

# NEWSFLASH

Our future now!

## #CANCELCOAL OUR FUTURE NOW

### Leading the Charge to End New Coal for our Just Future



## WELCOME

Welcome to the #CancelCoal Newsflash where you can keep in the loop with the latest developments in our fight against new coal power in South Africa. With each issue, we'll bring you updates on our landmark legal case, the latest news updates related to the just energy transition from around the world as well as sharing events and a platform for activists to share their hopes and imaginations for a fairer future. We hope you enjoy the read!

## LATEST NEWS INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MINISTER OF ELECTRICITY JOINS THE #CANCELCOAL COURT CASE

After being served an application to join the #CancelCoal court case, along with government respondents in the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE), the Presidency, the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) and the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE), the minister has confirmed that they will be joined. #CancelCoal respondents are currently awaiting responding affidavits from the government respondents.

## CENTER FOR CHILD LAW ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP

The Center for Child Law, which has been included as amicus in the #CancelCoal court case, will be hosting a hybrid workshop on November 17th to discuss the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) General Comment No.26 and to launch a report titled "*Children's Environmental Rights and Climate Justice in South Africa: Impacts of Coal-Related Air Pollution*". Participants can register to join the workshop online. [More here](#)

## IT'S OUR FUTURE – YOUTH DEMAND URGENT VOICE IN CRITICAL CLIMATE CHANGE DECISION-MAKING

youth in the #Cancelcoal CAMPAIGN HAVE PENNED AN OP-ED FOR THE DAILYMAVERICK HIGHLIGHTING THAT impacts of rapid climate change on present and future generations are not being considered in decisions being made about new coal-fired power. The op-ed highlights the potential of deliberative processes in ensuring that voices of youth and the most marginalised communities are included decisions that affect them. [more here](#)

## VACANCY: CANCEL COAL COORDINATOR

THE CANCEL COAL COALITION IS LOOKING FOR A YOUNG, PASSIONATE ACTIVIST, WHO CARES DEEPLY ABOUT CLIMATE JUSTICE, TO JOIN THE COALITION. [MORE HERE](#)

# NEWSFLASH

## SA TO MISS 2030 EMISSIONS TARGET AS COAL PLANTS KEEP ON BURNING

South Africa is set to miss its 2030 carbon emissions targets as the government extends the operation of eight coal-fired power plants, citing persistent power shortages. Officials reveal that the transition to renewable energy faces delays due to bureaucratic obstacles. The country, ranking 11th in global greenhouse gas emissions, pledged under the Paris Agreement to cut emissions to 350-420 million tonnes by 2030. However, the plan to decommission the coal plants by 2034 becomes unrealistic, and a new target for 2035 is under discussion. The admission aligns with a global trend as countries and companies backtrack on climate commitments. Climate Action Tracker will assess countries' goals at COP28. [More here](#)

## PAST MISTAKES MIGHT HOLD THE ANSWER TO SOUTH AFRICA'S SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

In a report published by Wits University's South Centre for Inequality Studies (SCIS), researchers conducted a critical analysis of South Africa's just energy transition as well as associated challenges and opportunities. Examining two decades of procurement, researchers highlight the program's evolution from successful early rounds to disruptions during State Capture and the current "ugly" phase of irregular bidding. The study advocates for an "investment-centred" funding approach, emphasising government coordination and market shaping. Concerns include investor discouragement due to bidding delays and a growing energy divide. Researchers propose additional tools such as R&D investment, tax incentives, and low-interest loans. The study urges a just energy transition aligned with broader development goals as well as for South Africa's just transition to learn and recourse from past mistakes. [More here](#)

## PLASTIC, PLASTIC EVERYWHERE – DECADES OF TALKING MOVES CLOSER TO GLOBAL ACTION

Next week, governments will convene in Nairobi, Kenya, to address global plastic pollution, crafting a new treaty by the end of 2024. With 11 million tonnes of plastic waste entering the sea annually, there's a recognition of the urgency in addressing the issue. Plastic production has nearly doubled in two decades, projected to triple by 2050. While some countries have banned or restricted plastic bags, the challenge extends beyond them. A proposed treaty aims to reduce plastic pollution, emphasising sustainable production, comprehensive life cycle approaches, and public awareness. Concerns arise about industry lobbying and quick-fix solutions like burning plastic for energy. [More here](#)

## **WARMING WORLD, WIDENING GAP: CLIMATE CHANGE'S TOLL ON POVERTY AND INEQUALITY IN SOUTH AFRICA**

A study published in Environmental Research Letters reveals that climate change in South Africa is widening inequality and poverty. The research, conducted by the European Institute on Economics and the Environment, and LSE, explores the temperature-inequality-poverty relationship. In South Africa, inequality is lowest at moderate temperatures, but beyond a certain threshold, the gap widens, impacting vulnerable communities, particularly the poor. The study projects a potential 50% welfare loss by the end of the century due to climate change's impact on GDP and increasing inequality. The authors emphasize the need for climate policies to address inequality. [More here](#)

## **FIRST CLIMATE CHANGE SYNTHESIS CENTRE FOR AFRICA LAUNCHED, HOSTED AT UCT**

The University of Cape Town has launched the African Synthesis Centre for Climate Change, Environment, and Development (ASCEND), the world's first synthesis centre focusing on climate change and development. ASCEND aims to provide a platform for researchers, policy-makers, and practitioners to integrate diverse data and knowledge on climate change, accelerate discoveries, and enhance equitable climate change action in Africa and globally. The centre will host transdisciplinary teams working on the BAOBAB synthesis project for African research on climate change, fostering collaboration and actionable research for climate-resilient development. [More here](#)

