



## Asia-Pacific Regional Convening Ahead of the Summit of the Future: Young People at the Forefront

# Call to Action

22-24 August **2024**

## WHO WE ARE

We are an intersectional group of 82 young people from 21 countries<sup>1</sup> across Asia and the Pacific region. We represent activists, advocates, innovators, youth-led, youth-serving, and feminist organisations, changemakers, social entrepreneurs, and students who have gathered together for the Asia Pacific Regional Convening ahead of the Summit of the Future held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 22-24th of August, 2024.

Together, we comprise unique and diverse individuals ranging from ages 18-30, across all backgrounds and identities including persons with disabilities, persons with various sexual orientations and gender identities and expressions, youth from ethnic and minority groups, and various socio-economic backgrounds. We hope that this call to action reflects our collective voice and demands, and that our representation at this regional convening is indicative of the strength of young people's commitment to the attainment of the sustainable development goals as well as upcoming future frameworks such as the outcomes of the Summit of the Future, Second World Summit For Social Development and Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4). We engaged in a series of plenary, panel discussions and co-creation of dialogue on diverse themes including the chapters of the Pact for the Future to bring the recommendations together through this Call to Action.

This Asia-Pacific Regional Convening ahead of the Summit of the Future: Young People at the Forefront Call to Action puts forward our recommendations and outlines our demands regarding Sustainable Development and Financing for Development;

Co-convened by:



In collaboration:



In partnership:



International Peace and Security; Science, Technology, Innovation and Digital Cooperation; Transforming Global Governance; Climate Change; and Human Rights and Gender Equality in alignment with the chapters of the Pact for the Future and its annexes that will be negotiated and endorsed at the Summit of the Future in September 2024.

This Young People Call to Action was developed by a dedicated drafting team<sup>2</sup> who worked on behalf of all the participants to capture the key discussion points and demands in the regional convening.

We bring your attention to the fact that a renewed international consensus that we are working to build is only possible by taking into account the realities and demands of young people. Decisions for current and future generations can only be made with a concerted effort to include youth voices in all their diversities at all levels of decision-making. Through this Call to Action, we call upon all our governments and stakeholders not to overlook the issues collectively faced by over 60% of the world's youth who live in Asia and the Pacific and to address our demands.

## BACKGROUND

With a concerted effort of countries worldwide, a multilateral system was built after 1945 to protect future generations from another world war and its devastating impact. Although we have not seen wars of that intensity since then, we are currently witnessing newer forms of transnational issues and conflicts.

In 2020, a global pandemic caused millions of deaths and exposed the vulnerabilities of our health system and faults in our social structures. The inequalities between the rich and poor have widened even more since then and the economy has not fully recovered yet. A report by the International Labour Organisation<sup>3</sup> mentions that an increase in the global unemployment rate will translate into an increase in unemployment of 2 million more people in 2024. The outlook is broadly consistent across income groups, and each country group is expected to see an increase in unemployment. The same report<sup>4</sup> showed that in 2023, the youth unemployment rate (13.3%), far exceeded that of adults (3.9%) globally.

Asia faces an increased number and intensity of conflicts, geopolitical tensions, violence, and a decline in human rights as governments fail to deliver accountability in upholding basic human rights. People are losing their trust in international institutions as these institutions are losing their legitimacy for failing to protect the rights of people. We are seeing political unrest in many countries across the region because of the degrading economy, youth unemployment, the rise of autocratic tendencies across governments, and the failure of states to address the fundamental problems being faced by people, especially the youth.

Asia, the continent which is home to around 4.8 billion<sup>5</sup> people in the world, is warming faster than the global average.<sup>6</sup> In 2022 alone, more than 5,000 people lost their lives, more than 50 million people were directly affected and there was more than USD 36 billion worth of economic damage due to weather, climate, and water-related disasters in Asia.<sup>7</sup> The Pacific, which is not responsible for even 1% of the total emissions that contribute to global warming, is facing its impacts disproportionately.





Advancements in the digital arena bring us wider opportunities and challenges at the same time. Young people are the largest users of the internet today<sup>8</sup> and yet a large number of them are still not connected digitally. Socio-economic, and geographical factors continue to be the barriers in reducing the digital divide across Asia Pacific, resulting in the growing inequality between the different segments of the society. On the other hand, we do not have a proper governance mechanism to deal with the challenges of fast-growing technologies.

We bring this Asia-Pacific Regional Convening ahead of the Summit of the Future: Young People at the Forefront Call to Action at a critical time when we are hoping to build a reformed international system with renewed trust in international governance and human rights. The Summit of the Future (SotF), is seen as an opportunity to deliver a blueprint for sustaining the present and future generations and to serve as a platform to discuss the much-needed international cooperation to tackle the current and future interconnected national, regional, and global challenges through an effective multilateral system. In light of this, and in realisation of its importance in defining the pathways for current and future generations, including accelerating progress towards implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we hope that the voices of young people are recognised and the recommendations put forward through this Regional Youth Call to Action Ahead of the Summit of the Future will be reflected in the Pact for the Future and the annexes.

## **WE URGE MEMBER STATES TO ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING PRIORITY ISSUES**

### **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT**

#### **SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS**

The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, escalating conflicts, geopolitical tensions and growing climate chaos have severely thrown the achievement of SDGs off track with only 17% of the SDGs targets being on track, nearly half showing minimal or moderate progress, and over one-third being stalled or regressing.<sup>9</sup> The Asia-Pacific region is set to achieve only one-third of the necessary progress by 2030. Current estimates show these will not be reached before 2062, at least 32 years behind schedule.<sup>10</sup>

The region also faces challenges in data availability and quality, which are crucial for effective regulation and the development of sustainable finance. There is an urgent need for consistent, comparable, and granular data to inform sustainable development including gender equality and climate-related financial decisions. Investments in capacity building across the financial sector, particularly in understanding and managing climate risks, are also essential to ensure a smooth transition towards a sustainable economy.

