face of climate change. But are the voices of these stakeholders being heard in the negotiations?

AMPLIFYING AFRICAN VOICES

To address this need for a stronger voice, an ambitious project to strengthen the participation of non-Party stakeholders is currently underway, aiming to foreground the concerns of these most vulnerable stakeholders, prior to and during COP26.

Particularly important is the plight of the very large number of small scale farmers, women and the youth, whose vulnerabilities increase in the face of climate change impacts.

WHO ARE PARTY AND NON-PARTY STAKEHOLDERS?

Parties to the UNFCCC are those 197 countries that have signed up to the UNFCCC.

Non-Party stakeholders include civil society organisations, the private sector, financial institutions, cities and subnational authorities, local communities and indigenous people.

The UNFCCC sees the non-Party stakeholders as playing a key role in strengthening adaptation and mitigation efforts across all aspects of society.

The project is working with 20 non-Party sub-Saharan African countries - Francophone, Anglophone & Lusophone - Representing diversity of African perspectives on climate change





SHARED POSITIONS

The participants have identified three interrelated themes to focus on for COP26:

- Climate adaptation
- Inclusive climate action
- Enhanced climate finance

Adaptation and inclusive action are essential to building resilience and adaptive capacity in the face of climate change.

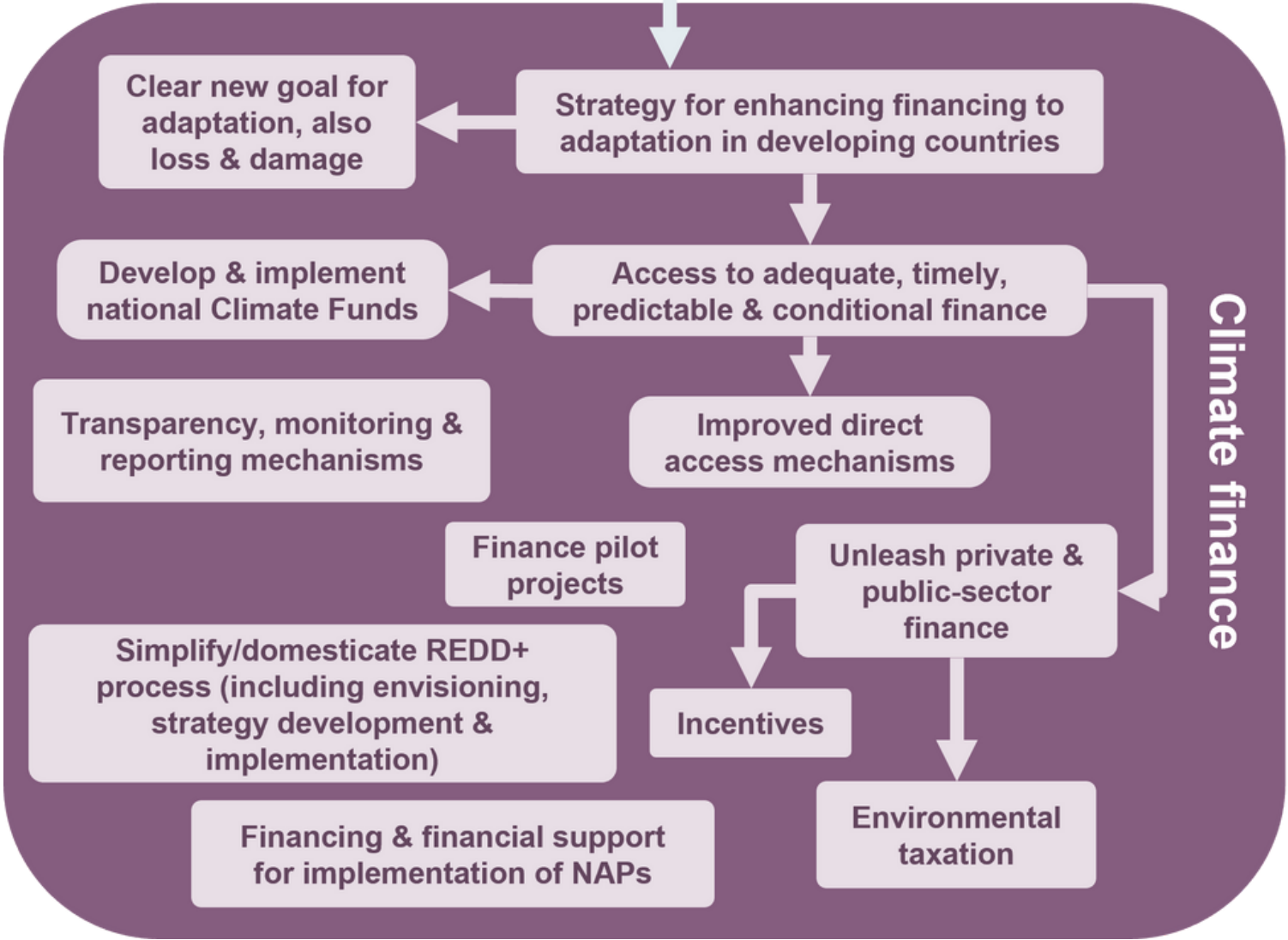
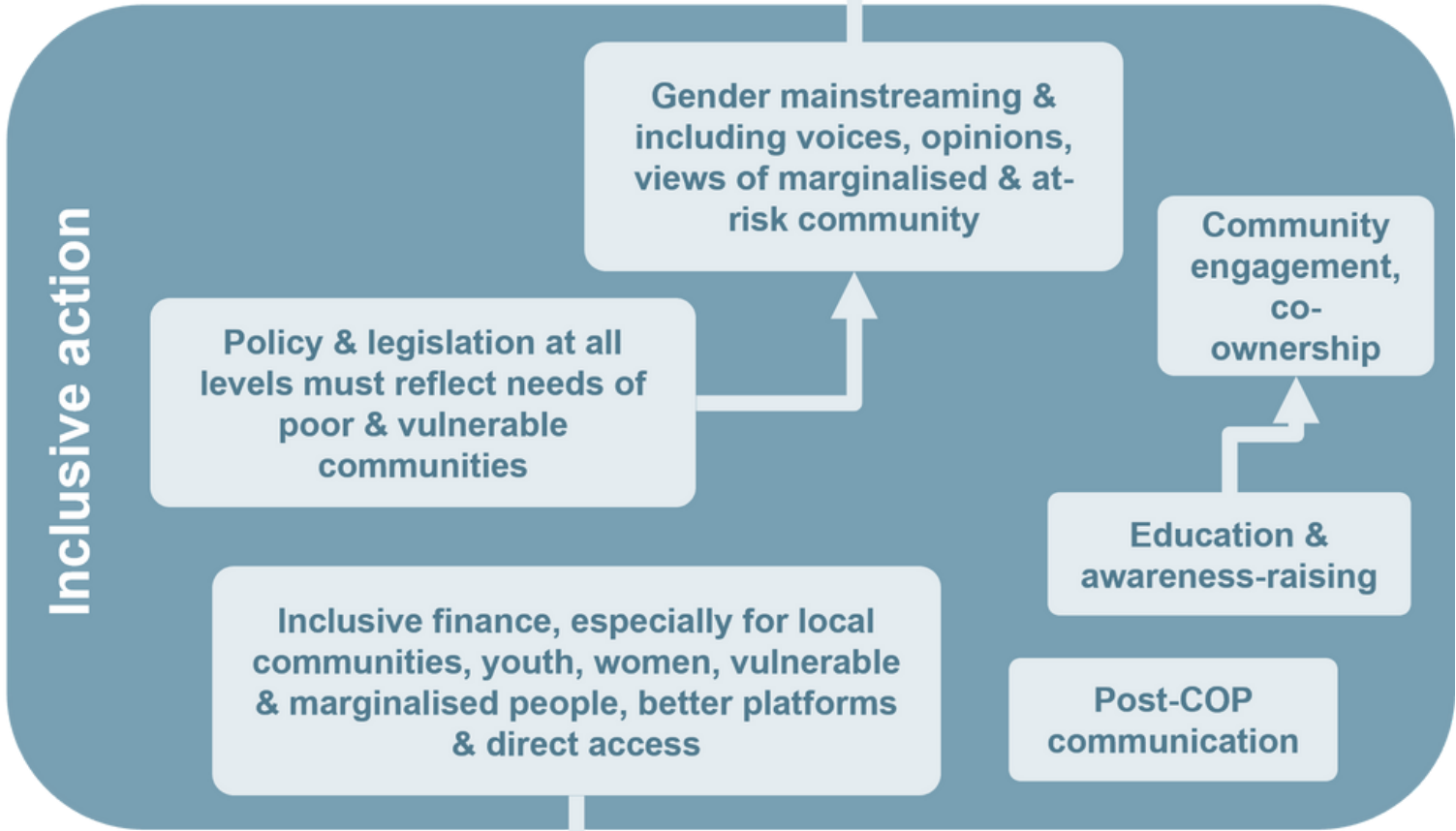
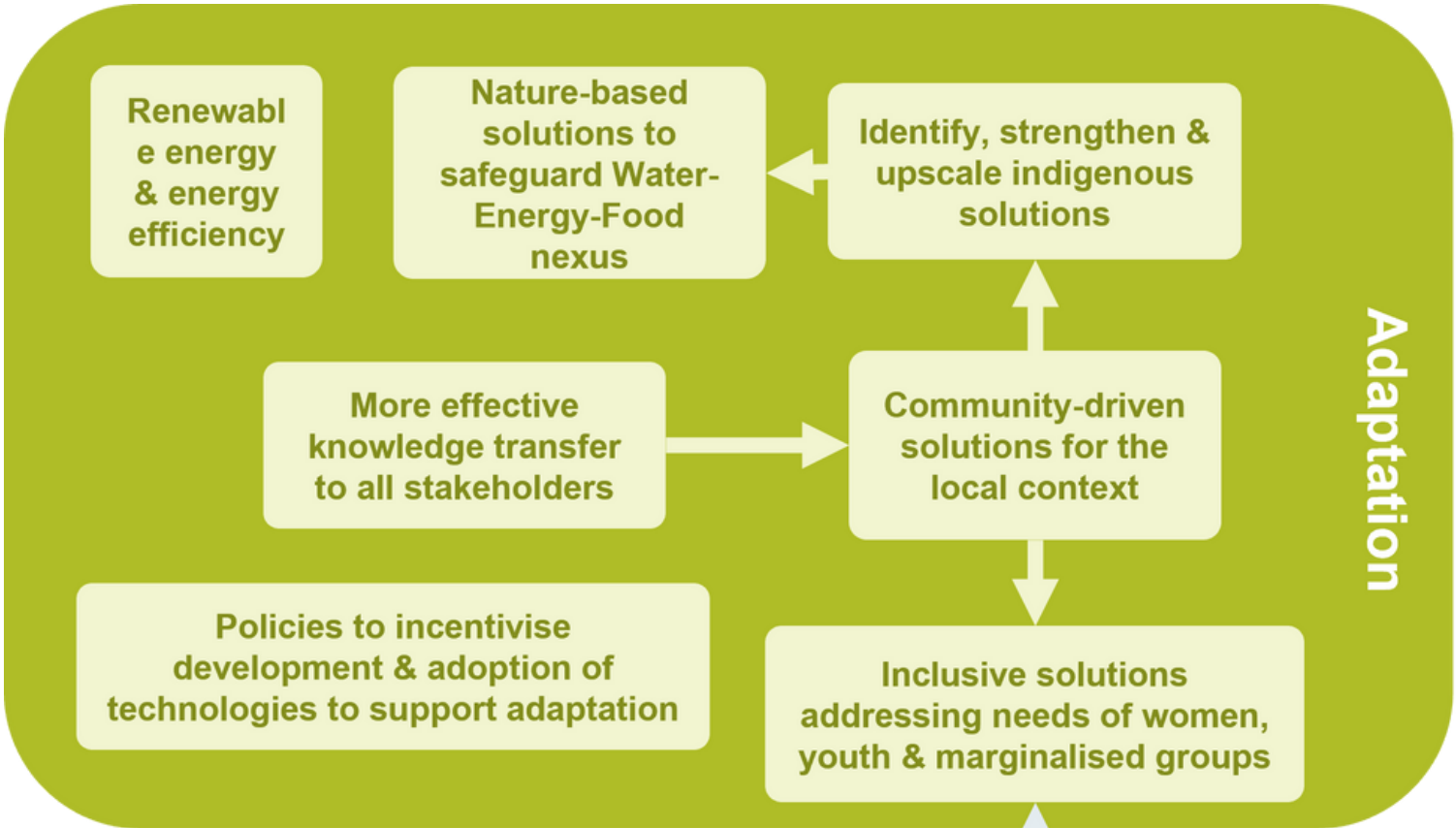
Both of these require adequate, reliable and transparent finance, for implementation.

