



**ECOSOC**  
**YOUTH FORUM**

**YOUTH2030**

## Economic and Social Council Youth Forum

### **"COVID-19 recovery: Youth taking action for a sustainable future"**

**PROGRAMME**  
19-20 April 2022

#### **FIRST DAY**

**TUESDAY**  
**19 APRIL**

#### **#ECOSOCYF – YOUTH TAKING ACTION FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE ([VIDEO](#))**

**9:00 AM – 9:35 AM**

- Welcoming by [H.E. Mr. Collen Vixen Kelapile, President of the Economic and Social Council](#)
- Message from [H.E. Mr. Abdulla Shahid, President of the 76<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly](#)

#### **Moderated conversation**

Mr. Sherwin Bryce-Pease, Bureau Chief and Correspondent, South African Broadcasting Corp, United Nations (Moderator)

- Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations
- Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth
- Ms. Chido Mpemba, African Union's Youth Envoy
- Ms. Marinel Ubaldo, Climate Justice Advocate

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TUESDAY  
19 APRIL

## WORKING WITH AND FOR YOUTH IN BUILDING BACK BETTER FROM COVID-19 AND ACHIEVING THE 2030 AGENDA ([VIDEO](#))

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**9:35 AM – 11:00 AM**

**9:35 AM - 9:45 AM**

**Setting the Stage: Leaving No Youth Behind**

**Moderator:** Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth

- H.E. Ms. Michelle Bachelet, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- Shivangi Agrawal, Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights

**9:45 AM - 10:20 AM**

**Panel 1: Youth & COVID-19: Building Back Better from Current & Future Crises**

**Moderator:** Mr. Zubair Junjuna, Global Partnership for Education Young Leader, United Kingdom

- H.E. Ms. Claudia Plakolm, State Secretary for Youth Affairs of Austria
- H.E. Mr. Hussain Ismail, Minister of State for Youth, Sports, and Community Empowerment of the Maldives
- Ms. Sahal Albazar, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union Forum of Young Parliamentarians
- Mr. Guillermo Rafael Santiago Rodríguez, Director General of the Mexican Institute of Youth
- Ms. Klaudia Szymuś, Liaison Officer for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Issues, incl. HIV and AIDS at the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA), Poland
- Mr. Ali Fayez, Co-Founder of Youth Consensus for Peace, Afghanistan

**10:20 – 10:22 AM**

Artistic performance by Meera Dasgupta, 2020 United States Youth Poet Laureate, United States

**10:22 AM - 10:57 AM**

**Panel 2: Youth & the SDGs: Achieving the 2030 Agenda With, For, and By Youth**

**Moderator:** Nafesha Richardson, Founder of Spark SVG, St. Vincent & the Grenadines

- H.E. Mr. Bakary Badjie, Minister of Youth and Sports of The Gambia
- H.E. Ms. Zsófia Racz, Deputy State Secretary for Youth, Office of the Prime Minister of Hungary & Mr. Domokos Kovács, UN Youth Delegate of Hungary
- H.E. Dr. Ashraf Sobhi, Minister of Youth and Sports of the Arab Republic of Egypt
- Mr. Max Trejo, Secretary-General of the International Youth Organization for Ibero-America (OIJ)
- Ms. Selma Bichbich , Youth Climate Activist, Algeria
- Ms. Yurshell Rodríguez, Raizal Climate Activist, Colombia

**10:57 AM – 11:00 AM**

Wrap up by Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth

[#GlobalGoals](#) [#COVID19](#) [#EndPoverty](#)

**11:00 AM – 11:15 AM: BREAK**

**TUESDAY  
19 APRIL  
(PART A)**

## **CONNECTING, AMPLIFYING, AND LEVERAGING – A VIRTUAL NETWORKING SESSION FOR YOUNG CHANGEMAKERS**

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**11:15 AM – 1:00 PM**

Participants at the Youth Forum would be invited to attend a virtual networking session (Part A or Part B) organized around groups of discussion facilitated by a series of moderators. The discussions could focus primarily on the role that young people play in contributing to the implementation of the SDGs by 2030. International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organizations (ICMYO) and Major Group for Children and Youth (MGCY) could jointly organize this session.

