

Building the African Youth Adaptation Network

What is the African Youth Adaptation Network?

In 2025, GCA is amplifying the world's largest Youth Adaptation Network in Africa, and we're calling on **registered youth-led** organizations to join us. One youth-led organization per African country will be selected as the In-Country Focal Point for the Youth Adaptation Network. This is your opportunity to connect with a continental community, amplify your voice, and accelerate adaptation solutions in Africa.

What are the African In-Country Focal Points?

GCA's is seeking **youth-led** local organizations in Africa committed to youth engagement, climate action, or sustainability to become In-Country Focal Points In their country. What are the application requirements to become an In-Country Focal Point?

- Registered **youth-led** organizations;
- Minimum 2 years of experience;
- Mandate with climate change, adaptation, or youth engagement.

How will the In-Country Focal Points benefit?

- Access to online training on climate adaptation and youth leadership.
- Access to a network of youth-led organizations across Africa advancing climate adaptation.
- Access to peer-to-peer exchanges and knowledge transfers on youth leadership and climate adaptation.
- Opportunity to be featured on the GCA website through spotlight features and blog post.

What is the selection process of the In-Country Focal Points in Africa?

- **Open Call for Applications:** Youth-led organizations respond to the open call by submitting their application.
- **Shortlisting:** The Global Center on Adaptation reviews all applications and creates a shortlist based on the shortlist criteria.
- **Video Submission:** Shortlisted organizations are invited to submit a one-minute video outlining their vision for building the Youth Adaptation Network within their country.

- **Public Voting:** Submitted videos are shared on social media, allowing the public to vote, while a GCA panel conducts a parallel assessment. Together, these inputs determine the In-Country Focal Point.
- **Announcing:** The organization selected through public voting, following validation by a GCA panel, is officially announced and onboarded as the In-Country Focal Point.

What are the commitments of In-Country Focal Points?

In-Country Focal Points commit to the following:

- **One Year Voluntary Commitment.**
- **Nomination of two Youth Adaptation Network Contact Persons.**
- **Connect Regularly:** Attend online meetings of the Youth Adaptation Network (quarterly and as needed).
- **Build the Youth Adaptation Network:**
 - Increase awareness about the Youth Adaptation Network in their country.
 - Help young people register for the network.
 - Carry out a learning needs assessment provided by the Global Center on Adaptation.
- **Lead Youth Climate Adaptation Action Day:**
 - Organize a Youth Consultation on October 12th, bringing together various stakeholders.
 - Create a written communiqué of this consultation to be presented at COP30.
- **Engage with the Youth Academy:**
 - Encourage young people to use the [GCA's Toolkit on Climate Adaptation and Leadership](#).
 - Nominate two focal points to attend the online Youth Academy.
- **Share Knowledge:** Contribute local expertise and opportunities to the network through blog posts or the quarterly newsletter.

What are the Selection Criteria?

- Experience in climate action and adaptation.
- Experience mobilizing and engaging youth.
- Strong local presence and reach.
- Ability to nominate YAN Contact Persons.
- YAN Contact Persons must hold either bachelor's degree or demonstrated experience in sustainability/climate change/youth and be proficient in English.
- Organizational capacity for network building and access to internet.
- Demonstrated commitment to fostering a membership that reflects diverse backgrounds, including ethnic minorities, individuals with disabilities, persons



with limited formal education, single parents, and individuals of all genders—evidenced by submitting disaggregated membership data (e.g. counts and percentages of women, members with disabilities, etc.).