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Asia Water Forum 2022

8–11 August 2022 • Online



Side Event

Establishing Young Water Professional (YWPs) Networks

8 August | 1:30–3:00 pm



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Ms. Maria Mercedes Kuri
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UN International
Federation of Youth



Ms. Michelle Meaclem
Civil Engineer
World Federation of
Engineering
Organisations

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Establishing Young Water Professional Network

Agenda

Welcome, introduction & housekeeping rules

Isabela Espindola

Icebreaker

Emily Ryan

Reflections on IWA, its YWP Community and Intergenerational exchanges

Isabela Espindola

Uniqueness of States in forming sustainable alliance among YWPs

Afolayan Juwon Samuel

Representing YWP vs Youth Voices

Claudia Neuschulz

CAY4W Network and experiences of young water professionals from Central Asia

Cholpon Aitakhunova

UN1FY for Water and Climate

Maria Mercedes Kuri & Xuan Zihan

WFEO Young Engineers Working Group on Climate Action: Key takeaways from international climate initiatives

Michelle Meaclem

Icebreaker

Emily Ryan

Closing Remarks

Isabela Espindola





Icebreaker



<https://miro.com/app/board/uXjVOiX9IM0=/>

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Reflections on IWA, its YWP Community and Intergenerational exchanges



Isabela Espindola
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What is the International Water Association?





International Water Association



IWA Strategic Goals 2019-2024



- 1 AN ENGAGED AND BALANCED MEMBERSHIP**
- 2 A SOURCE FOR LEADING-EDGE WATER KNOWLEDGE**

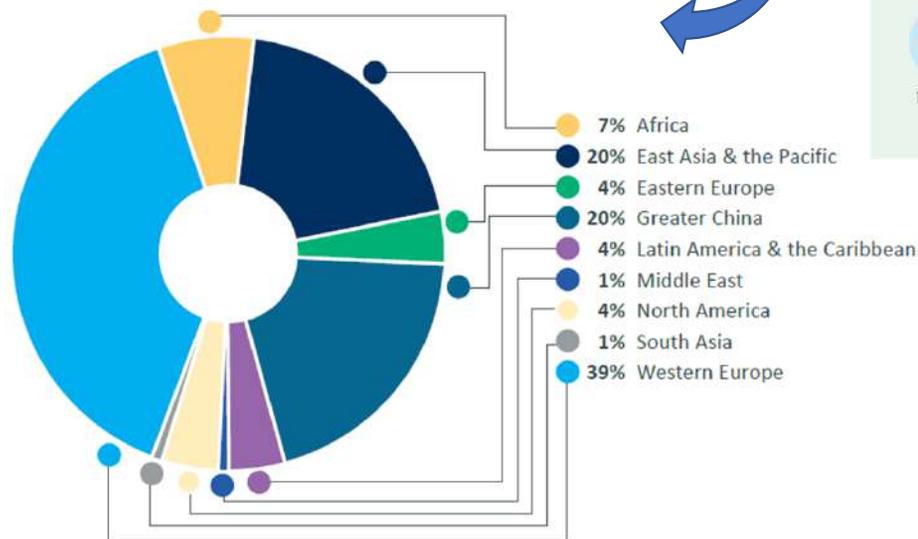


- 3 A SPACE FOR PROFESSIONALS TO EXCHANGE WATER KNOWLEDGE**
- 4 A BRIDGE BETWEEN RESEARCH AND PRACTICE**
- 5 A SUPPORT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SDG's**





IWA Members in 2021





What is the IWA Young water professional's community?





IWA Young Water professionals (IWA YWP)

