

9 June 2022

Green Jobs for Youth Pact: *Accelerating young skills and talent for green jobs*

Introduction:

100 million jobs worldwide could be created in the sectors of sustainable energy and circular economy by 2030, according to the ILO. Every job has the potential to be a green job. However, serious investments in upskilling and reskilling are needed to reap the employment benefits and avoid future generations lost to unemployment as well as to tackle the triple planetary crisis.

To address this, ILO, UNICEF, and UNEP will partner with and for young people to accelerate commitments to secure green jobs and build green skills in key countries and in high-impact sectors. Building on existing efforts and joint lessons learned, the ambition of this initiative is to contribute to a just transition to a low-carbon and circular economy, as well as to deliver on some of the key objectives of the UN's "Our Common Agenda".

Stockholm +50 side-event Green Jobs for Youth Pact:

On June 2nd, at Stockholm+50 – the side-event was the opportunity to announce **the Green Jobs for Youth Pact**, securing expressions of interests and engagement from key stakeholders, to be then officially launched at COP27. The side-event gathered government representatives from governments - Kenya, EU and Sweden-, youth, private sector and academia to discuss the urgent need to better prepare youth for green jobs and agree on a path forward. It also offered a unique panel discussion on the skills needed for a just transition between a youth, business, knowledge institution representative, as well as LinkedIn. The three UN agencies also shared their vision for the Pact and calls for actions to governments, civil society, workers, employers, businesses, and academia to together push this agenda forward.

This new Green Jobs for Youth Pact has been chosen as a Stockholm 50+ legacy initiative and responds to the key priorities and recommendations received during the consultation process for S+50.

Opportunity:

1. **Green Jobs:** To support 10 countries to move towards a recovery that is inclusive, sustainable and resilient which leads to green jobs for youth.
2. **Green skills:** To reduce the mismatch between the supply and demand, the green skill talent is rising globally but nowhere near what is needed. Indeed, the share of green talent in the workforce increased from 9.6% in 2015, to 13.3% so far in 2022 (a growth rate of 38.5%) - [LinkedIn Global Green Skills Report 2022](#).
3. **Convening a new coalition:** Between the UN partners, the aim is to combine the comparative strengths of each of the three agencies and to bring the skills and jobs, environment and youth mandates under one integrated umbrella. The three UN agencies will enhance collaboration between youth, private and public sector partners, educators and governments to close the skills gap in climate vulnerable

sectors, contributing to a systemic change harvesting benefits for climate, nature and society.

Process:

ILO, UNICEF, and UNEP will work along our member states, employers, workers organizations and educators to tackle the youth and green jobs deficit based on three simple ingredients:

- **Employment:** supporting decent job creation and the greening of the economy and create a new, inclusive, sustainable and resilient recovery with young people's interests, dreams and future at its heart.
- **Environment and Climate Action:** collaborating with science, knowledge and training institutions to ensure that young people are given the opportunity to acquire the needed green skills to make the transition to a low-carbon, circular and nature positive economy.
- **Empowerment:** working directly with young people to design and implement youth-led initiatives that reach the most marginalized individuals and ensure they are equipped for a new world of green jobs and green entrepreneurship.

The Green Jobs for Youth Pact builds on several existing initiatives, in particular the Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth and the Climate Action for Jobs which are UN system wide initiatives of the UN Secretary-General, as well as Generation Unlimited and Global Opportunities for Sustainable Development Goals (GO4SDGs).

Expression of Interest to join the Pact:

We are inviting partners to join the Pact, and send their expression of interest. Who can join?

- **Youth leaders and youth-led organizations** are invited to join to shape and co-create the Pact and respective initiatives to scale green skills, jobs, and entrepreneurship.
- **Countries** committing to improve policy coherence between environmental, employment and skills policies, for example by pushing national climate education curricula and/or including just transition, skilling and reskilling in countries NDC.
- **Private sector companies and social partners** joining the Pact will commit to promote and create green jobs in their business, as well as to support skilling and reskilling initiatives for green jobs in their business, specifically for young people.
- **Knowledge higher education partners** if they are already or are committed to create learning tools supporting skills development or reskilling for green jobs

Let's work together on shaping this pact with clearly defined and measurable results and foster youth-led initiatives as well as support the skilling of youth for a more sustainable future and launch the Pact by COP 27 in Sharm el-Sheikh together!

For more information and expression of interests write to: GREENJOBS@ilo.org.