Global Schools Program & Ages of Globalization in partnership with Compass Education

UN AT YOUR DOORSTEP

PRE-Dialogue Pedagogical Resource on SDG13

Please note that this document is written for teachers, school leaders, or educational facilitators participating in the program in both the formal and informal contexts

INTRODUCTION

The UN at Your Doorstep initiative provides a unique opportunity for learners to directly engage with world leaders, UN officials and young changemakers. Moderated by Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs, as well as select guest and student moderators, the discussions will focus on how to solve the biggest challenges of our time, from peace and security to climate change, poverty, inequalities, environmental sustainability, and artificial intelligence, and how young people can actively engage in shaping the future.

This series of pedagogical resources is designed for teachers and educators to facilitate a dialogue and action with young people pre- and post- the UN at Your Doorstep live sessions and to bring global issues and leadership directly into classrooms and communities. The resources can also be used after the dialogues took place and in combination with the live session recording.

The pre-dialogue pedagogical resource takes a **three-step approach**, designed to be flexible and to fit into various learning environments. Whether you're integrating this resource into a classroom lesson, a school assembly, or a community event, the materials will help foster active engagement and understanding of global challenges:

- ☐ Step 1 – "Background Knowledge" provides essential information on the global challenge under discussion, related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the guest speakers and their organization to support learners to explore the topic.
- ☐ Step 2 – "Suggested Learning Activities" provides three interactive learning activities to choose from, including research questions to encourage learners to investigate and think critically about the challenge to deepen their understanding.

- ☐ Step 3 – "Formulating Questions for the World Leaders" provides a concrete framework for learners to consider what questions they want to ask the world leaders.
- ☐ In the Bonus Section we provide "Additional Resources", including toolkits and other additional materials to further enhance the learning experience.

For further guidance, the UN at Your Doorstep Practical Guide provides step-by-step instructions for integrating the live dialogues into your educational setting. We hope this resource helps inspire and engage your learners to connect global dialogues to local action and in shaping our common futures. For any questions or feedback, please contact unatyourdoorstep@unsdsn.org.

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STEP 1 – BACKGROUND

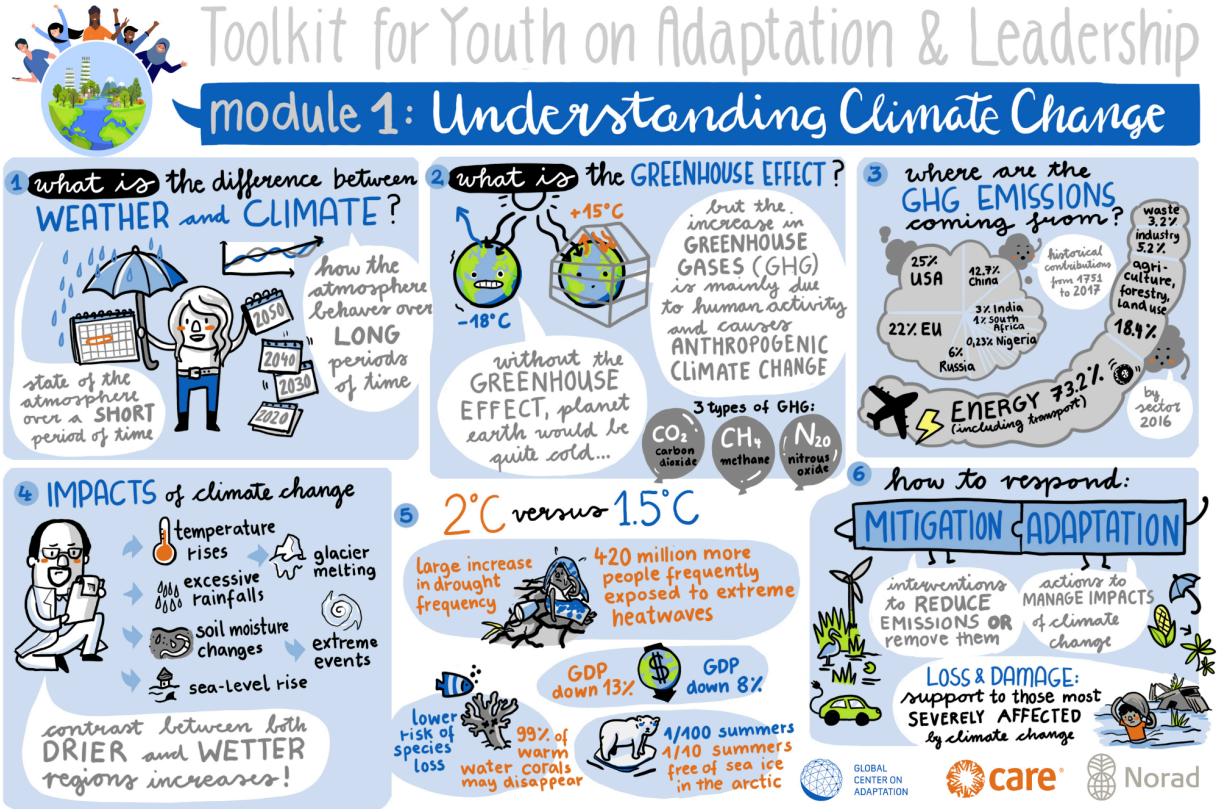
Review the background information and choose the most relevant information to share with your learners to support them in exploring the topic.

