



Transforming Education Summit

Youth Recommendations

The National Gender Youth Advocates (NGYAs) to UN Women collated inputs and suggestions for additions to the Youth Declaration, as well as recommendations to improve the meaningful participation of youth. These recommendations envision that the Transforming Education Summit will facilitate urgent and concrete actions to transform, sustain, and advance education that centers youth and adolescents, especially women and girls in all their diversities.

Meaningful Youth Participation:

- A) **Commit to centering and promoting the full, effective, and meaningful participation of youth**, especially young women, and girls, as co-leaders, co-creators and co-owners of all efforts, decision-making, and processes relating to the Transforming Education Summit (including follow-up and review of commitments).
- B) **Establish a transparent, youth-led, and inclusive formal Working Group on Gender** that advises the Thematic Action Track Leaders, the Secretariat and Steering Committee on centering gender equality leading up to the September Summit.
- C) **Publish a clear step-by-step process highlighting how youth were selected, and engaged through the entirety of the Summit**, from the design to the selection, attendance, monitoring, and evaluation for the purposes of transparency and accountability.
- D) **Implement the principles of intergenerational partnership and intergenerational leadership**, working with National Gender Youth Advocates (NGYAs) with the support of UN Women.

Thematic Action Track 1:

Inclusive, equitable, safe, and healthy schools

- A) **Eliminate discrimination against all women and girls, and LGBTQIA+ persons** to ensure equal rights to education and educational services.
- B) **Prioritize evidence-based, gender equality, and gender-transformative approaches** in education to eliminate **harmful gendered rules and practices**.
- C) Acknowledge education as a tool to **prevent and eliminate all forms of sexual and gender-based violence**.
- D) Ensure all young people have access to **stigma-free and rights-affirming comprehensive sexuality education**.
- E) Provide **universal access to healthcare**, including mental health services, in educational settings.
- F) Amplify the importance of **integrating gendered nutrition support programs** within schools.
- G) Allow young people the opportunity to engage in **monitoring and evaluation of school curricula** to strengthen accountability.
- H) Provide children, adolescents and young people living with disabilities **equal opportunity** to participate in all dimensions of education.
- I) Decolonize methods of teaching through the integration of **Indigenous, local, and traditional knowledge sharing**.
- J) Promote and support **peer to peer learning mechanisms to strengthen youth leadership**.
- K) Equip schools with **resources to retain children, girls, and youth** who may have dropped out due to the pandemic.
- L) Ensure the presence of **counsellors and health care providers** in schools to support mental health and wellbeing.
- M) Encourage **governments to build schools that are accessible and close to communities**.



Thematic Action Track 2:

Learning and skills for life, work, and sustainable development

- A) **Collaborate with youth and adolescents** on ways to destigmatize vocational education.
- B) **Mandate universal climate change and environmental sustainability education** in curricula.
- C) Invest educational programming that **promotes decent work** for youth and adolescents.
- D) Commit to addressing the issues that develop as a result of **lack of access to education** within school settings.
- E) Promote partnerships to provide **resourced and well-funded internship and experience opportunities** for youth towards more capacity building opportunities.
- F) Improve education **for green jobs and green careers**, and subsequent job placement processes for youth.
- G) Invest in young people's leadership through participatory approaches.

Thematic Action Track 3:

Teachers, teaching, and teaching profession

- A) **Allow youth to co-develop teacher capacity strengthening resources** towards meaningful youth and adolescent engagement and gender equality, including material on how to identify and remove gender biases in the classroom.
- B) Include behavioral change and **life skills learnings in teaching methodology** to reinforce youth and adolescent development.
- C) Increase accessibility by **simplifying educational language**.
- D) **Ensure that teachers are paid a living wage**.
- E) **Integrate professionals with underrepresented identities, or from marginalized communities**, in schools and schooling.
- F) Commit to routinely revisiting school policies and materials to **address and remove outdated, marginalizing content towards young people**.

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Thematic Action Track 4:

Digital learning and transformation

- A) **Invest, improve, and implement online safety protections** for children and youth engaged in digital education.
- B) Implement training for teachers to **address and shift harmful cultural barriers and attitudes**.
- C) Invest in **digital infrastructure in rural areas** towards universal access to digital learning and technology.
- D) Promote the **participation of young women and girls in STEM**.
- E) Strengthen **accessible digital environments for youth with disabilities**.
- F) Develop partnerships with technology companies, organizations, and institutions to **promote gender transformative digital access**.
- G) **Implement policies and programs to strengthen digital access and literacy** of women, girls, and youth.
- H) **Incorporate digital literacy and internet safety** into school curriculums.
- I) Implement teachings on **cyberbullying and digital harassment** to protect girls and young women.

Thematic Action Track 5:

Financing of education

- A) **Center gender equality** in education sector plans, budgets, and policies, including prioritization of most marginalized peoples and areas.
- B) Strongly encourage participating stakeholders to **fulfill financial education commitments made at the Generation Equality Forums**.
- C) **Increase financing levels directed towards educational counsellors** for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence.
- D) Increase financing **educational support to refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers**.
- E) Increasing funding for **girl centered opportunities in STEM**.
- F) **Increase accessible and flexible funding for formal and informal** youth and youth-led organizations and networks working to advance and transform education.
- G) Implement **accountability measures** including improvements in the **availability and use of data on education outcomes and financing**.