

## Red Hot Chili Peppers and Ms Lauryn Hill to headline 2023 Global Citizen Festival

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Global Citizen Festival returns on 23 September to drive critical efforts to End Extreme Poverty Now: For equity, for the planet, for food and for jobs.



International advocacy organisation, **Global Citizen**, has announced that the **Global Citizen Festival** will return to the iconic Great Lawn of Central Park in New York City on Saturday, 23 September. The free, ticketed event will drive urgent action to End Extreme Poverty Now, headlined by **Red Hot Chili Peppers** and **Ms Lauryn Hill**. **Megan Thee Stallion**, **Conan Gray** and **Stray Kids** are also set to perform.

For the first time in a generation, the number of people living in extreme poverty is rising. The **2023 Global Citizen Festival** campaign takes aim at the major issues perpetuating extreme poverty, including the impacts of climate change on the Global South, the inequities affecting women and girls around the world, and the global hunger crisis, and will call on governments to protect and defend advocates everywhere. The campaign will unite millions of voices, amplified by the world's biggest artists, to demand urgent action from world leaders gathering in New York City for the United Nations General Assembly in September.

Tickets to the 2023 Global Citizen Festival are free and can be earned by joining the movement and taking action on the <u>Global Citizen app</u> or at <u>www.globalcitizen.org</u> on the following issues:

**Women and adolescent girls** around the world continue to face challenges including unequal access to education, access to quality healthcare, routine immunization, family planning support and menstrual products, impeding opportunities for economic empowerment and perpetuating the cycle of extreme poverty. According to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), 257 million women globally want to avoid pregnancy but lack access to safe, modern contraceptives.

In order to meet this need, the UNFPA Supplies Partnership, which provides lifesaving sexual and reproductive health

services, requires an additional \$100m from long standing gender equality champions including Norway, Canada, and



Ms Lauryn Hill

Japan, which holds this year's G7 Presidency, as well as businesses, and philanthropic foundations. Education Cannot Wait stands ready to provide quality education to 20 million children living through emergencies and protracted crises, but urgently needs another \$670m from governments such as France, Australia, Japan and Finland.

**Climate change** is ravaging the world's most vulnerable countries, and the nations that contributed the least to the crisis are being impacted hardest. Continuing on the momentum generated at last month's 'Power Our Planet: Live in Paris' event, this year's Global Citizen Festival will pressure governments and Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) to urgently mobilise funding to enable climate-vulnerable countries to adapt and mitigate the effects of climate change.

Italy, the US, the UK and Australia must deliver on their climate finance promises and help close the \$16.7bn annual shortfall; Germany and all MDBs must add pause clauses into new loan agreements should a developing country be struck by a natural disaster or pandemic; and the UK, Brazil and the US should agree to a new maritime transport levy to fund the fight against climate change. Countries including the UK,

Australia and Japan need to follow through on their pledges to reallocate their IMF Special Drawing Rights, and rechannel them through the African Development Bank.

Leaders from the private sector are asked to join the Official UN Race To Zero, set science-based targets, and publish time-bound action plans. They should also commit to making sustainable, transformative investments in low income and climate-impacted countries to **stimulate job growth and resilient economies**.

The global food and malnutrition crisis continues to decimate communities around the world. According to the <u>Global</u> <u>Report on Food Crises 2023</u>, more than 250 million people are facing acute levels of hunger, with many on the verge of starvation. Africa has sufficient arable land to be the world's bread basket; instead, rural communities are being devastated by the impacts of climate change and conflict, as **smallholder farmers are unable to work** or generate sufficient food for their populations.

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has the potential to improve the lives of up to 110 million small scale farmers and their communities now. Governments such as Norway, Australia or France need to step up their commitments to double adaptation financing and raise \$2bn for a successful IFAD replenishment at the end of 2023, so impacted communities can adapt to climate change and improve food security for themselves and the world.

"COP27, this year's G7, the World Bank Spring Meetings and the Paris climate finance summit all failed to deliver tangible results, or disruption of the world's unjust systems," said Hugh Evans, co-founder and CEO of Global Citizen. "But complacency can't win. If we want to see breakthroughs on development and climate change, we need the US, UK, Canada, Australia, and all G7 nations to meet the urgency of the hour. Every single citizen has a vital role to play, and together, we must be laser-focused on driving results and impact in September."

Global Citizen Festival is presented by Citi and Cisco. Global Partners are Accenture, Delta Air Lines, P&G, TimesLIVE and Verizon; Campaign Partner World Wide Technology; with Live Nation, iHeartMedia, and Location Partner New York City Department of Parks and Recreation. The Global Citizen Festival broadcast is produced by Done and Dusted.

Global Citizen is also grateful for the support of leading media companies across the world including: iHeartMedia, AIM Group, Arena Holdings, Atmosphere TV, Bandsintown, Bella Naija, Captivate, EIB Network, Grocery TV, GSTV, Interstate Outdoor, MX Location, New Tradition, Orange Barrel Media, OUTFRONT Media, Penske Media, Seen Media, Six Flags

Theme Parks, Spotify, Trooh Media, Vanguard Media, Vox Media, The Wal Street Journal and Zikoko

The 2023 Global Citizen Festival campaign and its policy goals are supported by: African Climate Reality Project; Aspire Artemis Foundation Inc.; Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens; BASICS International; Bays Planet Foundation; Beyond Bretton Woods; Blended Finance Taskforce; Brave Foundation; Center for Environmental Peacebuilding; Chanja Datti; Climate Finance Group for Latin America and the Caribbean; Common Good Marketplace; Connected Development; Don't Gas Africa; E3G; Earth For All; ECB Sustainable Youth Foundation; Education Cannot Wait: The UN Global Fund for Education in Emergencies; Extinction Rebellion (XR) Nelson Mandela Bay (NMB); Focus 2030; Friends of the Global Fund Europe; GAIN; Gender and Economic Research Center; Germanwatch; Glasgow Actions Team; Global Alliance for a Green New Deal; Global Education and Leadership Foundation (Values 20 India); The Global Fund; Global Health Advocates; the Global Kid; Global Nation; Green Republic Farms; Hungry for Action; IEC Global Impact Fund; International Climate Change Development Initiative; International Climate Financing WG; International Fund for Agricultural Development; JA Africa; Jane Goodall Institute France; Jara; Lagos Food Bank; LEAP Africa; Loss and Damage Youth Coalition; Malala Fund; Marafiki United Green Youths Initiative; Millennials Movement; Moody's; The ONE Campaign; ONG Jeunes Volontaires pour



Megan Thee Stallion

l'Environnement (JVE); Only One; OurCause; OWIT Brussels – Organization of Women in Trade; Plastic Punch; Power to Girls Foundation; Primavera Zur; Project Everyone; Recycling Scheme for Women and Youth Empowerment (RESWAYE); Re:Wild; Save the Children; SDG2 Advocacy Hub; Shamba Centre for Food and Climate; Sharing Strategies; She Leads Climate Action; Stage For Change; Strategic Youth Network for Development; Sungulo Comm NPC; Support Humanity Cameroon (SUHUCAM); Sustainable Development Solutions Network; Sustainability and Climate Podcast; UN Joint SDG Fund; United Nations Foundation; Uniting To Combat NTDs; Whitaker Peace & Development Initiative (WPDI); and Women At Risk International Foundation.

For more information visit <u>globalcitizenfestival.com</u>, download the <u>Global Citizen app</u>, and follow Global Citizen on <u>TikTok</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>YouTube</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u>.

\* Absa partners with the Karkloof Country Club in a new 3-year agreement to support the community 7 May 2024

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