WHAT IS CLIMATE CHANGE & HOW DOES IT AFFECT US

Climate change is one of the most pressing challenges facing our world today. As young people, understanding this phenomenon is crucial, not only because it will shape our common future, but also because we have the power to drive meaningful change. This background section provides an overview of climate change, its connection to our daily life, myths and misconceptions, and actionable steps we can take to make a difference.

WHAT IS CLIMATE CHANGE?

Climate change refers to long-term alterations in temperature and typical weather patterns on Earth. While these changes can occur naturally, since the 1800s, human activities have been the primary drivers, especially through the burning of fossil fuels like coal, oil, and gas. This process releases greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide, into the atmosphere, trapping heat and leading to global warming.



HOW DOES CLIMATE CHANGE AFFECT US?

Even if "climate change" feels abstract, its impacts are real and affect everyone. Every person, in every country, on every continent will experience climate change in some way. Here is how:

- Health Impacts: Climate change poses serious health risks, especially for vulnerable populations. Rising temperatures worsen air pollution, increasing respiratory diseases like asthma. Heatwaves can cause dehydration and heatstroke. Warmer climates accelerate the spread of vector-borne diseases like malaria and dengue. Beyond physical health, climate-related disasters and displacement contribute to mental health issues, including anxiety, depression, and PTSD.
- Extreme Weather Events: Climate change intensifies natural disasters, making hurricanes, floods, droughts, and wildfires more frequent and severe. These events destroy homes, infrastructure, and livelihoods, displacing families and entire communities. Extreme weather events cause long-term social and economic instability.
- Food and Water Security: Climate change threatens food production and clean water access. Shifts in rainfall patterns and droughts reduce crop yields, leading to food shortages and rising prices, disproportionately affecting low-income communities. Warmer temperatures alter crop growth cycles, making farming harder. Water scarcity is becoming a critical issue, as droughts deplete freshwater sources, while floods increase water contamination and the spread of waterborne diseases. Limited access to safe drinking water affects hygiene and overall health, creating a cycle of vulnerability.
- Economic Challenges: The economic impact of climate change is significant, particularly for communities relying on agriculture, fishing, and tourism. Extreme weather damages infrastructure, homes, and businesses, leading to financial instability and job losses. Disruptions in food and water supplies drive up costs, making basic necessities less affordable. Many industries, from transportation to energy, struggle to adapt. Governments spend heavily on disaster recovery and climate adaptation, diverting funds from education, healthcare, and social services. As economies struggle, inequality deepens, hitting the most vulnerable populations the hardest.

Watch this 2min Video on why fighting climate change matters

Watch this 1min Video sharing solutions on Climate and Peace from a Sudanese Activist

COMMON MYTHS AND MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE – DEBUNKED

Despite overwhelming scientific consensus, misinformation about climate change persists. Here are some common myths and the facts that debunk them. By understanding and challenging these myths, you can help spread accurate information and encourage informed climate action.

1. Myth: Climate change is just a natural cycle.
   Fact: While the Earth's climate has changed over millions of years due to natural factors, the current rate of warming is unprecedented. Scientific evidence shows that human activities, particularly burning fossil fuels and deforestation, are the primary drivers of the rapid temperature increase observed in the past century. (IPCC)
2. Myth: If it's cold outside, climate change isn't real.
   Fact: Climate and weather are not the same. Weather refers to short-term atmospheric conditions, while climate is the long-term trend. A cold winter day doesn't contradict global warming, as rising global temperatures lead to more extreme and unpredictable weather patterns, including severe snowstorms and cold spells. (WMO)
3. Myth: The planet has always warmed and cooled, so we don't need to worry.
   Fact: Past climate changes occurred over thousands or even millions of years, giving ecosystems time to adapt. Today's warming is happening much faster, leading to extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and biodiversity loss at a rate that ecosystems and human societies struggle to handle. (UNEP)
4. Myth: Reducing carbon emissions will hurt the economy.
   Fact: Investing in renewable energy and sustainable practices creates jobs and stimulates economic growth. The costs of inaction – such as disaster recovery, health impacts, and infrastructure damage – are far greater than the cost of transitioning to a low-carbon economy. Green industries are among the fastest-growing sectors worldwide. (ILO)
5. Myth: Individual actions don't matter because big companies and governments are the real problem.
   Fact: While systemic change is essential, individual actions collectively make a huge impact. Consumer choices influence industries, and young people have successfully pressured governments and corporations to adopt climate-friendly policies. Every step, from reducing waste to advocating for policies, contributes to the fight against climate change. (UNFCCC)

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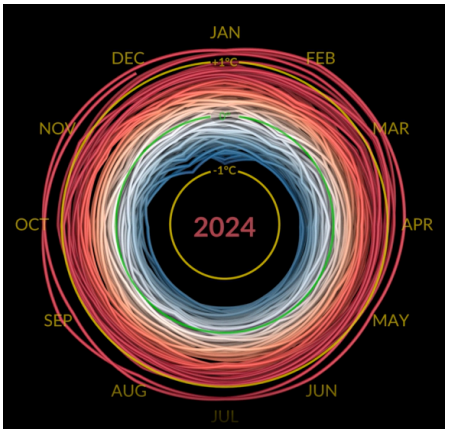
WHERE ARE WE HEADED? EVERY FRACTION OF A DEGREE MATTERS

Without urgent action, global temperatures could rise by more than 3°C this century, with some regions warming even more (UNEP). The most vulnerable communities are already bearing the brunt of these changes, facing rising sea levels, extreme weather, and food insecurity.

