



## Press Release

The Royal African Society, International Crisis Group and Africa Confidential

### **Ghana's President AKUFO-ADDO, Nigeria's Vice President OSINBAJO TO OPEN CLIMATE AND CONFLICT CONFERENCE on 14 September 2021 (12.30 - 19.00 BST)**

Africa is the continent whose economies, security and demographic patterns are most disrupted by climate change, but it is the continent least responsible for the damage that the decades of fast-rising production of carbon dioxide and methane have wrought on the biosphere.

Africa has also received less per-capita funding for adaptation to climate change than any other developing region. Many African governments, scientists and activists want that to change, and for the continent to pioneer transitions to green energy and win global recognition for its guardianship of the world's most valuable environmental resources and much of its bio-diversity.

But the debate over climate and energy poses dilemmas. While many African governments plan green transitions, others depend on their hydrocarbon reserves to power economic development, and ask why carbon-intensive industrial economies should dictate policies to those who most need to boost growth and jobs?

Our two headline speakers – **President Akufo Addo of Ghana and Vice President Yemi Osinbajo of Nigeria** – are both from countries at the centre of this debate. Their views carry weight in Africa, and are directly relevant to the agenda of UN Climate Change summit COP 26 to be held in Glasgow in November 2021.

The conference will also examine how changes in climate and demography could affect Africa over the coming decade. In particular it will explore whether these changes be managed peacefully, or if will they exacerbate existing conflict risks. While, the effects of climate change on conflict are neither simple nor linear, they are real. Despite this, conflict does not feature on the COP 26 agenda.

In addition, the conference will consider how the rest of the world should engage with Africa to tackle these challenges, and the ways in which the continent can use its collective voices to shape decisions needed at COP 26.

The conference will aim to deliver specific recommendations for action at COP 26.

Join some of Africa's most senior and influential voices to debate these questions at a virtual conference on ***Climate, Conflict and Demography in Africa*** to be held on **Tuesday 14 September 2021 (12.30 - 19.00 BST)**. The event is co-hosted by Africa Confidential, the International Crisis Group and the Royal African Society to mark their 60th, 25th and 120th anniversaries respectively.

**Register now at:** <https://hopin.com/events/climate-conflict-demography-in-africa-conference>

**Livestream on** Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/royafrisoc>), YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/c/CrisisgroupOrg>) and Twitter ([https://twitter.com/Africa\\_Conf](https://twitter.com/Africa_Conf))

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