- IWA Members
 - Age 35 or younger
 - Multi-disciplinary backgrounds



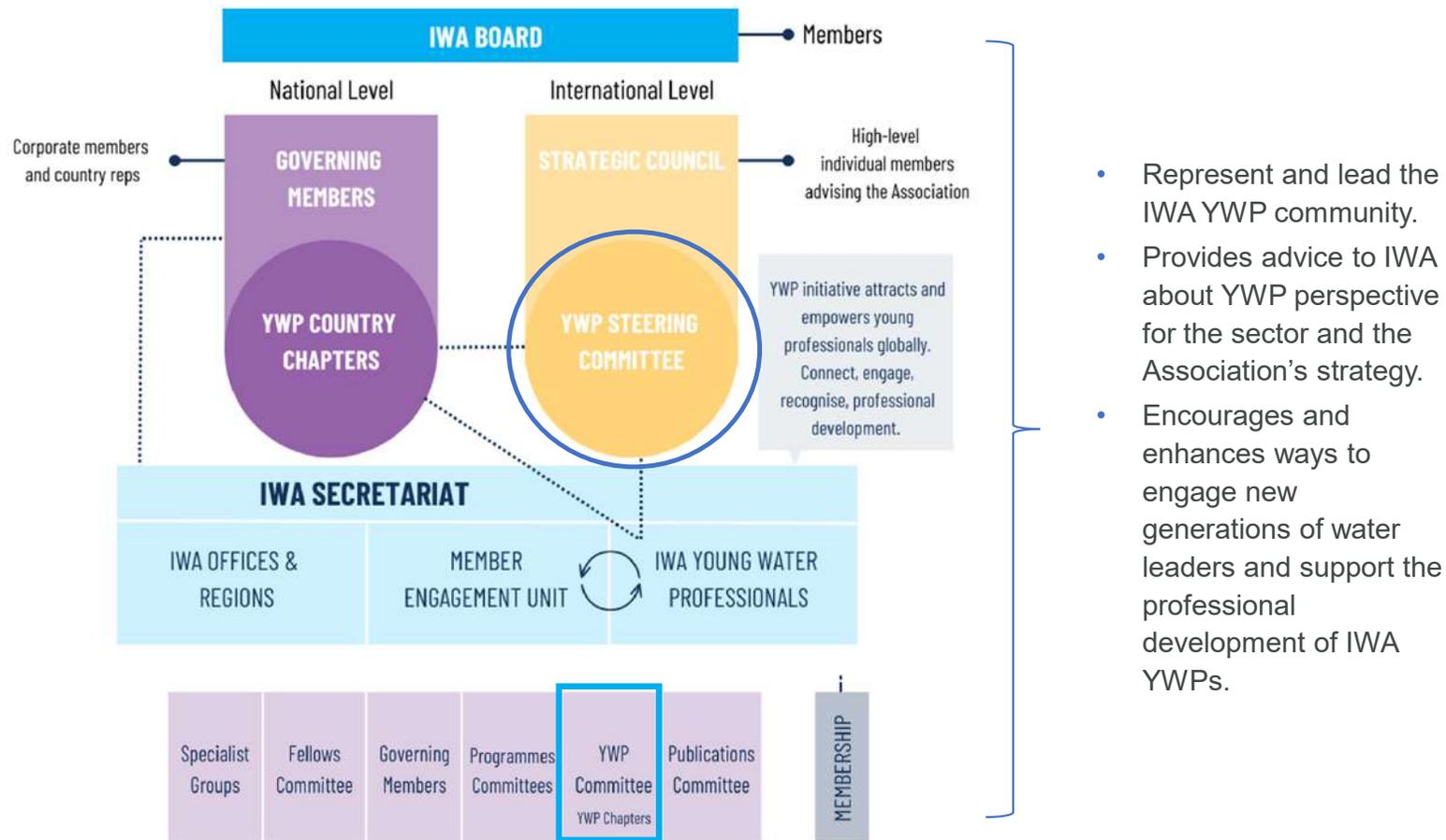
Mission: Empowerment of Young Water Professionals to contribute to sustainable water management (IWA's vision), by connecting them, providing them with professional development opportunities, and engagement and recognition.

Vision: To develop a strong brand and network, that is highly valued and rated by the wider water sector. One that is actively engaged and empowered to contribute to the water sector's solutions.





IWA Young Water professionals (IWA YWP)





IWA Young Water professionals (IWA YWP)

