



Youth and Climate Change

7th October, 2021

11:30 – 13:00 IST | 08:00 – 09:30 CET | 06:00 – 07:30 GMT

UNFCCC recognised the fact that tackling climate change requires both, concerted government action as well as conscious and informed individual action globally. Of this global population, 1 out of every 6 people in the world falls between of the age 15-24. Furthermore, these 1.2 billion individuals form the historically most educated and connected generation, with increasingly strong social and environmental awareness - giving them a real power to transform societies. This is true for the case of climate change and climate action as well.

Climate Change discourse around the world has seen a strong and increasingly-influential arrival of youth engagement - demanding climate action as much as contributing to combating climate change. Given the saying the 'future is theirs'; the youth have found a seat on the table when planning for it. The youth play an important role, now more than ever, to raise awareness both in the public and political spectra and this highlights the potential of youth in fostering leadership and conscientization.

Consequently, as youth now hold the place of being significant stakeholders in the global climate discourse, it is seen as critical to constructively channelize their energy to stimulate and enhance climate action. This can be seen in examples ranging from YOUNGO being recognised as the official youth constituency of the UNFCCC to the rise of Fridays for futures and Greta Thunberg that is empowering young people all over to the Global Commission for Adaptation's Young Leaders Program, and multiple other youth-led and youth-focused projects, organisations and opportunities that are advocating the need to react and adapt to climate change, as well as empowering them to do so. However, there still exist disconnects, such as between the youth-led actions and policy change, or the understanding of roles and capacities within these new frameworks.

The proposed session, thus, intends to engage with youth who are working in various fields like climate research, policy research, environmental law, youth activists, etc. to understand their role in the following ways:

1. How can youth design creative solutions to bridge the science -policy gap?
2. What role can formal education play in informing the youth about policy making processes and further influence them to actively participate in formulating climate policy?
3. How can they can as individuals make a difference in the fight against climate change (with specific reference to adaptation)
4. In what ways can the youth bring together several movements, organisations be at the national and international levels to achieve the goal of climate adaptation?

The plenary aims to bring together youth leaders from diverse walks of life to bring for their perspective on climate action with a focus on climate change adaptation.

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TENTATIVE AGENDA

<p>11:30-11:40 IST 08:00-08:10 CET 06:00: 06:10 GMT</p>	<p><u>Moderated by</u> (10 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Livleen Kahlon, Senior Fellow, TERI
<p>11:40-11:45 IST 08:10-08:15 CET 06:10-06-15 GMT</p>	<p><i>Poll of the session to be managed by the moderator (5 mins)</i></p>
<p>11:45 – 12:45 IST 08:15 – 09:15 CET 06:15 – 07:15 GMT</p>	<p><u>Panellists</u> (60 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Raka A'igtok, <i>President, Indian Youth Climate Network</i> • Mr. Joshua Amponsem, <i>Fellow, Global Center on Adaptation & Executive Director, Green Africa Youth Org</i> • Mr. Arutro Italo Salazar Toledo, <i>Jóvenes Peruanos Frente al Cambio Climático, Lima, Peru</i> • Ms. Garvita Gulhati, <i>India's Water Girl & Founder of Why Waste?</i> • Ms N R Mekhala Sastry, <i>Research Associate, TERI</i>
<p>12:45-13:00 IST 09:15-09:30 CET 07:15-07:30 GMT</p>	<p>Youth Climate Conclave 2021 (<i>Environmental Education and Awareness team, TERI</i>) (15 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Youth Climate Conclave- <i>Dr. Livleen K Kahlon, Associate Director and Senior Fellow, Environment Education and Awareness, TERI</i> • Presentation of the Youth Climate Pledge- <i>Ms. Kurnica Bhattacharjee, Manipal Academy of Higher Education and Mr. Yash Khandelwal, Amity University</i> • Announcement of Winners of Youth Climate Conclave- <i>Mr. Edwin Koekkoek,</i>

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	<p><i>Counsellor, Energy and Climate Action, EU Delegation to India</i></p>
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