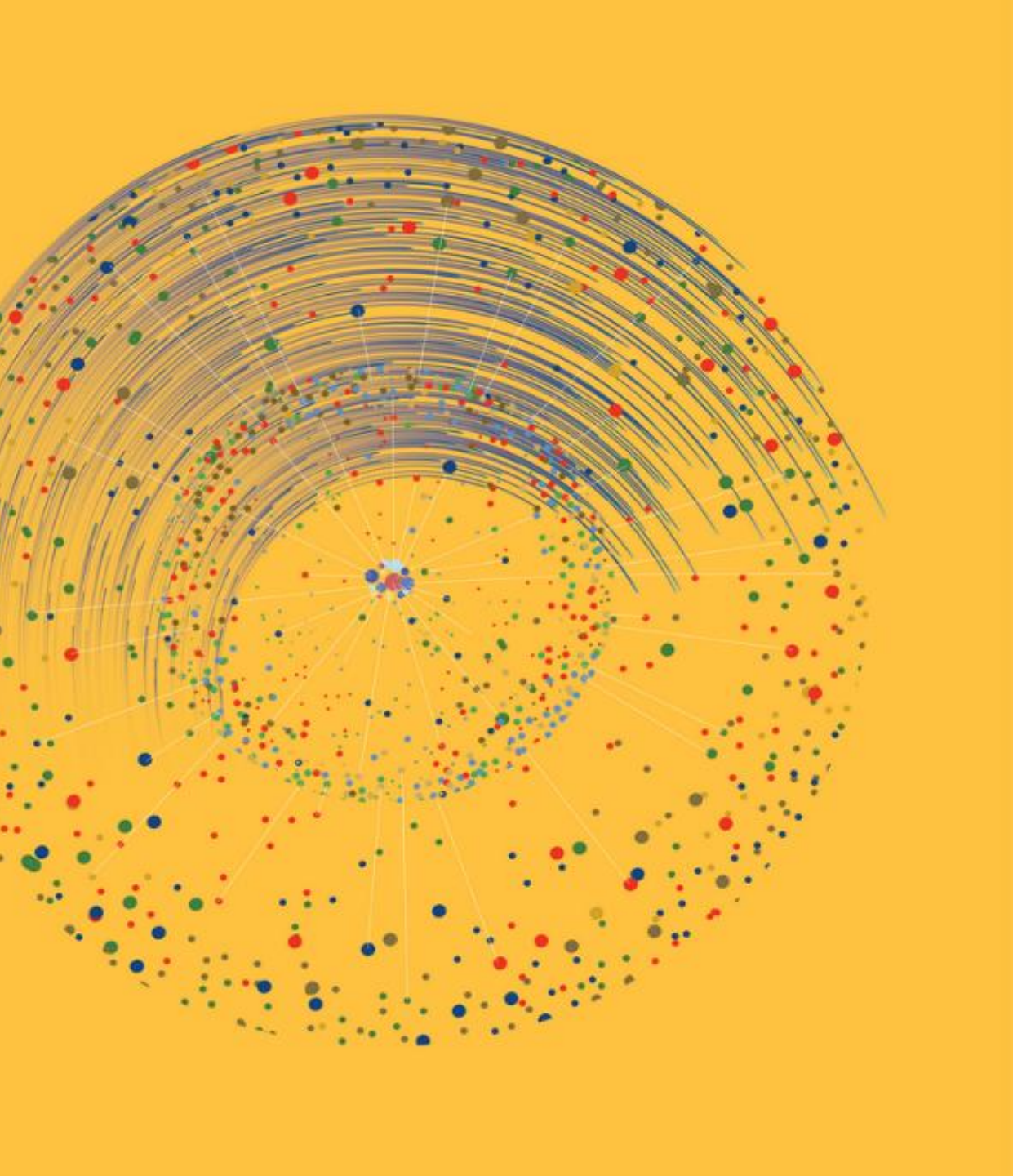




United Nations
Climate Change



RCC East and Southern Africa
Collaboration for Climate Action

REGIONAL YOUTHS' ENGAGEMENT IN THE UNFCCC PROCESS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***Theme: "Catalyzing Youths for Climate Action through local
action"***

**Thursday , 13 August 2026
15:00-16:00 PM EAT (Kampala)**



Facilitator : Lilian Kempango

Adaptation Specialist, UNFCCC RCC EASA



United Nations
Climate Change



RCC East and Southern Africa
Collaboration for Climate Action

Agenda

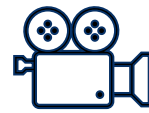
11:00-11:05	Welcome	Facilitator: Ms. Minky Groenewald
15:00-15:10	Opening & Welcome Webinar objectives; housekeeping; overview of expected outcomes	RCC EASA Facilitator
15:10-15:15	Opening remarks: The imperative for youth inclusion in climate policy.	Mr. William Otieno, UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centre for ESA
15:15-15:20	Keynote presentation: Children and Youth Engagement in the UNFCCC process	Ms. Laura Vinuela Programme Officer , Communications and Engagement - ACE UNFCCC
15:40-15:55	Presentation by YOUNGO: What are LCOYs? The journey from LCOY to COP - How national consultations feed into the Global Youth Statement and are brought into COP. Spotlight: LCOYs in East and southern Africa	Dr. Anirudh Janagam -LCOY Liaison 2026 YOUNGO Mr. Derrick Mugisha_ LCOY -2026 Cordinator, Uganda Tamika Du-Pont, Representative, Hlumisa Org. LCOY, 2026- Coordinator Eswatini
15:55-16:00	Discussions_ Q&A Pathways for Children and Youth Engagement and Next steps	RCC EASA Facilitator
15:25-15:30	Closing remarks	Mr. William Otieno, UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centre for ESA

Welcome!

Housekeeping Details



We invite you to introduce yourself in the chat. Feel free to share your name, pronouns, organization, and where you are joining us from.



Today's event will be recorded and made available through UNFCCC RCC website



Keynote address



William Otieno
UNFCCC Regional Lead, RCC EASA



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Ms. Laura Vinuela
Programme Officer , Communications and Engagement -ACE
UNFCCC



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Climate Change



RCC East and Southern Africa
Collaboration for Climate Action

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN THE UNFCCC PROCESS

Regional Collaboration Centre for Eastern and Southern Africa



United Nations
Climate Change



UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

- Adopted in 1992 and entered into force in 1994, it is an international treaty to combat climate change and is the parent treaty of the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement.
- The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change secretariat - **UN Climate Change** - is the United Nations entity tasked with supporting the cooperation and international response of national governments to the global climate crisis already impacting all of humanity.



UNFCCC was established in 1992 to **strengthen the global response to climate change**

