



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Capacity-building Hub Finance and Technology Day

### World Federation of Engineering Organizations

## Deploying Global Youth Capacity in UN Organisations and Engineering for SDG 13

### Concept Note

#### Background:

The World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) is an international, non-governmental organization representing the engineering profession worldwide. The WFEO brings together national engineering organizations from some 100 nations and represents more than 30 million engineers from around the world. Founded under the auspices of the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organizations (UNESCO) in 1968, WFEO now co-chairs the UN Major Group for Scientific and Technological Community and works closely with UN bodies such as UNESCO, ECOSOC, UNIDO, ITU, UNEP, ISO.

The WFEO has laid emphasis on Climate Change and capacity building, in particular by focusing on climate education and Model Codes, such as the Code of Practice for Sustainable Development and Environmental Stewardship and the Code of Practice on Principles of Climate Change Adaptation for Engineers. WFEO, in the frame of the COP25, expressed its deep concern on climate change and issued a Declaration on Climate Emergency, spearheaded by the WFEO Committee on Engineering and the Environment (CEE).

The Declaration emphasizes the importance of engaging women and young engineers in particular to combat climate change. Following this, the WFEO committee on Young Engineers / Future Leaders (YEFL), who work voluntarily to make (YEFL) acknowledged and celebrated as the global leader for the young voices of the Engineering profession, set-up a Global Young Engineers Working Group on SDG13.

This working group promotes the sharing of information and best practises on decarbonisation, resilient infrastructure and development of STEM skills required for green transition, between the young engineers from 100 national engineering associations and focuses on including young engineers from the developing regions. To add the most value to global UN SDG 13 targets, this working group collaborates with the UN MGCY Science-Policy Interface Platform, Global Youth Climate Network (World Bank Group) and Members of the UN Secretary-General's Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change to align the initiatives and prepare a joint statement outlining the key priorities for climate action identified by the youth networks.





The Global Young Engineers Working Group on SDG 13 collaborates with the Global Youth Climate Network (GYCN) for this event. GYCN is an initiative under the World Bank Group's (WBG) Youth-to-Youth (Y2Y) Community. GYCN aims to engage the youth community both within and outside the WBG to participate in climate initiatives that raise awareness on climate issues and mitigate the impacts of climate change. GYCN programs are action-driven, through active engagement with young climate leaders worldwide and partnerships with various organizations.

### Objectives:

We will present an initiative bringing together highly influential international youth organisations to deliver a powerful joint statement and clear and concise overarching / priority climate policy recommendations in the areas of climate change mitigation, adaptation & resilience and inclusive action / meaningful youth involvement in policy making. Our partners in the working group include representatives of WFEO Global Young Engineers Working Group on SDG13, UN MGCY Science-Policy Interface Platform, Global Youth Climate Network (World Bank Group) and Member of the UN Secretary-General's Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change.

The joint statement will have a significant chance of being noticed by the high level government officials, COP participants, business and civil society leaders, as well as the mass media, and contribute to the outcomes of COP26. The proposals for the policies have already been prepared– those aim to ensure a significant contribution to the following:

- Adoption of NDCs that are compatible with the 1.5 degree scenario (i.e. halving emissions by 2030 and net zero by 2050);
- Protection of public health and livelihoods, with a particular focus on vulnerable groups and communities, through government action and regulation-driven business action;
- Appropriate support of developing countries, through resources and knowledge sharing between the developed and developing countries on equitable basis;
- Unlocking the potential of the youth's contribution to climate action through enhancements to meaningful involvement of the youth in policymaking and increasing transparency and inclusion.

### Format:

Venue: 3<sup>rd</sup> Capacity-building Hub within COP26 (Blue zone)

Location: Glasgow, UK

Date: November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Thursday

Length: 60 minutes

Language: English

- Presentation
- Panel discussion
- Q&A session.





## General Structure:

Moderator of the event:

Vladislav Kaim (Moldova), Paula McMahon (UK), Evangelos Pastras (Greece)

Event outline:

1. Introduction: Gong Ke, president WFEO - prerecorded (5 minutes)
2. YOUTH INITIATIVES:
  1. Youth Joint Statement: Milda Pladaite (Lithuania) & Kirils Holstovs (Latvia) (10 mins)
  2. Global Youth Climate Network initiatives (5 mins): Alona Kazantseva (USA)
  3. WFEO Young Engineers Working Group (5 mins): Michelle Meaclem (New Zealand) /Milda Pladaite
3. Panel: Moderator (Rachel Skinner, UK). Panelists: Stacy Swann (USA), Chris Chukwunta (Nigeria), Dr. Bapon Fakhruddin (New Zealand), UNFCCC/CTO (30 minutes - 15 minutes, set questions and 15 minutes Q&A))
4. Call for Action/Conclusion (5 minutes)

<b>Speakers</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Affiliation/Organization</b>
Alona Kazantseva	Co-chair	Global Youth Climate Network
Chris Chukwunta	Vice President	International Renewable Energy Systems
Stacy Swan	Chief Executive Officer	Climate Finance Advisors
Bapon Fakhruddin	Technical Director, DRR and Climate Resilience	Tonkin + Taylor
Milda Pladaite	Lead of Global Young Engineers Working Group on SDG 13	World Federation of Engineering Organization
Kirils Holstovs	Engineer	AECOM
Michelle Meaclem	Civil Engineer	Tonkin + Taylor / WFEO
Gong Ke	President	World Federation of Engineering Organization
Gopal Kumar Mohoto	Co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer	Advanced Dynamic (Bangladesh)





<b>Moderators</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Affiliation/Organization</b>
Vladislav Kaim	Member	UN Secretary General's Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change
Rachel Skinner	President	Institution of Civil Engineers
Evangelos Pastras	Project Manager	Stratera Energy / WFEO
Paula McMahon	Regional Supervising Officer	Sir Robert McAlpine

### **Outcomes:**

- Initiated closer cooperation between global young engineers and youth networks within United Nations organizations for an enhanced interorganizational capacity building for SDG 13.
- Call for support from government, academia and industry representatives.

### **Relevant Links:**

World Federation of Engineering Organizations web page: <http://www.wfeo.org>

