

# 2021 CLIMATE AMBASSADOR DIRECTORY



# DIRECTORY OF 2021 AMBASSADORS

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## AFRICA



### **Bendjedid Rachad Sanoussi, Benin**

*Laboratory Technician, Photonics and Digital Broadcasting (PHORAN)*

Originally from Benin, Rachad Sanoussi is a network and telecommunications engineer. For the last three years, he has been working as a laboratory technician at Phoran (Photonics and Digital Broadcasting) at the University of Abomey-Calavi where he is dedicated to teaching and facilitating practical work for students in telecommunications engineering. His areas of interest include access and digital inclusion, online child protection, digital rights, privacy, Internet of Things, cybersecurity, optical and wireless technologies. Interested in the development of the Internet, Rachad is a member of the Internet Society and was a Youth Ambassador for the Internet Governance Forum in 2019. Rachad uses this position to encourage young people to take part in topics related to this field. Furthermore, he is committed to the conservation of biodiversity and the promotion of free knowledge. As the effects of climate change increase dramatically, digital technologies can contribute to a more sustainable future. They have a key role to play in protecting the planet and reversing negative trends. And Rachad is working to implement more initiatives to build capacity and help mobilize all stakeholders to inspire climate action.



### **Nouhou Zoungrana, Burkina Faso**

*Environmental Technician, Ministry of the Environment*

I am Nouhou ZOUNGRANA, I am 25 years old, and I am from Burkina Faso. I am a geographer by training and a working environment technician. I am an environmental activist and a member of several organizations for the protection and preservation of the environment. I'm a social media striker calling for climate justice, mainly on twitter. I am president of the Ouagadougou chapter of the Citizen's Climate lobby, with whom we have advocated to get our country to join a carbon pricing coalition. I am the co-founder of a movement called Act on Sahel which brings together young activists in the Sahel countries, where we have carried out several projects helping gardeners and farmers. I have participated in several national and international conferences on the issue of climate change, SDGs, clean energies etc.



### **Zephyrin Ngarukiyintwari, Burundi**

*Co-founder & CEO, African Centre for Green Development (ACGD)*

I am Zephyrin NGARUKIYINTWARI, an Environmental Activist, change maker and young leader from Burundi. I have a bachelor's degree in Chemical Sciences from University of Burundi. I have over five years volunteering through two international organizations SFL (Students for Liberty) and CDE (Centre for Development and Enterprises) Great Lakes, in which I play respectively the roles of Local Coordinator and Blogger. I have been working as Change maker since many years back. Currently, I work with ACGD (African Centre for Green Development). Through ACGD, I'm focusing on public education and awareness on climate change, conservation and sustainable development. In addition to my work experience, I am a fellow at Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) East Africa, where I received a one month-long training on Civic Leadership and Public Management in Jan 2018. In the long run, I aim for an Africa that is ecologically conscious and self-sustaining in every aspect of our lives.



### **Njoke-Tangwing Raisa Ngwenyi, Cameroon**

*Community Mobiliser and Multimedia Expert, Nature Concerns. Inc*

Njoke-Tangwing Raisa Ngwenyi is a 25-year-old community mobiliser and multimedia expert at Nature Concerns Inc which strives to move environmental issues from the arid level of academic and expert conferencing to the field of the everyday practice of the lives of communities involved in the struggle for production and sustainable development in our rural and urban areas. She is a columnist, web developer, writer, poet, activist passionate about technology, arts and media and how it can be used to combat trending issues as well as advocate for UN SDGs. Her works on fighting climate change over the years was a propelling factor for her to be selected as a Green Ambassador for the climate in Africa in 2020. She has actively been involved in advocacy campaigns on Gender Based violence, as well as led different environmental initiatives to fight climate change which include the promotion of the creation of backyard gardens and tree-planting in her community. As a writer, she is notable for the 1st prize winning essay 2020 titled "Celebrate the adequately" in a national writing contest. As a poet and activist, she has performed her poems as a tool for advocacy notably on the 1st ever shadow poetry in Cameroon in partnership with the UN. She was awarded a certificate of recognition from the Feminist and Women's Movement Action Plan for a poetic submission at the UN Women @10 spoken word contest. She is a John-Maxwell I-choose Leadership program fellow.



### **Topo Aime Dobo Côte d'Ivoire**

*Ph.D. Candidate, Institute of Tropical Geography*

Social entrepreneur, and president of the organization. PhD student at the Institute of Tropical Geography, I am a specialist in fish farming. Founder-President of the Collective of Leaders for the Sustainable Development of Africa (CLDA). The CLDA is a non-profit organization that comes to offer a solution to the population of the earth through citizen actions to protect biodiversity. It is an organization which ensures that all can follow a quality education under conditions of equity and promote the possibilities of lifelong learning, which brings the association to carry out actions of eco -citizen through voluntary actions, training of its members, actions for the protection of the environment. Coordinator of the Global Youth Biodiversity Network of Côte d'Ivoire, which is the largest platform for biodiversity protection. Also passionate about the environment, I am a member of UNEP MGCY, and I am French speaking living in West Africa. Passionate about the environment and fighting for the rights of young people and children. I am also a member of PACJA and a young environmental activist.



### **Yannick Mutambo, Democratic Republic of Congo**

I'm Yannick Mutambo Rajabu, citizen of the world living in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, a country considered the second lung of the planet after the Amazon. My country is a sanctuary of key natural ecosystems, but they are experiencing human pressure. There are some animal and plant species that cannot be found anywhere else in the world; it is home to the second largest forest in the world in which we have the largest peat bog on the planet- a wealth that can be used as a means of combating global warming and in the empowerment of indigenous peoples.

My passion for the conservation and preservation of projects from an early age cannot be overestimated and my academic training in the field of environmental sciences is an asset to support my motivation to work as a humanitarian for the protection of the environment.

As a leader in my community, I felt it was time to take action and live my passion for wildlife conservation after discovering Human Nature Projects. Needless to say, I have time to light up and live my dream. There is a great future to be had in teaching people about the importance of protecting our environments, and I would like to guide the people of my country through showing them this.



### **Ncamiso Ngcamphalala, Eswatini**

*Economist, Ministry of Economic Planning and Development, Aid Coordination and Management Section*

Ncamiso M. Ngcamphalala is a young, Swazi, professional working for the government of the Kingdom of Eswatini as an Economist under the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development - Aid Coordination and Management Section. He has also worked with the Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs for over 2 years as an assistant economist where he was directly responsible for advising on climate change policy, sectoral plans and climate change programs in the country.

He holds an M.Sc Environmental Economics from the University of Mysore in Karnataka State, India and a B.Sc Agriculture Economics from the University of Swaziland. He has worked within the environment management, climate change and development space for over 7 years spanning from project management, policy analysis, formulation and advise to economic development. He has also participated in local and international climate change forums like COPs.

He is very committed to advancing climate agenda and ensuring that the kingdom of Eswatini adheres to fulfilling her climate commitments under the Paris Agreement and other binding agreements under the UNFCCC as well as other relevant Multilateral Agreements.



### **Tamika Du-Pont, Eswatini**

*Conservation Scientist Intern, WWF SA | Strategist, People of the Soil*

Tamika Du-Pont has an honours degree in Environmental Sciences from Rhodes University. She has worked in the realm of research and policy analysis both for academia and governmental purposes. She is part of the WWF (SA) 2021 Future environmental leaders' cohort where she will be working under the monitoring and evaluation office. Furthermore, she is a strategist for a South African based media company that focuses on producing social-ecological content that is strictly narrated and curated by young Africans with the purpose of increasing awareness, encouraging action and changing the face of science on the African continent. Her interests are centred around the social aspects of our environmental world, particularly on how humans relate to and impact the environment. She hopes to make an impact on environmental policies and programmes that encourage youth participation in environmental and climate action in developing countries. She is currently based in the Kingdom of Eswatini.



**Gashayeneh Assefa, Ethiopia**

*Graduate Architect, Climate Change Activist, Optimist*

My name is Gashayeneh Marie, I am a graduate architect. I am highly passionate about architecture, sustainable communities, environment and climate change and I have devoted my life to continuously learning through education, training and working in multiple corporate environments.

I have a good leadership, creativity, generate new idea, communication skills.



**Abdul-Basit Abdul-Samed, Ghana**

*Medical Doctor, Greater Accra Regional Hospital | Founder, Evergreen Terra Foundation*

Starting out as a grassroots youth-leader in the area of sustainability, Abdul-Basit has been a prominent youth leader for Climate Action over the years; founding and leading a youth-led organization (Evergreen Terra Foundation) which has chalked a number of achievements including organizing the very first Walk for Climate as well as #FridaysforFuture event in Northern Ghana. Aside these, Evergreen Terra Foundation has paid numerous educational visits to various schools and donated trees to these schools as well. He is currently a practicing Medical Doctor who is also actively involved in Climate Action and Environmental Protection. Driven by a passion to protect Nature/Earth, Abdul aspires to enhance youth participation in the Climate Action.



**Stephanie Eyam Akrumah, Ghana**

*Founder, Eco-Cura*

Stephanie Eyam Akrumah is the founder of Eco-Cura, an initiative that tackles plastic pollution on three levels 1. Changing Mindset 2. Providing viable alternatives 3. Utilising existing plastic waste in eco-friendly ways. Her experience in leadership, public speaking and community organisation propels her cause, these experiences amongst others, range from her work with Deutsch Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ-Ghana) to being a President of a Toastmasters club. Her background in social work and interest in law empowers her advocacy. She believes the future is for the youth, who will be most affected by the climate crisis. She is committed to the reduction of plastic pollution and working actively at getting as many people as possible to a state of eco-consciousness.



### **Ibrahima Sory Sow, Guinea**

*Economist | Founder, Les Jeunes Ambassadeurs de l'Environnement pour le Développement durable*

I am a young professional changemaker, community builder and organiser, SDG's advocate, climate Justice League activist, environmental protector, and Human rights defender. I am the founder Les Jeunes ambassadeurs de l'Environnement pour le Développement durable, and a campus Director at Hult Prize foundation, Global Schools Program advocate at United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network-Youth. I am open for connecting with any like-minded people, leader, and community builder, environmental protectors, climate Justice activists around the world.



### **Caroline Kimani, Kenya**

*Co-founder, My Earth Space Initiative*

Caroline Kimani has an enduring passion for Conservation ever since she was an undergraduate. She is a final year M.Sc. Student studying Range Management at the University of Nairobi. Her research project focuses on the implications of land use and cover changes on human-elephant conflict in Southern Kenya using an integrated (conventional and participatory) GIS model.

Caroline has contributed to projects in Dryland Resilience in Kakuma, Northern Kenya, with Danish Refugee Council; Impacts of the LAPSET and Mega Infrastructure Projects on Livelihoods of Communities in Marsabit by Cordaid International and African Dryland Institute for Sustainability; One Health Central and Eastern Africa Community-Based research as well as Centre for Advanced Studies on Environmental Law and Policy in Nairobi.

Due to her insatiable passion for environmental conservation, Caroline co-founded My Earth Space Initiative (MESI) in 2019. MESI is a youth-led organization whose vision espouses a society where individuals and institutions adopt behaviors that reflect commitment to a sustainable environment for future generations. Similarly, she is a Climate Friendly Travel Champion at SUNx Malta and an organizing member of the Strong Earth Youth Summit 2021 for Climate Friendly Travel.

Caroline is fascinated by nature and loves to travel. She has a deep fondness for the company of great friends and a good book. She loves to write and enjoys learning new languages as well as new cultures.





**Manasiti Omar, Kenya**

*Founder and CEO, Spring of the arid and semi-arid lands (SASAL)*

A background in Meteorology and environmental governance. Climate and Environment Activist- Advocating for better decisions when it comes to climate and environmental conservation. Young leader, Founder and CEO of spring of the arid and semi-arid lands (SASAL) a startup NGO working with pastoral communities for their improved climate resilience. Passionate about bringing change to the ASAL's of Kenya. My vision is to "Green the ASAL's of Kenya" which I have already kickstarted. I believe fighting climate change is possible with tallied efforts from different players around the world. It only takes the right mindset.



**Mamasupha Sole, Lesotho**

*Student, MSc in Environmental Science, Trinity College Dublin*

Mamasupha Sole is a young Mosotho woman who advocates and protects the environment in the Kingdom of Lesotho. She is the co-founder of an NGO called Keep Lesotho Beautiful. She currently pursuing her master's degree in environmental science at Trinity College Dublin. She holds an undergraduate majoring in Biology and Chemistry from The National University of Lesotho, and her honors degree was in Environmental Management.

Keep Lesotho Beautiful was established to create environmental awareness and promote community involvement in the protection and conservation of the natural environment in Lesotho. As a professional in her own right, she designs plans and strategizes the direction in which the organization will take.

Upon completion of her studies, she wishes to return to Lesotho and sow all the seeds she would have learnt from abroad. Having experienced best international practice, policies and innovative technologies, she wishes to collaborate with The Government of Lesotho, local private and public enterprises and international and/or regional organizations to influence and come up with solution-driven innovations to combat environmental threats and aims to reduce the rate and Impact of climate change.



**Lawrence J. W Sergbou, Liberia**

*Founder and Executive Director, Consolidation Health Care Liberia (CHECAL)*

Lawrence J.W Sergbou is a student at the University of Liberia studying Public Health. He is a youth activist, motivational speaker, a health promoter, and a former radio presenter. He is a 2020 Global Peace Ambassador for Global Peace Chain and a recipient of the 2020 Young Liberian Excellence Award for community service and voluntarism from Liberia Research and Development Network (LRDN). He studied Electoral Management, Campaign planning and political leadership at the Young Political Leadership School of Africa. He currently serves as the vice president for administration at the Students against Corruption, an anti-corruption organization that fights corruption in Liberian schools. Lawrence is also the current Technical Director for the University of Liberia Public Health Students Association and the Founder and Executive Director of Consolidation Health Care Liberia (CHECAL), a local NGO that promotes and provides healthcare services through community actions in Liberia. He believes that health plays a fundamental role in human existence and the social infrastructure and economic development of any country. “If health for all is prioritized by government authorities, and all patriotic and responsible global citizens, our world will be a healthy living space and mother earth will be safe”. He is a passionate young leader who is volunteering for other local and international organizations including YALI Network, YouthLead, Students against Corruption, etc.



**Sambatra Kezia Rakotomanga, Madagascar**

*Student, Master in Agricultural Economics, University of Antananarivo*

Sambatra Kezia Rakotomanga is a young person from one of the vanilla islands, an island also called the “eighth continent”, home of Baobab trees, orchids, lemurs, chameleons... However, this beauty and wealth is endangered since Madagascar is one of the most vulnerable countries to the effects of climate change. She believes that climate action is urgent and vital if we want to keep a livable world for future generations. She studied for a master’s degree in Agricultural Economics at the École Supérieure des Sciences Agronomiques, University of Antananarivo. She was selected as a Regional Ambassador of Eco-Network in Madagascar, a youth-led organization that works for environmental sustainability present in several countries around the world. She is also a member of the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) Network.