[#YOUTH2030](#) [#GlobalGoals](#)

**1:00 PM – 1:30 PM: BREAK**

**TUESDAY  
19 APRIL**

**AFTERNOON**

*Parallel Thematic Breakout sessions*

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TUESDAY  
19 APRIL

## YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN TRANSFORMING EDUCATION – SDG 4 ([VIDEO](#))

(Parallel Session - 1a)

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**1:30 PM – 3:00 PM**

Focused on building a future for and with youth and students, this session will discuss the urgency for local youth-led action and amplify youth perspectives on the future of education. By sharing proposed strategies and shedding light on current youth-led solutions and advocacy, panelists will highlight the role of youth and students in strengthening formal and informal education systems and improving learning outcomes.

**Moderator:** Mr. Ulises Brengi, SDG4Youth Network Transforming Education Summit Youth Advisor

[#SDG4](#) [#YOUTH2030](#) [#GlobalGoals](#)

TUESDAY  
19 APRIL

## LIFE BELOW WATER AND YOUTH: CONNECTING GENERATIONS TO PROTECT OUR OCEAN – SDG 14 ([VIDEO](#))

(Parallel Session – 1B)

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**1:30 PM – 3:00 PM**

The role of young people in the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development is undeniably critical. The session will provide a unique platform for youth to showcase ideas, recommendations, innovations, youth-led solutions and actions, to “Save our ocean, Protect our future”. It aims to build momentum among youth on ocean actions in the lead up to the 2022 United Nations Ocean Conference in late June, further feeding into the 2022 High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, where SDG 14 is one of the goals under in-depth review.

**Moderator:** Ms. Ashlan Cousteau, Journalist, Explorer, and Ocean Advocate

[#SDG14](#) [#YOUTH2030](#) [#GlobalGoals](#)

TUESDAY  
19 APRIL

## GENERATION EQUALITY: BUILDING BACK BETTER WITH YOUNG WOMEN & GIRLS AT THE CENTER – SDG 5 ([VIDEO](#))

(Parallel Session – 2A)

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**3:15 PM – 4:45 PM**

Women and girls, particularly in rural areas, those with disabilities, Indigenous and LGBTQI communities, face multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination exacerbated by the impacts of COVID-19, climate crises, environmental destruction, and conflict due to pre-existing structural inequalities. With Gender-Based Violence and systemic discrimination on the rise, women and girls are often further marginalized through intensified violations of sexual and reproductive health and rights, rising economic, land and food insecurity, and unpaid care and domestic work. Advancing gender equality, preventing violence against women and girls at local, national, and global levels, and promoting women and girls' participation in decision-making, is fundamental to a just and sustainable COVID-19 recovery.

**Moderator:** Ms. Chamathya Fernando, World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS)

[#SDG5](#) [#YOUTH2030](#) [#GlobalGoals](#)

TUESDAY  
19 APRIL

## SECURING A SUSTAINABLE LIFE ON LAND – SDG 15 ([VIDEO](#))

(Parallel Session – 2b)

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**3:15 PM – 4:45 PM**

The thematic session will provide an opportunity for young people to contribute to the review of the implementation of SDG15. It will provide a platform for youth to share their experiences, insights, and challenges related to how they are taking action to safeguard ecosystems from the effects of climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation and how they are contributing to COVID recovery.

**Moderator:** Mr. Xuan Zihan, Regional Youth Focal Point (Eastern and South-Eastern Asia), United Nations International Federation of Youth (UN1FY) for Water and Climate

[#SDG15](#) [#YOUTH2030](#) [#GlobalGoals](#)

**-END OF THE FIRST DAY-**



## **Economic and Social Council Youth Forum**

### **"COVID-19 recovery: Youth taking action for a sustainable future"**

#### **SECOND DAY**

**WEDNESDAY**  
**20 APRIL**

**MORNING**

Regional Realities - Challenges, priorities and actions for the post COVID-19 recovery and realizing the SDGs Decade of Action

*Breakout sessions with Government officials and youth leaders*

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The regional breakout sessions will identify gaps, opportunities and scalable solutions that will lead to rapid transformational change, build back better and accelerate achievement of the SDGs during the Decade of Action. These sessions may build on the outcomes of youth consultations, and youth engagement in relevant regional fora, in particular at the regional sustainable development forums. The regional commissions will be invited to co-organize these sessions.

