



United Nations

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs



Ministry of
the Interior and Safety



Incheon
Metropolitan City

7th Youth Forum on SDG Implementation: Enabling Youth as Agents of Change for Digital Transformation and Inclusive Climate Action

Summary Report

September 2023



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About the Organisers

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

The Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat is a vital interface between global policies in the economic, social, and environmental spheres and national action. The Department works in three main interlinked areas: (i) it compiles, generates, and analyses a wide range of economic, social, and environmental data and information on which States Members of the United Nations draw to review common problems and to take stock of policy options; (ii) it facilitates the negotiations of Member States in many intergovernmental bodies on a joint course of action to address ongoing or emerging global challenges; and (iii) it advises interested Governments on the ways and means of translating policy frameworks developed in the United Nations conferences and summits into programmes at the country level and, through technical assistance, helps build national capacities.

United Nations Project Office on Governance

The United Nations Project Office on Governance (UNPOG) is part of the Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG) of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA). Its principal mission is to strengthen the public governance capacities of developing the Member States in Asia, the Pacific and beyond to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The operational work of UN DESA, and thus UNPOG, aims to strengthen the capacities of developing countries to translate internationally agreed policy frameworks into strategies and programmes at all levels of public governance. The focus on strengthening the capacity of public administration falls within the mandate of UN DESA's Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG).

Ministry of the Interior and Safety (MOIS)

The Ministry of the Interior and Safety (MOIS) of the Republic of Korea is responsible for general affairs of the State Council, promulgation of Acts and subordinate statutes and treaties, government organisation and prescribed number of public officials, awards and decorations, government innovation, administrative efficiency, e-government, personal information protection, management of government buildings and support for elections and referendums.

Furthermore, the MOIS actively promotes local autonomy and decentralisation by supporting business, finance and taxation of local governments and mediating disputes among local governments. In addition, the MOIS takes charge of establishing, supervising, and adjusting policies related to safety and disaster management such as emergency countermeasure, civil defence and disaster prevention.

Incheon Metropolitan City

Incheon Metropolitan City refers to the local government in Incheon City of the Republic of Korea. As home to many “first ever” developments in the Republic of Korea, the city aspires to be first in innovation. With the slogan “First Ever”, the local government of Incheon takes courage on taking new challenges and willingness to open new doors for the Republic of Korea. In addition, the government is run by the three core values of “balance”, “creation”, and “communication”, and is driven by the aspirations for new hope.

Disclaimers

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Website: unpog.org

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The Report of the 7th Youth Forum on SDG Implementation, *Enabling Youth as Agents of Change for Digital Transformation and Inclusive Climate Action* was prepared by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), through its Project Office on Governance (UNPOG) of the Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG). The 7th Youth Forum on SDG Implementation was organised by UN DESA/DPIDG/UNPOG in collaboration with the Ministry of the Interior and Safety (MOIS) of the Government of the Republic of Korea and Incheon Metropolitan City.

Under the overall guidance of Juwang Zhu, Director of DPIDG, and support of Adriana Alberti, Chief of Programme Management and Capacity Development Unit (PMCDU), the 7th Youth Forum on SDG Implementation was organised under the leadership of Kyu Chang Ko (†), Head of UNPOG and Carolit Grace Salvacion, Associate Networking and Outreach Expert of UNPOG, with the support of Prabin Maharjan, Samuel Danaa, Hye Yong (Hailey) Kim, Changil Kim, Hye Kyung (Shelley) Choi, Misoo Kim, Yunsook Lee, Keping Yao, Ana Thorlund, Daegyun Lee, Myeongku Kang, and Hyenju Jun.

Speakers and evaluators include Kyu Chang Ko (Head of the United Nations Project Office on Governance (UNPOG)), Eunyoung Jang (Director of International Cooperation Division, Ministry of the Interior and Safety (MOIS) of the Republic of Korea), Jehak Jang (Advisory Ambassador for International Relations, Incheon Metropolitan City), Garam Jeon (Youth Representative, World Organisation of the Scout Movement (WOSM)), Yoonie Choi (Youth Network and Partnership Specialist, Youth Engagement Team, UNICEF), Dunola Oladapo (Youth Programme Officer, ITU), Mitzi Jonelle Tan (Convenor/International Spokesperson, Youth Advocates for Climate Action Philippines (YACAP), the Fridays For Future (FFF) of the Philippines), Gibson Kawago (Climate Entrepreneur and Founder of WAGA, Global Climate Leader for the UN SDGs, 2022 Cohort of Young Leaders for the SDGs), Prabin Maharjan (Programme Management Expert, UNPOG), and Wanda Casten (Senior Officer, Resource Mobilisation and Business Development Partnerships, GGGI).

The team wishes to thank the audience and contestants for their enthusiasm and active participation throughout the Youth Forum.

This report was prepared by Carolit Grace Salvacion and was peer-reviewed by Keping Yao, Ana Thorlund, Prabin Maharjan, Samuel Danaa, Hye Yong (Hailey) Kim, and Hye Kyung (Shelley) Choi.

Background

On 8 September 2023, the United Nations Project Office (UNPOG) of the Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG) of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), in collaboration with the Ministry of the Interior and Safety (MOIS) and Incheon Metropolitan City of the Republic of Korea, organised virtually the **7th Youth Forum on SDG Implementation**.

Under the theme ***Enabling Youth as Agents of Change for Digital Transformation and Inclusive Climate Action***, the Forum was divided into two thematic sessions, “Harnessing the Potential of Youth in the Age of Digital Transformation” and “Elevating the Role of Young People as Key Players for Climate Action”. A key feature of the Youth Forum was the presentation session from five shortlisted teams to present innovative ideas on UNPOG’s Ideas for Change Contest.

The Ideas for Change Contest was introduced as a continuation to UNPOG’s annual speech contest. Under the same theme, young individuals were invited to participate in teams of three and submit a project proposal related with UNPOG’s priority action areas with the use of digital transformation and/or inclusive climate action.

At the end of the Forum, three teams received certification awards from the Ministry of the Interior and Safety (MOIS), Ministry of Environment, and Incheon Metropolitan City of the Republic of Korea. The recipient of the MOIS award was also invited to deliver a presentation during the Youth Session of the 7th Regional Symposium.

The summary of the 7th Youth Forum on SDG Implementation can be found below.

Audience and Beneficiaries

The 7th Youth Forum on SDG Implementation brought together young participants from Asia and the Pacific, East Africa and beyond.

A total of 200 youth participants registered for the Youth Forum composed of 52% male, 47% female and 1% preferring to not identify themselves. The registered participants were from 34 countries including Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Canada, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uzbekistan, and Viet Nam.

The Annex provides an overview graph of the registered participants.

Objectives

As part of UN DESA/DPIDG/UNPOG's efforts to include young people in their work, the 7th Youth Forum on SDG Implementation aimed to bring together youth from Asia and the Pacific, East Africa and beyond to:

- Engage in meaningful youth discussion that encourages young people to play an active role in digital transformation and climate action.
- Present ideas and solutions – and showcase innovative initiatives and individual and collective action by youth and others – to advance the SDGs.
- Help develop youth consciousness, creativity, and ability to take responsibility for their actions to promote and achieve the SDGs.
- Provide a platform for young people to be heard and bring innovative ideas and solutions to issues that matter to them.
- Share knowledge, skills, and lessons learned in achieving the rights and well-being of youth by promoting the accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and ensuring meaningful participation and engagement of young people in policy making and implementation.

Opening Session

Mr. Kyu Chang Ko, Head of the United Nations Project Office on Governance (UNPOG), opened the Youth Forum by sharing the United Nations Secretary General António Guterres' message on the importance of youth participation. He stressed that the Secretary-General continues to emphasise that i) governments should expand and strengthen youth participation at all levels of decision-making, ii) Member States should ensure that youth engagement is at the heart of decision-making processes and should strengthen critical avenues for youth participation, and iii) governments should establish a process and other measures to ensure diverse, effective, and represented youth participation in the work of the United Nations.

Mr. Ko also noted that under the theme of Enabling Youth as Agents of Change for Digital Transformation and Inclusive Climate Action, the Youth Forum aims to empower and provide young people with necessary knowledge, skills, and stage to speak about digital transformation and encourage inclusive climate action. He added that as digital transformation has revolutionised the world, young people play pivotal role in speeding the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through their digital skills. Youth participation in the fight against climate crisis is also crucial as they are the future caretakers of the planet.

Mr. Ko closed his remarks by emphasising the important role that young people play as catalysts of change and noted that they have the power to help the current generation achieve a sustainable and prosperous future.

