

The #GreyAndGreen Manifesto

A HelpAge International commitment to put older people at the forefront of climate solutions

Few understand better the impact of the climate catastrophe than older people.

Surviving cycles of droughts, floods, vicious summers and cruel winters, older people have honed their skills over decades. In villages and communities, they are relied on to read the weather and plant or prepare accordingly; to know where safe water and higher ground can be found.

Yet older people are often absent from the climate debate: their skills and know-how are side-lined; their rich experience ignored.

*With this #GreyAndGreen manifesto,
we pledge to change that.*

*And we are calling on all members of
the HelpAge global network to join us*



Together, we can unite and galvanise the millions of older people who are among the great fighters and solvers of this crisis. We can champion their unique abilities and vast experience and together, we can act as a catalyst for action for older people everywhere.

Here are our top five priorities to steer collective action for older people and highlight their role and needs in the fight against climate change.

1 Collect the data and shout the facts about how the climate catastrophe affects older people

We will communicate the impacts of climate change on older people to galvanise support and mobilise action. We will inform wider stakeholders and decision makers about older people's needs, based on evidence of their lived experience.

We will also ramp up our drive to ensure the voices, needs and experience of older people are included in local, national and sub-national climate policies and plans. No one will be left behind.

2 Ensure that older people are engaged, supported and involved in climate mitigation and adaptation initiatives.

We will reduce vulnerability to climate shocks by supporting older people to adapt their lives and livelihoods to climate change.

Our projects and programmes will be based on local and indigenous knowledge and analysis of climate policies and plans. Older people's contributions to reduce carbon emissions will be documented to raise their voice and action on climate mitigation.

3

Spearhead the leadership of older people by amplifying their voice when demanding climate action and holding leaders accountable.

Our climate action will be guided by the leadership and experience of older people's groups and associations. We will learn from their knowledge and ensure their meaningful participation in climate change adaptation and mitigation plans.

4

Bring older and younger people together to take a collective stance on climate change.

Our climate change agenda will be guided by bringing generations together to share knowledge, better understand the climate crisis and build political influence and empowerment.

Dialogue is a must to ensure that the old of today can share their experience with the old of tomorrow – creating a common stance to tackle climate crisis.

5

Promote international solidarity on climate change.

Our advocacy will be guided by the need to build on the strength of the HelpAge Global Network to deliver international solidarity on climate change, bridging the gap between North and South.

We pledge to work in partnership with members of the HelpAge Global Network, building on your skills and capacities to support and raise the voice of older people in the climate crisis.

HelpAge will provide technical, convening and resource development support to network members, informed by the need for urgent action to combat climate crisis.

Join us!

