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Our Partner



The Commonwealth

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

Happy International Youth Day, Changemaker!

We are glad to see you join our month-long **#YouthLeadSDG13** campaign.

ACTION CHALLENGE GUIDELINES

To join the **#YouthLeadSDG13 Action Challenge**, read the following guideline highlights and the **detailed guidelines** carefully:

- To enter into the action challenge, sign up on or before **19th August, 2021 (9:00 PM GMT)**
- After signing up, start taking our 13 featured actions;
- To stand a chance to win prizes sponsored by [the Commonwealth](#), take and submit as many featured actions as you can.
- You cannot submit the same action twice (only once). Submitting the same action more than once results in automatic disqualification from the challenge.
- You must submit all actions taken, carefully following the instructions for each action;
- After the review and judging process, the Top 3 action takers based on our Judging Criteria will be announced and rewarded prizes sponsored by the Commonwealth.

Click the button below to add the campaign schedule to your calendar.



Our Action Navigator

Hi, **Champion!**

Click the text below to easily navigate through the Featured Actions. For the best experience, use Adobe Acrobat Reader to open this PDF document or open it on your Google Chrome Browser.

[ACTION 1 - Tell the G20 to support the most vulnerable people](#)

[ACTION 2 - Climate Painting Action](#)

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Featured Actions on SDG13 Targeted at the Most Vulnerable People.



COVID-19 has taught us that none of us is safe until all of us are safe. But with rich countries spending over \$14 trillion to protect themselves, they've left the most vulnerable countries behind. Join ONE Campaign in adding your name to ONE's letter, calling on G20 world leaders to use all of the tools at their disposal to help the most vulnerable countries recover from the pandemic. **Deadline: 19th August, 2021.**

[Take Action \(Add your name to the Open Letter & Screenshot your confirmation page\)](#)





2. Climate Painting Action

For this action, one needs to create a beautiful painting showcasing how climate change has impacted women. The role women play in fighting the climate crisis should also be displayed in the painting. **Deadline: 19th August, 2021.**

Instructions

1. The smallest size for submission is 8' x 10' there is no largest acceptable size it is up to artist's discretion. Submit a **700-word or less document** containing title, year, your full name, and summary about the art piece.
2. No previous competition pieces shall be submitted.
3. A Painting can be submitted via **picture or scanned PDF copy not more than 2 MB in size.**
4. Post the painting on social media, tagging the CYCN profile (@CYCNOfficial) within the post.
5. You will be required to submit the **link to the social media posts** during submission of this action.



3. Climate Clean up Action

Women are one of the most vulnerable people to Plastic pollution. Plastic pollution is a huge problem in coastal and marine environments where women live globally. Because of this, one of our stated climate actions is the cleanup of any polluted area(s) where women reside within a Commonwealth member country. For this action you will need to clean up an area(s) where there is large scale plastic pollution. Youth should take the future by the scruff of its neck. This action is tailored to children and young people from the ages of 18 - 35 years so clean your nearest beach, coastline or river path! **Deadline: 12th September, 2021.**

Instructions

1. Using our [report template](#) only, Document the location of the area, **clear & sharp** 'before and after' pictures of the clean-up along with the amount of trash removed. Download report template [HERE](#).
2. You and your friends should appear in the pictures.
3. The report should **not exceed 5 MB and 3 pages including pictures**.
4. GET AS MANY FRIENDS INVOLVED AS POSSIBLE! The more the merrier because teamwork makes the dream work! Let's all get to a cleaner environment.
5. The more areas that are cleaned the more points you are awarded during the judging and action review process.
6. Post the pictures on social media, tagging the CYCN profile (@CYCNOfficial) within the post.
7. You will be required to submit the **link to the social media posts** during submission of this action.



