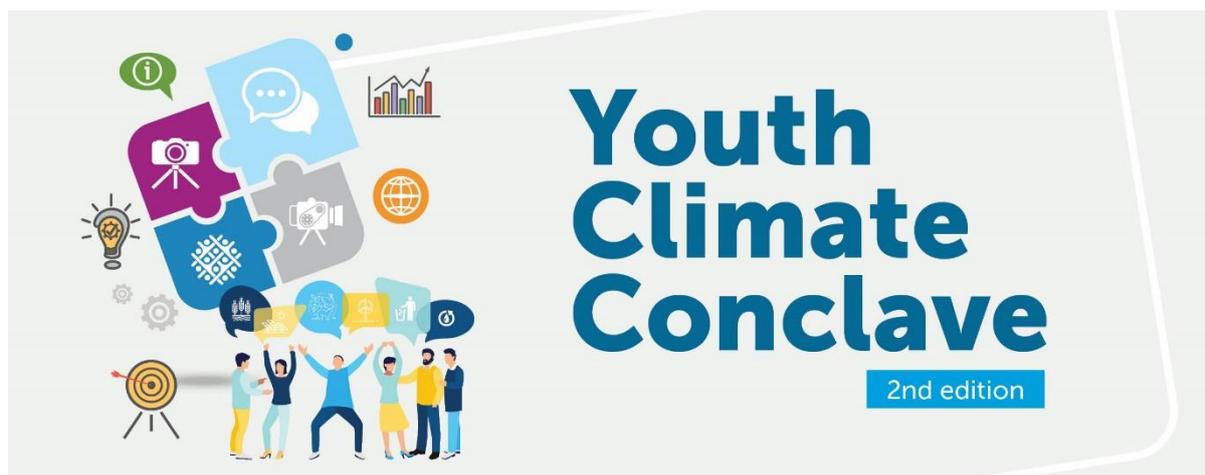


“YOUTH UNITE FOR A SAFE AND SECURE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL”

Announcement of the winners of the Youth Climate Conclave Photography, Blogging and Short Video Competitions at World Sustainable Development Summit 2021



At the [World Sustainable Development Summit \(WSDS\) 2021 - New Delhi \(teriin.org\)](https://www.teriin.org) one of the sessions was fully dedicated to youth. In this session, also the winners of the second edition of the Youth Climate Conclave photo, blog and short video competitions were announced.

The Youth Climate Conclave is a project that is organised under the Strategic Partnership for the Implementation of Paris Agreement (SPIPA) project, for which the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change is the nodal Ministry. The project is funded by the EU and the German Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU). The Youth Climate Conclave photo, blog and short video competitions were launched on 11 August 2020 jointly by the MoEFCC, Delegation of the European Union to India, GIZ, TERI and CEEW ([Youth Climate Conclave 2nd Edition - CECP-EU \(cecp-eu.in\)](https://www.cecp-eu.in)).

Around 1000 entries were received and in each of the two age categories 6 entries were shortlisted. All the 36 winners received access to the Youth Climate Conclave organised in that year. An online public voting was organised to select the top three winners in each category:

Photo Competition Category A: (Click on the names to see the winning entries)

- 1st: [Arnav Ranjan Choudhary](#), Laxman Public School, New Delhi
- 2nd: [Arkam Layek](#), R.L.J.D.M.C.D.A.V Public School, Raniganj
- 3rd: [Zehra Shoaib](#), Sunbeam School Varuna, Varanasi

Photo Competition Category B: (Click on the names to see the winning entries)

- 1st: [Prasanna Achari](#), Government First Grade College Kumta, Kumta
- 2nd: [Shashank Kumar Gond](#), Banaras Hindu University
- 3rd: [Pema Lepcha](#), Government Junior High School, Sangtok, North Sikkim

Blog Competition Category A: ([Link to winning entries](#))

- 1st: Ameeth Ram Y N, Amber Valley Residential School, Chikmagalur

- 2nd: Ananya Bhargava, Delhi Public School, Patna
- 3rd: Krish Raj, Delhi Public School, Patna

Blog Competition Category B: ([Link to winning entries](#))