Ms. Eunyoung Jang, Director of the International Cooperation Division of the Ministry of the Interior and Safety (MOIS) of the Republic of Korea highlighted that the 7th Youth Forum takes on two things including how digital transformation is changing the world and what young people can do to protect their future from the impacts of climate change. As the impacts of climate change has increased the levels of uncertainty and as digital innovation has reshaped the industries, societies, and economies, Ms. Jang stressed that young people have the capability to build a greener and better future backed with determination, activism, and energy, and should make use of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a guiding star toward a more equitable, sustainable, and prosperous future. In closing, Ms. Jang congratulated the contestants of the Youth Forum, Ideas for Change contest, who made it to the final round.

Mr. Je Hak Jang, Ambassador of International Relations from Incheon Metropolitan City recognised the potential of young people to become agents of change for digital transformation and inclusive climate action. He encouraged the participants to view the event, specifically the Ideas for Change Contest, as an opportunity to showcase what brilliant minds can do when they converge together. Mr. Jang reminded the participants the importance of unity and collaboration to overcome formidable challenges and achieve the change that young people wish to see in the world.

Ms. Garam Jeon, Youth Representative from the World Organisation of the Scout Movement (WOSM) delivered the keynote speech and emphasised the important role of young people as protagonists of the next generation. In the age of digitalisation

while facing the climate crisis, young people’s roles have become more prominent as they have the knowledge and passion for new ideas and innovations. Ms. Jeon advocated for the youth to raise their voices for a positive change in the future.

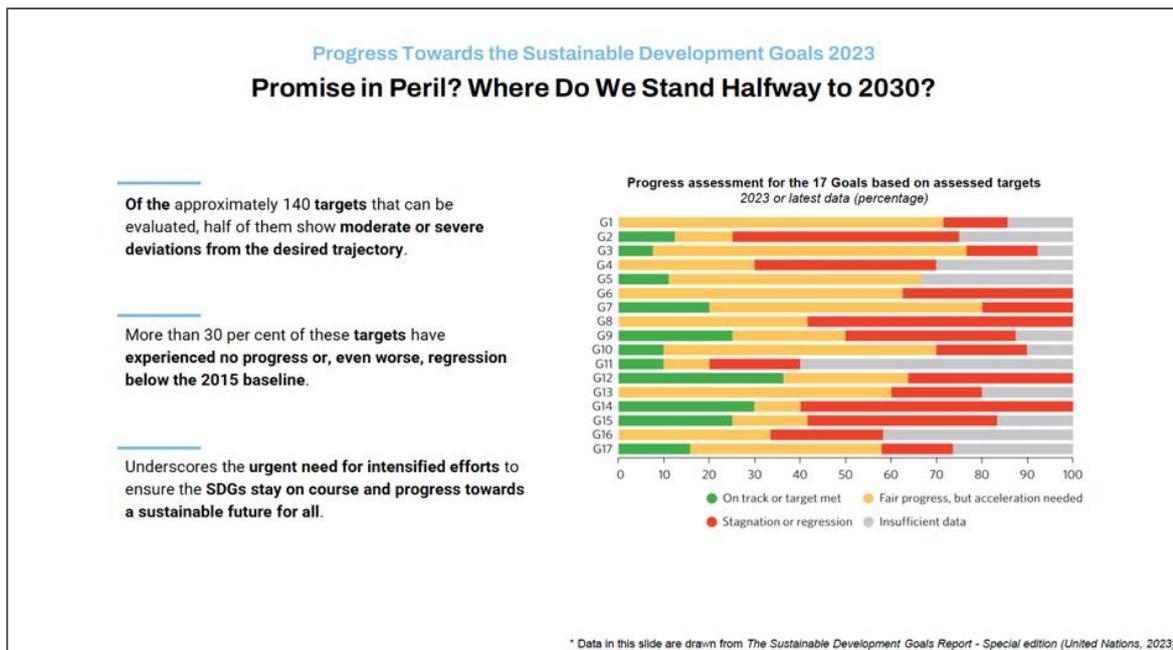
Session I. Harnessing the Potential of Youth in the Age of Digital Transformation

Many young people have grown up under the ubiquitous influence of the internet and knowledge on digital technology. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development acknowledges that technology is crucial to the achievement of the sustainable development. Equipping youth with proper knowledge and utilising their skills to create opportunities can significantly help in the advancement of the implementation of the SDGs.

Below summarises the presentations shared by representatives from UNICEF and ITU on the topic of “Harnessing the Potential of Youth in the Age of Digital Transformation”.

Ms. Yoonie Choi, Youth Network and Partnership Specialist from the Youth Engagement Team at UNICEF delivered a presentation on the topic of [Young People Shaping the Future through Digital Transformation](#). She began by introducing the work of [UNICEF Innocenti](#) as a think tank and research arm of UNICEF. She added that UNICEF Innocenti works on research foresight and thought leadership based on data analysis and meta trends assessment.

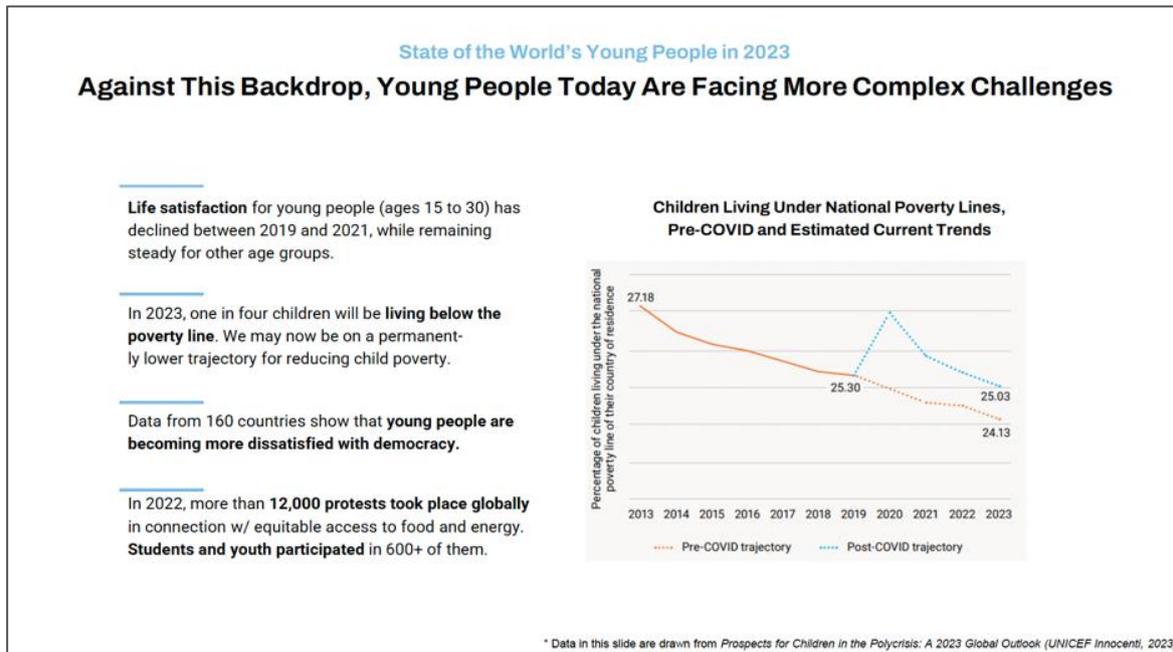
Ms. Choi noted that despite being halfway through 2030, the data from the Sustainable Development Goals Report¹ indicated that half of the SDGs experience moderate or severe deviation while more than 30 per cent show no progress or experience regression.



¹ [The Sustainable Development Goals Report – Special Edition](#) (United Nations, 2023)

Source: Yoonie Choi (2023). *Young People Shaping the Future Through Digital Transformation*. [PowerPoint Slides], Youth Network and Partnerships Specialist, UNICEF Innocenti

She added that young people today face more complex challenges in terms of: i) life satisfaction and mental health, ii) issues related to life below the poverty line, iii) dissatisfaction in democracy or distrust with the government, and iv) declining access to food and energy.



Source: Yoonie Choi (2023). *Young People Shaping the Future Through Digital Transformation*. [PowerPoint Slides], Youth Network and Partnerships Specialist, UNICEF Innocenti

However, in spite all the challenges, many young people are uniquely positioned as shapers of today and tomorrow with their digital skills. Through digital technology and connectivity, young people can create their own opportunities from enhancing their learning and training from online resources to expanding creativity and generating content that could turn into economic opportunities.

She ended her presentation by delving into the work of the UNICEF Innocenti on the perspective of youth foresight work and inviting young people to take part in the second cohort of a 2-day participatory foresight workshop.

