

# Meaningful Engagement of Children and Youth in the NDC 3.0 Process: An Inventory on progress and achievements



**COP29**  
Baku  
Azerbaijan

# Reflections on the COP29 PYCC NDC 3.0 Campaign



Leyla Hasanova – COP29  
Presidency Youth Climate  
Champion

What words best describes your experiences as a young person on being engaged in the NDC 3.0 process of your country?

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# **Young People at the forefront of ensuring they are meaningfully engaged in the NDC 3.0 Process: Perspectives, Progress and Achievements**

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Hailey Campbell - Care  
About Climate

# NDC Equity Tracker





# About us

**+55**

volunteers

**+30**

countries

## Mission

Build a global movement of young people who have the **skills and confidence** to impact climate policymaking and implement climate solutions at home and in international spaces.

## Current projects

- NDC Equity Project
- International Climate Policy & Advocacy Course
- Climate Clubs and Community of Practice

# The NDC Equity Tracker

## Mission

Train a network of NDC youth ambassadors to understand and advocate for youth and gender inclusive NDCs, impacting ambitious and sustainable climate action for generations to come.



**80**

Countries analyzed

**85%**

Global emissions

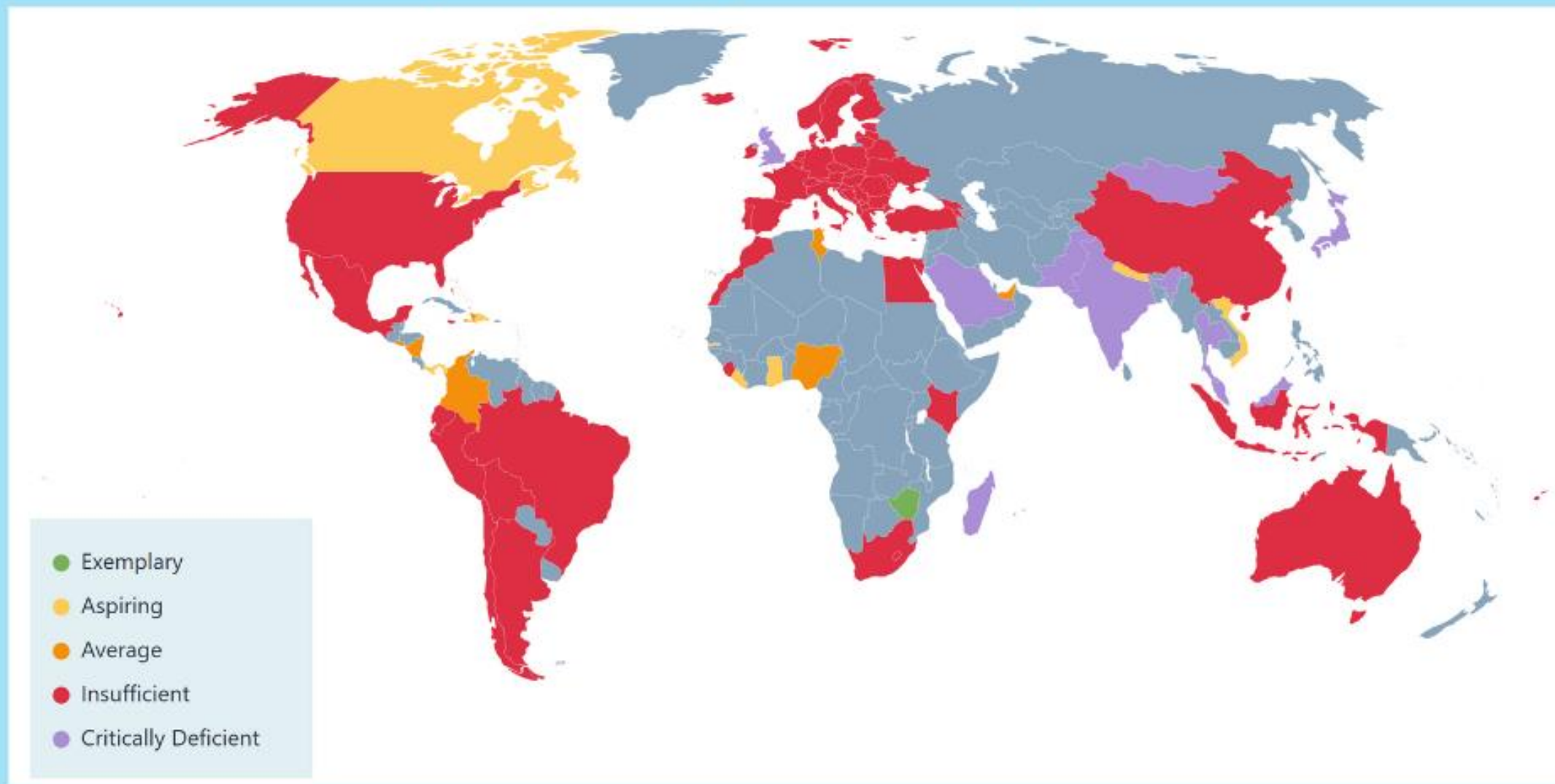
**150+**

Ambassadors network

## Emitters reached by the study

Top 10	8 countries
Over 1%	7 countries
Over 0.5%	7 countries
Less than 0.5%	32 countries

# How equitable is your country's NDC?



## Key Findings



More than 60% of NDCs don't include young people meaningfully in NDC development processes.



Over 49% of NDCs don't mention women or gender meaningfully in NDC development processes.



Countries with stronger inclusion of gender and youth are more likely to have emissions reductions goals aligned with the Paris Agreement. 100% of youth ambassadors believe their NDCs can be more ambitious.

# Key Findings

## YOUTH

## GENDER

## EMISSIONS

More than 60% of NDCs don't include young people meaningfully in NDC development processes.

**Liberia, the Dominican Republic,** and **Malaysia's** NDCs highlight youth representation and inclusiveness in climate action.

Other countries like **Brazil, Vietnam,** and **Kenya** reference youth as a valuable group in climate, but make no significant reference to why or how.

There is still a lack of meaningful youth inclusion in many countries, including **Samoa, Japan,** and **Mongolia**



# Key Findings

YOUTH

GENDER

EMISSIONS

Over 49% of NDCs don't mention women or gender meaningfully in NDC development processes.