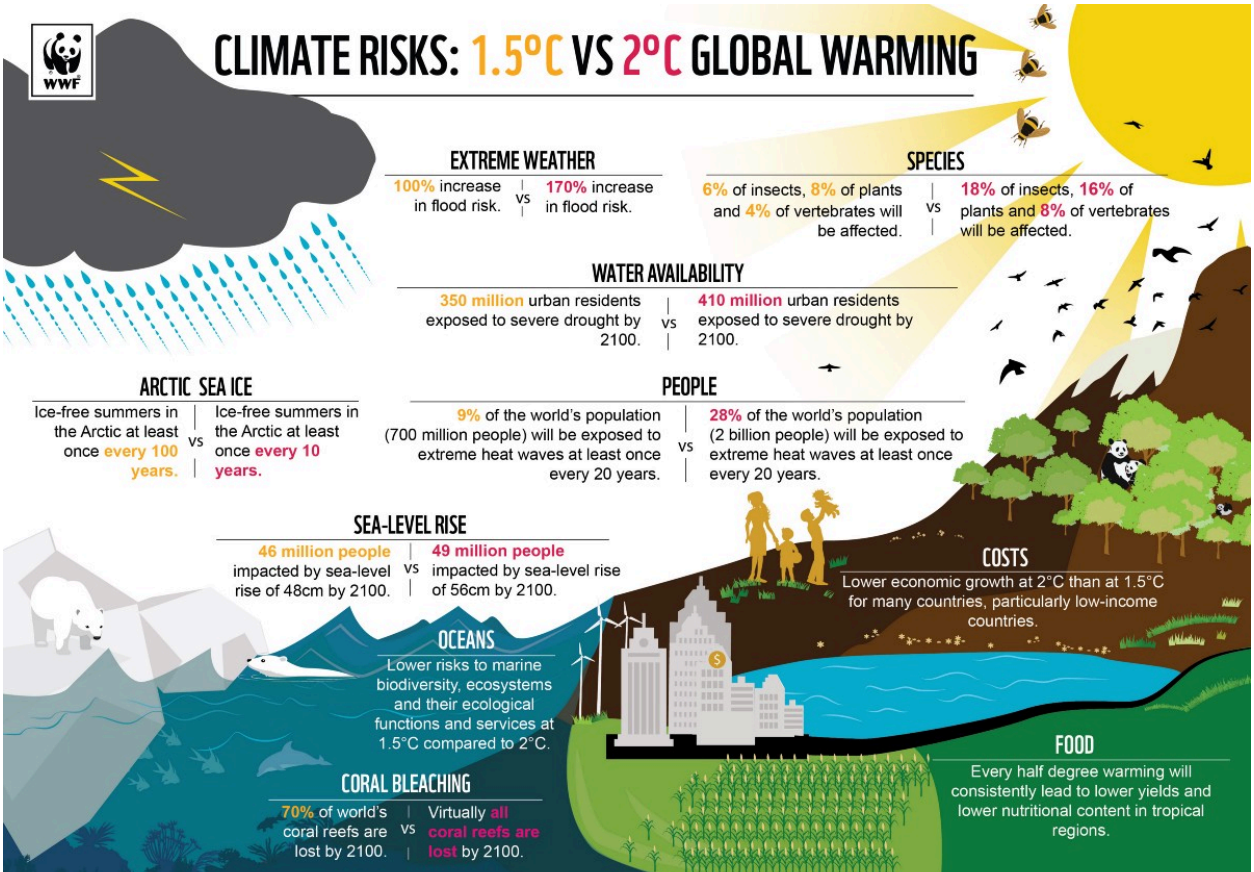
THE 1.5°C TIPPING POINT: A CLIMATE CROSSROADS



Right now, the world is on the edge of surpassing 1.5°C of warming (NASA) – a critical threshold that could make many small island nations uninhabitable or even cause them to disappear entirely due to rising seas. Staying below this limit is essential to preventing irreversible damage to ecosystems, economies, and communities.

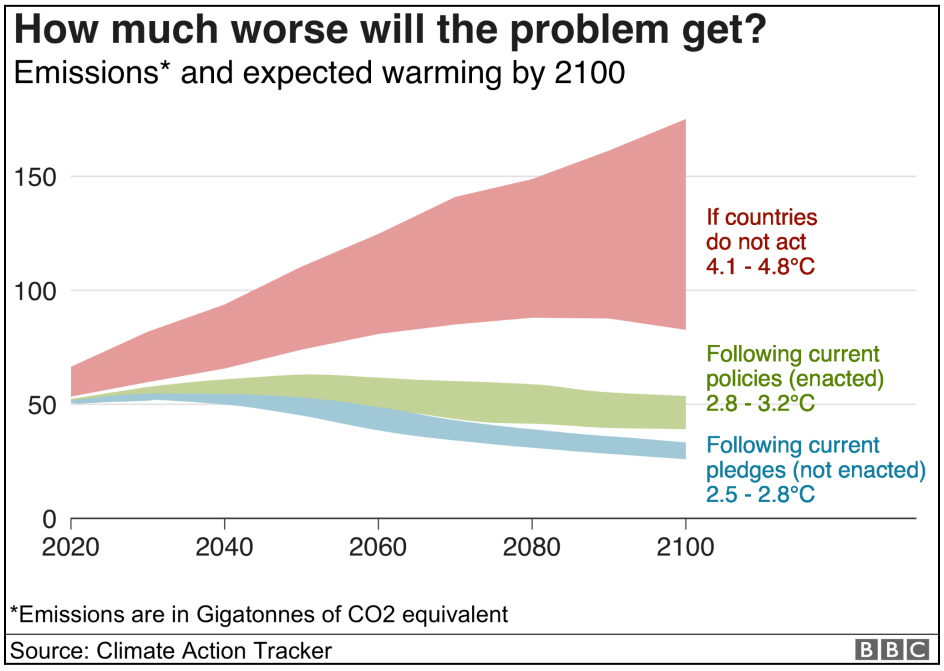
The climate spiral is an animated graphic showing the steady rise in global temperatures. Popularized in 2016 by climate scientist Ed Hawkins, it illustrates the acceleration of global warming from 1880 to today.