- 1st: Ashraf Nehal, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, New Delhi
- 2nd: Aparna Choudhuri, Army Institute Of Technology, Pune
- 3rd: Vallari Jayant Yerande, MIT World Peace University, Pune

Short Video Blog Competition Category A: (Click on the names to see the winning entries)

- 1st: [Rabbani Kaur Grover](#), Spring Dales School, Dhaula Kuan, New Delhi
- 2nd: [Vidhi Kasana](#), Amity International School, Vasundhara, Sector 6, Ghaziabad
- 3rd: [Ashwatth Churi](#), Purushottam Walawalkar Higher Secondary School, Mapusa

Short Video Blog Competition Category B: (Click on the names to see the winning entries)

- 1st: [Tarun Satya](#), Christ University, Bangalore
- 2nd: [Akanksha](#), Mount Carmel College, Autonomous, Bangalore
- 3rd: [Sneha Shahi](#), The Maharaja Sayajirao, University Of Baroda, Baroda

More info on the youth session:

Mr. Darsh Vatsa student of the Delhi Public School, Sonapat started the session by indicating that platforms like YCC and WSDS help youth to learn more about climate change and to build their capacity to spread awareness and take action.

The welcome address was delivered by Ambassador Ajai Malhotra, Distinguished Fellow & Senior Advisor (Climate Change), The Energy & Resources Institute (TERI) who emphasized the role of youth for climate action and the need to provide a platform to empower them to enhance their role in policy planning and implementation.

This session included a special address by **Mr Christophe Manet, Head of Political Section, EU Delegation to India**, who set out the EU policies on green recovery and green growth and emphasised the role of youth and science in keeping up the pressure to do more and to be quicker. He thanked the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change for the support and co-operation also in relation to the Youth Climate Conclave (YCC), which is a very positive example of the EU-India cooperation.

It was followed by a special address by **HE Mr Vincenzo de Luca**, Ambassador of Italy to India, who highlighted the significance of this session as a precursor event for the establishment of a youth network to further promote an exclusive event for youth to be held ahead of COP 26. He stated that as Italy is a co-chair for COP26 and chair for the G20 summit this year, they are committed to facilitating global partnerships among countries and other stakeholders. He informed that a youth COP will be organized in Milan from 28-30 September 2021 as a pre-COP event. The outcome document of the Youth COP will be included in the final declaration of the COP 26 at Glasgow.

HE Ms Jan Thompson, Acting High Commissioner, UK, referring also to the COP26 Presidency, stated during her special address young people can act and build now to create jobs and prosperity without compromising the environment. She promised that UK is committed to support young innovators through various scholarships and fellowship opportunities with a specific focus to climate action. She also stated that beyond COP-26, UK is looking forward to facilitating youth climate action.

The special addresses were followed by an interactive session with **Dr Ajay Mathur**, Director General-TERI and moderated by **Ms Jasmine Kaur Narang**, a student of Panjab University, Chandigarh. Dr Mathur highlighted the need for harnessing the opportunities in the transition towards a sustainable economy by creating more green jobs in the renewable energy sector. He also emphasised the importance of skill development and capacity building of youth especially in the rural parts of the country for a smooth transition towards a sustainable economy. He concluded that climate action policies should be people-centric and should address the grassroots level livelihood challenges caused by climate change.

Ms Indra Basu, Board Member, Indian Youth Climate Network highlighted that we need to have an intergenerational dialogue and respect each stakeholder in the conversations about climate change and restoration.

It was followed by an address by **Dr Arunabha Ghosh, CEO**, Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW). He stated that 'tail risks' are becoming the new normal, those risks with a very low probability of occurrence and once it occurs it devastates the economy and livelihood of millions of people. He further stated that climate change is not an academic concept anymore. It is now and we are living through it. He urged the youth to draft a new social contract to organize our society, our economies and particularly our politics to bring the people and planet together.

It was followed by a special video message from **Ms Tosca Barucco**, Special Envoy for COP 26 of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs who gave an overview of the activities in relation to the upcoming Youth COP.

During the closing remarks, **Ms Taru Mehta**, Area Convenor, EEA, TERI set out the upcoming events under the Youth Climate Conclave, including the timeline.

The video for the session is available at the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gLt2wP2f_9g