**Chisomo Kanthema, Malawi**

*Founder and CEO, GreenAct*

Chisomo is a social entrepreneur and a climate change activist passionate about community development and youth engagement. Leveraging innovation and creativity in digital manufacturing to reduce plastic waste and improve waste management in Malawi.



**Elias Gaveta, Malawi**

*Environmental Trainer and Programmer, Peace Corps Malawi | Founder, Conservation Arts Malawi*

Elias Gaveta is a climate activist with focus on building resilience among smallholder farmers. As a researcher he aims at contributing to the development of climate smart agriculture technologies, as an advocate he utilizes artistic approaches to engage the youth, policy makers and the academia facilitating productive interaction and raising awareness, he is also involved in outreach and capacity building activities which includes offering trainings, documentation of case studies and facilitating climate actions.



**Enelless Phiri, Malawi**

*Co-founder, Youth SDGs Corps Malawi*

Enelless Pemba Phiri is the current president of YALI association of Malawi, a Mandela Washington fellow 2017; A visual artist; a co-founder of Youth SDG Corps Malawi her favorite Goal is 13! Climate action! a climate change activist, an active member of National Youth Network on Climate Change (NYNCC) in Malawi, Enelless believes climate change solution starts with you, and me from where you are with what you have! If we take a small collective action, we will leave no one behind come 2030! Enelless is also a founder of Anthu Aluso initiative that provide economic security for women in need by training them in art and craft through recycled materials; a COVID-19 changemaker trained by WHO. Africa unite human rights peer educator.



**Doorgeshwaree [Neha] Jaggeshar, Mauritius**

*Research Assistant, University of Mauritius*

Doorgeshwaree Jaggeshar is a degree holder in Chemical and Energy Engineering from the University of Mauritius, where she is working as Research Assistant in the field of energy and environmental sustainability for Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Her research interests focus on climate change adaptation & mitigation, energy security and renewable energy promotion in SIDS. Doorgeshwaree is also a member of African Women in Renewable Energy (WIRE) network under the aegis of Clinton Climate Initiative. Taking sustainable development outside the professional domain, Doorgeshwaree is an active member of the Rotaract Club of Atlantis Business School; a group of young generation dedicated to making a difference in the society.



**Segbedji Favi, Niger**

*Student, Sustainable Rural Transformation Engineering (Water-Energy-Food-Environment nexus), Abdou Moumouni University of Niger*

Segbedji Geraldo FAVI is an industrial maintenance Engineer from Benin and holds a master’s degree in Sustainable Rural Transformation Engineering (Water-Energy-Food-Environment nexus) with a DAAD scholarship at the Abdou Moumouni University of Niger within the framework of WACSRT. He worked as a production and depollution manager at Green Keeper Africa. As a young leader and devoted to helping his environment, Segbedji Geraldo is the Core founder of the Climate and Sustainable Development Action Club in Niger. He led the club as Executive Coordinator from 12/2018 to 11/2020. Segbedji Geraldo is also a scout leader and co-founder of Affro-United, a youth organisation with the vision of unity among Africans, a peaceful continent, without any barriers of race and gender. He is also one of the laureates of the 2020 cohort of the Clinton Global Initiative. In addition, with a team of 5 persons, he wound the Youth challenge funds 2020 of Plan Internation.

Furthermore, he is a young entrepreneur and researcher with a passion for energy systems modelling, rural electrification and energy auditing, with valuable analytical skills. His field of research is the water-energy-food nexus, energy efficiency and integrated rural solutions.



**Rebecca Andeshi, Nigeria**

*Founder, Awe Farms and Consult*

Dr. Rebecca Achokpe Andeshi is a veterinarian and a social entrepreneur a graduate of Usmanu Dan Fodio University Sokoto. The founder of Awe farm and Consult, a Nigerian based startup that provides small holder livestock farmers with high quality and affordable farm inputs from recycled Agricultural waste and Veterinary services. She is passionate about tackling food insecurity, financial insecurity and ensuring public health safety. She is an Alumni of Enterprise Development Center and an Acumen West Africa Fellow also seated on the Oxfam in Nigeria Youth Advisory Board.



## **Tolulope Olukokun, Nigeria**

*Founder, ThinkElectric Africa Initiative*

Olukokun Tolulope is the founder of ThinkElectric Africa Initiative, an organization with the sole mission of intensifying Africa's transitioning to renewable energy and sustainable transport using technology, practical research, education and advocacy.

He is a seasoned social entrepreneur who is of a rare breed. He has a number of publications, an innovator with a number of patents. He is an ardent problem-solver, and he has proven beyond reasonable doubt that renewable energy and electric mobility is the possible future of Nigeria, Africa and the world at large. His works have been featured on both local & international media.

Tolulope is passionate about environmental challenges, inadequate means of transportation, climate change and he has given up all of his resources to see that these problems are solved. He is SDGs 7, 9 and 13 champion who makes use of his engineering and technological skills to pursue other sustainable goals such as quality education, food security and gender equality.

He is named as one of the Ten Outstanding Young Persons of Nigeria (TOYP 2020) by Junior Chambers International Nigeria (JCIN) and won the African Under-40 Green Award, which was presented by the Ambassador of Sweden to Nigeria, at the Swedish embassy in Abuja Nigeria. He was also awarded as the Youth Entrepreneur of The Year 2020 by National Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN) Oyo State chapter.

He is currently applying to start PhD research works at a reputable institution.



## **Usman Muhammad, Nigeria**

*Executive Director, Centre for Renewable Energy and Action on Climate Change*

I am Usman Muhammad, an Independent Consultant, Climate Activist, Social Entrepreneur, and Principal Researcher on Low Carbon Development and Green Growth. Over the last 8 years, I have been addressing socioeconomic problems in my local community and across the world through impact investing, climate change, capacity building and currently studying MSc in Gender, Environment and Development at Usman Danfodio University, Nigeria. I founded Centre for Renewable Energy and Action on Climate Change (CREACC-Nigeria) in 2010 and also initiated climate action programs aimed at restoring peace and reversing menace of desertification and drought in Northern Nigeria. Over the last 7 years, I have been on volunteering, and I am affiliated with many global networks. I wrote and delivered several papers on climate change, sustainability, security and renewable energy within and outside Nigeria. I also had certificates from global institutions.



### **Emmanuel Sindikubwabo, Rwanda**

*Co-founder & Executive Director, WE DO GREEN Organization*

Mr. Emmanuel Sindikubwabo is the co-founder and Executive Director of WE DO GREEN- one of Africa's rising and a Kigali-based certified youth-led environmental NGO established in 2018. The team is on a mission to engage young people in responding to the climate crisis, leaving no one behind in the work for environmental protection and climate change mitigation. As Executive Director, Emmanuel coordinates the organization's activities, tackling issues of environmental sustainability, access to renewable energy, access to clean water, and food security with underprivileged communities around Rwanda.

Emmanuel has an impressive track record in research, design, and project management, focusing on sustainable engineering solutions. After earning his bachelor's degree in Mechanical and Energy Engineering from the College of Science and Technology at the University of Rwanda in 2018, Emmanuel worked as an Energy Consultant at the Global Green Growth Institute Based in Seoul, South Korea. Emmanuel worked to highlight the socio-economic benefits of the Paris Agreement, promoting employment opportunities in the renewable energy sector. Emmanuel has also worked as an energy engineer with a Kigali-based startup company providing custom solutions in energy. At Ahi, Emmanuel carried out in-depth research on clean cooking biogas technology in Rwanda and India, successfully developing a proof of concept approved by the Rwandan government in 2018. He enjoys traveling.

### **Honorine Isingizwe, Rwanda**

*Executive Director, Young Volunteers for the Environment (YVE) Rwanda*



Honorine is an environmental activist with a Bachelor of Science in land survey and starting this year a master's degree in GIS for the environment and sustainable development. She has been engaged in climate actions for many years both through on-ground activities and engagement in broader processes. She is a co-founder and the Executive Director of Young Volunteers for the Environment (YVE) in Rwanda, one of 28 national representations of JVE International, a youth-led organization with a mission to develop leadership and eco-citizenship of young people for their engagement in sustainable development of their communities. Honorine is really driven to be an effective leader and very keen to advancing her knowledge for climate change and gain critical skills for driving ambitious climate actions.



**Alhassan Sesay, Sierra Leone**

*Founder and President, Sierra Leone School Green Club (SLSGC)*

Alhassan Sesay is a youth mobilizer, organizer and an inspirator, born and raised in rural Sierra Leone. He is the Founder and President of The Sierra Leone School Green Club (SLSGC) which was founded in 2015, an environmental, educational and agricultural organization that works with schools and communities. We've established up to 10 environmental school clubs in the Western Rural District of Sierra Leone.

Though an amputee using prosthesis, he has been part of many youth exchanges and volunteering programs ranging from national to international (YALI Fellowship Ghana Cohort 4), Africa Change Makers Fellowship 2018 (Cohort 1). Focal Point for Citizen Climate Lobby (CCL-Africa) in Sierra Leone. A member of Climate Reality Project (2020), member of Resilient40 an open society made of youth who are engaged in climate activities, our value comes from having a broad range of expertise and from different African countries creating a platform of youth inclusive participation across Africa and world.

He has won many awards, ranging from the youth that do well in the SDGs in Sierra Leone (SDG 2 Zero Hunger), Global Youth Climate Network (GYCN) Climate-Smart Entrepreneurship Contest 2018 as honorary (2nd Position).



**Emmanuel Lavalie, Sierra Leone**

*Founder and CEO, Agriculture Multimedia and Entertainment for Growth (AMEG)*

Emmanuel is born and raised in Sierra Leone by Sierra Leonean parents. He is married to Susan Lavalie and has 3 beautiful daughters (Elizabeth, Josephine and Emmanuella). Emmanuel is the Founder and CEO of Agriculture Multimedia and Entertainment for Growth a company that harnesses the potential of digital technology to setup, support and promote businesses and entrepreneurs in agriculture, food production, health care, transportation, infrastructure, multimedia and entertainment (film, music & fashion). Emmanuel is a Career Accelerator at the Global Startup Ecosystem (GSE), an Ambassador for Sierra Leone and Africa at Thought for Food (TFF) for his massive contribution in promoting land rights and rights to food and climate change issues. Emmanuel has worked for the British Council as the Project Manager for Arts and Creative Economies for Sierra Leone, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal and was a member of the country senior leadership team. He has also worked as the Programs Director for SACH and many other voluntary consultations and research work for the European Union, UNFPA, SiLNoRF and PROTECT-SL.



**Nobantu Modise, South Africa**

*Founder & Editor in Chief, Afrophilia Magazine & Ecophilia Life | Head of Press Relations, Goodvertising*

I'm a Founder and Editor who's physically located in Johannesburg (thanks, COVID) but roams and creates across borders digitally, on a daily basis. For me business and creativity can and should serve as forces for the good of people and planet.

I'm an International Relations & Political Science graduate who's worked as a copywriter, copy editor, photographer and Publisher. These experiences culminated in me founding and serving as Editor-in-Chief of Afrophilia. A vibrant platform dedicated to exploring all there is to love about Africa. Aligning values and the wonderful opportunity to collaborate with other exceptional creatives for the good of people and planet has led me to serve as Head of Press Relations at Goodvertising Agency. In addition to this, I serve on the Board of Wikimedia South Africa. In all my work I strive to increase international engagement with African communities and desire to see Africa at the centre of pressing conversations and initiatives related to climate action and environmental sustainability.



**Madol Ayuen Akol, South Sudan**

*Environmental Innovator*

Madol Ayuen has over 8 years work experiences, and he hold Master of Science in environmental innovation from University of Juba, he has work in several positions while serving humanity in the most volatile countryside. With much and deep knowledge in environment, he is currently a climate innovator with climate technologies center network and the founder of Afri-carbon pay South Sudan nonprofit organization using technology to address climate change in sub-Saharan Africa region and the global.



**Kueshi Semanou Dahan, Togo**

*PH.D. Candidate in Environmental Management and Sustainability, University for Development Studies, Ghana*

Associative leader/web activist/volunteer committed to youth empowerment, environmental protection, education for youth civic responsibility. He is very involved in the associative movements. He joined the UNESCO University Club for the Environment. He has also been a coordinator and trainer in the field of health, culture and the environment at the NGO AfricaTIC Employment, an NGO based in Benin (Cotonou) and currently Vice President of the NGO Human Right Priority (Climate Justice). As part of the One Planet fellowship program, his field of research is focused on wildfires, plant dynamics, climate change, forest management, remote sensing and GIS. He is presently pursuing a PhD in Environmental Management and Sustainability at the Univiersity for Development Studies in Ghana. These efforts have been recognized by his nomination as Green Ambassador for the Climate in Africa 2020 by Climate Change Africa Opportunities (CCAO).





**Irene Nagudi, Uganda**

*Founder, Kichini Gardeners*

Irene Nagudi is a founder of Kichini Gardeners that promotes sustainable gardening practices among children and communities. An environmental scientist who has spent the past three years working with individuals and youth organizations to lead on conservation. Through her commitment and passion for green spaces, she has co-founded two environmental conservation youth organizations i.e., Fika Afrika Advocacy Foundation and Uganda Youth Biodiversity Network a chapter of the Global Youth Biodiversity Network. She also specializes in working with youth to startup initiatives within the conservation space.

Irene is involved in education and awareness about sustainable practices like plastics waste management, clean water advocacy and climate change through campaigns, petitions, school outreaches. She further understands that hunger is on a rise with unsustainable food production with the limited idea about conservation or even adverse effects of climate change resulting from their doings. She believes through sustainable gardening; we will be connecting children to the conservation of life in the garden and increase of green spaces within homes and serving as role models to our communities.



**Laura Nkhuwa, Zambia**

*Research Assistant, United Nations Development Programme*

Laura Nkhuwa has five years of work experience in the nonprofit sector, she earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Adult Education from the University of Zambia and is a master's degree candidate in Climate Change and Sustainable Development at Mulungushi University. Laura has a certificate in Civic Leadership from the YALI Regional Leadership Centre Southern Africa Program.

Laura Nkhuwa is passionate about improving and sustaining livelihoods and currently working on a Climate Change project called Strengthening Climate Resilience of Agricultural Livelihoods in Agro-Ecological Regions 1 and 2 of Zambia with UNDP. She is also a co-founder of an organization called Global Women Climate Finance Initiative (GWCFI) located in Lusaka, Zambia. GWCFI has been created with the ethos to respond to the many challenges faced by women coupled with the effects of climate change. The initiative provides climate-resilient business solutions to women, help build capacity in them by empowering them to possess good qualities and skills to create sustainable futures and resilient communities.

