

YOUTH4CLIMATE CALLS FOR SOLUTIONS

Guidance

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INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT

In 2021, the Government of Italy hosted a Youth4Climate Summit in Milan as part of the PreCOP26 to provide young people from more than 180 countries an unprecedented opportunity to put forward ideas and concrete proposals on some of the most pressing issues on the climate agenda. What emerged from Milan was a seminal [Youth4Climate Manifesto](#): a bold plan for climate action, a bold plan for climate action with demands across four thematic areas, namely: driving ambition, sustainable recovery, non-state actors' engagement, and climate-conscious society.

The Government of Italy decided to build on the ambitious process started and initiated a partnership with the United Nations Development Programme to develop and launch a Youth4Climate initiative. As announced by Minister Cingolani (Italian Ministry of Ecological Transition, IMET) and the UNDP Administrator, Achim Steiner in May 2022, the global initiative was launched during the flagship event on 20 September 2022, on the margins of the high-level week of the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly. Following this, Italian Prime Minister Meloni referred to the importance of this initiative during her key note speech at the opening of COP27.

The initiative is meant to recognize, promote, and support youth leadership in driving ambition and powering and is articulated around three main components:

- The convening of a flagship global event to create a safe and inclusive space for meaningful youth engagement in climate action and further strengthen the global strategic positioning of the Youth4Climate agenda ([Flagship Youth4Climate: Empowering Action Event](#))
- The establishment of a global knowledge platform, which builds on peer-to-peer learning, provides new opportunities, elevates youth solutions, and promotes partnerships between youth and other stakeholders for climate action ([Youth4Climate Platform](#))
- The provision of support, including through awards to youth-led innovative solutions ([Youth4Climate Challenge](#))

GUIDELINES TO APPLY TO THE CALL FOR SOLUTIONS

UNDP's Rome office will implement the call for solutions aimed at involving young people in creating innovative solutions to address the climate crisis. The office will work closely with Italian and international institutions, such as academics, researchers, civil society groups, and private sector organizations, to identify key players who can support and exchange ideas with youth. The goal is to foster a collaborative and inclusive environment where young people can play a leading role in shaping the future of our planet.

Key Thematic Areas and partners

The call for solutions under the Youth4Climate Initiative allows young people to present their projects in four thematic areas, Urban Resilience; Energy; Food and Agriculture, and Education.

The initiative aims to provide seed funding for youth-led and youth-inclusive solutions to enhance youth leadership and action to achieve impact on the ground.

Urban Sustainability

Half of humanity lives in urban settings, and this is projected to rise to two-thirds by 2050. Urban resilience – the ability of city dwellers to withstand economic, social, health, environmental, disaster, and climate-related risks – has acquired renewed urgency and has become central to sustainable d, even climate-related. Within this context, young people represent a drive for change, and the call for solutions will challenge them to provide ideas on improving urban resilience to the effects of climate change in cities and urban settlements.

- Lead: UNDP Rome Centre
- Partners: United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), Centre for Public Impact (BCG foundation), Climate - Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC)

Energy

Most households continue to need help accessing stable, secure, affordable energy. Commodity price inflation, mainly driven by supply shocks arising from the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent policy response, has further destabilized energy access in much of Africa as household budgets are stressed, end-user energy costs rise, and planned infrastructure investments are put on hold to prioritize more urgent needs. To address this and ensure continued support towards the energy transition, this partnership seeks to support and scale-up demand/end-user side energy efficiency to maximize the benefit of household expenditures (in money and time) on electricity, cooking, cooling, and other forms of energy. Specifically, the call for solutions will seek to support youth-driven innovations to scale up energy conservation and demand-side efficiency services.

- Lead: UNDP Rome Centre, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security, UNDP Energy Partnership / UNDP Sustainable Energy Hub
- Partners: Enel Foundation (TBC), Student Energy (TBC)

Agriculture and Food

The results of the [Food System Summit 2021](#) and the Youth4climate Manifesto have highlighted the urgency to transform the world's food system and find an innovative solution that can resolve hunger, reduce diet-related diseases, and heal the planet. Climate change is putting food chain production at risk, and for many communities and young people, extreme weather events threaten their food security and livelihoods. The call for solutions will aim to invert food trends, transforming them into viable projects and business models.