Countries like **the Dominican Republic, Canada, Gambia,** and **Kenya** not only mention women, but have meaningful action plans that include them in climate action.

Lack of representation of members of the LGBTQIA+ community is common across all NDCs. **Argentina** and **Canada** stand out for making a reference, albeit small.

A significant number of NDCs still do not make meaningful mention of women or gender. This is seen in both top emitting and low emitting countries, like **the United States** and **Pakistan**, respectfully.



# Key Findings

YOUTH

GENDER

EMISSIONS

Countries with **stronger inclusion of gender and youth** are more likely to have emissions reductions goals aligned with the Paris Agreement.

Top emitting countries - **China** and **The United States** - do not commit to emissions reductions plans that are ambitious enough to limit temperature rise to 1.5C

Youth from countries with **less responsibility**, acknowledged the need for increased international finance to meet emissions goals, but that their country may need to start thinking of back-up plans if finance is not delivered.



## Recommendations

Based on their analyses, youth ambassadors have proposed recommendations that promote more inclusive and sustainable NDCs from their countries.

### ON YOUTH INCLUSION

*"Nepal must collaborate with and mobilize young people and climate organizations to continue to get engaged in NDC enhancement processes and other climate-related activities."*



Shreya K.C.



Chandelle O'Neill

### ON YOUTH EDUCATION AND TRAINING

*"Trinidad and Tobago's NDC must enhance education of climate change within the school systems to prepare young people for contributing to climate policy dialogues and provide training to policy-makers on the importance of youth inclusion".*

### ON CLIMATE FINANCE AND YOUTH

*"Climate finance targeted at youth initiatives is needed in **Zimbabwe** to facilitate the scaling up of youth led mitigation and adaptation efforts."*



Cinderella Ndlovu

# Check out our new report!



## NDC Equity Tracker

Towards Inclusive Climate Commitments:  
Gender and Youth at the Forefront

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



*Adopt the*

**UNIVERSAL  
NDC  
YOUTH  
CLAUSE**

A call to action for intergenerational collaboration:

- **APPRECIATE** that children and young people are important drivers of climate action
- **COLLABORATE** with youth stakeholders on the implementation of national climate plans to integrate their perspectives and communities
- **EDUCATE** children and young people on climate change impacts and solutions to empower the next generation of climate champions

*Adopt the*  
**UNIVERSAL  
NDC  
YOUTH  
CLAUSE**

**Parties, join the  
youth clause!**



# Thank you!

 [info@careaboutclimate.org](mailto:info@careaboutclimate.org)