Laura has also worked with organizations such as EQUIP Health - Right to Care Zambia, Restless Development, World Vision Zambia, AFRICARE, and at the Zambian Mission to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland in positions centered on research and M and E.

Laura holds skills among others that include Research, stakeholder engagement, community mobilization, data management, and analysis, and M and E.

## EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



### **Hannah Melville-Rea, Australia**

*Anne Kantor Fellow, The Australia Institute*

Hannah researches climate adaptation challenges including from drought, glacial floods and sea-level rise. She has trained with Al Gore in climate leadership, participated in UNFCCC climate negotiations and provided policy recommendations to the G7 Summit. Though her current position at a public policy think tank, Hannah aims to produce high impact research that shapes Australian climate and energy decisions.



### **Pengfei Jiang, China**

*Assistant Dean, Institute of Educational Studies (IES) at Long-Spring Education Group*

I work as an Assistant Dean for Institute of Educational Studies at Long-Spring Education Group which has 19 independent high schools in southern China, where I deliver teacher training, curriculum development, assessment administration and technology in education. As I previously worked for Wellington College Hangzhou and Thinktown Education, I also specialized in international education in terms of the curriculum that combines STEM and SDGs by the mode of Online-Merge-Offline. My research interests specifically focused on SDGs and technology in education, when I did my master's degree at University of Oxford.



### **Karishma Nandan, Fiji**

*Project Coordinator, AVI*

My name is Karishma Nandan and I work as a Project Coordinator for COMBAT AMR project in Fiji. This project focuses on a one health approach towards the fight against increased antimicrobial resistance in Fiji and is being managed by the Doherty Institute in Melbourne, Australia along with a consortium of partner organization.

Prior to joining this project, I was the Country Director for Projects Abroad which is a UK based volunteer facilitating organization. Through my 9-year tenure with Projects Abroad, I amassed a range of skills and experiences ranging from project coordination & management, volunteer & people management, cultural & health awareness and environment conservation.

I have an undergraduate degree in Marine Studies and an MBA both from local universities. I possess strong ethical beliefs and value honesty; commitment and accountability and I have always applied these values into my professional and personal work. Through my work with conservation, I have managed to contribute towards planting mangroves to help shoreline restoration, create awareness for young children on impacts of land-based pollution to marine life and helped make young international volunteer aware on how climate change is impacting Fiji. As a Fijian, I am concerned about how climate change will affect my beautiful country in the near future, and I want to be part of a global community who can help in aiding the fight against climate change.



### **Fithriyyah Iskandar, Indonesia**

Bachelor's in medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS), University of Tanjungpura

Fithriyyah is an Environment Youth Activist working since 2015 on Climate Change and Marine Debris Issues. She is a Doctor of Medicine from Tanjungpura University. She introduced and established Seangle Indonesia Chapter Pontianak, which aims to educate people who live alongside the Kapuas River to stop littering and empowering youth to take action for a better environment. She has spoken at the UNESCAP-UNDESA Asia-Pacific Stakeholder Webinar about marine plastic pollution & The 15th Policy Consultation Forum of The Seoul Initiative Network on Green Growth (SINGG) 2020. Also, she has been part of APFSD Youth Forum 2019 as climate change panelist in Thailand, bringing upriver littering and how youth are saving the environment in Pontianak City. Now, she's establishing & leading a project named Asia-Pacific Climate Project that promoting SDG 13 - 15 and providing an online platform for youth in Asia-Pacific to interact & engage in environmental issues.



### **Stevie Harison, Indonesia**

*Founder, Inspirator Muda Nusantara*

Stevie Leonard Harison, a passionate youth activist from Indonesia. He obtained his bachelor's degree of Social Sciences in International Relations from the University of Indonesia in 2010. He joined civil society activism since 2010 until present to sharpen his skills and experiences on several issues such as democracy and anti-corruption, climate change and environmental preservation, education, and sustainable development. Besides being activist, online-offline, national-international, he is also active e-learner who have completed relevant e-courses held by World Bank Institute, UNITAR, UNCC e-Learn, and YSEALI Learns by US Mission to ASEAN. Furthermore, Stevie is founder of Inspirator Muda Nusantara, a youth empowerment community based in Bandung, Indonesia. Recently, He also represent his organization in the membership of UNEP MGCY, joining other young environmental leaders from around the globe. In the past, he has rich UN experiences such as being online volunteer for UNCSD Rio+20 2012, delegate for UNAOC Global Forum and Youth Event 2014, member of UN Teamworks 2015, delegate for Asia Pacific Urban Forum 6 UNESCAP and Habitat III High Level Meeting UN Habitat in 2015.



### **Jin Tanaka, Japan**

*Student, Bachelor in Environment Engineering, Kyushu University*

I have been working vigorously as a youth on three main issues: climate change, biodiversity, and conservation of the marine environment, from various approaches including academia, international conferences, policy advocacy, and practical training.

Today, as a member of YOUNGO's Local Conference of Youth working group, Japan coordinator of the Conference of Youth, and Japan representative of the High Seas Ambassador Program, I am working to connect Japan and the rest of the world for comprehensive environmental conservation.

As an academic approach, he has been developing consensus-building theory and methods for social dialogue with citizens in collaboration with the National Institute for Environmental Studies and has been presenting his work at academic conferences in Japan and abroad, as well as giving lectures at universities.

In addition, as a member of the executive committee of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, she is working to ensure that the opinions of youth are reflected in policy making by making policy proposals and organizing summits from the perspective of youth to achieve the SDGs.



**Chuck Chuan Ng, Malaysia**

Assistant Professor, China-ASEAN College of Marine Sciences, Xiamen University Malaysia (XMUM)

Dr. Chuck Chuan NG received his First-Class Honours Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science and Management and subsequently completed his fast-track Ph.D. in Applied Environmental Sciences both at the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. He is currently working as an Assistant Professor at the China-ASEAN College of Marine Sciences, Xiamen University Malaysia (XMUM).



**Prince Jimdel Ventura, Philippines**

Founder and CEO, Wear Forward | Spokesperson, Fashion Revolution Philippines | Youth 4 Sustainable Cities Ambassador, MakeSense | Climate Reality Leader, The Climate Reality Project | Auditor, Filipino Fashion Designers and Organizers Association

Prince is a fashion social technopreneur, consultant, designer, stylist, and speaker who is addressing the environmental and socioeconomic impacts of fashion and revolutionizing to achieve a restorative and regenerative fashion industry.

He is the Founder and CEO of Wear Forward which is the Philippines’ premier clothing as a service fashion tech startup and social enterprise that champions sustainability, circular fashion, and collaborative consumption. He is also the Spokesperson of Fashion Revolution Philippines, a part of the global Fashion Revolution movement that is calling for a fair, clean, safe, and a more sustainable fashion industry.

Moreover, he is a Youth 4 Sustainable Cities Ambassador of MakeSense who seeks to engage and empower the youth with the Sustainable Development Goals and urban sustainable development. He is also a Climate Reality Leader who influences others to take climate action towards the fashion industry issues both producers and consumers face today.

Prince is a Christian who loves to learn, serve, lead, and inspire.



**Talua Nivaga, Tuvalu**

*Founder, Fuligafou - New Transformation (NGO)*

My name is Talua Nivaga and I am the founder of the Fuligafou - New Transformation (NGO). Our vision is to unite youths of diverse backgrounds to focus their energy on the restoration of our coral reefs. I am currently working as the Fisheries Asset Officer within the Fisheries Department of the Government of Tuvalu. In the meantime, I am pursuing a Bachelor of Commerce/LLB at the University of the South Pacific and I wish to continue my studies on the field of climate change in the future. I have a passion of becoming one of the most forefront youths in the world, who does not only rise to tackle the impacts of climate change but also contribute to the welfare of all humankind.



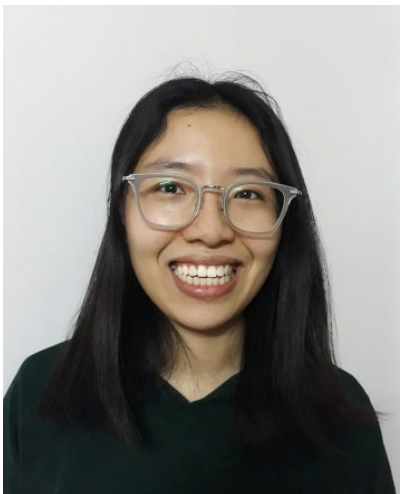
**Kai Jie Ang, Singapore**

*Chartered Accountant, Infineon Technologies*

If I were a dog, I would have been a Shetland Sheepdog. Layered by a strong sense of duty and affection for the community, I believe in leading them in the right direction to make sound decisions that will benefit our generation and the generations to come.

Astute, agile, and adventurous, I am a Chartered Accountant by profession and a leader of expeditions by passion. I enjoy the challenge of resolving intricate accounting problems and leading teams to explore the beauty in the path less traveled, be it at work or through community involvement projects across Asia.

Hailing from a little red dot on the world map known as Singapore, it does not make my aspiration to protect our planet any smaller. Through my ambassadorship with the Global Youth Climate Network, I strive to raise greater awareness about climate change and inspire commitment towards making our world a better place.



**Phuong Linh Tran, Vietnam**

*Student, bachelor's in finance and Banking, Foreign Trade University*

I am a freshman filled with passion, enthusiasm, and optimism towards life. I love reading, cooking, learning new things, and spending time with my family. I am an introvert, but I always feel a spark of excitement whenever faced with challenges, and I regard this opportunity as a precious one for myself to be more active and confident in expressing my ideas.

Taking the role of a Climate Ambassador this year, I shall urge myself to take strong environmental actions towards the loving community that I am proudly a resident of, and to perhaps and hopefully unfold some new aspects about myself that I have yet to discover.

## EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA



**Adla Kahrić, Bosnia and Herzegovina**

*Co-Founder and Vice President, Center for Marine and Freshwater Biology Sharklab ADRIA*

I have finished my BSc study in Genetics and MSc in Ecology (Department for biology) on University of Sarajevo - Faculty of Science. During my study, I was responsible, ambitious and hard work student with the enthusiastic aim to develop marine science in my country. Therefore, I started to work in wildlife conservation as a student which improve my skills after graduation for further conservation activities. I gained great experience in biology, ecology, conservation genetics and natural conservation – both in laboratory work and in the field work. My work is characterized by high quality which was also proven when I become the Co-founder and Vice president of Center for marine and freshwater biology Sharklab ADRIA where science was promoted through research, education and conservation. Furthermore, as a project

coordinator/assistant or an expert I was engaged in 22 different projects which were funded by government, embassies, international foundations or EU funds.



**Filip Koprčina, Cyprus**

*Volunteer, European Solidarity Corps*

I am 24 years old, and I come from a beautiful country called Croatia. My background is in Political Science, but early in my life I developed a passion for clean energy, environment and stopping climate change. Even during my studies I've been pursuing extra-curricular activities to learn more about climate change, global warming and connected topics. I've been a part of environmental organisations such as Friends of the Earth, been trained as a Green Activist by the Green European Foundation and now I'm volunteering on a European Solidarity Corps project with an aim to increase awareness on SDGs in Cyprus. Also, I've started and helped start several initiatives and startups that tackled challenges we face in the climate space, first one that I co-founded was a startup transforming sea water into drinkable water that is still operating today. After leaving it, I've started my own startup raising funds for renewable energy projects. And my last initiative that I've started is a tree planting initiative, and so far, we planted more than 33.000 trees in Africa.

I consider myself to be a technology savvy businessperson and I am a highly motivated, energetic thinker and a doer ready to tackle new challenges.



**Neel Tamhane, Denmark**

*Solar Strategy Lead, SPACE10*

Neel is the solar strategy lead at SPACE10 - IKEA's global research and design lab. Neel is leading research explorations and identifying opportunities for how solar energy can become a key enabler for communities with limited means to improve their everyday life at home. Neel has led product development of a localized energy trading platform (SOLshare) to enable that help to democratise clean energy in the past. He is currently designing renewable energy products and services that are not only aimed to help people with limited energy access step up in the energy ladder but also empower users in urban areas to make the energy transition by taking power into their own hands.



**Emma Sairanen, Finland**

*Student, Master's in Biotechnology, Aalto University*

Emma Sairanen is a challenge-driven life-long learner striving towards stubborn optimism. She is currently finishing her master's degree in biotechnology and representing youth as the Finnish Youth Delegate for Climate Change. During her 2+ years as a climate action advocate, she has been initialising and coordinating projects and campaigns ranging from a hosting a private vegan January challenge, to coordinating a national climate campaign and from organising "Climate grill" webinars where youth get to meet ministers to touring high schools with a WWF lecture on biodiversity and food production. Emma recently represented Finnish youth at the youth led Mock COP26 climate conference.



**Auriane Tang, France**

*Student, Master's in International Management, EM Lyon*

French master's student passionate about climate initiatives, from impact investing and renewables financing to greentech entrepreneurship. FR 🌱🌍

👛 Previously an investment analyst intern at the World Bank Group (IFC), Barclays and BNP Paribas.

🚀 Currently attending Schoolab Paris' entrepreneurship & innovation training program and working for the greentech startup WeNow.

us Moving to the United States from August, to study at UC Berkeley.

🌿 Launched very recently a bilingual (French/English) Instagram page, @ecofrenchly, to share facts, discussions, solutions and inspiring thoughts about climate.

Delighted to join the GYCN 2021 Climate Ambassadors cohort.



**Nicolas Schweigert, Germany**

*Ecological Footprint Manager, Bayer AG*

Nico is a young professional working within the health and environmental sphere to shape the future with passion and innovation.



**Sara Salvato, Italy**

*Young Professional*

“Start with a small and simple gesture and you will attain the best”.

This is one of my favourite quotes that I've been following to build a strong basis for my future. Over the years I have focused my studies on learning foreign languages and literatures, majoring in arts and communication.

I am a smart and curious person, a very open-minded and versatile woman who has a real passion for human behaviour, human rights, and wildlife, the ocean especially. I swam for 13 years as a professional swimmer and now I'm practicing surf and scuba diving.

I'm particularly interested in human footprint, recycling systems, and sustainability. I love travelling, I feel like a “culture venturer”: since I was child I have been surrounded by people with different cultures and my travels got me to experience great regional food, talk with locals, and capture the real essence of the places while admiring and learning their ways of living and traditions.

I've been travelling the world for the last 2 years, getting in touch with people and associations who act against climate change, and so I have started to do the same, inspiring others with my example, making awareness raising campaign through video and social media. My final goal is to create a good harmony mix



between human beings and their environment and I'm pretty sure we need to start from people and their daily life. I personally live by a philosophy that keeps my focus on human wellness and sustainable living too.



