

## **Children demand a voice at COP 30: Organizations call on world leaders to put children at the heart of climate action**

**Belém, November 13th 2025.** As world leaders gather at COP 30 to negotiate how the climate crisis will be addressed, six global organizations – Plant-for-the-Planet, Child Rights International Network (CRIN), Climate Justice for Rosa, ChildFund Alliance, Centre for Global Education and the Alana Institute – are sending out a united call: listen to children and young people, and put their rights as primary consideration of climate decisions!

Across the world, children are among the most affected by the climate emergency, yet they remain largely excluded from the decisions that shape their future. While negotiations are ongoing, they are growing up amidst a climate crisis, facing disrupted education, threats to health and safety, food insecurity, exposure to armed conflict, and the loss of homes and stability and in the most severe cases, loss of life. They are calling to be seen, heard, and meaningfully included in climate decision-making at all levels. Every year of inaction increases the burden children will carry. Their rights, voices, and solutions must be part of the climate negotiations.

Historically, decision-makers have excluded children from decision-making processes. Their absence often leads to them being overlooked in official texts and in the commitments made by countries and nations.

This year's negotiations place "Just Transition" at the heart of COP30 discussions – a crucial opportunity to secure a fair and sustainable future. The six organizations stress that the agenda point of the "Just Transition Work Programme" must include explicit commitments to include the care economy within the work programme and prevent and eliminate child labour. Without these safeguards, the rights and well-being of current and future generations remain at risk.

To ensure their voices are heard, a children-led panel with participants from around the world will present their needs and demands of the negotiators at a press conference on **November 19 at 3:30 pm at press conference room 2** during COP 30. This event will provide a platform for children to share their vision for a safe, just, and sustainable future — one where their rights, present and future, are protected.

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