IWA Young Water Professionals Country Chapters



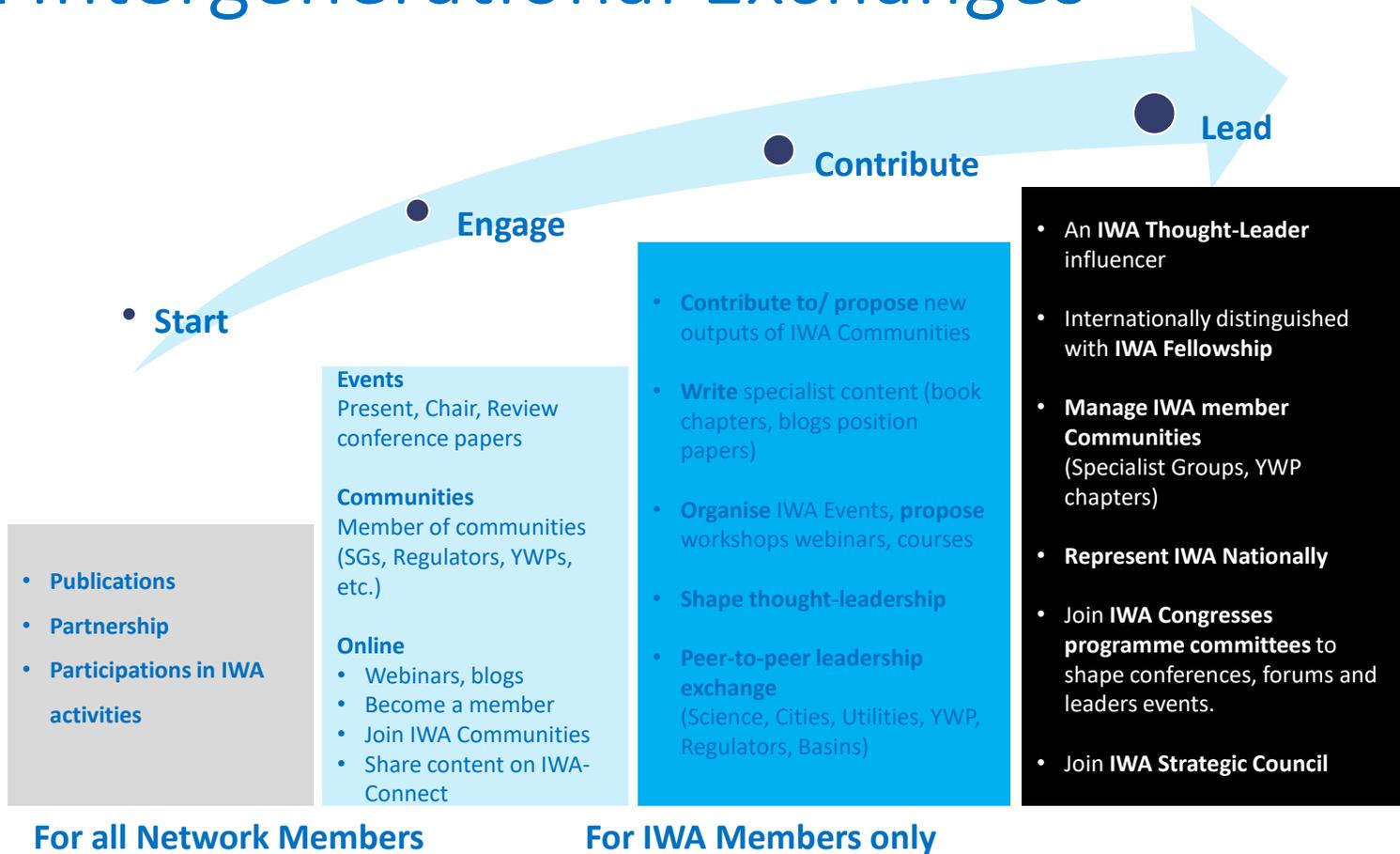


What are the IWA Intergenerational exchanges?





IWA Intergenerational Exchanges





IWA Intergenerational Exchanges

What does this means for a YWP?





IWA Intergenerational Exchanges

What are the opportunities?

- YWP Chapters or Governing Member Committees
- Participation in IWA Young Water Professional Group on [IWA Connect](#) with exclusive access to monthly recommended professional development readings
- IWA YWP SC & sub-committees on Communications, Events, YWP chapters
- Engagement in organising committees of events (including Conferences, workshops, webinars, facilitating online dialogues etc)
- Connections with senior professionals (eg. including Online Dialogues with Senior Professionals and SG YWP Affiliates programmes)





IWA Intergenerational Exchanges





Membership sign-up

Ready to become a member?



Use **IWAYWP22** for **20% discount off**

new membership and/or membership renewal.

Join our network today:

www.iwa-connect.org





IWA WWC&E 2022

IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition



- 2018 Tokyo
- 2016 Brisbane
- 2014 Lisbon
- 2012 Busan
- 2010 Montreal
- 2008 Vienna
- 2006 Beijing
- 2004 Marrakesh
- 2002 Melbourne
- 2001 Berlin
- 2000 Paris



IWA Emerging Water Leaders Forum



SAVE THE DATE | 13 SEPT 2022



World Map of Water Challenges YWP Survey

**ARE YOU A YOUNG WATER PROFESSIONAL (YWP)? IF YES, FILL IN
THIS SURVEY TO HELP US IDENTIFY WATER CHALLENGES IN YOUR
COUNTRY/REGION AND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS.**

Fill in the form: bit.ly/3NnSR8s or scan the code

Deadline: 13/08/2022



**YOUNG WATER
PROFESSIONALS**





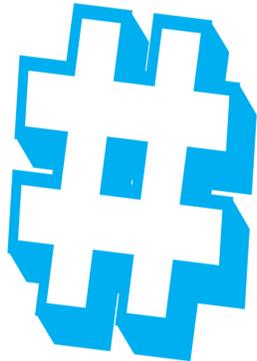
Thank you

www.iwa-network.org

www.iwa-connect.org

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@IWAhq

#waterwise

#WorldWaterCongress

#waterinnovation

#DevelopmentCongress

#FutureWaterLeaders #Water



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Who to contact?

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Learn more on: <http://www.iwa-network.org/young-water-professionals>

Join us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/107609640088/>



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The Uniqueness of States in Forming Sustainable Alliance Among Young Water Professionals.

AFOLAYAN, Juwon Samuel
Chapters Facilitator, WPYW



**World Youth
Parliament
for Water**

@juwonafolayan

[https:// youth.forwater.org](https://youth.forwater.org)

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Outline

- ❖ Diversities in water realities
- ❖ The Influencers of water goals
- ❖ Synthesizing sustainable alliance
- ❖ Conclusion



Diversities in water realities



Globally

Nationally

Water Shortage

NE Water Unavailability



Nigeria as a template in modelling national water diversity.

Water Unavailability

Unusable Water

NC Geographical Influence

SW Unequitable Access to Water

Diplomatic Water

SS Acute Water Pollution





There is a common global vision for water enshrined in the SDGs.

Young water professionals are spread across different organizations (transnational, national or local).

Each organization or individuals has a unique focus or aspiration for water (Presented as core vision).

This Aspiration is influenced by the water realities around their catchment area.

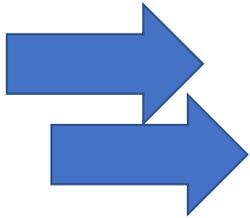
Success is measured by how much of the objectives of the organization is accomplished.

how can we synthesize a collaborative and sustainable alliance among young water professionals, to drive a common goal for water?