**Kurmet Zaman, Kazakhstan**

Student, Bachelor's in Corporate Finance

Kurmet Zaman is a proactive youth activist based in Kazakhstan, currently pursuing Bachelor's Degree in Corporate Finance at KIMEP University in Central Asia. He is the holder of several academic awards and scholarships, including the Sur-Place scholarship provided by Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Foundation in Kazakhstan. He is also the recipient of the Presidential Scholarship. Kurmet Zaman is an alumnus of FLEX - Future Leaders Exchange Program. He spent one academic year in the United States (Bedford, IN) and actively participated in cultural exchange program, the main focus of which is to prepare a new generation of effective and outstanding leaders who will act locally and think globally for the betterment of their communities. He organizes different social and environmental project and in spare time enjoys traveling, reading books, learning languages, doing sports, playing dombyra (National Kazakh instrument) and volunteering.



**Fjollë Caka, Kosovo**

*Ph.D. Candidate | Spatial/Urban Planning Associate, UN-Habitat*

Fjollë is an architect and spatial/urban planner from Prishtina (Kosovo). She holds a BS. in Architecture, a BS. in Sociology, and a M.Sc. in Architecture obtained at the University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina", as well as an M.P.S. in Sustainable Urban Planning focused on Climate Change Management and Policy at the George Washington University (GWU) in Washington, D.C. Currently, she is a PhD candidate in Environmental Management at the Institute for Environment and Health, Southeast Eastern University (SEEU) in Tetovo (North Macedonia). Since 2012, she has been involved in different projects related to urban planning and design, cultural heritage, public spaces, memorial sites, arts and architectural events, adequate and affordable housing, as well as climate change adaptation and mitigation. While in the United States, she was affiliated with the Wilson Center and the World Bank, led the Sustainable Urban Planning Student Organization, and received two awards due to her extraordinary academic achievement and contribution to the university life (George Washington Award & George Washington Alumni Association Prize, 2018). Currently, Fjollë works for the Inclusive Development Programme at UN-Habitat. Fjollë invests her academic knowledge and professional expertise on building sustainable, resilient, low-carbon, just and healthy cities and communities in Kosovo and beyond.



**Jade Jolene Verheije, Netherlands**

*Finance Manager, Energy Industry*

Jade Jolene Verheije is keenly interested in the intersection of energy and the environment, with a particular focus on the advancement of international development through enhanced access to sustainable energy. Originally from the Netherlands, she has studied and worked in nine countries on five continents. Jade has worked for the United Nations, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, and Royal Dutch Shell. She has participated in climate change research in the USA, Africa, Asia, and the Arctic, and is the founder of an environmental NGO.

During her completed studies towards a master's in international Affairs from Columbia University School of International & Public Affairs, Jade focused on Climate Change Policy, Adaptation, and Mitigation. She also holds a Master's in International Management from the Rotterdam School of Management and a Master's in Finance from Copenhagen Business School.



**Thaddeus Anim-Somuah, Netherlands**

*Engineering Manager Projects, Croda*

I'm a chemical engineer who's passionate about sustainability. In my role at Croda I have been part of a project reducing its emissions in Croda Netherlands by 25% from 2013 to 2018 and am now part of a Global Decarbonisation Roadmap to reduce emissions by 50% from 2018 to 2030. Alongside this I advocate and promote sustainability in my free time through the EU Climate Pact and Sustainability networks (e.g KEK, Worldconnectors). For my contributions I have been recognised as Forbes 30 Under 30 and appointed to several boards including executive board of European Federation of Chemical Engineering and advisory board of Global Engineering Futures.



**Sofia Barbeiro, Portugal**

*Fundraising Strategist, Girl MOVE (Gender Equality and Women Empowerment)*

Experienced young professional with NGOs, bilateral and multilateral institutions in International Development and Cooperation, with a Double Degree MSc in Management from NOVA School of Business and Economics and Louvain School of Management. Currently a Fundraising Strategist at Girl MOVE, working in project design and funds management. Strong focus on gender equality and social inclusion, with a personal interest for environmental protection and addressing the climate change & social justice relationship. Committed to the Global Goals, namely SDGs 5, 12, 13, and 16.



**Andrei Covatariu, Romania**

*Senior Research Associate, Energy Policy Group | Director, offwater.org | Climate Ambassador, Climate Interactive*

Andrei Covatariu is currently pursuing a master’s in public policy at the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford. At the same time, he is a Senior Research Associate at Energy Policy Group. Andrei is also the Founder and Director of offwater.org (an initiative on water-related issues), and a Climate Ambassador at Climate Interactive.

He was previously the Head of Public Affairs at Enel Romania, previously holding several positions inside the company, such as Regulatory Affairs Manager, Digital Manager, Executive Assistant to the CEO & Country Manager, and Market Analyst.

Andrei was also a Member of the Board of the FEL-100 community (2018-2020), the community that gathers the most promising 100 young professionals in the energy sector worldwide, a programme designed and coordinated by the World Energy Council, in London. Andrei was also a 2020 Non-resident Fellow at the Middle East Institute in, writing on energy and climate topics.



**Ecaterina Colasiz, Romania**

Owner and Designer, KateriniMou | Speaker & Friend of the Environment

I studied Foreign Languages, English and French, but my passion for crafting and aesthetics turned quite early into a job and I founded Katerini Mou, where we create fashion accessories. It was never just that. I raised a community around the brand, and I always challenged women to think before purchasing, choosing wisely and did not ever encourage consumerism. I worked with magazines and celebrities in Romania. I launched an upcycled PET collection in 2020 and started collaborations with organizations and local collecting centers. I have reached the final in the National Public Speaking Championship while approaching subjects such as sustainability, recycling and human relation and how they empower each other. I am willing to learn and take my experience to another level while focusing on meaningful topics such a climate change and healthy lifestyle.



**Ally Zlatar, Scotland**

*Doctorate Candidate of Creative Arts, University of Southern Queensland*

Exploring curating and art making as a methodology that suggests the human condition is more complex than it is currently understood, Ally Zlatar examines, instigates and provokes notions of the individual experience through specifically focusing on philosophical discourse, global communities, environmentalism & ethics. Zlatar acknowledges there is power of climate change activism and studies it through a visual art lens. She holds a BFA in Visual Art & Art History from Queen's University & a MLitt Curatorial Practice from the Glasgow School of Art. Currently, she is pursuing her Doctor of Creative Arts with the University of Southern Queensland. She has been involved in many exhibitions creations & has had personal work shown globally.



### **Miriam Privarova, Slovakia**

Student, Dual Master's degree in International Public Management, SciencesPo Paris & in European Studies King's College London

Coming from Slovakia, Miriam is a student of Dual Master's degree in International Public Management with focus on diplomacy at SciencesPo Paris and in European Studies at King's College London. She holds a BA degree in the trilingual program of Social Sciences from SciencesPo Paris. She was also the head delegate of the EU to Y20 2020, where on behalf of youth of the EU, she worked with other delegates on policy recommendations for G20 leaders primarily on the theme of sustainable development and climate. Only a high school student, Miriam assisted as part of a student delegation of the Slovak PM to the EP, namely, to present the priorities of the Slovak presidency in the Council of the EU and was also involved in the organization of several international conferences. Throughout her internship experience at the Slovak MFA, the Office of the President and the Government Office of the Slovak Republic, she acquired experience in domains of EU law, sustainable development and diplomacy. Currently, Miriam is interning at the World Bank, working on green growth in the countries of the Western Balkans. Apart from her zeal for climate and sustainability-related questions, Miriam is a passionate dancer and also loves backing, her 3 cats and strolls in nature.



### **César Hernández Maya, Spain**

*Civil Engineer specialized in Holistic Strategies for a Sustainable Regeneration*

César Hernández Maya is a Civil Engineer from Madrid (Spain) specialized in Holistic Strategies for a Sustainable Regeneration with a focus in City, Territory and Social Transformation.

He got his degree in Civil Engineering at the Polytechnic University of Madrid (UPM) with the specialities of Construction and Hydrology, having an Erasmus Scholarship to study in France. He also studied a postgraduate programme as Expert in Development for Cooperation and a master's degree in Railway Infrastructures Design.

César has worked in fields related to international development, building industry, public works and landscaping, among other short and diverse experiences that emphasises his vision towards city and land transformation.

He's currently involved in climate activism in diverse forms, as coordinators of the Spanish national permaculture network Permacultura Íbera, a member from the steering committee of the tree planting association Arriba Las Ramas or as an official Climate Leader from Al Gore's Climate Reality Project.



**Abir Hossain, Sweden**

*Business Consultant - Sustainable Business Development, Juteborg Sweden AB*

I was born and raised in Bangladesh; a country once treated as a “basket case” whose gradual economic development is seen as a miracle to many at present.

Right now, I together with my wife are settled in Scandinavia who tops in almost all the development parameters in the world be it innovation, be it in sustainability.

My passion for business grew after the amazing career breakthrough at a fortune500 company after graduating in Business Management. As a steady achiever, my learning and execution helped to grow the multimillion-dollar business of the company while optimizing its distributor led business model.

Close interaction with the Scandinavia business & higher education ecosystem taught me more about impactful ways of building and developing business on a global scale.

The transformation has always been the driving force in my life. Being a millennial, I have had the privilege to experience a major transformation in society.

My unique exposure to globally established companies and Scandinavian start-ups equipped me with amazing resources.

I am inspired to spread knowledge, experience, and ideas to help young entrepreneurs build and grow businesses as successful sustainable business integrating the 17SDGs for making the world a better place to live.



**Firuze Alpaydın, Turkey**

*Project Officer, CDP Turkey*

Firuze Alpaydın graduated from the University of Galatasaray with a bachelor’s degree in International Relations in 2019, after completing her thesis entitled “A critical analysis of sustainable development in view of an effective implementation”.

After graduation, she has been selected for the Young Professionals Program conducted by Sabancı University Corporate Governance Forum which is the partner of CDP in Turkey. Since CDP is the gold standard of environmental reporting, she had the tremendous opportunity to improve her knowledge in the sustainable finance field. Here, she was responsible for supporting companies to disclose their GHG emissions and other environmental data through the CDP platform, maintaining communication between CDP Turkey and its stakeholders, conducting communication to raise sustainability awareness among Turkish companies, and co-authoring CDP Turkey’s annual Climate Change & Water Report.

As of October 2020, in addition to her duties related to the CDP and climate change field, she started to work on the gender projects conducted under the umbrella of the Sabancı University Corporate Governance Forum as well.

Besides her native language Turkish, she speaks fluent French and English. She also runs her blog and Instagram account @yemyesilbirblog to raise climate crisis awareness with her writings and illustrations.



### **Andrew Awuah Wireko, Ukraine**

*Student, General Medicine, Mbbs*

Wireko Andrew Awuah is a Ghanaian who lives and schools in Ukraine. He is currently a medical student at Sumy State University, Sumy, Ukraine. He holds a Diploma in International Law and Global Governance with the International Business Management Institute, Berlin, Germany. He is a Diplomat who holds several international positions on various United Nations Model platforms.

He currently serves as a Board Member of the International Journal of Pharmaceutical and Medical Sciences, Editorial Board Member of the British Student Doctor Journal, also serving as an ambassador for over 15 European and UK medical conferences and over 10 other reputable social networks. Andrew is a country Representative for the Consortium of Universities for Global Health (USA).

He's has over 30 different reputable professional memberships, amongst these are the Canadian Medical Association, American Medical Students Association, International Federation of Medical Students' Association and many others.

He's a Scientist with a number of publications, who is a proud winner of several reputable awards like the Young Scientist Award of the International Scientist Awards 2021.

He deems it a privilege to call himself A Champion of the United People Global.

Andrew, is very passionate about issues pertaining to Mental Health and climatic change which has led him to several reputable platforms like the Youth in STEM (Scotland) and also an advocate for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

## **LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**



### **Diego Pontorno, Argentina**

*Student, Master's in Environment and Sustainable Development, National University of Quilmes*

Diego Pontorno, born in La Plata (Argentina) and currently living in Buenos Aires. Graduated from the Business Administration Degree (National University of La Plata, Argentina) and trained as B Consultant (Sistema B, Argentina), is studying the master's degree in Environment and Sustainable Development (National University of Quilmes, Argentina), thesis in progress entailing the relationship between management and climate change.

He has experience in the public sector and in advising SMEs, entrepreneurs with a purpose, and civil organizations in Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, and the US. Also, he is a Professor of General Administration at the National University of La Plata and at the Universidad del Este.

Since 2020 he has been a member of the Climate Change Adaptation team of the Fundación Sustentabilidad Sin Fronteras, based in Buenos Aires, and coordinates the "Climate Change and Management" team at GEO Center for Sustainable Development (School of Economic Sciences, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina).

Two of his hobbies are mountain biking and photography. Through the latter he wishes to make visible the impact of climate change in Argentina.

He is naturally curious and passionate about thinking of new ways in which organizations can be managed to drive sustainable development at the local level.



**Kelli Armstrong, Bahamas**

*Project Manager, BRON Ltd.*

Kelli Ashley Armstrong, born and raised in The Bahamas, spent her childhood on New Providence and Grand Bahama.

After graduating high school with honours in 2006, Kelli studied Chemistry at The University of The Bahamas before transferring to Acadia University in Nova Scotia, where she completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science. Kelli was one of two students invited to represent Acadia at the 2011 IMPACT! Youth Conference on Sustainability, and later became an awarded Environmental Science Students' Organisation Executive and Student Representative Council Equity Officer.

In 2013, Kelli received a full scholarship for a Master of Arts degree in Climate and Society at Columbia University in New York, which included a graduate research assistantship on forecast-based disaster preparedness in the Caribbean with the International Research Institute for Climate and Society. Following completion of her studies, Kelli was retained as a Senior Research Staff Assistant to further develop applications for her research.

Kelli returned to New Providence in 2015 and joined Caribbean Coastal Services as their first Environmental Scientist. Now Project Manager for BRON, she continues to lead climate assessments, internship programming, public outreach, and business development activities. In 2020, Kelli became a member of the Association of Climate Change Officers and is currently completing requirements for her Climate Change Professional (CC-P) credential.



**Xaviera Tapia, Bolivia**

*Communication Expert, APMT*

MBA with a passion for sustainability and climate action. I aspire to create value, and in a traditional perspective that means look for more revenue, but when we implement this view but consider clean water, access to food, gender equality or any other SDGs as the goal, the possibilities are endless. With the right analysis, building business plans for climate action is a consumer relatable way to preserve our planet. I am Bolivian-Costa Rican that loves to travel and explore this world, I am committed to preserve it for future generations to enjoy it as much as we do.