(Selection made on time zone convenience).

#### **ASIA AND THE PACIFIC ([VIDEO](#))**

**(Parallel Session - 1a)**

8:00 AM – 9:30 AM

#### **COVID-19 recovery: Youth in Asia and the Pacific taking action for a sustainable future**

The Asia and the Pacific regional session will aim to inform youth, policymakers and other stakeholders of the issues youth face in playing a meaningful role in the COVID-19 recovery process and accelerate progress towards achieving the SDGs. It will also highlight their role in

COVID-19 recovery and SDG implementation, and will generate recommendations. Young people need to be fully involved in developing and implementing policies, strategy plans and interventions that support youth inclusion in sustainable development processes.

**Moderator:** Ms. Agatha Lydia Natania, ASEAN Youth Organization / Asia- Pacific Youth Caucus, Major Group for Children and Youth

## **ARAB STATES REGION ([VIDEO](#))**

**(Parallel Session - 1b)**

8:00 AM – 9:30 AM

The regional session for the Arab States will raise top priority issues for young people and seek to spotlight their experiences as social entrepreneurs, community builders, policy shapers and job seekers and share their journey with its success and difficulties. While the youth take the stage for this session, experts will be invited to weigh-in and contribute to the enabling environment to support youth to succeed. An engaging youth friendly format will be adopted to optimise youth conversations and interaction.

**Moderator:** Mr. Ahmed Buasallay, Youth Development Delegate Alumni (UNDP/AYC Partnership), Bahrain

## **AFRICA ([VIDEO](#))**

**(Parallel Session - 2a)**

9:45 AM – 11:15 AM

### **Nutrition and SDGs: How Young People Can Help Feed Africa**

The Africa Regional Session will provide a direct, interactive and unique platform for young Africans and stakeholders to interact, discuss, foster peer learning and share ideas and best practices to mitigate challenges and provide innovative, transformative, scalable, inclusive and impactful solutions to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the “Africa We Want” as encapsulated in the African Union Agenda 2063.

**Moderator:** Ms. Gogontlejang Phaladi, Founder and Executive Director of the Gogontlejang Phaladi Pillar of Hope Project (GPPHP)

## **EUROPE, NORTH AMERICA AND OTHER STATES ([VIDEO](#))**

**(Parallel Session - 2b)**

9:45 AM – 11:15 AM

### **Regional Realities - Challenges, priorities and actions for the post COVID-19 recovery and realising the SDGs Decade of Action.**

The regional breakout session for Europe, North America and Other states will provide an opportunity for young people and representatives of institutions to discuss systemic challenges that are the root of our region’s crises of inequality and sustainability. The session will focus on allowing

youth and institutions to share their insights on how to address the climate crisis, fulfil youth rights, and to reform the economy to make it more sustainable.

**Moderator:** Ms. Anja Fortuna, Vice-President, European Youth Forum

## **LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Latin American and Caribbean Regional sessions will provide a space to present the results of the youth regional preparatory consultations in the context of the ECOSOC Youth Forum and the 5<sup>th</sup> Session of the Forum of the Countries of LAC on Sustainable Development, as well as provide a space to promote and strengthen the dialogue with Member States to ensure more meaningful and inclusive children, adolescents and youth participation in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the response to COVID-19.