WHY DOES EVERY FRACTION OF A DEGREE MATTER?



TAKING ACTION AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

To address climate change, countries adopted the Paris Agreement at the COP21 in Paris on 12 December 2015. In the agreement, all countries agreed to work to limit global temperature rise to well below 2 degrees Celsius, and given the grave risks, to strive to limit global temperature rise to only 1.5 degrees Celsius. Implementation of the Paris Agreement is essential for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and provides a roadmap for climate actions that will reduce emissions and build climate resilience. However, we are currently not on track to meet climate change targets. If we add up all the promises to cut emissions made by countries that are party to the Paris climate agreement, the world would still warm by more than 3°C by the end of this century.



WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN?

To effectively combat climate change and align with the Paris Agreement goals, the following actions are essential:

1. Strengthening National Commitments and Policies
   - Countries must update and strengthen their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to align with the 1.5°C target. This includes implementing ambitious policies across sectors such as energy, industry, transport, and agriculture. (IPCC)
   - Eliminating subsidies for fossil fuels is crucial to encourage the transition to renewable energy sources. (IPCC)
2. Accelerating the Global Energy Transition

- Significant investments in renewable energy sources like solar, wind, and hydropower are necessary to replace fossil fuels and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. (IPCC)
- Establishing carbon pricing and taxes can reflect the true cost of emissions and incentivize emission reductions. (IPCC)

3. Transforming Agriculture, Land Use, and Food Systems
   - Implementing climate-smart farming practices and reducing food waste can significantly lower emissions from the agriculture sector. (IPCC)
   - Conserving and restoring forests, wetlands, and other ecosystems to enhance carbon sequestration and biodiversity. (UNEP)
4. Strengthening Adaptation and Climate Resilience
   - Building infrastructure that can withstand extreme weather events is vital for reducing vulnerability to climate impacts. (IPCC)
   - Providing adaptation funding and early warning systems helps communities prepare for and respond to climate-related disasters. (UNHCR)
5. Mobilizing Financial Resources and Enhancing Global Cooperation
   - High-income countries need to honor their pledge to provide $100 billion annually to support low-income and climate vulnerable countries in their climate efforts. (IPCC)
   - Encouraging investments from both private and public sectors is essential to fund the transition to a low-carbon economy. (IPCC)
6. Encouraging Individual and Collective Action
   - Individuals can contribute by adopting sustainable practices, such as using clean energy, reducing waste, and choosing sustainable transportation options. (IPCC)
   - Public support for robust climate policies and holding leaders accountable are crucial for driving systemic change. (IPCC)

THE ROLE OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE

The United Nations recognizes youth as crucial contributors to climate action, emphasizing their role in advancing solutions through education, science, and technology. Youth-led movements, such as Fridays for Future, have mobilized millions worldwide, demanding urgent climate action from governments. At the same time, young entrepreneurs are developing clean technologies, climate-smart agriculture, and sustainable businesses that drive systemic change.

TAKING ACTION: STEPS YOU CAN IMPLEMENT

1. Educate Yourself and Others: Knowledge is power. Stay informed about climate science and policies. Share information within your community to raise awareness.
2. Adopt Sustainable Lifestyles: Be the change that you want to see.
   - Reduce electricity use by turning off lights and unplugging devices when not in use. Advocate for renewable energy sources in your community.
   - Opt for public transport, cycling, or walking to reduce carbon emissions.

- Consider reducing meat consumption, especially beef, as livestock farming contributes significantly to greenhouse gas emissions. Embrace plant-based meals and support local produce.
- See more ideas for action in SubjectToClimate's Earth Month Calendar.

3. Participate in Climate Movements: Join or support organizations like Fridays for Future, which mobilize students globally to demand climate action from leaders. Collective action creates a critical mass that amplifies voices, pressures policymakers, and accelerates systemic change.
4. Engage in Policy Advocacy: Use your voice to influence policy. Participate in local government meetings, support climate-friendly policies, and encourage leaders to uphold the Paris Agreement and SDGs. Use social media to spread awareness, sign petitions, and push corporations to commit to net-zero emissions.
5. Innovate and Lead: Develop or support technological solutions to reduce emissions. Young entrepreneurs are developing carbon capture technologies, sustainable packaging, and AI-driven climate solutions. Consider launching eco-startups, community-led projects, or scientific innovations to support a low-carbon economy.
6. Build Resilient Communities: Participate in reforestation projects, community gardens, and clean-ups. Support initiatives that prepare communities for climate disasters, such as early warning systems or flood-resistant infrastructure.

