APFSD
Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development

Youth Forum 2027
18-20 February | Bangkok, Thailand

Scaling up just transitions to achieving sustainable development, poverty eradication and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals - young people at the forefront

APPLICATION DEADLINE
16 November 2026
(11:59 PM, Bangkok Time)



Co-convened by: arrow, Youth LEAD, YPEER, Children & Youth

In collaboration: ARROW, YECAP, UNDP, ESCAP

In partnership: CYMG Children and Youth Major Group to UNEP

Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) Youth Forum 2027

Call for Session Abstracts

Introduction

The Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) is an annual, inclusive, intergovernmental forum to support the follow-up and review of progress on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the regional level. This regional platform aims to inform, empower, and support Asia-Pacific countries (especially least-developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing States) in their efforts to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and their targets set out by the 2030 Agenda by identifying regional trends and sharing best practices and lessons learned. The Forum convenes United Nations system bodies, Member States, international organisations, civil society, and other stakeholders whose reflections feed into and inform the 2027 High-level Political Forum (HLPF) in New York, which reviews sustainable development progress at the global level.

ARROW and the regional co-convenors, Youth LEAD, and YPEER Asia-Pacific Center (YPEER AP) have been organising the annual APFSD Youth Forum since 2017. Since 2022, we have been joined by regional youth networks, such as the Major Group for Children and Youth and Children and Youth Major Group to UNEP (CYMG). United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and Youth Empowerment in Climate Action Platform (YECAP) have also joined in 2025. In 2026, an intersectional group of 705 young people from across 35 countries engaged at the APFSD Youth Forum both in-person and through online hybrid modality. This is the power of the APFSD Youth Forum platform that engages young people on sustainable development in this magnitude annually.

The APFSD Youth Forum will be held in a hybrid modality from **18-20 February, 2027** with the theme, **“Scaling up just transitions to achieving sustainable development, poverty eradication and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals.”**

In alignment with the goals under review at APFSD 2027 and HLPF 2027, the APFSD Youth Forum 2027 will focus on the review, gaps and challenges of the Sustainable Development

Goals (SDG) under review along with 3 additional crosscutting goals with focus on climate change, health and well-being and gender equality:

- SDG 4 (Quality Education)
- SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities)
- SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)
- SDG 15 (Life on Land)
- SDG 17 (Partnership for the Goals) with a focus on emerging trends.

Additional crosscutting goals to review at APFSD Youth Forum:

- SDG 13 (Climate Change)
- SDG 3 (Health and Well-Being)
- SDG 5 (Gender Equality)

The APFSD Youth Forum 2027 will be a three-day event where participants will assess the gaps and challenges regarding the aforementioned, share best practices and find innovative solutions to the 2030 agenda. The theme for Day 1 will be Climate and Just Transition with the focus on Goals 12, 13, 15 and 17 while Day 2's theme will be poverty eradication and sustainable communities with discussions on Goals 3, 4, 5, 10, and 17. The sessions are divided into Main sessions, Youth Panels, and development of the Call to Actions.

Each main session will be followed by a youth session, fully designed and led by adolescents and youth. This is the session where children, adolescents and young people will have the space to share about evidence-based innovative approaches relevant to the SDG goals under review. This may include research, programs, projects, innovative methodologies and advocacy results relevant to the issues aligned with the Goals under review.

Note: Please do not submit abstracts for programmes/ projects/ researchers that have not been conducted or implemented yet. Submissions for only implemented ones will be accepted.

We are looking forward to abstracts submissions relevant to the goals under review. **Please note that the abstracts submissions are not limited to research but can also include programme implementation on the ground, initiatives focused on children and young people and initiatives led by young people.** Children and young people are encouraged to apply and share their work on the ground.

Abstracts can be submitted online through our google form.

The preparatory resources by session organisers will be shared with the organising team ahead of the APFSD Youth Forum 2027 upon selection.

Submission guidelines

- **Deadline: 16 November 2026 (11:59 PM, Thailand time)**
- All abstracts must be submitted online through google form. **Click here to access the Abstract Submission Form.**
- All forms should be submitted in English.
- Please also prepare an abstract in the pdf file to be uploaded with the google form. I should

have the following details:
    - Abstract Title
    - Name and Affiliation
    - Introduction (should state rationale, objectives and aligning SDGs- 100 words)
    - Methodology (100 words)
    - Findings/ Outcome/ Implications (100 words)
- All the abstract submitters must also fill out the APFSD Youth Forum Application Form separately, no later than 16 November 2026. **Click here to access the Form.**
- The results of the selection of abstracts will be announced by December 2026. Due to the volume of applications that we receive we are unable to inform individually on the status of abstracts that are not selected.
- Selection of successful abstracts will also take into account the balance across themes and balance in the diversity of young people and organisations across the region.
- Only completed abstracts, containing all information requested, conforming with the formats above, will be considered.
- Please note that we are unable to provide funding to all the selected abstract presenters. Some presenters shall be asked to participate on a self-funding basis. This will mean arranging your transport, flight tickets and accommodation. The co-conveners will cover the lunch and refreshments during the Forum.

For further enquiries, please contact apfsdyouthforum@arrow.org.my.