Next Generation Foresight Practitioners

YOUNG VOICES NETWORK

TEACH THE FUTURE

soif SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

Next Generation Foresight Practitioners

#NGFP2023
YOUNG VOICES

27 youth ages 12-17 from around the world striving for better futures.

> View their profiles at nextgenforesight.org

NGFP-YV Awards Analysis Report
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November 11, 2023

Forward

The Next Generation Foresight Practitioner - Young Voices Awards aims to amplify youth voices and showcase their drive to create positive change. For the third year, Teach the Future (TTF) has collaborated with the School of International Futures (SOIF) to offer these awards to young leaders ages 12-17 pursuing future-focused projects worldwide.

It was an exciting time as over 450 passionate young people from around the world registered for our NGFP-YV Awards competition. Out of the many applicants, 84 standout youth completed their applications, bringing a wealth of fresh and diverse global perspectives to tackle the pressing issues of our day.

After much deliberation, the judges selected 27 winning projects, recognizing the creativity, compassion and proactive spirit of these young leaders. Their passion for creating positive change shines brightly in their essays and videos.

In total, 57 dynamic youth were impacted by being part of this year's competition. 19 youth took part in our "Top 10 Winners", while another 37 youth were recognized in our new "SDG Recognized Winners" category, with one project chosen for each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

We are thrilled to support these young changemakers and can't wait to see the solutions they will continue dreaming up to better our world. The future is in good hands with such motivated and dedicated young leaders!

This year's competition called upon youth to describe, in a 400-word essay and 2.5 minute video, their efforts or plans to build a better future locally while considering global impacts. Applicants from over 40 countries responded, spanning 6 continents. The winners and finalists, chosen for their outstanding proposals and embodiment of futures thinking, come from nations like Uganda, India, Brazil, and beyond.

From tackling waste through recycling initiatives to promoting digital literacy and empowering marginalized groups, these young trailblazers inspire hope. Their interdisciplinary, solutions-oriented projects connect local insights to global goals for justice, sustainability, equality and more. The NGFP-YV Awards provide a space to recognize their voices, support their journeys, and learn from their wisdom as inheritors of the future.

Thank you's all around the world

Teach the Future extends its deepest gratitude to all the partners, judges, staff, and volunteers whose generosity and solidarity made the 2023 NGFP-YV Awards possible.
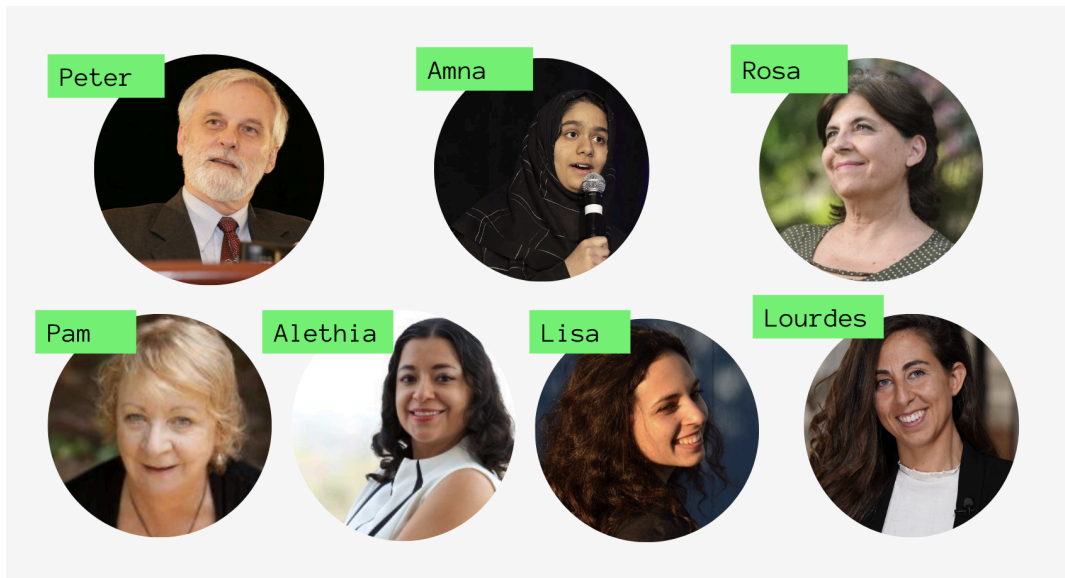
We thank our distinguished partners, including the UNESCO Chair on Futures Research (Epaminondas Christophilopoulos), World Affairs Council (Michele Chaboudy), Future Problem Solving Program International (April Michele).

2023 Judges

We sincerely thank our esteemed judging panel new and returning, including Daniel de Sant'anna Martins, Jan Berlage, Kazim Sari, Kristiina Paju, Jayne Fleener, Cecile Poignant, Sarah Owen, Mira Yossifova, Lorette Bessem, Marcelo Sapoznik, Kelly Evans, Umar Sheraz, Elizabeth Hofvenschioeld, Nicole Baker Rosa, Fernanda Miguel, Tshepo Mokhadi, Amalia Georgelou, Michele Chaboudy, Zabrina Epps, Dave Godden, Melek De-Wint, Amp Kittayarak, and Marielle Burt. This exceptional group of futurists, educators, strategists, and other professionals devoted their diverse expertise, wisdom, and care to elevate youth voices. Their commitment and service to our mission has been invaluable. We are profoundly grateful to all our judges for the passion and insights they contributed to make the NGFP-YV Awards a success.

We specially thank the School of International Futures (SOIF) for jointly empowering young practitioners. Their work provides a pathway for youth to advance foresight and create equitable futures.

