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United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Unitar Online Catalogue

Exploring Sustainability and Innovation: Youth Leadership and Climate Action by Multi-stakeholders

Multilateral Diplomacy

Deadline: 2 Feb 2025

Type:	Course
Location:	Tokyo, Japan
Date:	4 Feb 2025 to 9 Feb 2025
Duration:	5 Days
Programme Area:	Environment, , Biodiversity, , Climate Change, , Governance, , Multilateral Diplomacy
Website:	https://event.unitar.org/product/
Price:	\$2,300.00
Event Focal Point Email:	jiadan.yu@unitar.org
Partnership:	Global Youth Leadership Development Council, Global SDGs and Leadership Development Center

BACKGROUND

The global community is increasingly recognizing the need for urgent action to address the intertwined challenges of **climate change, sustainable development**, and the role of **youth** in advancing solutions. With the **UN 2030**

Agenda for Sustainable Development as a framework, youth have become central to driving change at local, national, and global levels. As the impacts of climate change intensify, the need for innovative, collaborative, and inclusive solutions has never been greater. This program will provide a platform for youth leaders to engage with global experts and multistakeholders from various sectors to explore how they can contribute to the transition towards a **more sustainable and resilient future**.

This event, titled *Exploring Sustainability and Innovation: Youth Leadership and Climate Action by Multistakeholders*, brings together university students from **China, India, and ASEAN countries** to explore the critical intersection of **climate action, sustainable development, and youth leadership**. It will focus on how young people can be instrumental in shaping **policies, driving innovation**, and advancing solutions to global climate challenges.

Through interactive sessions and field visits, participants will delve into topics such as the **UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), climate adaptation strategies, inclusive growth, biodiversity**, and the role of **multistakeholders** (governments, the private sector, civil society, and youth) in accelerating action.

EVENT OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of the program are to:

Raise Awareness: Deepen understanding of the role of **climate change** in achieving the **SDGs**, and the importance of **youth leadership** in driving global efforts for sustainable development.

Empower Youth: Equip young people with the tools, knowledge, and inspiration to become leaders and advocates for **climate action**, focusing on **policy advocacy, innovation, and grassroots initiatives**.

Promote Multistakeholder Collaboration: Foster collaboration and knowledge-sharing between **youth leaders, international organizations, the private sector, and local communities**, encouraging joint action on global climate challenges.

Enhance Global Leadership: Provide participants with the insights and tools needed to lead and advocate for **sustainable development** in their

communities and on the international stage.

Develop Practical Skills: Strengthen participants' **problem-solving abilities**, **innovative thinking**, and **analytical skills** through a combination of **lectures**, **hands-on workshops**, and **field visits** to relevant sites in Tokyo.

Build Cross-Cultural Understanding: Facilitate dialogue and collaboration among youth from diverse cultural and geographical backgrounds, deepening mutual understanding and respect for different perspectives on climate action.

Broaden Knowledge of Climate Governance: Provide participants with practical exposure to international organizations such as the **United Nations University** and explore **real-world climate solutions** through visits to **sustainable water management** and **waste management** facilities in Tokyo.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

Day 1: Arrival & Introduction (Half day)

Date: February 4, 2025

Activities: Arrival in Tokyo, check-in hotel.

- Meet fellow participants and program organizers.
- Overview of the program and setting expectations for the week.
- Icebreaker activities to foster networking and collaboration.

Day 2: Key Lectures on Climate Change and Global Governance

Date: February 5, 2025

Morning:

- **Lecture:** *The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals & Climate Change*

Speaker: Janos Pasztor, Former UN Assistant Secretary-General

Content: An exploration of the **SDGs** and how **climate change** affects their achievement. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of **global climate governance** and the need for **international cooperation**.

Afternoon:

- **Lecture:** *Climate Change and Humanitarian Assistance*

Speaker: Fabrizio Hochschild, Former UN Under-Secretary-General

Content: Examining the **humanitarian crises** linked to climate change and the role of **international organizations** in responding to **climate-induced disasters**, with a focus on **vulnerable populations**.

Day 3: Climate Change and Inclusive Development

Date: February 6, 2025

Morning:

- **Lecture:** *Climate Change and Inclusive Growth in Asia*

Supported by: ADB Institute

Content: Exploring how **climate change** impacts **economic growth** and **social inclusion** across Asia, with case studies on integrating **climate adaptation** into **social and economic policies**.

Afternoon:

- **Lecture:** *Climate Change and Biodiversity*

Supported by: IUCN

Content: Understanding the **effects of climate change on biodiversity**, and exploring **successful conservation strategies** for **protecting ecosystems** and species at risk.

Day 4: Youth Dialogue & Leadership Development

Date: February 7, 2025

Morning:

International Youth Dialogue: *Youth Perspectives on Climate Change*

Location: University of Tokyo

Content: Youth leaders from around the world will discuss the challenges and solutions they face in addressing **climate change**. This dialogue will foster collaboration and inspire global action.

Lecture: *Climate Change and Youth Leadership*

Speaker: UNDP

Content: Highlighting the vital role of **youth leadership** in **shaping climate policies** and driving **sustainable solutions**, with examples of successful youth-led projects.

Afternoon:

- **Workshop:** *Designing a Zero Carbon Campus & Climate Action Campaign*

Content: Participants will collaborate in teams to design a **Zero Carbon Campus** and create **climate action campaigns**, focusing on **practical skills** in **project design**, **advocacy**, and **public communication**.

Day 5: Site Visits & Real-World Exposure

Date: February 8, 2025

Morning:

- **Visit:** United Nations University (UNU)

Content: Participants will learn about **UNU's contributions** to **global environmental governance** and how the university fosters **international cooperation** on **sustainability**.

Afternoon:

- **Visit:** Tokyo Metropolitan Sewerage System (Water Reclamation Center)

Content: A tour of one of the world's most advanced **water reclamation** systems, showcasing Tokyo's approach to **sustainable water management** and **climate resilience** in urban infrastructure.

Day 6: Student Presentations & Closing Ceremony (Half day)

Date: February 9, 2025

Morning:

Student Presentations:

Participants will present their **Zero Carbon Campus** proposals and **Climate Action Campaigns** to a panel of experts, showcasing the **innovative solutions** developed during the program.

Event Wrap-Up:

A reflection on the key lessons learned, next steps for continuing involvement in **climate action**, and recognition of outstanding contributions.

Afternoon:

- **Free Activity & Networking:**

Participants will have the opportunity to explore Tokyo and engage in informal networking.

TARGETED AUDIENCE

This program is primarily designed for **university students** from **China, India**, and **ASEAN countries**, especially those with a passion for or background in:

- **Sustainable Development:** Students studying **environmental science, sustainability, international development**, or **related fields**.
- **Climate Action:** Youth leaders, **activists**, and **advocates** involved in climate change, environmental protection, and **sustainability projects**.
- **Leadership Development:** Aspiring leaders in **global governance, policy-making, entrepreneurship**, or other fields with a focus on driving **sustainable solutions**.

Participants will have the opportunity to network with global experts and peers from diverse cultural backgrounds, forming a strong, cross-cultural network of youth committed to taking **action on climate change** and **advancing sustainability**.