



October 2023

This submission is prepared by YOUNGO, the Children and Youth constituency of the UNFCCC.

We align with the [submission](#) made by CAN International, thus, this submission should be considered as an addition to the detailed submission by CAN International.

Views from parties and non-party stakeholders on the elements for the consideration of outputs component taking into account the informal note by the co-chairs

Key Messages

1. There are currently 1.8 billion young people (ages 10-24) globally, with a projected increase to 2 billion by 2050¹, making this the largest generation in history. Without the proper engagement and participation of young people, there is no ambition in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC).
2. According to the UNFCCC, just 0.3% of emissions have been addressed thus far². Therefore, the Global Stocktake (GST) must urge Parties to unleash the latent force of children and youth at both sub-national and national levels, from NDC development to implementation.
3. Collaboration between Parties and International Agencies (such as UN Agencies) can help to facilitate this process by supporting them through various public engagement mechanisms such as capacity-building, funding support for youth participation and youth-led projects, and investing in education and entrepreneurship, green and decent jobs for youth.

¹ https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/EN-SWOP14-Report_FINAL-web.pdf

² https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/47_Talanoa%20Dialogue%20input.pdf

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A. Preamble

- a. Recalling the common but differentiated responsibilities based on the respective capabilities (CBDR RC) principle of the UNFCCC and Article 14 of the Paris Agreement for Global Stocktake to take stock of the implementation of this Agreement to assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of this Agreement and its long-term goals.
- b. Recalling Article 4.9 of the Paris Agreement, according to which each Party shall communicate a Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) every five years in accordance with decision 1/CP.21 and any relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to this Agreement and be informed by the outcomes of the Global Stocktake referred to in Article 14 to the Paris Agreement.
- c. Reference to the IPCC AR6 report on the state of climate change and the best available science in it.
- d. Considering the unique needs of the least developed and small island developing countries with regard to funding and transfer of technology.
- e. Taking full account that young people of today are the most vulnerable and valuable stakeholders and encouraging Parties to unlock the untapped force and meaningfully engage children and youth at both sub-national and national levels from the formulation to the implementation of NDCs, thereby supporting them with capacity-building, funding support for youth participation and youth-led projects, and investing in education and entrepreneurship, green and decent jobs for youth.
- f. Thanking the co-facilitators of the technical dialogue for the inclusive participation of the non-state actors in the technical phase and asking to maintain this inclusivity in the political outcome phase.
- g. Welcoming the factual synthesis report of the technical dialogue published on September 8 and acknowledging the sense of urgency and ambition expressed in the submissions from both parties and nonparty stakeholders. Emphasize that this input should guide the consideration of the outcome phase.

B. Context and cross-cutting considerations

The Global Stocktake Report should:

- a. **Urge National Governments and the UNFCCC to include the following in the GST decision:**
 - Implement the existing commitments through holistic approaches guided by available science and robust scientific methodologies.
 - Recognize the huge potential of effective and accessible climate education across all educational levels using nature-based solutions, leadership, and knowledge of indigenous and local communities.
 - Make recommendations that are both inclusive and equitable, based on intergenerational equity, gender equality, and human rights, particularly the rights and lives of environmental defenders and the needs of people with disabilities.
 - Provide strong political recommendations that cover all sectors for Parties to significantly increase ambition in the next round of NDCs and explore alternative incentives (*awards, competition for funding, business scenarios*).

- Ensure that the NDCs and the GST have both qualitative and quantitative data to ensure monitoring and evaluation across all sectors.
- Ensure a comprehensive and collaborative approach to addressing climate change and engage with various stakeholders, including governments, civil society organizations, youth representatives, and the private sector.
- Encourage Parties to incorporate health considerations, including both impacts and opportunities of climate action, in their NDCs, prioritize health implications in sectoral mitigation and adaptation planning, promote resilience and low-carbon health care services, and invest in improved data collection to monitor the impact of warming temperature on vulnerable communities.
- Emphasize the need to consider climate migration in adaptation strategies and to focus on protecting highly exposed countries and communities, preventing mass migration, and safeguarding lives, cultures, and human rights.
- Emphasize the need to address food systems transformation in a holistic manner, including both production- and consumption-based solutions, and consider the benefits of plant-based diets both in reducing the incidence of non-communicable diseases and in having a lower carbon footprint compared to animal-source foods.

b. On engagement of Non-State Actor, we call upon National Governments and the UNFCCC to:

- Enable effective collaboration between state and Non-State Actors (NSA) and institutionalize the link between grassroots communities and state-level actors to accelerate the reach of decarbonization solutions to the vulnerable and developing communities. This can be done by bridging existing agreements and partnerships as a visibility mechanism.
- Recognize the importance of the NSA in achieving climate targets and improving accountability. Hence, it should guarantee the participation of the NSA in collecting inputs for policy design, implementation, methodology development and progress evaluation, best practice recommendations, and scientific fact-checking. In addition to the NSA's instrumental role in building urgency and trust in global climate action.
- Mandate NSAs to report their progress towards the Paris Agreement's long-term goals and SDG, as well as the NDCs in a standardized and publicly accessible manner, upon the availability of resources.
- Ensure the Capacity Building for NSAs along with providing necessary financial and technical support to carry out the report.
- Kick start an evaluation mechanism for NSA's climate commitment, including coordinated support for reporting frameworks.

c. On National Stocktake we call upon National Governments and the UNFCCC to:

- Submit ambitious and updated NDCs by 2050 that reflect enhanced climate targets in line with the 1.5°C trajectory as indicated in the Synthesis Report³ (e.g. include Breakthrough

³ https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/sb2023_09_adv.pdf

Agenda⁴ report) recognizing the need to reach global peaking before 2025, equitable phase-out of fossil fuel well ahead of 2050, and lastly, end investments and fossil fuel subsidy to meet the net zero target by 2050.

- Engage with clear commitments on the roadmap for embodied carbon reduction in the climate action targets along with accelerated policy on the mandatory path.
- Accelerate the reduction of embodied carbon footprint along with operational carbon footprint.
- Collaborate on offering alternatives, technology transfers, and capacity-building initiatives to support developing countries' transition to sustainable and low-carbon technologies.
- Educate the general public about the use of science to address embodied energy and carbon footprint (e.g. By promoting improved capacity-building support for the life cycle thinking approach to the public and other communities outside of the business community).
- Recommend Parties to start their own National Stocktake to assess the achievement of the targets of the present NDCs and to partake in emerging rapid technological advancements in order to reach fixed targets.
- Capture mechanisms used by Parties and effectively monitor and evaluate existing mitigation and adaptation strategies and their implementation at the national and regional levels.

d. On the integration of Stakeholders we call upon National Governments and the UNFCCC to:

- Provide region-specific recommendations, taking into account the unique circumstances of each country and its regional political-economic landscape, and create space for collaboration (e.g. Twinning Program).
- Ensure that the national level and the city level collaborate to provide relevant result reports and data for the Synthesis Report by including the city level in the NDCs.
- Include transnational efforts to protect transnational ecosystems and natural resources in the context of climate change.
- Consider the experiences of affected communities and groups on the ground and by local and Indigenous Peoples' knowledge including Indigenous women's knowledge (e.g. ICIMOD Database).
- Consider the inputs from science-policy interfaces beyond IPCC, such as the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) or the science-policy interface of the United Nations Convention on Combating Desertification (UNCCD SPI).
- Include climate mobility action into National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) while utilizing planned relocation and safe migration as tools to enhance adaptive capacity and reduce loss and damage from climate disasters.
- Collaborate with international organizations and other countries to share best practices and harmonize adaptation and mitigation efforts.

⁴ <https://www.irena.org/Publications/2023/Sep/Breakthrough-Agenda-Report>

C. Collective progress towards achieving the purpose and long-term goals of the Paris Agreement, including under Article 2, paragraph 1 (a-c), in the light of equity and the best available science, and informing Parties in updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, action and support

