



**The date of the side event at the 8th of Dec, from 9:00 a.m to 10:15 a.m
SDG Pavilion, Blue Zone**

Side Event Title:

ACE for the Future: Youth Participation in NDC Development

Brief Of Side Event:

The COP28 is a pivotal moment for global climate action, and the active involvement of youth and stakeholders is instrumental in shaping the outcomes. This session is dedicated to raising awareness about Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE), which refers to Article 6 of the UNFCCC and Article 12 of the Paris Agreement. The aim is to connect COP28 participants with the YOUNGO ACE Working Group and prepare them for active engagement in ACE-related activities during COP28 and beyond. The session will cover various aspects of ACE, such as its elements and significance for youth activism, as well as discussions on the broader work of the ACE Working Group, recent negotiations, and future strategies. The event will also emphasize the importance of involving youth in ACE initiatives and decision-making to address the climate crisis and achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement. Furthermore, it will also focus upon the need to recognize ACE in Nationally Determined Contributions in order to ensure that official commitments are made by the member states to implement ACE at the national level. The expected outcomes are that participants will understand ACE and its importance for climate action and implementation of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. Moreover, they will learn how to join the ACE WG and engage in its work on ACE at COP28 and beyond and most importantly they will be empowered to contribute to ACE activities in their respective countries and communities.

Objectives:

1. Youth Engagement: Encourage meaningful youth participation in the development and revision of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) as a way to amplify their voices in climate policy decisions.

2. Capacity Building: Promote awareness and understanding of the principles of Access to Information, Public Participation, and Access to Justice (ACE) among youth to strengthen their role in NDC processes.

3. Policy Influence: Empower youth to actively advocate for more ambitious and inclusive NDCs and climate policies at local, national, and international levels.

4. Inter-generational Dialogue: Foster dialogue and collaboration between young people and policymakers to ensure youth perspectives are integrated into NDC development and implementation.

Key Messages:

1. Youth as Agents of Change: Emphasize that youth are instrumental in driving climate action and play a crucial role in shaping NDCs for a sustainable future.

2. ACE for Empowerment: Highlight the significance of ACE principles in empowering youth to participate in climate policy development and implementation.

3. Policy Impact: Showcase examples of how youth engagement has influenced