The creation of new, scalable climate finance partnerships, such as the Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETPs) recently launched in Indonesia and Vietnam,<sup>11</sup> offers a promising model for the region. These partnerships can help align national commitments with international financial flows, thereby bridging the gap between policy intentions and on-the-ground actions. However, for such models to be effective, they require strong collaboration between governments, regulators, and private financial institutions from the early stages of project development.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Sustainable Development in a Post-COVID World

- Expand sustainable development beyond the traditional economic, social, and environmental dimensions to fully include the 5Ps - People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnership.
- Ensure meaningful participation of children, youth, and young key populations in implementing the 2030 Agenda.
- Ensure peace, nonviolent, and a holistic economy that puts poverty eradication, environment, and nature first, prioritising people, children and youth and not profit.

### Ensuring Dignity and Intersectionality for All Young People

- Ensure dignity for all young people, particularly informal youth workers and communities discriminated against based on their work and descent. This involves creating fair employment opportunities, protecting their rights against exploitation, and challenging the social stigmas that perpetuate discrimination.
- Create a dedicated process under the framework of the UN that is focused on the rights of the communities discriminated against on work and descent.
- Invest in youth to end poverty and curb exploitative labor migration to developing countries, emphasising capacity enhancement and skill-based initiatives at the national level. This involves mainstreaming youth issues and indicators within development funding and establishing uniform finance standards, primarily when young people work with organisations from the Global North.
- Ensure full and meaningful participation of young people in the planning, development, implementation and evaluation of gender and Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) policies and programmes.
- Establish youth advisory boards within organisations and government institutions.
- Support youth-led advocacy groups and initiatives that focus on advancing gender equality, human rights, and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR).

- Implement local level activities recognising that access to quality education remains uneven, with significant disparities between urban and rural areas and across socio-economic groups.
- Apply an intersectional lens while working with the diverse youth and ensure every identities are counted and their voices are heard.
- The Asia Pacific UN Interagency Mechanism on Youth (APINY) must ensure the co-leadership of youth constituencies and involvement of youth constituencies and organisations across all the working groups.

### Inclusive, Youth-responsive and GEDSI-responsive Financing

- Ensure that youth-led organisations, particularly those representing rights-holders such as women, persons with disabilities, LGBTIQ+ people and Indigenous peoples, have access to fair, consistent and adequate funding.
- Simplify the criteria for accessing funds and ensure the protection of their freedom of expression. While adequate investment in youth is crucial, current barriers such as language, bureaucracy, and technology, often hinder their access to these resources. Reducing these obstacles will make funding more accessible to young people.
- Establish designated agenda items in the discussions of the Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and multilateral funds, inviting contributions from youth groups, marginalised groups and rights holders. This mechanism will empower these groups to actively participate in and benefit from sustainable development initiatives, ultimately leading to more inclusive growth.
- Channel funding from United Nations (UN) agencies, including UN Country Teams through universal constituencies, drawing on existing models seen in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), International Organisation for Migration (IOM), and other similar spaces, rather than supporting only a few large and well-funded organisations.
- Recognise women's unpaid care work as the backbone in reproducing and sustaining societies and economies.
- Prioritise youth SRHR education and address insufficient investment and funding in Rural and Remote areas needs.

### **Long-term Financing Commitments and Urgent Reform of Financial Architecture**

- Establish long-term financing commitments that ensure sustained support for sustainable development initiatives. This includes setting up trust funds, endowments, or other financial instruments that provide stable funding over decades across developing and developed countries.
- Reform the international financial architecture, especially the boards of the Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) for a rights-based and people-centered approach to global economic governance.
- Develop a binding and transparent multilateral debt workout mechanism with a process convening all – bilateral, multilateral, and private – creditors within the UN that would comprehensively address unsustainable and illegitimate debt, including through extensive debt cancellation and reparations.
- End austerity measures and rechannel public financing to universal social protection including universal health and education coverage and end inequalities.
- Establish and ensure an inclusive and just UN Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation. Formulate binding, regulatory framework for businesses based on international human rights law and end all corporate-driven public private partnerships, and demand transparency and accountability from governments. Transform international trade and investment rules to facilitate Development Justice.
- Leverage emerging technologies like blockchain and AI that can create more efficient, transparent, and accountable financing systems, reducing barriers to fund access and improving project monitoring for sustainable development.
- The World Social Summit (WWS) 2025 must ensure that the fund is available to further advance SDGs implementation specially or including the island region and Geographical Isolated and Disadvantaged Area (GIDA).

### **Cross-sectoral Financing for Integrated Issues**

- Promote cross-sector financing approaches that address interconnected challenges like food security, health, and environmental sustainability to maximise the impact on multiple SDGs. Encourage multi-stakeholder collaboration, bringing together governments, NGOs, the private sector, and international organisations to pool resources and expertise.
- Develop and implement financing strategies that prioritise climate resilience, particularly in vulnerable regions. This includes supporting climate adaptation projects and ensuring that financial flows align with the goals of the Paris Agreement. Promote climate resilience through utilising private equity markets in combating climate change (green finance), globalising green bonds, wildlife bonds and ocean bonds through private equity markets.
- Develop comprehensive strategies that align funding across sectors, focusing on programmes for youth employment, education, and migration.
- Support innovative financing mechanisms, including public-private partnerships, blended finance, and initiatives that empower youth.

## **PEACE AND SECURITY**

### **SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS**

The Asia-Pacific region is grappling with a significant rise in conflicts and geopolitical tensions, driven by economic disparities, historical grievances, and competition for resources. These conflicts have resulted in substantial civilian casualties and displaced millions, making the region one of the key destinations in refugee and internally displaced populations. According to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) report,<sup>12</sup> human rights protections are also in decline, with many governments implementing restrictive measures that suppress dissent and target minority groups. Over 60% of the population lives under severe human rights restrictions, leading to widespread social unrest and a growing mistrust in national and international institutions.<sup>13</sup>

Young people, who are disproportionately affected by these conflicts, are often excluded from peace processes. Despite being key stakeholders, their exclusion perpetuates cycles of violence and instability. Evidence shows that countries involving youth in peace processes see a significant reduction in conflict recurrence, highlighting the importance of youth engagement in peacebuilding.