### **LATIN AMERICA ([VIDEO](#))**

**Latin-American children, adolescents and youth meaningful engagement and actions for a sustainable future and a fair response to COVID 19**

**(Parallel Session - 3a)**

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

**Moderator:** Mr. Max Trejo, Secretary-General of the Ibero-American Youth Organization

### **THE CARIBBEAN ([VIDEO](#))**

**Caribbean children, adolescents and youth meaningful engagement and actions for a sustainable future and a fair response to COVID-19**

**(Parallel Session - 3b)**

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

**Moderator:** Ms. Bernice Antoine, UNFPA Youth Advisor, Trinidad and Tobago

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**1:00 PM – 3:00 PM: BREAK**

**WEDNESDAY  
20 APRIL**

## **Special Session: FINANCING OUR FUTURE – SDG 17 ([VIDEO](#))**

**([Session without interpretation](#))**

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**3:00 PM – 4:00 PM**



The COVID-19 crisis has exposed and exacerbated vulnerabilities and inequalities between and within economies and societies. It also provides once-in-a-generation strategic opportunities to create more resilient and sustainable societies that effectively address issues like climate change, inequality, limited access to education and decent work that especially impact youth and their lifelong trajectories. Such challenges cannot be remedied by governments alone but also require multi-stakeholder partnerships that draw on youth expertise and youth perspectives from all sectors. The global partnership for sustainable development needs to sharpen its focus on the priorities of youth, including more socially responsible and sustainable investment; increasing youth employment and enhancing skills training in key sectors for youth; overcoming the digital divide; and generating and utilising actionable data that helps design youth-oriented social and economic policies.

**Moderator:** Mr. Vladislav Kaim, Economist and Member, Secretary-General's Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change

- Mr. Kristian Kampmann, Young leader of Generation17 and UNLEASH;
- Ms. Mmabatho Motsamai, Founder, The Afrolutionist
- Ms. Aurelia E. Bruce, UNCTAD Youth Network member on partnerships and Agenda 2030 implementation
- Ms. Nora Altwaijri, Generation17 leader, Sustainable University Initiative
- Ms. Moneera Yassien, Economist, Scholar, Advocate, and Member, Steering Committee of UNESCO's Youth As Researchers Initiative
- Ms. Lei Motilla, Co-founder, AI4Gov

**Special Session and Interactive Dialogue**

[#SDG17](#) [#YOUTH2030](#) [#GlobalGoals](#)

WEDNESDAY  
20 APRIL

## **YOUTH2030: ACHIEVING THE SDGs WITH AND FOR YOUTH ([VIDEO](#))**

**4:00 PM – 5:00 PM**

**Moderator:** Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth

- Ms. Daniella Solano, President of Gente Positiva Foundation
- Mr. Nidal Benali, Youth representative, Morocco

**Launch of Youth2030 Progress report  
Plenary session and Interactive Dialogue**

[#YOUTH2030](#) [#GlobalGoals](#)

WEDNESDAY  
20 APRIL

## Q&A: STRENGTHENING SOLIDARITY WITH THE WORLD'S YOUNG PEOPLE ([VIDEO](#))

5:00 PM – 5:45 PM

In this session, speakers will answer questions from the world's young people. The questions will be compiled ahead of the ECOSOC Youth Forum via social media. This session will address the UN Secretary-General's report on "Our Common Agenda".

**Moderator:** Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth

- Ms. Nandini Tanya Lallmon, African Youth Charter Hustler for Mauritius
- Mr. Roman Gojayev, Member of Generation Connect Visionaries Board
- Ms. Ilona Szabó de Carvalho, Founder and President of the Igarapé Institute and Member of the United Nations High-Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism

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WEDNESDAY  
20 APRIL

## CLOSING SESSION OF THE ECOSOC YOUTH FORUM ([VIDEO](#))

5:45 PM – 6:00 PM

Closing remarks by:

- Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs
- Ms. Sharifah Shakirah, Founder and Director of the Rohingya Women Development Network (RWDN)
- Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth
- H.E. Mr. Collen Vixen Kelapile, President of the Economic and Social Council

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## CONNECTING, AMPLIFYING, AND LEVERAGING – A VIRTUAL NETWORKING SESSION FOR YOUNG CHANGEMAKERS






TUESDAY  
19 APRIL  
(PART B)

6:15 PM – 8:00 PM

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(\*) Note: Given the short amount of time for interventions from Member States, Ministers may be invited to send pre-recorded videos and statements which will be posted online.

-  **Opening and Closing sessions**
-  **Plenary sessions**
-  **Thematic breakout sessions**
-  **Regional breakout session**
-  **Additional activity**