C.1 Mitigation

- a. Call for decisive action on mitigation to close the currently existing implementation gap and deliver on the Paris Agreement targets for the sake of present and future generations. This means improving the Mitigation Work Program, moving quickly on the expansion of renewable energies, addressing emissions in the food and agricultural sectors, accelerating the global transportation transition, and stepping forward with concrete targets for an ambitious global fossil fuel phase-out while considering the financial needs and technological constraints of low-income economies.
- b. Ensure that national targets are matched with appropriate energy transition policies, for example through the development of national mitigation policy plans reflective of NDC goals to align their energy-transition policies with them. This should happen with the overall goal of fossil fuel phase-out and consider infrastructure development, the avoidance of fossil lock-ins, international cooperation, education as well and effective policy design.
- c. Reflect the totality of national emissions by NDCs, taking into account sectors and how emissions reductions are planned to create a net zero economy according to the economic model and reality of each nation and region.
- d. Engage the interests of all stakeholders in carbon markets to demonstrate their capacity as a solution away from greenwashing, in an effort to advance from fossil fuel use and adopt a human rights-oriented stance.
- e. Transparency of climate solutions, delivery of results, and greater interest and interaction by governments in the development of carbon markets should be the way forward in the process of making the provisions of the Paris Agreement reflect the efforts of the parties involved.
- f. Must ensure participation and respect for the communities, ecosystems, and biomes from which the financial assets are derived so that no harm is caused, real results are achieved in the long term and they can become an engine for sustainable development for the countries that sustain them.
- g. Transparency obligation should act as a corrective measure for the lack of structure in terms of mobilizing finance, financial instruments, and models in a way that allows all parties involved to achieve the climate goals and make the efforts visible.
- h. Build synergy between the private sector and governments in terms of resource mobilization and enforceability of results derived from all mitigation measures.
- i. Discuss mitigation solutions and address mitigation gaps in the Mitigation Work Programme (MWP) in order to reach the Paris Agreement goals. In order for the input from the MWP to be relevant, however, it needs to be connected to the GST and be reflected in the GST decision. We therefore call for the results of the first two global dialogues to be featured or referred to in a potential cover decision or decision on the

Global Stocktake, e.g. in the form of a technical annex, during COP28 to ensure that goals and commitments are backed up by actionable solutions.

- j. Call for a rapid fossil fuel phase-out recognizing the need to reach global peaking before 2025 and equitable phase-out of fossil fuel well ahead of 2050 and end investments and fossil fuel subsidy to meet the net zero target by 2050.

C.2 Adaptation

- a. The GGA framework should serve as a tool to mitigate the duplication of adaptation action reporting, as well as align existing adaptation reporting mechanisms (such as NAPs and NDCs) under the GST.
- b. Additionally, the GGA framework should encompass adaptation actions and results of non-state actors, extending to youth, indigenous populations, local communities, and the private sector, building upon the aforementioned national government reporting mechanisms.
- c. The evaluation of progress under the GGA, and its subsequent contribution to the GST, must also be capable of catalyzing and accelerating the collective action of all stakeholders, including non-state actors and youth, to adapt to climate change.
- d. The inclusion of non-state actors should be integrated into the national progress report on adaptation to the GGA, utilizing an integrated ecosystem approach. This would foster synergies between these actors and local governments, promoting a continuous cycle of MEL that propels ambition loops and resilience in NAPs and NDCs.

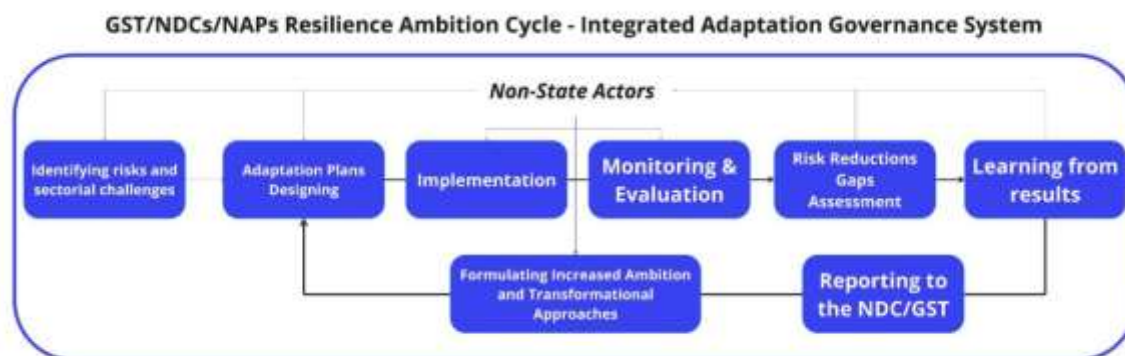


Figure 1 Ambition cycle for resilient integrated adaptation governance systems (Billi et al. 2023)

C.3 Finance flows and means of implementation and support

We want to urge the following topics to fill the Climate Finance gap. We emphasize the responsibility of the Global North to provide grants-equivalent climate finance.

a. Climate Finance Definition

- We urge that a definition of climate finance is crucial to take stock of the current financial flows. As long as money under the umbrella of the 100 Billion Dollar objective is spent on

coal plants, a hotel, chocolate stores, a movie, and an airport expansion⁵ the stocktaking is not informative. Climate Finance should not increase the debt crisis.