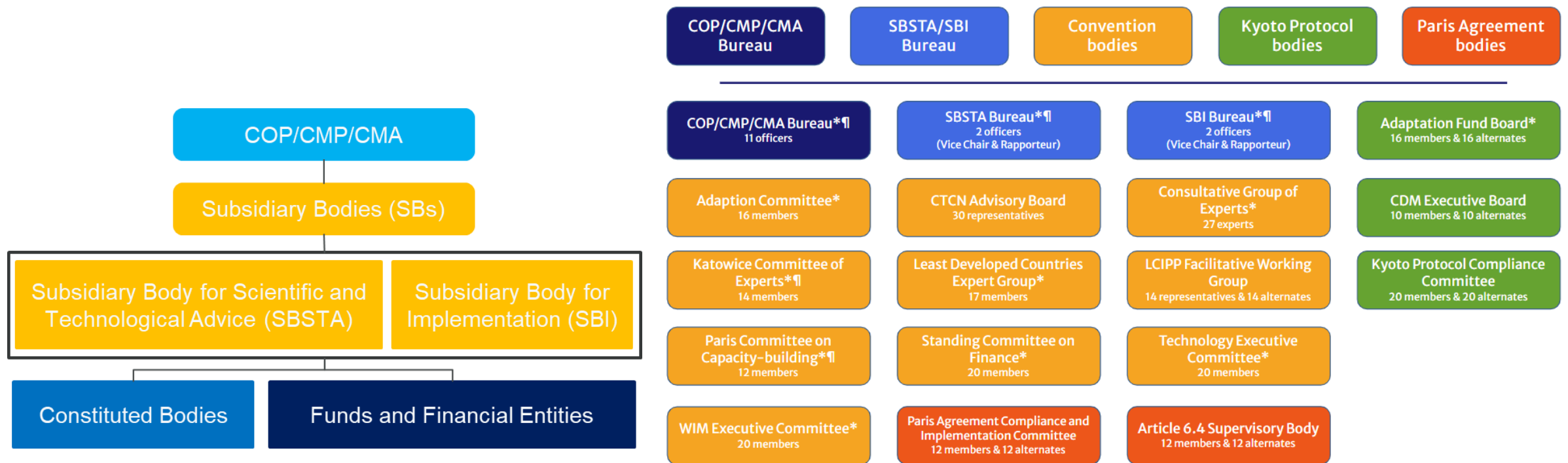


Enables international cooperation for **limiting global heating and building climate resilience**



Convenes UN climate conferences - COPs - every year to advance global climate ambition and action

UN Framework Convention on Climate Change



How do youth engage in the UNFCCC process?

One of the stakeholder groups



Targeted audience/group;
Agents of change

Action for Climate
Empowerment

Observer Engagement
(AIM)

Presidency Youth
Climate Champion

[Paris Agreement] Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right of (...) **children** (...) and **intergenerational equity**,

How do youth engage in the UNFCCC process?

1. Party delegation

- Including Party overflow
- Glasgow Work Programme on ACE, “Parties are further encouraged to build the capacity of youth to embark on and lead ACE implementation and promote youth participation in relevant climate processes at the national and international level, including by including youth in national delegations at UNFCCC meetings.”

2. Observer delegation

- YOUNGO
- Youth from other constituencies (young farmers, Indigenous youth, young academia...)

UN Agencies (UNICEF, UNDP, UNESCO) and
IGOs, NGOs (Save the Children, Plan International....)

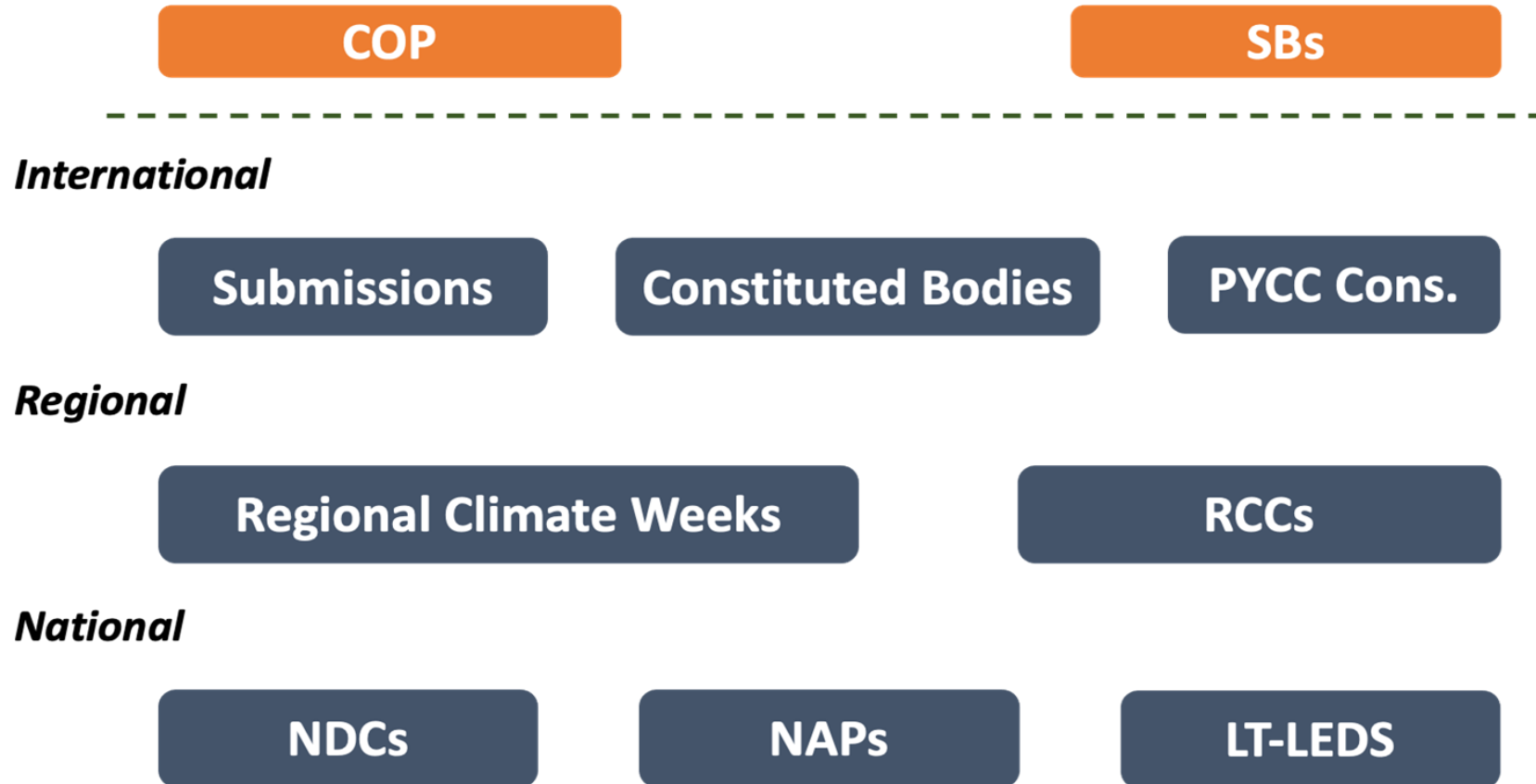


How do youth engage in the UNFCCC process?

YOUNGO

- Formalized as the children and youth NGO constituency in 2011, working with **youth organizations and individuals** (with or without observer status).
- Organizes **Conferences of Youth** (COY) at local, regional and global levels and publishes **Global Youth Statement** with inputs gathered.
- Have various **working groups** aligned with UNFCCC workstreams that participates actively in the UNFCCC meetings, including as:
 - A member of Advisory Boards of the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) and the Santiago Network for Averting, Minimizing and Addressing Loss and Damage.
 - A member of expert groups of the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) and the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage.

How do youth engage in the UNFCCC process?



Capacity Building Opportunities: E-learning Modules



A participant guide of the UN
Climate Change process

Take Course

View Syllabus

A Participant Guide of the UN Climate Change Process

- **Module 1: Overview of the UNFCCC Process**
- **Module 2: The Negotiations and Rules of Procedure of the Intergovernmental Climate Change Process**

Capacity Building Opportunities: E-learning Modules



Menu ▾

Mastering International Climate Negotiations: All You Need to Know



Mastering International Climate Negotiations: All You Need to Know is an accessible and interactive guide to international climate negotiations. It empowers participants—especially youth—with essential knowledge for meaningful involvement in the UNFCCC process.

Course modules

1. Introduction to the course

- 1.1. Introduction to climate change and the UNFCCC process
- 1.2. The science behind it all (Research and Science)
- 1.3. Where we stand: the Global Stocktake

2. Mitigation

- 2.1. Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategies (LT-LEDS)
- 2.2. Mitigation Work Programme
- 2.3. Response Measures
- 2.4. Article 6 on Market and Non-market Mechanisms

3. Adaptation

- 3.1. Global Goal on Adaptation
- 3.2. Least Developed Countries
- 3.3. National Adaptation Plans
- 3.4. Loss and Damage
- 3.5. Local Communities and Indigenous People's Platform

4. Transparency

- 4.1. From the Measurement, Reporting and Verification system to the Enhanced Transparency Framework
- 4.2. Training programme for expert reviewers
- 4.3. Support to developing countries
- 4.4. Together4Transparency

5. Climate Finance

6. Technology Mechanism

7. Capacity Building and Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE)

8. Just Transition

9. Agriculture and Food Security

10. Gender

11. The Ocean

12. In Practice: How to Navigate the UNFCCC Website and App

13. Conclusion

YOUTH PILLAR

Also...

