

STUDENT ENERGY: EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW

Photo: Student Energy

Student Energy's Compact aims to collectively mobilize USD 150 million in funding to support early- and mid-stage youth-led clean energy projects of all kinds, in combination with providing targeted skill development, mentorship, and entrepreneurship training.

By nurturing the potential of young innovators, the Compact aims to accelerate the development and deployment of clean energy solutions globally, support job creation and skills development for more diverse groups of young people globally, and facilitate intergenerational collaboration to achieve SDG7 by 2030.

Student Energy's research says that 82% of young leaders report facing great difficulty in accessing funding to implement or scale energy solutions. Student Energy aims to close this gap and support 10,000 youth-led clean energy initiatives or projects by 2030. With the support of partners, Student Energy is building accessible pathways for over 50,000 young people around the world to access the skills, training, and networks that they need to play an active role in the clean energy transition as entrepreneurs, consumers, and community leaders.

Engaging with and directly supporting young people to be a part of the energy transition will play a critical role, not only in achieving SDG7, but in

Within the first two years of launching its Energy Compact, Student Energy has unlocked USD 8 million in funding for clean energy education and entrepreneurship, supported the generation of 325 megawatts (MW) of additional renewable energy capacity, provided green jobs training to 2,716 youth, and delivered improved electricity access to 25,970 people.



PICTURE: Student Energy with SEforALL at COP27.

ensuring that climate action proceeds at a pace that meets the challenge for decades to come. Building the energy system of the future will require not only technological advancements and financing, but also a supportive political landscape for bold climate and energy policies to be successful, a robust innovation ecosystem, and years of sustained commitment. This is why it is crucial that young people are supported to build their skills in a tangible way, early in their lives, with real resources, mentorship, and agency.

Student Energy’s Energy Compact aims to catalyze meaningful change in the lives of young people by providing them with the skills, tools, and resources to create better livelihoods, obtain and sustain jobs, support their communities, and feel empowered to navigate their future.

Student Energy’s next steps will be to utilize the lessons learned from their pilot programmes, expand its ecosystem to meet existing demand from global youth, and reach out to new groups of youth, with a specific focus on scaling up the number of youth receiving energy education, and the number of tangible clean energy projects built in communities. Student Energy aims to reach and inspire more young people, and other stakeholders, to join in achieving the

goals of this Energy Compact through communications and storytelling, dedicated regional outreach, and a strong alumni and mentorship network.

The success of Student Energy’s Energy Compact hinges on partnerships — from governments and development agencies, to philanthropic organizations, to leading clean energy companies. Student Energy has made significant progress by collaborating with existing champions and international partners like the Government of Denmark, Orsted, the Clean Cooking Alliance, the Global Covenant of Mayors, Sustainable Energy for All, the Powering Past Coal Alliance, The Resilience Shi and Resilience First, the Global Green Growth Institute, and more.



Empowering young energy leaders is not just the right thing to do, it is a truly transformative and necessary solution to the energy transition and climate crisis. Young people have continued to demonstrate they have the determination and ideas to contribute in a tangible way but lack consistent and equitable access to resources and networks. Student Energy’s UN Energy Compact is highly ambitious to meet the urgency of the challenge: equipping a global movement of young people with the tools to lead, mobilizing USD 150 million in resources to youth, and supporting 10,000 clean energy projects around the world.

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