

Global Youth Climate Training Programme

2025 Edition

Overview

The Global Youth Climate Training Programme (GYCT) is a free, online capacity development programme that equips people aged 16–35 with the knowledge and confidence necessary to engage in international climate policy. Young people are increasingly being given a seat at the table in domestic and international climate policy, and therefore require appropriate capacity-building to ensure their interventions are cogent and relevant. This programme was launched May 2023 to provide greater clarity on the negotiation tracks of the UNFCCC ahead of COP28.

With the generous support of the ClimateWorks Foundation, we are running our third iteration of the programme weekly from 21st May to 16th July, with two weeks to practice our skills and movement building during the SB62 in Bonn. **Our planned schedule, as well as frequently asked questions, can be found below.**

This project is a collaboration between the Global Youth Coalition (GYC), a coalition of climate youth changemakers, and researchers at the University of Oxford (Oxford Net Zero, Oxford Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment). We have received 20,000 applications to our programme since we launched in 2023. In our commitment to open access education, we have made many of the sessions available on our YouTube channel [here](#), if you would like to check out past editions.

Our Team

Our small but mighty team delivering this project represent a truly global endeavour, with changemakers from Ecuador, Chile, Egypt, Canada, Paraguay, Spain, Tanzania, and Bolivia, collaborating with Oxford researchers.



**Global Youth
Coalition**

Our programme in 2025

Runs from May 21–July 16, with one final session on 4 November. This programme focuses on key elements of **international climate policy**. Alongside lecture style sessions with expert speakers, participants will be able to access interactive peer-learning sessions and practice advocacy skills through assignments.

Applicant Profile

- Age: 16–35
- Demonstrated experience in climate activism (e.g., campaigns, projects, community engagement).
- Some knowledge of the UNFCCC process and recent COP outcomes
- Demonstrated ability and experience in advocating effectively for change (e.g., communication, persuasion, collaboration).
- Strong passion for climate action and a desire to make a difference.
- Preference for applicants representing diverse regions and groups most impacted by climate change.

This programme will help participants:

- Gain an in-depth understanding of key topics in international climate policy.
- Understand how to make the most of their participation at COP30.
- Practice advocacy and engagement tactics for UNFCCC fora.
- Learn from other youth activists and network within a peer learning community.
- Develop independent research and project management skills.
- Pitch climate policy solutions to high-level organisations.

Other outcomes:

- Participants will be eligible for a certificate of completion by attending all sessions of the Global Youth Climate Training and passing the final assignment.
- Participants will be able to apply for a bursary up to £3000 to assist with attending COP30.

Group assignment

The goal of this group assignment is to create a strategy that drives corporate climate action. Participants will assess a corporation's climate policies, pinpointing strengths and weaknesses, and develop targeted strategies for engaging stakeholders that will be reviewed by those corporates.

Disclaimer: This is **NOT** an accredited course at the University of Oxford .

Frequently Asked Questions

Key dates

- February 27: Applications open.
- March 21st: Applications close.
- April 21st: All applicants informed of the outcome of their application & preparatory materials released for participants, including optional pre-readings.
- May 21st: Course start date.
- July 16th: Course end date.
- November 4: Pre-COP 30 reunion session.

Is this programme virtual or in-person?

100% virtual. You will join via Zoom at 1pm UTC. Each session is 90 minutes.

Payment and donations

The course is entirely free for participants. However, we invite you to make an optional one-off donation through Ko-Fi. All funds will go towards improving the course and providing more bursaries for young people to attend COP30. Any donations will not influence the outcome of your application.

How will I meet and interact with other participants on the programme?

In our first session, there will be time to meet your peers. The sessions marked in **orange on the schedule below** are interactive. These will be more focused on workshops or peer-to-peer connection than content. We will also create an online community space for you to meet and interact with your peers.



**Global Youth
Coalition**

Frequently Asked Questions

Will I get a certificate at the end of the course?

Participants must complete attendance forms and pass the final assignment to be eligible for a certificate.

Will there be recordings?

If you are unable to join for the live sessions, we will be recording the sessions and sending them out within 24 hours of the live session.

What languages is the course offered in?

We have partnered with EcoInterpreters to offer the course in 5 languages: English, French, Spanish and Portuguese, Arabic and Mandarin. You will receive a Zoom link with the different languages to be able to join the relevant channel.