### **Filipe Gonçalves, Brazil**

*MSc. Mining Engineer*

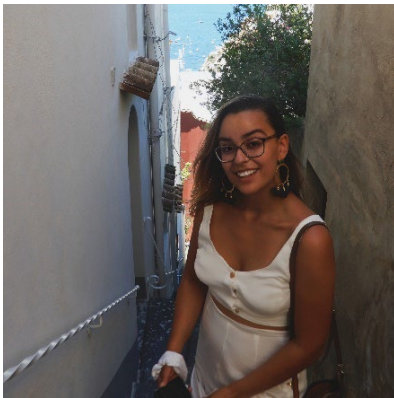
Graduated in Mining Engineering from Minas Gerais State University (UEMG) with an academic exchange at the University of New South Wales (UNSW) in Sydney, Australia. Also holds a master's in chemical engineering from the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG). Filipe has more than 4 years of experience in the mining industry, research and development and he is currently participating in an innovation program aiming at the decarbonisation of operations, focused on sustainability and applications of cleaner technologies in transport and supply chain. Furthermore, he is the Co-founder of the Sustainabilize.se, a civic organization in favor of sustainability topics. He is passionate about business, innovation, people, education and the environment.



### **Daniela Baena Salazar, Colombia**

*Chief Executive Officer & Founder, Non-Profit Organization Wom-en, Medellín*

Environmental engineer. Specialist in mining, energy law and sustainable development. Founder and Chief Executive Officer of the non-profit organization Wom-en. Young researcher at the Administrative Department of Science, Technology and Innovation of Colombia on environmental sustainability issues and active member of sustainability and development Observatory of Universidad de Antioquia and Universidad Nacional de Colombia. During 2020 she was selected as National Delegate of the Federation of Leaders by Nations for Latin America and the Caribbean and in 2018 she was an ambassador for the Harvard Undergraduate Women in Business. She has experience leading mining, energy and environment projects; in impact assessment, environmental management and consulting, education, sustainable development and public policies.



### **María Jimena Jurado Giraldo, Colombia**

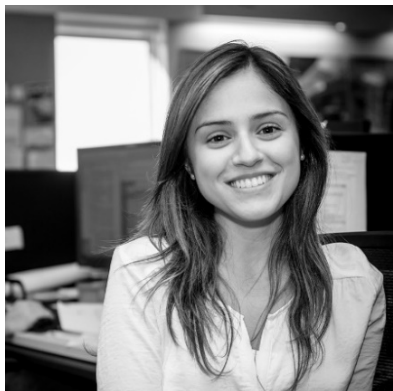
*Gender and Climate Change Specialist, UNEP DTU Partnership*

María Jimena is a native of Colombia, but her path has taken her around the world. At 17 she travelled to India to complete her high school education at the United World College (UWC) of India. The school is part of a network of UWCs that seek to empower young people from around the globe to create change and a sustainable future. She always knew she wanted to make a difference; it was a matter of time until she knew how to that change would come into action. She has always been an adamant defender of women's rights, a principle she has taken onto her internships with UNICEF (Voices of Youth) and Project X (Singapore). She completed her bachelor's in The Netherlands at Leiden University. A year ago, she started working for the UN Environment Programme in Panama City. She is now a Gender and Climate Change specialist. Her work and passion aim to include women, as agents of change, in the battle against the impacts of the climate crisis.

"Women are excluded from the conversations surrounding climate action at all levels. However, women with the lowest resources are the ones who are affected the most by climate change. Nonetheless, we cannot see half of the population as only vulnerable stakeholders; instead, there is a need to include women, their knowledge, their experiences, and their voices in the actions to adapt and



mitigate climate change. Only by doing this can we move towards a just transition, a circular economy, and the Paris Agreement's goals."



**Ariela Valverde, Costa Rica**

*Co-founder, Urbanalytica*

Ariela is a Costa Rican Architect and Urban Planner based in Milan, with over 10 years of professional experience. She holds a master's degree in urban planning and Policy Design from the Polytechnic University of Milan.

Both her academic and professional practice have focused on Sustainable Development, starting with her undergraduate thesis project on Urban Regeneration in San José, Costa Rica. Her next professional steps took place within the housing and retail practice areas, both at local and international firms, such as Gensler's headquarter in Costa Rica. There, she had the opportunity to explore the areas of placemaking and strategy development. This motivated her to specialize in Urban Planning and Policies in Milan, where she graduated with a master's research thesis on Sustainable Planning Policies in Costa Rica. Coming from a country with a recognized trajectory on Sustainable Policymaking, her main goal became to orient her research studies and professional practice towards this scope of work.

Recently, she had the opportunity to collaborate in a transport and mobility consultancy in Milan and co-founded Urbanalytica, a collaborative platform of data-driven strategies for sustainable communities. Her current line of work involves collaborating with local organizations, coordinating research activities and awareness campaigns, public speaking at online events, and developing an early-stage initiative on nature-based solutions for communities in Latin America.

**Mateo Saenz-Hinojosa, Ecuador**

*Director of International Affairs, Universidad San Francisco de Quito USFQ*

Mateo Saenz got a BA in International Relations at Universidad San Francisco de Quito USFQ in 2015. During his studies, he was the Student Government president, where he led and supervised projects that benefit the community, such as TEDxUSFQ.

In 2016 he was offered a scholarship to pursue a master's degree in Latin American Development at King's College London. During his master's, he volunteered at TeamUp UK where he was a math tutor for high school students.

After his master's studies, he joined the International Programs Office team at USFQ and currently works as Director of International Affairs. Mateo also teaches a service-learning class every semester. In 2018, Mateo received the USFQ Alumni Award thanks to the contributions made to higher education.

As for extracurricular activities, Mateo is involved in Rotaract and served for one year as district treasury for Rotaract 4400. He is currently leading initiatives in Ecuador related to the EndPlasticSoup project. He is also co-founder of Liter of Light Ecuador, an organization that promotes solar energy use, and Cuéntame, a grassroots initiative that provides mental health assistance.





### **José Villatoro, Guatemala**

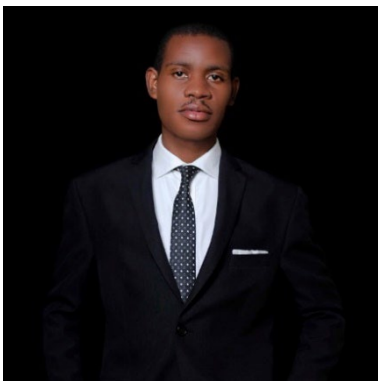
*Student, Bachelor's in Legal and Social Sciences, Lawyer and Notary, Mariano Galvez University*

José Villatoro, 19 years old from Huehuetenango city, Guatemala. He is a Human Rights, Climate and Environmental Justice activist. Currently a student of the bachelor's degree in Legal and Social Sciences, Lawyer and Notary, at the University Mariano Galvez.

In 2020, he graduated with a High School Diploma as a Bookkeeper with Specialization in Computing from the Liceo Preuniversitario de Informática where he received "Honor to Merit and Academic Excellence" for having achieved the highest GPA in the last 5 consecutive years.

Since he was 15 years old, he began working for the development of his community. At the age of 16 he was Youth Deputy for the Department of Huehuetenango in the Youth Parliament Guatemala 2018-2019 held in the Congress of the Republic of Guatemala. He presented a "Law Initiative" in plenary that sought to benefit the children and adolescents of Guatemala. Was Youth Leader of Proyeccion Juvenil Huehuetenango, which had a social focus and sought to strengthen democracy in young people.

He is Founder & CEO of the organization "Voces Por El Planeta" (Voices for the Planet), the first environmental movement in his city that seeks to promote the protection, conservation and care of the environment to mitigate the climate crisis through environmental education. He is also a Delegate in Mock COP26, Guatemala Coordinator for the 16th UN Climate Change Conference of Youth, Coordinator of the Escazú Ahora Guatemala Campaign, UN Volunteer, Amnesty International Activist, Member of 1000 Actions for a Change Guatemala and part of other organizations at local, national and international level.



### **Luidgi Jivens Selvius, Haiti**

*Founder, MADEMIR*

Born in Haiti, I survived the earthquake like many other Youth in 2010. After my bachelor on Project Management, field of environment, I had the opportunity to work for social organizations at rural areas in Haiti. I found passion to help my Country out. I'm currently a Country Representative for Haiti at "International Youth Federation (IYF)".

I founded in 2014 MADEMIR-Haiti (Mouvement d'Appui au Développement en Milieu Rural), a social organization which provide access to education, environment studies, climate change activities and agriculture for Kids. I held as Project Manager on Jan 2019, a WASH Project for "Haiti Cholera Research Funding Foundation (USA)". This project intended to educate 100 Haitian students at primary school on Water and Plastic - (One year duration). I've been nominated in April 2017 one of the 100 most prominent youth at "South American Business Forum". I'm an SDG Speaker, I use different forums and platforms to educate kids on SDGs and environment protection. I always put my interests on what may affect our planet, how these issues can affect the population living. I stand to protect my community, my country, my region, the planet.



### **Manasse Elusma, Haiti**

*Ph.D. Candidate in Climate Change and Sustainable Development, National Taiwan University*

I am a young Haitian professional in third year of doctoral studies in Climate Change and Sustainable Development, with an emphasis on disaster governance and human security. I am the co-founder of a local organization, (Citizen Action for Sustainable Development – ACDED), devoted to achieving sustainable development in Haiti. Through this non-profit organization, we organized reflection days on global environmental change, training sessions on community health and environmental protection, projects for women empowerment...Through these volunteering, I acquired a lot of useful practical experiences and knowledges, for example collaboration and team spirit. As a potential future leader, I expect to work in the highest political office in my country to work for collective well-being and govern the country towards sustainable development pathways. So, I commit myself to be a changemaker and an emerging leader.



### **José Daniel Madrigal, Honduras**

*Intern, Inter-American Dialogue*

José Daniel Madrigal holds a B.A. in Political Science with a minor in Global Affairs from Tecnológico de Monterrey, México and graduated from an MSc in Urbanization and Development at the London School of Economics as a Chevening Scholar. He currently interns at the Inter-American Dialogue in the Energy, Climate Change, and Extractive Industries Program. He has also been an active collaborator with the initial efforts towards the National Decarbonization Plan of Honduras 2020-2050, while also being engaged with not-for-profit organizations at the international level such as One Young World and Climate Reality Project. He is the Director of Public Relations for Sustenta Honduras, a youth-led organization which seeks to promote sustainable development and climate action through the empowerment of youth in Honduras.



### **Dainalyn Swaby, Jamaica**

*Communication Specialist*

Dainalyn Swaby is a communication practitioner with over 5 years' experience managing the communication portfolios for local and regional climate change projects. In her professional and volunteer roles, she focuses on climate change awareness building and integration of climate responsive actions into the everyday activities of individuals and organizations.

She has represented Jamaica and the Caribbean sharing country experiences and participating in climate change youth initiatives at forums internationally including the United Nations Youth Climate Summit, COP 25 Climate Change Conference and Chevening Cop: Climate Emergency. Her most recent involvement was contribution to the development of a global Youth Engagement Plan through the NDC Partnership Youth Task Force.

A 2019 Chevening Scholar, Dainalyn recently completed a MA. in Global Communication and Development at Loughborough University, London. Her dissertation – "An investigation of the lived experiences of youth in Jamaica and

their response to climate change engagement" has been published by the institution.

Dainalyn is the creator and host of Global Yaadie, a podcast series exploring culture, climate and sustainable development with people across the globe.



### **José Gil, Mexico**

*Strategic Alliances and Research Analyst, World Resources Institute (WRI)*

José Gil is a strategic alliances and research analyst at the World Resources Institute (WRI) and he is in charge of coordinating funding and proposal development opportunities in climate change, renewable energy and sustainable cities. José has academic, professional and volunteer experience in climate change issues such as mitigation, adaptation, financing, local capacity building and awareness raising. José has also worked in organizations such as ICLEI and GIZ and has provided technical advice to different organizations of the Mexican government. He has also been involved in environmental projects in countries such as Colombia, Brazil, the United States, Malawi, India and Turkey.

José is also affiliated with various organizations where he has actively participated in advancing the environmental agenda, among these organizations are The Climate Reality Project, Care About Climate and the United Nations YOUNGO group. He is also passionate about continuing his education in the area and has certifications in Climate Action (FLACSO Argentina), Circular Economics (Wageningen University), Climate Financial Instruments (Javeriana University) and Environmental and Ecological Economics (National Autonomous University of Mexico - UNAM). José has a bachelor's degree in International Relations, and he is currently the focal point in Mexico for the Global Status Report on Transport and Climate Change of the Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport (SLoCaT).

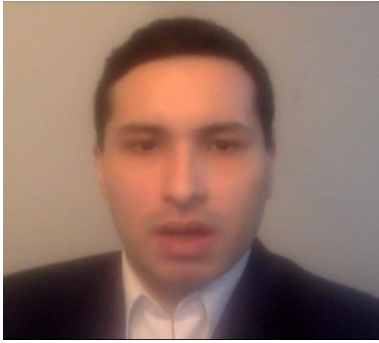
### **Norman Danilo Amoretty Ruiz, Nicaragua**

*Young Professional, Master's in Public Administration, Seoul National University*

Norman is a multicultural professional with a passion for economic development and public policy analysis and developing a specialization in sustainable innovation policy and regulation. He has experience in Nicaragua's public sector where he served as an Economic Research Analyst in the Foreign Investment Promotion Agency (PRONicaragua). Norman holds a master's degree in Public Administration from Seoul National University and is particularly skillful as a researcher with critical thinking skills. Norman has conducted research in the field of Economic Development and the Environmental Impact of Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America.

As a young professional, Norman is committed to enhancing young people to research for sustainable transition in Latin American countries as a key driver for developing new policy tools to combat climate change. He is an advocate for green growth and works hard to increase awareness of the need to rethink our conventional model of development to achieve sustainable transformation in Central America.





### **Jose Arrieta, Peru**

President & Co-founder, Social Good Peru | Leader of the Peruvian Chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby | Managing Director of TEDxBarranco

Bachelor of Communication from the University of Lima. Climate Reality Leader trained by former US Vice President Al Gore and The Climate Reality Project. President & Co-founder of Social Good Peru. Leader of the Peruvian Chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby. TEDx Licensee and Managing Director of TEDxBarranco. Country Coordinator for Peru of COY16 Glasgow (16th UN Climate Change Conference of Youth) to be held in the city of Glasgow, Scotland (United Kingdom). Member of the Transitory Driving Group for the inclusion of the youth representative in the National Climate Change Commission of Peru. Member of the Driving Group for the inclusion of the youth representative in Metropolitan Environmental Commission. I have participated with my organization giving contributions and suggestions throughout the process of formulating the Local Climate Change Plan of the Province of Lima. Member of Generation 10 of WWF Latin America. Member of the Circle of Innovation and Entrepreneurship of the University of Lima. YOUNGA Youth Delegate at the YOUNGA Forum organized by BridgingTheGap Ventures. Youth delegate at the V Young Americas Forum, official platform for the participation of young people in the Summits of the Americas processes. Delegate at the HPAIR Harvard College 2021 Conference.