4. Raise awareness of Climate Change and Action

This action is made for women as “Mother Nature” is a name that we all know so well yet we take it for granted, all life came from a woman and that is even true on a macro scale as we all live on Planet Earth. **Deadline: 26th August, 2021.**

Instructions

1. Help raise awareness for Climate action by dressing in a costume that represents “Mother Earth” and hold a sign saying “Save Mother Earth #SDG13”, take a picture of this and post it to various social media platforms with the hashtag #CommonwealthSDG13Action and #YouthLeadSDG13.
2. Post a picture to an Instagram profile, tagging the CYCN profile (@CYCNOfficial) within the picture.
3. A Picture can contain elements of natural heritage belonging to your country.
4. You will be required to submit the **link to the social media posts** during submission of this action.





5. Refugee Essay Action

Write a **700-word or less fictitious essay** from the perspective of a refugee detailing how the effects of climate change have impacted not just you but your entire family/neighbourhood and have led to you searching for more secure and safer lands abroad and how resettling has affected you. **Deadline: 26th August, 2021.**

OR

Write a 700-word fictitious essay detailing how the lack of climate action caused the collapse of a country thus causing refugees.

Instructions

1. To take this action, you will have to research how climate change impacts have displaced people from their homes. Essay must be 700 words or less, Times New Roman 12 points, Double spaced.
2. You must write your full name boldly (name used to sign up for the challenge) in the essay document.
3. Original works only, i.e the essay has not been entered into any previous competition.
4. Word or PDF submission only, the submission should contain a 50-word short synopsis of the essay. Download essay template [HERE](#).
5. No images or drawings should be contained within the essay.
6. Similarity must not be more than 15% after plagiarism check.



6. National SDG13 Action

Write a **700-word or less research essay** on the current / predicted impacts of climate change on any named commonwealth country. **Deadline: 19th August, 2021.**

Instructions

1. Essay must be 700 words or less, Times New Roman 12pt, Double spaced.
2. You must write your full name boldly (name used to sign up for the challenge) in the essay document.
3. Original works only, i.e the essay has not been entered into any previous competition.
4. Word or PDF submission only, the submission should contain a 50-word short synopsis of the essay. Download essay template [HERE](#).
5. No images or drawings should be contained within the essay.
6. Must be scientifically accurate.
7. Similarity should not exceed 15% after plagiarism check.



7. Article Reading Action

Read these three different interviews/articles done on climate refugees below then write a **200-word or less short summary each** detailing what you have just read in the three articles. **Deadline: 26th August, 2021.**

- [Article 1](#)
- [Article 2](#)
- [Article 3](#)

Instructions

1. Each of the **three summaries** must be 200 words or less , Times New Roman 12 points, Double spaced.
2. You must write your full name boldly (name used to sign up for the challenge) in the essay document.
3. All three summaries should be in a single document and properly labelled (e.g. Article 1 Summary, etc.) You can use the [essay template](#).
4. Original works only, i.e the essay has not been entered into any previous competition.
5. Word or PDF submission only.
6. No images or drawings should be contained within the summaries.
7. Similarity must not be more than 15% after plagiarism check.



A photograph of three young people laughing together in a skate park. A young woman with long brown hair and sunglasses on her head is on the left, wearing a green zip-up hoodie. In the center, a young man with short dark hair is wearing a white t-shirt with red lettering and has his arms crossed. On the right, a young woman with blonde hair is partially visible, also laughing. The background shows a concrete skate ramp and a building with yellow and red panels. The image is framed with rounded corners and has a reflection below it.

Children and Young People

8. Climate Action Creation

Adverse weather conditions and irregular climate patterns are causing irregular and dangerous droughts and floods globally. We as the youth need to come together and help push awareness and advocacy for climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience in our respective country

CALL for youth! Mobilize your friends to gather virtually to create a painting/artwork on the importance of climate action or a certain green technology that is of interest to the group! **Deadline: 2nd September, 2021.**

Instructions

1. The size of the painting or drawing is up to the creator(s).
2. This action shall be submitted via a **picture (2 MB max.)** due to the size, therefore the details should be visible.
3. Share on your social media (Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn) using #YouthLeadSDG13, tag us @CYCNOOfficial and get your friends involved to spread the word.
4. You will be required to submit **a link to the social media post** during submission of the action.



