ANALYSIS OF GLOBAL YOUTH-LED CLIMATE INITIATIVES: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

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Introduction

The age of youth-led climate activism

Around the world, young people are speaking out about the urgency of addressing the climate crisis and the need to act now to facilitate a just, green transition.

They are raising awareness and taking action in their own communities, building networks on social media, hosting global events online, and putting pressure on national and international policymakers to take more ambitious and swift measures to mitigate climate change and build resilience in an equitable manner. Through initiatives that are originated and led by youth, as well as programs developed by organizations and institutions that focus on empowering youth, young people have generated a powerful discourse on climate action that cannot be ignored. This rapid analysis of 50 youth-led climate initiatives provides a clear view of the current state of youth-led climate action worldwide. It also provides critical insights to support the development of youth-centered and youth-responsive green workforce development programming that supports young people in building skills and finding jobs in a just, green transition.

Youth are not a monolith; we can learn from their diversity

Historically, the young people most engaged in global climate activism have not been the same groups of young people that international development organizations (IDOs) targeted in their programming. While the reach of global youth-led climate initiatives continues to expand thanks to increases in internet accessibility and the prioritization of equity and inclusion in these spaces, youth climate activists as a whole still tend to be well-resourced and well-educated and reside in urban areas and higher-income countries in the Global North. Youth beneficiaries in IDO projects, however, are commonly those from lower-resourced backgrounds, often in the Global South, and are the hardest to reach due to normative and structural barriers, such as out-of-school youth, youth living in rural areas, and youth living in poverty. While these youth often face greater obstacles limiting their ability to engage in unpaid, voluntary work such as climate activism, they are often intimately tied to climate change and the green transitions taking place. This is because the impacts of climate change more directly affect their communities and livelihoods, and changes in the economy create new income-generating opportunities and potential career paths.

This analysis was conducted as a precursor to Chemonics' and Unbounded Associate's "Centering Youth in Green Workforce Development: An Action Guide," to inform the Action Guide's primary research interviews, and to provide a clearer understanding of the differences between youth's current roles in climate action in developed versus developing economies. Findings from this analysis reveal that global youth-led climate initiatives tend to approach climate action through social and political avenues, such as organizing protests, generating petitions, and educating communities on their rights and options for challenging unjust systems. Findings from Centering Youth in Green Workforce Development: An Action Guide show that youth living in low- to middle-income countries — who bear the brunt of climate change impacts while also facing economic downturn and job shortages — tend to view climate change through a livelihood perspective, prioritizing sustainability and "green" approaches. The lived realities and priorities of these two groups of youth — those approaching climate change as an environmental and political issue and those viewing climate change as a livelihood and survival issue — are meaningfully different and need to be

recognized. Still, the core aspiration that underlies the actions taken by both of these groups — for instance, protests and community organizing on the one side and green entrepreneurship on the other — is to create a future in which they and their generation can flourish and thrive as adults. By acknowledging both the important differences as well as the central commonalities across the different groups of youth facing and responding to climate change today, IDOs can better integrate the perspectives of all youth in their programming to respond more holistically to the heterogenous experiences of youth in the era of the climate crisis.

Intended audience and use of this analysis

This analysis of youth-led climate initiatives can be used to help guide IDOs to support all youth, especially those at the forefront of responding to the climate crisis and in the most need of decent, green job opportunities in two ways.

First, by understanding the approaches, priorities, and enabling factors that characterize youth climate initiatives, IDOs can more clearly identify gaps in present systems and structures. For example, they might identify gaps that leave out underprivileged youth as well as opportunities for greater synergy and alignment between the demands of youth climate activists and the needs of youth seeking sustainable livelihoods amidst climatic and economic changes. Second, IDOs can learn from the strategies employed by youth-led climate initiatives — such as their utilization of people power (defined on page 9), prioritization of inclusion and representation, and focus on transferrable skills — in the design of their own green workforce initiatives for youth, creating opportunities for less privileged youth to more meaningfully engage in the global climate discourse in ways that are relevant and pragmatic to their everyday lives.
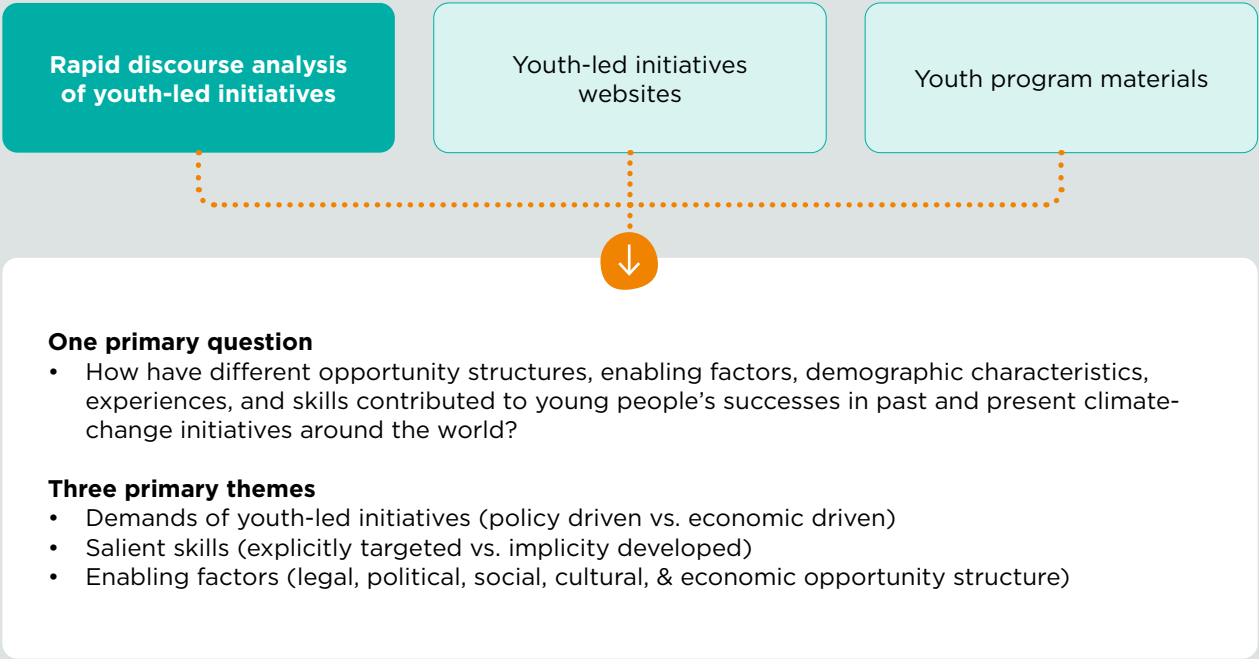
The goal of this rapid discourse analysis of youth-led climate initiatives is to establish a cross-sectional understanding of the types of initiatives active today, the salient skills these initiatives either explicitly focus on promoting or implicitly develop among youth, and the potential enabling factors that help contribute to their success. The intended audience for this analysis are the IDOs who seek to (re)design programming for youth that supports their career readiness in the face of a green transition.