b. UNFCCC Silo

- Climate Finance is influenced and discussed in several forums. To take stock and develop a plan to implement needs-based climate finance the UNFCCC needs to improve its collaboration with other essential actors like the IMF, WB, MDBs, G20, etc. The decisions made by the UN, especially regarding Art. 2.1c and Art. 9 of the Paris Agreement need to be the base for the transformation of the international financial architecture. All climate finance-related processes need to inform each other to develop a holistic plan for a course correction regarding a 1.5 compatible development and climate-resilient future.
- The colonial-grown burden of debt prevents necessary climate investments. Therefore the GST needs to call on debt cancellation and the UN should provide technical guidance on this.

c. New Collective Quantified Goal

- The NCQG needs to be informed of the Climate Finance gap identified by the GST.
- The NCQG should have a corrective mechanism in accordance with the GST to scale up climate finance according to the needs.
- We invite parties to reflect youth engagements by having a specific number of targeted youth-centered projects and involving them in climate decision-making at all levels of governance including the allocation of climate finance and the formation of climate policies.

d. Article 2.1c in accordance with Article 9

- We urge the importance of implementing Article 2.1c by reforming the International Financial Architecture and stopping all fossil fuel investments immediately.
- We urge the GST process to call for a mandate reform of the IFIs to align pathways on reaching the PA with climate resilience and low carbon emissions
- We urge the GST process to call parties to implement ISSB standards of the IFRS.

e. Sustainable Finance

- We urge the GST to call for the private sector to mobilize substantial climate finance to support adaptation, mitigation, and capacity building to the achievement of their national NDCs and to call on regulators of the stock exchanges to ask investments to comply with Climate/Nature disclosures and standardized ESG scoring.
- We encourage the GST to promote the integration of sustainability and climate goals into national financial sector strategies, ensuring alignment with broader sustainable development objectives.

⁵ Rich nations say they're spending billions to fight climate change. Some money is going to strange places.

<https://www.reuters.com/investigates/special-report/climate-change-finance/>

- We recommend using specific terms like the PRI within the framework to push forward the specific institutions and processes.
- f. Enabling environment and Youth Engagement in implementation**
- We acknowledge and appreciate the efforts towards intergenerational equity in relation to the inclusion of youth in decision-making processes
 - We invite you to raise the ambition of bridging the gap by including the contribution of the remaining NPS to the climate goals when they are not reflected in the NDCs and or the Climate Action Portal.
- g. Choosing the correct financial instruments**
- We stress the need to address the public debt crisis in developing countries which hinders climate action.
 - We urge the use of the grant approach in financing loss & damage and the consideration of tools such as debt-cancelling. Also, debt restructuring, debt swaps, debt-sustainability-linked bonds, and other instruments can be considered.
 - We urge parties to implement and finance the Santiago Network and the rebuilding of human settlements in order to restore livelihoods.
- h. New sources of finance**
- Besides innovative financial instruments to fill the climate finance gap, new resources of finance are needed.

C.4 Efforts related to loss and damage

- a. The Loss and Damage Fund must be a new and stand-alone entity hosted under the UNFCCC and it must be predictable, adequate, new, additional, accessible, and grant-based so as not to increase countries' debts. L&D finance should not originate from a development fund and the accessibility to the L&D Fund should be grant-based.⁶
- b. The Loss and Damage Fund and its funding arrangement must incorporate children's rights as a guiding principle. Civil society organizations, particularly women-led and youth-led, must play a crucial role in implementing national actions to address loss and damage. The Loss and Damage Fund and its funding arrangements should align with the [Lima Work Plan on Gender](#), its action plan, international humanitarian rights, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the 10-Year Glasgow Action for Climate Empowerment plan.⁷
- c. The Santiago Network should be fully operationalized as soon as possible, have reliable and predictable finance, and be independent from the host institution. It should move to implement its function to assist in identifying, prioritizing, and communicating the needs and priorities of the developed countries.

⁶ COP28 demands of Loss and Damage Youth Coalition, 2023, <https://ldyouth.org/cop28-demands/>

⁷ COP28 demands of Loss and Damage Youth Coalition, 2023, <https://ldyouth.org/cop28-demands/>

C.5 Efforts related to response measures

- a. Promote economic diversification to mitigate the impacts and support the inclusive design of a transition process with a right-based approach in order to ensure a just transition and enhance climate action
- b. Assessment of collective processes, opportunities, challenges, and good practices and provide recommendations based on the assessment to keep the world on track of 1.5 degrees.

