



Global Youth Environment Assembly 2024

Session Concept Note

Session Title:	Resource Efficiency and Circularity
Date:	Saturday 17th February
Time (EAT):	1500 - 1630
Contact point:	Gyubin Hwang
Partners/organisations:	IRP, UNEP, RMYMG

Background:

The clean energy transition is expected to drive a rapid increase in minerals and metals consumption, the vast majority of which will be from primary sources. The communities that are hardest-hit by the increase in primary resource demand are often traditionally marginalised communities - women, children, and indigenous groups.

This session considers this increase in resource requirements from an intergenerational perspective, and dives into two key topics: **1. Efficient Resource Use** and **2. Sustainable Resource Extraction**.

Efficient resource use discusses the design and creation of products, processes, and systems that are intended to be reused, repaired, remanufactured, or recycled, thus minimizing waste. In particular, it will examine the role of young people in shaping individual and collective consumer behaviour.

Sustainable resource extraction discusses the impacts of the minerals and metals industry, and strategies to ensure that present-day economic activity does not result in environmental destruction to be cleaned up by future generations.

Relevant UNEA resolutions include:

5/14: End plastic pollution: towards an international legally binding instrument

5/12: Environmental aspects of minerals and metals management

4/1: Innovative pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production

4/4: Addressing environmental challenges through sustainable business practices

Intended outcomes:

- Greater understanding of the measures that can improve intergenerational equity at all stages of the extractive industry life-cycle from mine planning to revenue generation to closure.
- Further development of youth policy positions on Draft texts 16 and 17



- Foundation for future youth collaboration with IRP and UNEP in extractives work programme

Personnel/Speakers:

- TBC, IRP
- UNEP Industry and Economy
- RMYMG

Run of Show:

Time:	Agenda
1500 - 1505	Opening
1505 - 1510	Draft Resolution presentation/briefing by UNEP
1505 - 1530	Panel discussion on Efficient Resource Use • What are the key proposals from the draft resolution? • How do we balance the need for resources in technologies essential for the transition, with the principles of circular design? • What is the role of young people in shaping consumer behaviour in line with circular economy principles?
1540 - 1550	Q&A
1550 - 1620	Panel discussion on Sustainable Resource Extraction Guiding questions: • What are the key proposals from the draft resolution? • How are current mining practices affecting traditionally marginalised communities? • What FIs can do to ensure resource extraction also benefits future generations • What strategies can be implemented to allocate funds from resource extraction for future generations' benefit (e.g., SWF, infrastructure investment, etc)?
1620 - 1630	Q&A & closing