Visit the ACE website: <https://bit.ly/3SOckAC>

Subscribe to the ACE Newsletter: <https://bit.ly/3unbpSl>

Join the ACE LinkedIn Group: <https://bit.ly/3SU3K8b>



YOUTH4 CAPACITY

***Strengthening the capacities of
young people and recognizing
their crucial role as capacity-
builders in driving ambitious
climate action***



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change



MINISTERO DELL'AMBIENTE
E DELLA SICUREZZA ENERGETICA



THANK YOU!

RCC East and Southern Africa RCCEASAfrica@unfccc.int



United Nations
Climate Change



SESSION II: YOUTH ENGAGEMENT THROUGH LCOYs'



Dr. Anirudh Janagam

LCOY Liaison 2026 |
YOUNGO



Mr. Derrick Mugisha

Co-Ordinator,
LCOY 2026 - Uganda



Tamika Du-Pont, Representative, Hlumisa Org.
LCOY, 2026- Coordinator Eswatini

THE GLOBAL YOUTH STATEMENT



GLOBAL YOUTH STATEMENT

Declaration for Climate Justice



YOUNGO
OFFICIAL YOUTH CONSTITUENCY OF THE UNFCCC

Local Conference Of Youth (LCOY) YOUNGO - UNFCCC

UNFCCC RCC EASA - REGIONAL WEBINAR

Local Action. Global Impact.

The Local Conference of Youth (LCOY) and its role in the UNFCCC ecosystem

Spotlight: LCOYs in East & Southern Africa

Dr. Anirudh Janagam (AJ)

LCOY Liaison 2026 - YOUNGO, Children & Youth Constituency of the UNFCCC

Wednesday 13 August 2026 - 15:00-16:00 EAT - Virtual

Agenda

1

Why LCOYs - and why they matter now

Climate action starts locally; youth policy starts locally.

2

The YOUNGO and LCOY ecosystem

How local, regional and global conferences connect: LCOY to RCOY to COY to COP31.

3

LCOYs in East & Southern Africa in 2026

Where the region stands: preparations, engagements and outcomes.

4

Spotlight: LCOY Uganda & LCOY Eswatini

Theme, mobilization methods, challenges and next steps.

5

From local to global - the GYS bridge

How national statements feed the Global Youth Statement for COP31.

6

The conversation continues - Q&A

Your questions on scaling youth-led climate action.

Why local action matters

112

LCOYs running in 2026

40,000+

youth engaged through LCOYs

100+

countries with LCOY processes

75%

of Uganda's population is under 30

Climate action starts locally. Youth policy starts locally.

Children and youth carry the heaviest burden of the climate crisis while holding the least decision-making power. LCOYs flip that equation - turning lived, local experience into national, regional and global policy demands.

The widest possible participation of all countries... engaging various actors - Paris Agreement Preamble (COP21)

Who we are: YOUNGO

YOUNGO is the official voice of children and youth in the UN climate process.

A constituency - a global network of youth activists and youth-led organisations - formally recognised by the UNFCCC. We make official statements, feed policy inputs into negotiations, and champion youth participation from local to global level.

25+ years of organising

1992

Rio Earth Summit - nine major groups named, including children & youth

2005

Montreal, COP11 - the international youth climate movement gathers

2009

Copenhagen, COP15 - youth recognised as an official observer constituency

2011

YOUNGO formally confirmed as the constituency for children & youth

How we work

Non-hierarchical & volunteer-driven

No paid staff; decisions made collectively, by consensus.

Global, not local

No country offices - we work through members and partners like LCOY teams.

Year-round, not only at COP

Policy work, capacity building and campaigns run all year.

What is an LCOY?

A youth-led, nationally organised climate conference, endorsed by YOUNGO.

LCOYs bring children and young people together to discuss climate issues, share ideas, build solutions reflecting local realities - and turn them into a National Youth Statement (NYS) that travels all the way to the global stage.

LCOYs are...

National consultation platforms

Inclusive, evidence-based gathering of youth priorities

Leadership academies

Young people trained in policy, advocacy and negotiation

Policy laboratories

Demands tested against national climate frameworks

Community builders

Regional dialogues reaching beyond capital cities

Innovation spaces

Solutions Labs connecting ideas to finance

Youth diplomacy

Direct links to delegations, negotiators and the UNFCCC

The LCOY ecosystem: local to regional to global



The statement pipeline



LCOY inputs are also integrated with inputs from YOUNGO Working Groups, hackathons, NGOs and individual children and youth - then synthesised into the GYS.

LCOY 2026 by the numbers

112

LCOYs preparing national conferences in 2026 (NYS)

40,000+

children & youth engaged through LCOYs

100+

countries running the LCOY process

1

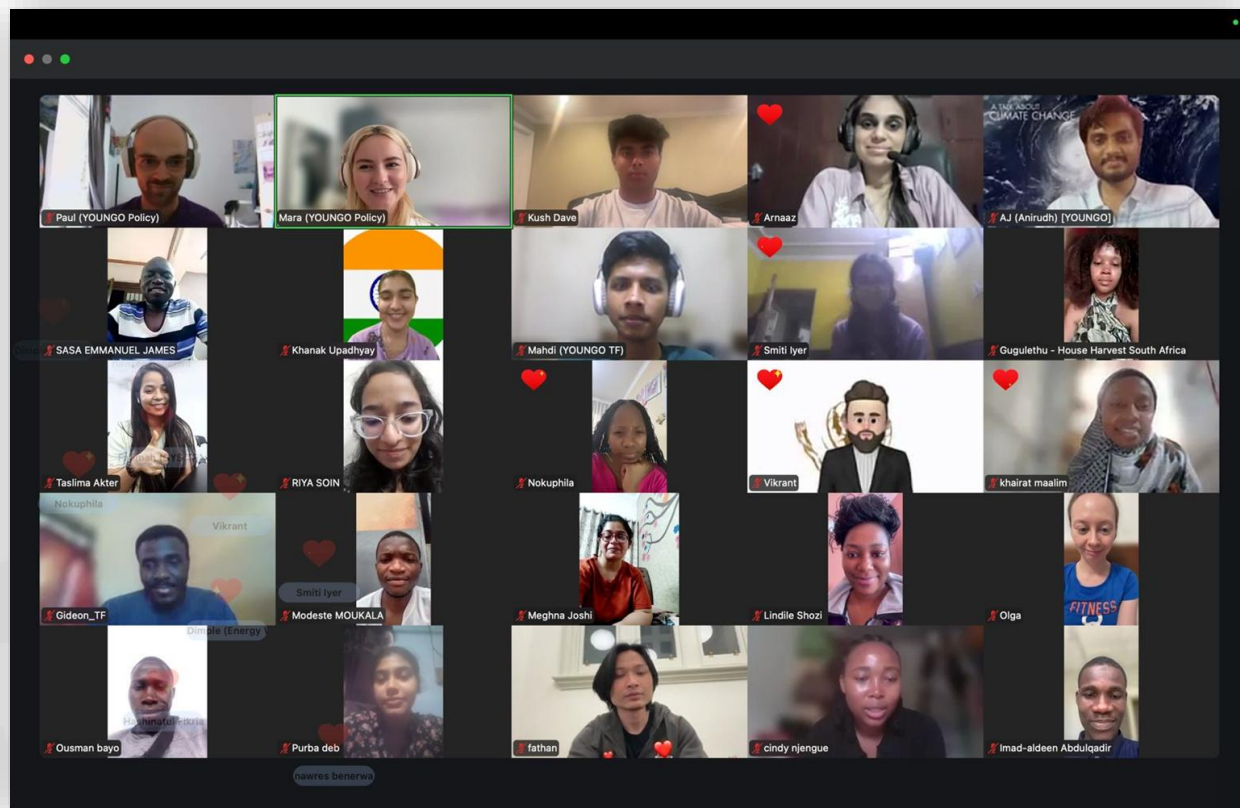
Global Youth Statement for COP31

From 28 LCOYs in 2020 to 112 in 2026

The network has quadrupled in six years - 44 (2021), 64 (2022), 82 (2023), 93 (2024), 108 (2025), 112 (2026) - hundreds of volunteer organisers, one shared statement.

