



United Nations



HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON
ENERGY
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 2021

Ministerial Thematic Forums

21 – 25 June 2021

Event name: **Young People Engagement to Accelerate Energy Transition and Cross-Sectoral Interlinkages**

Event date and time: Tuesday 22 June 11:30 am- 12:45 pm EST (NYC)

Organizers: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN ESCWA) and United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)

Number of participants: **90**

Main speakers and brief summary [max 300 words]:

Ms. Radia Sedaoui: Chief, Energy, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, UNESCWA

Mr. Gautam Narasimhan: Senior Advisor, Climate, Energy, Environment and DRR, UNICEF

Ms. Rakshya R Thapa, Climate and Energy Specialist, UNICEF

Dr. Angelo Rocha de Oliveira: President, Association of Energy Engineers, Brazil Chapter

Ms. Asma Rouabhia: Sustainability Young Arab Leader, UNESCO.

Mr. Nkosilathi Nyathi: UNICEF Youth Climate Advocate Zimbabwe.

Ms. Esther Wanza: Energy Business mentor, Energy 4 Impact, UNMGCY Regional Youth Focal Point for Africa

Ms. Le Gia Thanh Truc: Operations Manager, IoTeamVN

Mr. Sy: President, Frogleaf Foundation

Ms. Passy Amayo Ogolla: Program Manager, Society for International Development

Ms. Trish Mkutchwa: founder of GreennovaTech, Intern with UNICEF

Summary: Sustainable energy transition is an intergenerational issue and has an integral connection with child rights. Children and young people are the single most affected groups due to lack of reliable, modern, and sustainable energy access in their homes, schools, healthcare facilities. They also have a key role to play as active agents of change. Responding to the needs of children and young people, and engaging them must be prioritized, towards achieving the SDGs. Youth are the biggest advocates of the future and they are inspired to act. They are rising to the forefront as advocates and innovators for sustainable energy in their homes, communities, and beyond. During the event, young people called for support to help amplify their engagement, and become energy leaders of tomorrow. This includes access to education, targeted trainings, hands on experience,

tools and resources, network of support. They called for right access to and representation at energy policy making platforms, and for their recommendations to be translated into concrete policies and actions. Young energy entrepreneurs called for start-up capital support from enterprises and investors. They called for professional mentorship programmes focusing on finance, technology, capacity development.

Key outcomes and takeaways [max 100 words]:

- Decision makers, development partners, private actors must start engaging with and supporting young people to address their needs, and make energy transition truly equitable.
- UNICEF shall expand strategic partnerships with young energy leaders, like the one with the Youth Sustainable Energy Hub. UNICEF is co-creating a Sustainable Energy Toolkit for Young People.
- UNESCWA shall introduce customized and practical education tools for children on renewable energy, and strengthen the capacity of young professionals by developing vocational curricula to support youth entry into green and RE jobs.

Links to livestream recording/website/social media:

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