## **CLIMATE CHANGE LINKED TO DECISION NOT TO HAVE CHILDREN**

A review involving nearly 11,000 people has found that concerns about climate change are influencing the decision not to have children. Worries about an uncertain future, the ability to provide, and concerns about overpopulation and overconsumption were cited as reasons for not starting a family. The research, published in the journal Plos Climate, also found that political sentiment such as refusing to have children until systemic change occurs, was a motivating factor. The study, a first-of-its-kind systematic review, involved 13 studies from countries including the US, Canada, New Zealand, the UK, and various European nations. [More here](#)

## **SOLIDARITY PROTEST FOR PALESTINE**

The al quds foundation will be hosting a mass pro-palestine protest on november 11TH. The protest will commence at the famous Muir Street Mosque in District Six, proceeding to Whale Street at the office of the Premier. [MORE HERE](#)

# ART OF THE WEEK

By Chioma Ince

## LEADERS OF RESISTANCE



# ARTIST SPOTLIGHT ON: CHIOMA INCE

Chioma Ince is a London based British African and Caribbean Illustrator and Workshop Facilitator whose practice explores themes of politics, identity and narrative. She started her formal education in the arts at UAL Camberwell (2015-2016) then went on to specialise in Illustration at the Glasgow School of Art, graduating with a BA Hons in Communication Design. After graduating in 2019 her love for storytelling and narrative led her to complete an extensive two-year children's publishing program, Pathways (2019-2021), run by Pop Up Projects and House of Illustration. This allowed Ince to learn from leading publishing houses such as Bloomsbury, Harper Collins, Simon & Schuster and Walker Books. Ince's experience of facilitating and creating socially minded work that sparks conversation and engages with all ages has led her to work with: Penguin Random House, Action For Children, Fairtrade, London Wildlife Trust, Andersen Press, Hackney Quest, The Survivor Arts Community, A Space, Iniva, Shelter Scotland, Shado magazine, Imperial College, City Lions, Bad Form, King's College London, Climate In Colour and the NHS Trust. All these collaborations have derived from a need to promote representation, inclusivity, and accessibility within the arts; whilst amplifying voices that are often silenced and erased.

## Q&A

### WHAT IS YOUR PASSION FOR CHANGE (WHAT MOTIVATES YOU TO USE YOUR ART FOR ACTIVISM?)

I BELIEVE ART IS A POWERFUL TOOL FOR CHANGE, AGENCY, EMPOWERMENT AND RESISTANCE. THE WORK I CARRY OUT AS AN ARTIST AND FACILITATOR IS CONCERNED WITH ADDRESSING SOCIAL ISSUES, ADVOCATING FOR MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES, AND REFLECTING DIVERSE STORIES. I AM PASSIONATE ABOUT DECOLONISING ART, HISTORY, EDUCATION, AND HEALTHCARE. WITH RECENT PROJECTS CENTRING ON MENTAL HEALTH, GRIEF, IDENTITY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL COLONIALISM MY DESIRE TO USE ART AS AN AGENT OF CHANGE IS BORN FROM A YEARNING FOR JUSTICE, KNOWLEDGE, AND HEALING. AS A STORYTELLER I AM DRIVEN BY WAYS NARRATIVE CAN AID AND BUILD COMMUNITY. I FEEL DEEPLY FOR OTHERS AND THIS IS REFLECTED IN MY PRACTICE; CARE IS AT THE HEART OF ALL THE WORK I DO AND PUSHES ME TO CHALLENGE AND CREATE. THERE ARE SO MANY HOPELESS AND PAINFUL MOMENTS IN LIFE, PEOPLE ARE SUFFERING ON A GLOBAL SCALE. THE MORE I LEARN ABOUT THE WORLD AND MYSELF THE DEEPER THE WOUNDS APPEAR BUT WITH EACH STORY THAT IS TOLD, EACH VOICE THAT IS BROADCASTED, I FEEL MOTIVATED TO STAND OR WHAT I BELIEVE IN AND FIGHT FOR COLLECTIVE LIBERATION. MY MISSION IS TO CONTRIBUTE TO A FUTURE WHERE FREEDOM AND EQUALITY ARE A REALITY AND NOT A DREAM. A FUTURE WHERE WE CAN LIVE IMAGINATIVELY WITHOUT COLONIAL AND OPPRESSIVE RESTRICTIONS.

### WHAT IS YOUR MESSAGE WITH THE ARTWORK YOU ARE SHARING?

LEADERS OF RESISTANCE PAYS HOMAGE TO THE ROARING STRENGTH, LEADERSHIP, ACTIVISM, AND POWER OF THE ABEOKUTA WOMEN'S (1946) REVOLT IN NIGERIA. THE PROTEST IS A KEY EXAMPLE OF HOW ENVIRONMENTAL COLONIALISM USED FOOD INSECURITY, VIOLENCE, AND MISOGYNY TO TRY TO COMMODIFY AND REFRAME INDIGENOUS RELATIONSHIPS WITH AGRICULTURE AND TRADE. HOWEVER, BOTH THIS PIECE AND THE 1946 REVOLT SHOW WHAT HAS BEEN EVIDENT FROM THE START; WOMEN CAN BE FOUND AT THE CENTRE OF ANY FORM OF RESISTANCE AGAINST COLONIAL FORCES.

### WHERE CAN PEOPLE FOLLOW YOU/WHERE CAN PEOPLE ACCESS YOUR WORK?

INSTAGRAM - @FOLU\_WONDER

WEBSITE - WWW.CHIOMAINCE.CO.UK

