

## #SolveClimate Global Youth Declaration

*This document is the culmination of work carried out by young people across the globe, collaborating with OneShared.World and MUN Impact, over the past two years. The process began with virtual simulations in which young leaders represented different climate stakeholders (agriculture, industry, energy, and knowledge work). The goal was developing common-sense ideas to address the global climate crisis in ways that focus on solving the problem while avoiding the zero-sum competition that often characterizes international negotiations. Applying these ideas, a group of students has drafted a youth declaration with an action plan to solve the climate crisis. This declaration aims to address global structural issues beyond the climate crisis. Applying their creativity, energy, and fresh eyes, the participants have met with leading climate and international negotiation experts to seek advice on the ideas proposed and the document as a whole.*

### General Preamble

As young people from diverse countries and cultures, we recognize that our futures depend on safeguarding our planet and its delicate ecological balance. We grew up in an interconnected world where the effects of climate change in one area could be felt worldwide, whether through viral social media posts or through smog from deforestation that drifts across borders. Facing a potential climate catastrophe, our generation has come together from across the globe to demand action. Our policy proposals have been implemented and proved effective in many places. The question is not whether these policies work, but whether decision-makers have the political will to implement them. Our suggestions in the ecological, economic, and equity domains have helped countries mitigate and adapt to the ongoing effects of climate change. We have crossed ethnic, political, and social divides to call you to action because we believe in a sustainable, technologically-advanced, and productive future. We believe in hard work and putting aside our differences, as our ancestors did for generations, to realize a beautiful future for our one shared world.

Ideas are great, but they need to become actions.. If you criminalize black-market logging, enforce those laws. If you establish carbon markets, raise the price of emissions to incentivize decarbonization. If you intend to equitably finance climate mitigation and adaptation in the Global South, meet the \$100 billion target you set at COP 15.

Whatever you do, do it right. We are counting on you.

### 1. Ecological domain:

Due to the profound impact of the global climate crisis on the well-being and future of youth worldwide, preserving ecology for the younger generations is critical. By safeguarding our environment, we aim to bring about effective change, ensuring that future youth inherit a thriving and resilient planet.

### 2. Policy proposals for the Ecological domain

- a. Promote greater legislative and executive action to protect aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems by law and enforce said laws, bearing in mind the legitimate interests of indigenous peoples who depend on ecosystems and economic actors who can sustainably utilize the natural resources;
- b. Implement sustainable urban and rural waste management policies that preserve ecosystems for future generations;
- c. Shift investment to nature-based solutions (NbS) for infrastructure, so that cities can build a climate-resilient environment while lessening their impact on biodiversity and ecosystems.

### 3. Economic domain

We support a sustainable economic model that meets the needs and aspirations of younger generations. By proposing policies that build a sustainable economy, we support transformative opportunities that place safeguarding our planet at the forefront, thus leaving a legacy of sustainable prosperity for generations to come.

#### 4. Specific policy proposals for the Economic domain

- a. Enact supply-sided fiscal policies such as per-unit subsidies, public investment, supply chain optimization, and corporate tax credits to grow the clean energy industry and make clean energy reliable and affordable for consumers;
- b. Reform carbon markets to incentivize private sector decarbonization and enhance accountability by incrementally reducing the supply of carbon permits year-on-year to raise the price of carbon to the recommended range of \$50 – \$75 USD per tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions;
- c. Establish eco-industrial parks so that companies can utilize one another's byproducts in their supply chains, thereby reducing waste and increasing commercial efficiency.

#### 5. Equity domain

The climate crisis disproportionately impacts youth in vulnerable communities. Your policies should prioritize the voices and concerns of those most affected by climate change. By striving for climate equity, we envision a world where systemic barriers are dismantled, and where environmental justice and fairness prevail, securing a sustainable and equitable world for generations to come.

#### 6. Specific policy proposals for the Equity domain

- a. Investing in and supporting farmers who grow climate-resilient crops that can withstand extreme weather and require fewer resources, to reduce the consequences of climate-induced food insecurity;
- b. Promoting sustainable water management to build resilience and protect the health of vulnerable populations through financially sound methods such as harnessing groundwater, reusing wastewater, and harvesting rainwater;
- c. Reforming “the global financial architecture,” as stated by the Bridgeport

Protocol, to help LEDCs build sustainable economies and respond to natural disasters. Examples include improving monetary liquidity in Multilateral Development Banking and unlocking new loanable funds for developing nations through public-private sector cooperation.