FUTURE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES: A RISING DEMAND FOR SUSTAINABILITY SKILLS

The transition to a green economy is creating millions of new jobs worldwide, with demand soaring for sustainability expertise. The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that a shift to sustainable energy, agriculture, and infrastructure could generate 24 million new jobs by 2030 (ILO). These are just some of the top emerging GREEN CAREERS:

- Renewable Energy Engineers: Develop solar, wind, and hydroelectric projects.
- Sustainability Consultants: Guide businesses and governments toward low-carbon operations.
- Climate Data Analysts: Use AI and big data to predict climate impacts.
- Urban Planners: Design sustainable cities with transit, green spaces, and eco-friendly buildings.
- Environmental Lawyers & Policy Experts: Push for stronger climate laws and accountability.

GLOBAL INITIATIVES EMPOWERING YOUTH

The United Nations has established platforms to amplify youth voices in climate action, providing opportunities for young people to engage in decision-making, drive policy changes, and lead climate solutions at local and global levels:

- UN Secretary-General's Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change – Provides young leaders with direct input into UN climate strategies. (UN)
- UNFCCC's Youth Constituency (YOUNGO) – Represents youth in international climate negotiations and COP summits. (UNFCCC)
- UNESCO's Youth Climate Action Network (YOUCAN) – Focuses on climate education, leadership training, and grassroots mobilization. (UNESCO)
- United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth (MGCY) – the MGCY is active at various international summits, and youth focal points address specific SDGs, many of them related to the environmental goals. (UNMGCY)

KEY CONCEPTS & DEFINITIONS

In this section, you'll find key concepts and definitions related to Climate Change. You can use them as a base for discussion or activities, e.g. vocabulary flashcards. The following key concepts and definitions are based on the UNDP Climate Dictionary.

Weather vs. Climate: Weather is the atmospheric conditions at a specific time and location, including temperature, humidity, wind, and precipitation. Weather changes frequently and can impact areas far from its origin. Climate is the average weather patterns in a region over an extended period, typically 30 years or more. Climate represents the long-term state of the atmosphere and is significantly influenced by human activities.

Fossil Fuels: These are a carbon-based non-renewable energy source that releases carbon into the air when combusted. These fuels occur naturally in the earth's crust, and include natural resources such as oil, coal, and natural gas.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHGs): Greenhouse Gas Emissions are gases that trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere, contributing to global warming. Major GHGs include carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), nitrous oxide (N2O), and fluorinated gases. Burning fossil fuels, deforestation, agriculture, and industrial activities have significantly increased the concentration of GHGs in the atmosphere, driving climate change.

Global Warming vs. Climate Change: Global warming is the rise in Earth's average surface temperature due to increasing levels of greenhouse gases. It results in more frequent and intense heatwaves, droughts, and wildfires. Climate change is the long-term alterations in temperature, precipitation, and other climate patterns. It encompasses global warming as well as changes in extreme weather events, sea-level rise, and biodiversity loss.

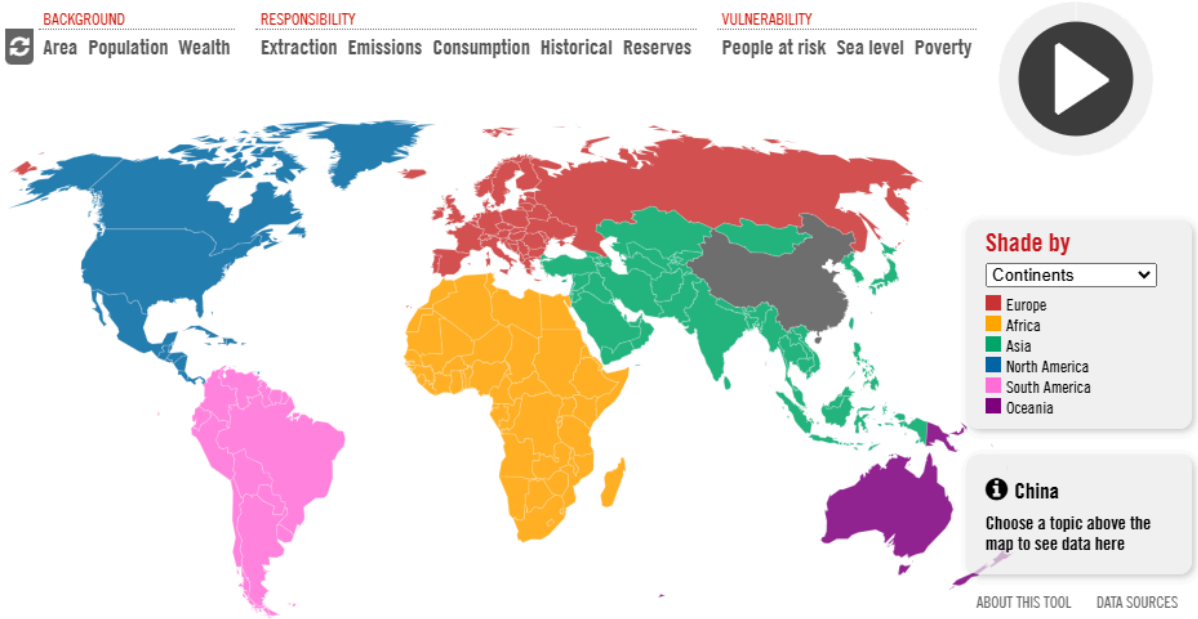
Climate Crisis: This refers to the severe impacts of climate change, including extreme weather, ocean acidification, loss of biodiversity, and human displacement. The crisis threatens ecosystems, food security, economic stability, and global peace.