- Lead: UNDP Rome Centre
- Partners: Bioversity International, International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies of Bari (CIHEAM Bari), Future Food Institute (FFI)

Education

It is increasingly recognized that education and learning are crucial to address climate change. Education is fundamental for democratic societies and vital for young people to be empowered with knowledge and drive innovation. Education can encourage people to change their attitudes and behavior, and it helps them to make informed decisions, as clearly demonstrated by young people in the Youth4Climate manifesto. The call for solutions will challenge them to focus on education to ensure the next generation's awareness of climate change and encourage the adoption of a more climate-friendly lifestyle.

- Lead: UNDP Rome Centre

Partners: United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ITCILO), Aworld, Global Climate Action, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) (TBC)

The initiative is also supported by several global partners providing advice and support across several areas, and these include the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the UN Global Compact, and the UN Volunteers (UNV)

The purpose of the call for solutions will include the following:

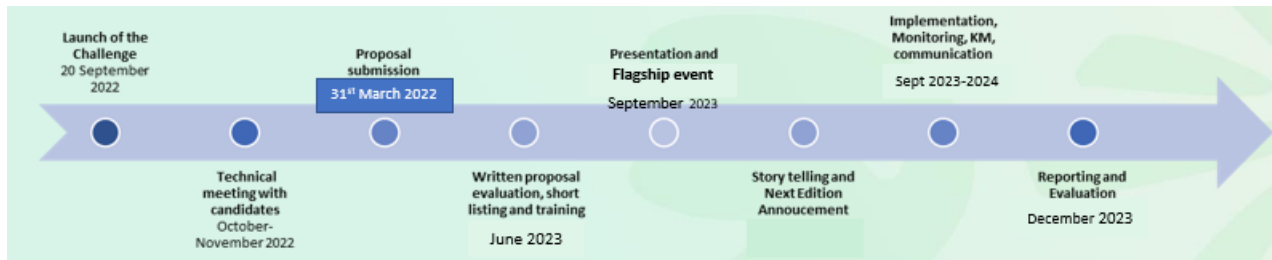
- Supporting individuals and entities to generate innovative solutions to promote climate change actions and to achieve youth development objectives
- Supporting community-based self-help initiatives, which may include income-generating activities designed to promote youth innovation
- Promoting advocacy activities and networking among individuals, civil society organizations, private sectors, research institutes, and governments
- Create a pathway for Climate youth leadership

Partners contribute in the following ways:

- Supporting the selection process for individual grants: a Selection Committee to evaluate the proposals will be established, and partners will be invited to participate. Detailed instructions will be provided on the selection criteria, the scope of work, duration, etc.
- Supporting the mentoring process: Leading or supporting mentoring programs (one-to-one, focus groups, TED talks, etc.) or training programs
- Financial or in-kind support: this may include funding for additional grants, financial or in-kind support for the mentoring and training opportunities (sponsorship or an event, hosting of an event, etc.), provision of career development opportunities in the relevant sectors (e.g., traineeships, boot camps, work experience).

SCHEDULE

Launch of the Challenge	20th September 2022 Launch of the Call for Solutions at the Youth4Climate: Powering Action event in New York.
Technical meetings	October – November 2022 The Youth4Climate Initiative hosts meetings and webinars to introduce the initiative to potential candidates and provide guidance on submitting proposals. These sessions also provide a platform for knowledge exchange, where attendees can learn from sample projects awarded grants and successful ideas implemented by young people.
Deadline to submit questions to UNDP Rome Center	16th December 2022 Questions on the application process will not be answered after COB CET on this day.
Proposal submission	31st March 2023 Proposal submission by candidates per category
Written proposal evaluation, Short-listed candidates' notification and training/meeting with partners	June-August 2023 Official communication of shortlisted candidates for the 2 nd phase of the examination. In October, shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend the Youth4Climate Flagship Event in Rome.
Flagship Event and Selection of Winners	October 2023Y4C Flagship event. The Youth4Climate Initiative's flagship event will showcase impactful and innovative youth-led project proposals. It will provide a space for dynamic discussions with relevant stakeholders and encourage engagement among young people on key themes related to climate action. The event aims to inspire and empower the next generation of leaders to drive meaningful change while identifying new priorities for future activities. One of the critical aspects of the event will be the design following next year's call for solutions, ensuring continued progress toward a sustainable future.
COP 28 Announcement next edition	December 2023 Selected winners of the Call for Solutions, along with other Y4C youth, will have the opportunity to share their lessons learned and stories at COP28. This platform will be used to launch the second edition of the call for solutions, furthering the efforts to involve young people in creating solutions to tackle the climate crisis
Implementation, Monitoring, KM, Communication	October 2023 – July 2024 Implementation, including monitoring, communication and mentoring, and exchange opportunities.
Reporting and Evaluation	October 2024 Presentation of the report of the initiative, launched in the Youth4Climate Flagship event 2024