And last but not least Teach the Futures Core team working behind the scenes to make this all possible. We Thank you Peter Bishop, Lourdes Rodriguez, Rosa Alegria, Alethia Montero, and Pamela Biery for their leadership. We also appreciate the support from each of the Teach the Futures Hubs worldwide for spreading and supporting the message.

Background

[About NGFP](#)

"
The Next Generation Foresight Practitioner (NGFP) fellowship journey is designed to help change the status quo and democratise the futures and foresight field with diverse perspectives from younger generations, living in under-represented geographies and communities.

On behalf of SOIF and the NGFP network the congratulations goes to the [new 2023 cohort](#)! Over 1,100 expressions of interest were received this year, combining those applying for the Fellowship and the [Young Voices Award](#). NGFP Fellowship received 364 final submissions, with a further 84 completed submissions for the Young Voices Award. This increase is in huge part thanks to existing fellows, judges, funders, partners, supporters, advocates and the extended community of NGFP, who helped to promote and share news of the Fellowship and Young Voices Awards far and wide throughout the campaign.

The NGFP Network exists to accelerate the transformative potentials of the next generation of change-makers and future-alert activists using foresight as

a key tool to envision inclusive and equitable futures globally. They advocate for their integral role in agenda-setting and connect them with today's decision-makers at the highest levels. Our Young Voices Award winners will receive peer support from the Young Voices Network powered by Teach the Future to help realize their future-focused project and catapult their idea into action.

Together, the network makes a collaborative community of practice for engaging on key global issues with the ultimate aim of democratising the futures field. Follow NGFP on [Twitter](), [Instagram](), and [LinkedIn](). "

\- *NGFP Network*

About School of International Futures

SOIF is a not-for-profit collective doing strategy, planning, and policy for future generations. We create foresight with impact by putting at the heart of our design the respect for complexity, purpose, social justice, and participation. We facilitate learning, connection, and innovation for and with emerging foresight practitioners around the world. The NGFP Network and Fellowship are SOIF's initiatives.

About Teach the Future

Teach the Future teaches futures-thinking skills to students and educators worldwide. Their aspiration is to prepare students to navigate uncertainty and shape their preferred futures. They operate as a global network of advocates incorporating futures thinking into classrooms. The network includes country Hubs where participants pursue local opportunities, and a [Young Voices Network]() to empower youth. By building critical futures thinking skills, Teach the Future aims to help young people understand trends, imagine possibilities, and design their futures. Follow us on [instagram](), [Linkedin](), & [Twitter / X]()

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide a comprehensive analysis of the 2023 NGFP-YV Awards across multiple dimensions, including: applicant demographics and submissions, judging process and feedback, award results and patterns, participant insights, and recommendations for enhancing the program. Specifically, the analysis will summarize applicant data like location and ages; evaluate judging criteria and scorer perspectives; break down winning projects and recognized mentions; highlight notable trends and

changes from previous years; summarize applicant and judge takeaways; and propose process improvements based on findings. The goal is to paint a holistic picture of the awards experience and outcomes in order to showcase excellence in youth foresight, while identifying opportunities to continue advancing the field through this program. By reviewing applicant profiles, judging dynamics, award results, and participant learnings in depth, this report aims to both celebrate outstanding work and provide guidance to build upon the success for future award cycles.

Applicant Analysis

Out of 450 youth that registered for the program, only 84 (18.6%) fully completed and submitted their applications. The sifting process took 16-17 hours over 5-6 days to review all 84 applications. Of the 84 complete applications, 71 (84%) passed to the judging round while 13 did not pass. The judging window is independent work 8-10 hours and is 5 weeks long.

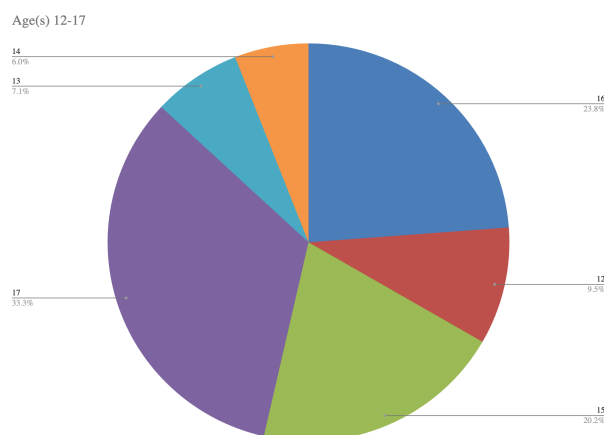Reasons applications did not pass:
- The subject or topic did not relate to the competition requirements.
- Videos were reused or related to another submission.

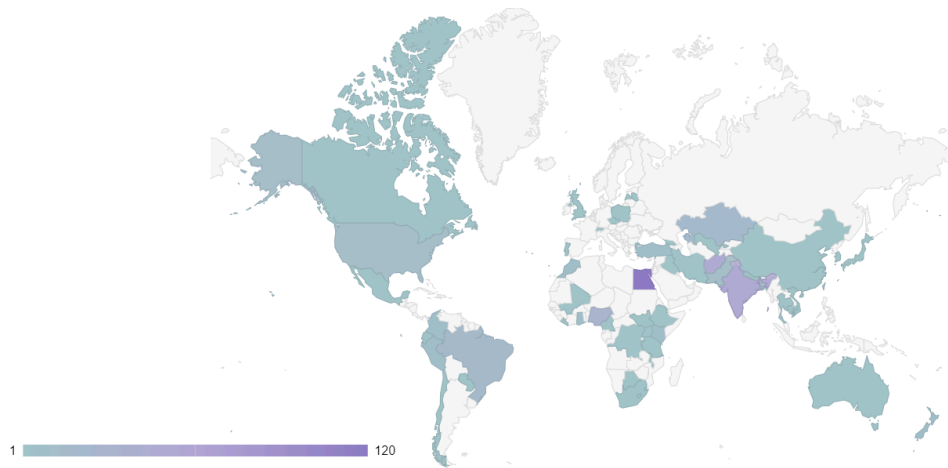Key information on the 84 applicants that passed to judging:
- Applicants come from over 40 countries across 6 continents, showing highly diverse geographic representation.
- Ages range from 12 to 17, with over 60% between 15-17 years old, demonstrating initiative even among younger applicants and almost 20% were remarkably from youth 12 years of age.
- Project topics are widely varied, covering areas like, educational reform, environment awareness, technology advancements, community service, and more.

