

9th ASIA-PACIFIC CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION FORUM

RESILIENCE FOR ALL: CATALYZING TRANSFORMATIONAL ADAPTATION

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| System | Health, Livelihoods and Societies |
| Enabler | Social Capital, Empowerment and Equity |
| Session title | Regional Youth Adaptation Dialogue: Strengthening Youth Engagement for Climate Resilience in Asia-Pacific |
| Date, time | October 2, 16:00 to 17:30 |
| Lead organizer | UNFCCC RCC Asia Pacific |
| Focal point contact | Jean Regulano (JRegulano@unfccc.int) |
| Co-organizers | <p>Youth Empowerment in Climate Action Platform (YECAP) and UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Saumya Surbhi Saumya.surbhi@undp.org.ph <p>UN Women (EMPOWER Project)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Breshna Belal Khel breshna.belalkhel@unwomen.org ➤ Federica Tornincasa federica.tornincasa@unwomen.org <p>Child Fund International</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hanneke Oudkerk HOudkerk@ChildFund.org ➤ Keeva Duffey KDuffey@ChildFund.org |
| Partner contribution | <p>YECAP is co-convened by UNFCCC RCC Asia Pacific, UNDP Asia Pacific and UNICEF East Asia and Pacific. YECAP will support in bringing in 10 youth from the region and contribute to shaping up the session agenda.</p> <p>UN Women, in view of their ongoing campaign on #EmpowHER will also support young women participation in APAN. For this session, UN Women will support in identification of relevant youth speakers and in connecting all youth attending the forum.</p> |

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| | <p>ChildFund International Asia Region, a child-focused development organization, will contribute by showcasing best practices in meaningful and safe child and youth engagement in adaptation initiatives, while amplifying the voices of children and young people living on the frontlines of climate change</p> |
| Session Chair/ Moderator | <p>Shaan Gom, YECAP coordinator, UNDP BRH Indigenous youth from Malaysia</p> <p>Chehek Bilgi, Regional Focal Point, Asia, UNCCD Youth Caucus</p> |
| Speakers | Youth representatives |
| Target audience | Governments, youth organizations and representatives attending APAN, CSOs/NGOs, various regional partners and stakeholders |
| <p>Short description of the session</p> <p>(300 words max)</p> | <p>In Asia-Pacific, over a billion children are growing up on the frontlines of climate change, inequality, and crisis. Yet their voices remain largely absent from the decisions shaping their future. Building on the momentum of the Global Youth Dialogue at NAP Expo 2025 in Africa, the Regional Youth Adaptation Dialogue aims to elevate children and youth perspectives from across Asia-Pacific on their role in resilience building at local, national, regional, and global levels.</p> <p>This session will take a deep dive into children and youth engagement in climate policy and plan formulation, particularly in NAPs, as well as in implementing practical and innovative adaptation solutions. The session aims to gather youth narratives on adaptation and generate a list of strategies to further strengthen meaningful engagement of children and youth in NAPs, incorporating inputs from governments, civil society, and other partners and stakeholders.</p> <p>Children, Indigenous youth, young women, youth from rural communities and low-income backgrounds are invited to participate to ensure that perspectives from various intersectionalities among children and youth are considered.</p> <p>Further, the session will form two breakout groups to facilitate dialogue among children and youth, CSOs/NGOs, governments, partners, and other stakeholders on two key topics: (a) children and youth engagement in climate policies and planning, and (b) children and youth engagement in practical adaptation solutions. Each breakout group will identify concrete examples of children and youth engagement within their respective communities and countries, as well as gaps, challenges, and opportunities (e.g., access to finance,</p> |

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| | <p>outreach, data and information gaps, capacity gaps). Additionally, they will be expected to identify key strategies to strengthen meaningful engagement of children and youth towards inclusive climate change adaptation plans and solutions.</p> <p>Key questions are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What youth-led adaptation initiatives in the region contribute to achieving national adaptation targets? ▪ What are children's roles in contributing to achieving national adaptation targets? What are some strategies that youth, partners and other stakeholders take to ensure inclusion of children in adaptation? ▪ What best practices, mechanisms and opportunities exist for co-designing and co-implementing adaptation policies and actions, including addressing barriers such as access to information, climate finance and other resources among governments, youth, partners and other stakeholders? ▪ In what ways can youth innovations in adaptation be institutionalized and integrated within NAP processes? How can youth secure the necessary financial and technical resources to further scale these interventions? ▪ What roles can youth play in bridging local knowledge with national adaptation goals and targets, ensuring that national plans reflect ground-level needs and priorities? ▪ What are the challenges and barriers to meaningful children and youth engagement in adaptation? How can the government and other stakeholders support meaningful children and youth engagement in NAPs? <p>Towards the end of the session, representatives from the government and civil society will respond to the youth-led discussion and express their commitments to support meaningful engagement of children and youth in adaptation.</p> <p>The session will close with concluding remarks from partners, underscoring how the session will help them further shape up their regional initiatives towards strengthening meaningful engagement of children and youth in adaptation.</p> |
| <p>Session scenario</p> <p>(Total time for each session: 90 minutes)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Session overview (5 minutes) ▪ Framing remarks (10 minutes) ▪ Breakout group discussion (40 minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth engagement in adaptation planning - Showcasing practical youth-led adaptation solutions in Asia Pacific |



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Brief interventions and expressions of commitment to inclusive climate adaptation (10 minutes):<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Government representative- Civil society organization▪ Brief remarks/presentation from partners to share insights on how the session can inform regional interventions (15 minutes)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- UNDP- UNWomen- ChildFund International▪ Closing, wrap up and photo opportunity (5 minutes) |
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