APPLICATION PROCESS

Overall description

To provide youth-led and youth-inclusive solutions to enhance youth leadership, an Innovation Challenge will be open to solicit innovative solutions to address development challenges. The Youth4Climate Initiative allows individuals, youth-led groups, and not-for-profit organizations such as CSOs, NGOs, CBOs, and youth-led entrepreneurs to propose creative ideas for addressing the climate crisis. This opportunity is available to applicants from countries eligible for support from UNDP.

Projfromt proposals for the Youth4Climate Initiative's call for solutions must be submitted by filling out the templates (Annex 1 and Annex 2) available for download at <https://www.undp.org/romecentre/component-3>.

1. Beneficiaries

The opportunity to propose an innovative idea is open to the following:

<p>Applicants</p> <p><i>Team applications are allowed, but a Focal Point should be defined</i></p>	<p>Proposals can be submitted by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Youth-led/ focused entities based in and proposing to develop an idea in a country eligible for programmatic support by UNDP - e.g., CSOs, NGOs, CBOs, or the private sector. Minimum one person in the team should have at least three years of experience in project management. The focal point should be a young person aged 18-29 years. 2. All young people who meet the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age: be a minimum of [18] years and a maximum of [29] age at the proposal submission time. • Nationality: be a national from a country where UNDP provides programmatic support proposing an idea for implementation in a country where UNDP provides programmatic support [Here is a complete list of countries]. If a team submits the proposal, members can be countries other than those receiving programmatic support from UNDP, but not the team leader. • Language: the ability to communicate in English
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Additional information

For both, priority will be given to youth and youth organizations from marginalized and excluded communities active in climate action or initiatives advancing the needs and aspirations of marginalized/excluded young people in the spirit of “leaving no one behind” (LNOB) and “reaching those furthest behind first.”.

2. Selection criteria

The proposed ideas for the call for solutions must respect three main criteria:

- Innovation for development: the solution must adopt the most up-to-date concepts and means available to achieve change, find better ways to impact people and the planet, strengthen resilience, and build more inclusive societies.
- Sustainability: the solution must contribute to Sustainable Developments Goals and aim to create lasting impacts, to be viable in the long term, easy to replicate, and financially sustainable.
- Implementation approach: the proposed action must have a well-designed and innovative implementation approach, reflecting a clear understanding of existing efforts to address similar issues and the barriers to success.

3. Selection panel

The panels for the selection of the solutions will select the winners of the individuals and entities. The selection panels may consist of the following members:

- Representative of the Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security
- Representative from UNDP
- Representative from external partners based on thematic and geographical expertise
- Youth representatives nominated by the Youth4Climate Advisory Committee for the organization of the flagship event

4. Role of The Youth4climate Advisory Committee

The Youth4Climate Advisory Committee (AC) is invited to support the Call for Solutions process by participating in the following steps:

- Reviewing the concept and providing suggestions for improvement, to be discussed at a dedicated session of the Youth4Climate AC by the end of July 2022.
- Nominating young people to be part of the selection committees.
- Sharing suggestions on potential partners and innovative ideas for knowledge-sharing, mentoring, and training opportunities.
- Disseminating and promoting best practices and key findings from the call for solutions.

Members of the Youth4Climate AC are encouraged to provide additional suggestions on their role in supporting the initiative.