 Care About Climate

 [careaboutclimate](https://www.instagram.com/careaboutclimate)

 [careboutclimate](https://twitter.com/careboutclimate)

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[www.careaboutclimate.org](http://www.careaboutclimate.org)



# Young People at the forefront of ensuring they are meaningfully engaged in the NDC 3.0 Process: Perspectives, Progress and Achievements

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Elizabeth Gulugulu - Youth  
Stocktake Team, YOUNGO

# Young People at the forefront of ensuring they are meaningfully engaged in the NDC 3.0 Process: Perspectives, Progress and Achievements

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Onel Inanadinia Masardule -  
Indigenous Youth Representative

(facilitated by Facilitative Working  
Group of the LCIPP)

# Panel Discussion

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Marc-Andre Lafrance  
Canada



Washington Zhakata  
Zimbabwe



Kishan Singh  
Trinidad and Tobago



Nigar Mammadova  
Azerbaijan



Narmin Taghiyeva  
Moderator

# Tools to assist Parties in developing child and youth inclusive NDCs

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Giulia Jacovella  
UNDP



# Meaningful Engagement of Children and Youth in the NDC 3.0 Process

An Inventory on progress and achievements

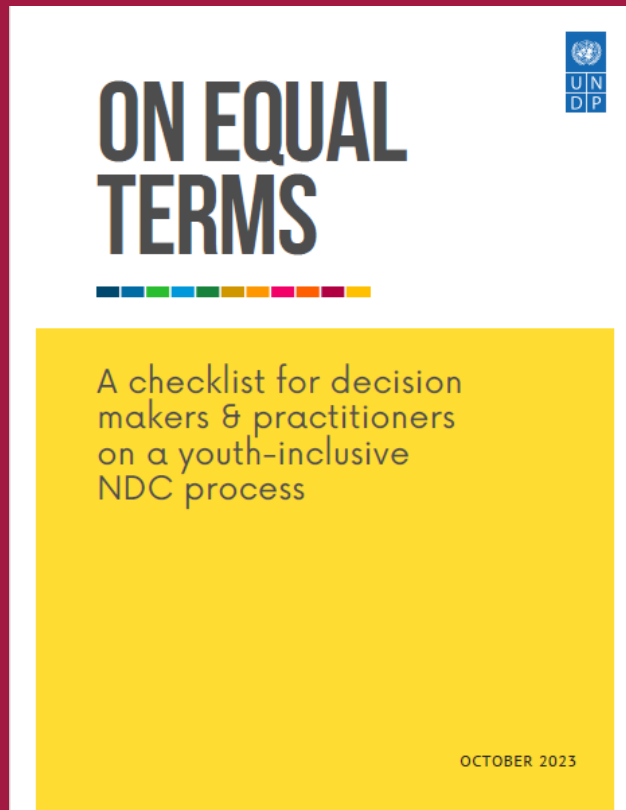
21 November 2024

Giulia Jacovella, Youth & Climate Analyst, UNDP



# On Equal Terms

A checklist for decision-makers and practitioners on a youth-inclusive NDC process



- 1. The tools and resources for engaging young people in NDCs are available**
- 2. Addressing barriers to youth engagement is essential**
- 3. Making NDC information clear and accessible builds trust, accountability and sustainability of the NDC process**

CLIMATE  
PROMISE



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**Join the youth4climate community: [community.youth4climate.info/](https://community.youth4climate.info/)**

**For more information:**

**Verania Chao**, Global Inclusivity Advisor: [verania.chao@undp.org](mailto:verania.chao@undp.org)

**Giulia Jacovella**, Youth Empowerment and Climate Analyst: [giulia.jacovella@undp.org](mailto:giulia.jacovella@undp.org)