Combining the findings from this discourse analysis with those from Centering Youth in Green Workforce Development: An Action Guide, creates a fuller picture of youth climate action at both local and global levels and supports IDOs to more clearly discern their role in responding to young people's needs in a just, green transition. In addition, findings from these two reports can be used to guide IDOs in developing programs for youth that respond to both the market-oriented and livelihood-based needs of youth living in low-resource settings, and to the social and political priorities of youth engaging at the highest levels of the global climate discourse.

Methodology

The rapid discourse analysis began with one primary question and three primary themes for analysis, as shown below in Figure 1.

FIGURE 1. Rapid discourse analysis methodology

| Rapid discourse analysis of youth-led initiatives | Youth-led initiatives websites | Youth program materials |

One primary question
- How have different opportunity structures, enabling factors, demographic characteristics, experiences, and skills contributed to young people's successes in past and present climate-change initiatives around the world?

Three primary themes
- Demands of youth-led initiatives (policy driven vs. economic driven)
- Salient skills (explicitly targeted vs. implicity developed)
- Enabling factors (legal, political, social, cultural, & economic opportunity structure)

In addition to the primary question and themes, two types of youth-led climate initiatives were distinguished to review: primary and secondary. The definitions of these two classifications can be found below in Box 1.

BOX 1
Primary and secondary initiatives definitions

Primary initiatives — "Initiatives, organizations, and/or networks that are initiated by young people and are grassroots in nature but may, after a number of years, have become formalized through donor support and/or organizational development/institutionalization."

Secondary initiatives — "Initiatives and/or programs that originate from adult-led organizations/ institutions, but, due to the working structure of the program itself, position youth as co-creators, leaders, and initiators."

A set of selection criteria were defined to clarify what initiatives would be incorporated in the review. These criteria also illustrate the limitations to the study, listed below in Table 1. It is important to understand the selection criteria and exercise caution when generalizing from these findings as the sample may not be fully representative.

TABLE 1. Selection criteria and limitations of the study

SELECTION CRITERIA / LIMITATIONS
1. Information about initiative has to be available in English (due to time and budget constraints)
2. Initiatives must have a functioning website (not just a social media page)
3. Initiatives must be operating at the country, regional, or global level (nothing subnational)
4. Initiatives must be a group of at least three or more individuals (not just one person)
5. Initiatives define "youth" as young people aged 15-29, the age range that the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) uses to define "youth"

