



Justice and Ecology Office

We at Jesuit Justice and Ecology Network Africa (JENA) welcome and support the courageous actions of so many young people across Germany in support of climate justice. By their activities today, motorists have been interrupted. They are encountering heavy traffic due to the blockades of young climate activists and many of them will arrive to their destinations late or not at all.

At the same time, the disruptions caused by these justified acts of civil disobedience pale in comparison to those caused by climate change. Despite contributing a tiny portion of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, we in Sub-Saharan Africa are among the most vulnerable to the climate crisis. In recent years we have witnessed rainy and dry seasons become increasingly unpredictable, making it much more difficult for farmers and pastoralists to produce food for themselves and their communities. Droughts have led to the loss of livestock, groundwater, and crops in East Africa and the Sahel while floods have had similarly tragic consequences in Central and West Africa. In the south-eastern portion of the continent, the annual cyclone season has become more intense, spawning storms that are increasing in severity and frequency.

The climate crisis on this continent is already measured in lives lost, communities abandoned, and families undernourished, all as a result of consumption patterns that we have not contributed to or benefited from.

Germany and the European Union must take urgent action. Our lives depend on it. The young people blocking German roads today are standing up for us. We hope the German public and government will follow suit.

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