East & Southern Africa is one of the fastest-growing regions in this network.

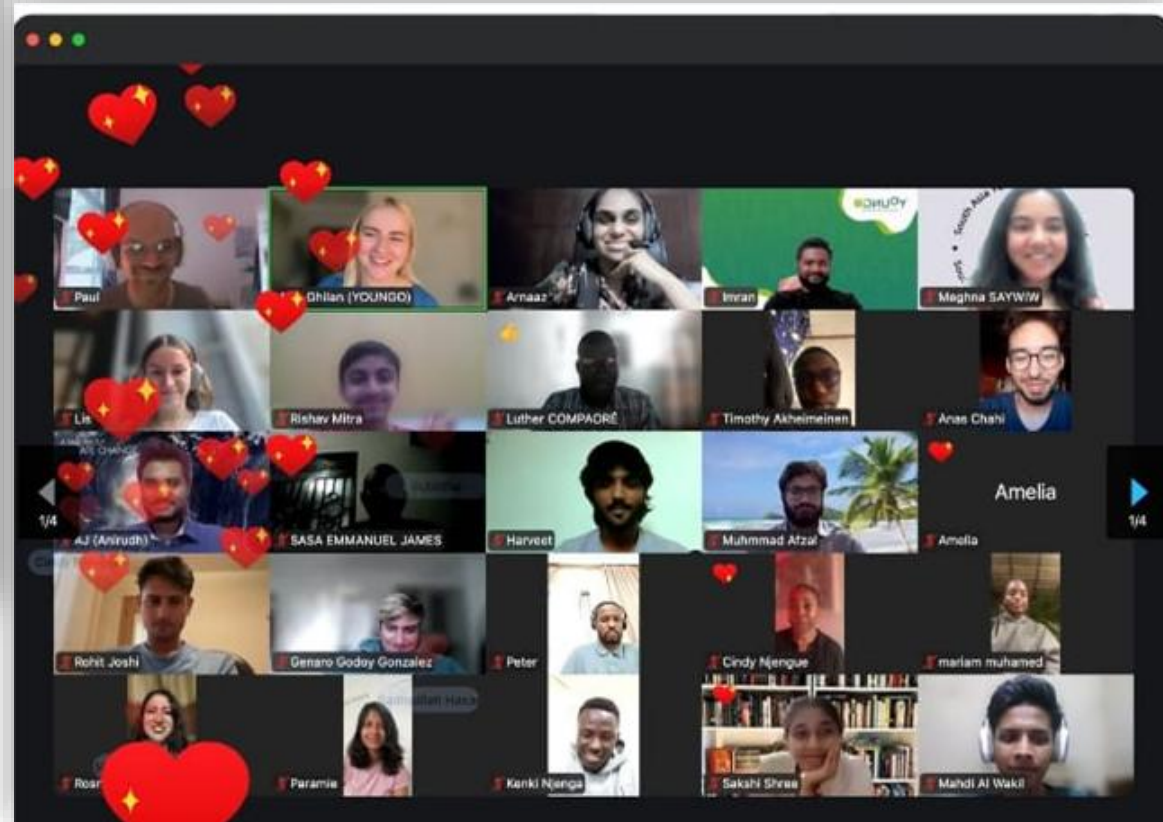
Policy Hackathons



More than 200 people
joined the Hackathons



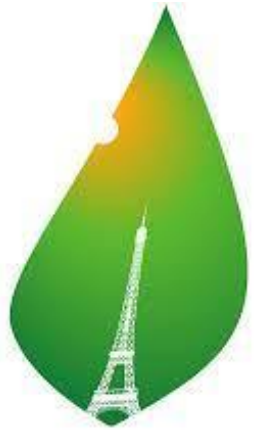
50 Policy Hackathons



GYS Through COP Cover Decisions



The **Preamble** of the Paris Agreement acknowledged the need for "the widest possible participation of all countries" and emphasizes the importance of engaging various stakeholders, including CSOs and NGOs.



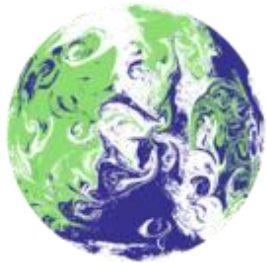
PARIS2015
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE
COP21·CMP11

- "Recognizing the importance of the engagements of all levels of government and various actors, in accordance with respective national legislations of Parties, in addressing climate change ..."
- "Acknowledging that climate change is a common concern of humankind, Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on ... **intergenerational equity**."

GYS Through COP Cover Decisions



Glasgow Climate Pact:



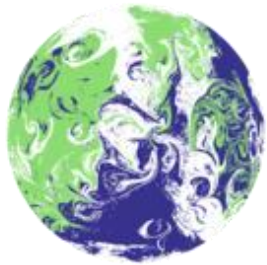
**COP26
PRESIDENCY
UK 2022**
DELIVERING THE
GLASGOW CLIMATE PACT

- Para. 63: "Expresses appreciation for the **outcomes of the sixteenth Conference of Youth**, organized by the constituency of children and youth non-governmental organizations and held in Glasgow in October 2021, and the "Youth4Climate2021: Driving Ambition" event hosted by Italy in Milan, Italy, in September 2021"
- Para 64: "Urges Parties and stakeholders to ensure **meaningful youth participation and representation in multilateral, national and local decision-making processes**, including under the Convention and the Paris Agreement."

GYS Through COP Cover Decisions



20|15
YEARS IN THE
UNFCCC PROCESS
2025
YEARS AS A
CONSTITUENCY
2026



**COP26
PRESIDENCY
UK 2022**
DELIVERING THE
GLASGOW CLIMATE PACT



GYS Through COP Cover Decisions



Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan:

- Para 55: "[...] encourages Parties to include children and youth in their processes for designing and implementing climate policy and action, and, as appropriate, to consider **including young representatives and negotiators into their national delegations**"
- Para 56: " [...] co-organizing the first **youth-led climate forum** (the Sharm el-Sheikh youth climate dialogue), hosting the first **children and youth pavilion** and appointing the first **youth envoy** of a Presidency of the Conference of the Parties"
- Para 57: " [...] notes the outcomes of the seventeenth Conference of Youth, organized by the constituency"



The ACE Action Plan:

- Decisions 23/CP.27 and 22/CMA.4: empowering all members of society, **including children and youth**, to engage in climate action

GYS Through COP Cover Decisions



20/15
YEARS IN THE
UNFCCC PROCESS
2025
YEARS AS A
CONSTITUENCY
2026



GYS Through COP Cover Decisions



- International Youth Climate Delegate Program
- Youth Climate Forum
- Children and Youth Pavilion



**COP28
UAE**

Decision 16/CP.28 Presidency youth climate champion:

- “Reiterate their acknowledgement of **the role of children and youth as agents of change in addressing and responding to climate change** and recognize the opportunity for future Presidencies of the Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement to **enhance the meaningful engagement of youth in the UNFCCC process ...**”
- “**Note the outcomes of the eighteenth Conference of Youth**, organized by the official children and youth constituency of the UNFCCC and held in Dubai in November 2023, which were informed by **local and regional conferences of youth:**”