D. Enhancing international cooperation for climate action

- a. GST should be a platform for knowledge co-production between GST stakeholders and IPBES, UNCCD SPI, and IPCC scientists.
- b. Culture plays a significant knowledge more emotionally engaging. This was seen for instance in the previous technical dialogue at COP27, where inputs to the GST were delivered in the form of posters, videos, and theatre. We believe that these creative inputs are essential and necessary, and we urge cooperation with global cultural institutions such as UNESCO to make this happen.
- c. Recognizing the special needs of LDCs and SIDS and calling on Parties, private sectors, and multilateral and international financial institutions to strengthen international cooperation towards the support for the formulation and implementation of NDCs.

E. Way forward

- a. Urge countries to consider the GST1 decision in updating ambitious NDCs and submitting ahead of 2025 that cover wide sectors and specifically mention how their NDCs reflect the recommendations of the GST output.
- b. A collective commitment from the countries to reduce emissions by 45% by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050 and the updated NDCs to reflect this commitment. This should also include restrictions on the exploration and extraction of new fossil fuels and instead, opt for wide economy diversification.
- c. Emphasize the need for whole system mitigation action to bridge the current implementation gap and meet Paris Agreement targets, focusing on addressing emissions in food and agriculture, accelerating global transportation, and establishing concrete targets for a global fossil fuel phase-out. The national targets should also align with effective energy transition policies, such as the development of mitigation policy plans reflective of NDC goals.
- d. Urge developed countries and multilateral and international financial institutions to support developing countries in capacity building and technical assistance in the implementation of the NDCs.
- e. Recall the UNSG mandate to hold an event in 2025 for the presentation of NDCs aligned to 1.5°C pathways
- f. Encourage local, national, regional, and sector-specific stocktakes to better the next round of NDCs and support in its implementation and acknowledge the role of non-state actors particularly women, indigenous people, and young people in translating the climate action on the ground

- g. Call for coordination of both outgoing and incoming COP presidencies to align priorities for GST to ensure a robust, transparent, and inclusive follow-up on the actions inspired by the GST1 decision, and recommend further progress.
- h. Guided by the best available science put forward by the IPCC reports and putting nature at the heart of climate action.
- i. Encourage the GGA framework to encompass adaptation actions and results of non-state actors, extending to youth, indigenous populations, local communities, and the private sector, building upon the aforementioned national government reporting mechanisms.
- j. Develop a plan to implement needs-based climate finance for which the UNFCCC needs to improve its collaboration with other essential actors like the IMF, WB, MDBs, G20, etc. The decisions made by the UN, especially regarding Art. 2.1c and Art. 9 of the Paris Agreement need to be the base for the transformation of the international financial architecture.
- k. GST needs to call on debt cancellation as the colonial-grown burden of debt prevents necessary climate investments. The UN should provide technical guidance on this.
- l. Considering that only 42% of all current NDCs contain a direct reference to children or youth while only 20% mention children specifically and only 2% mention the rights of the children⁸, it should encourage Parties to meaningfully engage children and youth from the beginning in the formulation and implementation of NDCs, thereby supporting them with capacity-building, funding support for youth participation and youth-led projects that support NDCs, and investing in education and entrepreneurship, including green and decent jobs for youth.
- m. The Loss and Damage Fund must be a new and stand-alone entity hosted under the UNFCCC and it must be predictable, adequate, new, additional, accessible, and grant-based.

⁸ UNICEF, 2019, https://www.unicef.org/media/72561/file/Are-climate-change-policies-child-sensitive-2020_0.pdf

About [YOUNGO](#):

YOUNGO is one of the nine Civil Society Constituencies of the UNFCCC. We are a network of children and youth organizations, groups, and individuals who identify themselves as children or youth below the age of 35 years. YOUNGO is by youth, with youth, for youth. YOUNGO consists of many youth-led organizations, groups, delegations, and individuals working in climate change-related fields.

YOUNGO is organized into different Working Groups that focus on different aspects of the UNFCCC negotiations and beyond, and work to ensure that the perspectives of young and future generations are taken into account in the international decision-making processes. Besides that, YOUNGO members observe and report on climate negotiations and the implications of their outcomes.

YOUNGO focuses on the following areas:

1. Awareness, Knowledge, and Capacity Building
2. Collaboration, Cooperation, and Network
3. Policy, Lobby, and Advocacy
4. Youth Action

We aim and envision:

- A climate-positive and just society living in harmony with nature and the planet
- An empowered youth generation, who are driving meaningful, impactful, and positive change locally, nationally, and internationally
- A UN where youth is sitting at the decision-making tables and is taken seriously.