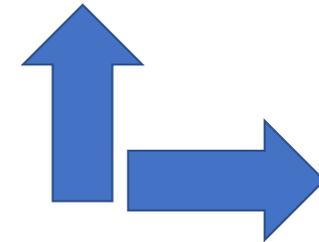




The Objectives and Scope of Operation



Identify the similarities



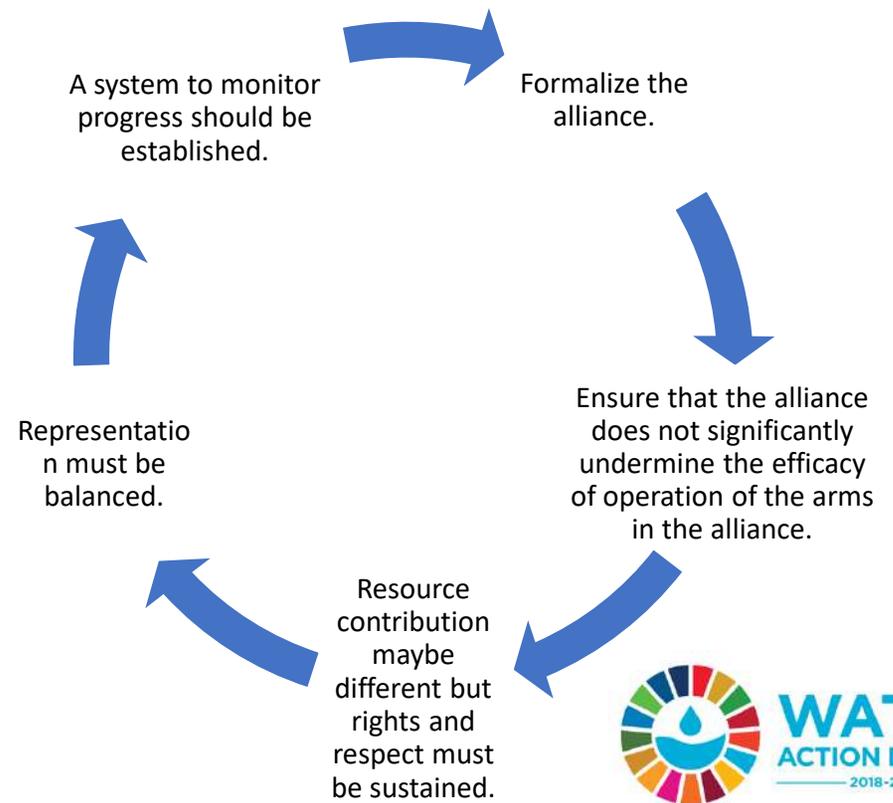
Identify the parallels



Establish common grounds and working structures



For Sustainable Alliance





Provision

Any youth led alliance that is aimed at actualizing sustainable water provision, and equitable access to portable and useable water should be pursued without hesitation. There are a lots of possibilities when the young water professionals network.

Contribution

Inclusion

2030

Passion





WYPW Youth Vision for Water

*Thank You For
Listening*



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WATER YOUTH NETWORK

Claudia Neuschulz

Water Governance Group Coordinator
c.neuschulz@wateryouthnetwork.org

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Why we started



ORGANISATION

- We represent students and young professionals across disciplines.
- We are a platform that encourages and enables the connection of young individuals and organizations
- We value initiative, innovation, inclusion, community, and a collaborative spirit.

GAP

- We saw a lack of cooperation.
- We promote cooperation between Youth organization.
- We Cooperation with “established” organizations.

HISTORY

- We exist since the 6th World Water Forum (WWF) in Marseille, France in 2012.
- We were first registered in France in 2013.
- We shifted the registration to the Netherlands in 2017, where we are formally established.





What we aspire



Vision

- a world where young, motivated, well-prepared individuals are **connected** to the **individuals, organizations, information, resources, and opportunities** that enable them to ultimately improve the world's water situation.
- an **online** and **offline** platform through which members, alumni, and partner organizations are fostering a spirit of on-going learning and **exchange among many generations of water professionals**.

Mission

- **connect** young professionals and students in the water sector to one another and to sector partners; and
- **empower** young leaders to share and develop skills and expertise to create and advance water sector solutions.