5. Evaluation method

DESCRIPTION	POINTS ALLOCATED								
1	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="280 279 1019 321">Technical Proposal (as per the outlined criteria)</td> <td data-bbox="1029 279 1430 321"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="280 321 1019 741"> Proposed Work Plan and approach: (Logical and structured scope of work with clearly defined context-specific and innovative deliverables and realistic timelines) </td> <td data-bbox="1029 321 1430 741"> 0 = no clear deliverables or unrealistic timelines 1 = unclear deliverables or challenging timelines 2 = clear deliverables and short timelines or deliverables to be further explained and adequate timelines 3 = clear deliverables and adequate timelines </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="280 741 1019 972"> Degree of Innovation Development of a new idea and/or a new approach within the local context. </td> <td data-bbox="1029 741 1430 972"> 0 = no innovation potential 1 = limited innovation potential 2 = good innovation potential 3 = high innovation potential </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="280 972 1019 1329"> Replicability and scalability Easily replicable or scalable (no significant barriers to replication and upscaling of the innovation). </td> <td data-bbox="1029 972 1430 1329"> 0 = no replicability/scalability potential 1 = limited replicability/scalability potential Two = good replicability/scalability potential 3 = high replicability/scalability potential </td> </tr> </table>	Technical Proposal (as per the outlined criteria)		Proposed Work Plan and approach: (Logical and structured scope of work with clearly defined context-specific and innovative deliverables and realistic timelines)	0 = no clear deliverables or unrealistic timelines 1 = unclear deliverables or challenging timelines 2 = clear deliverables and short timelines or deliverables to be further explained and adequate timelines 3 = clear deliverables and adequate timelines	Degree of Innovation Development of a new idea and/or a new approach within the local context.	0 = no innovation potential 1 = limited innovation potential 2 = good innovation potential 3 = high innovation potential	Replicability and scalability Easily replicable or scalable (no significant barriers to replication and upscaling of the innovation).	0 = no replicability/scalability potential 1 = limited replicability/scalability potential Two = good replicability/scalability potential 3 = high replicability/scalability potential
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		2 = good replicability/scalability potential 3 = high replicability/scalability potential
	Potential for gender equality Create the potential/likelihood to contribute to gender equality and gender mainstreaming (e.g., include both men and women stakeholders/beneficiaries).	0 = no potential for gender equality 1 = limited potential for gender equality 2 = good potential for gender equality 3 = high potential for gender equality
4	Financial evaluation: Project cost feasibility Types of expenses and their amounts fully meet the project implementation needs. The total development costs are realistic given the duration and do not exceed USD 20 000.	0 = not financially feasible 1 = limited financial feasibility 2 = good financial feasibility 3 = high financial feasibility
TOTAL TECHNICAL SCORE (Passing Rate = - 15 points)		21 pts

6. Award and modality of distribution of the financial awards

The prizes awarded will be funding for developing and implementing the solutions. Non-monetary awards will include training and capacity building to capacitate winners to create full proposals and seek additional funds to implement the initiative. Winners will be required to report on grant utilization and ensure the information available for communication and dissemination purposes.

If there is the intention to subcontract part of the work to implement the proposed solution, UNDP should be informed during the application process. A maximum of 30% of the financial award could be subcontracted.

TYPE	AWARD
Financial	Grant: max. 20.000\$
Non – Financial	Mentoring, training, publication, knowledge sharing

COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

The call for solutions will be widely advertised through various media channels and the web to ensure a strong pool of relevant and impactful applications. A comprehensive communication plan will also be developed to increase the visibility of the call, ensure transparency in the process, highlight winning solutions, and communicate the results achieved.

ANNEXE 1. Budget template

Project Title :				Year 1***					Year 2					Comments - please add any necessary clarification (e.g. travel to-from etc.) For equipment please provide as exact
Outcome*	Description**	Cost per unit	total number of units	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year 1 Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year 2 Total	
Outcome1:				0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Travel			0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Contractual Services			0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Communications & Knowledge Management			0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Equipment			0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Local Transportation			0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Shipping Costs			0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Rental costs			0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Other			0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
				0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
Outcome2:				0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Travel			0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Contractual Services			0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Communications & Knowledge Management			0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Equipment			0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Local Transportation			0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Shipping Costs			0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Rental costs			0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Other			0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
				0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00

*Please add Outcomes as appropriate in line with your proposal

** Please use, modify, or add fields as appropriate; if the area is not needed, please delete

*** The implementation of the proposal cannot be longer than two years

ANNEXE 2. Strategic Results Framework

Titles:	Output description with indicative activities	Means of Verification of output and quarter of completion	Main assumptions about output	Key Indicators - Impact indicators for outcomes, and Process indicators for outputs, with the timeframe
Outcome 1 (described baseline and change):				
Output 1.1:				
Output 1.2:				
Outcome 2 (described baseline and change):				
Output 2.1:				
Output 2.1:				
Outcome 3 (described baseline and change):				
Output 3.1:				
Output 3.2:				