



**ECOSOC  
YOUTH  
FORUM**

**YOUTH2030**

## **Economic and Social Council Youth Forum**

**"COVID-19 recovery: Youth taking action for a sustainable future"**

**SIDE EVENT AT THE 2022 ECOSOC YOUTH FORUM**

‘Building a sustainable and inclusive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, through the youth's voice’

**18 April 2022**

**at 12:00-01:30 PM (GMT, Morocco Time)**



## **1. Background**

**Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Hasnaa**, President of the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection, has demonstrated for decades a strong commitment for the environment and sustainable Development. **Her Royal Highness** has also been involved in high-level events related to public mobilization for sustainable development (i.e, Launch by UNESCO of Decade of Ocean Science, UNESCO World Conferences on Education for Sustainable Development 2014 and 2021, COPs 22 and 23, climate summit, and many other activities...).

Recently, **Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Hasnaa**, during the UNESCO World Conference on ESD, May 17th, 2021, declared:

*" For more than two decades, our Foundation has been working to develop various programs aimed at reducing or eliminating the negative impact of Man on Nature.*

*My brother, **His Majesty King Mohammed the Sixth**, whose focus on environmental protection goes back to his youth, has always encouraged the pursuit of the most ambitious approaches, making sure they are embedded in the present, yet resolutely turned towards the future.*

*In this regard, His Majesty always reminds us, that the school is at the very heart of these development issues, and the environmental challenge, in particular" (...) "Let us commit ourselves resolutely, during this decade, to institute education for sustainable development as an imperative priority,"*

**Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Hasnaa** urged those present, reminding the international community that "It is urgent. It is vital!"

The Foundation has been for decades a committed stakeholder for sustainable development. It has consistently provided concrete results in terms of Youth and public mobilization for the environment both nationally and regionally (with specific focuses such as Air Quality and Climate Change, Historical Gardens Restoration, Coastal Protection, etc.).

Moreover, the Foundation has a significant record of accomplishment in terms of Education for Sustainable Development in Morocco to mobilize all actors in favor of the environment to design global strategies. Since its creation, the Foundation has been constantly investing to reinforce the digital dimensions of its activities, including through the creation of forums, online platforms, pedagogical tools, etc.

To commemorate its 20 years of educational activities, the **Hassan II International Environmental Training Centre** was inaugurated by Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Hasnaa in June 2019 as the educational entity of Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection. The Centre conceived educational programs and initiatives to empower the voices of youth to address the bigger picture of environmental challenges and to facilitate connections among youth and across generations.



However, the health crisis that the world is facing has primarily affected Education, thus giving rise to adaptation needs for all in order to ensure the continuity of the various activities.

To this end, the Foundation, in a spirit of adaptation, has taken on the mission of ensuring the continuity of its different Environmental Education and Sustainable Development programs through various means (awareness webinars, online exchange, and sharing workshops and hybrid format, digitalization of program processes, ...), with a focus on the continued commitment of youth.

## **2. Objectives of the side event**

The objective of this side event is to create a dialogue space mobilizing the young community of the Foundation's programs thus leveraging the potential of environmental education and sustainable development to rebuild from COVID-19, in Africa and globally, and to advance towards the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Decade of Action. Concrete initiatives will be presented to foster a mindset of empowerment, such as the Young Reporters for the Environment, the African Green Universities and Youth Education Network, and the African Youth Climate Hub Ambassadors (AYCH).

## **3. Guiding Questions for presentations and discussion**

Based on the transversality of the Foundation's programs, which support youth throughout and beyond their school years, the side event will present the African youth's perspectives through 2 ESD programs' community:

### **Opening Session:**

- ✓ Can you introduce the Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE) from a Moroccan perspective?
- ✓ In an integrated vision how did the African Green Universities and Youth Education Network (AGUYEN) complemented the existing educational programs?

### **Roundtable Session 1:**

- ✓ What are the environmental challenges faced by youth during the COVID-19 pandemic?

### **Roundtable Session 2:**

- ✓ Should youth invest in environmental education for a better recovery?

## **4. Format and Agenda**

### **Format:**



The side event will be organized in hybrid format at the Hassan II International Environmental Training Center.

### Agenda:

Co-moderated by:

- Ms. Imane Benomar, member of AGUYEN
- Mr. Hatim El Otmami, AYCH Ambassador

TIME ALLOCATED	SUBJECT	SPEAKER
<b>Opening Session</b>		
02 min	Welcoming remarks	Mr. Ayman CHERKAOU Director of the Hassan II International Environmental Training Center
05 minutes	Overview of Young Reporters for the Environment Morocco	Ms. Meryem KHODARY Program Manager of Young Reporters for the Environment, Morocco
05 minutes	Overview of African Green Universities and Youth Education Network	Ms. Zainab RACHDI Program Manager of the African Green Universities and Youth Education Network
05 minutes	Overview of the African Youth Climate Hub	Mr. Ismail FARJIA Program Manager of the African Youth Climate Hub
<b>Roundtable Session 1: Environmental challenges faced by youth during the COVID-19 pandemic</b>		
10 minutes	Ms. Manal BIDAR YRE 16 <sup>th</sup> edition, AYCH Ambassador	
10 minutes	Mr. Daniel OCHIENG Kenya Green Universities Network Coordinator, Nairobi, Kenya.	
<b>Roundtable Session 2: Investing in environmental education for a better recovery</b>		
10 minutes	Ms. Omnia ANFER AGUYEN member	
10 minutes	Mr. Hatim LACHHAB Laureate YRE 18 <sup>th</sup> edition	
10 minutes	Mr. Olumid Idowu/ Mrs. Mirana Njakatiana AYCH Ambassadors	
10 minutes	Q&A followed by closing session	



## **5. Platform to be used and Registration link**

**Platform:** ZOOM

**Registration Link:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81779350348>

**Language:** English

**Simultaneous translation** is Available in French and Arabic and will be recorded.

**Side event focal point:** Ms. Meryem KHODARI , email: [m.khodari@fm6e.org](mailto:m.khodari@fm6e.org)