Ms. Dunola Oladapo, Youth Programme Officer from International Telecommunication Union (ITU) began her presentation on [Amplifying Youth Voices in Global Digital Development](#) by sharing the work of ITU and how the organisation is committed to the goal of connecting 2.7 billion people who have no access to the Internet.

She added that in efforts to encourage youth participation, ITU initiated a youth strategy, [Generation Connect](#), which aims to engage global youth and encourage participation as equal partners to empower youth with skills and opportunities to advance the vision of a connected future.

Global Initiatives

- ITU Youth Task force
- Generation Connect Digital Learning Certificate
- Generation Connect Podcast
- Ongoing partnership with the Kofi Annan Changemakers programme
- Virtual Participation/Side Events: ECOSOC Youth Forum, World Food Forum, YOUNGA
- Physical Participation/Side Events: IGF, MISK Global Forum, LDC5
- Participating in ITU Events: PP-22, TDAG, ITU-D Study Groups, RDFs, AI For Good
- Partnership with AI for Good on the ongoing Global Survey on Youth and AI
- Continued YOUTH 2030 collaboration with the UN Youth Envoys' Office, UNESCO, and other UN Organisations on youth digital engagement initiatives and reports.

Generation Connect Global Youth Summit, June 2022
Preceding WTDC, 5000 youth participated physically, virtually & via 70+ hubs



Regional Engagement
180 Generation Connect Youth Envoys in 120 Countries



Virtual Community
3300+ youth



Global Engagement
Generation Connect Visionaries Board

Generation Connect Visionaries Board



Source: Dunola Oladapo (2023). Amplifying Youth Voices in Global Digital Development. [PowerPoint Slides], Youth Programme Officer, ITU

In efforts to amplify, inspire, and encourage more youth participation in the field of digitalisation, Ms. Oladapo, shared a testimonial by a youth envoy from the ITU initiative, and highlighted the statement saying “It (youth participation in digitalisation) was never solely about connecting people to the Internet, but more so about what we can do with this connectivity... as young people will ‘connect’ to further empower, engage, and participate in building an inclusive and sustainable digital future for all”.

Youth Testimonial

Our future is just a click away



Connie Man Hei SIU
GC-ASP Youth Envoy

#GenerationConnect



“My journey with the United Nations, technology, and policy began as a 15-year-old youth representative participating in the 2016 UN Internet Governance Forum, and engaging young people in technology decision-making spaces wasn’t prominent despite the global multistakeholder platform. However, with more youth participating over the years, I’m proud to be a part of the force that drove the end of an era where youths weren’t included in decision-making agendas, and I’m grateful for the crucial role that ITU takes on in this timeline - engaging and encouraging youth participation alongside today’s leaders.

Being present at ITU’s highest decision-making body has been a surreal experience, with ceiling-breaking moments ranging from electing the first-ever woman Secretary-General, to holding the first-ever youth-led side events in front of decision-makers across the world. But these occasions are bittersweet: arduous conversations and the failure to see the bigger picture are oftentimes intertwined behind the scenes, and yet they always serve as a great reminder of how change takes time, and that we should celebrate every small step and success.

To top everything off, (re)connecting with fellow youth envoys, delegates, and everyone at PP22 was eye-opening with how unique and phenomenal each person is, and I’m grateful to the entire ITU team, alongside the governments of Canada, Australia and Romania for making this happen.

My biggest takeaway from PP22 is ‘CONNECT’: with resolutions to increase connectivity in various regions, alongside how youths, girls, and other groups connected to decision-makers by making themselves seen and heard; this is just the beginning. It never was solely about connecting people to the Internet, but more so about what we can do with this connectivity, and I’m sure that we as young people will ‘connect’ to further empower, engage and participate in building an inclusive and sustainable digital future for all.”




Source: Dunola Oladapo (2023). Amplifying Youth Voices in Global Digital Development. [PowerPoint Slides], Youth Programme Officer, ITU

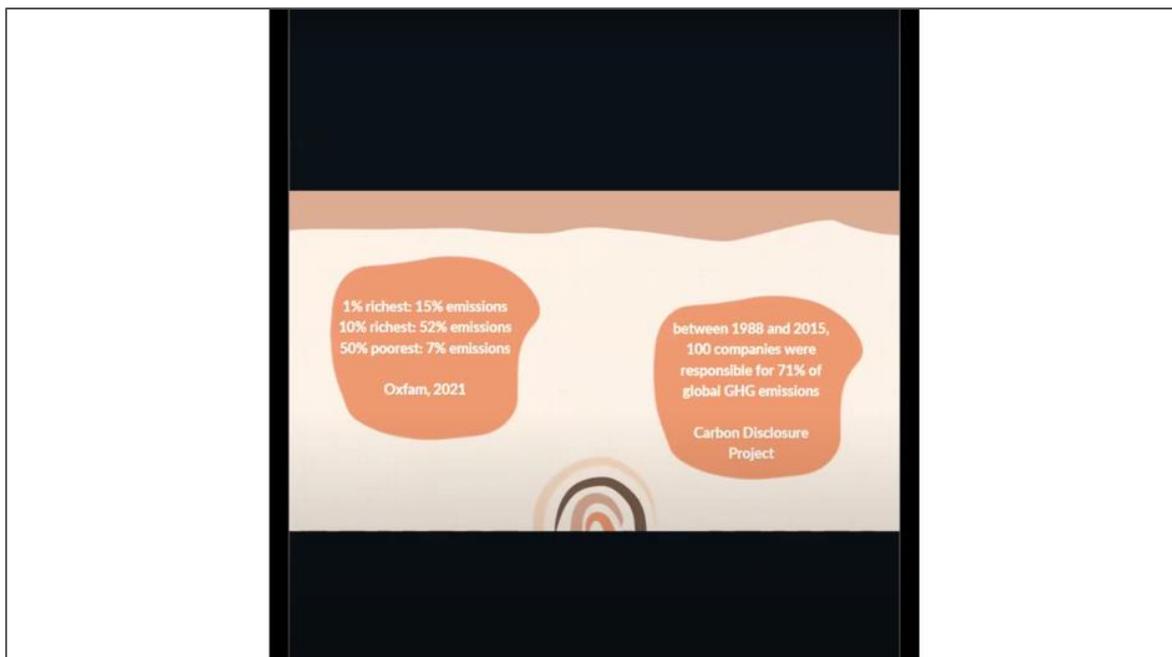
Ms. Oladapo wrapped her presentation by highlighting that despite the global challenges that many young people face, data has shown that youth are the driving force of connectivity. She also emphasised the significance of engaging young people in the aspect of creating, developing, and delivering policies, and invited the audience to join Generation Connect.

Session II. Elevating the Role of Young People as Key Players for Climate Action

The climate crisis requires inclusive action as young people are becoming more aware of the lifelong environmental effects that they will carry. While the youth has continuously influenced, advocated, and demanded responsible climate behaviour from governments and other stakeholders, empowering and working together with them opens a transformational opportunity to lay the foundation of a greener and more sustainable future.

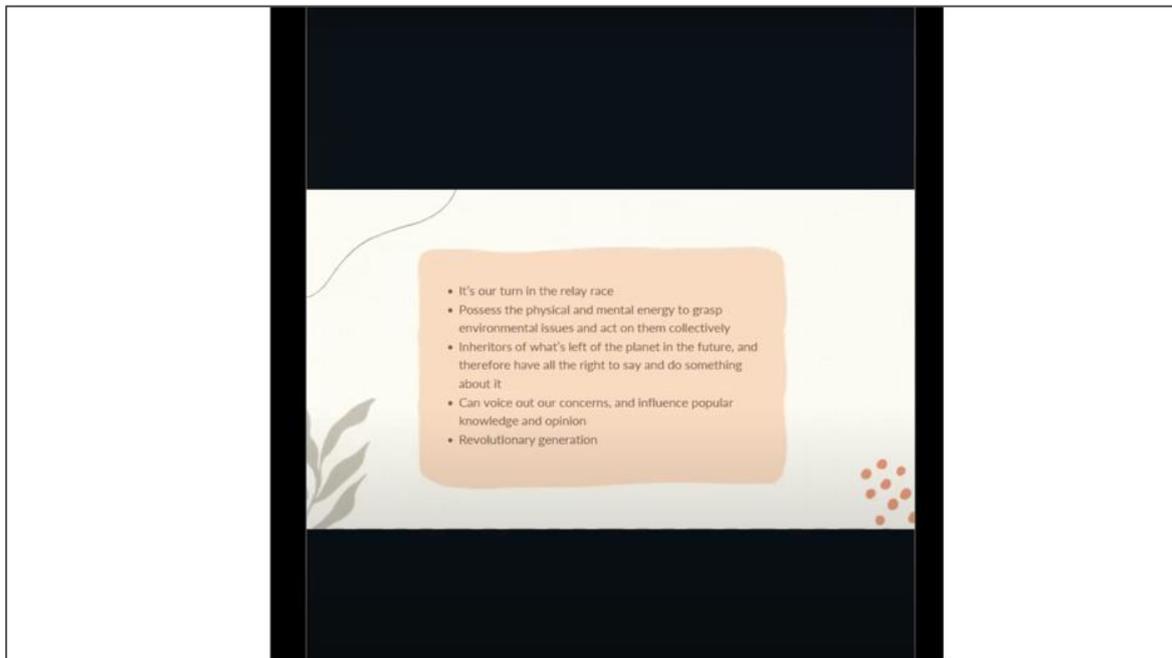
Below summarises the presentations delivered by colleagues from Youth Advocates for Climate Action Philippines (YACAP) and the Fridays For Future (FFF) of the Philippines, and The Wanted Garage (WAGA) on the topic of Elevating the Role of Young People as Key Players for Climate Action.

