

2021
**ACTION FOR CLIMATE
EMPOWERMENT
YOUTH FORUM**

IMPACT REPORT

Foreword

The 2021 Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) Youth Forum (AYF) was a virtual conference held from **July 10th to 18th, 2021**, organized by members of YOUNGO's ACE Working Group. The 2021 AYF was an enormous success in terms of accessibility, inclusivity, and representativeness, and we hope that it will serve as a model for future youth-in-ACE initiatives.

Building upon the foundation laid by the first AYF in 2018, the 2021 AYF aimed to **elevate the voices of young people** in discussions on ACE. More specifically, it provided a platform for meaningful exchanges to **enhance youth implementation of ACE** and to craft a set of **youth policy recommendations** for the next governmental ACE decision at COP26.

The recommendations and ideas outlined in the *Executive Summary* represent the culmination of days of discussions, months of preparations, and lifetimes of experiences. **We will do our utmost to ensure that they will be used to inform climate negotiations** this year and beyond.

See you at COP26.

— The 2021 AYF Organizing Team

Acknowledgements

The AYF 2021 Organizing Team wishes to acknowledge the efforts by YOUNGO, the Fiji COP23 Presidency, the Government of Canada, UNDP, and the UNFCCC Secretariat in establishing the foundation of the ACE Youth Forum and convening the original event in 2018.

Furthermore, the Organizing Team expresses its special appreciation for the experience sharing and other support provided by the Global Youth Development Institute (GYDI) in its capacity as a core organizer of the 2018 AYF from YOUNGO.

The Organizing Team would also like to express its gratitude to all AYF 2021 participants and contributors for their time, efforts, and inputs, which made the event as successful as it was.

Organizing Team



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Statistics

744

forum registrants

130

countries reached

1,931

unique site visitors

12

side events

Map Visualization of Site Visitors



Weekend 1 – Saturday, 10 July 2021

Capacity-Building Kickoff Event

During the first weekend of the AYF, the Organizing Team ran a capacity-building event to **enhance prospective forum participants' knowledge on ACE**. The event was open to anyone interested in learning about ACE, and there were **more than 50 attendees**. It was also complemented by a capacity-building video, produced by the GYDI, which introduced ACE and its current state in UNFCCC negotiations to further support AYF participants.

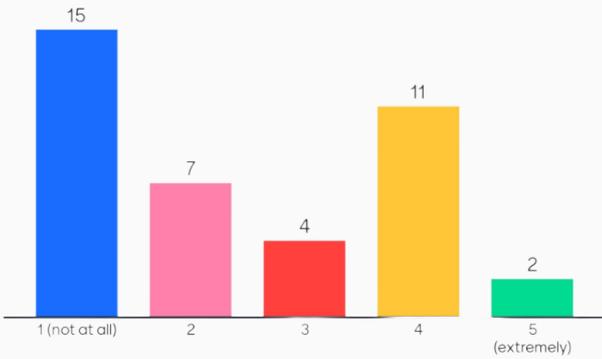
Topics covered during the session included:

- Background on ACE
 - ACE 101
 - The ACE Work Programme
- Background on the ACE Youth Forum
 - The ACE Youth Forum 2021
 - Week of ACE
- The Importance of Youth Engagement in ACE

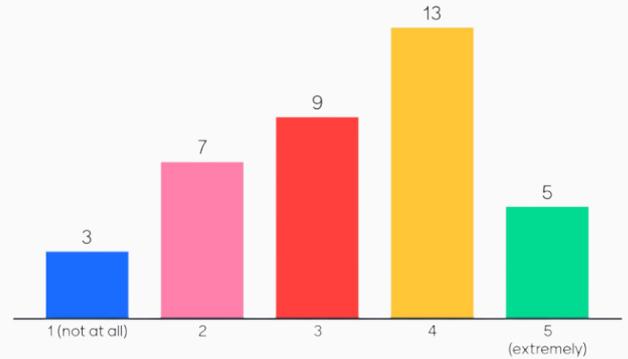
To gauge the session's quality, we conducted a poll before and after the kickoff event asking attendees to assess their level of confidence in their ACE knowledge. The results are highlighted on the following page, and the incredible level of improvement in ACE knowledge **epitomizes the need for capacity-building, training, and education on ACE**.

How confident do you feel in your knowledge of ACE?

Before



After



2.4

Average Score
+0.8

3.2

33%

Percentage of
4s and 5s
+16%

49%

44%

Percentage of
3s, 4s, and 5s
+29%

73%

#WeekofACE2021 – Tuesday, 13 July 2021

Flagship Week of ACE Side Event

The weekdays between the two weekends of the AYF (collectively known as the Week of ACE) were filled with ACE-related side events. One of these, the flagship Week of ACE side event, was run by the AYF's organizers. The event was divided into two parts: a *High-Level Youth Dialogue on ACE* with the COP26 Presidency and a panel discussion on *Challenges and Opportunities for Youth ACE Action* with Party representatives.