# Tools to assist Parties in developing child and youth inclusive NDCs

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Yuv Nilan Sungkur  
UNICEF

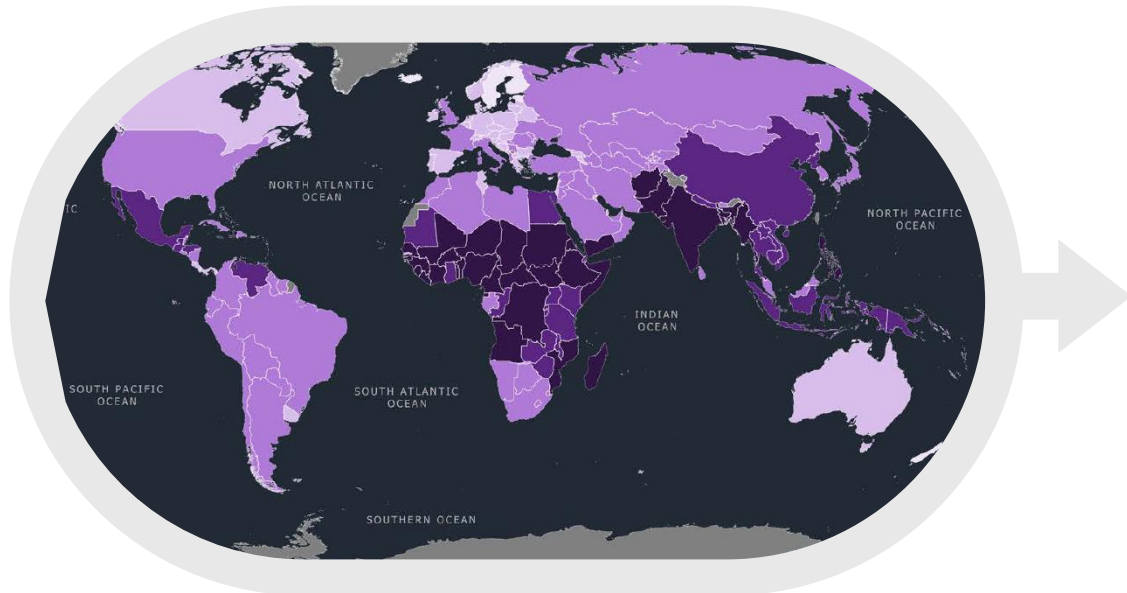
# Child-sensitive climate policies for every child

Meaningful Engagement of Children and Youth in the NDC 3.0 Process: An Inventory on Progress and Achievements

# The world is facing a child rights crisis

## 1 billion children

live in extremely high-risk countries



● Extremely High ● High ● Medium-High ● Low-Medium ● Low ● No data

## 99% of all children

exposed to at least one major climate and environmental hazard, shock or stress

## 2023 was the hottest year on record.

### Children worldwide face climate risks:



**2.2 billion children**

- almost 90 per cent of children globally - are exposed to high levels of air pollution



**40 million children**

are having their education disrupted every year because of disasters exacerbated by climate change



**820 million children**

face high exposure to heatwaves



**240 million children**

face a high threat of coastal flooding



**330 million children**

are highly exposed to riverine flooding



**815 million children**

are highly exposed to lead pollution due to exposures in contaminated air, water, soil and food



**Almost 1 billion children (953 million)**

are exposed to high or extremely high water stress



**600 million children**

are at high risk of exposure to vector-borne diseases



**400 million children**

are living in high-risk cyclone prone areas

# UNICEF Toolkit: Child and youth sensitive NDCs for parties



## Criterion spotlight: Holistic and multisectoral



### Examples of child- and youth-sensitive sectoral commitments

Country	Sector	Commitment	Contribution to child- and youth-sensitive adaptation and/or mitigation
<b>Antigua and Barbuda</b> <small>First NDC (Updated submission), p.21</small>	<b>Education</b>	An unconditional target for "all students from primary to tertiary level to have access to relevant climate change education" by 2030.	This commitment bolsters children's and young people's resilience and adaptive capacity by equipping them with key knowledge and tools. This can help to protect them from climate impacts, gain green skills, innovate for climate solutions and become environmental champions.
<b>Cambodia</b> <small>First NDC (Updated submission), p.70</small>	<b>Food and nutritional security</b>	"Development of Horticulture and other food crops for increase production (sic), improved quality-safety; harvesting and post harvesting techniques and agro-business enhancement".	Cambodia's NDC notes that youth comprise 47.1 per cent of the agricultural sector. This commitment enhances the country's agricultural capacity and offers business development training for youth, reducing food insecurity and supporting economic opportunities for young people.
<b>Jordan</b> <small>First NDC (Updated submission), p.36</small>	<b>Water</b>	"Increasing community awareness, behavioral change and adoption of water conservation measures through WASH centred community behavioral change initiatives."	This commitment promotes local action to increase children's access to safe water resources that are resilient to climate impacts.
<b>Papua New Guinea</b> <small>First NDC (Updated submission), p.49</small>	<b>Health</b>	"Maintain high coverage of LLINs [long-lasting insecticidal nets] and increase the utilization of appropriate malaria prevention measures", measured, in part, by the percentage of "people/ children <5/pregnant women who slept under an LLIN the previous night".	Papua New Guinea's NDC notes that climatic changes are driving increased rates of malaria, worsening its effects. This commitment increases access to key malaria prevention technologies and strategies for children and pregnant women to reduce their exposure to the disease.