GYS Through COP Cover Decisions



20|15
YEARS IN THE
UNFCCC PROCESS
2025
YEARS AS A
CONSTITUENCY
2026



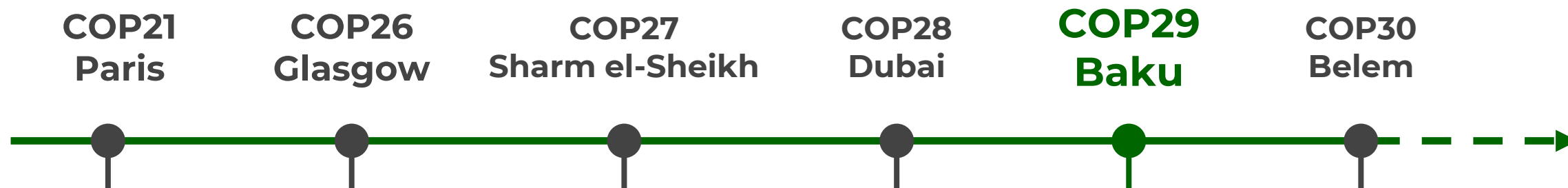
COP²⁸
UAE



GYS Through COP Cover Decisions



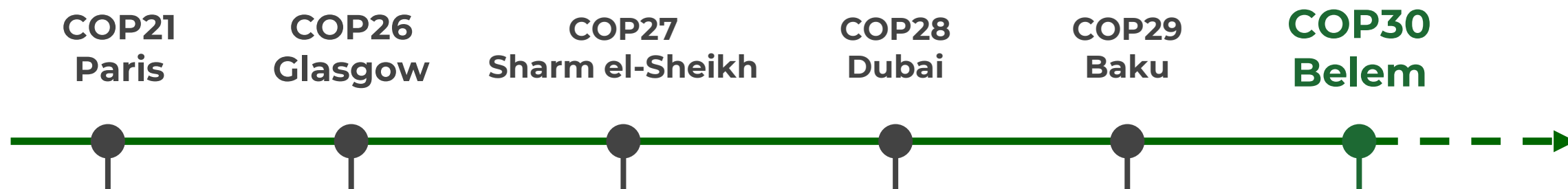
20|15
YEARS IN THE
UNFCCC PROCESS
2025
YEARS AS A
CONSTITUENCY
2026



COP29
Baku
Azerbaijan

- Language on children and youth
- No formal recognition for the COY, LCOY, or GYS

GYS Through COP30 (Desired Outcome)



Desired Outcomes:

- Stronger provisions on children and youth participation.
- Clear mentions of the Children and Youth in the programs and implementations of the NDCs in the pipeline of the submissions.
- A clear mention of the conference of youth, GYS and its outcomes as was mentioned in the years before.
- A cover decision on the support of the LCOYs in the outcomes of COP to support children and youth.

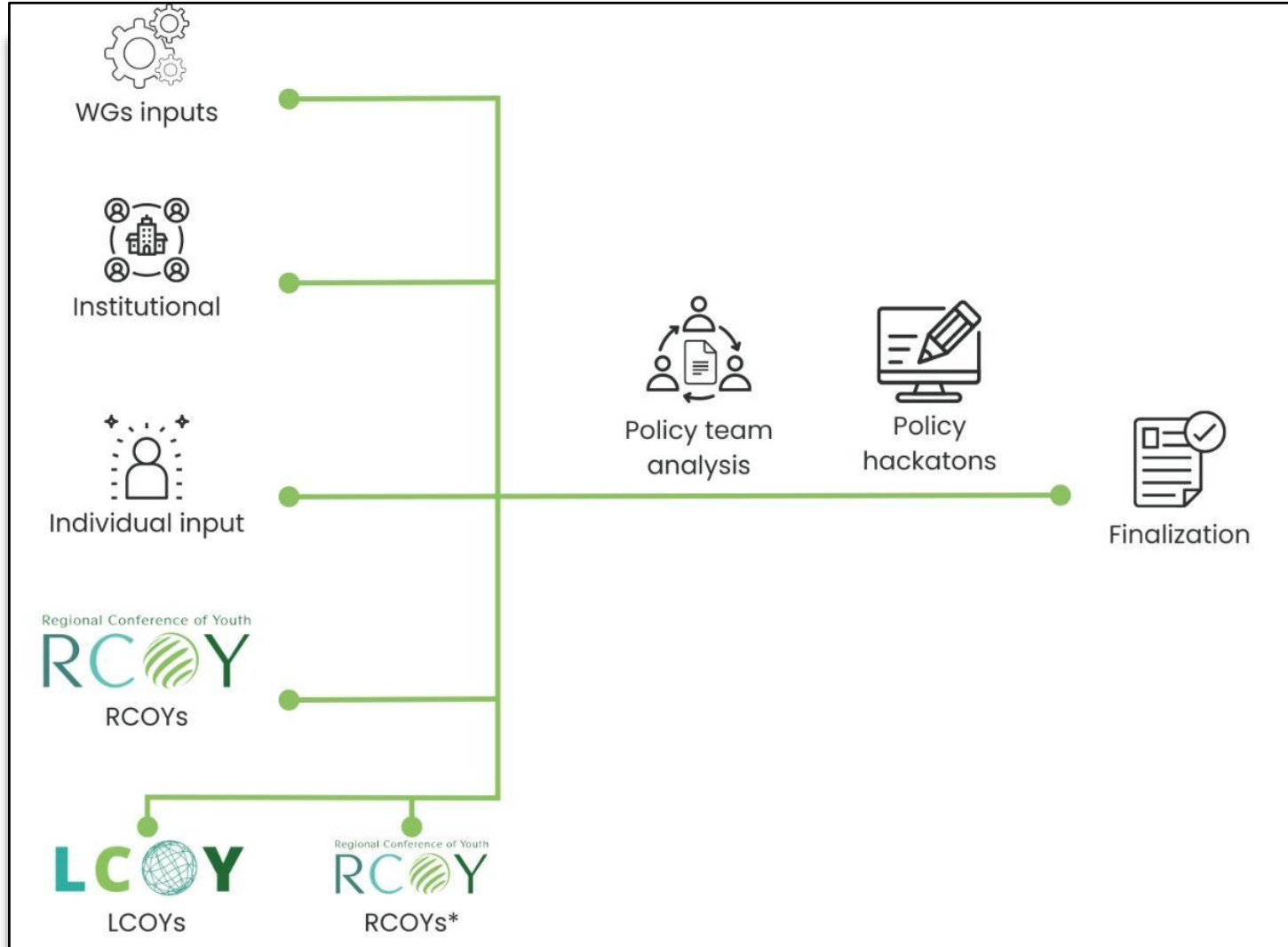
COP31 Türkiye



Desirable outcome

- Acknowledgement of the National Youth Statement, GYS, & COY
- Recognition of LCOYs and RCOYs
- Strengthened relation with PYCC & sister constituencies, and institutionalization of collaboration with YOUNGO

GYS - The input collection process



A group of volunteers coordinated by the Youngo Policy Team and Working Groups synthesize all inputs and draft the final document