Ms. Mitzi Jonelle Tan, Convenor/International Spokesperson at [Youth Advocates for Climate Action Philippines \(YACAP\)](#) and the [Fridays For Future \(FFF\)](#) of the Philippines delivered a presentation on The Role of Youth in Climate Justice and mentioned that climate justice is about understanding that there are countries that have bigger responsibilities and are less vulnerable to climate crises than others. She noted many young people have called for accountability from corporations as they are among the main polluters of the planet.



Source: Mitzi Jonelle Tan (2023). The Role of Youth in Climate Justice. [PowerPoint Slides], Convenor/International Spokesperson, Youth Advocates for Climate Action Philippines (YACAP) and Fridays For Future (FFF) of the Philippines

Young people are a generation which possesses the physical and mental energy to grasp environmental issues and act collectively. Many young people use social media, and this provides an opportunity to raise more awareness and turn information into action. Active youth participation in climate justice is essential as young people are the ones who will experience the long-term impacts of the climate crises.



Source: Mitzi Jonelle Tan (2023). The Role of Youth in Climate Justice. [PowerPoint Slides], Convenor/International Spokesperson, Youth Advocates for Climate Action Philippines (YACAP) and Fridays For Future (FFF) of the Philippines

In closing, Ms. Tan noted that it is the current generation's turn in the relay race to combat climate change. She called for unity, solidarity, and international collaboration in the fight for climate crises and working side by side with the most marginalised sectors of the society.

Mr. Gibson Kawago, Climate Entrepreneur and Founder of The Wanted Garage (WAGA), Global Climate Leader and member of the 2022 Cohort of Young Leaders for the SDGs², delivered a presentation on [Creating and Investing in Green Opportunities for a Sustainable Future](#), where he shared his experience in founding [WAGA](#), a company whose aim is to provide affordable, reliable and durable clean energy solutions to low income people in Africa.

² <https://www.un.org/youthenvoy/gibson-kawago/>



Started from a garage in a village where we used to travel 32 miles reaching charging stations. We finally found The Wanted Garage (WAGA)

Providing durable and affordable PAWA packs from reused laptop batteries in Tanzania.

Source: Gibson Kawago (2023). *Creating and Investing in Green Opportunities for a Sustainable Future*. [PowerPoint Slides], Climate Entrepreneur and Founder of WAGA, Global Climate Leader for the UN SDGs, 2022 Cohort of Young Leaders for the SDGs

Based on his experience, he reminded and encouraged the participants that young people are capable to make a change. He aimed to inspire young people by sharing that if a young person can start an initiative, others can also do it until a global collective to fight against climate crises takes place.



Source: Gibson Kawago (2023). *Creating and Investing in Green Opportunities for a Sustainable Future*. [PowerPoint Slides], Climate Entrepreneur and Founder of WAGA, Global Climate Leader for the UN SDGs, 2022 Cohort of Young Leaders for the SDGs

He ended his presentation by reminding young people to start thinking on how to reduce carbon dioxide emissions to create a green future. In addition, he invited and

urged the participants to act and collaborate to solve the issues posed by climate change.

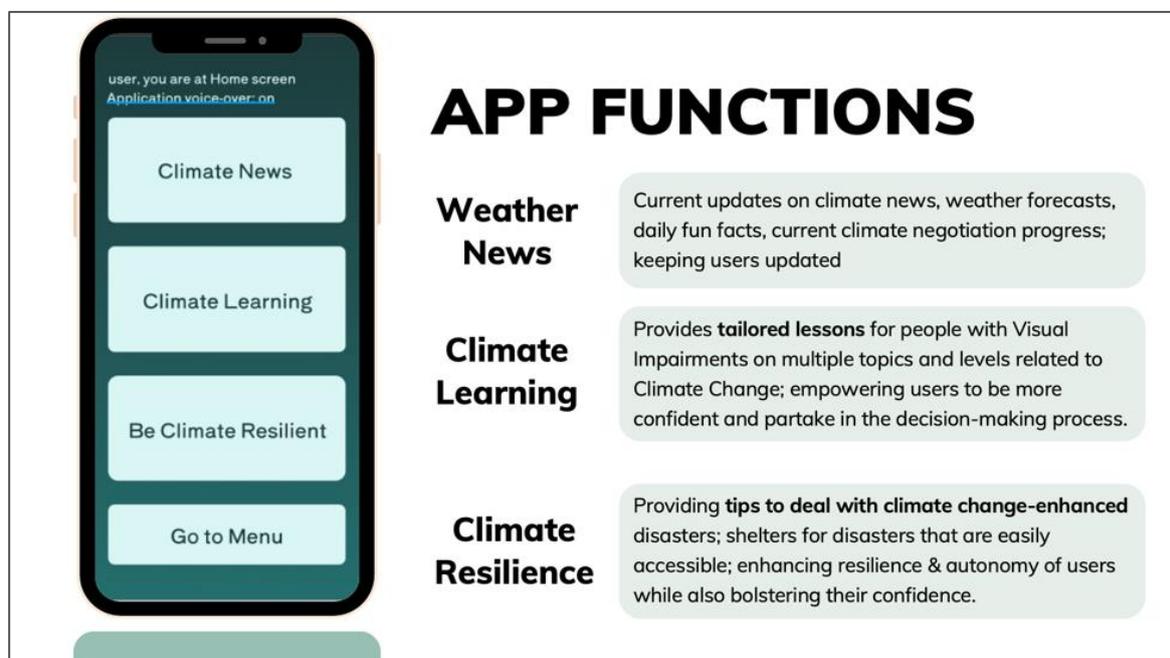
Presentation from Participants of the Ideas for Change Contest Session

DPIDG/UNPOG continued to provide a platform for young people’s ideas to be heard and be involved in the work of the United Nations through the Ideas for Change contest. Under the theme of the 7th Youth Forum on SDG Implementation, Enabling Youth as Agents of Change for Digital Transformation and Inclusive Climate Action, young participants in teams of three members and between the ages of 16 through 24 were invited to submit innovative ideas on UNPOG’s six priority areas³ through digital transformation and/or inclusive climate action.

After the assessment of the preliminary round, five (5) teams were shortlisted and invited to deliver a PowerPoint presentation of their proposed idea. Below shows the selected teams along with the summary of their presentations.

Team ClimateEye – Providing Accessible Climate Information in the Digital Age

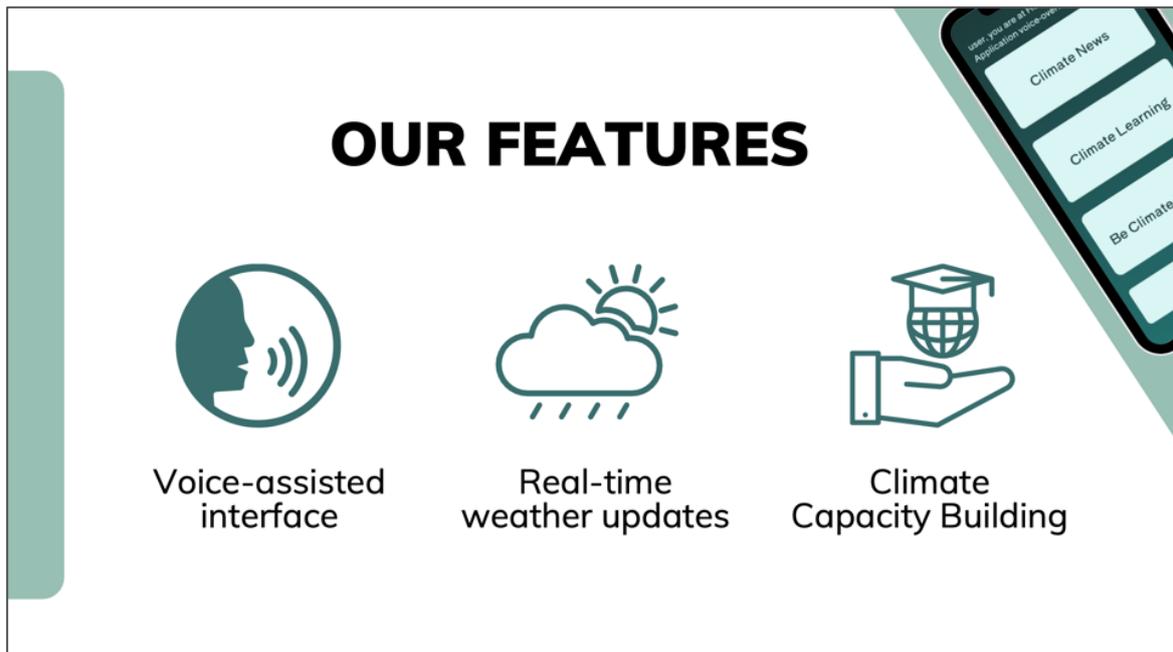
Team ClimateEye delivered a presentation on a project proposal which aims to [provide accessible climate information in the digital age](#). The project targets visually impaired individuals and aims to develop an interactive and accessible mobile application dedicated to deliver extreme weather/disaster updates and climate change information.