# A Young Person's Guide to Nationally Determined Contributions



## Section 10: Journeys of Young People's Engagement in NDCs

### Journey 1 Suad, Jordan, Youth Climate Advocate



My name is Suad, and I am a renewable energy engineer and climate change advocate. My journey began during university, participating in environmental competitions and improving gas station power plants' efficiency in Jordan. These experiences led to representing Jordan in various competitions and joining the Youth Space in Irbid City, where we collaborated on environmental governance initiatives. This work revealed gaps in national policies, inspiring me to help found an environmental association. Our goal is to empower women, youth, and vulnerable groups in Jordan to adapt to climate change, involving them in decision-making and policy evaluation.

#### NDC overview in Jordan

Jordan's updated 1st Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2021 raised its GHG emission reduction target from 14% to 31%. The NDC covers national circumstances, GHG emissions profiles, and climate change impacts. It highlights children as vulnerable but lacks detailed mapping of their needs, inspiring us to focus on this area.

**Suad's engagement of young people in climate policy**  
Our association conducts training sessions for youth, children, and women in the agriculture sector to increase awareness of climate change. We started discussion sessions in May 2023, covering the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and NDC, and have been gathering input from diverse stakeholders to ensure their voices are heard.

#### Suad's inclusion of youth voices in the NDC

We facilitate direct interactions between young people and policymakers during our sessions, leading to the development of policy papers. These papers will be presented to the Ministry of Environment, ensuring that youth perspectives are included in the updated NDC.

#### Suad's outcomes

Our efforts have increased youth engagement in climate action, leading to the creation of an online academy for environmental and climate education. This initiative aims to build capacity and awareness, supporting national policy evaluation and development.

#### Suad's challenges

Our sessions are self-funded, limiting youth participation from rural areas due to transportation costs. Additionally, communication gaps exist between young people and policymakers.

#### Suad's lessons learned

Engaging youth in policymaking requires free and safe spaces, education, and tangible actions. Structured feedback mechanisms and capacity-building programs are essential. We recommend other countries establish formal youth councils, invest in capacity-building, integrate climate education in curricula, and partner with youth organizations.

# UNICEF's Child-sensitive climate policies for every child Data Platform

English



## Global Dashboard

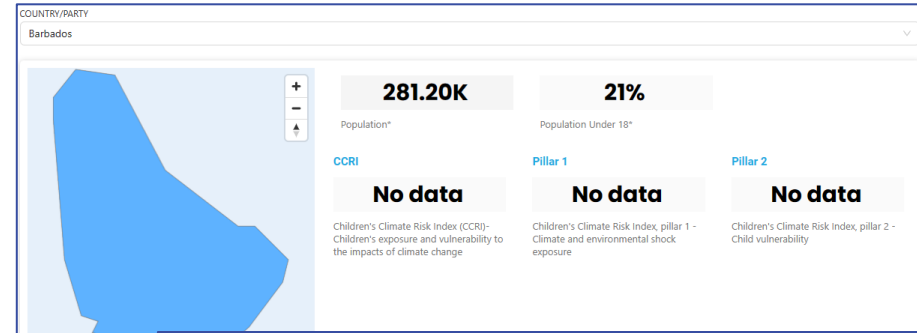


### Snapshot of NDCs and Child Sensitivity

This overview draws from the full data set of NDCs submitted after September 2019 to provide insight on NDC commitments and their child sensitivity at the global level.  
Data not included from NDCs before September 2019 or the countries that are not party to the Paris Agreement.