connecting

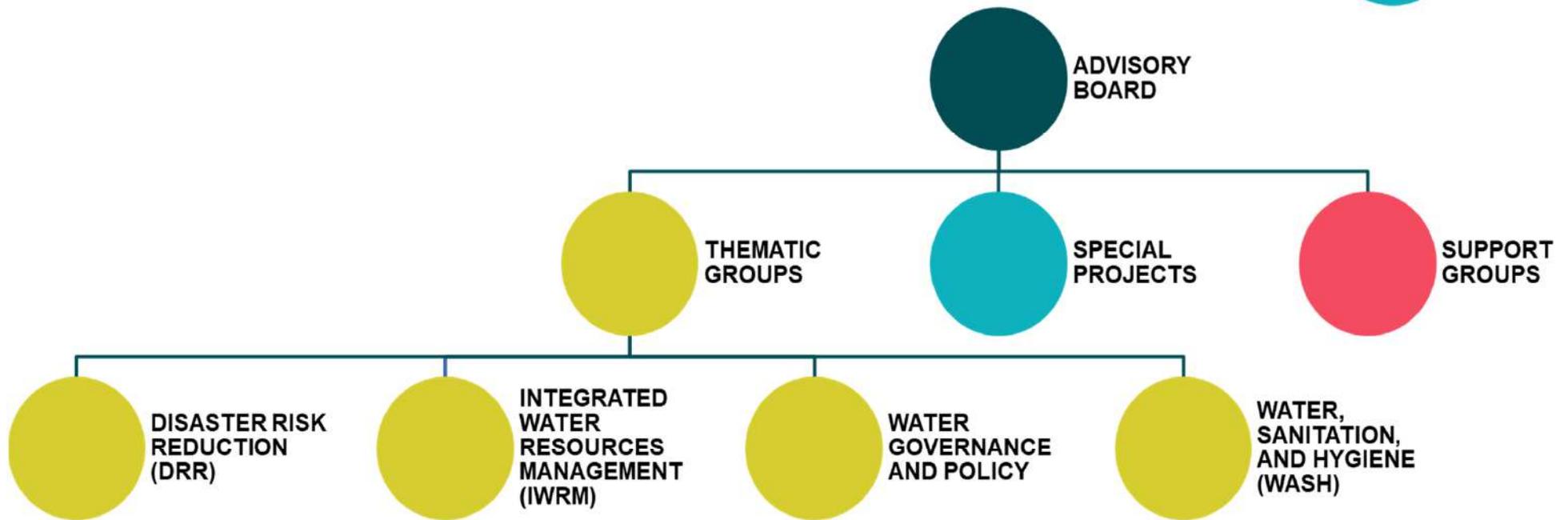
empowering

change-making





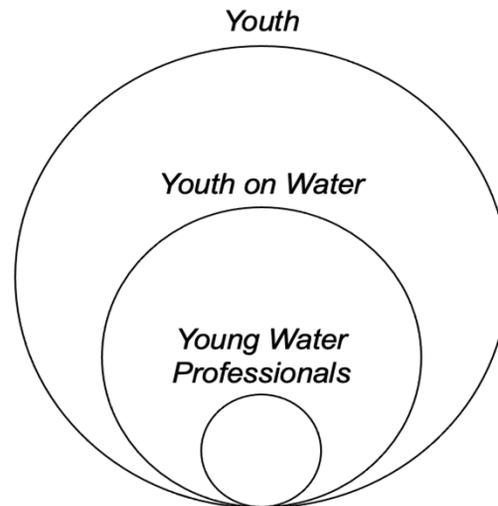
How we work



Representing YWP vs Youth Voices



**offer
opportunities
to connect**



**enable
and
support**



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Central Asia Youth for Water Network and YWP experiences from Central Asia

Cholpon Aitakhunova



Central Asia Youth for Water Network



- **Regional network:** connecting youth (students, young specialists, activists and enthusiasts) in order to engage them into the Central Asia water management issues
- **6 countries:** Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
- **1000+** youth network members
- **Team:** 2 Regional co-coordinators and 6 National coordinators

Blue Peace
Central Asia



DKU DEUTSCH
KASACHISCHE
UNIVERSITÄT

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC



Water & Central Asia



Photo by Carolyn Drake via National Geographic magazine, 2015



☺ Youth in Water in Central Asia – what is wrong?

While some individual barriers for the youth might include lack of knowledge and relevant competencies and due to that lack of confidence in entering the job market, some chronic systemic issues such as lack of opportunities for quality water education (and education in general in Central Asia), preparation and training, onboarding and later support of integration of young professionals in the sector, lack of intergenerational dialogue, exchange and mentoring are still there and acute.





Youth in Water in Central Asia – CAY4W Network: action and engagement across sectors, borders, generations

- National: water and climate activities (SDG contests, LCOYs, Water days, etc.)
- Regional/Central Asian: Transboundary River Basin Dialogues (BPI calculations, negotiation simulations, valuing water, leadership trainings, etc.); Aral Sea expeditions; regional conferences and other exchanges.
- Global: WYPW GAs, SWWW, WWFs, DWP, COY16, COP26....



Aral Sea Summer School, 2019

2nd Syr Darya River Basin Dialogue, 2022



Water & Central Asia



Issykul Lake, Kyrgyzstan, picture from Internet, 2022





Thank you!

Cholpon Aitakhunova

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UN1FY For Water and Climate

Xuan Zihan & Maria Mercedes Kuri



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United
Nations
International
Federation / Festival of
Youth
for Water and Climate



The Movement



The Gathering





WMO-OSGEY Joint Endorsement





Key Achievements

- Dutch and Tajik governments presented UN1FY as the official platform to consolidate youth inputs for the 2023 UN Water Conference.
- The Youth Development Plan and Agenda (YDPA) was included in the Final Declaration of the Dushanbe Water Process.
- YDPA Survey: **2000** responses
- UN1FY membership: **1558** individuals and **22** organizations