The research used a snowball sampling approach to obtain the dataset, beginning with a small number of initiatives known to the technical researchers (e.g., Sunrise Movement, Earth Rising, Fridays for Future, MockCOP, EmpoderaClima, Girl Rising Future Fellows) and, in the course of exploring the websites for these initiatives, found additional initiatives listed as partners, members, collaborators, etc. Reviewing these referenced initiatives resulted in finding more initiatives, and this snowballing method continued to be used until 50 initiatives were identified. Upon reaching 50 initiatives, it became clear that meaningfully new data was no longer being collected and could therefore conclude that a satisfactory level of data saturation had been reached. The 50 initiatives reviewed are listed with their background data in Appendix 1.
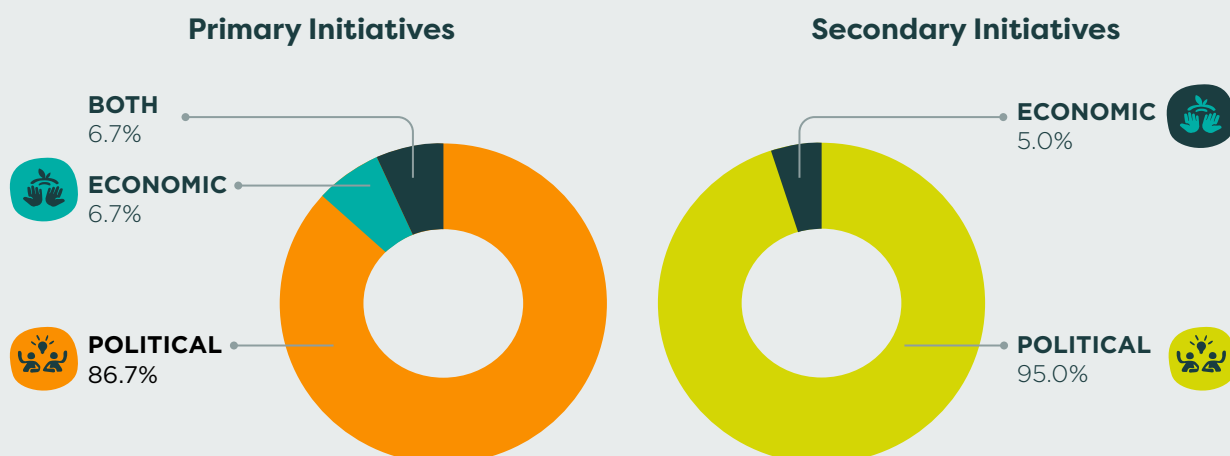
The process for analyzing the data was guided by the primary research question and three primary research themes. The research took an exploratory, inductive approach to coding the data according to these themes. As new data arose within each theme, codes were added to account for them. Once all 50 initiatives had been initially reviewed and all codes had been recorded, each initiative was reviewed a second time to revisit each code classification and refine code definitions. The final codes used, along with their definitions, are listed in Appendix 4.

Findings

Characteristics of youth-led climate initiatives

Of the 50 initiatives reviewed, 60% (n=30) were classified as primary initiatives and 40% (n=20) as secondary initiatives. This distribution also aligns with a general sense of the youth climate action landscape that is composed of predominantly youth-led primary initiatives, but still contains a substantial number of secondary initiatives. Of the primary initiatives, 86% (n=26) were politically focused, 7% (n=2) were economically focused, and 7% (n=2) focused on both. Of the secondary initiatives, 95% (n=19) were politically focused and only 5% (n=1) were economically focused. Among all the initiatives, 52% (n=26) were global, and 48% (n=24) were regional and country-based — although one should exercise caution when generalizing from this point, as this is likely a reflection of selection bias. A full report of the background data collected is available in Appendix 1.

FIGURE 2. Focuses of primary and secondary initiatives

The skills that showed up the most across primary and secondary initiatives were advocacy / communication (70% of initiatives, n=35), climate literacy (64% of initiatives, n=32), and leadership (52% of initiatives, n=26). Comparing primary and secondary initiatives, a majority of both types of initiatives focused on advocacy and communication (67% of primary initiatives

Salient skills

The analysis identified six salient skills that were either explicitly targeted toward participating youth or implicitly developed through participation in the initiatives: 1) political agency, 2) leadership, 3) coalition building / creating networks, 4) advocacy / communication, 5) prioritizing Indigenous / marginalized groups, and 6) climate literacy. A brief description of these codes is provided below in Box 2, and the full definitions are available in the Codebook in Appendix 4.

> ★
>
> **BOX 2**
> ### Salient skills descriptions and examples
>
> **Political agency** refers to skills that enable young people to engage in political processes, while leadership is defined by the way initiatives position young people as leaders in their mission and activities. The way in which the African Youth Climate Hub uses the following language on their website — "Fostering and Nurturing African Youth Leadership for the Climate" — is a good example.
>
> **Coalition building and creating networks** refers to initiatives that support young people in accessing, creating, or participating in collective groups and activities, and advocacy and communication refers to skills that help young people participate in advocacy processes, often through strategic communication efforts.
>
> **Prioritizing Indigenous and marginalized groups** is included as a skill in recognition of the transformative nature that this orientation can have when applied to action, as discussed in Kwauk and Casey's New Green Learning Agenda.
>
> **Climate literacy** references the way many initiatives prioritize teaching, amplifying, and, in some cases, conducting new research on climate science to equip young people with scientific facts to better understand and address climate change

and 75% of secondary initiatives). More primary initiatives (40%, n=12) prioritized Indigenous and marginalized groups in their activities and content than secondary initiatives (25%, n=5). In contrast, 75% (n=15) of secondary initiatives focused on leadership, while only 37% (n=11) of primary initiatives did. A full report of the findings from the salient skills analysis is available in Appendix 2.