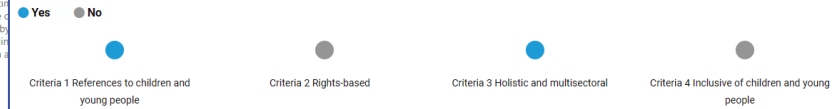
	Sectoral commitments			
	Sector	General commitments	Child-sensitive commitments	
Inclusion →	Disaster Risk Reduction	85% 15%	23% 77%	
References →	Education	65% 35%	44% 56%	
Rights-based →	Energy	99%	34% 66%	
Planning process →	Food Security & Nutrition	89% 19%	26% 74%	
Mitigation and Adaptation →	Health	76% 24%	38% 62%	
Multisectoral commitments →				
Action for Climate Empowerment* →				

## Country/Party Profile



The Revised/Updated First NDC for Barbados, published on 2021-07-29 has been assessed as: **Category C**, based on the following criteria:

### Revised/Updated First NDC analysis findings



Analysis details Analysis summary Analysis rationale

Inclusion →

### References

These indicators refer to the existence of references to children or young people in any part of the documents. These words of reference can be including direct and indirect references to children and youth, or related to the existence in any part of the document of references to most disadvantaged and marginalized children or youth, such as traditional and indigenous communities.

Mitigation and adaptation →	01. Existence of references to children and young people – new or updated NDC	●
Multisectoral commitments →	02. Existence of references to children and young people – former NDC	●
Action for Climate Empowerment →	03. Existence of references to children and young people in vulnerable situation	●

Spanish



**Thank you!**



# Launch

## Technical Report - Zero Draft of the Youth Stocktake M&E Framework

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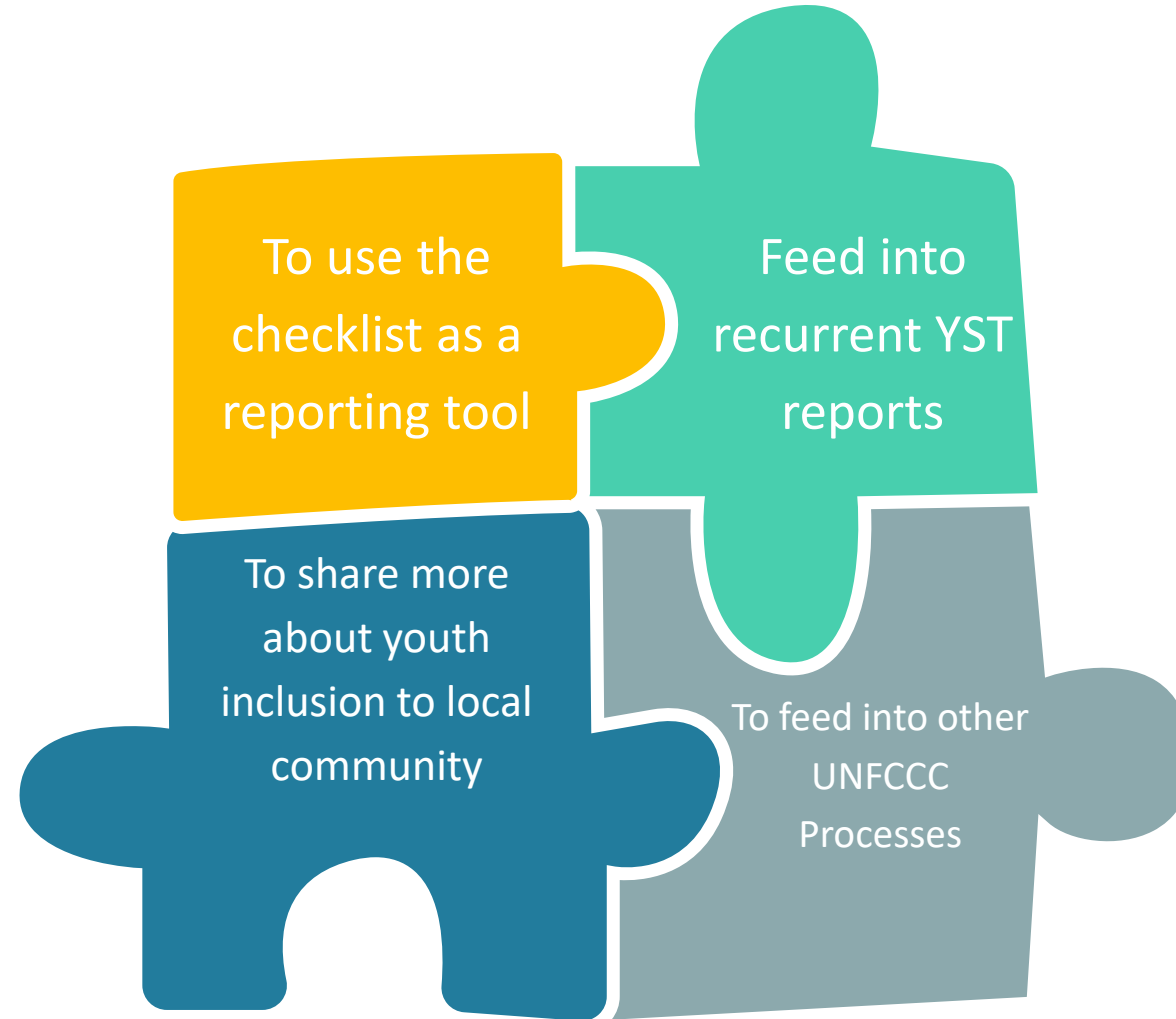