Trust in international institutions is eroding, particularly among the youth, with less than 30% believing these institutions represent their interests.<sup>14</sup> The COVID-19 pandemic further exacerbated these issues, particularly in the least developed countries and small island developing states. This has strained public health systems, deepened economic disparities, and weakened confidence in international cooperation.

The region is also witnessing increased militarisation, with a 30% rise in defence spending over the past decade, heightening the risk of armed conflict.<sup>15</sup> The proliferation of advanced military technologies has increased the danger of conflicts escalating into full-scale wars. Non-state actors, including extremist groups, are exploiting regional instability, leading to a 15% increase in violent incidents, significantly impacting civilian populations.<sup>16</sup>

Additionally, the rapid advancement of digital technologies presents new security challenges, with cyber-attacks targeting critical infrastructure, government systems, and financial institutions. These attacks have caused significant economic losses, estimated at over \$1 trillion annually.<sup>17</sup> The digital divide further exacerbates security risks, as over 2 billion people in the region lack reliable internet access,<sup>18</sup> limiting their participation in the digital economy and exacerbating social inequalities. Yet, these same technological advancements have also enabled better monitoring and early warning systems for conflicts and natural disasters, which have contributed to a 20% reduction in disaster-related fatalities in high-risk areas over the past five years.<sup>19</sup> While the challenges are significant, these positive developments demonstrate the potential for technology to play a crucial role in enhancing regional stability and resilience, offering a pathway to mitigate some of the region's most pressing security issues.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Enhancing Meaningful Youth Participation in Peacebuilding

- Implement policies through mechanisms that mandate active youth involvement (UNSCR 2250, UNSCR 55/17 and UNSCR 61/106) in peacebuilding and conflict resolution efforts across the Asia-Pacific region. This should include formal roles for young individuals and organisations in peace committees and decision-making processes.

### Strengthening Governance for Resilience

- Promote and finance the establishment of transparent, accountable, accessible, and inclusive governance frameworks across the region. This includes enhancing the rule of law, implementing anti-corruption measures, and ensuring marginalised communities, including gender-diverse groups (UNSCR 1325 and UNSCR 1820), have a stake in decision-making.
- Ensure financial resources are allocated to support the implementation and monitoring of these governance frameworks.

### Digital Literacy and Civic Engagement Enhancement

- Implement (UNSCR 74/197) targeted legislation in collaboration with public and private sectors to effectively combat hate speech (UNSCR 73/328) and misinformation while enhancing digital and AI literacy (UNGA 78/L.49) and strengthening the communities/officials with the skills needed to critically assess online content and participate in democratic processes. Additionally, ensure that these capabilities are maintained during internet restrictions by providing offline resources and alternative communication networks.

### Ensuring Early Warning and Response System

- Ensure effective advance warning mechanisms (UNSCR 2171) for the respective countries and parties involved to strengthen an effective and timely response to the situations and reduce the possible huge impact in domestic and international settings.
- Post-conflict, focus on rehabilitation and reintegration by rebuilding infrastructure, restoring livelihoods, and providing psychological support to affected populations, ensuring communities can recover and thrive after crises.

## SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND DIGITAL COOPERATION

### SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Science, technology, and innovation (STI) have the greatest potential to enhance the efficiency, effectiveness, and impact of our efforts to meet the goals of the 2030 Agenda and create benefits for society, the economy, and the environment. Over the last several decades, several innovations have been invented and have spread persistently over the world, improving health, offering financial opportunities, and tackling climate change. Examples of these inventions include pneumococcal vaccinations, microfinance, and green technology. A world where ideas, information, and data move more freely than ever before has been brought about by digital technologies like smartphones and the Internet. This has opened new opportunities for open, collaborative approaches to innovation and given rise to truly inclusive innovation.<sup>20</sup>

Even though STI has been widely acknowledged to have transformative potential, it is still unclear how Least Developed Countries (LDCs) can use it to achieve inclusive and sustainable development. It is not possible for LDCs to simply spend considerably in Research and Development (R&D) activities and build world-class institutions and infrastructure given their restricted financial resources.<sup>21</sup>

Digital technologies are drastically changing our realities. But far too many people worldwide lack access to vital life-changing technology, particularly the most vulnerable and impoverished in emerging nations.<sup>22</sup> Science and technology cannot remain the exclusive domain of a select few if we are to keep our promise to leave no one behind. Technologies that have the potential to improve society and make our planet more sustainable must be available to all.

Asia and the Pacific have emerged as a global leader in innovation. Before the pandemic, the region was responsible for over 50% of patents worldwide, with 60% of those related to computers and digital technology.<sup>23</sup> A small number of frontier nations in these regions invested almost as much in R&D as the majority of inventive economies globally, which

propelled it to rise as a global centre of innovation. In line with its reputation as a “manufacturing powerhouse,” the region employs almost two-thirds of the global workforce in the industrial robot industry. Through increased imports of high-tech products and the issuance of more patents to nonresidents, Asian emerging nations have profited from the diffusion of technology, bolstered by advancements in human capital and digital infrastructure.<sup>24</sup>

### RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Strengthening Public Digital Infrastructure

- Governments and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) must prioritise investments in public digital infrastructure to ensure equitable and inclusive access to technology and data in marginalised and rural communities.
- Cross-border collaboration in sharing intellectual property for data and technology infrastructure is essential to bridge the gaps between developed and developing nations and to actively engage in the digital economy.
- Urge regional agencies to allocate funding and action to build and protect digital infrastructure, especially internet coverage in marginalised and stateless communities.

#### Promoting Digital Inclusivity

- Address the digital gap by encouraging both the private and public sectors to engage in capacity-building initiatives that includes children, women and marginalised communities in digital and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields with up-to-date information, while ensuring ample employment opportunities for these groups.
- Enforce comprehensive laws to combat technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TF-GBV), ensuring that digital spaces are safe, secure and inclusive for all.
- Increase accessibility to technology and invest in better infrastructure for underserved areas, specifically addressing internet access, communication devices, access to education, applications to report GBV incidents and more.