### **Shane Wilson, Trinidad and Tobago**

*Commercial Analyst, National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited*

Shane is a Commercial Analyst for the National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGCTT) promoting low carbon and clean energy ventures. With a cross-functional in Geographical Information Systems and Energy Management, he represents the new generation of young leaders determine to seek strategic actions and innovative solutions for addressing climate change. He has a Masters in Energy Management from Robert Gordon University and is an Associate Member with the Energy Institute.

He has experience in strategic planning, business development, stakeholder management and geospatial technology.

He also works with an NGO group called Youth Government Trinidad and Tobago and is responsible for the Energy Portfolio tasked with raising the youth voice related to energy matters in Trinidad and Tobago.

Shane in 2020 guided the development of the first energy efficiency mobile application in Trinidad and Tobago and launched a local podcast show called Beyond the Rig.

He firmly believes that everyone including youths has a critical role to play in the call for actions against climate change.

## MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA



### **Imane Boukhatem, Algeria**

*Co-founder, Energy Transition Dialogue*

I am a sustainability enthusiast, holding a BSc. Degree in Architecture, a master's degree in Urban Planning and Environment from the University of Tlemcen and a Master's of Science in Energy Policy from the Pan African University. Before receiving the African union scholarship, I have accumulated over two years of experience as a policy officer at the Algerian National Planning Agency. I am passionate about researching environmental, climate change, and clean energy issues. I have volunteered for a number community development and advocacy groups. Most recently I was appointed as MENA region country ambassador to contribute to the Global Youth Energy Outlook 2021. Together with team mates I co-founded the Algerian Energy Transition Dialogue AETD an online portal bringing together stakeholders, experts and civil society organizations with an aim to boost the clean energy transition in Algeria.



### **Alaa EmadEldin Selim, Egypt**

*Sustainable Blue Growth Member, MedYWat Network | Application Energy Engineer, Schneider Electric*

Alaa Emad El-Din Selim is an application engineer at Schneider Electric Egypt, Researcher in electrical power and energy engineering field, Energy Activist at the Medywat network supervised by Center of Mediterranean Integration (CMI), where he worked in studying renewable energy resources with sustainable blue growth economy for climate action plans. He has also participated in many capacity-building programs in Egypt like YouthinkGreen, Marj3 fellowship, Ihyaa Academy, AIESEC Egypt, Engineeus, IEEEXTREME Egypt, Erasmus WEST program and FES/CEDARE sustainability program. These programs have allowed him to work directly in youth development in various areas like energy, climate change, environmental awareness, mentoring and technology applications.

He received his BS degree and MSc. in Electrical Power Engineering at Ain Shams University in 2016 and 2020 respectively. He has performed his research internship at a regional center for renewable energy and energy efficiency (2018) and his research work was mainly focusing on developing an energy hub with highest penetration of renewable resources and least CO2 emissions. He has also participated in international and local conferences as a speaker for the 8th Annual HOMER Microgrid conference in USA (2020) and publication author for the annual international Conferences (2016-2018) on Solar Energy Solutions " hosted by the American University in Cairo and Research Institute for Sustainable Development.

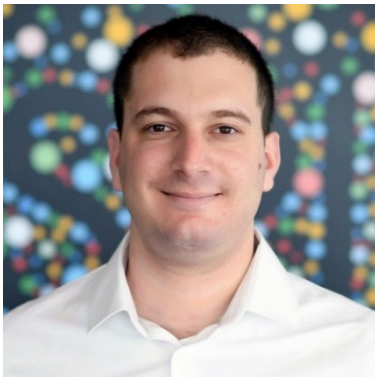


**Atieh Khatibi, Iran**

*Environmental Law and Policy Making Expert, Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project at Engineering Company*

Atieh Khatibi is an Environmental activist who has a bachelor's and master's degree in Environmental Science Engineering from the University of Tehran. She has worked on "Review the role of institutions in determining policy priorities for the sustainable management of wetland with the approach of wise use in one of the wetlands in the south of Iran for her master thesis.

She is interested in working on interdisciplinary areas related to environmental and legal issues. In this regard, she worked on the policymaking for sustainable management of one of the South of Iran's wetlands, focusing on local institutions. Due to her interest in legal issues, she has recently held her second master's degree in Environmental Law and currently pursuing a Bachelor of Law. Her research interests are Environmental law, climate change Law, Climate change adaptation, and nature-based solutions. She has worked as an intern at UNIC (United Nations Information Center) and UNDP, working as an assistant member in the "climate change vulnerability of wetlands" project. She is the founding member of ATAZIS (National NGO) and advocates youth and women mobilization through education. Recently she got the fellowship and worked as a project assistant in Adelphi organization, the climate change department in Berlin. She is a member of different working groups of YOUNGO, Adaptation working group being one of them.



**Arod Balissa, Israel**

*Deloitte Catalyst*

Arod Balissa is a Manager at Deloitte Catalyst, Deloitte Israel's startup practice, focusing on Life Sciences and Healthcare innovation. In his role, Arod advises multinational organizations in solving large-scale problems by leveraging startups and technological innovation. Arod is the co-founder of Wize, one of Israel's largest content platforms, a board member of the 8200 Alumni Association, where he serves as the Chief Digital Officer, co-director of 8200Bio and other initiatives, and a board member of ISOC-IL, the Israeli Internet Association. Arod is experienced with building communities, convening ecosystems, visioning and business development. He is passionate about climate change, an avid reader and a lawyer by training.



**Faisal AlOthainah, Kuwait**

*Founder, Joetagoinst*

The search for knowledge and wisdom is what guided Faisal from his earliest days, Faisal began attending courses, seminars, and workshops to discover his full potential led him to see life through a new lens at the age of fifteen. Initially, he found his community on a social network where his commentary on politics and culture garnered tens of thousands of followers. He would soon attract national attention as the youngest professional writer and columnist in Kuwait, a title which he bore with great pride.

Over the next several years, Faisal mentored youth for a local NGO where he taught life skills and provided a positive role model before later becoming an

ambassador. He was also a youth delegate and had the pleasure of representing Kuwaiti youth by leading workshops on topics including youth, public policy, and politics. His mission has always been to empower a generation of doers and achievers.

Currently, he is a guide in the Art & Culture Communities on one of the nation's platforms. Moreover, he has one published novel that is available in two editions with the second being dyslexia friendly. Faisal was also included in the list of 100 achievers in Kuwait by the Prime Minister of Kuwait.

This is only but the beginning for Faisal who is determined to also invest his experience and ongoing lessons in influencing local, national, and global change one day at a time. A thought leader, performer, and mentor, he is truly an asset.



**Reem Irany, Lebanon**

*Senior Energy Engineer & Project Coordinator, Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation (LCEC)*

After starting her career as a lighting engineer, Reem believes that moving to LCEC provides her with a multifaceted experience and a greater impact in shaping Lebanon's energy transition. She is continuously involved in the implementation of rooftop and large-scale pilot initiatives across Lebanon, namely the 10 solar PV public bids in landmark buildings, the 180 MW solar PV farms, and the solar plus storage project. Reem is currently the project coordinator of the Energy Smart Mediterranean Schools Network (ESMES) targeting the optimization of energy use in public schools through innovative, monitoring based RE and EE pilot actions.

Reem joined the Future Energy Leaders' Programme (FEL-100) initiated by the World Energy Council in 2018 and she is currently a member of the Women in Storage Mentoring Programme.

Reem holds a bachelor's degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the American University of Beirut.



**Simohamed Bouhakkaoui, Morocco**

*Psychotherapist of the Women Victims of Domestic Violence | Climate change Researcher, Climate Save Movement*

I have been a Vegan-Climate Activist and Speaker for more than five years. I am considered the first creator of vegan web-content in Morocco, as my YouTube channel is not only considered as the first channel interested in explaining and interpreting vegan thoughts and the problematic of climate change, but it is also one of the first Moroccan platforms helping in shedding light on veganism and spreading the vegan culture. Additionally, I am a researcher in the field of climate change with a group of international organizations including the "Climate Save movement", and a lecturer in many Moroccan and Arab universities. I am also supervising a range of training courses on climate changes for the benefit of national organizations and NGO's. I am a Climate change Researcher at climate save movement, and president of Veg Morocco association (environmental association in Morocco). Besides, I am a Moroccan Representative for International Day of Peace 2020 and a Psychotherapist of the women victims of domestic violence.





**Abeer Al-Wahaibi, Oman**

*Senior Energy Management Engineer*

Abeer Al-Wahaibi is a senior energy management engineer at PDO and is passionate about the energy transition and climate actions. She joined PDO as a process engineer in 2012 after two years working for Halliburton as a drilling fluid engineer. Abeer has master's degree in chemical and process engineering from Sultan Qaboos University, Oman.

[abeer.aw.wahaibi@pdo.co.om](mailto:abeer.aw.wahaibi@pdo.co.om)



**Sarah Alharthey, Saudi Arabia**

*Business Development Manager, Acwa Power*

Renewable energy and sustainable utilities investments developer. With a degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering and Masters in Renewable Energy Engineering. Certified climate reality leader.

Passionate about climate policy, green economy and advocacy for education and women rights in marginalized communities.

Founder of an educational enterprise for the underprivileged in Jeddah, "Dar Wujd". And a Global Shaper at the world economic forum at Jeddah hub since 2015.



**Judy Tozan, Syria**

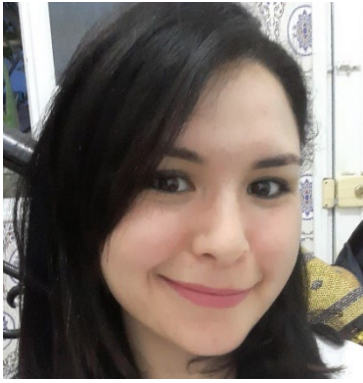
*PR and Communications Team Leader, Dummar Medical Center | Founder, Career Souq*

Judy Tozan is a social entrepreneur from Syria, she is the founder of the nonprofit platform "Career Souq" that supports Syrian people and youth in improving their skills and knowledge. She also heads of the PR and communication department of the Dummar medical center in Damascus since 2016.

Judy is always involved in community-based work; she conducted several initiatives, campaigns, and workshops in her local community with women, youth, adolescents, and children and she has always proved to be creative in designing and leading the most appropriate projects that best respond to the needs of the society in collaboration with many organizations of both private and civil sectors such as UNDP, Mobaderoon Network, Hayat Institution, Women's Mabarrah Society and local startups.

She was awarded an Erasmus ambassador badge in 2020 for her leadership contribution, she is a big believer in sustainable development goals and love to turn social challenges into opportunities for development.

Judy faced the Syrian tragedy with her strong lifelong learning skill to survive and strive, she earned a master's degree in marketing, bachelor's degree in both business and media from Damascus University.



**Zina Nasr, Tunisia**

*Ph.D. Candidate in Biological Sciences, Ecology, University of Tunis El Manar*

From Tunisia, I am Zina, and I am 31 years old! I am a PhD student in Biological Sciences, and I occupy a volunteer position as a president of an environmental association since July 2019. I have been active in civil society for more than 10 years and I have a special preference for Environmental activities. I organized and animated many workshops for children to raise awareness about the risks caused by Climate Change and the loss of Biodiversity. As a member of the Earth Hour Tunisia Association since 2015; I organized events, workshops, trainings, and different activities for large categories of people. I have been always motivated to create a new way of communications and I tried to work on new initiatives to be more creative and create an impact on the behavior of people towards our ecosystems. In my field of study as a junior entomologist, I have always been in contact with nature, and I realize how threatened biodiversity is. Being an entomologist means being patient and passionate about your field of activity. In my free time, except my activities in my association, I always allocate time to camp and hike with friends.



**Ahmed Elbermbali, United Arab Emirates**

*Managing Director, Clean Energy Business Council (CEBC)*

Ahmed Samir Elbermbali is currently acting as the Managing Director of the MENA Clean Energy Business Council (CEBC). The CEBC is a membership non-profit organization. CEBC is the pre-eminent NGO representing the private sector involved in the clean energy & clean tech sector across the MENA region. At the CEBC, Ahmed is responsible for handling the day-to-day operations including the members and partners communications, meetings, performing research, organizing events and conferences, etc.

Ahmed holds MBA in Sustainable Mobility Management from the Technical University of Berlin and a Bachelor of Aerospace Engineering from the University of Science and Technology at Zewail City in Egypt. Ahmed's research interest and expertise is at the intersection between policy, technology and consumer behavior within the mobility sector.



**Safa Al-Kuhlani, Yemen**

*Co-founder, Youth Advocate for Sustainable Development (YASD) Network*

Safa is currently serving as the program manager of the Arab Youth Sustainable Development Network (AYSDN). She has a great experience working as a researcher, a community activist and volunteer on a number of initiatives with several NGOs. She is interested in climate, environment, gender studies, social entrepreneurship and scientific research. Safa has graduated with a BA in Political Science from Sana'a University.



**Wid Mohsin, Yemen**

*W2E Engineer Consultant, UNDP*

I have a great passion for the field of alternative energy and sustainable development, two years ago, this passion turned into a profession, and I proposed and developed with my team a project to convert waste into energy and we worked voluntarily for a year, now it's become a reality and the project is under construction, I have many local and international participations in the field of alternative energy and climate change. My ambition is seeking to spread awareness about energy and climate change issues and positively influence the current and future generations to create a better future for our planet.

**NORTH AMERICA**



**Kasha Slavner, Canada**

*Founder, The Global Sunrise Project | Director, The Sunrise Storyteller & 1.5 Degrees of Peace*

Kasha is a Gen-Z documentary filmmaker, photographer, and passionate social justice advocate. At 14 she founded The Global Sunrise Project, a youth-led social enterprise that creates positive impact media. She conducts educational outreach with screenings of her film, exhibitions, and workshops on civic engagement to empower youth to take action on the SDGs. Her first feature documentary, The Sunrise Storyteller, had its world premiere at the UN Commission on the Status of Women in 2017 and has screened at 60 international festivals and won 29 awards, including the Ron Kovic Peace Prize & Eva Haller Women Transforming Media Award. Kasha is a Yunus & Youth fellow, Global Changemaker, We Are Family Global Teen Leader and one of the Voices of SDG16+. She is the first recipient of the Kim Phuc Youth Peace Award and presented at the UN International Day of Peace & Climate Action student observance. She is a UN Youth Delegate, member of The Canadian Voice of Women for Peace, and accredited expert for the Women's Media Center. She's a frequent public speaker, author, contributor to National Geographic Learning, and several publications. Kasha's next documentary 1.5 Degrees of Peace, currently in development, features stories of young peacemakers and climate activists to ease our personal and collective anxiety about the state of the world. The film explores how climate action now can create peace for the future, and likewise, peace action now can help us achieve our climate targets.



