



YOUTH FOR CLIMATE TRANSPARENCY IN THE AGRICULTURE AND LAND USE SECTORS

Empowering youth to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement

Brief background on the Paris Agreement

Greenhouse gases (GHG) from human activities are the most significant drivers of observed climate change since the mid-20th century. [The Paris Agreement](#) is a framework for global cooperation on climate change adopted in 2015. [Parties to the Paris Agreement](#) aim to **limit global warming to well below 2°C by: reducing their GHG emissions; building resilience and adapting** to the impacts of climate change; and strengthening climate ambition and action over time.

THE PARIS AGREEMENT HINGES ON:



Ambitious climate plans and strategies

Nationally determined contributions (NDC) and long-term strategies (LTS)



Accelerated climate mitigation and adaptation actions

Climate finance, technology and capacity building



A clear framework to measure and report actions and monitor progress over time

Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF)

What is the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) and why does it matter to us?

The Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) encourages countries to monitor their progress in **reducing GHG emissions (“mitigation”)** and measure how people **adapt to the impacts of a changing climate (“adaptation”)**. It also provides clarity on the **support provided to, and received by**, individual Parties for climate change actions. All countries are expected to be “transparent” by monitoring actions and support, to the extent of their capacities.



Being transparent not only helps countries with their own **climate change-related planning and actions**, but also **builds trust** among countries and enables more effective global cooperation to keep the planet healthy and sustainable.

What is the significance of the agriculture and land use sectors in ensuring transparency?

The agriculture and land use sectors play a pivotal role in mitigation and adaptation to climate change. Climate actions in these sectors can offer additional benefits to current and future generations in terms of better **food production, nutrition, environment and lives**.

These sectors are unique in their potential for mitigating the harmful impacts of climate change. They can increase carbon sequestration through afforestation and reforestation; and reduce emissions through the better management of land and livestock. However, data and information available for these sectors are still limited. This is due to the complexity of, and uncertainties in, calculating GHG emissions and removals; and assessing vulnerabilities, adaptive capacities, and the impacts of climate change.



The agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU) sector accounts for about 23 percent of GHG emissions.



Better data, stronger institutions, greater expertise, and more comprehensive methods for analysis lead to more accurate estimates of the effects of climate actions. To achieve these, all of us can play a role. It is especially important for youth, who will have to live with the future impacts of climate change, to understand the existing and emerging challenges, and become **part of the solution for a better planet**.



Why is youth engagement key for climate action and transparency?

Not only do young people have the **right** and a **need** to tackle climate change, they also have much to **contribute**. They are creative in their problem solving and eager to learn new skills. They have the energy, commitment and initiative to take action.



In the agriculture and land use sectors, youth have an immense role to play in raising awareness, advocating for and driving change, and fostering innovation. **Increasing young people's capacity to address climate change means higher ambition, greater action and sustainable impact over time.** Youth involvement starts with climate action for forests, oceans, farms, local communities, and cities, and expands to universities, research circles, job markets, and political processes.

How can young people contribute to climate action and enhance transparency?



Be a climate change messenger in your community

- Stay informed about climate change and be a driver of change in your community.
- Make responsible lifestyle choices and support sustainable production and consumption.
- Volunteer for climate causes and be a climate communicator.



Mobilize or join a youth group for climate action

- Add your voice to the political processes at local, national, international level and demand more ambitious climate commitments and the inclusion of youth in policy-making processes.
- Ask your politicians to be "transparent" to ensure that climate commitments are achieved.
- Get in touch with other young people and exchange knowledge and experiences.



Choose a climate-centered educational path

- Dedicate your research assignments/thesis to climate change.
- Choose universities/programmes that offer learning opportunities for climate change.
- Ask your school/university to include climate in the curriculum and offer climate-related training.



Pursue and develop a climate-driven career

- Be an informed farmer, fisher, or forest steward with up-to-date knowledge about climate change.
- Be a climate statistician, data compiler, modeling expert.
- Be a climate researcher or educator for transparency data requirements.
- Be a responsible business owner and calculate and report on your GHG emissions.
- Be an entrepreneur and innovate for enhanced transparency in climate data.

Who else can play a role? Everyone can, but more specifically:



Youth groups and networks, by getting involved in decision-making processes, strengthening networks, and advocating for youth empowerment.

Climate- & youth-based organizations and processes, by prioritizing education and capacity-building for youth and opening up learning opportunities for young people globally.



Academia & research institutions, by improving and mainstreaming climate education, and offering fit-for-purpose training and skills corresponding to emerging needs of countries.

Policy makers and governments, by enacting climate-friendly policies for future generations, communicating the progress on GHG tracking with the general public, fostering public awareness, participation, and access to information on climate change, and including young people in climate plans and policies.



The youth group in FAO's Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment (OCB), with support from the FAO transparency team, strives to enable cross-stakeholder dialogues to empower young people to push the climate agenda forward.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE?

Visit the FAO [Enhanced Transparency Framework](#) webpage and resources.

Contact the FAO Transparency Team at ETF@fao.org
Contact the OCB Youth Group at OCB-Youth-Group@fao.org