FIGURE 3. Salient skills
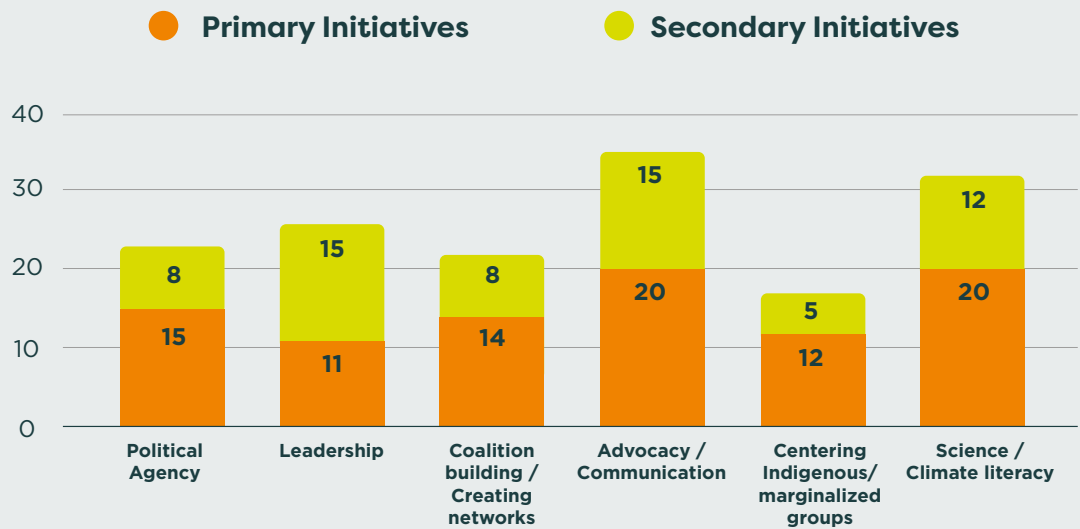
Initiative classifications and enabling factors

The analysis also identified four initiative classifications and five enabling factors. Of the 50 initiatives reviewed, 32% (n=16) were hosted by an institution or parent organization (the majority of these, n=10, were secondary initiatives), 46% (n=23) identified on their website as non-profit organizations, 20% (n=10) were volunteer-based initiatives, and only 2% (n=1) identified as a for-profit company. Comparing primary and secondary initiatives, all the volunteer-based organizations were primary initiatives, and more primary initiatives (n=14) were non-profits than secondary initiatives (n=9). The only for-profit organization was a secondary initiative.

FIGURE 4. Initiative classifications
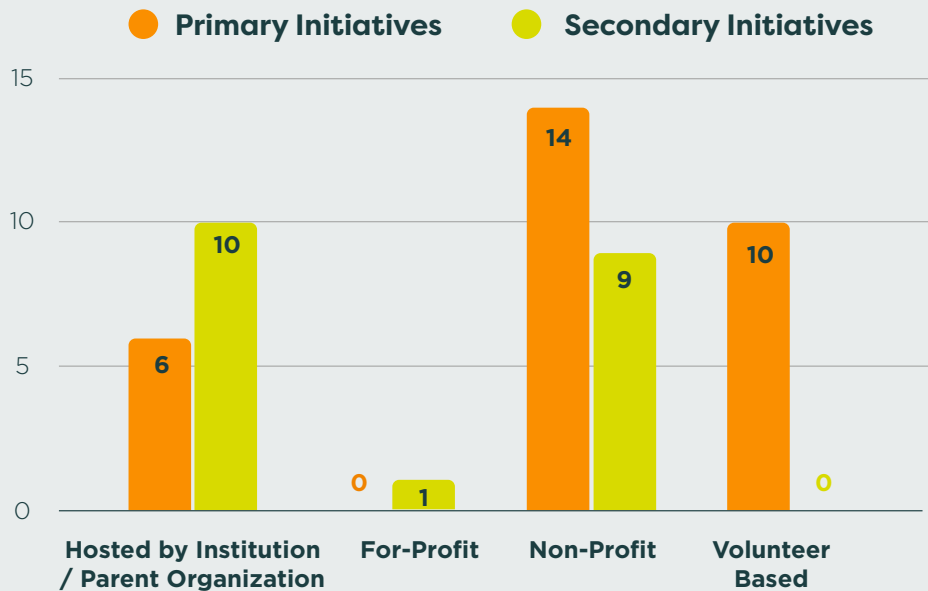
The five enabling factors analyzed were 1) non-governmental partnerships, 2) political partnerships, 3) crowd-sourced financial support, 4) institutional financial support, and 5) people power. A brief description of these codes is provided below in Box 3, and the full definitions are available in the Codebook in Appendix 4.

BOX 3
Enabling factors descriptions and examples

Non-governmental and political partnerships refer to initiatives that report collaborating either with organizations and institutions, or governmental actors, on certain activities, respectively.

Crowd-sourced and institutional financial support refer to funding sources that come either through individual donations (e.g., many initiatives had "Donate" buttons on their websites) or from traditional funding entities, including foundations, private funders, and bilateral or multilateral donors, respectively.

People power[1] refers to those initiatives that hinge on mass mobilization to carry out activities, such as the way Sunrise Movement conducts non-violent direct action in the form of protests, strikes, sit-ins, etc., which usually require the participation of large numbers of people for success.

Among all initiatives, crowd-sourced financial support (62%, n=31), non-governmental partnerships (54%, n=27), and institutional financial support (54%, n=27) were the most recurring enabling factors. Between primary and secondary initiatives, 75% (n=15) of secondary initiatives received institutional financial support, compared to only 40% (n=12) of primary initiatives. On the other hand, 47% (n=14) of primary initiatives used people power, while only 20% (n=4) of secondary initiatives did, and 70% (n=21) of primary initiatives received crowd-sourced financial support, compared to 50% (n=10) of secondary initiatives. A full report of the findings from the enabling factors analysis is available in Appendix 3.