9. Email action (write a letter to your country's education department).

Climate change now impacts not just the existing society but the upcoming generation of world citizens as well. There is a need to spread climate and environmental awareness to the people that will inherit this world from us. As the commonwealth contains both developed, less developed and small island developing states, for this action one should write a letter to your respective education development institution whether it be member of congress or minister. **Deadline: 2nd September, 2021.**

Instructions

1. Once the email is sent, screenshot the sent email containing the letter attachment and clearly showing the recipient.
2. For the letter attached, ensure proper formatting, Times New Roman 12 points.
3. The letter should **not exceed 2 pages.**
4. You will be required to submit the **above-mentioned screenshot (500 kb max.)** and **a word document of the letter** when submitting this action.



10. Climate change video and petition

Create a **2-minute short video** showcasing the impact of climate change in today's society whether it be animation, film or puppets.

Deadline both parts of this action: 12th September, 2021.

Instructions

1. Video submissions must be in the **.mp4 format**, no longer than **2 minutes in length**, and must **not exceed 5 MB**.
2. Along with the video submission a **50-word short synopsis** about what the video is about will be provided in the submission form.

Part two of this action is to start a Change.org petition for an issue affecting children due to climate change.

Instructions

1. Campaign must be advocacy based i.e raise awareness for action to be made about a specific climate change related problem.
2. Advocacy must be scientifically accurate.
3. Share on your social media (Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn) using #CYCNChildAct & #YouthLeadSDG13, tag us @CYCNOOfficial and get your friends involved to spread the word.
4. Get **at least 50 people** to sign your petition.
5. You will be required to submit **a link to the petition** during submission of the action.





11. Disability Petition

People with disabilities are at an increased risk due to a lack of transportation infrastructure available to them in the event of adverse weather conditions such as flooding etc. To aid this group, **start a petition** on Change.org calling for a plan put in place for the safe transport and care for every disabled person in your country by its governing body as regular evacuation plans may not include reservations for the disabled. **Deadline: 12th September, 2021.**

Instructions

1. Set up a campaign on Change.org, use your official name (sign up name) as the campaign creator in order to track your progress.
2. Campaign must be advocacy based i.e raise awareness for action to be made about a specific climate change related problem.
3. Advocacy must be scientifically accurate.
4. Share on your social media using #CYCNDisabilityAct and #YouthLeadSDG13 and get friends involved to spread the word.
5. Get **at least 50 people** to sign your petition.
6. You will be required to submit a **webpage link to the petition** during submission of this action.



12. Disabled climate activist awareness

Every climate activist deserves to be celebrated, even disabled ones, because of this one action we are pushing is the awareness of disabled climate scientists and their work towards net-zero or a green economy. Write a **700-word research essay about a named disabled climate activist**. **Deadline: 2nd September, 2021.**

Instructions

1. Scientists must belong to either climate change, environmental or marine studies.
2. Essay no longer than 700 words, Times New Roman 12pt.
3. You must write your full name boldly (name used to sign up for the challenge) in the essay document.
4. Interviews/articles should be cited along with their published works (links). Download essay template [HERE](#).
5. Original works only; an essay cannot have been submitted in previous competitions.
6. Similarity must not be more than 15% after plagiarism check.



13. Climate change invention proposal

Innovation is a constant process, where one project fails to meet the ever-changing needs of the consumer. For this action, one should “create” an invention/protocol that would be used by disabled persons in the event of adverse weather conditions. To do this submit a **2-page project proposal of your idea. Deadline: 12th September, 2021.**

Instructions

1. Structure:
 - a. The introduction (context & problem);
 - b. A reader-focused section;
 - c. A description section
 - d. Final section about the invention
2. The proposal must include the problem that the invention is solving or alleviating.
3. A 3-D rendering of the invention using tinkerCAD or any other CAD tool can additionally be provided.
4. A **2-minute video (5 MB max., .mp4 format)** explaining how the invention will operate shall also be included in the submission.
5. Download the proposal template [HERE](#).



The [#YouthLeadSDG13 campaign](#) is led by **young people** and sponsored by [The Commonwealth](#).

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