

Tell your MP to channel COVID19 allocated recovery money to coal.

Background

The Kenyan government has allocated KES 1.3bn for coal mining this financial year; this is despite the fact we are in a pandemic that has affected the economy and left many Kenyans in abject poverty. The world over, governments have cushioned their citizens against the economic challenges by budgeting for stimulus packages.

Furthermore, realizing the impact fossil fuel has had on the environment, particularly the air quality that exacerbated the impacts COVID19 has had on communities, many governments are choosing to divest to renewable energy to build back better sustainable communities. Therefore, one wonders why our government is choosing to mine coal when the world is moving away from coal.

We are further concerned that nobody has seen the mining concessions – not even the would-be affected communities. The whole project is shrouded in secrecy, and community concerns, including questions around the opportunity, costs like diverting rivers, forests, displacing families, and the contribution this mining will have on climate change, are entirely ignored.

Meanwhile, the President continues to attend global forums, including the recently convened climate summit, to reassure the world that as a country, we are committed to the Paris Accord and are keen to do our part in fighting climate change. We need your support in telling the President we mean business. To do this, we need you to sign this petition asking members of Parliament to redirect the KES to projects that support building back better.