**Kehkashan Basu, Canada**

*Founder President, Green Hope Foundation*

Winner of the 2016 International Children's Peace Prize, 20-year-old Kehkashan Basu is an iconic youth leader, global influencer, environmentalist, champion of women and children's rights, TEDx speaker, Climate Reality Mentor, author, musician, peace and sustainability campaigner. A Forbes30under 30 for Education and the first-ever Voices Youth Gorbachev-Schultz Legacy Award for her work on nuclear disarmament, Kehkashan is a United Nations Human Rights Champion, a National Geographic Young Explorer, a UN Habitat Young City

Champion and the youngest ever Global Coordinator for the UN Environment Program's Major Group for Children & Youth and one of Canada's Top25 Women of Influence. Kehkashan is the Founder President of global social innovation enterprise Green Hope Foundation, that works at a grassroots level in 16 countries, empowering young people, especially those from vulnerable communities, in the sustainable development process and she has spoken at over 200 United Nations and other global fora across 25 countries. She is a member of the World Humanitarian Forum Youth Council and UN Women's Action Coalition on Feminist Action for Climate Justice.



**Lul Ali, Canada**

*Student, International Bachelor of Business Administration, Schulich School of Business at York University*

Lul Ali is a third-year student at the Schulich School of Business at York University in the iBBA program. Lul has always had an interest in sustainability and the environment, in both personal and professional spheres. As a result of these interests, Lul specializes in Responsible Business and International Management, focusing her efforts on learning how to create shared value for all. As a Youth Advisor to a Federal Member of Parliament, Lul has provided consulting on issues like climate change and federal policies regarding such topics. Lul is an SDG advocate and has worked with IMPACT2030 Toronto to help realize these universal goals through collaboration with various organizations in the private and public sectors. As the Secretary of the Board of Directors for Impact Zero, Lul also assists in bringing forth a connected, circular economy in Toronto. Creating self-developed challenges with peers like No Waste September and participating in the Toronto Climate Change Strike are just some things Lul does in her personal life to stay proactive. Lul's passion for the environment, volunteerism, and global activism, combined with her diverse skills that range from design thinking to leadership, equip her with the tools necessary to make an impact wherever and whenever she can.



**Raynold Alorse, Canada**

*Economist, Government of Canada, Department of Finance*

Dr. Raynold W. Alorse is currently an Economist with the Government of Canada (Department of Finance Canada). Previously, he served as the Director of Policy & Research at Public Governance International (PGI). Dr. Alorse's experience at the Government of Ontario combined with his experience in financial services, information technology, and within international organizations has enabled him to tackle complex problems from a multi-disciplinary perspective. Dr. Alorse earned a Ph.D. in Political Studies (International Relations and Political Economy) from Queen's University, a Master of Public Administration (MPA) from the Queen's School of Policy Studies, and a Bachelor of Arts (Joint Honours) degree in Political Science & Business (Economics minor) from the University of Waterloo. A long-time community builder, Dr. Alorse has over four years of experience as a director on non-profit Boards. His academic credentials, leadership and community service have been recognized with several awards, including the Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship, the Nelson Mandela Distinction Award, Nepean's Canada 150 Anniversary Medal of Excellence, and the Ontario Graduate Scholarship. Dr. Alorse's research focuses

on sustainable governance of natural resources, international political economy, Canadian mining in sub-Saharan Africa, the nexus between the digital economy and the environment, corporate social responsibility (CSR), and mining policy.



**Anastasiia Vakula, United States**

*IPSOS, Market Research and Consulting*

I am 26-year-old. Ukrainian, living my American dream in Washington DC. I moved to the States about 5 years ago and now call it my home. After traveling a lot around the country, I started noticing how big is the issue of waste across the US. After long research on this topic, meeting other people with purpose, attending environmental conferences etc. I wanted to inspire everyone to make the difference and find their own inner sustainability warrior. I truly believe that leaving a “low impact” lifestyle is about finding small ways to alter our behavior over time that eventually led to making a huge impact in our own unique way! I am not afraid to discuss difficult topics like climate change, fast-fashion and environmental pollution at talk with friends and social media platform. I am thankful for this great opportunity to become an ambassador of Youth Climate Movement and looking forward to this journey!



**Anli Zhang, United States**

*Founder, World We Dare to Imagine*

In a world that she dares to imagine, Anli Zhang believes that every human is deserving of dignity, rights, and opportunity. Speaking up for those unheard voices drives her aspirations to become an advocate, traveler, writer, investor, mentor, and global citizen. Growing up, Anli spent an equal amount of time both in China and the United States. In addition to her bilingual fluency in Chinese and English, she is conversational in French and Arabic. She has received multiple merit-based scholarships to study languages abroad, including the most prestigious language program from the U.S. Department of State, the Critical Language Scholarship.

From her solo international travels to over 30 countries, Anli witnessed the consequences of wealth disparity, labor exploitation, and climate change. Hoping to unite the younger generation and develop strong moral leadership, Anli founded World We Dare to Imagine (WWTDI). WWTDI is a global movement that addresses urgent, global issues by uniting Generation Z to re-imagine the future of democracy, harness the power of innovation, and revive our inherent interconnection of all lives.

In the future, she plans to invest in brands committed to elevating female entrepreneurs and ESG practice. A first-generation college student, Anli has a Bachelor of Art in Economics and a minor in Mathematical Finance from the University of Southern California.

[www.anlizhang.com](http://www.anlizhang.com)

[www.worldwedaretoimagine.org](http://www.worldwedaretoimagine.org)



### **Bodhi Patil, United States**

*Youth Team Leader, Parley - Ocean Uprise*

Bodhi Patil is passionate about strengthening the interrelationship between young people, wellness, and the ocean. Bodhi is the CEO of Bodhi's Light LLC, a social enterprise that he founded in 2016 after graduating from the Arlington County Young Entrepreneurs Academy. Bodhi's Light has done over 13 playshops in two states and three countries providing movement and mindfulness tools to 600+ young people ([www.innerlight.tv](http://www.innerlight.tv)).

As the Youth Team Leader at Parley for the Oceans, he acts to catalyze a generation to RISE #fortheoceans. Currently, Bodhi and the Parley Youth Team are working on Ocean Uprise. Ocean Uprise is a creative action platform by youth, for youth – a space where passionate young leaders from around the world come together to learn, collaborate on innovative solutions and work towards positive outcomes ([www.oceanuprise.com](http://www.oceanuprise.com)) 🌊

Bodhi will be getting his BA + Master of Management at the University of British Columbia starting in September 2021. He is a driven community climate activist and eco-warrior, taking action to protect our blue planet!



### **Caleb Rogers, United States**

*City Councilor, City of Williamsburg, Virginia*

Caleb is a recent graduate from the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, where he studied public policy and history. In his final semester, Caleb campaigned for and won a seat on the Williamsburg City Council to bring a younger perspective to the body. Having started his term in July of 2020, Caleb is working to establish a Minority Business Council, increase affordable housing opportunities, and adopt a Climate Action Plan in the Colonial Capital.

Recently, Caleb has started volunteering with ClimateVoice, which has a mission to mobilize the voice of the workforce to urge companies to go “all in” on climate, both in business practices and policy advocacy. He is the Outreach Coordinator there, tasked to grow the group's Ambassador Community in undergraduate and graduate schools. Full-time, Caleb is searching for a "green-collard" job and thinks (hopes) he will find one soon.

In his free time, Caleb likes to read (currently on 21 Lessons for the 21st Century), write (attempting short stories this year), or run (but not very fast). He is absolutely thrilled to get to know the inspiring leaders in the 2021 Global Youth Climate Network and cannot wait to get started!



### **Dayang "Cindy" Wang, United States**

*Scientist, Exponent Inc.*

Coming from Australia's western coast, preserving the ocean environment and its resources is a climate challenge that is dear to me and crucial to my community. My passion for a sustainable ocean propelled me to pursue a Ph.D. in Environmental Science at MIT, where I researched the impacts of human activities on the oceans, such as deep-sea mining, global shipping, and offshore oil and gas drilling. As a scientist, I thrive on solving problems, but what is equally important

as the solution itself is to drive a change with what we have learned. I want to use the knowledge that I learned to raise awareness of marine sustainability.



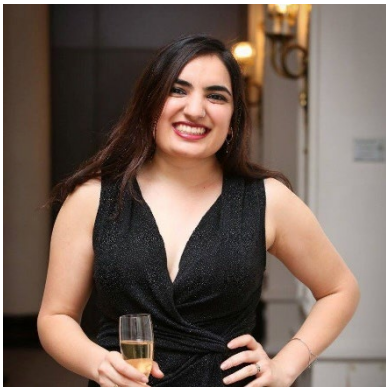
**Michaela Gallucci, United States**

*Senior Associate Scientist, Sanofi*

Michaela Gallucci earned her bachelor’s degree in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering in the former U.S. coal-town of Lehigh, Pennsylvania. Though her major typically works in the oil industry after college, she elected to instead pursue biotherapeutic engineering as a focus. She then received her master’s degree at the University of Delaware, with a focus on biotechnology, computer simulation, and cancer therapeutic efficacy. She is currently working at Sanofi to help design therapeutics for rare diseases.

In her spare time, she is an avid activist for both the climate and the LGBT community. After coming out as transgender in 2016, she has worked to increase the visibility of LGBT women in S.T.E.M. through designing resource blogs and creating online science videos. Volunteering at support organizations such as the Trans Club of New England, she has helped support other LGBT individuals as they learn to navigate the professional world.

Michaela has always been passionate about climate change and has been developing a non-profit organization for the past year in her spare time. Her organization, called State of the Climate, acts to empower grassroots solutions for climate change by identifying which parts of the country are emissions “hotspots” and using this information to drive resources and advocacy. She hopes to use this organization to fundamentally change the way Americans think about climate solutions and their role in protecting our planet.



**Pooja Tilwawala, United States**

*Founder, Youth Climate Collaborative | Youth Network Strategic Consultant*

Pooja was born in Gujarat, India but raised in a diverse suburb of Philadelphia. In 2018, she graduated from American University in Washington, DC with a BS in Economics and a BA in International Studies, specializing in justice, ethics, and human rights, and South Asia. After graduating, Pooja worked as a Project Associate for the Meridian Institute, committed to collaborative problem-solving on various environmental issues.

Now, she works remotely for the Kennebunkport Climate Initiative as a Youth Network Strategic Consultant. As their first Climate Career winner, Pooja started Youth Climate Collaborative, a for-impact organization with a mission to guide and connect young climate leaders by reducing barriers to youth engagement and retention in the climate space through education, empowerment, and activation.

Her experience includes outdoor education and youth engagement with Urban Adventure Squad, Jumpstart, and the YWCA of Bucks County. These organizations taught her the value of meaningful community engagement and access to opportunity. For fun, Pooja enjoys bhangra dance, kayaking, hiking, and throwing food parties for friends and family.

## SOUTH ASIA



### **Hadia Armaghan, Afghanistan**

*Senior Project Coordinator, Actionaid Afghanistan*

This is Hadia armaghan graduated from MBA agribusiness from amity University of India, I have BA from Balkh university of Afghanistan and had successfully completed six months leadership training at Morning start and participate many technical and business management trainings for long and short time. Further, I received award as a public speaker from Anishwaran organization in a free competition in Badakhshan university. In addition, I have working experience in different field specially agribusiness, women entrepreneurs and emergency program. At end, I am a global peace ambassador for Afghanistan.



### **Gopal Kumar Mohoto, Bangladesh**

*Co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer, Advanced Dynamics*

Experienced Chief Technology Officer with a demonstrated history of working in Electric Vehicle manufacturing industry. Research interest in Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Sustainability Issues. Goal is to create Energy Solutions with Efficient Engineering for Greener Environment.

During these years, Gopal has contributed to Government of Bangladesh as a renewable energy researcher, acted as a project supervisor at International Sustainable World (Engineering, Energy, Environment) Olympiad Houston, Texas, USA and is a local ambassador for Gravity Light Foundation.

In 2019, Gopal finished building the first Solar Electric Vehicle of Bangladesh and had a road trip across the country in the same vehicle. In the year 2020 he is honored as EIT Climate-KIC Global "Climate Champion". His project Cassetex ([www.cassetex.com](http://www.cassetex.com)) is the winner of Global Grand Final of ClimateLaunchPad 2020.



### **Joy Bhowmik, Bangladesh**

*Lecturer-cum-Research Associate, University of Liberal Arts*

Mr. Joy is an academician-cum-development practitioner in the field of climate change adaptation and sustainable development. He has more than 5 years of working experience in environment-related knowledge management, communication and outreach, and community capacity development. His research interests focus on climate change adaptation and resilience, disaster management and risk reduction, social vulnerability, biodiversity and conservation, and sustainable consumption and production. He received his master's in environmental science from the University of Cologne, Germany. He has also worked at the adaptation program of the UNFCCC secretariat in Bonn, Germany.





### **Shougat Nazbin Khan, Bangladesh**

*Founder, ORGASUS*

Shougat Nazbin Khan is an award-winning Global Youth Leader, Social Entrepreneur, Innovator and a Sustainable Development Goals Advocate from Bangladesh. Throughout her dynamic career, she explored her talent in Climate & Energy Research, Quality Education, Youth Leadership, Teaching, Advocacy, Entrepreneurship and Women's Economic Empowerment. Being an Electrical & Electronic Engineer and Clean Energy Technologist, she is skilled at designing smart systems and developing stimulating waste management & renewable energy projects. She received International Green Talent Award in 2015 as a young scientist by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research of Germany for developing low-cost solar energy systems. In recognition of her outstanding contribution in community development, she received 'Commonwealth Youth Award for Excellence in Development Work' and named as 'Asia Young Person of the Year'. The United Nations titled Shougat as the 'UN Young Leader for Sustainable Development Goals' during the 71st UN General Assembly. Shougat was featured in the world-famous magazine "Forbes 30 under 30" as one of the top social entrepreneurs and was titled as "Top Pioneer Women of Asia". As a climate and environment enthusiast, Shougat has founded ORGASUS, a startup that develops eco-friendly lifestyle products. Shougat envisions young people will embrace sustainable practices, take real climate actions and actively take part in decision making for planet's climate future.



### **Sonam Deki, Bhutan**

*Environmentalist, Gyaltshe Consultancy*

Ms. Sonam Deki graduated from Lake Forest College in Illinois, USA, achieving a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies and International Relations. She has over 7 years of work experience working in Bhutan and in the United States. Currently she works as an Environmentalist for Gyaltshe Consultancy with extensive experience working in ADB and RGoB funded projects. Prior to working as an Environmental Consultant in Bhutan, she worked closely with several non for profits in Washington DC, engaging in event management, donor outreach and report writing.