### Enhancing Data and Research Accessibility

- Allocate funds to ensure local governments and CSOs have the necessary resources for research, while ensuring that data captures a comprehensive view of key parameters crucial for understanding the effects of marginalisation.
- Encourage the translation of research findings into local languages to facilitate actionable outcomes and promote inclusive policy-making.
- Increase funding for youth-led R&D projects in AI, ensuring that innovations are aligned with regional priorities and global sustainability goals.

### Fostering Public-Private Partnerships

- Encourage stronger collaboration between public and private sectors, particularly in technology transfer from developed nations to developing countries.
- Enhance investments for youth-led startups to promote social and tech entrepreneurship.
- Engage in cross-cultural exchanges to promote a more inclusive and digitally literate society.
- Expand digital cooperation platforms that facilitate youth participation in global tech dialogues, policy development, and ethical AI governance.

### Safe and Inclusive Online Spaces

- Implement policies that use AI and other technological tools to detect and remove harmful content and misinformation swiftly, fostering safe digital environments for all, including women and marginalised groups.
- Initiate policies that reduce nomophobia (digital addiction) to ensure digital safety and good mental health.

### Engaging Scientists and Experts in Policy-Making

- In the Asia-Pacific region, it is crucial to actively engage scientists and field experts throughout the policy-making process to address the region's unique challenges. This ensures that policies are informed by the latest research, tailored to local contexts, and grounded in data-driven evidence. By prioritising evidence-based decision-making, member states can create effective, sustainable policies that address complex issues and its nexus such as climate change, public health, and technological innovation, while fostering inclusive growth and development across the region.

### Data Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities

- In alignment with the UN's principle of "Leaving No One Behind," it is imperative for member states in the Asia-Pacific region to ensure that data and digital platforms, especially government and intergovernmental websites, are accessible to persons with disabilities. This can be achieved through the adoption of universal design principles that accommodate diverse needs. It is essential to engage in formal consultations with individuals from the disability community to ensure their specific needs are addressed in the design and implementation of technologies, thereby fostering inclusivity and equal access to information.

### Ethical AI and Digital Technologies

- Encourage the responsible development and use of AI and emerging technologies. Governments and CSOs should establish ethical guidelines to ensure AI systems are transparent, non-discriminatory, and aligned with human rights while not hampering development significantly. The Asia-Pacific region could also collaborate on AI governance frameworks to address concerns about misuse, bias, ensuring data privacy and data security.
- Establish ethical and regulated AI Youth Innovation Labs in line with human rights principles; create specialised labs focused on AI and emerging technologies, providing young innovators with the resources, mentorship, and tools needed to drive technological advancements.
- Incorporate AI ethics into educational curricula to ensure responsible development and deployment of technology by future generations.





## **CLIMATE CHANGE**

### **SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS**

The Asia-Pacific region faces significant challenges in achieving the SDGs by 2030, particularly in the context of climate change. Climate crises has become a significant threat to the Asia-Pacific region, due to its countries' vulnerability based on the geographical diversity and socio-economic factors. Geographical diversity means the region covers all climate zones from tropical to high mountains to polar and experiences a wide range of weather and climate patterns, from monsoons in Southeast Asia to tropical cyclones in the Pacific. This makes the Asia-Pacific susceptible to a daunting spectrum of natural hazards that can threaten the community. Additionally, the socio-economic factors such as population growth, urbanisation, and poverty aggravate the vulnerability of the region and reduce its resilience to the climate crisis.

The region is the most populous and fastest-growing economies in the world, making it the largest contributor to half of the world's greenhouse emissions. The region also still relies heavily on fossil fuel as the main source of energy, as it contributes to around 85% of total energy consumption in the Asia-Pacific. However, all of the Asia-Pacific countries have committed to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions through their nationally determined contributions (NDCs). There are 12 member States that have submitted more than two NDC updates, each with varying levels of emissions reduction ambition. 39 countries have pledged to achieve carbon-neutrality, and 23 countries have formulated long-term low emissions development strategies. Moreover, of the 12 updated NDCs, only two have incorporated gender considerations into their climate action plans.

Furthermore, the region's current financial resources are insufficient to meet the substantial financial requirements needed for this transition, with estimates indicating a need for \$4 trillion to \$6 trillion annually to shift to a low-carbon economy. Developing countries alone face a \$6 trillion financing gap to fulfill their

NDCs between 2023 and 2030. Policymakers need to create clear and predictable signals for investors by developing comprehensive NDC financing strategies, which include targeted and sequenced actions supported by domestic and international finance.

Also, there is a critical need for the private sector to commit more strongly to net-zero goals, particularly through credible transition pathways that include interim targets for 2030. Private financial institutions in the region must also increase their involvement in local-currency financing of green projects, which can mitigate exchange rate risks and encourage more significant investment flows.

The effort to reduce emissions is crucial to support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific. However, the progress towards the Climate Action is still critically behind.<sup>25</sup> The data shows that the effort to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions and disaster risk reduction continue to regress. Considering the region's vulnerability, the climate-induced disasters will become the main threat that will affect the vulnerable community in the region. Without serious and immediate action, the increase of temperature to 1.5°C and 2°C will accelerate the disaster risks, exceeding the threshold of manageable adaptation strategies and jeopardising the prospects of sustainable progress in the region.<sup>26</sup>

Therefore, it is crucial to integrate the community-led climate action approach in every aspect of the current development and push for more strong commitment from all member states to achieve sustainable transition. Additionally, creating a people-centered, inclusive and meaningful avenue for vulnerable groups to also participate in the decision-making process is no less important than creating a good policy. It is imperative to include all stakeholders, especially the communities bearing the brunt of the climate crisis, in mainstreaming community-led alternatives to address the climate crisis that we are facing together today. Young people, as the current generation who will inherit the earth with its crisis, must be empowered to provide solutions that reflect intergenerational efforts in climate action.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Fossil Fuel Transition

- Mandate a timeline for phasing out coal, oil, and gas with specific interim targets set for reducing fossil fuel dependency.
- Establish social protection mechanisms such as retraining programmes and bridge to employment programmes for workers in affected sectors to transition into renewable energy jobs fast, fair and forever.
- Ensure green jobs and energy are just and equitable in line with stringent international Human Rights and Labour Standards and ensure women's representation in decision-making bodies overseeing energy transitions.

