



For immediate release

#GenerateAction | Children and Youth Pavilion announced at COP27

Youth movement unites to generate action at climate talks

Thursday 20th October 2022 - For the first time ever at a UNFCCC Conference, children and young people will have a dedicated space at COP27 alongside world leaders, ministers, prominent non-state actors and other delegates.

Designed to amplify children and youth voices within global climate policymaking, the COP27 Children and Youth Pavilion in Egypt will be entirely led by young people and has been co-created and run by [influential child and youth networks](#).

Positioned front and centre in the Blue Zone, a UN-managed space which hosts the negotiations, the pavilion will provide an area for discussion, education, creativity, and policy briefings all led and curated by young people. Ultimately, the pavilion aims to bring together and amplify the voices of young people from across the world.

The global youth is one of the most vulnerable groups to the impacts of climate change and rightfully deserves to be at the heart of the COP27 discussions. Earlier this year, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) [made it clear](#) that we are now in extraordinarily dangerous territory. Those that will inherit this danger are the youth, children, and those yet to be born.

Dr Omnia El Omrani, COP27 Youth Envoy, stated:

“Climate change is disproportionately affecting children, young people, and will harm future generations. A child born today would experience four times the extreme weather events than we do. This impact is unjust. Our world leaders must act immediately.

The first-ever Children and Youth Pavilion at COP27 in Egypt will tackle this injustice by platforming our voices. We will convene young experts and climate advocates globally to

showcase the groundbreaking initiatives led by youth around the world, and accelerate and integrate our engagement in real climate policy discussions.”

Young people remain sceptical of climate conferences. They are routinely frustrated by politicians’ unfulfilled promises and the lack of urgent action required to tackle the climate emergency.

Over two weeks, the youth at COP27 will grasp the rare opportunity to engage directly with world leaders, decision-makers and delegates from over 200 countries throughout the conference and particularly on Youth and Future Generations Day on the 10th November. They will host events on issues most important to them and showcase the tangible action of young people across the globe.

United and empowered, those attending the Children and Youth Pavilion can collaborate on shared strategies and policy positions and will strive to be heard within the policymaking process, rather than just observing it.

Mitzi Jonelle Tan, activist and convenor of Youth Advocates for Climate Action Philippines, commented:

“Every year world leaders and the UN climate summit say that they’re listening to the youth and most affected people yet we’re still on the path of destruction...This year’s youth pavilion will give us the chance to amplify the youth’s voice without the barriers and obstacles we often meet at these official events.

This is a challenge to world leaders to go to the youth pavilion to truly listen and learn, so that they can see first hand what true international solidarity and global collaboration for a better world looks like.”

Given that this year COP27 will be held in Africa, a continent with 70% of its population under the age of 30 and with several vulnerable communities living on the frontlines of the climate crisis, the importance of listening to the voices of young people is especially significant. They are expected to demand world leaders listen to and prioritise policies to protect those most affected by the climate crisis and its impacts, especially Indigenous Peoples and those in the Global South.

Vanessa Nakate, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador and climate activist, said:

“At COP26, pledges to provide loss and damage finance to developing nations were yet again disregarded at the hands of the world’s wealthiest and most polluting nations. At COP27, young people will have a seat at the table. We will use that platform and our voices to demand for climate finance for mitigation, adaptation and a separate fund for loss and damage.”

The 14 youth-led entities organising the pavilion include: the [African Youth Initiative on Climate Change](#) (AYICC), [Fridays for Future](#), [the Global Alliance of Territorial Communities](#), the [Global Indigenous Youth Caucus](#) (GIYC), the [International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences](#) (IAAS), the [International Federation of Medical Students' Associations](#) (IFMSA), [the Loss and Damage Youth Coalition](#), [MOCK COP](#), the [SDG7 Youth Constituency](#), the [SIDS Youth AIMS Hub](#) (SYAH), the [UNFPA Joint Youth Working Group on SRHR and Climate Change](#), the [UN Secretary General's Youth Advisory Group](#), [Youth4Nature](#) and [YOUNGO](#).

Other institutional partners include: the [African Union](#), the [Children's Investment Fund Foundation](#) (CIFF), [Greenhouse Communications](#), [Save the Children](#), [UNICEF](#) and the [Climate Champions Team](#).

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Journalists interested in receiving further upcoming information on the Pavilion's activities, announcements, press events or booking interviews with a Children and Youth Pavilion representative, please contact:

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NOTES TO EDITORS

The Children and Youth Pavilion is organised entirely by youth-led entities and institutions supporting youth engagement and inclusion.

The youth-led entities will be managing the curation of the programme of the pavilion, supporting communications and ensuring the pavilion represents the values and aims of the youth climate movement.

The institutional partners will feed into youth plans, and guide and enable the actualization of this groundbreaking initiative.

Youth Partners include:

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