The data shows a high level of global interest with applicants from many countries, though only a small percentage followed through to complete the full application process. The vast majority of complete applications met the requirements to pass through to the final judging round.

Age Breakdown for Youth 12-17 years old

Age(s) 12-17

14
6.0%

13
7.1%

16
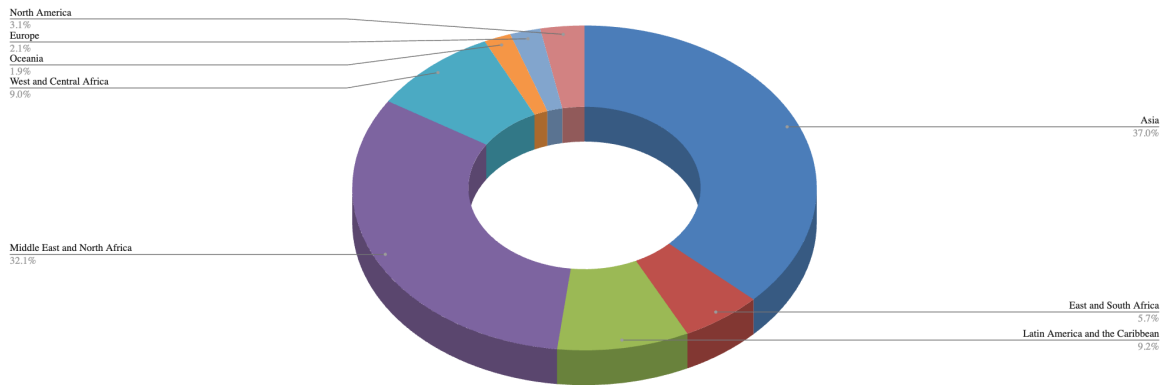23.8%

17
33.3%

12
9.5%

15
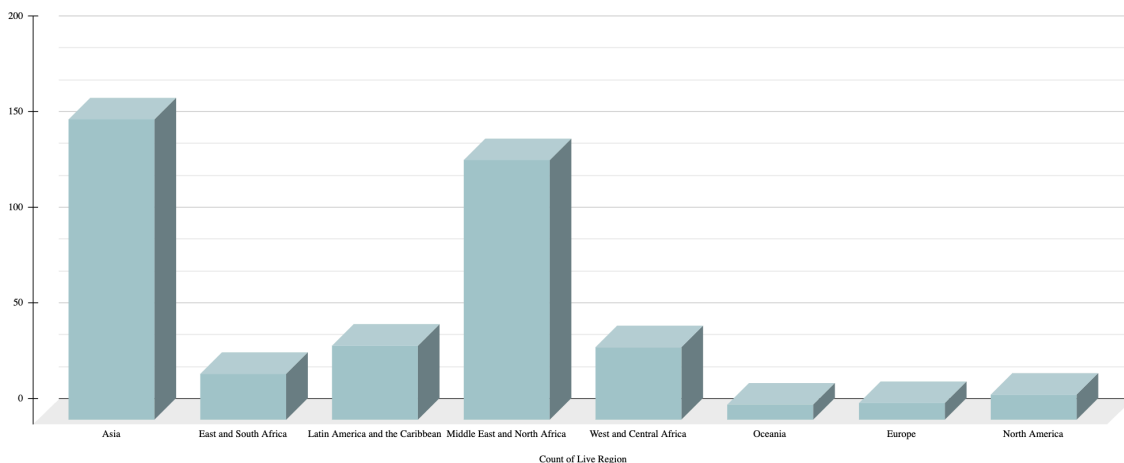20.2%

7

Participating Locations

Afghanistan, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Singapore, South Africa, South Sudan, Swaziland, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam

Percentage per Continent

Count of Live Region

North America
3.1%
Europe
2.1%
Oceania
1.9%
West and Central Africa
9.0%

Asia
37.0%

Middle East and North Africa
32.1%

East and South Africa
5.7%
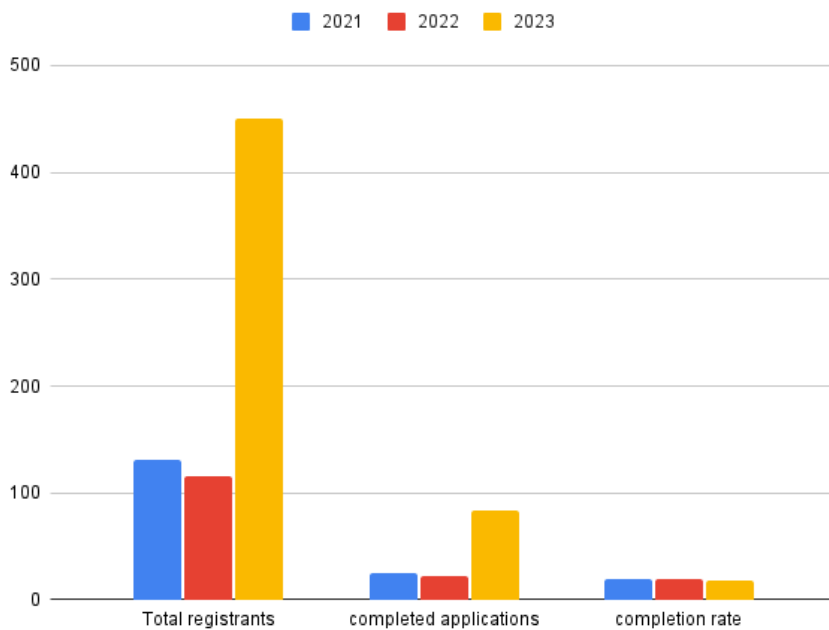Latin America and the Caribbean
9.2%

Count of Live Region

Count of Live Region

Yearly Trends

2021:
- 131 total registrants
- 25 completed applications
- 19.1% completion rate

2022:
- 115 total registrants
- 22 completed applications
- 19.1% completion rate

2023:
- 450 total registrants
- 84 completed applications
- 18.6% completion rate

Key Observations:

- There has been significant growth in total registrants each year - from 131 in 2021, to 115 in 2022, up to 450 in 2023.
- The completion rate has remained relatively stable at around 19% in 2021 and 2022, dipping slightly to 18.6% in 2023.
- Despite the small drop in completion rate, the total number of completed applications has increased each year due to the larger applicant pools.

While completion rates have stayed around 19%, the total applicant pool has grown over 240% from 2021 to 2023. This has resulted in over 3 times as many completed applications in 2023 compared to 2021, showing substantial growth in interest and participation in the program over this three year period.

Trends

Notable Project Trends

Based on a review of the project topics submitted this year, here are some notable trends:

- **Environment/Sustainability** - Many projects focused on environmental issues like waste management, renewable energy, sustainability, and conservation. This indicates a strong interest in protecting the planet. Examples: Waste management, solar energy, reforestation.
- **STEM/Innovation** - Numerous projects centered on STEM fields and developing innovative technologies. This shows an interest in science/tech and creating solutions through engineering. Examples: Agricultural sensors, medical devices, software applications.
- **Social Issues** - A number of projects aimed to address societal problems like education, poverty, inequality. This reflects a passion for improving communities. Examples: Adult literacy programs, educational apps, women's empowerment.
- **Health/Medicine** - Multiple projects targeted medical issues from disease research to medical access. This highlights an interest in healthcare and helping people. Examples: Cancer research, telemedicine, hygiene initiatives.
- **Entrepreneurship** - Some projects focused on business concepts like financial literacy and startup ideas. This indicates an entrepreneurial spirit. Examples: Investment awareness, recycled goods business.

The most popular project themes aligned with environment, STEM/innovation, social issues, health, and entrepreneurship. This illustrates the applicants' interests in making an impact on both a local and global scale.

Emergent Trends

- **Technology for Good** - Using technology to solve social problems was a recurring theme. Examples include apps for literacy, healthcare, education, financial inclusion etc.
- **Local Community Focus** - Many projects centered on issues specifically affecting the applicant's local town/city/country rather than global problems. This local focus shows knowledge of issues close to home.
- **Creative Arts** - Some projects used creative mediums like video games, jewelry making, music etc. to address social issues. This highlights taking an innovative approach.
- **Water Conservation** - Access to clean water came up in multiple projects from different countries, indicating this is a widespread concern.
- **Youth Empowerment** - A number of projects aimed to provide skills, tools and resources specifically to young people. This reflects an interest in uplifting other youth.

- **Climate Action** - While not the majority, a subset of projects focused directly on climate change issues like renewable energy and reforestation.
- **Gender Equality** - Improving outcomes for women and girls was the central theme for some projects, though not a large share.

An emphasis on leveraging technology, focusing locally, using creative outlets, addressing water issues, empowering youth, climate action, and gender equality emerge as other notable trends in the project themes this year.

SDGs at a glance

Based on the data provided, here is a summary of the most popular United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) chosen by project applicants, analyzed by age group and region:
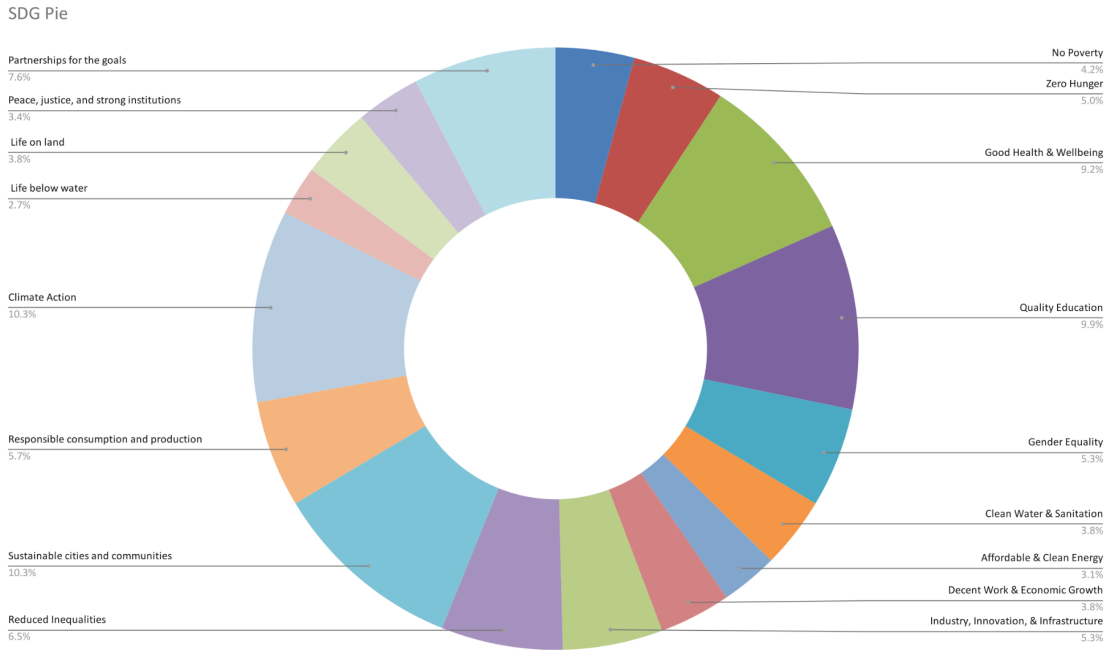
By Age Group:

- Ages 12-14: The most common SDGs for this youngest group were Quality Education (SDG 4), Climate Action (SDG 13), and Good Health and Well-Being (SDG 3).
- Ages 15-16: The top SDGs for this group were Quality Education (SDG 4), Climate Action (SDG 13), and Gender Equality (SDG 5).
- Ages 17: The most popular SDGs for the oldest applicants were Quality Education (SDG 4), Climate Action (SDG 13), and Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG 7).
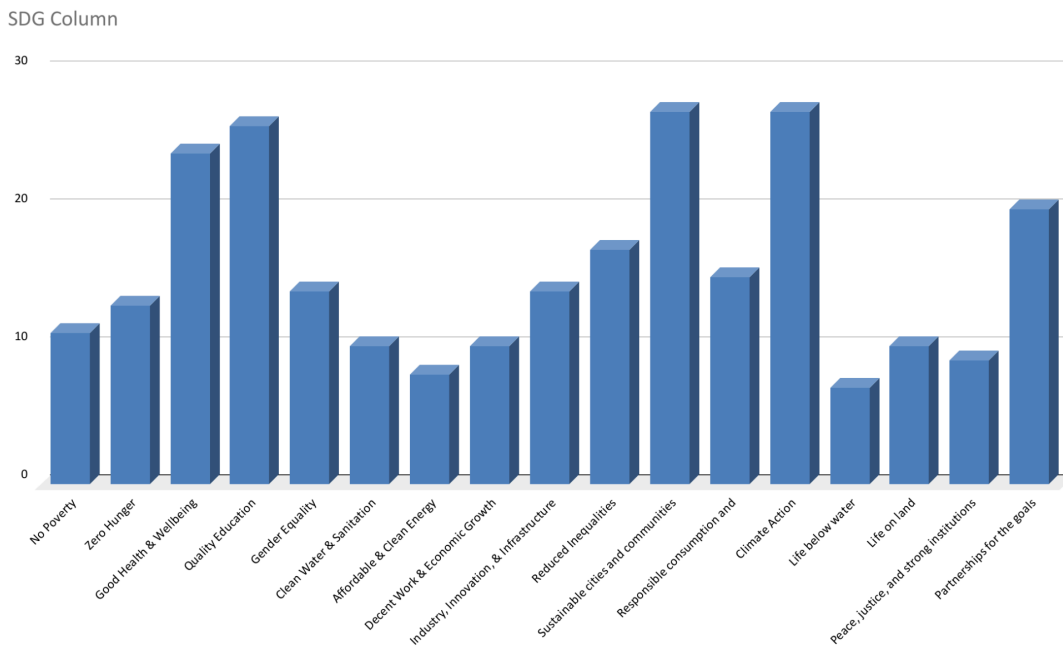
By Region:

- Asia: The most common SDGs from Asian applicants were Quality Education (SDG 4), Climate Action (SDG 13), and Good Health and Well-Being (SDG 3).
- Africa: The top SDGs for African applicants were Quality Education (SDG 4), Climate Action (SDG 13), and No Poverty (SDG 1).
- Americas: The most popular SDGs for applicants from the Americas were Quality Education (SDG 4), Climate Action (SDG 13), and Gender Equality (SDG 5).
- Europe: The leading SDGs for European applicants were Climate Action (SDG 13), Quality Education (SDG 4), and Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12).

In summary, Quality Education and Climate Action were the most popular SDGs globally across age groups and regions. Good Health and Well-Being, Gender Equality, and No Poverty also ranked highly in certain demographics.