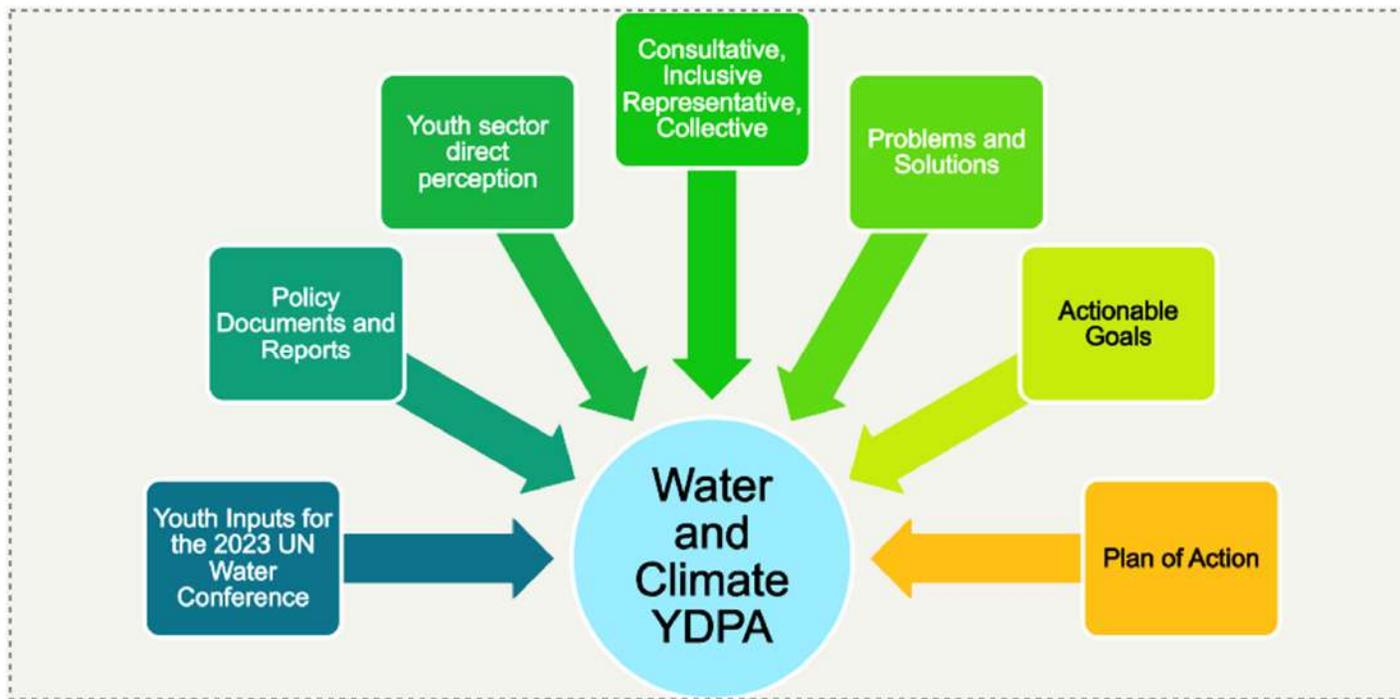
Water and Climate Youth Development Plan and Agenda (YDPA) - Why?

- ONE unified youth voice and strategy
- We need concrete actionable goals that operationalise the collective youth demands.
- The adoption of the plan of action (YDPA) in the 2023 UN Water Conference is vital for achieving SDG6 and SDG13.