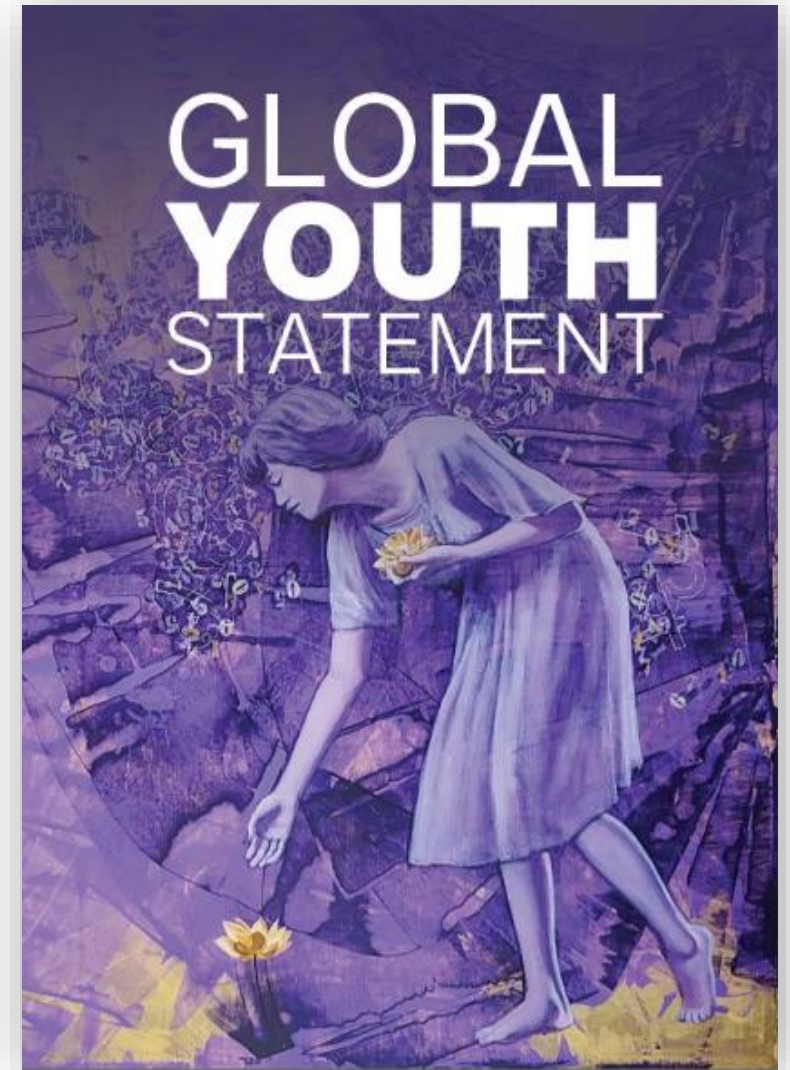
The Global Youth Statement Launch



**1- 5 Key Priorities
Version!**



**2- Full Thematic
Version!**



From local to global: the GYS bridge



50+

Policy hackathons synthesising inputs

30,000+

children & youth contributing

100+

countries in the GYS process

80,000+

volunteer hours invested

The GYS is the key policy document for youth lobbying:

Used in YOUNGO interventions, bilateral meetings and every conversation with a decision-maker; 20+ thematic areas across the COP31 negotiation tracks, including ACE, Adaptation, Children, Climate Finance, Health, Just Transition, Loss and Damage, Mitigation, Nature, Oceans, Technology, Women and Gender.

GYS 2026 is being drafted now for COP31 - LCOY inputs close 15 August.

Keeping youth momentum in climate action

1. Institutionalise youth participation

Formal mechanisms in NDC 3.0 implementation, COP31 preparations, adaptation planning, district budgets and climate governance.

2. Connect outcomes to policy

Map youth recommendations against NDC 3.0 adaptation outcomes, mitigation actions, finance needs and COP31 advocacy messages.

3. Finance youth-led solutions

Youth-friendly funding windows, small grants, concessional finance, guarantees and investor-readiness support.

4. Build capacity continuously

Climate policy, NDC 3.0, COP processes, climate finance, negotiation, green skills and entrepreneurship training.

5. Activate the post-LCOY Community of Practice

Peer learning, joint advocacy, tracking commitments, connecting initiatives, government-youth-partner engagement.

Get involved

Register for today's webinar series

Indico: indico.un.org/event/1025116

Event page: unfccc.int/event/catalyzing-youth-for-climate-action

Share widely across youth networks, universities and climate action groups.

Take part in an LCOY

Find your national LCOY, join a consultation, submit your input, or help organise - lcoy.earth

What you can do this week

Join the GYS input process

Individual and organisational inputs close 15 August.

Follow & amplify

#LCOYUg2026 - @LCOYUganda1 - @Y4Bioclimate - Hlumisa Youth Climate Network

Share your story

Which youth-led solution from your community deserves to go regional?

Thank you!

Local action today. Global impact at COP31.

Dr. Anirudh Janagam (AJ)

LCOY Liaison 2026 - YOUNGO (UNFCCC Children & Youth Constituency)

@YOUNGO_Children - #LCOYUg2026 - lcoy.earth

UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centre for Eastern and Southern Africa (RCC EASA) - 13 August 2026 - 15:00-16:00 EAT

LCOY UGANDA

2026

*5 – 6 August 2026 UNICEF
Offices (Blue Zone), & 7th
August Makerere University
Nakawa ICT Hub (Green Zone)*

*Theme: “Children and Youth-Led
Climate Action and Innovations
for Resilience and Development”*



Download LCOY photos.

#MyG

DERRICK MUGISHA

Mugishaderrickemmanuel@gmail.com

Phone Contact: 0701749162

LCOY Focal Point, Uganda



About LCOY Uganda

The Local Conference of Youth Uganda 2026, commonly known as LCOY Uganda 2026, is Uganda's official national youth climate conference organized under the global LCOY process coordinated by YOUNGO, the official children and youth constituency of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The conference took place from 5th to 7th August 2026 in Kampala, Uganda, under the theme: "Children and Youth-Led Climate Action and Innovations for Resilience and Development."

LCOY Uganda provided a national platform where children, young people, policymakers, researchers, innovators, development partners, civil society, academia and the private sector come together to discuss climate challenges, develop solutions, and shape Uganda's contribution to international climate negotiations before COP31

75%

of Uganda's population is
below 30 years & nearly
half under 15

13th

Uganda ranks 13th
among countries of
highest child climate risk
globally (UNICEF CCRI)

NAKIVALE SECONDARY SCHOOL

School motto: "Education for unity"



WHY LCOY 2026

Uganda remains one of the countries most vulnerable to climate change despite contributing very little to global greenhouse gas emissions. The country continues to experience:

- prolonged droughts
- destructive floods
- biodiversity loss
- declining forest cover
- food insecurity
- increasing climate-related diseases
- disruptions to education and livelihoods.

Objectives

01

To Strengthen Capacity and Preparedness of children and youth ahead of COP 31 negotiations and contribute to national and global mitigation and adaptation efforts

02

To establish a Children and Climate Action Track to improve Children-Climate Responsive Programming

03

To finance and accelerate youth and children's climate innovations through the Solutions Lab, connecting innovators to Climate Finance products, readiness grants, and blended finance instruments.

04

Produce the National Youth and Children's Climate Statement, consolidating positions from all four thematic areas



Conference Themes

LCOY Uganda 2026 brought together 520 participants, with strong representation of women, young adults, children, persons with disabilities, refugee and host community representatives, rural youth and urban informal-settlement voices

Environment, Climate and Biodiversity

- Ecosystem restoration and protection
- Wetlands, forests, rangelands and water systems
- Pollution and waste management
- Renewable energy and clean cooking

Children, Health and Nutrition

- Climate-resilient WASH
- Food security and nutrition
- Health impacts of floods, droughts and disease
- Protection of children and continuity of education

Livelihoods, Technology and Innovation

- Green jobs and green enterprises
- Climate-smart and regenerative agriculture
- Circular economy
- Renewable energy
- Youth innovation and technology

Youth and Participatory Governance

- Meaningful youth participation in climate decision-making
- NDC 3.0 and COP31 engagement
- Climate finance
- Youth representation in planning, budgeting, implementation and accountability

Methodology

Multi-channel mobilization and engagement approach, rather than relying on one method.

- Regional youth consultations and School engagements
- Community engagements and Youth platforms and networks
- Online surveys like UNICEF U-Report polls
- Focus group discussions & Interactive capacity-building sessions
- Youth-led dialogues
- COP simulation
- Solutions Lab and Innovation marketplace
- side events

THE ROAD TO LCOY UGANDA 2026: WHY YOUR VOICE MATTERS!



