



# 2021 RESILIENCE LEARNING MONTH EVENT SUMMARY

ADB



**YOUTH FOR CLIMATE ACTION:  
HOW YOUNG PEOPLE ARE INFLUENCING  
CLIMATE POLICY AND RESILIENCE IN THE REGION**

**ADB  
YOUTH  
FOR ASIA**

3 December 2021, Friday / 4-5:30 p.m. Manila Time (GMT+8) / Zoom

Young people have taken to the streets ringing the alarm about the impacts of the climate change emergency. While the protests showcase youth's frustration in current socio-political systems of managing the climate emergency, they are increasingly also engaging in climate policy and building community resilience.

The webinar was aimed at (i) showcasing youth-led initiatives in climate change adaptation and mitigation and (ii) building the knowledge and skills of young people and adult partners in applying meaningful youth engagement as a practice in climate change programs.

Youth panelists provided their insights of how meaningful youth engagement were activated at the highest levels at COP26 and in wider UNFCCC processes and working at the grassroots

throughout the region. Likewise, the youth panelists discussed how youth insights and capacities were engaged within ADB, like the Catalyzing Youth-Led Climate Action in Atoll Nations, community resilience, and sustainable energy transition.

**“Only when vulnerable people are protected where they are able to improve their lifestyles through sustainable and innovative practices that has ties with traditional wisdom and local context, then we can confidently say that yes, such international meetings [COP26, Paris Agreement] do matter to vulnerable people.”**

**KIM ALLEN**  
Climate Activist, Papua New Guinea

## SPEAKERS



**KIM ALLEN**  
Climate Activist,  
Papua New Guinea



**HEETA LAKHANI**  
Global Focal Point,  
YOUNGO



**DR. MOHSEN GUL**  
Senior Technical Advisor – Youth  
in Climate Action (Consultant),  
ADB Youth for Asia



**LARA JEAN L. SALAYSAY**  
Youth Project Designer on Climate  
Change and Environmental  
Sustainability (Consultant),  
ADB Youth for Asia



**YE ZHENG**  
Regional Coordinator  
for Greater China,  
Student Energy



**OLIVER CHAPMAN**  
Senior Social Development Specialist  
(Youth and Civil Society Organizations  
Partnerships), Sustainable  
Development and Climate Change  
Department, Asian Development Bank

## MODERATOR

## KEY MESSAGES

- The practice of tokenistic participation of young people in the climate conversation needs to stop because young people are capable of being leaders of climate solutions and the impacts of climate change will be felt and are affected greatly by young people.
- Involving young people in the process needs to be youth-friendly and youth-led. Youth is not a homogenous group; thus, their diverse backgrounds should be considered when designing projects.
- Vulnerable populations including young people should be empowered for resilience in order for international agreements to go down to the community level.
- Currently, youth is on the advocacy side of the climate discussion. However, young people can also lead climate solutions through innovation and entrepreneurship. Thus, an enabling environment needs to be established for them to tap on their potential. This may include youth-led and youth-friendly capacity-building, intergenerational dialogues, and financing.

**It's always important to have youth in the conversation particularly since most of the long-term impacts of climate change will be confronted by them rather than us in the older generation.**

**NOELLE O'BRIEN**

Chief of Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management  
Thematic Group concurrently Director, Climate Change  
and Disaster Risk Management Division,  
Sustainable Development and Climate Change  
Department, Asian Development Bank

- The unique value-add of young people can be leveraged to increase program outcomes and youth empowerment through using their voice, insight, and action.
- The majority of young people want their country to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030 contrary to 2050 or 2100 targets set by government. Youth proposals include individual carbon trading programs, cloud corporate supervision platforms, and public policy advocacy changes.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

ADB Youth for Asia

Website: [adb.org/youthforasia](http://adb.org/youthforasia)

Socials: [@youthforasia](https://www.instagram.com/youthforasia)