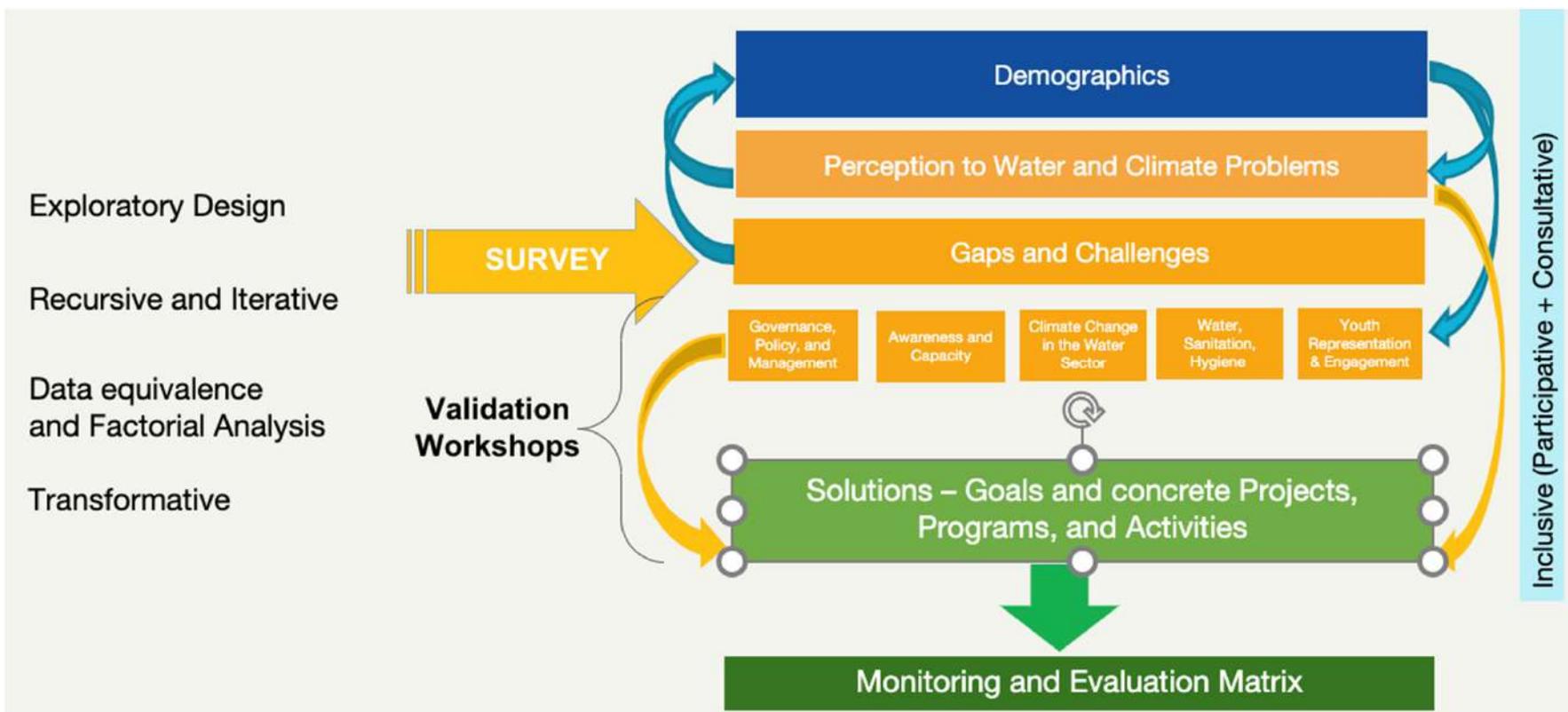




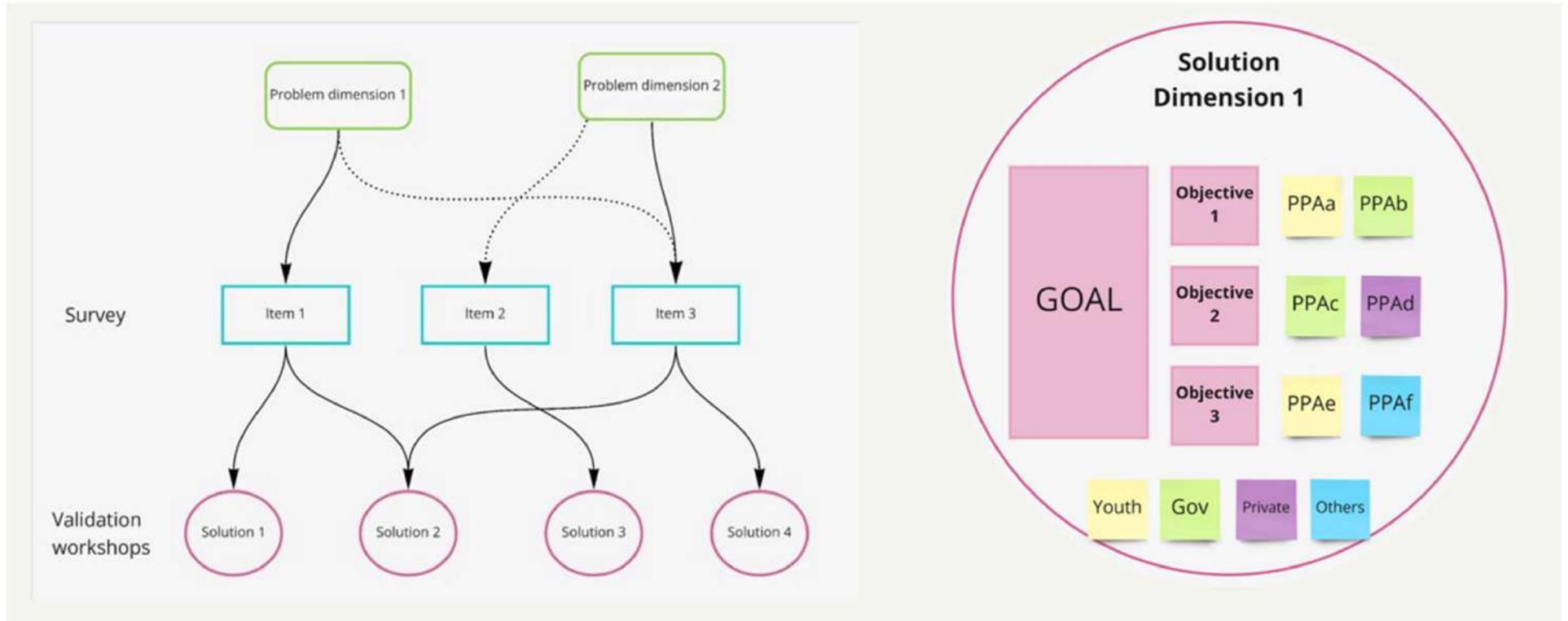
Features of YDPA



YDPA Methodology



YDPA Conceptual Model





YDPA Crafting Roadmap

Key Actors

Youth Organizations
IGOs/NGOs
UN Member States
Private Sector
Other Stakeholders

July 2022
Release of initial themes on problem dimensions and targets

July - Sept 2022
Continued YDPA validation on problem dimensions and critical actions

Oct - Dec 2022
Further validations and YDPA prioritization of critical actions

Jan - March 2023
Preliminary Commitment Building and presentation of the full version of the YDPA

March 2023
UN 2023 Water Conference
Presentation of the full version of the YDPA and finalization of the commitments





Ongoing Steps

- **Membership Launch** (July)
- **Regional Conference of Youth Asia and the Pacific (RCOY APAC)** hosted by the Government of Philippines (9-13 August).
- Global validation workshop at **One Young World** (Sept).
- Presentation of initial YDPA draft at **COY17/COP27** (Nov).
- Coalition and UN1FY mandate to organise the **Youth Summit** as precursor event to 2023 UN Water Conference (Early 2023).





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@un1fywc



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-  Instagram
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Contact us at info@un1fy.org

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WFEO Young Engineers Working Group on Climate Action: Key takeaways from international climate initiatives

Michelle Meaclem





Overview

1. Summary of the WFEO Young Engineers Working Group on Climate Action
 - a) World Federation of Engineering Organisations (WFEO)
 - b) Formation of the working group
 - c) Aims and priorities of the working group

2. Insights gained from international climate initiatives
 - a) 3 main insights gained since forming this working group





WFEO Young Engineers Working Group on Climate Action



Milda Pladaite



Kirils Holstovs



Christopher Chukwunta



Michelle Meaclem



Evangelos Pastras



Pulkit Kanotra



Micheala Chan



Karthik Viveganathan

WFEO Young Engineers / Future Leaders Committee

**WFEO Young
Engineers Working
Group on SDG 13**

Youth Representatives
from WFEO Member
Associations





Working Group Aims



Aim: to contribute to the sustainable development of countries by streamlining national initiatives carried by young engineers to contribute to United Nations targets.