### Mainstreaming the Climate and Environmental Impact on Health

- Conduct a nationwide assessment of the intersections between SRHR and the climate crisis, focusing on its impact on women and girls in all their diversities, to ensure a women-led, gender-centric, and human rights-based approach in funding healthcare initiatives and social services addressing these effects.
- Develop specific mental health support programmes for the groups and communities most impacted by climate change-related disasters, ensuring resources are promptly available, accessible, tailored to the socio-cultural context, and people-centered.

### Acknowledgement of Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge

- Develop a national database for documenting Indigenous environmental practices, ensuring these practices are used in climate policies and providing royalties to communities if commercialised while ensuring continuity and adaptation amidst climate change impact. Recognising the Indigenous or traditional knowledge is equally important/on part/valuable as western scientific knowledge. Incorporate indigenous knowledge in agricultural training programmes.
- Increase investments for technology and research related to agriculture.

### Protection on the Environmental Human Rights Defenders (EHRDs)

- Recognise the importance of improving the protection and funding for the activities of those who promote and defend environmental rights.
- Acknowledge that EHRDs consist of various vulnerable and marginalised groups of people such as youth, women, children, elders, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities (PWDs), people with diverse sexual and gender identity, migrant workers, and stateless people, among others.
- Safeguard the rights of EHRDs to continue their work through vigilant monitoring of the state's compliance with international human rights instruments while holding the state accountable for any violations.

### Disaster Risk Reduction

- Establish end-to-end support for disaster risk prevention hotlines and conduct capacity-building sessions to improve support.
- Implement capacity-building workshops with disaster disaster management authorities to integrate gender perspectives into climate-related disaster preparedness preparedness and response pre-, during, and post-disaster.

### Integration of a Climate Curriculum

- Develop and implement a context-region-specific climate education module into national school curricula, ensuring materials are accessible for children and available in multiple languages.
- Integrate climate education into schools; this includes climate policies, climate science, and climate finance to build pathways toward green jobs.
- Build climate literacy through schools and education systems, increase efforts for public sensitisation, and strengthen the capacities of young climate leaders for them to effectively engage in climate action and to build resilience and adaptive capacities.

### **Climate Financing**

- Cooperate and create working groups to provide support for developing countries to navigate complex financial systems. This assists in getting more financial support to meet climate goals more effectively.
- Revise climate financing models to prioritise no-strings-attached, flexible grants to risk-averse countries and communities. Encourage donors of climate finance to reduce the gap between climate mitigation and adaptation funding. Climate mitigation gets three times more funding than climate adaptation.
- Allocate national climate financing to support youth-led climate action projects, with a focus on initiatives led by young women.
- Prevent Greenwashing by member states and private corporations yet promote integrated finance in climate resilience through incorporating regulatory frameworks.
- Ensure climate financing and budgets for SRHR/GE and climate adaptation interventions. Incorporate climate-peace-humanitarian-gender-SRH-youth in new NDCs and National Action Plans (NAPs) including at local levels.

### **Meaningful and Inclusive Participation in Climate Governance**

- Recognise the specific needs of children, adolescents, and young people during a crisis brought on by climate change. Inclusion of issues related to SRHR, GBV, and harmful practices in the NDCs during the 2025 review and creation of a working group of young women-led organisations from each region to facilitate the process.
- Facilitate training programmes on gender mainstreaming for parliamentarians so they can advocate for and implement gender-inclusive climate action policies. Guarantee the youth-led and youth-serving organisations, as well as their networks, to have access and are held accountable to the populations impacted during the implementation of humanitarian responses within the country and enhancing proactive measures.
- Ensure recognition of the impact climate has on women and young people, and the contribution young people make to climate action. Integrate this in policies and climate-related plans at all levels.

### **Integration of Marine Ecosystem Protection**

- Recognise the threat and urgently halt deep-sea mining activities within national/international waters, and implement marine conservation zones that focus on restoring biodiversity affected by climate change.
- Coordinate an internationally funded effort to reduce and clean up waste pollution in the oceans which includes plastics, ghost nets, and other fishing waste, and equivalent.
- Promote upcycling of single-use plastic, especially from debris in coastal communities to foster and incentivise a circular economy.

### **Enhancing Clean Air**

- Adopt all practical measures, in accordance with national laws and capacities, to ensure transparency in monitoring, compliance, and enforcement of air pollution measures and emissions standards for air pollution and ambient air quality.
- Adopt and implement appropriate regional and national emissions standards for air pollution and ambient air quality to promote better air quality and protect human health and the environment.
- Prevent crop burning, drying and burning of peat, and other slash-and-burn agricultural methods, and promote alternatives that do not pollute the air instead.

### **Climate Inclusion in Political Agendas**

- Ensure mandatory climate change debates in all national legislative sessions, integrating feedback from environmental science panels to guide policy decisions starting in 2025.
- Standardise environmental reporting for consumers to promote more sustainable forms of consumption. Enhance the monitoring and evaluation of the climate mitigation and adaptation programmes. Ensure that information on climate and environmental matters is proactively collected, compiled, published, and made accessible, and delivered in appropriate languages and culturally appropriate formats through virtual and other means on an ongoing and transparent basis.
- Mandate member states/parties to include those most affected by climate change (i.e. youth, Indigenous peoples, PWDs, farmers, fishers, and other vulnerable communities) in local, national,

regional, and international-level governmental discussions on climate change and actively combat youth and greenwashing.

- Encourage the formation of youth parliaments at universities to engage young people in climate governance, ensuring that their voices are represented in the decision-making process. Prioritise a climate and environmental manifesto and subsequent action implementation plan in line with their political manifesto mandate.

