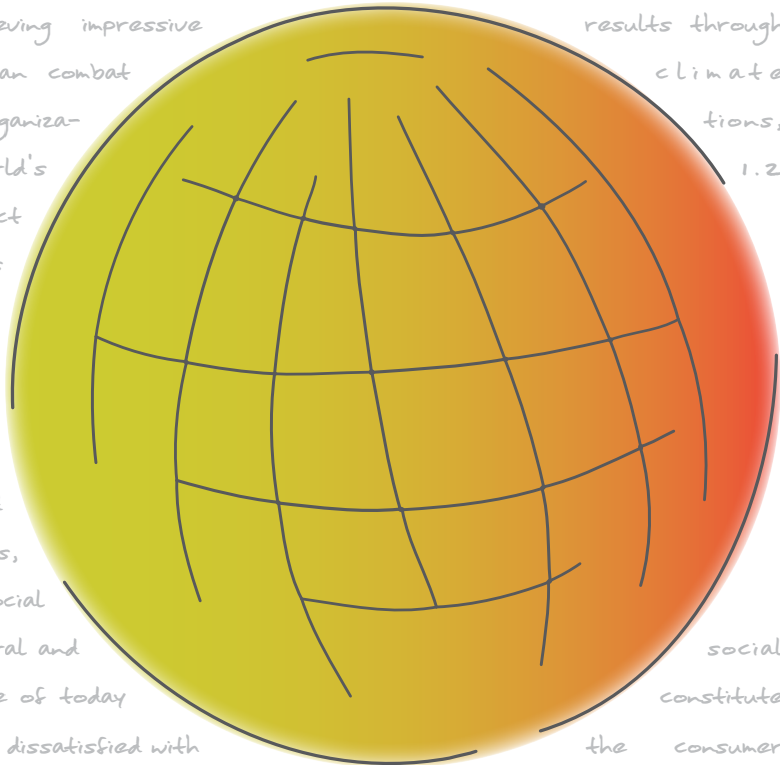


# World Report **YOUTH**

... young people have made it abundantly clear that they want to be involved in the decisions impacting society and addressing climate change is no exception. Throughout the world, youth have developed creative ways to raise awareness, share information, build capacities, and work together on climate change mitigation and adaptation practices—often achieving impressive results through their own initiatives. Young people can combat climate change not only as members of youth organizations, but also as individuals. Each of the world's 1.2 billion young women and men has an impact on the environment. Through the choices they make in their everyday lives, they contribute to the preservation or degradation of their natural surroundings. Historically, the younger generation has promoted change and embraced innovative values. In many cases, youth have been the initiators of social movements that have given rise to cultural and social transformations. While the young people of today constitute a major consumer group, many of them are dissatisfied with the consumer societies in which they live and are seeking alternative lifestyles. This could mean a drive for change. Young people around the world are increasingly making small but important changes that represent essential steps in their transition to a more sustainable lifestyle. Youth can start right where they are, and many...



## Youth & **CLIMATE CHANGE**







**EQUATOR**  
5140 km

**SOUTH POLE**  
4803 km

**CLIMATE  
CHANGE**

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The *World Youth Report: Youth and Climate Change* represents a collaborative effort, made possible by the input and feedback received from experts in the field of youth and climate change and from partners throughout the United Nations system working on issues relating to youth development and climate change. The contributions from youth around the world were invaluable in the preparation of the *Report*.

To obtain background information for the *Report*, the United Nations Programme on Youth issued a call for input. The positive response from young individuals, youth-led and youth-focused organizations, and institutions working in the area of climate change is a testimony to the extensive interest in the topic of youth and climate change. Contributions were carefully screened and helped inform the content of the final *Report*. They provided an important overview of the broad range of climate change adaptation and mitigation activities in which young people around the world are engaged. Most of the examples provided in chapter IV of the present *Report* are based on these contributions. Unfortunately, owing to the large volume of contributions received, it is not possible to list all those who provided input individually. The United Nations Programme on Youth is deeply grateful for all the inputs received.

## DESA

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### The following abbreviations have been used in the Report:

AC	air conditioner	UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
C	Celsius	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
CER	certified emission reduction	USP	University of the South Pacific
CFL	compact fluorescent lighting	YJF	Youth Forum Jeunesse
CO <sub>2</sub>	carbon dioxide	YMCA	Young Men's Christian Association
COP	Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	YOUNGO	youth constituency (COP sessions)
CSD	Commission on Sustainable Development		
DHF	dengue haemorrhagic fever		
ERU	emission reduction unit		
F	Fahrenheit		
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations		
GHG	greenhouse gas		
ICMYO	International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organisations		
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change		
KCYP	Kibera Community Youth Programme		
NGO	non-governmental organization		
NYU	New York University		
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development		
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization		

### Technical note

In this publication, unless otherwise indicated, the term “youth” refers to all those between the ages of 15 and 24, as reflected in the World Programme of Action for Youth. The term “young people” may be used interchangeably with the word “youth” in the text.

### Note on country groupings and subgroupings

Unless otherwise indicated, the following country groupings and subgroupings have been used in this *Report*:

*Asia:* Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, Macao Special Administrative Region of China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Lao People's Democratic



Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam;

*Sub-Saharan Africa:* Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mayotte, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Réunion, Rwanda, Saint Helena, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Swaziland, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe;

*Latin America:* Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Falkland Islands (Malvinas), French Guiana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela;

*Middle East and North Africa:* Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malta, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Occupied Palestinian Territory, Yemen;

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Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Fiji, French Polynesia, Grenada, Guam, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Kiribati, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Federated States of Micronesia, Montserrat, Nauru, Netherlands Antilles, New Caledonia, Niue, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Puerto Rico, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago;

*Developed market economies:* Australia, Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

**The following symbols have been used in the annex tables included in the Report:**

Two dots (..) indicate that data are not available or are not separately reported.

An em dash (—) indicates that the item is nil or negligible.

A hyphen (-) indicates that the item is not applicable.

A minus sign (-) indicates a deficit or decrease, except as indicated.

A full stop (.) is used to indicate decimals.

A slash (/) between years indicates a statistical year, for example, 1990/91.

Use of a hyphen (-) between years, for example, 1990-1991, signifies the full period involved, including the beginning and end years.

Details and percentages in tables do not necessarily add to totals, because of rounding.

Annual rates of growth or change, unless otherwise stated, refer to annual compound rates.



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