FIGURE 5. Enabling factors
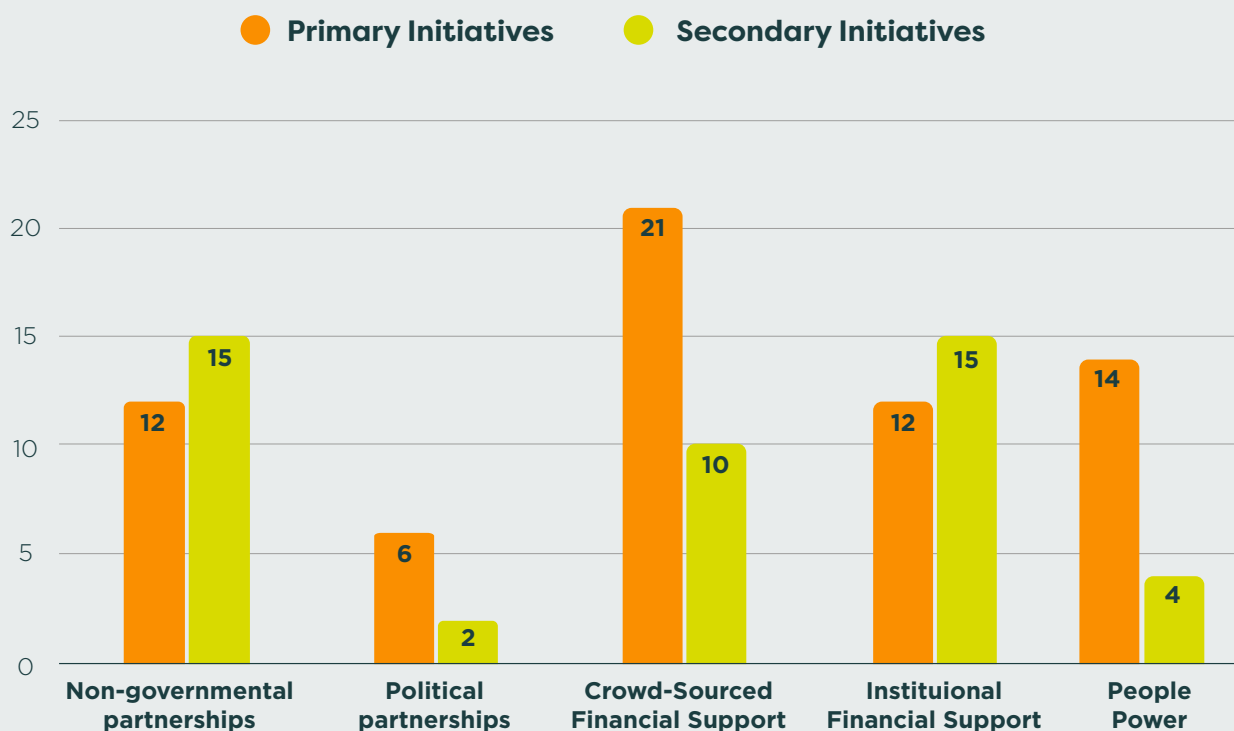

1 We define "people power" as "political pressure exercised through the public demonstration of popular opinion" (Oxford Languages, Google, Accessed Feb. 4, 2022) and offer 10 Ways People Power Can Change the World? from MobLab as an example.

Photo credit: USAID Colombia Paramos and Forests Activity

Discussion

The gap is clear

The findings from the global discourse analysis show that the primary modes of action youth climate activists are taking through their own climate initiatives are politically focused (primary initiatives, 86%), as are the efforts organizations are taking to mobilize and empower youth climate action through their programming (secondary initiatives, 95%). Interestingly, more primary initiatives (n=4) than secondary initiatives (n=1) incorporated economically focused activities into their approaches, such as providing microgrants to youth entrepreneurs and activists (One UP Action) or serving as a crowdsourcing platform to support grassroots youth-led initiatives in the Global South (GreenCheck). These efforts illustrate that many youth climate activists recognize the importance of including youth from lower-income countries and backgrounds in their work. These findings also indicate a clear gap in current youth-led and youth-focused programming — more market-oriented approaches to climate action could help prepare youth to address climate change through green jobs and to participate in a transition to a greener economy, while also supporting youth livelihoods.

The strong skew toward politically focused initiatives found in the dataset is likely a reflection of the sampling approach, given that the research began with global, politically focused organizations as source data points. The research purposefully did not focus on youth-led market-based approaches to addressing climate change in this discourse analysis, however, as the aim was to focus on the youth-led activism space to lead to a better understanding of the alignments and divergences between youth-led activism and youth-led entrepreneurship and other market-oriented youth climate action.

Additionally, as was mentioned in the introduction, research on youth-led climate activism suggests that youth climate activists may not be representative of all youth, but instead represent a more self-selecting population based on gender, age, and geography, often skewed toward younger, female-identifying, Global North-based youth. Socio-environmental factors also play a role in leading some youth to engage in climate activism and protests more than others. While this analysis did not focus on the demographic or socioeconomic backgrounds of the young people involved in the initiatives of study, it is important to consider that the youth engaged in the initiatives reviewed likely differ from the young people who are most often engaged in IDO programming. This includes youth who participate in more economically focused activities, which are often in the pursuit of sustainable livelihoods either in place of, or in addition to, politically focused goals. IDOs should recognize the meaningful differences between more privileged youth climate activists and youth who are more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, i.e., those who are living and working in areas most affected by the climate crisis. IDOs can learn from the approaches adopted by youth activists and apply them in context-specific ways to engage broader groups of youth in climate action that supports their livelihoods while also promoting a green transition.