Feedback Loops and Tipping Points: Feedback loops are self-reinforcing processes that accelerate climate change. For example, Arctic ice melt reduces the Earth's reflectivity, leading to further warming. Tipping points are critical thresholds beyond which climate changes become irreversible. Examples include the collapse of ice sheets and the thawing of permafrost, which releases methane and accelerates warming.

Climate Justice: This is a framework that emphasizes fairness in addressing climate change. It recognizes that those least responsible for climate change, such as low-income countries and marginalized communities, often face the most severe impacts. Climate justice calls for equitable policies and financial support to vulnerable populations.

Carbon Map Infographic: Visualizing Climate Inequality

How can we map global climate data clearly and compare multiple datasets? The Carbon Map, created by Kiln (a collaboration between Guardian writer Duncan Clark and developer Robin Houston), offers a striking visual of carbon emissions and climate impacts. It reveals how emissions, population growth, and climate vulnerability intersect, highlighting that the poorest nations – least responsible for emissions – face the most severe consequences.



Climate Mitigation and Adaptation: Mitigation are actions aimed at reducing GHG emissions or enhancing carbon sinks to prevent further climate change. Strategies include transitioning to renewable energy, improving energy efficiency, and reforestation. Adaptation are measures to minimize the impacts of climate change, such as improving infrastructure resilience, developing drought-resistant crops, and implementing early warning systems for extreme weather events.

Climate Resilience: This is the ability of societies and ecosystems to anticipate, prepare for, and recover from climate impacts. Resilience involves disaster preparedness, sustainable resource management, and equitable social policies.

Carbon Footprint: This is the total amount of greenhouse gases emitted by an individual, organization, or activity. Reducing one's carbon footprint means adopting sustainable practices like using renewable energy, minimizing waste, and choosing low-carbon transportation. But perhaps it's time to move beyond just reducing harm – and instead, rethink the footprint as a Green Handprint: A focus on positive contributions such as restoring ecosystems, supporting sustainable innovations, and advocating for systemic change.

Nature-Based Solutions: Strategies that use natural ecosystems to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Examples: restoring wetlands to prevent flooding, conserving mangroves to protect coastlines, and promoting regenerative agriculture to improve soil health.

Loss and Damage: These are the economic and non-economic losses caused by climate change, particularly in vulnerable communities. These include infrastructure destruction, biodiversity loss, cultural heritage erosion, and forced migration.

Net Zero and Decarbonization: Net zero means achieving a balance between GHG emissions and removals, primarily through carbon sinks such as forests and technological solutions. Decarbonization means reducing emissions by transitioning from fossil fuels to renewable energy, improving industrial efficiency, and adopting sustainable land use practices.

Renewable Energy: These are energy sources that are naturally replenished, such as solar, wind, hydro, and geothermal power, essential for reducing emissions.

Circular Economy: An economic model that minimizes waste / maximizes resource efficiency. It involves designing products for longevity, recycling materials, and reducing pollution.

Just Transition: This means ensuring that the transition to a low-carbon economy is fair and inclusive. It involves protecting workers and communities affected by the decline of carbon-intensive industries by providing education, training, and economic opportunities.

Climate Finance: Financial resources dedicated to supporting climate mitigation and adaptation efforts. It includes public and private funding, grants, green bonds, and international aid mechanisms like the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

Intergovernmental Climate Frameworks:

- UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change): An international treaty established in 1992 to combat climate change.
- Paris Agreement: A legally binding agreement adopted in 2015 to limit global warming to below 2°C, with an aspiration to stay within 1.5°C.
- COP (Conference of the Parties): The annual UN climate summit where countries negotiate climate action plans and policies.

MEET THE SPEAKERS

SIMON KOFE

Minister of Transport, Energy, Communications & Innovation
Government of Tuvalu

The Honorable Simon Kofe, a Member of Parliament in Tuvalu, serves as the Minister of Transport, Energy, Communication, and Innovation. A lawyer by profession, he previously held the role of Minister for Justice, Communication, and Foreign Affairs, emerging as a visionary leader committed to climate justice and the rights of small island nations. His 2021 COP26 speech, delivered knee-deep in rising waters, became a global symbol of climate urgency and led to his nomination for the Nobel Peace Prize. Simon has been instrumental in positioning Tuvalu as a leader in climate resilience and digital sovereignty, playing a key role in the creation of Tuvalu's "Digital Nation" to preserve its governance, culture, and identity. His efforts have influenced global discussions on statehood, securing recognition of Tuvalu's sovereignty even without physical territory.

YURSHELL RODRIGUEZ

Environmental Engineer & Climate Activist, Raizal Community, Colombia

Yurshell Rodríguez is an Environmental Engineer, climate activist, and researcher from the Afro-Caribbean Raizal ethnic group, native to Colombia's San Andrés, Providencia, and Santa Catalina Islands – home to the third-largest coral reef. A dedicated advocate for environmental justice, she was a plaintiff in Latin America's first climate lawsuit, which successfully held the Colombian government accountable for deforestation in the Amazon. She has represented climate-vulnerable communities at COP25, COP26, and COP27, amplifying the voices of island nations. As Coordinator of the Residency Program at If Not Us Then Who, she leads external communications and supports Indigenous-led climate action. She is also involved in the Sea Land and Culture Foundation, working to preserve Raizal culture and ecosystems. Passionate about conservation from a young age, Yurshell continues to fight for climate justice and Indigenous rights on the global stage.