Karishma Ansaram,  
YOUNGO



# LAUNCH OF THE TECHNICAL REPORT - ZERO DRAFT OF THE YOUTH STOCKTAKE M&E FRAMEWORK A YOUTHSTOCKTAKE INITIATIVE

# Parties checklist on youth inclusion



# Aligning the work of YST with existing UNFCCC Processes

## The Gap

- So many NGOs working on Climate Change, we rely on parties to report these initiative
- These reports are often missed and when conducting research it becomes difficult to dig this information

### NDCs

How can youth climate actions be reported in the NDCs?

### NAPs

How can youth climate actions be reported in the NAPs?

### BTR

can youth climate actions be Voluntarily reported in the BTR?

## GST Process

Could there be opportunities to report youth actions?

# Parties checklist on youth inclusion



Inclusion of youth

Which mechanisms are used to engage youth? (e.g youth board)

Which platforms are used for engagement?

Specific events organised for youth inclusion (incl frequencies, impact of the event)



Youth engagement in specific policies

Mapping the climate policies whereby youth have been involved

Zooming on NDCs, NAPs, GST, BTR

Evaluating the specific mechanisms used towards each policies

Parties' awareness and reference to the GYS and national youth statement developed by LCOYs/RCOYs



Support to attend events and conferences

Youth representation in negotiation group (type of support, thematicis in negotiation, influence of youth in the group, youth interaction with other stakeholders during the negotiation)