WHAT HAS THE PROJECT DONE SO FAR?

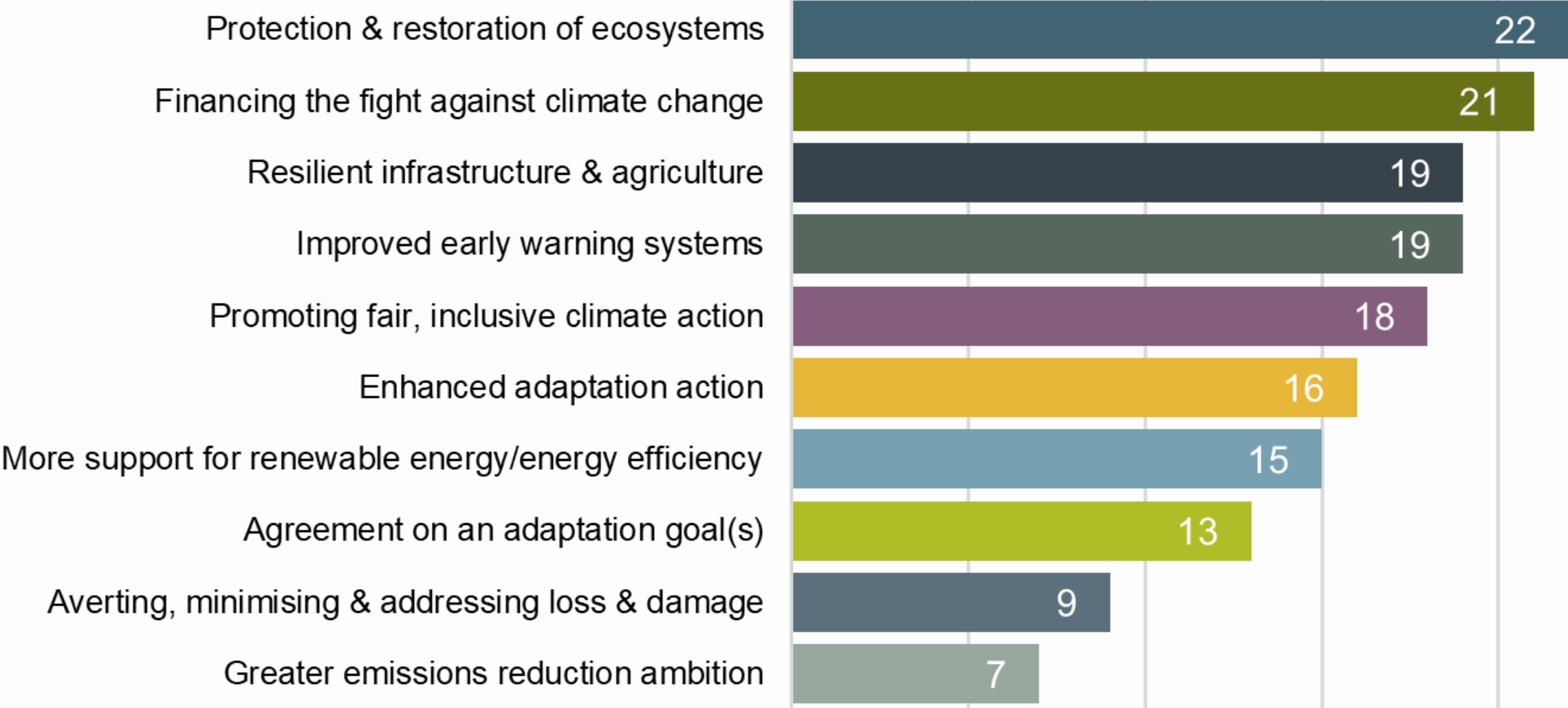
The stakeholders took part in interactive workshops, surveys, which allowed them to identify the key themes they want to prioritise ahead of COP26.