Top SDGs Pie
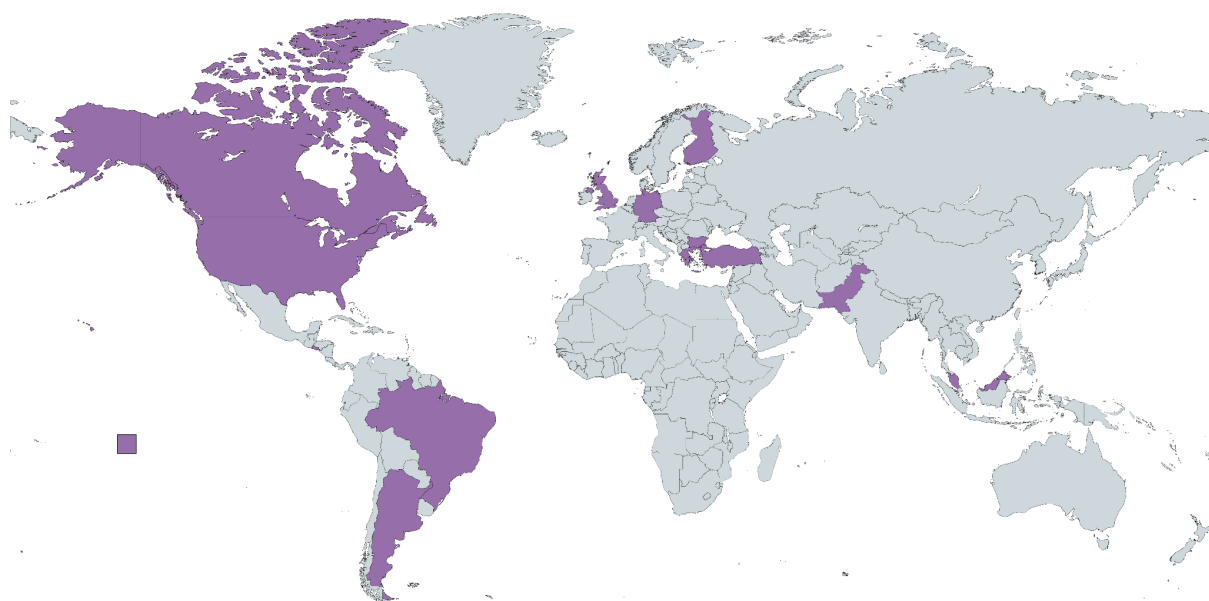
SDG Pie

SDGs Bar

SDG Column

Judging Overview

The judges come from a diverse range of organizations including non-profits, educational institutions, government agencies, and private sector companies. Many are independent consultants or run their own foresight practices. Their roles relate to fields like foresight, innovation, design, education, and policy. Some are professors, researchers, consultants, project managers, founders, and directors

The 24 judges span 13 different countries: Brazil, Greece, USA, Turkey, Finland, Malaysia, Pakistan, Germany, Bulgaria, Argentina, England, El Salvador, and Canada. They work in diverse roles such as professors, researchers, consultants, project managers, and directors in fields like foresight, innovation, design, education, and policy.

Judges from Around the World

8 returning judges out of 24 this year and 5 of them are associated with TTF Global Hubs Network.

The judges have backgrounds and expertise in areas like strategic foresight, futures studies, education, design, policy, leadership, and social impact. Many are active in foresight associations and have experience teaching and speaking about the future. Their bios highlight their diverse interests and commitment to preparing youth to create better futures.

What connects them to Teach the Future is a shared passion for empowering youth and improving futures literacy. Many discovered TTF through their involvement with foresight associations and conferences. Others are TTF Hub members actively working to spread futures thinking in their communities. Some participated in TTF programs as judges or students previously.

This group brings a wealth of global expertise and experience to evaluate the award submissions and support TTF's mission. Their diversity of backgrounds and perspectives will allow them to identify the most innovative solutions youth have developed for current and future challenges.

What Judges are saying:

Quotes and testimonials from judges about their experience with the NGFP-YV awards:

"I was honored to be a part of the NGFP Young Voices - award judge group for the second year in a row. The judging experience has shown me in a concrete way how young people aim to make our world a better place for future generations - these young people really do make the change happen in their respective fields. This is a wonderful thing to witness when young people take leadership and responsibility for their future into their own hands."
Kristiina Paju,
Finland

"Foresight's most powerful trait is its ability to transform mindsets. Strategic Foresight builds our confidence in constructing and imprinting on the future. We realize we are equipped to do so by practicing a shared language to navigate toward previously unforeseen possibilities."
Nicole Baker Rosa,
USA

"Meeting young people through their work, getting to know them through their philosophy and mindset, makes me believe in a better world. I am grateful for the opportunity to meet so many fascinating people."
Amalia Georgelou, Greece

"My second year of judging has, again, opened my eyes to the exceptional ideas these young people generate about how to make the world a better place. I teach Innovation in an entrepreneurship program at a local college and wish my students could view the outstanding presentations. What an inspiration for us all, no matter what age! Their accomplishments, so early in life, provide motivation for other young people, around the world, to get moving on their own ideas."
Michele Chaboudy, USA

"Judging for the NGFP-YV gives me insight into the next generation of leaders – our youth. Their passion and foresight shown in submitted projects shines bright in a world where news

and media focus on the negatives. It is inspiring to view and judge their work – reaffirming that there is hope for a brighter tomorrow!"

April Michele, USA

"The future belongs to the curious"
Sabine Lehmann, South Africa

"In our field, we do believe that people have the power collectively to change and improve the future. The NGFPaward highlights and supports the doers, those pioneers that put ideas into action and catalyze positive changes across diverse societal areas"
Epaminondas Christophilopoulos, Greece

"You become forever responsible for whom you tame..."
Fernanda Miguel, Brazil

"We don't need to forecast the future. We need to anticipate it by looking after the new generations."
Julio Vicente Perez Infante, Mexico

Judging Criteria

To apply, applicants individual or teams (up to 5) are asked to:

- Write a short essay (maximum 400 words) on how a current project or an intended project will consider the well-being of others and the future of the planet. Submissions can be in native language but please include an English translation.
- Create and submit a short video (maximum 2m 30s) about what they would want to do with the Young Voices prize. The video is a pitch addressed to their community persuading them that this project or idea is good or even necessary and giving them reasons for supporting or joining it. Video can be in your native language but please include English subtitles. Please create new and original video and do not upload a news clipping or old video.
- Indicate which of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) their idea would contribute to.

The project or idea needs to be...

