



Recommendations

International Youth Conference on Democracy and Climate Change



September 26–28, 2025
Duisburg, Germany

United Nations

WE RECOMMEND:

- Children and youth have a right to clean and safe water. COP30 is the deadline for countries' new NDCs, they need to show more children responsive climate action. Children's rights to health, life and a safe environment is compromised due to water and air pollution. The NDCs need to ensure that at the local level the right to a healthy environment is implemented with strong national climate policies centered on children's rights.
- Governments should mandate youth participation in the design, monitoring, and evaluation of resilience policies both in the NDCs and NAPs.
- Financial Support for poorer countries affected by climate change from rich countries like Germany to finance the Knowledge and Awareness Programmes for children in youth like in the UN General Comment 26.
- Child and Youth participation: Empower children and youth to become peer educators with meaningful participation including access to main conferences and decisionmaking.

Government of South Africa

WE RECOMMEND:

Develop climate-resilient infrastructure. Prioritize faster reconstruction after disasters with a focus on children's rights. Address corruption to protect and strengthen children's rights. Involve children's voices in post-disaster efforts to ensure their problems are recognized. Allocate reconstruction funds specifically for child-focused recovery efforts.

Government of Brazil

WE RECOMMEND:

Integrate environmental education into the school curriculum to teach youth about environmental aspects, consequences, and how to fight for children's rights. Municipalities must take action by allocating public budgets to disseminate preventive methods and critical environmental education. Implement laws to preserve areas, engage children and youth in environmental practices, and ensure sustainable water management. Improve infrastructure in peripheral areas to secure water supply and other essential services. Stop deforestation and reduce monocultures, while promoting traditional building methods and environmentally

- Governments must commit to a just energy transition that rapidly phases out fossil fuels while massively scaling up renewable energy, ensuring access for all communities. This transition must also include a ban on plastic burning, which releases toxic pollution, and instead prioritize investment in recycling and circular economy systems that protect children's health and the environment.
- National Adaptation plans should put children and youth at their centre. They should include a children and youth responsive resilience strategy with more adaptation finance dedicated to the well-being and recovery of children.
- Loss and Damage Fund should have special allocation of recovery fund for children.

Government of Sri Lanka

WE RECOMMEND:

The government must implement laws to reduce plastic waste, promote plastic alternatives, and reward recycling measures. Educate school students and teachers about climate change, and make climate education mandatory in schools. Raise awareness among all people, especially children and youth, about the climate crisis. The government should finance initiatives and organizations focused on this.

Stop using fossil fuels and transition to natural-based solutions like wind, solar, and water energy. Reduce taxes for renewable energy and seek funding from developed countries for renewable energy projects.

friendly materials in the construction sector. Conduct risk assessments in areas affected by climate change and prepare risk reduction plans. Ensure transparency in the use of public funds for nature and environmental protection, with mandatory reporting and specific percentage allocations. Include civil society in decision-making processes to ensure their voices are heard and they have access to public resources.

Government of Moldova

WE RECOMMEND:

Launch an online campaign about pollution to raise awareness. Key message: Save the children by stopping water and air pollution. Goals: Ensure access to clean water so children don't get sick. Public water supply should be clean to prevent people from getting sick. Recycle plastic waste instead of burning it, as burning causes air pollution that makes children sick.

Government of Germany

WE RECOMMEND:

Appoint a state commissioner for education to focus on early education about climate change, ensuring access to information and easy participation. The federal ministry should strengthen public transportation to reduce emissions. Build structures for companies to achieve climate neutrality, supporting research and innovation in climate solutions.

Underwritten by

**Young climate activists from Brazil, Sri Lanka,
South Africa, Moldova and Germany**



Sri Lanka **UNITES**
Youth Movement for Hope and Reconciliation