 SPACE DISCUSSION

 @Y4BIOCLIMATE

Moderator



Derrick Mugisha:
LCOY Uganda Focal point

Panelists.



Jemada Mwa Kalinda, Social
Behavioral Change consultant
UNICEF



Isaac Ndyamuhaki -
National Director/GATO Uganda



Dr Jemba Micheal - ED Hummingbird
Foundation and Chairperson EU
Youth Sounding Board



Mr Jon Kafuko - Programs
Manager, Youth for Tax Justice
Network



Neunge Patricia- Advocacy Champion,
Girl-Led Action on Climate Change,
Uganda Girl Guides Association

 Monday, 3rd Aug 2026 |  08:00 PM – 9:00 PM EAT

 bit.ly/4pPzE4k

Challenges



Youth access to climate finance

Young innovators continue to face difficulties accessing finance because many lack:

- Collateral
- Formal financial records
- Feasibility studies
- Investment-readiness support

This was identified as one of the key barriers to moving youth ideas from concepts into scalable solutions.





Limited participation of children and adolescents

The national conference process had relatively low participation from children and adolescents, partly because of government restrictions on children's movement during the school term. We recommend stronger outreach through schools, child-led structures and learner platforms.

Information and communication challenges

Climate misinformation and the need for young people and communicators to use accurate, ethical and evidence-based climate communication



Sustaining momentum after the conference

A key challenge after LCOY is ensuring that the energy generated does not end with the event. This is why the conference launched a post-LCOY Community of Practice and called for continued engagement, tracking and follow-up



The reports from the conference are quite clear that the next phase should be about moving from consultation to implementation.

11



Outcomes and Way forward on keeping Youth momentum in climate action



Institutionalize youth participation

Create formal mechanisms for youth participation in:

- NDC 3.0 implementation,
- COP31 preparations,
- Adaptation planning,
- District planning and budgeting,
- Climate governance,
- Monitoring and accountability,
- Youth should have influence over priorities, budgets, implementation and monitoring,

Activate the post-LCOY Community of Practice

Continued networking, Peer learning, Joint advocacy, Tracking commitments, Connecting youth initiatives, Maintaining government–youth–partner engagement

This is specifically identified in the conference recommendations.





Create accessible climate finance for youth- Solutions Lab and Innovation Market Place

Establish youth-friendly funding windows, small grants, concessional finance, guarantees and investor-readiness support so that youth-led ideas can become bankable and scalable.

Continue capacity building

Youth need continued training in:

- Climate policy,
- NDC 3.0 & COP processes
- Climate finance , Negotiation ,Green skills , Climate communication, Entrepreneurship and innovation

The national statement specifically calls for climate education, policy literacy, mentorship, negotiation training and simplified climate information as part of continued youth engagement toward COP31.

Link youth priorities to NDC 3.0

The youth recommendations have been mapped directly against NDC 3.0 adaptation outcomes, Mitigation actions, Climate-finance needs, Inclusion indicators, COP31 advocacy messages,

This gives the LCOY outcomes a clear policy pathway rather than leaving them as a standalone conference declaration. Here we are organizing a validation Meeting on 27th August 2026



Support youth-led solutions

Keep the momentum practical by connecting young people to: Innovation hubs Mentors, Markets. Technical assistance, Equipment, Finance, Green enterprise opportunities.

Maintain regular communication and accountability

The post-LCOY process includes: Regular youth-government dialogues, Tracking of recommendations, Feedback to regional consultation participants, U-Report follow-ups, Youth-led review sessions, Public accountability mechanisms,

The aim is to demonstrate to young people how their recommendations are influencing policy, programmes and climate finance decisions.







Together, let us build a future where
climate justice is inclusive, resilience
is shared, innovation is youth-led,
and no child is left behind

Thank you for listening!

Follow the Conversation:
#LCOYUg2026
@Y4bioclimate
@LCOYUganda1





THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA



UGANDA | 2026

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OFFICIAL YOUTH CONSTITUENCY OF THE UNFCCC

“Building Sustainable Futures: Harnessing Youth-led Climate Action in Eswatini”



2026 LCOY Results Announcement

Dear YOUNGO members,

We are pleased to announce the approved LCOYs for 2026! Out of 363 applications received, a total of **112 LCOYs** have been approved from seven (7) global regions. This number is a testament to the growing impact that LCOYs are making around the world.

Below is the list of countries with an approved LCOY in 2026:

Africa

Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia (The), Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Asia

What is LCOY & Why Does It Matter?

What is LCOY?

- Through the official accreditation process coordinated by YOUNGO, our team submitted an application to host the Local Conference of Youth (LCOY) in Eswatini, alongside youth-led organizations from other countries seeking to convene nationally recognized climate engagement platforms.
- Following a successful review process, YOUNGO granted LCOY Eswatini official host recognition and issued accreditation badges to the organizing team, authorizing us to convene the conference as part of the global LCOY network under the broader UNFCCC youth engagement framework.
- A Local Conference of Youth (LCOY) therefore is a **youth-led climate** event held at national or regional level under YOUNGO, the youth constituency of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

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Asia

What is LCOY & Why Does It Matter?

Its Aim:

- It brings young people together to talk about climate issues, share ideas, and build solutions that reflect their local realities.

Why is it important?

- It creates a structured space for youth to engage in climate issues at **national** level
- It brings together different youth voices into one clear, collective position
- It turns local experiences into inputs that can be used in international policy processes
- Results in the development of National Youth Statement that clearly captures youth priorities from different countries.

How it connects to Conference of Youth (COY) and Conference of Parties (COP)

- The Local Conference of Youth (LCOY) produces a National Youth Statement reflecting the priorities and recommendations of young people in each country.
- This National Youth Statement is then submitted to the Regional Conference of Youth (RCOY), where it is aligned and strengthened with inputs from other countries in the region to form a Regional Youth Statement (RYS)
- The regional inputs are then consolidated at the Conference of Youth (COY) a week before COP, which serves as the global youth platform linked to the UNFCCC process.
- The final outcome is a consolidated youth position that is presented to the UNFCCC Conference of Parties (COP), ensuring that youth voices are formally reflected in global climate negotiations and decision-making processes.

Youth Organisations Behind Eswatini's LCOY 2026

The Eswatini LCOY 2026 is led by a dedicated coalition of **youth-led and youth-serving** organisations, including:

- Hlumisa Youth Climate Network (Lead Coordinator)
- Eco Harmony Eswatini
- Youth Sustainable Development Centre (YSDC)
- Eswatini Youth in Water
- Boyane High School Eco-Club
- Climate Change Youth Parliament (CCYP)

These organisations have demonstrated experience in youth mobilisation, climate advocacy, policy engagement and grassroots climate action.

Current Partners as of July 2026

We acknowledge our current partners for their ongoing technical support and in-kind contributions, which continue to enable the planning and delivery of the LCOY process.

Current partners:

- Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs (Climate Change Unit)
- PELUM Eswatini
- UNICEF Eswatini
- Nhlangano Town Council – Shiselweni Regional
- Matsapha Town Council– Manzini Regional
- Southern Africa Trust
- Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO)

These partnerships strengthen the credibility, reach and effectiveness of LCOY as a national youth-led climate platform.



LCOY Eswatini 2026: Focus Areas and Priority Groups

LCOY Eswatini 2026 will be guided by key thematic areas and inclusive priority groups to ensure meaningful and representative youth participation.

- **Climate Justice** – Addressing fairness in climate action and ensuring vulnerable and affected communities are included in climate solutions and decision-making.
- **Youth leadership, innovation & local action** – Enhancing youth leadership, participation, and innovation in climate action and decision-making processes.
- **Climate Policy, Governance & Implementation** – Understanding and influencing Eswatini's NDC 3.0, NAP, UNFCCC processes and climate governance, and creating pathways for youth to participate in implementation.