Source: Team ClimateEye (2023). *Providing Accessible Climate Information in the Digital Age*. [PowerPoint Slides]

³ UNPOG’s six (6) priority areas include: i) strengthening institutions for more integrated solutions, ii) enhancing national implementation, iii) harnessing innovation and digital government, iv) bolstering local action to accelerate implementation, v) reducing disaster risk and building resilience, and vi) ensuring leaving no one behind.

The application will aim to provide autonomy for visually people by i) creating voice-assisted, text-to-speech programme which provides real-time extreme weather updates and climate information, ii) equipping users with comprehensive knowledge about climate changes, local impacts and effective resilience strategies, and iii) fostering inclusivity by incorporating the needs of visually impaired individuals and collaborating with relevant stakeholders to maximise the application’s impact and reach.



Source: Team ClimateEye (2023). Providing Accessible Climate Information in the Digital Age. [PowerPoint Slides]

In terms of the results, Team ClimateEye proposes that the short-term results include completing the development and launch of the application and attaining at least 1,000 users. In the long run, the application projects widespread adoption, covering over ten thousand (10,000) visually impaired individuals in Viet Nam, and eventually expanding through Southeast Asia and in the Republic of Korea.

Team BeyondBarriers – Bridging the Gap: A Platform for Elevating Women’s Workforce Participation, Vocational Skills, and Entrepreneurial Spirit in India and Globally

Team BeyondBarriers proposed a project which aims to [bridge the gap through a platform that elevates women’s workforce participation, vocational skills, and entrepreneurial spirit in India and globally](#). The proposed platform aims to uplift women by addressing the root causes of inequality, leveraging education, technology, community engagement and entrepreneurship in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

Web-based Platform: *Bridging the Gap*

We propose the development of a web-based platform that will emphasize education for social change, tailored vocational training, and support for female entrepreneurship.



71% of the population in India use smartphones.
This figure is estimated to increase to 90% within the next 10 years.



Web platforms can be effectively and freely used on a variety of devices and by various users, without limitations even on low-performance devices.

Source: Team BeyondBarriers (2023). *Bridging the Gap: A Platform for Elevating Women’s Workforce Participation, Vocational Skills, and Entrepreneurial Spirit in India and Globally.* [PowerPoint Slides]

In addition, the proposed project seeks to address multifaced challenges to foster gender equality and create positive socioeconomic change in the MENA region. Its objectives include i) creating an online platform for women to conveniently access education about employment, ii) empowering women to work and earn economic independence through provision of appropriate jobs based on analysis of needs and qualifications, and iii) creating inclusive environment by promoting women entrepreneurship.

Conclusion



- Expanding horizons through women rights education.
- Received vocational education and found a suitable job through the platform.
- Having dreams of becoming an entrepreneur running a business through the platform in the future.

**Make
Virtuous Cycle &
Social Changes**



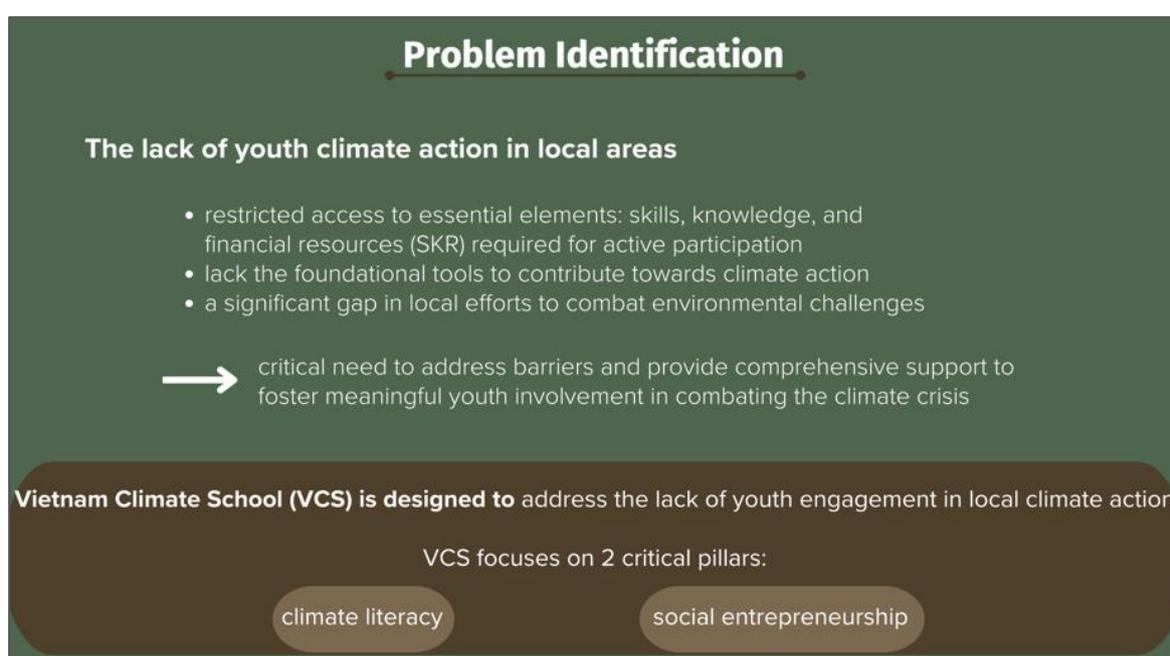
- Previously operated a business, but now runs the business through the platform after undergoing digital transformation.
- Also considering other entrepreneurial opportunities within the region.
- Sharing story and providing education to other youth and aspiring entrepreneurs.

Source: Team BeyondBarriers (2023). *Bridging the Gap: A Platform for Elevating Women’s Workforce Participation, Vocational Skills, and Entrepreneurial Spirit in India and Globally.* [PowerPoint Slides]

As an outcome of the proposal, the project expects to create a ripple effect that goes beyond individual empowerment, fostering community and societal transformation and opening opportunities for women and youth to take part in the entrepreneurship circle.

Team EcoVanguards – Vietnam Climate School

Team EcoVanguards proposed [Vietnam Climate School](#) designed to address the problem of lack of engagement of young people in climate-related initiatives. The project serves as a dynamic launchpad which centres on two pillars: climate literacy – equipping young people with accurate knowledge on the climate crises, and social entrepreneurship – nurturing entrepreneurial capabilities to enable young individuals to contribute to environmental sustainability.



Source: Team EcoVanguards (2023). Vietnam Climate School. [PowerPoint Slides]

The project introduces gamified learning to boost understanding and cultivate critical thinking, problem-solving and teamwork skills. It operates on the objectives of i) empowering diverse youth with comprehensive climate knowledge, ii) equipping young individuals with skills and resources to create innovative and environmentally focused entrepreneurial ventures, and iii) engaging and empowering youth to lead climate advocacy efforts.



Source: Team EcoVanguards (2023). Vietnam Climate School. [PowerPoint Slides]

The Vietnam Climate School envisions a future where young people are empowered and plays a pivotal role in driving environmental sustainability. It aims to make climate education enjoyable and interactive, while ensuring that learners also get deeply involved in shaping a sustainable future.

Team InnovHealth – Leaving No One Behind the Frontiers of Science

Team InnovHealth proposed a project that [leaves no one behind the frontiers of science](#) and leverages digital transformation to reduce disaster risk and build resilience in the field of health emergency through a digital solution based on an all-of-society and multisystem coordination approach which helps local healthcare professionals prepare for emergencies.