Amongst a list of themes, climate finance, nature-based solutions and addressing loss and damage emerged strongly. Stakeholders also called for transparency in finance and inclusiveness in adaptation actions.

EMERGING PRIORITIES FOR SSA

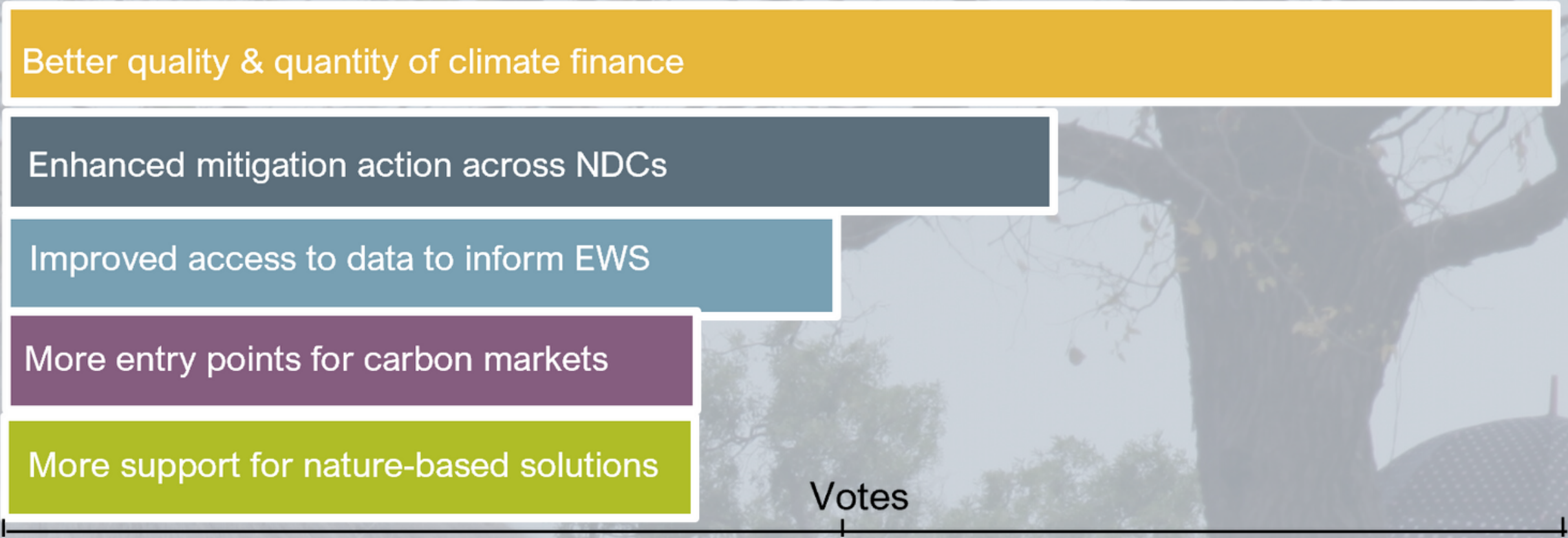


TOP 10 NON-PARTY STAKEHOLDER INTERESTS IN TERMS OF COP26





GOOD OUTCOMES FOR AFRICA FROM COP26



DEFINING SUCCESS FOR SSA AT COP26



Strengthening the Participation of African non-Party Stakeholders in the UNFCCC Processes

Visit <https://sites.google.com/view/african-non-party-stakeholders/>

Follow the initiative on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/Africannpstakeholders>

This brochure was co-created with African Stakeholders, as part of a project which seeks to strengthen and promote the voices of African countries prior to and subsequent to the 26th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC.

The development of this material has been funded by Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. The views expressed do not necessarily reflect the official policies or views of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung.