



ECOSOC
YOUTH FORUM

YOUTH2030

Economic and Social Council Youth Forum

**“Youth shaping sustainable and innovative solutions:
Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in
times of crises”**

SIDE EVENT AT THE 2024 ECOSOC YOUTH FORUM

Greening Higher Education Institutions: bridging SDGs 4 and 13

Organized by UNESCO IESALC – UNOSSC

**In collaboration with the UNESCO SDG4 Youth & Student
Network, National Geographic Learning, University of Helsinki,
Education Above All, and Technological University Dublin**

[April 18, 2024, 1:30 - 3:00 PM EST]

Hybrid:

- **In person: Doha CR, UNOSSC Office, 304 E 45th Street, FF-11th FL**
- **Online: On zoom**

1. Background

The current climate issue poses a significant threat to our world, needing fast action and inventive ways to mitigate its effects. Harnessing the resources of higher education institutions

and cooperating with partners is critical in providing education stakeholders and young people with the skills and knowledge they need to confront this problem successfully. Furthermore, the shift to a sustainable society requires the incorporation of green concepts into science, technology, and innovation (STI).

This panel discussion, which focuses on Sustainable Development Goals 4 (Quality Education) and 13 (Climate Action), intends to emphasize the necessity of providing education stakeholders and communities with the knowledge they need to drive a green transformation. It also aims to highlight the significance of youth-led projects in building green STI projects for a sustainable future. The main goal of this effort is to foster a sustainable and environmentally conscious society, building the basis for a better tomorrow for future generations. By preparing education stakeholders and young people to be change agents, we can maximize their ability to guide sustainable development activities and successfully tackle environmental issues.

2. Objectives of the side event, including relation with the SDGs identified in the Guidelines

- Highlight successful initiatives in promoting green skilling and the transfer of green STI for sustainable development.
- Explore the opportunities youth and other stakeholders have in driving environmental initiatives and fostering partnerships.
- Discuss strategies to equip education stakeholders, provide them with resources, and create an enabling environment for green and sustainable partnership.
- Promote collaborations and partnerships among youth, students' academia, industries, and policymakers to scale up green initiatives.
- Share advancements on the South-South Cooperation Network and the Greening Higher Education Pilot Project

- Promote initiatives on Greening Education centered around pedagogies, communities, students, and young people.

3. Program and names of speakers/panelists

▪ **Speakers**

- Mr. Francesc Pedro (Director, UNESCO IESALC)
- Ms. Dima Al-Khatib (Director, UNOSSC)
- Ms. Elina Tanninen (Sustainability and Responsibility Coordinator, University of Helsinki)
- Mr. Erik Gundersen (Global Partnerships Senior Director, National Geographic Learning)
- Mr. Moazzam Syed (PhD Candidate, Technological University Dublin & Member, UNESCO SDG4 Youth & Student Network)
- Mr. Oweis Al-Salahi (Founder, SDGeneration Network & Representative, Education Above All)
- Ms. Serena McCalla (iResearch Corporation Founder, National Geographic Explorer)
- Mr. Fabio Friscia (Adolescent Development and Participation Manager, UNICEF)
- Ms. Bosen Lily Liu (UNESCO IESALC Head of partnership and UN Liaison)

- **Moderators:** Mr. Francesc Pedro (UNESCO IESALC Director) and Ms. Bosen Lily Liu (UNESCO IESALC Head of partnership and UN Liaison)

4. Guiding Questions for discussion/s

- What are the key opportunities and challenges encountered when driving environmental initiatives at institutional level and seeking to establish partnerships in this field?
- From many of your success stories working on greening schools and institutions, can you recommend effective ways to work on green university and transfer of green science, technology, and innovation (STI) for sustainable development?
- How can we best equip and support young people, education stakeholders, and students to build green and sustainable partnerships?

5. Venue Address (if In-person) and/or Platform to be used for virtual side events including Registration link:

- **In-person participation (Registration required)**

Doha CR, UNOSSC Office, 304 E 45th Street, FF-11th FL

Registration link: <https://forms.office.com/e/JAPReq1hvX>

Due to limited room capacity, registration will close once the room reaches full capacity or by April 16th 11h59 PM New York time, whichever occurs first. On the day of the event, please ensure you arrive on time as admission to the room will be granted on a first-come, first-served basis for **registered** participants.

- **Virtual participation:**

Registration link: https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_L47tknSXRkCCucz5-2bAg



Microsoft Forms