SUBMIT YOUR QUESTIONS TO THE SPEAKERS *Ahead of the session, invite your learners to submit and upvote questions for the speakers to answer during the live session. Young people can submit questions individually or in groups via SLIDO, directing questions to both or a specific speaker, e.g., "Speaker first name: [question]." Participants can also include their name(s) and country. No account needs to be created. All questions must be submitted at least 3 days before the session, and the most relevant and upvoted questions will be answered by world leaders during the session. Look at Step 3 for learners to formulate meaningful questions with the Sustainability Compass.*

STEP 2 – SUGGESTED LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Select between 3 different learning activities to get your learners actively investigating the topic. A printer-friendly version of all worksheets can be downloaded here.

ACTIVITY 1 – LEARNER RESEARCH

Learners are encouraged to partake in guided research and activities to explore the topic. Research can be completed independently in a computer lab, as a homework assignment, by talking to community members, visiting a library, or as a classroom, club or community activity. Take a look at the Bonus Section of this document for useful background information. Following their research and a discussion on findings, you could choose to extend this activity and ask learners to choose one of the climate issues they researched and create a short report, infographic, or presentation to raise awareness in their school or community.

📌 This research worksheet will help you explore climate action in your country by analyzing policies, trends, and challenges. Use credible sources like government websites, UN reports, and scientific articles to gather information. Instructions:

1. Answer each question using reliable data and sources.
2. Reflect on the findings and connect them to global climate challenges.
3. Be ready to discuss or present your research.

Learner Research Worksheet	
Name:	
Country:	
Local Community:	
Research Questions:	
1. Climate Policies & Commitments 🔹 What are the main climate policies and commitments in your country? Is your country part of the Paris Agreement or other international climate agreements? 🔹 What are the national targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions? Are they on track?	

• Does your government provide funding or incentives for renewable energy, sustainable transport, or climate adaptation?	
2. Renewable Energy & Sustainability • What percentage of your country's energy comes from renewable sources (solar, wind, hydro, etc.)? • Has your country increased or decreased its reliance on fossil fuels in the past decade? • What are the biggest barriers to transitioning to a fully renewable energy system?	
3. Climate Justice & Vulnerability • Which communities in your country are most vulnerable to climate change? Why? • How does climate change impact rural vs. urban populations? Are certain groups (e.g., women, indigenous people, low-income communities) more affected? • Are there any climate justice movements or youth-led initiatives advocating for solutions?	
4. Education & Awareness on Climate Change • Is climate change part of the school curriculum in your country? • Are there youth organizations or programs that educate students about sustainability? • How can schools improve	

environmental education and encourage climate action?	
5. Climate Action & Everyday Solutions 🔹 How is waste managed and recycled in your country? What percentage of waste is recycled or composted? 🔹 What are some local efforts to reduce carbon emissions (e.g., tree-planting projects, public transportation initiatives)? 🔹 What actions can individuals and schools take to lower their carbon footprint and create a green handprint of care?	

ACTIVITY 2 – SCHOOL INVESTIGATION

This is another activity for learners to undertake guided research to explore the topic. Please adjust the worksheet to either focus on your school/learning institution or community organization you're engaging learners through.

📌 This worksheet will help you assess how your school or community is addressing climate change and identify areas for improvement. Use this as a guide to observe, ask questions, and take notes on sustainability practices in your school or neighborhood.

School/Community Investigation Worksheet		
Investigate	Yes, No, Unsure	Notes and Observations
Does your school have a climate action plan or sustainability initiatives in place?		
Are renewable energy sources (solar panels, wind turbines) used at your school?		

Does your school actively promote energy conservation (e.g., turning off lights, efficient heating/cooling)?		
Is there a recycling or waste management program in place? If so, how effective is it?		
Does your school encourage students and staff to use sustainable transportation (walking, biking, public transport, carpooling)?		
Are there green spaces (gardens, trees, or natural areas) within the school environment? Efforts for nature restoration?		
Are there discussions or lessons on climate change and sustainability in your classrooms? In which subjects?		
Are there student-led eco-clubs or environmental groups that promote climate action?		
Does your cafeteria offer plant-based meal options or locally sourced food? How is food waste dealt with?		
How much single-use plastic is used in the school (e.g., water bottles, packaging)?		
Has your school/community experienced climate-related impacts (e.g., extreme weather,		

floods, heatwaves)? If so, how has it responded?		
Taking Action: How can you work with classmates, teachers, or local organizations to bring real change to your community? List at least three steps you can take to make a difference.		

ACTIVITY 3 – RESEARCH A YOUTH-LED MOVEMENT FOR SDG 13

In this activity, learners will explore how young people are at the forefront of advocating for climate action through social mobilization and activism, pushing for changes in policies and practices locally and globally. Below are some examples of youth-led movements that focus on promoting and realizing SDG 13. Add any relevant local youth movements to the list, and let your learners select one for further investigation.