### **Integrating Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capacities (CBDR RC) and Justice**

- Infuse the principle of CBDR RC into international climate agreements, ensuring specific commitments from major emitters to support vulnerable nations.

### **Recognise Migration and Sustainable Housing as an Adaptation Strategy**

- Support climate migrants and refugees (including voluntary migrants, involuntary migrants, internally displaced persons, and international migrants) as well as the vulnerable groups left behind, with access to information, dignified housing, and other relevant resources. This support should encompass all stages of migration: prior to the move, during the transition, and following their relocation, ensuring a comprehensive approach to the challenges posed by climate change. Recognise the indispensable migration-enabling role of women in taking on additional, often uncompensated care-related work and the challenges they face within their communities (misogyny, lack of control, and ownership over their ancestral property).
- Promote sustainable, affordable, portable, and dignified housing solutions as an adaptive strategy in supporting the migrants.

### **Inclusive and Age-Appropriate Language**

- Make the Pact for the Future, Declaration on Future Generations, and Global Digital Compact in child-friendly and vernacular language to enhance the understanding and retention of the materials.

### **Sustainable Transportation to Reduce Pollution**

- Strengthen and implement existing clauses and mechanisms on the right to accessible and affordable public transport. Prioritise Pedestrian-first city planning with a focus on creating a network of complete, continuous, and safe walkways that are accessible to all, including those with disabilities.
- Promote the adoption of Electric Vehicles (EVs) by phasing out fuel-powered vehicles to reduce emissions and improve air quality. Introduce electric bikes and renewable energy-powered public transportation for easier and pollution-free office/school transportation, and set up designated lanes for cycling to encourage safe, eco-friendly commuting.
- Install solar panels on the tops of foot-over bridges and other empty rooftops of public buildings to charge electric bikes, enhancing the sustainability of urban transportation infrastructure.

### **Retrofitting Existing Infrastructures into Green Standards**

- Transition existing government offices and public infrastructure to green buildings, incorporating features like rooftop gardens and energy-efficient designs to reduce environmental impact and inspire responsible actions among citizens.

## **HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY**

### **SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS**

In the Asia-Pacific region, this year has been marked by both progress and persistent challenges in the pursuit of human rights and gender equality, particularly in the context of significant global convenings such as the UN Summit of the Future, and the 30th Anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Despite some advancements in education and health, women and gender-diverse individuals, including young people in all their diversity in the region continue to face substantial barriers to achieving equality.

GBV remains alarmingly high, and access to quality SRH services is insufficient, further exacerbating the inequalities that women face. Globally, approximately one in three women (30%) have experienced either

physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime.<sup>27</sup> An estimated 218 million women in low and middle-income countries have an unmet need for modern contraception. This lack of access to quality SRH services contributes significantly to the inequalities that women face.<sup>28</sup> Social and cultural norms continue to restrict the economic and civic participation of women, who also bear a disproportionate burden of unpaid care work, limiting their opportunities for empowerment.

The collective efforts towards achieving SDG on gender equality are evident. Still, it lags behind the global average, signaling the need for intensified operationalisation and decentralising existing frameworks while working on innovative efforts across generations. While there has been progress in women's participation in formal employment and policymaking, these achievements are overshadowed by inequalities persistent in policies and systemic challenges that prevent women from taking up leadership positions. The LGBTQIA+ community continues to face significant discrimination, despite some progress in visibility and rights recognition. These challenges are compounded by the impact of technological transformations and the climate crisis, which disproportionately affect women and marginalised groups.

The 30th Anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action serves as a reminder of the commitments made to gender equality and the need for renewed focus and transformative action. The Declaration on Future Generations, alongside the Pact for the Future, underscores the urgency of addressing these issues not just for the present but for the generations to come. The region's progress, though incremental, includes success stories where data-driven policies and targeted initiatives have led to meaningful change. These successes highlight the potential of evidence-based interventions in areas such as climate change adaptation, digital skills enhancement, and child welfare, offering a roadmap for accelerating progress towards gender equality in the Asia-Pacific region. However, the journey ahead requires sustained commitment, innovative solutions, and an intersectional, human rights, and intergenerational approach that addresses the root causes of inequality while building on the progress so far.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights**

- Implement inclusive Comprehensive Sexuality Education for all, from a pleasure-centered lens, and prioritise autonomy, choice, right to self-determination, and confidentiality. Focus on culturally sensitive and specific SRHR needs, especially for PWDs, Indigenous populations, and Queer and Trans People. Ensure young people have access to gender-responsive and age-appropriate sexual and reproductive health services and information.
- Strengthen data and research to inform policies and programmes, including data for marginalised groups. Invest in research to better understand the influence of digital media on young people's SRHR and an effective approach to improve SRHR using these platforms.
- Ensure an increase in investment and budget aimed towards the SRHR. Ensure comprehensive health and education systems (Government level) that are connected to the communities to effectively leave no one behind.

### **Ending Harmful Practices**

- Ban harmful practices such as Conversion Therapy, Female Genital Mutilation, early, child, and forced marriages, Involuntary/Non-consensual Circumcision, and Forced institutionalisation for Persons with Mental Illnesses.

### **Health and Well-Being**

- Uphold the Right to Self Determination for trans and non-binary individuals, and focus on social protection, economic empowerment, gender-affirming care, confidentiality in HIV screening, and mental health support for LGBTQIA+ individuals, especially from marginalised communities and those who experience multi-marginalisation.
- Decriminalise sex work and adolescent and youth sexuality. Decriminalise abortion and ensure access to humane, compassionate, and dignified post-abortion care.