A breadth of skills is needed

According to the analysis findings, the skills that a majority of primary and secondary initiatives focused on in their activities and content were advocacy and communication (70%), climate literacy (64%), and leadership (52%). Clearly, these competencies are considered universally important across youth-led climate initiatives, and IDOs should work to thoughtfully incorporate them into future green workforce initiatives that might otherwise focus on a more conventional and narrow set of technical or vocational skills. Additionally, prioritizing Indigenous and marginalized groups was a clear priority for over one-third (n=12) of the primary initiatives and one-quarter (n=5) of secondary initiatives. This suggests that IDO efforts, including those focused on green workforce transitions should seek to meaningfully incorporate topics of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion into their program design and implementation. Further, they should center these topics as learning outcomes that are intrinsically linked to other outcomes, such as career readiness and environmental literacy.

Skills that a majority of primary and secondary initiatives focused on

70%
ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATION

64%
CLIMATE LITERACY

52%
LEADERSHIP

FINANCIAL SUPPORT RECEIVED FROM INSTITUTIONS

40%
PRIMARY INITIATIVES

75%
SECONDARY INITIATIVES

PEOPLE POWER TO CARRY OUT THEIR ACTIVITIES

47%
PRIMARY INITIATIVES

20%
SECONDARY INITIATIVES

CROWD-SOURCED FINANCIAL SUPPORT

70%
PRIMARY INITIATIVES

50%
SECONDARY INITIATIVES

Young people power

Perhaps unsurprisingly, a majority (75%) of secondary initiatives received financial support from institutions, compared to a minority of primary initiatives (40%). On the contrary, nearly half (47%) of primary initiatives relied on people power to carry out their activities, while less than a quarter (20%) of secondary initiatives did. Furthermore, more primary initiatives received crowd-sourced financial support (70%) compared to secondary initiatives (50%). These findings likely affirm the assumptions that many already hold — that youth-led primary initiatives are more likely to be crowd-sourced and reliant on youth mobilization than organization-led secondary ones. What can be taken away from these results is that young people's movements, while less likely to be financially backed by institutions, are more likely supported by and connected to young people "on the ground." The network of young people around the world who lead, participate in, and support youth-led climate initiatives is clearly vast and will continue to grow. This momentum is something that IDOs and green workforce initiatives must not only understand but also respond to and empower; harnessing this energy to enable a just, green transition that supports even the hardest-to-reach youth in building skills and finding jobs.

Conclusion

Recognizing the lack of youth-centered climate change programs and initiatives that include an economic focus, young people's clear emphasis on acquiring transferable, transformative skills and climate-specific knowledge, and the formidable collective power of youth climate action provides valuable direction for the international development community to better design youth-responsive and youth-centered green workforce initiatives. Learning from the concepts and approaches espoused by youth climate activists and youth-led climate initiatives, IDOs can more intentionally engage youth outside the activist space in climate-related programming that is relevant to their lived realities. This could include green workforce development trainings that support youth in developing not only valuable technical skills but also critical orientations toward justice and equity, or leadership programs that give youth the space to imagine green career paths that promote their own livelihoods as well as the wellbeing of the planet. The findings from this discourse analysis complement those in the **Centering Youth in Green Workforce Development: An Action Guide**. Together, these two resources can support the international development community to practically and earnestly implement youth-centered and youth-responsive programming that recognizes the urgency of addressing climate change along with the imperative to prioritize young people's perspectives and needs in the process.

References

Boucher et. al., From the suites to the streets: Examining the range of behaviors and attitudes of international climate activists, Energy Research & Social Science, February 2021.

Kwauk, C. and Casey, O. (2021). "A New Green Learning Agenda: Approaches to quality education for climate action." Published by the Center for Universal Education at the Brookings Institution.

Mobilisation Lab, 10 Ways People Power Can Change the World, October 2015.

Prendergast et. al., Youth Attitudes and Participation in Climate Protest: An International Cities Comparison Frontiers in Political Science Special Issue: Youth Activism in Environmental Politics, Frontiers in Political Science, September 2021.

Appendices

APPENDIX 1: List of Initiatives Reviewed, Background Data

KEY	TOTAL	
INITIATIVE TYPE		
	Primary	30
	Secondary	20
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE		
	Country-based	12
	Regional	12
	Global	26
PROGRAM FOCUS		
	Political	45
	Economic	3
	Both	2

INITIATIVE NAME	GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	PROGRAM FOCUS	YEAR STARTED
Sunrise Movement	Country-based	Political	2017
Earth Uprising	Global	Political	NA
Fridays for Future	Global	Political	2018
EmpoderaClima	Regional	Political	2020
For the Climate	Global	Political	2019
Care about Climate	Global	Political	2014
Green Check	Global	Economic	2020
Eco Justice Project	Country-based	Political	NA
EcoTok	Global	Political	2020
Change the Chamber	Country-based	Political	NA
Klima Action Malaysia	Country-based	Political	2019
Pacto X El Clima	Country-based	Political	2019
SG Climate Rally	Country-based	Political	2019
Polluters Out	Global	Political	2020
Tuesdays for Trash	Global	Political	2020
Teach the Future	Regional	Political	2020
African Youth Climate Hub	Regional	Economic	NA
Arab Youth Climate Movement	Regional	Political	2015
CliMates	Global	Political	2011
U Inspire Malaysia	Regional	Political	2019