- Clearly stated, including its intended outcomes.
- Novel and innovative in some way, at least for this time and/or in this community.
- Supporting one or two of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The video needs to…

- Show their current and/or their potential leadership on this project or idea. They do not have to be in charge of the project, instead showcase commitment to make a significant and unique contribution to it using their individual skills and/or resources.
- Include ways that members of their community have or can participate in this idea or project

Scoring guide

1 - Poor, not demonstrated, with no evidence.
2 - Fair, demonstrated but limited evidence or inferred from material.
3 - Good, demonstrated and supported by evidence.
4 - Excellent, clearly demonstrated and supported by evidence.
5 - Brilliant, clearly demonstrated with strong evidence.

Assessment criteria

1. The project or idea in the project description is **clearly stated**, including its intended outcomes.
Score / 5

2. The project or idea in the essay is **novel** in some way, at least for this time and/or in this community. It may identify new and novel ways to communicate and identify emerging issues or translate new ideas into tangible action, such as the development of new products, services, policies or behaviours.
Score / 5

3. The video shows the applicant's commitment to be a **leader** on this project or idea. They do not have to be in charge, instead commit to make a unique and significant contribution to the project using their individual skills and/or resources.
Score / 5

4. The Video includes ways that members of the applicant's community have or can **participate** in this project along with the reasons for doing so.
Score / 5

5. Both the Description and Video show a commitment to **sustainability** in the community and in the world at large by explicitly linking the project or idea to one or two of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
Score / 5

Frequently Asked Questions

Curious what questions our youth are asking [see the running FAQ's list here](#)

Awards Results Summary

[Click here to visit Top Winners and Recognized SDG Awards](#)

Themes explored amongst our Top Recognized Winners

- **Education and literacy** - Projects focused on improving access to education, digital literacy, empowering girls in STEM, etc.
- **Environmental sustainability** - Initiatives related to renewable energy, waste management, ecological restoration, climate action, etc.
- **Social empowerment** - Projects aiming to empower women and girls, youth, underserved communities through skills development, rights awareness, etc.
- **Health and wellbeing** - Digital health tools, education on nutrition and diet, addressing domestic violence, etc.
- **Economic opportunities** - Vocational training, career development, entrepreneurship, etc.
- **Technology innovation** - Leveraging technology like AI, apps, platforms, robotics, etc. for social impact.
- **Food security and agriculture** - Sustainable agriculture, community gardens, addressing hunger.

- **Partnerships and collaboration** - Bringing together diverse groups to work on issues.
- **Accessibility and inclusion** - Making education, technology, opportunities accessible to all.
- **Responsible production and consumption** - Promoting sustainability in lifestyle, fashion, manufacturing, etc.
- **Peace and justice** - Youth empowerment, climate justice, rights awareness.

Enabling social progress through sustainable solutions, youth empowerment, technology for good, and inclusive partnerships emerge as common themes.

Comparison of themes between 2022 & 2023

Similar Themes

- **Women's empowerment and gender equality** - Initiatives to empower girls and women through skills training, platforms to address issues like domestic violence, promoting women in STEM fields.
- **Environmental sustainability** - Using innovative materials and processes to address climate change, waste management, ecosystem restoration.
- **Quality education and literacy** - Improving access to education, digital literacy, child rights awareness.
- **Youth empowerment** - Providing platforms for youth to raise their voices on issues.
- **Leveraging technology for social impact** - Using apps, AI, robotics to enable solutions.

While women's empowerment, environment, education and technology continue to be strong themes, this year's projects seem to cover a wider range of issues like food, livelihoods, health, justice and partnerships. The solutions also emphasize collaboration and grassroots approaches. There appears to be a stronger focus on inequality reduction, inclusion and accessible technology as well.

Key differences

More focus on sustainability:

2023	2022

2023	2022
• This year has more projects directly focused on environmental sustainability and climate action through renewable energy, waste management, sustainable agriculture etc.	• Last year had a couple environment-related projects, but it wasn't a dominant theme.

Greater emphasis on inclusion and inequality reduction:

2023	2022
• This year has many projects aiming to empower underserved communities, enhance accessibility and reduce inequality gaps.	• Last year had relatively fewer projects centered on inequality.

Wider range of social issues being addressed:

2023	2022
• This year covers topics like mental health, domestic violence, food security, which weren't seen in last year's submissions.	• Last year focused more narrowly on women's empowerment, environment and education.

More partnerships and grassroots approaches:

2023	2022
• This year highlights collaboration through campaigns and networks.	• Projects tended to be more individual-driven.

More technology focus:

2023	2022
• This year has tech-based solutions like apps, AI, robotics.	• Tech didn't feature as prominently among last year's themes.

The differences suggest an evolution towards more multifaceted, collaborative approaches to address a wider array of social and environmental issues through sustainable, inclusive models.

New/Expanded Themes this year

- Food security and sustainable agriculture - Projects addressing hunger through urban farming, community gardens, sustainable farming practices. This is a new theme not seen in prior years.
- Mental health and psycho-social wellbeing - Initiatives focusing specifically on mental health issues, counseling, and promoting overall wellness. Also a new theme this time.
- Peace, justice and institutions - Projects centered on youth rights, climate justice, promoting peace and stronger public systems. Not a strong theme last year.
- Partnerships and networks - Explicit focus on collaboration through campaigns and networks to drive change. Less prominence in previous years.
- Responsible production and consumption - Encouraging more sustainable production practices and lifestyles. An emerging theme this year.
- Technology for inclusion - Leveraging technology like apps and AI to increase access and opportunity for marginalized groups.
- Skills training and economic empowerment - Vocational skills and entrepreneurship to address inequality. Not a theme last year.
- Biodiversity and habitat restoration - Protecting ecosystems and species conservation. A new topic.