Source: Team InnovHealth (2023). Leaving No One Behind the Frontiers of Science. [PowerPoint Slides]

The project proposes to create an individualised action plan to help fill the gap between health literacy and decision-making for timely responses. It will strengthen system-wide coordination through real-time network of information, identify potential points of improvement in the integration of digital technology in healthcare systems, and streamline emergency preparedness action for healthcare professionals.



Source: Team InnovHealth (2023). Leaving No One Behind the Frontiers of Science. [PowerPoint Slides]

Moving forward, the project expects to increase the accessibility of personalised healthcare despite the limitations and challenges posed by different disasters. The project seeks to achieve better health system resilience in reference to and adopting and building upon the principles of Sendai Framework.

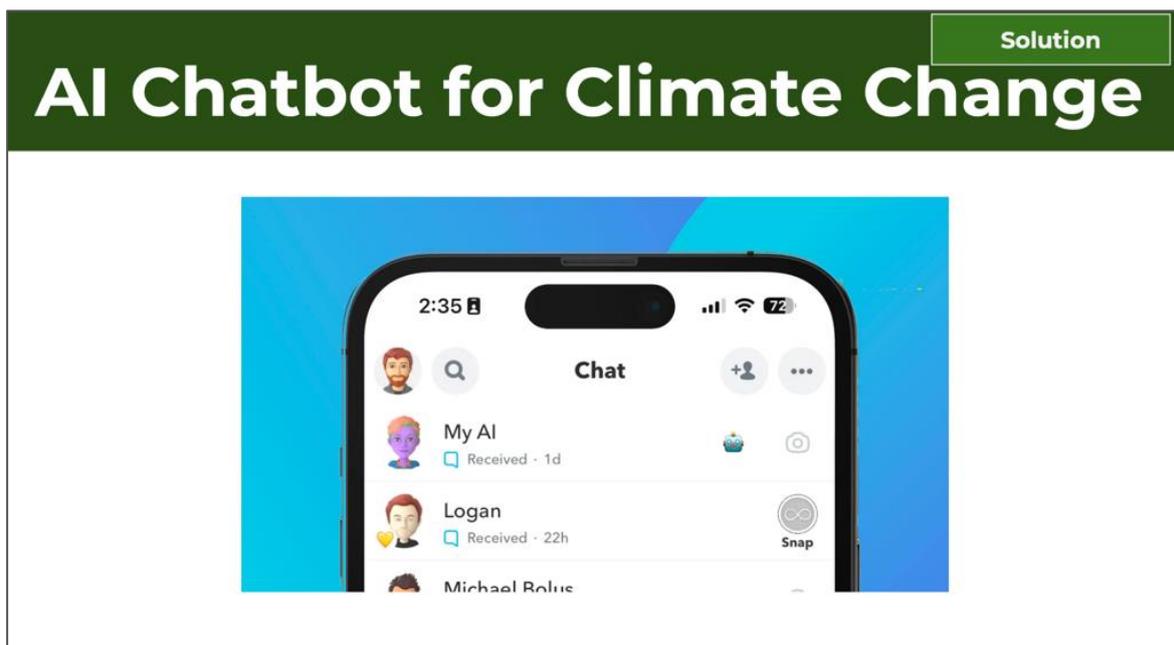
Team SeouIntMUN – Green AI

Team SeouIntMUN proposed a project on [Green AI](#) which allows users to interact and chat with an Artificial Intelligence (AI) programme to access information and resources to address the world’s most pressing issue like the climate change.



Source: Team SeouIntMUN (2023). Green AI. [PowerPoint Slides]

The rise of AI technologies has been utilised by many young people around the world and the project proposes to modify the chatbot and allow users to stay up to date on specific ways to address personal carbon emissions based on the user feedback and responses.



Source: Team SeouIntMUN (2023). Green AI. [PowerPoint Slides]

Ultimately, the project proposes to increase the general public's knowledge in climate change without the need for professional consultations. As part of cutting down carbon emissions and understanding the important role through connectivity that digital technology has, the project believes that utilising technologies properly also helps in decreasing the environmental footprint.

Outcome of the Ideas for Change Contest

Based on fair evaluations by staff from the United Nations Project Office on Governance (UNPOG), Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), and audience of the Youth Forum, the three teams selected to receive a certificate from the Ministry of the Interior and Safety (MOIS), Ministry of Environment (MOE) and Incheon Metropolitan City of the Republic of Korea were the following teams: SeoulIntMUN, EcoVanguards, and InnovHealth.

Team SeoulIntMUN was invited to deliver a presentation of their idea during the Youth Session of the 7th Regional Symposium held on 17-19 October 2023 in Incheon, Republic of Korea, and online.

Closing Remarks

Mr. Kyu Chang Ko, Head of the United Nations Project Office on Governance (UNPOG), delivered the closing remarks of the Youth Forum and commended the participation of young people in sharing new ideas to drive change in the digital and climate landscape. He acknowledged that current challenges require innovative and inclusive solutions, and that providing young people with the right skills, knowledge and support is essential to contribute to a sustainable and prosperous change. Mr. Ko emphasised that young people are changemakers and catalysts for sustainable and equitable world and their involvement is crucial to turn the shared vision into a reality.

Way Forward

The United Nations Project Office on Governance (UNPOG) of UN DESA's Department of Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG) will continue to organise the Youth Forum on SDG Implementation to include young people in the discussion on achieving the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Youth Forum will remain to serve as a place for young people to voice their concerns and be heard as they showcase innovative ideas to address global challenges. DPIDG/UNPOG remains committed to involve youth participation to ensure inclusive action and get on track on the acceleration of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals.

Annexes

Related Links to the 7th Youth Forum on SDG Implementation

- [Event page and presentation materials](#)
- [Images](#)
- [Video recording](#)

