

Declaration by Young ISES, COP 28 2023

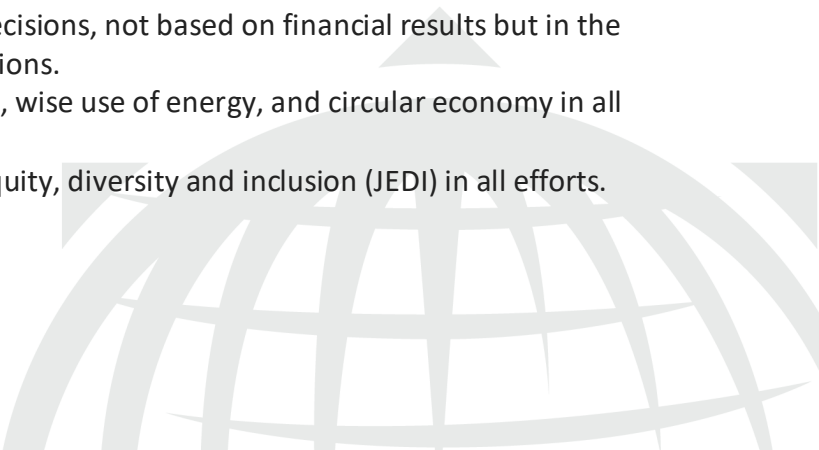
We, the young people of the International Solar Energy Society (ISES) from around the world, call upon the leaders of COP 28 to recognize the urgency of addressing the climate crisis by accelerating the renewable energy transformation. As the young representatives of nations, industries, and organizations, we hereby proclaim the following in order to secure our future and leave the world a better place for those yet to come.

Climate crisis is one the greatest threats facing the young people all over the world. It is clear that young people bear the greatest burden from climate change and that youth driven strategies for advancing renewable energy to address the climate crisis must be supported. The energy transition plays a crucial role in advancing Sustainable Development Goals since it addresses environmental, social, and economic dimensions of sustainable development. A shift to clean and sustainable energy is essential for building a more inclusive, resilient, and environmentally responsible global society.

Especially, solar energy is a key player in the global effort to mitigate climate change. It is a versatile, clean, renewable and cheap energy source, and is a viable option for a wide range of geographical and climatic conditions, allowing for widespread deployment and accessibility. Therefore, to enact and enforce policies that incentivize the adoption of solar energy must be a priority in any government and organization.

We insist that nations must come together immediately to address the climate crisis and work to cease warring with each other. This fighting among ourselves is a horrible waste of lives and resources of all kinds, and further exacerbates the disasters we are already experiencing as a result of the climate crisis.

We call upon governments, industries, and research institutions to:

1. Invest significantly in youth driven projects and programs to originate more efficient, affordable and accessible renewable technologies.
 2. Recognize young scientists in the pivotal role needed to bring about renewable energy in mitigating climate change and building resilience against its impacts.
 3. Address energy poverty and provide energy for all.
 4. Empower global citizens and communities with extensive public outreach campaigns and create jobs.
 5. Focus on industry sustainable transition, demanding accountability and transparency in all initiatives.
 6. Stop greenwashing and start considering sustainability as the main focus of all initiatives.
 7. Take science and data driven decisions, not based on financial results but in the environmental costs of their actions.
 8. Include sustainability, efficiency, wise use of energy, and circular economy in all efforts and decisions.
 9. Advance principles of justice, equity, diversity and inclusion (JEDI) in all efforts.
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We pledge to do our part to engage with youth activists in leading the change for renewable energy solutions. We aim to strengthen international cooperation and collaboration amongst young scientists, transcending geographical, political, and economic boundaries to help to develop global solutions.

Let this proclamation serve as a global call to action to accelerate the world towards 100% renewable energy and resolve to create a peaceful, just, sustainable future for all of humanity.

The young people, including scientists, will face the economic, social, health and environmental effects of climate change. Let us be part of the solution and contribute in a meaningful way to energy transition. We hereby call for committed global action and extend an open invitation to all nations, organizations, and individuals to join us in this pivotal journey. May the sun continue to shine brightly on our path towards a peaceful world powered by 100% renewable energy.

Elaborated in November 2023, Solar World Congress, New Delhi, India.