

## **People-Powered Solutions: Connecting Local Communities and Global Challenges**

### **Joshua Amponsem**

**JOSHUA AMPONSEM** [An African man from Ghana wearing a white shirt and blue jacket, Co-Director and Youth Climate Justice Fund]:

The world we want is one where young people are seen as drivers, movers, shakers, and leaders of today and tomorrow. In the world I live in now, only 0.76 [percent] of climate philanthropy is going into the hands of young climate leaders. We cannot say that young people are the last generation to fight the climate crisis and not trust them with resources. At the Youth Climate Justice Fund, we focus on three main areas.

One, holding policymakers accountable to their existing promises and pledges. The second part is raising ambition on climate and making sure that we are supporting groups that are helping the world leaders meet their targets. The third part is building leadership rooted in community. We want to build and support young people to become the next leaders in philanthropy, in businesses, in intergovernmental organizations connected to their communities, and truly representing them at a broader scale.

Young people, particularly those from the Global South, are currently living through one of the toughest times of their lives, and the future ahead of them is very uncertain. Young people from these communities need to be included in decision making, in the planning, the implementation, but also trust and resources in their hands directly to create a new future, the future that fits their vision of a better world and a resilient world.

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