Overview of Collected Participant Registration

- Total number of audiences: 136
- Total number of contestants: 54

Gender Distribution

Gender Demographics



52%
 (98)
 Male

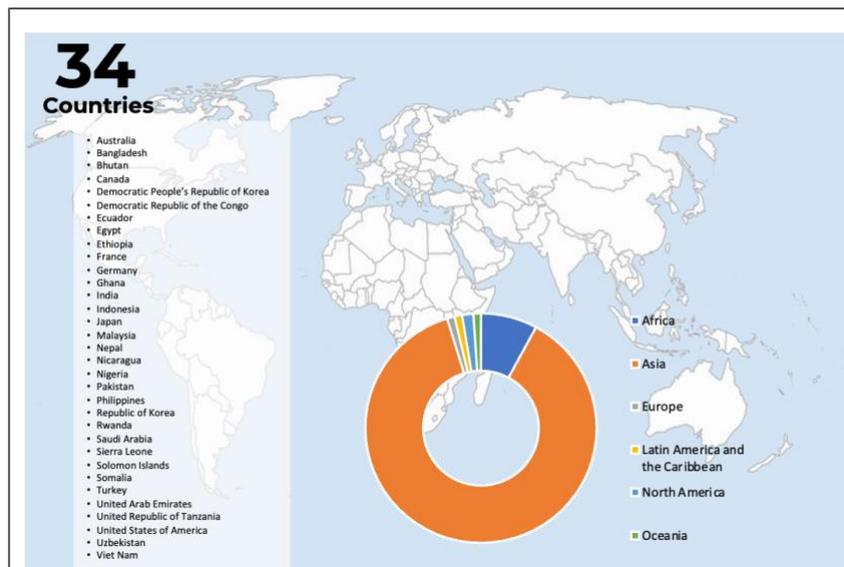


47%
 (90)
 Female



1%
 (2)
 Prefer not to say

List of Countries Registered

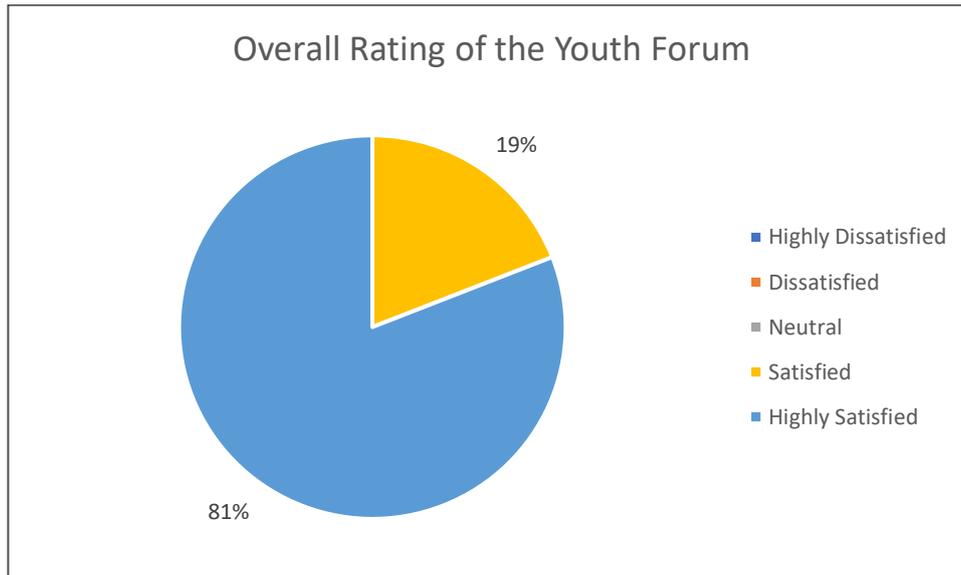


Post-event Evaluation Result

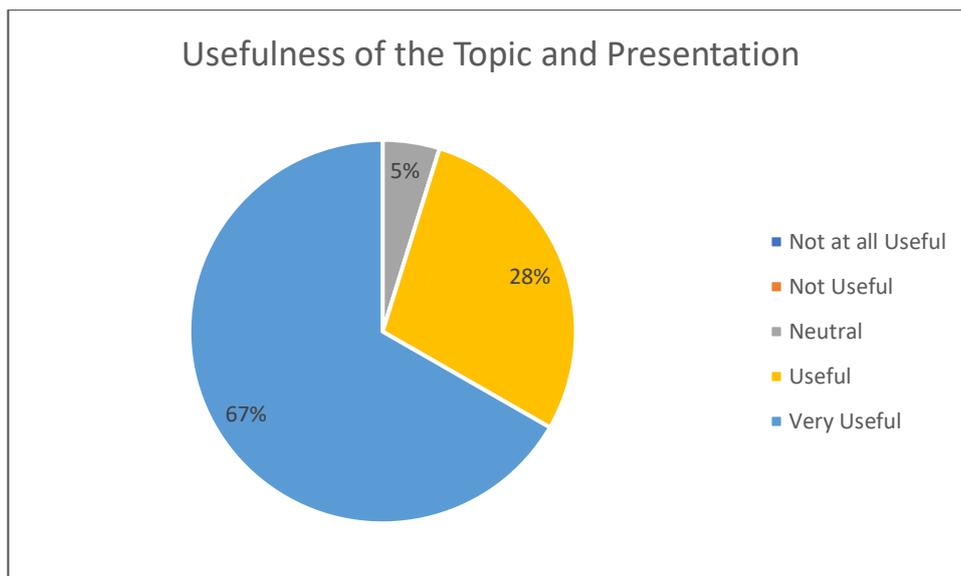
The post-evaluation survey received a total of 21 responses. Based on the population, 57% were female (12), 38% were male (8), and 5% preferred not to say (1) their gender. The respondents were also from Bangladesh, Indonesia, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, and Viet Nam.

Below further shows the results of the analysis from the evaluation survey.

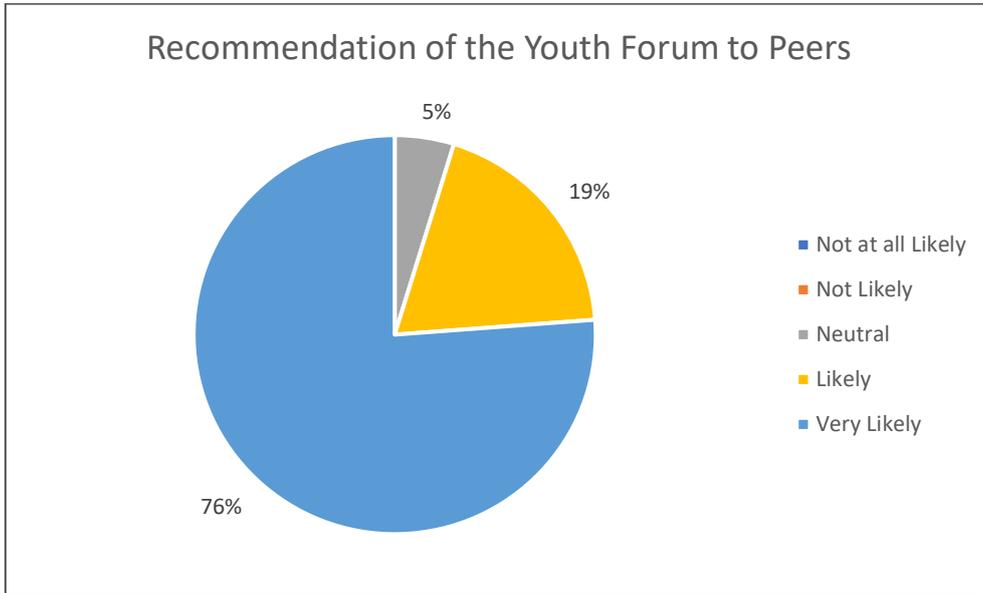
Question: What is your overall rating of the 7th Youth Forum on SDG Implementation?



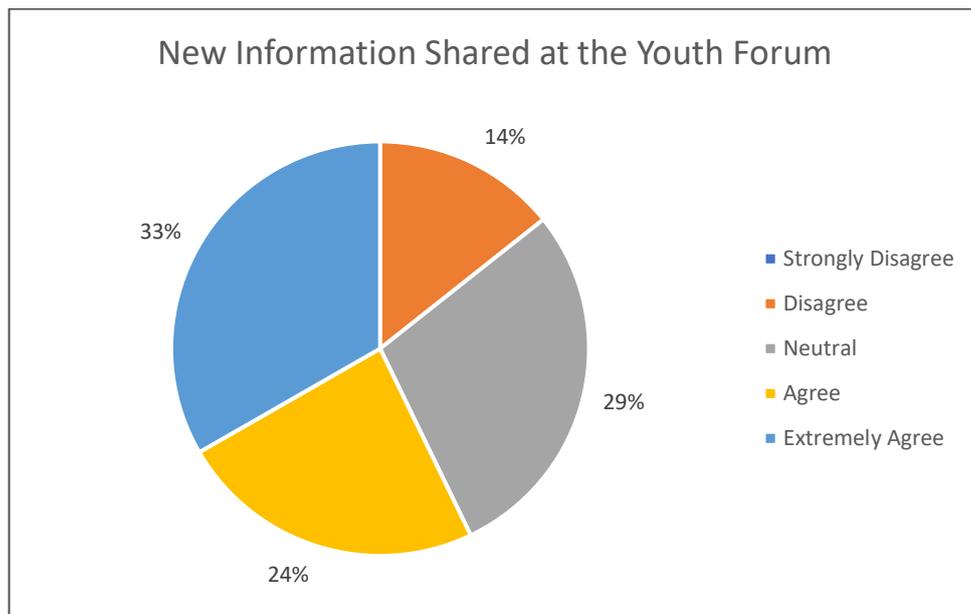
Question: Were the session topic and presentations useful to you?



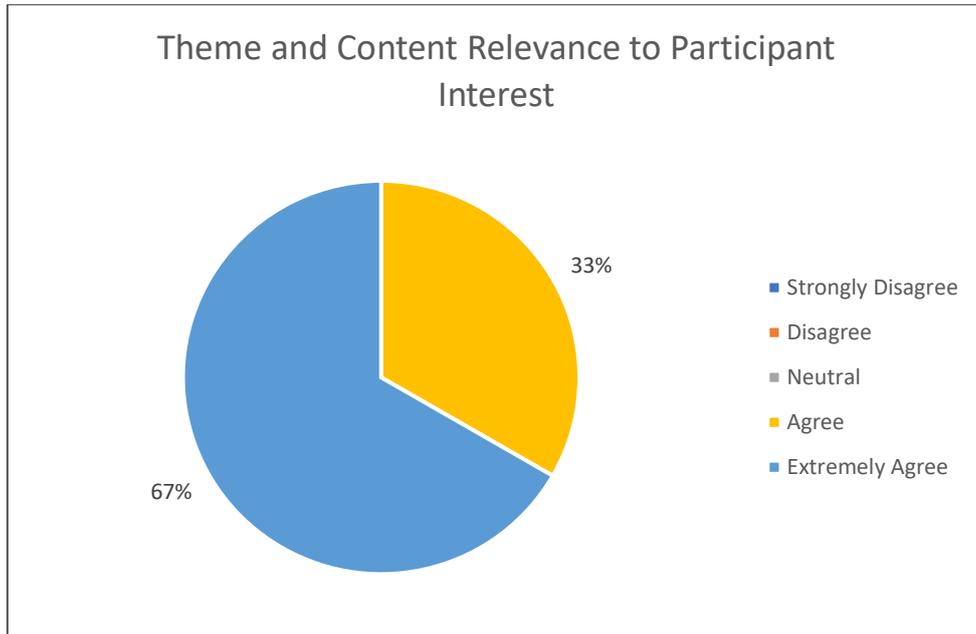
Question: How likely is it that you would recommend the Youth Forum to a friend or a junior?