Examples of Youth-Led Movements for SDG 13:

- ☐ Fridays for Future
- ☐ Earth Uprising
- ☐ Climate Cardinals
- ☐ African Climate Alliance
- ☐ Youth Climate Action Network (YCAN)
- ☐ Pacific Climate Warriors
- ☐ China Youth Climate Action Network (CYCAN)
- ☐ Jóvenes por el Clima (Youth for Climate)
- ☐ Zero Hour
- ☐ <add a local movement for quality education you want your learners to find out about>

Research Questions for Learners:

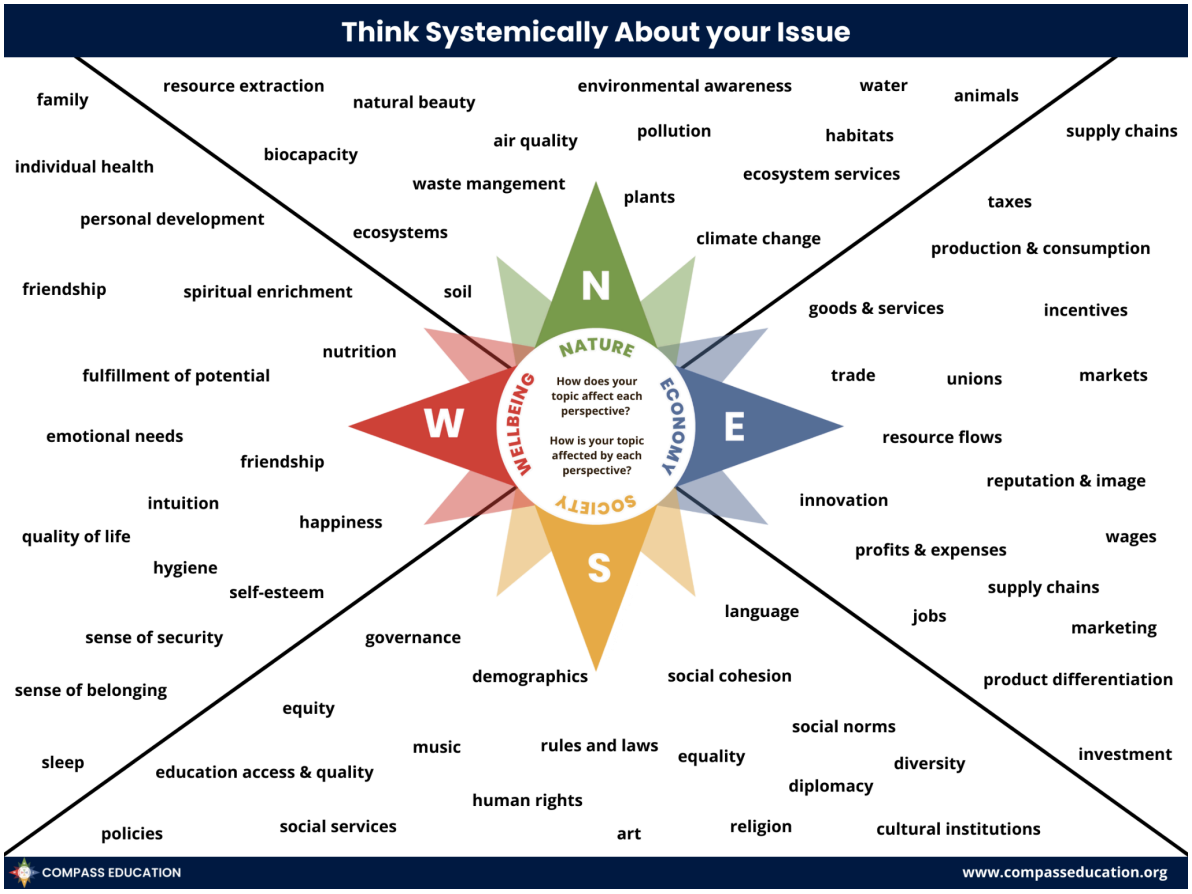
- What is the name of this youth-led movement?
- What is the mission of the movement, organization, or initiative?
- How does this movement communicate its mission and engage others in its cause?
- Which SDGs does this movement focus on?
- What types of actions or campaigns does this movement carry out to promote and realize climate action?
- After learning about this movement, what actions would you like to take to support climate action in your community?

STEP 3 – FORMULATING QUESTIONS FOR WORLD LEADERS

What questions will your students ask the speakers?

Prior to the live dialogue, all young people participating are invited to submit and upvote questions to help our youth moderators pick the top 4-5 youth-created questions to ask our speakers. Our moderators will pick questions that have been highly upvoted and that will help our global youth community think holistically and systemically about climate change.

One way to encourage your learners to create questions considering the range of systemic factors impacting climate change is to use The Sustainability Compass tool. This systems thinking tool, pictured below, considers how nature, economy, society, and individual wellbeing interact to shape our world. Challenge your learners to come up with questions from each Compass Perspective or how the different perspectives are connected.



Download a copy of this image here and learn more about The Sustainability Compass here.

BONUS – ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Take a look at some additional resources to further enhance your learners' experience.

- United Nations | SDG 13 (available in EN, FR, SPA, AR, CH, RU)
- Our World in Data | Climate Change (available in EN)
- SubjectToClimate | Teacher Designed Lesson Plans for All Ages/Subjects (available in EN)
- Global Schools Program | Leccion acción por el Clima (available in SPA)
- Global Schools Program | Schools for SDG7 Project - Information on Clean Energy and Green Skills
- SDSN Youth | SDG Literacy Toolkit Climate Action
- Generation Global | The Ultimate Dialogue Adventure & Exploring Climate Change in Our Community Activity Book
- UNESCO | Getting Climate Ready: A Guide for Schools on How to Implement a Whole-School Approach (available in EN, FR, AR, SPA, KOR, POR)
- UNESCO | Green School Quality Standards (available in EN and FR)
- UNESCO | Greening Curriculum Guideline (available in EN)|