Vulnerable group representation

Mentorship and capacity building



Partnership with youth groups/organisations

Mapping the scope of collaboration

Continuity in the actions and partnerships

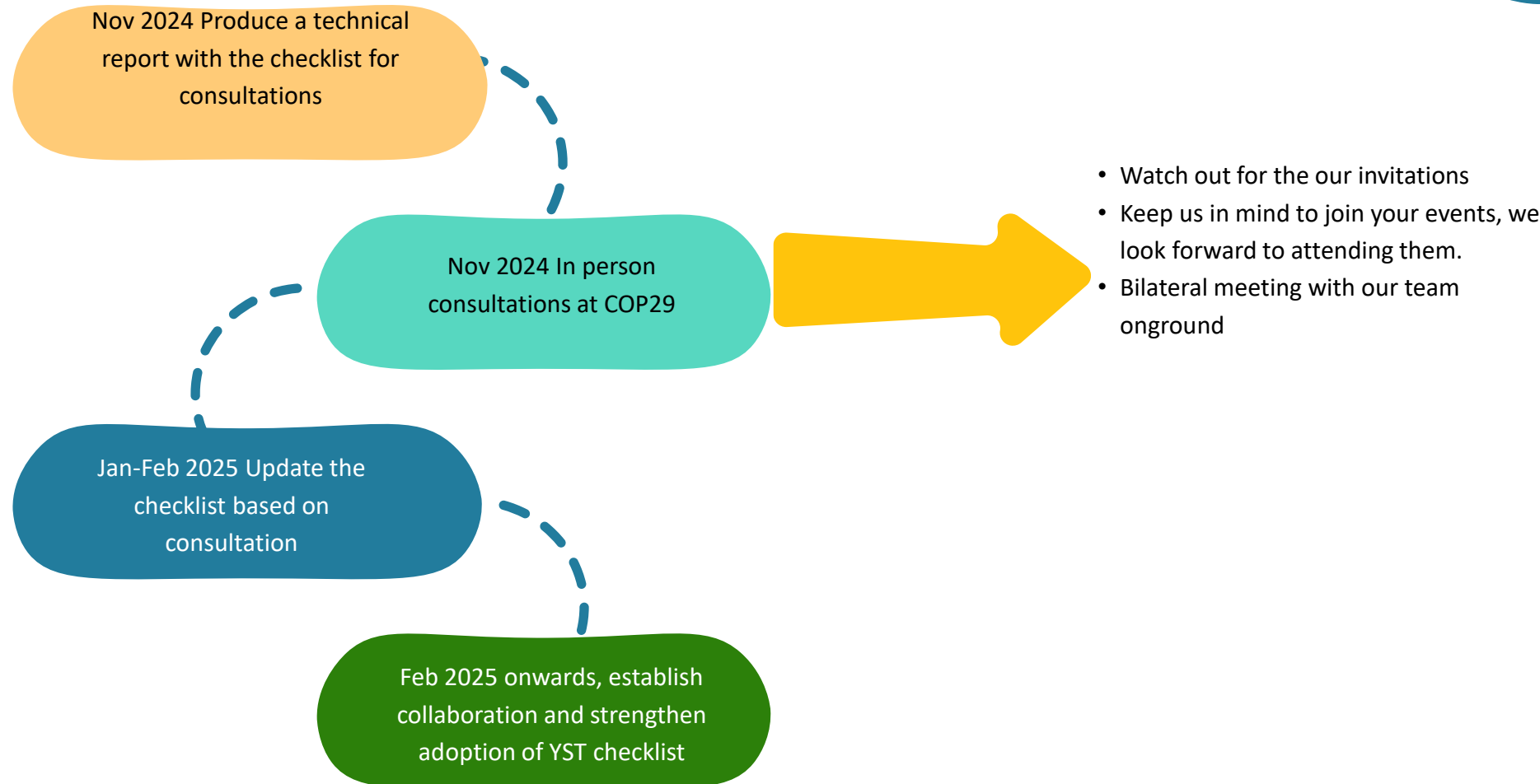


Case studies documentation

**Points for reflection**

- Have we missed any important points in the main categories being mapped?
- How do we align the checklist with ongoing efforts in the space?
- Any advise on how to work with Parties for them to adopt the checklist?

# Upcoming work on Youthstocktake



# M&E OF LOCAL/REGIONAL/GLOBAL COY



## PARTICIPATION

Have you participated at the conference of Youth and reasons of participation?

In which capacity did you participate?

What challenges did you face prior, during and after the conference if any

## YOUTH DEMANDS

What were the key youth demands from your region presented during the COY?

To whom were the demands submitted to and did you receive any feedback?

How were the demands reflected in National, Regional and Global policies?

In your opinion what are the challenges in intergrating youth demands into policy?

## STAKEHOLDERS

Which Stakeholders Supported Youth Engagement During the COY Conferences

What form of support did they provide you with?

### Objectives

1. Monitor and evaluate the youth demands on national/regional level and their influence on climate policy processes at a diverse level.
2. Mapping stakeholders engagement to foster youth inclusion in climate policies through the COYs

## CLIMATE POLICY

Do youth demands have influence on climate policy?

Examples Where Youth Involvement Led to Significant Policy Outcomes or Commitments?

What could be Improved in Future COYs to Ensure More Meaningful Youth Participation?

# Global Youth Statement Demands Tracker

Demand	Progress (100%)	Progress (Narrative)
Transcend tokenism and meaningfully consult and collaborate with youth in operationalizing the loss and damage fund mechanism; Noting with appreciation Decision 1/CP.27, Para 59 on the role of children and youth as agents of change;	0%	The loss and damage board has no or plans for youth concerning the loss and damage fund
This shall be bolstered by multilevel action, including the integration of loss and damage in national-level systems such as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) as well as enhanced intergovernmental coordination.	50%	The text the gave provision for multinational action in addressing loss and damage to reflect countries' NDCs and NAPs
Full operationalization of the Saliago network on loss and damage and identification of youth in the decision making table	100%	SLND was operationalized and has a youth representative on the Advisory Board of the SM

## Guiding Questions

1. How can the tracker be improved
2. How can we better measure the progress of a demand
3. How can we attribute a decision to youth advocacy
4. How can we empower more youth to use the tracker
5. How can we compare decisions and demands from different years

## Key Objectives

To document the evolution of the GYS

To measure the impact of the global youth demands on COP decisions

To evaluate the reception of youth demands

# SCAN REPORT





# LAUNCH OF THE TECHNICAL REPORT - ZERO DRAFT OF THE YOUTH STOCKTAKE M&E FRAMEWORK A YOUTHSTOCKTAKE INITIATIVE



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# Closing



Leyla Hasanova – COP29  
Presidency Youth Climate  
Champion



**United Nations**  
Climate Change



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