



Embassy of Italy
New Delhi



THE ENERGY AND RESOURCES INSTITUTE
Creating Innovative Solutions for a Sustainable Future

National Youth Forum

as part of

Changemakers for Climate Action (CCA)

An innovative approach to engage, educate and empower youth towards responsive climate action

An Embassy of Italy & TERI Initiative

A select sample of Indian youth were assessed on their perception and knowledge level to bring forward recommendations on issues related to Clean Transport, Renewable Energy, Energy Transition, Climate Change, and Nature-based Solutions. These recommendations are presented here as the **'Youth Working Document'** to be taken forward to Youth4Climate: Driving Ambition, a special event to be held on 28-30 September 2021, in Milan, Italy.

Assessment Highlights

- The youth are aware about the rising impact of vehicular pollution on environment and know the advantages of using e-vehicles. They are keen to use mass transport, but are worried about the commute time. While the youth are aware about GHG emissions, climate risk indices, country positions and organizations that are leading in climate talk, at the same time a reinforcement of climate science at all academic levels is desirable.
- Youth have a strong inclination towards taking up volunteer activities that make them emerge as climate crusaders. They are aware about climate change and its impacts, and have shown keenness in adopting environment-friendly practices.
- While evaluating them on their level of knowledge of contemporary environmental issues, it was found that youth are aware about carbon footprints and prefer cleaner sources of fuel.
- The youth know about nature-based solutions for climate change adaptation strategies.
- The youth showed varying levels of understanding about environment concepts. It was also seen that they realize the impact of their lifestyle on environment and are aware of measures that can reduce negative impacts on environmental services.
- The youth expressed a need for more awareness on technical aspects related to renewable energy, energy transition pathways, nature-based solutions, e-vehicles and climate science.

Recommendations of National Youth Forum

1. Majority of youth believe that climate change is affecting them.
2. Majority of youth believe that by reducing and segregating waste generation at source, one can reduce the quantity of waste going to the landfill and, thus, reduce GHG emissions.
3. Majority of youth understand 'carbon sinks' and simple strategies that can help in creating them (e.g. afforestation).
4. Majority of youth believe their role is critical in combating climate change and would also like to emphasize on the roles of other stakeholders.
5. Majority of youth believe sustainable development can solve the problem of unemployment. And within the existing jobs, there is a scope of making the work delivery 'green'
6. The youth of today can influence their 'family members and friends' in adopting green living.

Youth identify themselves with the motto 'humans are a part of nature, and must balance their needs so that no part of the environment is affected by their unsustainable activities'.