



CONCEPT NOTE ON YOUTH AND CHILDREN PLATFORM ON LOSS & DAMAGE

Background:

Alongside mitigation and adaptation, Loss and Damage (L&D) has emerged as the third pillar for tackling the climate crisis, but this pillar is beset by controversies and a lack of clarity on basic principles of operationalization and strategies for financing. In the likely scenario of warmer climate in the future, proactively addressing L&D from human-induced climate change has become urgent, particularly for the world's most vulnerable communities.

The effects of climate change that people cannot adapt to are referred to as loss and damage. Every year, more and more severe extreme weather occurrences including floods, storms, droughts, and wildfires cause people to lose their lives and their means of subsistence. People who contributed the least to climate change frequently experience the most devastation. Some of the world's poorest and most downtrodden people bear the financial burden of damage to homes and communities as well as the immeasurable cost to human life, culture, and connection to the land.

In order to promote loss and damage resilience agendas on a national, regional, and international level, the Youth and Children Platform on Loss & Damage (YCPLD) is intended to develop into an intersectoral community of practice focused on youth empowerment in loss and damage. This will be accomplished through broadening the scope of youth capacity building and turning knowledge into action by connecting young people with academics, researchers, and specialists in the fields climate change and development.

The YCPLD brings together young people from the low and middle income countries especially from the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), the Least Developed Countries (LDC), the Africa Group, and finally the AILAC group of Latin American countries in Central and South America. In an enriching setting where they may share ideas and suggest initiatives to policy makers and policy actors. The platform is an opportunity for them to interact with L&D experts as well as policy negotiators and build relationships with bright young people from around the world who are committed to work with environmental sustainability and climate justice

Who we are:

We aim to establish a coalition of young people to demand action on addressing the loss and damage caused by climate change.

Our mission:

To build a borderless global partnership between youth and children to take action on addressing loss and damage especially from the vulnerable groups including the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), the Least Developed Countries (LDC), the Africa Group, and finally the AILAC group of Latin American countries in Central and South America.

Our vision:

A situation in which loss and damage effects are treated fairly. A world where rich nations tackle loss and damage with haste in order to accept responsibility for their disproportionate role in the climate problem. A society where the right of future generations to a safe climate is respected.

Objectives of the Platform:

To amplify the voices of youth and children in climate-related decision-making processes at local, national, and global levels by fostering collaboration, partnership, advocacy, and capacity-building including the following focus points:

- Drive action on loss and damage through this selective capacity building program
- Promote global youth and children participation in loss and damage decision-making
- Build the capacity of youth and children through two distinct tracks (Loss and Damage) with specialized learning processes
- Host webinar events every quarter and at least one 3-day structured course for training and learning

Expected Outcome

- The platform offers collaborative initiatives and partnerships between the platform and other like-minded actors (eg. youth-led organizations, NGOs, academia, and other stakeholders) in the field of climate change and development across the globe
- The platform facilitates knowledge sharing and learning exchange among youth and children, as well as with other stakeholders engaged in climate action
- The platform organizes a series of capacity-building and engagement activities aimed at involving young people and children in climate action.
- The platform will support the youth and children in local, national and international level negotiation and policy advocacy.

Overall, YCPLD will contribute to empower young people and children to become active agents of change in addressing the urgent challenges of climate change, building a more sustainable and resilient future for the world.

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