Priority Groups

- Children
- Women & Girls
- Youth with disabilities
- Rural youth

LCOY Eswatini 2026: Objectives

- **Strengthen young people's understanding of national, regional and international climate processes.**
- **Create inclusive and representative platforms for dialogue** that enable young people from all four regions of Eswatini to share lived experiences, identify local climate priorities and contribute meaningfully to climate decision-making processes.
- **Facilitate the documentation and consolidation of youth perspectives, community knowledge and locally led climate solutions**, with particular attention to the voices of underrepresented and historically excluded groups.
- **Strengthen collaboration** between youth, government, civil society, academia and development partners to advance youth-led climate action and promote more inclusive implementation of national climate priorities.
- **Develop the LCOY Eswatini National Youth Climate Statement** as a collective expression of youth priorities and recommendations to inform national climate dialogue while contributing to regional and global youth engagement under YOUNGO and the UNFCCC.

LCOY Eswatini 2026 Planned Activities

The LCOY includes a series of activities including online policy sessions, pre-conference regional youth engagements followed by a national two-day conference.

Regional Convenings (August 2026):

- Pre-LCOY regional convenings will be held in Hhohho, Manzini, Shiselweni and Lubombo to ensure inclusive participation and diverse youth representation.
- The sessions will create spaces for young people to identify local climate challenges, discuss national climate policies such as the NDCs and NAPs and connect policy to community realities.
- Through dialogue sessions, collaborative discussions, and creative engagement activities, the convenings will generate youth-led insights, priorities and evidence on local climate realities as well as explore young people's imagination and vision for a more sustainable future.
- The information collected through these engagements will help inform the National Youth Climate Statement and contribute evidence-based youth perspectives to climate policy discussions and future climate planning processes.

LCOY Eswatini 2026 Planned Activities

Main LCOY Conference (23-24 September 2026):

- Present **regional outcomes and key findings** from the pre-LCOY engagements.
- Facilitate a **Mini COP/UNFCCC negotiation simulation** to strengthen youth understanding of international climate processes and negotiations.
- Create spaces for knowledge exchange through panel discussions and interactive dialogue sessions.
- **Seeds of Tomorrow Exhibition:** An interactive display of creative outputs from the regional convenings that amplifies youth perspectives and community experiences.
- Sessions will explore opportunities for financing youth-led climate projects, strengthening youth understanding of climate funding mechanisms, and access to resources that support local climate solutions and innovation.
- Produce a National Youth Climate Outcome Statement capturing the priorities and recommendations of young people across Eswatini.

LCOY SHISELWENI REGIONAL CONVENING

06 AUGUST 2026



LCOY SHISELWENI REGIONAL CONVENING

06 AUGUST 2026





Thank You!!

For Further Enquiries please email
lcov.eswatini2026@gmail.com





Discussions_ Q&A Pathways for Children and Youth Engagement and Next steps



United Nations
Climate Change



RCC East and Southern Africa
Collaboration for Climate Action

Next steps: Participate in the Youth activities

1. Upcoming: COP31 Presidency Youth Climate Champion Regional Consultations:

Purpose: To broaden engagement with young people beyond those directly involved in the UNFCCC process and gather diverse regional perspectives to inform COP31 priorities, programming, and youth engagement strategies.

Virtual Consultations for Africa are scheduled for August 27th. RCC will communicate registration templates.

2. Contribute to the design of the E-Learning climate programme for the youth.

See the Link

here https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfv3rGltr01yzVPyEcAsH38MeGltEpQ_6UBKZ6PfwQX8Cv_XQ/viewform . The form is open till the End of August 2026



United Nations
Climate Change



Closing Remarks

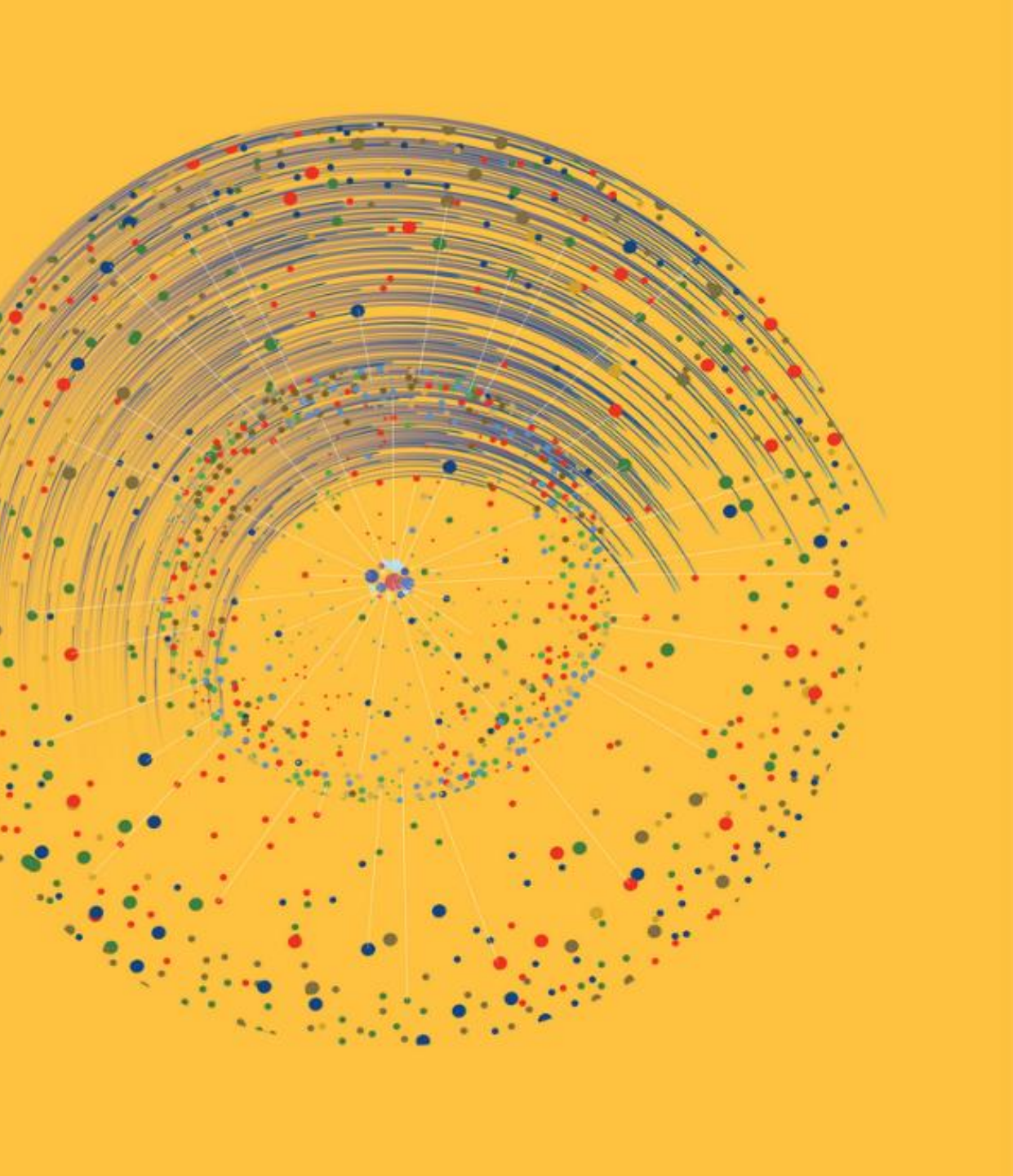


William Otieno
UNFCCC Regional Lead, RCC EASA



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Collaboration for Climate Action

REGIONAL YOUTHS' ENGAGEMENT IN THE UNFCCC PROCESS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***Theme: "Catalyzing Youths for Climate Action through local
action"***

Thank you for Joining