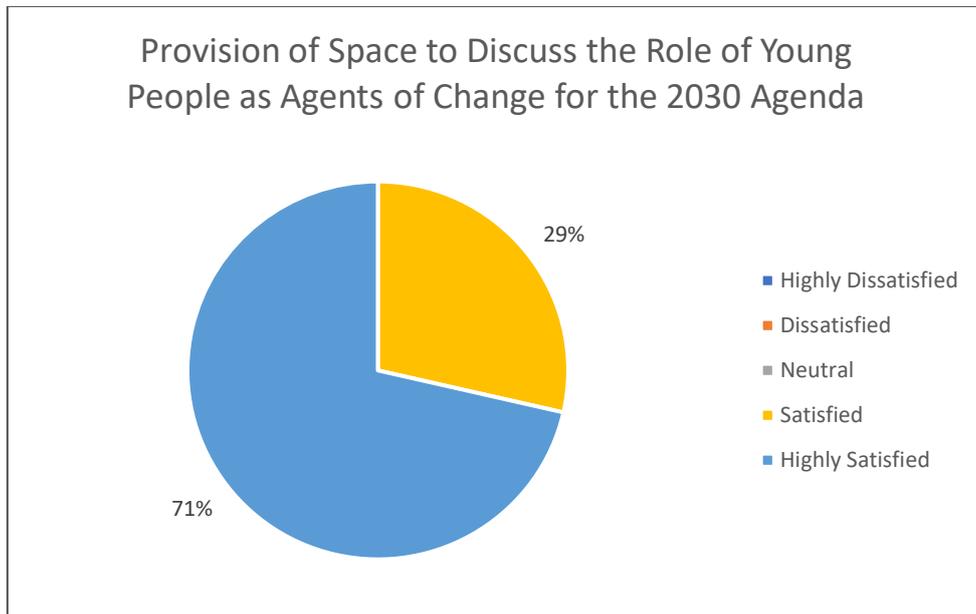
Question: The information presented from the Youth Forum was new to me.



Question: The theme and contents of the Youth Forum are relevant to my interests.



Question: Did the Youth Forum provide a space to discuss the role of young people as agents of change to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda?



Below are some key take aways that young participants have shared from the 7th Youth Forum.

- The youth has really amazing ideas that will serve as a big contribution in climate change.
- It's great that they invited different organisations and representatives from different country to discuss the current event or happenings that they experienced.



- The proposals presented by different teams speaks volume on changes that youth can start and contribute with. From breaking gender barriers to health and even on those who are visually impaired. With given enough support and resources, I hope all of the projects can be implemented.
- Project ideas from all teams are really interesting and insightful.
- It is my first time to attend [the] Youth Forum and as a young professional working in the government, I appreciate how youth had been doing well to promote awareness among our fellow youth to save not just their country but the whole world. We should always look into simple ways of helping our country by creating programmes, activities, and projects that could benefit our citizens in applying the SDGs for their attainment.
- Collective action is key. We would never achieve this goal without the help of every individual, and that should start from small communities.
- We have to make sure that key stakeholders are held accountable for their actions, even in an environment that is repressive to progressive action.
- The youth of today has an active role for a greener environment with solutions ranging from digital to process improvements.

List of Contestants for the Youth Forum Ideas for Change Contest

Team Name	Name	Affiliated Organisation / Position	Country
Salman Dheere Mohamed	Salman	Chairman	Somalia
	Mohamoud Omer H.Osman	Member	Somalia
	Mustafe Ahmed Ismail	Secretary	Somalia
SKSY	Seungri Baek	Suny Korea / Student	Republic of Korea
	Yoonseo Choi	Korea University / Student	Republic of Korea
	Jaehyeok Choi	Yeokgok High School Student	Republic of Korea
ClimateEye (YPWG)	Lan Nhi Tran	Kyungsung University / Student	Republic of Korea
	Van-Thien Nguyen	Toyo University / Student	Japan
	Nguyen Tien Dao	Vietnam Youth4Climate, Youth Policy Working Group / Member	Viet Nam
GMU	Yesong Oh	George Mason University Korea / Student	Republic of Korea
	Jahee Yang	George Mason University Korea / Student	Republic of Korea
	Minho Kwon	George Mason University Korea / Student	Republic of Korea
SeoulIntMUN	Paul Moon	Seoul International School / Student	Republic of Korea
	Eric (Hyunseung) Cho	Seoul International School / Student	Republic of Korea
	Colin Park	Seoul International School / Student	Republic of Korea
BeyondBarriers	Byungchan Kim	Kyungpook National University / Student	Republic of Korea
	Mehmet Fatih Karakurt	Kyungpook National University / Student	Türkiye
	Nishtha Lath	Kyungpook National University / Student	India
EcoVanguards	Tran Dinh Le Hoang	Vinuniversity / Student	Viet Nam
	Nguyen Thi Thu Thuy	Undp / Plastic & Circular Economy National Consultant	Viet Nam
	Tran Minh Quang	International University, Vnu / Student	Viet Nam
Team Agsurnon	Joanne R. Dumanon	Agusan Del Sur State College Of Agriculture And Technology/ Student	Philippines

	Jeribeth C. Januras	Agusan Del Sur State College Of Agriculture And Technology / Student	Philippines
	Mary Antonette C. Martinez	Agusan Del Sur State College Of Agriculture And Technology / Student	Philippines
Avaritia	Muhammad Farras Samith	Padjajaran University	Indonesia
	Bima Rasendriya Bahuraksa	Padjajaran University	Indonesia
	Muhammad Fajar Asidiq Ramdan	Padjajaran University	Indonesia
Bassin	Alisha Aziz Dhanani	Yonsei University Politics Of Forest Ad-Hoc / Research Assistant	Democratic Republic of the Congo
	Alim Aziz Dhanani	University Of Alberta / Student	Canada
	N/A	N/A	Democratic Republic of the Congo
ASSCAT CBA Team	Rachel Mae Capangpangan	Agusan Del Sur State College Of Agriculture And Technology / Student	Philippines
	Rina B. Lagahit	Agusan Del Sur State College Of Agriculture And Technology / Student	Philippines
	Myline G. Moco	Agusan Del Sur State College Of Agriculture And Technology / Student	Philippines
LEEDERS	Mabiya Hussain Bintu	Soyed Ahmed College And University/ Student	Bangladesh
	Shadik Sahreen	Soyed Ahmed College And University/Student	Bangladesh
	Nurul Islam Nur	Govt.Azizul Haq College And University/ Student	Bangladesh
306	Seoin Chloe Yang	Seoul Global High School / Student	Republic of Korea
	Claire Kim Shim	Seoul Global High School / Student	Republic of Korea
	Hanulbom Cho	Seoul Global High School / Student	Republic of Korea
Agusan Del Sur State College Of Agriculture And Technology	Edna S. Sanguita	Agusan Del Sur State College Of Agriculture And Technology/ College Of Agriculture Vice Governor	Philippines

	Rolando H. Maquiling Jr.	Agusan Del Sur State College Of Agriculture And Technology/College Of Agriculture Mayor	Philippines
	Shaira Jane C. Trasarez	Agusan Del Sur State College Of Agriculture And Technology/Student	Philippines
STIA Lan Polytechnic	Muhammad Firman Nugraha	Student	Indonesia
	Izhar Faujan	Stia Lan Bandung Polytechnic / Student	Indonesia
	Winda Irmayanti	Stia Lan Bandung Polytechnic / Student	Indonesia
NBSC Greenovation Allies	Jun Arthur A. Binayao	Northern Bukidnon State College/Student	Philippines
	Mary Joy S. Anggana	Northern Bukidnon State College/Student	Philippines
	Armari Eljen E. Jenisan	Northern Bukidnon State College/Student	Philippines
InnovHealth	Yu Qi Zhou	University Of Montreal/Student	Canada
	Su Hyun Hong	University Of Goethe/Student	Germany
	France Mathieu Tacderan	University Of The Philippines - Manila/Student	Philippines
Garuda Muda	Farid Bima Ramadhan	Institut Teknologi Nasional Malang / Student	Indonesia
	Farid Bima Ramadhan	Institut Teknologi Nasional Malang / Student	Indonesia
	Cindy Aulia Novita	Institut Teknologi Nasional Malang / Student	Indonesia

7th Youth Forum on SDG Implementation Selected Images