The discussions were incredibly insightful and engaging, and they provided plenty of ideas to mull over during future ACE discussions. The session speakers are listed below.

High-level Youth Dialogue on ACE
Salka Sigurdardottir — *United Kingdom*

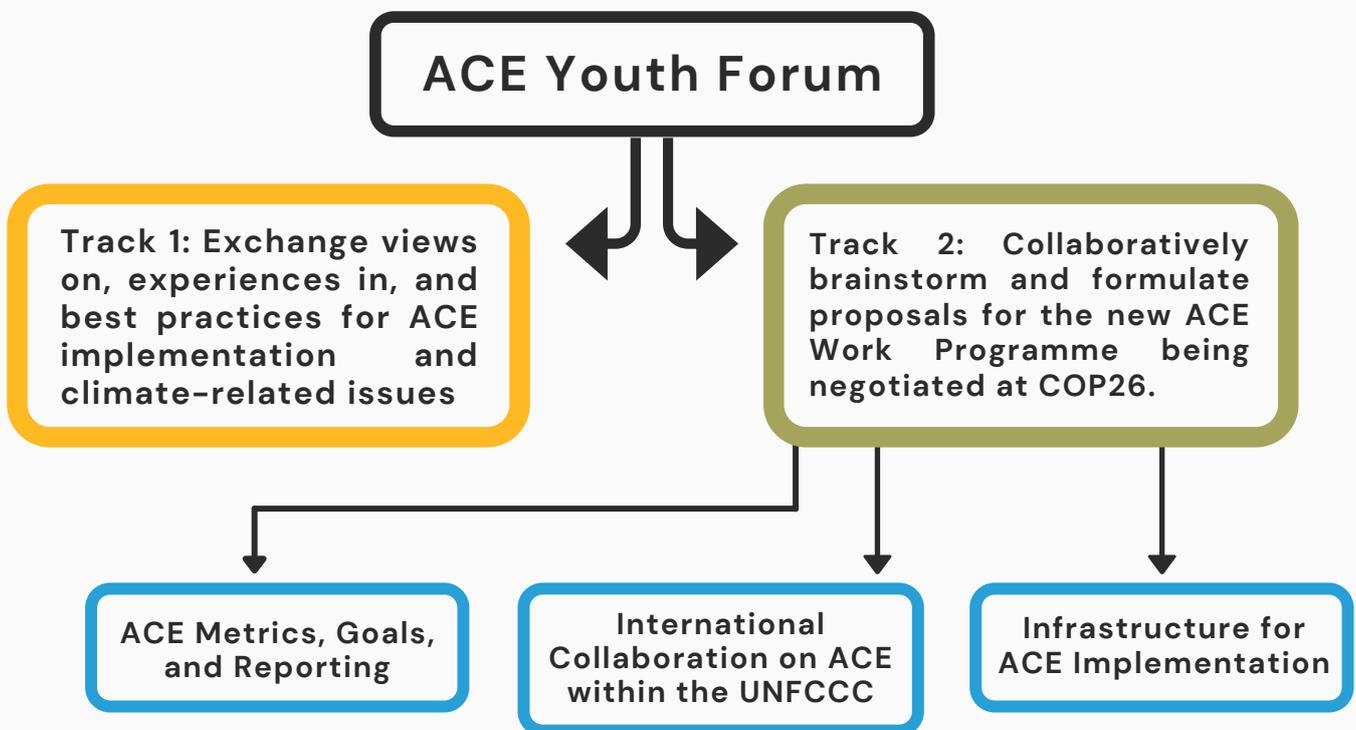
Challenges and Opportunities for Youth ACE Action

Albert Magalang — *Philippines*
Luz Falivene — *Argentina*
Marcia Tinto — *Trinidad & Tobago*
Margalit Levin — *Australia*
Pemy Gasela — *South Africa*

Weekend 2 – Saturday-Sunday, 17-18 July 2021

ACE Youth Forum

During the second weekend of the AYF, participants had the opportunity to choose specific tracks and sub-track groups to join and contribute to. The diagram below outlines the structure of AYF discussion groups.



Each track and discussion group identified and innovated ideas to enhance and inform ACE implementation on local, national, and international levels. The number of these are highlighted on the following page.

5

**identified
examples of local
ACE activities**

7

**identified barriers
to implementing
ACE activities**

5

**ideas for the mitigation
of barriers to ACE
implementation**

3

**ideas to synergize
ACE efforts at the
international level**

3

**ideas for mechanisms
promoting international
cooperation on ACE**

3

**ideas for ACE
implementation
infrastructure**

16

**ideas for ACE
implementation
metrics**

3

**ideas for ACE
reporting**

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Thank you.