INITIATIVE NAME	GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	PROGRAM FOCUS	YEAR STARTED
Youth4Nature	Global	Political	NA
African Youth Initiative on Climate Change	Regional	Political	2006
Youth and Environment Europe	Regional	Political	1983
Green Africa Youth Organization	Regional	Both	2014
Global Youth Biodiversity Network	Global	Political	NA
Nepalese Youth for Climate Action	Country-based	Political	2008
One UP Action	Global	Both	2019
Future Coalition	Country-based	Political	2018
SustainUS	Country-based	Political	2001
MockCOP	Global	Political	2020
Girl Rising Future Fellows	Global	Political	NA
School of Environmental Leadership	Country-based	Economic	1997
Action for Climate Emergency	Country-based	Political	2008
Students Organizing for Sustainability International	Regional	Political	NA
YOUNGO	Global	Political	2009
Youth4Climate Initiative at Connect 4 Climate	Regional	Political	NA
Voices of Youth	Global	Political	1995
Youth UNESCO Climate Action Network (YoU-CAN)	Global	Political	2019
Earth Charter Youth Programme	Global	Political	NA
SIDS Youth Aims Hub	Regional	Political	2013
MAG Youth Programme	Global	Political	2016
Youth Leadership Program at Global Center on Adaptation	Global	Political	NA
One Young World	Global	Political	NA
UN Major Group on Children and Youth	Global	Political	1992
Youth Environmental Activists Program at Climate Generation	Country-based	Political	2006
Youth Climate Lab	Global	Political	2017
Children's Radio Foundation	Regional	Political	2006
Earthtopia at 335 Seconds	Global	Political	2020
Earth Child Institute	Global	Political	NA
Planet 911	Global	Political	2020

APPENDIX 2: Salient Skills Analysis

INITIATIVE NAME	SALIENT SKILLS					
	Political Agency	Leadership	Coalition Building / Creating Networks	Advocacy / Communication	Prioritizing Indigenous / Marginalized Groups	Climate Literacy
Sunrise Movement	1	1	1			
Earth Uprising	1	1	1	1		
Fridays for Future	1			1		1
EmpoderaClima				1	1	1
For the climate				1		1
Care about Climate		1		1	1	1
Green Check			1		1	1
Eco Justice Project				1		1
EcoTok				1		1
Change the Chamber				1		1
Klima Action Malaysia			1	1	1	
Pacto X El Clima				1		1
SG Climate Rally	1				1	
Polluters Out	1			1	1	1
Tuesdays for Trash			1	1		1
Teach the Future	1		1	1		
African Youth Climate Hub		1	1		1	
Arab Youth Climate movement				1		1
CliMates		1		1		1
U Inspire Malaysia		1	1	1		1
Youth4Nature		1	1		1	1
African Youth Initiative on Climate Change	1		1			1
Youth and Environment Europe	1	1	1			1
Green Africa Youth Organization	1			1	1	
Global Youth Biodiversity Network	1	1	1			1
Nepalese Youth for Climate Action	1		1	1		1
One UP Action	1	1			1	
Future Coalition	1		1	1	1	
SustainUS	1	1		1	1	
MockCOP	1					1
Girl Rising Future Fellows				1	1	1
School of Environmental Leadership		1	1			
Action for Climate Emergency	1	1		1		1

INITIATIVE NAME	SALIENT SKILLS					
	Political Agency	Leadership	Coalition Building / Creating Networks	Advocacy / Communication	Prioritizing Indigenous / Marginalized Groups	Climate Literacy
Students Organizing for Sustainability International		1	1	1		1
YOUNGO	1	1				
Youth4Climate Initiative at Connect 4 Climate		1	1	1		1
Voices of Youth	1		1	1		1
Youth UNESCO Climate Action Network (YoU-CAN)		1		1	1	
Earth Charter Youth Programme		1	1			
SIDS Youth Aims Hub		1		1		1
MAG Youth Programme	1	1				
Youth Leadership Program at Global Center on Adaptation	1	1		1		
One Young World	1	1		1	1	1
UN Major Group on Children and Youth	1	1		1		1
Youth Environmental Activists Program at Climate Generation				1	1	1
Youth Climate Lab	1	1	1		1	
Children's Radio Foundation		1		1		1
Earthtopia at 335 Seconds				1		1
Earth Child Institute			1	1		1
Planet 911		1	1	1		
TOTAL	23	26	22	35	17	32