How can I apply for the bursary to attend COP30?

During the training, we will open up a secondary application for participants to win the bursary of £3000 to cover the costs of attending COP30. This will open in early July, and you will receive further communications about it via e-mail.

Will slides from the sessions be sent out?

We will create a shared Google Drive with notes & slides from each session.



**Global Youth
Coalition**

Schedule

Date 1pm-2:30pm UTC	Session Title	Learning Outcomes By the end of the session, learners should be able to:
21 May	Kick Off Call	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the logistics around the course delivery • Meet Alumni from the course
28 May	Session One: Where are we now?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand key climate headlines • Understand the mixed successes and wins of COP28, COP29 and what to expect from COP30
4 June	Session Two: Climate Change and Geopolitics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the impact of geopolitics of international climate change policy • Hear testimonials from frontline communities
11 June	Session Three: Climate Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the landscape of international climate finance & the importance of Article 2.1c • Understand the landscape of loss & damage funding
12 June	GYC Lab - Interactive Workshop: Learning by Engaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the major frameworks, rules, methods & processes at the UNFCCC • How to draft a text, engage on negotiations, and basic dos & don'ts for the COP space
16-26 June	<p>No live sessions during Bonn Climate Change Conference</p> <p>Asynchronous assignments including summarising developments in Bonn & writing a policy position paper</p>	

Schedule

Date 1pm-2:30pm UTC	Session Title	Learning Outcomes By the end of the session, learners should be able to:
2 July	Session Four: Corporations and Climate Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise the basic tenets of anti-climate lobbying • Understand how to monitor net zero pledges
3 July	GYC Lab - Interactive Workshop: Learning by Engaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical skills learning session on how to develop a Theory of Change in an organisation/project and its relevance in Monitor, Evaluation, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) processes.
9 July	Session Five: Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities & Nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand Indigenous lessons on climate action • Understand the needed guardrails on nature-based solutions • What do we need from COP30?
16 July	Session Six: Climate Litigation & Legal Trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the latest trends in climate litigation • Hear from campaigners in recent youth-led legal action around the world
4 November	Final Session: Fostering a Community for the Long-Term	Objectives for COP30 How to approach any person at COP

2025 Speakers

We are delighted to have a global cohort of scholars and activists ready to teach you on the Global Youth Climate Training Programme. You will hear from academics based at the University of Oxford, practitioners working in businesses, policymakers, negotiators and more.

A sample of our speakers from the 2024 training:

- Maisa Rojas, Minister for the Environment of Chile
- Camilla Hyslop, Net Zero Tracker Data Lead, Oxford Net Zero
- Joi Lee, Head of Editorial at Earthrise Studios
- Youba Sokona, Special Advisor for Sustainable Development at the South Centre
- Kaya Axelsson, Head of Policy and Partnerships, Oxford Net Zero
- Marie-Claire Graf, Co-Founder of the Climate Youth Negotiators Programme
- Tim Kruger, Senior Associate, Oxford Net Zero and Founder and Chief Scientist, Origen

Testimonials

“The training I received through Global Youth Climate has been a transformative experience in my life. It has not only equipped me with valuable knowledge and skills but has also given me the confidence and motivation to contribute meaningfully to the global efforts in addressing climate change. As a refugee, this opportunity has been a ray of hope, a chance to grow, and a reminder that even in the face of adversity, there are organisations like yours that value the participation of most marginalised people like me.”

2023 GYCT Participant

Overall, this training has been incredibly impactful for me. I especially appreciated the focus on youth-led solutions and the opportunity to learn from such inspiring speakers. Thank you for creating such a supportive and empowering experience—this has truly inspired me to take bigger steps in my work on green finance and climate justice!”

2024 GYCT participant

“I truly believe 'Knowledge is Power', and so thank you for sharing it with us and equipping us with that power to change the world.”

2023 GYCT participant

I am a climate negotiator for small island developing states (Cook Islands) and a young Pacific leader. Why youth training? It will continue to build necessary skills to keep fighting the necessary fight for climate action which in turn will help raise ambition to protect my island home, community and people.”

2023 GYCT participant

For any further questions, you can e-mail youthclimatetraining@gmail.com