



THE ASIA-PACIFIC YOUTH ENVIRONMENT FORUM (APYEF) 2025

26 August 2025, hybrid forum with in-person activities in Nadi, Fiji

1. Background

In February 2021, the Global Youth Environment Assembly (GYEA) provided a self-organized space for training and capacity building for youth participating in the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA) 5.1. Thousands of children and youth from over 170 countries engaged in dialogues about critical issues in various thematic and regional contexts. Following its success, the inaugural Asia Pacific Regional Youth Environment Forum (AP-RYEF) was held in 2021, amplifying youth voices from the Asia Pacific and preparing them for UNEA-5.2 and other Regional and Global processes in environmental governance.

This regional youth forum has been recognized as a crucial platform for empowering young people in the Asia-Pacific region to engage meaningfully in the process of UNEA. Building on its success in 2021, the [2023 Asia Pacific Youth Environment Forum \(APYEF\)](#) was held from 1-2 October 2023 in a hybrid format at the UN Compound in Colombo, Sri Lanka, with significant support from the Government of Sri Lanka. The forum focused on empowering children and youth to champion their rights and contribute to a sustainable future, in alignment with the theme of UNEA-6: "Effective, inclusive, and sustainable multilateral actions to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution,".

During the APYEF 2023, more than 100 youth participants delivered the [Asia Pacific Youth Environment Manifesto 2023](#), which was presented to the Fifth Forum of Ministers and Environment Authorities of Asia Pacific (3-6 October 2023). This Manifesto was also included in the Asia Pacific region's message to UNEA-6.

This year, in alignment with the UNEA-7 theme: "Advancing Sustainable Solutions for a Resilient Planet", APYEF 2025 will continue to serve as a forum for young leaders from the Asia-Pacific region to strengthen their capacity building and participation in the decision-making process, ensuring equitable and inclusive engagement across all sectors. The forum prioritizes cooperation, sustainability, resilience, and innovation in addressing climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, and other pressing challenges in the region.

The APYEF 2025 output will also feed into the Regional Consultation Meeting, which is a high-level dialogue involving environment ministers, civil society, and youth. APYEF will be crucial for finalizing the Asia-Pacific Youth Roadmap on Sustainability, Environment, and Resilience in collaboration with UNEP ROAP. It will detail the youth-led vision activities and engagement plans pre- and post-UNEA 7, including the implementation and scaling of youth-led activities across the region through knowledge sharing and capacity building.

2. Objectives

The main objective of the Asia-Pacific Youth Environment Forum 2025 is to provide a self-organized space for training and capacity building to support youth participating in UNEA-7 and the Sixth Forum of Ministers and Environment Authorities of Asia Pacific. The forum will be organized and run by youth for youth.

The broad objectives of APYEF are as follows:

1. Strengthen linkages between youth-led actions and Global Sustainability Goals: Ensure that youth initiatives align with and contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and UNEA-7 priorities.
2. Training on Policy Interventions: Build capacity and provide training for Asia-Pacific youth to contribute meaningfully to high-level negotiations that encompass environmental, social, and political dimensions.
3. Capacity-Building and Knowledge Sharing for Strategic Action: Provide capacity-building opportunities on key regional issues, including skills-based training for strategic action.
4. Activism and Network Development: Creating a platform for young people and youth organizations from the Asia Pacific region to share perspectives and demands at UNEA-7, ensuring their views contribute to the decision-making processes.
5. Support the First Ministerial Forum in the Pacific Region: Facilitate youth engagement in the First Ministerial Forum in the Pacific Region, to be held in Fiji, by providing policy insights, capacity-building opportunities, and a space for Asia-Pacific youth to contribute to regional environmental governance discussions.
6. Inputs to the Asia Pacific Senior Officials Meeting (SOM), Major Groups and Stakeholders, and Ministerial Forum: APYEF will compile and submit the outcome document to the forum to the Asia Pacific Senior Officials Meeting (SOM), Major Group and Stakeholders, and Ministerial Forum, ensuring the representation of youth voices in high-level regional discussions.

3. Expected Outputs/Outcomes

- **Regional Youth Manifesto:** A comprehensive statement representing the collective voice of youth from the Asia Pacific region. This statement will be delivered during the Asia-Pacific Youth Environment Forum (APYEF) 2025.
- **APYEF 2025 Outcome Document:** A document outlining the outcomes of APYEF 2025, incorporating the inputs provided by youth participants. This document will be presented to the Asia-Pacific SOM (Senior Officials Meeting), Major Groups and Stakeholder (MGS) Forum, and the Ministerial Forum. The outcome document will also serve as a tool for advocacy at both national and regional level platforms.
- **Promotion of ongoing engagement:** Active promotion of the necessity of children and youth engagement in the development and implementation of policies and practices aimed at building resilience against environmental hazards. This will also include the inputs and the youth engagement that has happened to date for UNEA-7. This will also help ensure the further inclusion of youth perspectives in decision-making processes.
- **Coherence with policy processes:** Ensuring the alignment and coherence of youth inputs with policy processes leading up to UNEA-7 and other relevant environmental governance processes within the United Nations.
- **Inputs collation and presentation:** Gathering inputs from youth participants and collating them into a concise and impactful report to be presented at the Ministerial Forum. This report will serve as a summary of youth perspectives and recommendations.
- **Reporting outcomes:** Reporting the outcomes of the Youth Call to Action and Declaration to the CPR Process (Conference of Parties to the Regional Seas Programmes), Global Youth Environmental Assembly, and the Global MGS (Major Groups and Stakeholders) Forum. This dissemination will ensure that youth perspectives and recommendations reach a wider audience and contribute to global environmental discussions.

4. Target Participants

60-70 onsite participants and 200 virtual participants.

Eligibility & Representation:

APYEF 2025 aims to ensure diverse, inclusive, and representative participation with a balance between genders and Asia Pacific States.

i) Children and Youth

- Youth advocates and environmental leaders aged between 18-35 years old
- Children and youth organizations from across at least 5 subregions of the Asia-Pacific, representing diversity in socio-economic status, gender, disability, and intersectional identities at local/national/regional/global levels.

ii) Member States, Major Groups and Stakeholders (MGS) and other partners

- Policy-makers, representing their national disaster management authorities, education, and other authorities
- Researchers attending as individuals or representing academic institutions or groups
- Practitioners attending on behalf of intergovernmental and civil society organizations
- Pioneering industry leaders joining to represent financial contributions in the climate and environmental policy sector
- Representation of Member States, NGOs, and other stakeholders

5. Forum Structure (Preliminary Agenda)

Date: 26 August 2025

Time: 09:00 – 19:00 (Fiji Time, UTC+12:00)

Duration: 10 hours

Time	Agenda
9:00	Opening Plenary
10:00	Capacity Building Session
10:45	Coffee Break
11:15	Thematic Youth Dialogue 1
12:15	Lunch and Networking
13:15	Capacity Building Session
14:00	Thematic Youth Dialogue 2
15:00	Coffee Break
15:30	Thematic Youth Dialogue 3
16:30	Final Consultation of the Asia-Pacific Youth Manifesto
18:00	Closing Plenary and Declaration of AP Youth Manifesto 2025