Ms. Sonam strongly believes in the power of volunteering and the great impact one person can have towards any cause. Implementing this belief, she has volunteered at the Draktsho in Thimphu, old age homes in Lake Forest, the Environmental Film festival in Washington DC, and Habitat for Humanity in Orlando. Besides volunteering she enjoys her spare time hiking and baking.



### **Aashraya Seth, India**

*Founder, Professor G.D. Agrawal Centre for Scientific Development and Environment Advocacy*

Aashraya is a transnational practitioner of Sustainable Development Goals, Education, Sports, Cultural and Economic diplomacy. He is a social educator and innovator with experience in qualitative research, youth mentoring, and transformation of education systems. A Global Fellow in leadership from Germany, Youth Leader and Human Rights fellow from the U.S., who has led several educational, social programs of the British, Indian and the Australian governments. He is a founder of Professor G.D. Agrawal Centre for Scientific Development and Environment Advocacy working in the field of sensitizing young people around environment sustainability and climate change. Moreover, his other grassroots non-profit projects include 'STEMinism in India' and 'Project Red', which aims to engage with young women and girls to promote participation in STEM fields and dismantle the stereotypes around menstruation. For his innovation in the field of SDG 5 Gender Equality on 'the financial inclusion of the underserved women', he was recently named amongst the Top-80 Social Innovators in India by Youth Co: Lab 2020, NITI Ayog and UNDP.



### **Anuj Gupta, India**

*Co-Founder, D2O Learning*

Anuj holds a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from the prestigious B.K. Birla Institute of Engineering & Technology, Pilani. He has done a Management Development Programme from the Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow. He is a Co-Founder at D2O Learning. Also, he is an EDGE Expert, EDGE Auditor, LEED® Green Associate™, ECBC Expert, IGBC AP, GreenCo Facilitator.

His experience includes energy modeling, daylight simulation, thermal simulation of various kinds of buildings ranging from high rise to mid and low rise having various kinds of HVAC & R Systems. He has done various projects contributing to energy conservation measures related to building façade, Insulation, lighting, and HVAC.

Being passionate about learning new things, he believes that every day teaches us something new and whatever we do, it has to be done with full dedication and passion. With this belief, he has been able to work on unique concepts, designs, articles, etc.

He is a diligent member of technical societies like ASHRAE, ISHRAE, FSAI, and ISLE. Currently, he is a National IT Chair in ISHRAE, Communication Committee Member at ASHRAE, Membership Chair at ISHRAE Deccan Chapter.



### **Bharath Govind G S, India**

*Chief Executive Officer & Co-founder, Climatehood Foundation*

I am a Peer Educator, Researcher, Volunteer and an Academic Mentor. After completing my Post Graduation in Organic Chemistry in 2017, I have been actively working in the area of Sustainability with a nuanced attention on Climate Action and Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR). I have around 37 months of volunteering experience in Environmental management and social activities and have coordinated several social projects with the Government like 'District Collector's Internship Programme', District Collector's Volunteership Programme (TVP), Project 'Change Can Change Climate Change', Project 'Sthithi' etc. I am the Co-founder & CEO of Climatehood Foundation based at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. My organization proved successful in initiating a discourse on Climate Education, the first of its kind in Kerala. The activities of the organization have helped raise awareness on climate change and tribal development and also promote an eco-conscious way of living. I have also worked as Volunteer Secretary of the National Service Scheme from 2012-2015. Currently, I am the Convener of Inter-Agency Group, Thiruvananthapuram. I have worked along with the District Administration in Covid-19 control activities by providing volunteer coordination, resource mobilization and psycho-social support. My vision is to inspire youngsters to achieve an integration of science and technology and environmental sustainability and become positive change makers for the world.



### **Chandana Sasidharan, India**

*Senior Research Associate, Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy*

Chandana works in the Power Utility and Electricity Mobility vertical of AEEE as a Senior Research Associate. Her research area is Distributed Energy Resources, focusing on Electric Vehicles, Demand Response, Flexible loads, Energy Storage, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. In the past year she has published reports electric vehicle charging infrastructure for electric buses, electric cars, electric two wheelers and is currently research on vehicle to grid integration and smart charging.

Chandana has over 8+ years of work experience and is competent in Power System Studies, Data Science and Energy Modelling. Chandana holds Masters in Renewable Energy Engineering and Management from TERI School of Advanced Studies, New Delhi and bachelor's in electrical and Electronics Engineering from Government Engineering College, Thrissur. She is an active member of IEEE Power and Energy Society, Transportation Electrification, Block Chain and Smart Grid Community.



### **Dhwani Sunku, India**

*Manager Sales and Marketing, U-Solar Clean Energy*

Dhwani Sunku is a passionate renewable energy professional who has aspirations to work in sustainable or impact investment. At U-Solar Clean Energy she is currently working on building marketing and sales strategies to increase deployment of solar energy solutions. While also pursuing an Economics program with LSE through distance learning, she has the building blocks in place. With guidance from mentors through university and at work, Dhvani has found ways to learn about sustainable lifestyle and enforces them daily. Specific impacts of

growing up in the Garden City through its transformation into the IT City have made her keen in activism.

At her role at U-Solar, Dhvani can organise events and campaign around sustainability as a result of the company's aligned values. The platform has provided for some very interesting activities such as working with a music festival to provide clean energy, cleaning up the local community lake and more to come. With the advantage of being a GYCN Ambassador, she hopes to increase the level of from advocacy to impact on a large scale.



**Gaurav Paul, India**

*Regional Operations Manager, Plastics for Change*

Working as an Operation and Business Development professional in the Recycling and Waste Management Industry from the last 12 years. A postgraduate in marketing and have more than 12 years of achievement-driven experience in plastic waste management, business development, operations, and procurement domain in the manufacturing and trading environment of metals and plastic waste.

Currently working with Plastics for Change and handling operations related to development of ocean bound plastic waste supply chain in western coastal region of India. Developing a fair-trade supply chain to source plastic waste and channelize it to recyclers to create a circular economy.

Having experience of handling extended producer responsibility (EPR) for brand owners like J&J, Tata Global, Unilever etc. and sustainable waste management related business activities.

Passionate and concerned about environmental issues, climate change adaptation and mitigation, sustainability, and marine pollution.



**Nandini Agarwal, India**

*Project Lead and Content Developer, Edible Routes*

Nandini is an environmental enthusiast and change maker. Currently engaged with an urban farming social enterprise in New Delhi, her actions are directed towards increasing awareness and accessibility of locally grown natural foods in urban India. She strives to bridge knowledge gaps and facilitate implementation of environmentally conscious actions at transnational levels. For this, she has led several bottom-up local and international initiatives for women empowerment and plastic waste management. As a graduate of master's in environmental policy from Sciences Po, Paris, she seeks to improve circular policies and global collaborations for food and waste management systems. Driven with the vision to bring back one's connection to nature, her environmental journey expands to the realm of mindfulness and self-awareness.



### **Nikhil Kamath, India**

*Author | Brand Strategy Consultant | Climate Reality Leader*

Nikhil Kamath is a food & travel writer and author from New Delhi, India. He is the author of the novel 'It Was You...Always' which is a love story which takes you through various ups and downs of being in love. A Climate Reality Leader trained in August 2020 by former Vice President of the United States, Al Gore under The Climate Reality Project, Nikhil is constantly working towards engaging the youth with the Sustainable Development Goals by the United Nations. Nikhil started mentoring students in schools and colleges in 2018 and is currently a Mentor for Blogging, Content Writing and Novel Writing with MyCaptain by The Climber. He has successfully mentored 1000+ school and college students on topics like Entrepreneurship, Content Writing, Blogging and Creative Writing.



### **Saurebh Gandle, India**

*Young Professional*

Energy Management Graduate from ESCP B-school. I completed my study terms in London and Paris. My interests lie in UN Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) focusing on Climate Change, Smart and Sustainable Cities. Previously I was Media for Social Change Fellow with Yes Foundation in 2017. Currently I am an Energy Writer.



### **Sarang Nerkar, India**

*Founder and CEO, Innosapien Agro Technologies*

Sarang Nerkar is an electrical and computer engineer from the University of Toronto, Canada. His research centers around wearable computing, augmented reality, artificial intelligence and climate smart agriculture. He has formerly served as a research scientist with Professor Steve Mann (also known as the "Father of Wearable Computing") at the Humanistic Intelligence Lab, University of Toronto. His work has resulted in various peer reviewed research publications and multiple patent filings. The focus of his work has been public sector application of these novel technologies, especially in food and agriculture sectors. He is currently promoting climate smart agricultural practices in drought ridden regions of India via his company Innosapien Agro Technologies with the help of inclusive, responsible and sustainable use of technology and working towards drought mitigation and farmer distress alleviation via Drought Action Network, a consortium of government institutions and non-governmental organizations. His published work and products have received multiple accolades including the Gandhian Young Technological Innovation Award presented by the Honorable President of India, Zee Yuva Sanmaan, Top Innovator Award by World Bank Ag Observatory and Most Futuristic Award in Japan among others.



**Trisanki Saikia, India**

*Media Fellow for Climate Change Reporting, TERI*

Trisanki Saikia is a young professional interested in climate change, sustainability and resource management. An alumni of TERI School of Advanced Studies, Saikia is a proponent of open science communication. She has been engaged in research and documentation of climate change and landscape projects from Asia, Africa, and Latin America, in addition to researching and documenting climate change and sustainability projects from various parts of India. In an effort to promote climate science and science communication, Saikia has co-founded The Enajoree Foundation (TEF) and Northeast Development Agency (NEDA), a not-for-profit venture that strives to promote research, innovation and entrepreneurship in Northeast India. She is currently also a media fellow for climate change reporting in the Himalayan region with TERI, New Delhi.



**Binaya Parajuli, Nepal**

*Assistant Gender Affairs and M&E Officer, UNEP-Nepal GCF NAP Project*

Ms. Binaya Parajuli holds a master's in human and Natural Resources Studies and bachelor's in development studies from Kathmandu University. She has done various research projects based in Nepal's rural areas, focusing on Gender and Natural Resources. She is currently working as Assistant Gender Affairs and M&E Officer (National Officer) at the United Nations Environment Programme for Nepal GCF National Adaptation Plan Project. She is very passionate about working for gender and climate change.

Ms. Parajuli has more than 10 years of experience in Communication, Monitoring, Climate Change and Gender Affairs. She has worked at various organizations ranging from UN, I/ NGOs to Mainstream Media, where she has established a good reputation as a Gender, Communication, Climate Change and Monitoring specialist.



**Chhimi Dolker Sherpa, Nepal**

*Creative Head, Nepalese Youth for Climate Action (NYCA)*

My name is Chhimi Dolker Sherpa and I'm from Kathmandu, Nepal. I am a recent graduate of BSc. (HONS.) Environmental Science. Currently, I am working as Creative Head at NYCA (Nepalese Youth for Climate Action). Some of my hobbies are writing, reading and listening to motivational podcasts. Minimalism is my aim in life i.e. I aim to consume only what I NEED and not what I WANT.



### **Umesh Balal Magar, Nepal**

*Student, Bachelor's in Environmental Science, Tribhuvan University*

My name is Umesh Balal Magar a undergraduate student of Environmental science in Tri-Chandra Multiple Campus, Ghantaghar. I am now currently working as regional coordinator in Nepalese Youth for Climate Action a youth network which advocate for climate change.

Climate justice and sustainable development is my vision. Working in team empowering the other team member making hand-heart-head relation provide me enormous gratification.

Recently we have completed the 7th National Youth Conference on Climate Change and COP simulation virtually in collaboration with Save the Children Nepal. I happy to say that in Enhanced National Determined Contribution (NDC) government had included some of our suggestion that came out from Provincial Youth Consultation on NDC in province 1, Province 2 and Gandaki provincial with local youth.

Currently I am building myself to advocate in climate change and its impact to children, youth and person with disability which is my ethics where my knowledge and experience has merged up so I have to rise my voice for voiceless person in remote area without any knowledge and most vulnerable for their climate justice leaving No One Behind and proper place and engagement in policies of youth.



### **Aleena Kareem, Pakistan**

*Vice Principal, Trainer and Tutor, SKANS School of Accountancy | Co-founder and Lead trainer, SHAOOR Trainings & Consultancy*

Aleena Kareem is an ACCA-UK member and Oxford Brookes University-UK graduate, a Strategic Business Reporting expert, Climate leader and a Sustainability enthusiast with over a decade's experience of conducting face-to-face and online trainings internationally. She has conducted 'Train the trainer' sessions and 'Study schools' in Pakistan, Indonesia, Bangladesh and Nepal on behalf of ACCA – UK. She has trained tutors from various schools, government commerce colleges and universities in Pakistan.

She is currently working as:

- Co-founder & Lead Trainer SHAOOR Trainings and Consultancy, a social enterprise, offering experiential learning for social leadership & global citizenship; with a mission to increase holistic sustainability and sustainable development
- Vice Principal, Trainer and Tutor at SKANS School of Accountancy
- Tutor at SKANS ECampus for Financial Reporting and Strategic Business Reporting
- Consultant and Trainer for business professionals on Accounting and Financial Management of SMEs on behalf of SMEDA
- Trainer at National Business Development Program – NBDP SMEDA for students from multiple universities under the NBDP Youth Entrepreneurship program.

- Trainer in Public Financial Management, Professional Accreditation Program, a joint initiative of the Governments of Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and World Bank for capacity building in public sector
- Climate Reality Leader
- #TeachSDGs Ambassador
- Wikipedia Editor
- UN Volunteer



**Hira Wajahat Malik, Pakistan**

*Managing Partner, Stimulus | Founder, CleanTech Republik*

Leading the Programmes & Projects team at Stimulus with a focus on sustainability, clean-tech and innovation, Hira Wajahat is the Pakistan National Lead for ClimateLaunchpad, a global green business ideas competition. She is also actively engaged as a business mentor and coach, consulting with and facilitating trainings for start-ups and new business ventures. Hira is passionate about developing the social and climate impact entrepreneurial eco-system in Pakistan. For this reason, she has founded CleanTech Republik, a community network that supports product development and implementation of services having a positive social and environmental impact.

Over the last 10 years, Hira has had the opportunity to work with an array of organizations across various industries: energy, FMCGs, pharma, agribusiness, healthcare, education, media & NGOs/NPOs. She has also been involved in the initiation of two entrepreneurial ventures that are running successfully. Her simultaneous exposure to corporate, government, education and development sectors has led her to believe in the importance of systems thinking and benefits of partnerships for value addition.

In addition, Hira is serving as Karachi Chapter Chair for Women in Energy, Pakistan. She is also a Climate Reality Leader and a Thought For Food Ambassador. Hira is an avid reader, enjoys traveling and exploring cultures and cuisines.