APPENDIX 3: Enabling Factors

INITIATIVE NAME	INITIATIVE CLASSIFICATION				ENABLING FACTORS				
	Hosted by Institution / Parent Organization	For- Profit	Non-Profit	Volunteer-Based	Technical / Knowledge Partnerships	Political Networks	Crowd-sourced Financial Support	Institutional Financial Support	People Power
Sunrise Movement			1			1	1		1
Earth Uprising			1				1		1
Fridays for Future				1			1		1
EmpoderaClima	1					1	1		
For the Climate				1	1				
Care about Climate			1		1		1		
Green Check				1			1		
Eco Justice Project				1			1		
EcoTok				1					1
Change the Chamber				1			1		1
Klima Action Malaysia			1				1		1
Pacto X El Clima				1			1		1
SG Climate Rally				1			1		1
Polluters Out			1		1		1		1
Tuesdays for Trash				1	1		1		
Teach the Future	1				1		1	1	
African Youth Climate Hub	1							1	
Arab Youth Climate Movement			1						
CliMates			1			1			1
U Inspire Malaysia	1				1			1	
Youth4Nature			1				1	1	
African Youth Initiative on Climate Change			1		1		1	1	
Youth and Environment Europe			1		1		1	1	
Green Africa Youth Organization					1	1		1	
Global Youth Biodiversity Network	1					1		1	
Nepalese Youth for Climate Action				1	1				1
One UP Action			1		1		1	1	1
Future Coalition			1				1	1	1
SustainUS			1		1		1	1	1
MockCOP	1					1	1	1	
Girl Rising Future Fellows			1				1	1	

INITIATIVE NAME	INITIATIVE CLASSIFICATION				ENABLING FACTORS				
	Hosted by Institution / Parent Organization	For-Profit	Non-Profit	Volunteer-Based	Technical / Knowledge Partnerships	Political Networks	Crowd-sourced Financial Support	Institutional Financial Support	People Power
School of Environmental Leadership			1		1		1	1	
Action for Climate Emergency			1		1		1	1	
Students Organizing for Sustainability International			1		1				1
YOUNGO	1				1				
Youth4Climate	1				1			1	
Voices of Youth	1							1	1
Youth UNESCO Climate Action Network (YoU-CAN)	1				1			1	
Earth Charter Youth Programme	1						1	1	
SIDS Youth Aims Hub			1		1	1	1		1
MAG Youth Programme	1				1			1	
Youth Leadership Program at Global Center on Adaptation	1				1			1	
One Young World			1		1		1	1	
UN Major Group on Children and Youth	1				1				
Youth Environmental Activists Program at Climate Generation	1							1	1
Youth Climate Lab			1		1	1	1		
Children's Radio Foundation			1		1		1	1	
Earthtopia at 335 Seconds		1			1			1	
Earth Child Institute			1		1		1	1	
Planet 911	1						1	1	
TOTAL	15	1	20	8	26	6	27	27	15

APPENDIX 4: Codebook

CODES	DEFINITION
INITIATIVE TYPE	
Primary	Initiatives, organizations, and/or networks that are initiated by young people and are grassroots in nature but may, after a number of years, have become formalized through donor support and/or organizational development/institutionalization
Secondary	Initiatives and/or programs that originate from adult-led organizations/institutions, but, due to the working structure of the program itself, position youth as co-creators, leaders, and/or initiators
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	
Country-based	Initiative's primary activities and content focus are located within a specific country context
Regional	Initiative's primary activities and content focus are located within a specific regional context (e.g., continental)
Global	Initiative's primary activities and content focus are either explicitly global or disperse enough across regions to be considered global rather than regional
PROGRAMMATIC FOCUS	
Political	Initiative's focus is on activities that aim to exert political pressure to address climate change at the country, regional, or global levels
Economic	Initiative's focus is on activities that aim to restructure the labor market (e.g., jobs training) and/or redistribute financial capital (e.g., microgrants) to address climate change at the country, regional, or global levels
Both	Initiative includes both activities with a political focus and activities with an economic focus in addressing climate change
SALIENT SKILLS	
Political Agency	Initiative develops young people's ability to participate in political processes or activities to address climate change (e.g., protesting, phone banking, canvassing, accessing national, regional, or global decision-making fora)
Leadership	Initiative positions young people as leaders and seeks to develop their position as leaders to address climate change
Coalition Building / Creating Networks	Initiative develops young people's ability to create, access, or participate in youth collective action to address climate change
Advocacy / Communication	Initiative develops young people's ability to initiate and/or participate in advocacy processes to address climate change through strategic communication
Prioritizing Indigenous / marginalized groups	Initiative explicitly prioritizes empowering indigenous/marginalized groups (e.g., Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities, women and girls, people with disabilities, etc.) in action to address climate change
Climate Literacy	Initiative identifies educating young people about the science and facts of climate change as a clear priority

ENABLING FACTORS	
Non-governmental Partnerships	Initiative identifies non-profit or for-profit partners with whom they carry out activities
Political Partnerships	Initiative identifies governmental partners with whom they carry out activities
Crowd-sourced Financial Support	Initiative received some funding via crowd-sourced funding and donations (e.g., initiative has a "Donate" option on their website)
Institutional Financial Support	Initiative receives some funding via institutions, including foundations, donors, and private companies
People Power	Initiative includes activities that exert public political pressure through direct, collective action, requiring the mass mobilization of young people for success (e.g., protesting, striking, phone-banking, sit-ins, etc. See "10 Ways People Power Can Change the World" from MobLab, 2015)
INITIATIVE CLASSIFICATION	
Hosted by Institution / Parent Organization	Initiative is an independent program hosted by an institution (e.g., UN Agency, World Bank) or parent organization (e.g., Global Center on Adaptation)
For-Profit	Initiative identifies as a for-profit company
Non-Profit	Initiative identifies as a not-for-profit organization
Volunteer Based	Initiative does not identify as a non-profit or for-profit, and core team of organizers is composed of people who contribute their time

ANALYSIS OF GLOBAL YOUTH-LED CLIMATE INITIATIVES: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

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