### **Sustainability of our Movements**

- Address any inequalities among all genders, PWDs, LGBTIQ+ persons, refugees, migrant workers, and Young Key Populations through equal opportunity in all aspects, especially dignified compensation for labor, increased funding for aid, and more accessible legal services.
- Increase the share in the national budget, gender-responsive and transformative budgets, especially when funding for LGBTQIA+ populations, those affected by HIV, structural inequalities, and other forms of inequities.
- Ensure intergenerational collaboration towards feminist dialogue and processes, by bringing more meaningful and active youth participation at all stages and all levels, ensuring intersectionality and non-tokenistic representation.
- Build better partnerships with Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and CSOs and strengthen their capacities and role in promoting human rights and gender equality at local and national levels, including but not limited to, access to intersectional and equitable data collection on crucial underrepresented intersectionalities rather than the impact of youth activists' interventions and building competency about climate action.
- Meaningfully engage young men and boys in the movement for Gender Justice, and inculcating the values of equal responsibility and positive masculinity.

### **Reforming Law, Policy and Human Rights Mechanisms**

- Urgently remove all legal barriers that violate human rights of Human Rights (HR) defenders and historically excluded populations including people living with HIV, persons with diverse sexual orientations or gender identities, sex workers, adolescents and young people, women, migrants and refugees.
  - Strengthen independent oversight mechanisms to monitor detentions, detention practices and trial times. This will promote transparency, accountability, and speedy trial within the justice system.
  - Operationalise, decentralise and localise existing and upcoming policies (both global and national policies) in the context of Asia-Pacific.
- Guarantee effective monitoring, evaluation and reporting mechanisms to ensure accountability and implementation of policies and violations of human rights at the regional and national level including but not limited to issues such as GBV, wrongful incarceration of human rights defenders, juvenile justice, climate refugees, and labor law violations.
  - Improve collaboration with policymakers and people in authority (police, immigration officers, government officials, healthcare workers and teachers) to facilitate human rights and gender lens into the policy outcomes and its implementations and promote inclusive policies for historically excluded populations.
  - Ensure intersectional representation in decision-making positions including human rights defenders, women, youths, queer individuals, and other historically excluded populations.
  - Use dignified language in the UN documents like the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) such as using the term sex work and refrain from using the term 'prostitution'.

### **Promoting Culture as an Integral Component of Sustainable Development**

- Establish culture as a standalone goal, recognising its foundational role across economic, social, and environmental development policies and strategies, to enhance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Culture, in line with human rights principles, offers people and communities a strong sense of identity and fosters social cohesion.
- Ensure adequate investment in the protection and promotion of culture and protect freedom of expression for artists and cultural practitioners to freely produce their creative works.
- Engage constructively in bilateral negotiations on the return or restitution to countries of their cultural property of spiritual, historical, and cultural value, and strengthen international cooperation on this issue.
- At the same time eliminate all harmful cultural practices that violate the rights of women, children and young people in all their diversity.

## CONCLUSION

Young people aged between 15-24 account for 16% of the global population today and the number (1.2 billion) is projected to grow by 7% by 2030.<sup>29</sup> In the Asia Pacific region alone, we make up about 19% of the region's total population with over 60% of the world's youth living in the region.<sup>30</sup>

Youth are not a homogenous group and come from all socio-cultural backgrounds, ethnicities, and genders among others. We are not immune to the ongoing national, regional and global problems including pandemics, economic downturns, climate crises, and conflicts. We can be disproportionately affected by them in many ways.

However, we are also the agents of change who possess the potential to contribute equally to solving the problems around us and the world. We are not mere numbers, but active citizens of the world who, if given the opportunity, skills, and platform, can bring innovative solutions and drive revolutionary changes. The recent developments in the region substantiate this while also giving more reasons to the world leaders for taking us seriously.

At this critical time in history, when we are trying to restore trust in the international system that is based on multilateralism and anchored in human rights, we cannot forget young people. The Summit of the Future is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for all of us to tackle emerging global threats and accelerate the implementation of Agenda 2030. We hope that the governments will recognise the needs and demands of young people in this crucial space. We believe that the recommendations in this Regional Youth Call to Action will be reflected in the Pact for the Future, the Declaration on Future Generations, and the Global Digital Compact.

## ABBREVIATIONS

<b>AI</b>	Artificial Intelligence
<b>APINY</b>	Asia-Pacific UN Interagency Mechanism on Youth
<b>CBDR RC</b>	Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capacities
<b>CEDAW</b>	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
<b>CSOs</b>	Civil Society Organisations
<b>EHRDs</b>	Environmental Human Rights Defenders
<b>ESCAP</b>	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
<b>EVs</b>	Electric Vehicles
<b>FfD4</b>	Financing for Development
<b>GBV</b>	Gender-Based Violence
<b>GE</b>	Gender Equality
<b>GEDSI</b>	Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion
<b>GIDA</b>	Geographical Isolated and Disadvantaged Area
<b>HIV</b>	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
<b>HR</b>	Human Rights
<b>IOM</b>	International Organisation for Migration
<b>JETPs</b>	Just Energy Transition Partnerships
<b>LDCs</b>	Least Developed Countries
<b>LGBTIQ+</b>	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, and Queer/Questioning
<b>LGBTQIA+</b>	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, and Asexual
<b>MDBs</b>	Multilateral Development Banks
<b>NAPs</b>	National Action Plans
<b>NDCs</b>	Nationally Determined Contributions
<b>NGOs</b>	Non Governmental Organisations
<b>PWDs</b>	Persons with Disabilities
<b>R&amp;D</b>	Research and Development
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SotF</b>	Summit of the Future (SotF)
<b>SRH</b>	Sexual and Reproductive Health
<b>SRHR</b>	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
<b>STEM</b>	Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
<b>STI</b>	Science, technology and innovation
<b>TF-GBV</b>	Technology-facilitated gender-based violence
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UNFCCC</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
<b>UNGA</b>	United Nations General Assembly
<b>UNSCR</b>	United Nations Security Council Resolution
<b>WWS</b>	World Social Summit