Themes this year address a wider range of issues across the sustainability-equality-technology spectrum, emphasizing partnerships and inclusion in the solutions. Food, mental health, biodiversity conservation, and justice are some of the topics that stand out.

Recommendations and Feedback

1. Update judging criteria and guidelines:
- Specify that judges only evaluate based on the essay and video, not extra links or materials. This levels the playing field.
- Add more detailed rubric for scoring criteria. For example, break down what constitutes a 1 vs 5 score for each category.
- Provide examples of high quality past submissions as a benchmark.
2. Expand outreach and support for applicants:

- Increase marketing through schools, non-profits, social media etc. to get more applicants.
- Offer informational webinars/FAQs to guide applicants on requirements.
- Make the application process more accessible by supporting multiple languages.

3. Engage wider pool of judges:
- Recruit judges from more geographic regions and age groups to reduce bias.
- Train judges on rubric use and how to evaluate equitably.

4. Gather feedback from applicants:
- Send surveys to understand applicant experience and improvement areas.
- Hold focus groups to get qualitative insights from participants.

5. Recognize more finalists:
- Increase the number of top winners awarded across regions/topics.
- Add "honorable mentions" to highlight more excellent projects.

6. Showcase results globally:
- Share winners widely through media, partner networks, digital channels.
- Follow up with winners on project progress and impact stories.
- Add an interview phase for finalists to assess presentation skills and depth of solutions.
- Develop pathways to support winners in implementing their projects after the awards. Offer seed funding, mentorship, training etc.
- Create opportunities for winners to present their work at events, schools, conferences to inspire other youth.
- Facilitate virtual exchanges for applicants to share ideas across regions. Foster ongoing peer learning.

Concluding Thoughts on Report Findings

This comprehensive analysis of the 2023 NGFP-YV Awards provides valuable insights into the applicant pool, judging process, award results, and participant feedback. **Key findings demonstrate tremendous growth in interest this year, with over 3 times as many completed applications as 2021.** Applicants from over 40 countries brought diverse, multifaceted solutions to an array of social, economic and environmental issues. Quality education, climate action, and inclusion emerged as common themes. Compared to prior years, projects focused more directly on sustainability, inequality reduction, and collaboration while covering a wider range of topics like mental health and food security. Judging feedback emphasized the inspiration these youth provide through their passion and embodiment of futures thinking.

Organizations like Teach the Future and SOIF play an integral role in initiatives such as the NGFP-YV Awards by equipping youth with critical futures thinking skills. TTF fosters the ability to navigate uncertainty and actively shape preferable futures through its global network that empowers youth voices. Similarly, SOIF creates participatory foresight focused on complexity, purpose, justice and engagement. By facilitating connections and learning, TTF and SOIF enable emerging practitioners to envision and enact positive change. The involvement of these groups adds significant value in supporting youth to develop innovative, interdisciplinary solutions for more just and sustainable futures.

The high quality of submissions continues to exceed expectations, proving young generations have the foresight, initiative and innovativeness to create positive change. Award winners and finalists stood out for their excellence in envisioning and enabling more just, sustainable futures. Their interdisciplinary, solutions-oriented proposals demonstrate the power of youth voice in shaping local to global priorities.

Implications for Advancing Youth Foresight

Key recommendations center on clarifying guidelines, expanding criteria, increasing diversity, and providing implementation support. Surveying past applicants, establishing an advisory committee, and facilitating peer exchanges can enrich the experience. Clear judging guidance and pathways for winners to activate projects are critical. Promoting the awards more widely continues to be important. Overall, the NGFP-YV Awards effectively foster youth leadership in foresight; enhancements to the process and post-award support could amplify impact. Most importantly, society must actively listen to and learn from youth perspectives, granting them greater agency in determining their futures.

Elevating young voices through initiatives like the NGFP-YV Awards seeds hope for the future. Transforming mindsets requires moving from recognition to action by integrating youth priorities into policies, investments and governance. If equipped with resources and opportunities, young generations have proven they can chart an inclusive, sustainable path forward. Adults must get behind them - not stand in the way.

Join Us in Empowering Young Changemakers!

Are you inspired by youth taking the lead to create a better future? We need your help to scale up the Next Generation Foresight Practitioner-Young Voices

(NGFP-YV) Awards, a program cultivating youth leadership in foresight worldwide.

Each year, the NGFP-YV Awards recognize outstanding young leaders ages 12-17 pursuing future-focused projects that drive positive change. Applicants from over 40 countries have brought creative, compassionate solutions to global issues like inequality, sustainability, education, and more.

With your support, we can amplify these youth voices and accelerate their impact. Your contribution will:

- Increase award prizes to directly support youth projects
- Expand our outreach to engage youth from more countries
- Provide training to activate youth solutions on a greater scale
- Showcase youth foresight models to inspire peers globally

Together, we can catalyze youth action worldwide to build a just, sustainable future. But we need partners and donors to turn up the volume on youth voices.

Will you join our mission? Every dollar makes a difference!

Sponsorship Opportunities:
- $1000 - Bronze Sponsor
- $5000 - Silver Sponsor
- $10,000 - Gold Sponsor
- $25,000 - Platinum Sponsor

Sponsors gain visibility through website and event promotions, social media, annual reports, and more. Custom partnership opportunities are also available.

Donate any amount to our awards fund https://bit.ly/donate-ttf

Contact Lisa Giuliani at lisa@teachthefuture.org to become a partner or donor today. With your help, young trailblazers can ignite change in their communities and beyond!