

## SIDE EVENT CONCEPT NOTE

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### Event title

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**Empowering and Engaging Youth for Sustainable Development: Accelerating Agenda 2030 and SDGs in the UNECE Region**

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### Background and Rationale

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The empowerment and engagement of youth are essential components of accelerating progress towards Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the UNECE region. This side event focuses on highlighting the significant role that youth play in driving innovation, advocacy, and action for sustainability and climate resilience. By showcasing the initiatives, projects, and advocacy efforts led by young people, the event underscores the relevance of youth engagement in achieving the SDGs. It emphasizes the need for inclusive decision-making processes and partnerships to address sustainability challenges effectively. Furthermore, the event aligns with the theme of this year's Forum by emphasizing the importance of reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the face of multiple crises, with a specific emphasis on the role of youth in driving positive change and sustainable development.

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### Session objectives and expected outcomes

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The objective of our side event is to explore and showcase the pivotal role of youth in accelerating progress towards Agenda 2030 and the SDGs in the UNECE region. Through interactive discussions and youth-led presentations, we aim to:

- Highlight innovative approaches and initiatives led by young people to address sustainability and climate challenges.
- Emphasize the importance of youth engagement, leadership, and partnership in driving action on the SDGs.
- Foster dialogue and exchange of ideas among youth entrepreneurs, advocates, and changemakers.
- Inspire collective action and collaboration towards a more sustainable and resilient future.

The expected outcomes include:

- Increased awareness of the impact and potential of youth-led initiatives in achieving the SDGs.

- Identification of opportunities for collaboration and partnership among youth stakeholders.
- Empowerment of youth participants to take concrete actions in their communities towards sustainable development.
- Generation of ideas and solutions for addressing sustainability challenges within the UNECE region.

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#### Organizers

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**Lead organizers:** ECB Sustainable Youth Foundation

**Contributors:** City One Initiative

**Focal points:** Parth Bhatt

**E-Mail:** genius.parth23@gmail.com

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#### Agenda and Structure

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- Welcome and Introduction by Moderator (5 minutes)
- Opening remarks by panelists: (15 minutes)
- Panel Discussion (45 minutes)
- Q&A and Interactive Session (15 minutes)
- Closing Remarks (10 minutes)

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#### List of Panellists

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**Moderator:** Lutfiyya Dean (Policy Advisor, All-Africa Students' Union)

**Panelists:**

- Aislinn (Chief Executive Officer, ECB Sustainable Youth Foundation)
- Vadim Kuznetsov (UNECE Expert Group on Resource Management)
- Barbara Beltrán Torres (Fellow, Clinton Global Initiative)

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#### Sign-up / Registration Link

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*Please provide us with the link people can use to sign-up / register for your event.*

<https://forms.gle/BM9XJGnALSEKaojD7>