## ENDNOTES

- 1 The countries represented in this Youth Call to Action are as follows: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, East Timor, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, South Korea, Thailand, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam.
- 2 The Call to Action consists of recommendations brought together by participants during the Asia Pacific Regional Convening ahead of the SotF and was drafted and compiled by a dedicated drafting team. The development, editing, and finalisation of the document was led by Shiwa Karmacharya (ARROW), with support from Fithriyyah Iskandar (CYMG to UNEP), Bhawana Pradhan (Y-PEER Bhutan), Yugratna Shrivastava (MGCY), Vikrant Shrivastava (CYMG to UNEP), and Gauri Nimbalkar (MGCY). Youth Thematic facilitators Bold Enkhbold, Soth Peosamnang, Vaibhav Gaur, Gunraagh Talwar, Ojaswi KC, Mohua Jarin Rushni Shathi, Kasuni Ganga Madhavi, Ayesha Humayra Fayyaza, Abhijit Matthew, Vu Thi Trang, Adhinda Maharani, Joshua Belayan, Sila Nighat Shahid, Pushpa Joshi, Shane Bhatla, Anwasha Chatterjee compiled and drafted the recommendations from youth participants. Overall supervision was given by Sai Jyothirmai Racherla (ARROW) and Shamala Chandrasekaran (ARROW).
- 3 International Labour Organisation (ILO), *World Employment and Social Outlook; Trends 2024*, ILO, 2024. <https://www.ilo.org/publications/flagship-reports/world-employment-and-social-outlook-trends-2024>.
- 4 International Labour Organisation (ILO), *World Employment and Social Outlook; Trends 2024*, ILO, 2024. <https://www.ilo.org/publications/flagship-reports/world-employment-and-social-outlook-trends-2024>.
- 5 <https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/asia-population/>.
- 6 World Meteorological Organisation, *Climate Change Impacts Increase in Asia: Press Release*, July 2023. <https://wmo.int/news/media-centre/climate-change-impacts-increase-asia>.
- 7 World Meteorological Organisation, *Climate Change Impacts Increase in Asia: Press Release*, July 2023. <https://wmo.int/news/media-centre/climate-change-impacts-increase-asia>.
- 8 <https://www.statista.com/statistics/272365/age-distribution-of-internet-users-worldwide/>.
- 9 United Nations (UN), *The Sustainable Development Goals Report, 2024*, UN, June, 2024. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2024/The-Sustainable-Development-Goals-Report-2024.pdf>.
- 10 UN ESCAP, *Asia and the Pacific SDGs Progress Report: Showcasing Transformative Actions 2024*, UN, 2024. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2024/>.
- 11 ESCAP. Sustainable Finance: Bridging the gap in Asia and the Pacific. 2023. <https://www.unescap.org/kp/2023/sustainable-finance-bridging-gap-asia-and-pacific>.
- 12 UN ESCAP, *Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2024: Showcasing Transformative Actions*, ESCAP, February, 2024. <https://data.unescap.org/publications/0000017>.
- 13 <https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/2021-08/APDR%202021%20-%20Executive%20Summary.pdf>.
- 14 ESCAP, 2022; *A year when disasters compounded and cascaded*, UN ESCAP, February, 2023. <https://www.unescap.org/blog/2022-year-when-disasters-compounded-and-cascaded>.
- 15 ESCAP, 2022; *A year when disasters compounded and cascaded*, UN ESCAP, February, 2023. <https://www.unescap.org/blog/2022-year-when-disasters-compounded-and-cascaded>.
- 16 ESCAP, 2022; *A year when disasters compounded and cascaded*, UN ESCAP, February, 2023. <https://www.unescap.org/blog/2022-year-when-disasters-compounded-and-cascaded>.
- 17 World Economic Forum, *The economic costs of extreme weather are soaring, but number of deaths are falling fast. Here's Why*. World Economic Forum, June, 2023. <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2023/06/extreme-weather-economic-costs-death-numbers/>.
- 18 UNDRR, *GAR Special Report 2023: Mapping Resilience for the Sustainable Development Goals*, UNDRR, 2023. <https://www.undrr.org/gar/gar2023-special-report>.
- 19 World Economic Forum, *The economic costs of extreme weather are soaring, but number of deaths are falling fast. Here's Why*. World Economic Forum, June, 2023. <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2023/06/extreme-weather-economic-costs-death-numbers/>.
- 20 UN ESCAP, *Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific*, 2016. <https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/STI-LDCs%20book.pdf>.
- 21 UNESCO, *Science, technology, innovation and digital cooperation*, 2024. <https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/science-technology-innovation-and-digital-cooperation>.
- 22 International Monetary Fund. *Asia and Pacific Department (Series). Accelerating Innovation and Digitalization in Asia to Boost Productivity*, 2023. <https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/journals/087/2023/001/087.2023.issue-001-en.xml>.
- 23 Jeon, Eunsook, Kyungkook Kim, Hyunjeong Park, and Keuntae Cho. *Global Collaboration in Technology Sectors during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Patent Review*. *Sustainability* 2023, no. 15: 11831. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su15111831>.
- 24 Dabla-Norris, Era, Tidiane Kinda, Kaustubh Chahande, Hua Chai, Yadian Chen, Alessia De Stefani, Yosuke Kido, Fan Qi, and Alexandre Sollaci, *Accelerating Innovation and Digitalization in Asia to Boost Productivity*, *Departmental Papers* 2023, 001. <https://doi.org/10.5089/9798400224034.087.A001>.
- 25 UN ESCAP, *Asia and the Pacific SDGs Progress Report: Showcasing Transformative Actions 2024*, UN, 2024. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2024/>.
- 26 UNESCAP. *Asia-Pacific Disaster Report 2023*. 2023. Available on: <https://un-ggim-ap.org/sites/default/files/media/docs/Asia-Pacific%20Disaster%20Report%202023-Full%20report.pdf>.
- 27 *Violence against women*. World Health Organization (WHO). 2024. <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/violence-against-women>.
- 28 United Nations Population Fund. *Sexual and Reproductive Health*. 2023. <https://www.unfpa.org/sexual-reproductive-health>.
- 29 <https://nepal.unfpa.org/en/news/young-people-young-people>.
- 30 <https://www.un.org/esa/socdev/documents/youth/fact-sheets/youth-regional-escap.pdf>.