



United Nations
Climate Change



**YOUTH4
CAPACITY**

YOUNGO
OFFICIAL YOUTH CONSTITUENCY OF THE UNFCCC

GAYO
GREEN AFRICA YOUTH ORGANIZATION



African
Youth Initiative on
Climate Change
Zimbabwe

AYM4COP
Africa Youth Mobilisation for COP



High level opening of the Youth-Affiliated Event and Intergenerational dialogue

Africa Climate Week 2023

Wednesday 6 September 4:30 - 6:00 pm (EAT)

1.5 Hours

I. Background

The [Glasgow work programme on ACE](#) adopted at COP 26 acknowledges the growing interest and engagement of youth in climate action and the critical role of young people as agents of change. Parties called for further enhancement of youth participation in climate change processes and in unleashing the potential of Action for Climate Empowerment. This was supported further by the adoption of the [Action Plan for the Glasgow work programme on ACE](#) adopted at COP 27 which highlights the need to meaningfully include youth in and engage with them on climate action at all levels and facilitate the inclusive participation of, inter alia, children, women, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities, in climate action, according to national circumstances (Action Plan of the Glasgow work programme on ACE Activity C.2 priority area tools and support).

The Youth-Affiliated event is supported by the [Youth4Capacity](#) programme and the [ACE Hub](#).

II. Description and Objective

The objective of the Youth-Affiliated event is to create a platform for youth to get together and discuss opportunities to enhance meaningful youth engagement and participation in climate policymaking and action in the African region through various events. The youth-affiliated event will therefore be delivered in various segments such as intergenerational dialogues, capacity-building sessions, networking sessions, exhibitions and workshops.

To set the scene for these youth-affiliated engagements, a high-level opening will be organized whose purpose is to build momentum and show support for meaningful youth engagement at the regional level; and show commitment and passion in supporting youth participation and youth voices to contribute to this agenda. Taking advantage of the presence of high-level speakers, the opening of the youth-affiliated event will connect to the intergenerational dialogue.

The need for intergenerational climate dialogue in Africa arises from the unique challenges and opportunities faced by the continent in addressing climate change and sustainable development. Climate change is a global challenge with far-reaching consequences that will span across generations. While older generations may not experience the full brunt of the impacts, younger generations will be dealing with the consequences of current decisions for decades to come. Engaging in dialogue allows for the exchange of perspectives, concerns, and ideas on how to address the long-term impacts effectively. Understanding the specific needs of youth can help in designing targeted interventions and support mechanisms to address their vulnerabilities. Further, assessing their needs allows us to better involve them in decision-making processes, encouraging active participation, and fostering a sense of ownership over climate-related projects and policies.

Identifying key needs for African Youth

As mentioned above, a survey is being circulated to map and identify the key needs for African youth. The key needs to put forward range from the lack of access to climate financing to the gap in capacity building.

- *Access to finance:* Many African youth may not be aware of available funding opportunities, or they may not have access to relevant networks that could help connect them with potential investors or funding organizations. Addressing these challenges requires a multi-faceted approach involving



collaboration between governments, financial institutions, development organizations, and the private sector.

- *Inclusion*: The youth must be involved in local climate adaptation initiatives to strengthen community resilience.
- *Climate education* : at an early age is crucial to raise awareness and build a foundation of environmental consciousness among young individuals.
- *Capacity building*: Youth require mentorship and capacity-building opportunities to develop leadership skills and enhance their expertise in climate-related fields.

Addressing these challenges requires a multi-faceted approach involving collaboration between governments, financial institutions, development organizations, and the private sector. The results of the survey will be shared in advance to set the tone for the intergenerational dialogue.

III. Tentative Agenda

Moderator – Elizabeth Gulugulu

Opening	
5 mins	Welcome remarks and introduction
5 mins	Simon Stiell , UNFCCC Executive Secretary– opening and statement of support
5 mins	Honorable Ababu Namwamba , Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Sports, Culture and the Arts: Government of Kenya (tbc) – welcome and statement of support
Special addresses	
3 mins	Claudio Barbaro , Undersecretary of State to the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security, Government of Italy
3 mins	HE Shamma Al Mazrui , COP28 Youth Climate Champion
5 mins	Fatou Jeng , Youth Advisor to the UN Secretary General
Setting the scene for the intergenerational dialogue	
12 mins	Elizabeth Gulugulu – introduction to the intergenerational dialogue - Putting forward the African youth needs- presentation and snapshot of results

Moderator 2: Shamiso Mucha

Intergenerational Dialogue	
35 mins	Panel discussion Invited Speakers Gauri Singh - IRENA Deputy Director-General Dr. Eric Ogunleye - African Development Bank OIC Director, African Development Institute Dr. Richard Munang- UNEP Africa Regional Climate Change Coordinator Christabel Kisang - AMY4COP Youth representative Dawda Cham- IYCDP COP28 Delegate Busiswa Dlamini - AU-EU YSB
5 mins	Closing remarks: Francesco Corvaro , Government of Italy’s Special Envoy for Climate Change
Buffer time	5 mins