2021 Outcomes

RESILIENCE
HUB

ABOUT PROGRAMME & REGISTRATION REGIONAL HUBS NEWS & VIDEO



Feature: Unlocking youth potential in water resilience and climate action



the actioneers

S1 EP2: Milda Pladaite & Chris Chukwunta
young engineers lobbying globally for climate action

S1 EP2: Milda Pladaite and Chris Chukwunta - Engineers Without Borders Australia

frans_timmermans Today concluded my first day of climate negotiations, bilaterals, and meetings with youth representatives at #COP26. We're all part of a global... more

The Guardian

Delegates and a dinosaur: penultimate day of Cop26 - in pictures

The UN secretary-general, António Guterres, holds a copy of the Cop26 joint statement of international youth organisations

Photograph: Kiara Worth/UNFCCC



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2021 Outcomes

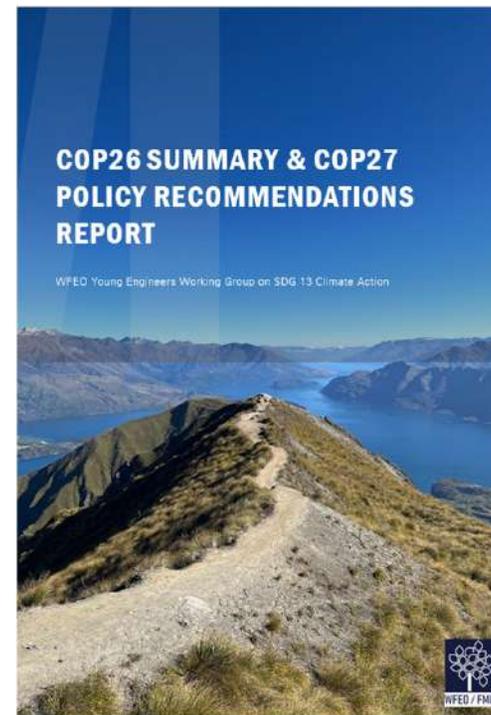


Working Group Priorities 2022

Continual partnership with young engineers from each WFEO member association, and advocacy for involvement of young engineers in climate action policy-making.

Four priority areas

1. Climate Policy Recommendations
2. Built Environment Climate Policy
3. Capacity Building for Youth and Young Professionals
4. Building and enhancing partnerships





Insights gained since forming this working group

1. Work with other youth networks to provide a unified youth voice
2. Help other young professionals and youth make an impact
3. Partner with specialists to bridge gaps

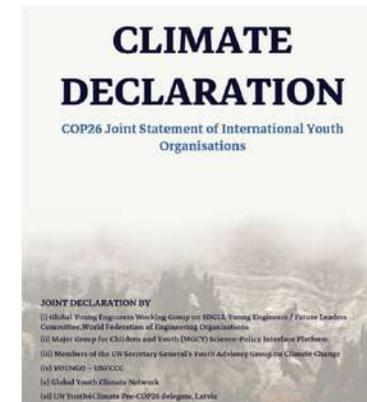




Insight 1: Work with other youth networks to provide a unified youth voice

Initiated joint declaration containing 12 policy recommendations for COP26.

- Unprecedented collaboration between key youth organisations
- Formal endorsements from NGOs such as International Secretariat for Water/Le Secrétariat international de l'eau (ISW) and Global Water Partnership (GWP)
- Shared widely with government delegations, media, NGOs, and the 2021 UNFCCC Climate Champions





Insight 1: Work with other youth networks to provide a unified youth voice

- Collaboration with young professionals and youth networks to organise intergenerational dialogues and events to amplify youth voices



- Although each network has its differences, working together enables amplified voices. Partner and learn from the diverse strengths and experiences of other networks/people.





Insight 2: Help other youth & young professionals make an impact

- There may be knowledge gaps which steering committees/networks can help bridge.
- A major observation – the barrier many youth face is understanding the structures, systems and processes around negotiations and policy-making.
- Response: capacity-building sessions to help interested youths make an impact in discussions with policy-makers (including at the UNFCCC COPs).





Insight 2: Help other youth & young professionals make an impact

- 2022 Capacity-Building sessions (in partnership with universities and specialists) that have taken place or are planned include:
 - UNFCCC Structures & Systems
 - En-ROADS Simulation: Understanding the global impact of each climate policy and action
 - Lobbying, Influencing and Negotiating Public Policies
 - Understanding UN Parties' Local Dilemmas in Global Consensus Building
 - COP27 Simulation: What to expect at COP, and how to maximize the opportunity for impact
 - Pre-COP High Level Engagements with National Parties and Business Leaders



Insight 3: Partner with specialists to bridge gaps

- Specialists to provide guidance and build understanding in knowledge gap areas.
- Our initial knowledge gaps were in the landscape of policy-making and presenting policies to policy-makers.
 - Hon. Charles Hendry
 - COP26 & Beyond
- Policy advice, for example:
 - World Green Building Council
 - ISW
 - United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth
 - Vladislav Kaim, UN Secretary General’s Youth Advisor on Climate Change
- Importance of pre-negotiation engagements with negotiating blocks

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Thank you!

Connect with our group:

Email - wfeoyefl.climateaction@gmail.com

www.wfeo.org



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Q&A

Moderator: Emily Ryan

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Closing Remarks

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