

 **Youth  
Goals**

***EUYPD9***

**CONSULTATION TOOLKIT**

**Main document**

**Engaging together for  
a sustainable and  
inclusive Europe**

**Under the Trio Presidency France -  
Czech Republic - Sweden**

## Table of contents

### **Section 1: Introduction (p.2)**

Key dates and consultation reporting deadlines

### **Section 2: EUYD9 Overview for NWGs and INGYOs (p.4)**

Outcomes expected from EUYD9

Role of NWGs in EUYD9

Role of INGYOs in EUYD9

Core principles for the 9th Cycle of EUYD

### **Section 3: Thematic Framework for EUYD9 (p.11)**

Introduction to the thematic framework from ESG

EUYD9 Sub-themes and guiding questions.

### **Section 4: Linking to the European Year of Youth (p.19)**

### **Section 5: Data protection and participant consent (p.20)**

Guidance for NWGs

Guidance for IYNGOs

### **Section 6: Contact details and further enquiries (p.21)**

## Annex

### **Facilitation tools:**

Annex 1 - EUYD9 Handbook of practical tools and methods for NWGs

Annex 2 - EUYD9 INGYO roundtable methods

### **Reporting templates:**

Annex 4 - EUYD9 NWG Consultation plan and examples of practice reporting template

Annex 5 - EUYD9 NWG Consultation phase reporting

Annex 6 - EUYD9 NWG Implementation phase reporting template

## Section 1: Introduction

The EU Youth Dialogue (EUYD) is the European participatory process which, through cycles of 18 months over a priority topic, supports the implementation of the EU Youth Strategy and ensures the involvement of young people in the decision-making process in the field of youth in Europe through a dialogue between young people and decision-makers.

The 9th cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue (EUYD9) will run from 1st of January 2022 to 30th June 2023 under the Trio Presidency of France - Czech Republic - Sweden. The cycle is coordinated by the European Steering Group (ESG) consisting of representatives from the European Commission, European Youth Forum and of the Trio presidencies (Ministry representatives, National Youth Council representatives).

The cycle is divided into two phases '**the consultation phase**' (Jan 2022- Aug 2022) and '**the implementation phase**' (Sept 2022 - June 2023)

This document, and accompanying appendices provides tools and guidance for National Working Groups (NWGs) and International Non-Governmental Youth Organisations (INGYOs) to support their role in the cycle.

The cycle explanatory note can provide a more detailed overview of the cycle as a whole.

## Key dates and consultation reporting deadlines

EUYD phase	Key dates
<p><b>Consultation phase</b></p> <p>Jan 2022 - Aug 2022</p>	<p><b>Feb/March 2022</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Consultation toolkit launches</li> <li>● Briefing webinar for NWGs and INGYO</li> <li>● NWGs begin planning and running consultation activities</li> <li>● INGYO</li> </ul> <p><b>3rd June 2022</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Deadline for submission</b> of 'NWG Consultation plan and examples of practice report'.</li> </ul> <p><b>July 2022</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Analysis of responses to 'NWG Consultation plan and examples of practice report' prepared for CZ EU youth conference by research team.</li> </ul> <p><b>5th September 2022</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Deadline for submission</b> of 'NWG consultation phase reports' and 'INGYO roundtable recordings.'</li> </ul>
<p><b>Implementation phase</b></p> <p>Sept 2022 - June 2023</p>	<p><b>Sept/Oct 2022</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Full analysis of NWG consultations and INGYO roundtables produced by researchers and presented in an online webinar along with recommendations for implementation phase.</li> </ul> <p><b>Feb 2023 (Exact date tbc)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Deadline for submission</b> of 'NWG implementation phase reports'.</li> </ul> <p><b>March 2023</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Final results analysed by research team and presented at SE EU youth conference.</li> </ul>

## Section 2: Overview of EUYD9 for NWGs and INGYOs

### Outcomes expected from EUYD9

The ESG expects that the implementation of the European Youth Goals #10 and #3 will be reflected as results of the 9th cycle in different areas and on local, regional, national and European levels.

1. Realising the European Youth Goals #10 and #3: concrete proposals, actions, tools and good practises:

- tools and methods developed by young people and decision makers to actually work on implementation of Sustainable Development Goals with a focus on the environment, climate and inclusion.
- gathered examples of good practices from different countries on actions through which the two Youth Goals could be implementing
- encouraging the development and implementation of new activities to achieve the two Youth Goals by strengthening young people's role in discussions about climate/environment policy making.

2. Inputting in the work of the Council of the EU: the outcomes of the 9th cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue will be summarised in a resolution to be adopted by the Council of Youth Ministers under the Swedish Presidency of the EU and will also feed into other Council documents under the French and Czech Presidencies:

- during the cycle, results from different steps will, when relevant, be reflected in relevant Council documents under the TRIO Presidencies
- the outcomes of the 9th cycle will shape the EU Youth Dialogue resolution under the Swedish Presidency of the EU
- Member States will be invited to implement the main points and key demands from young people in their countries

3. Contributing to shaping political demands for identifying the problems to be resolved, as well as possible solutions and the respective ways to find possible solutions beyond the youth sector:

- What on a greener, sustainable and more inclusive Europe
- a bigger and more diverse group of young people have been integrated into the process of the EU Youth Dialogue, in line with the Youth Goal #3
- the learnings of the 9th cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue will feed into other relevant political processes beyond youth sector and youth policy (such as the European Green Deal, the new European Bauhaus, Horizon Europe) in accordance with the European Year of Youth, with the help of the EU Youth coordinator.

## Role of NWGs in EUYD9

As part of EUYD9, NWGs are invited to conduct consultation activities with young people which support the expected outcomes of the cycle. They are then invited to follow these with national and local implementation activities to be taken during the cycle to turn the European Youth Goals #10 and #3 into Youth Actions. NWGs have three major tasks:

- Planning national and local EUYD9 activities (consultation phase)
- Conducting EUYD9 national consultation with young people (consultation phase)
- Developing implementation activities (implementation phase)

The consultation phase should start at the beginning of the cycle together with the start of the French Presidency of the EU, the Czech Presidency of the Council of the EU will receive and analyse the aggregated results. The consultation period will last from March 2022 to August 2022. This will ensure more time and resources for discussions, events and dialogue with young people from all across Europe and increase meaningful spaces of youth participation as well as time for youth representatives to collaborate and share best practises (on how to reach out to young people) during the EU Youth Conferences.

The implementation phase starts with discussion at the second EU Youth Conference in Czech Republic. The conference in Prague will serve to discuss the ongoing consultations and to propose possible specific methods and means for implementation of concrete measures. In this step, the intention is for all actors to develop concrete actions how the Youth Goals #10 and #3 could be implemented at local, regional, national and European levels. At this phase NWGs are invited to develop their own implementation activities based on the results of their own national consultation as well as the wider European results.

NWGs are invited to report on their activities to the ESG at three **different stages within the cycle**. Template reporting forms are included in the annexes of this document. Reports should be submitted in English, by the deadlines shown at the start of this document.

### 1) Planning national and local EUYD9 activities

Every national working group is able to run their own consultation and implementation activities at national level. **NWGs should ensure that the activities they undertake have the potential to provide impact at local and national level as well as to support the outcomes at European level for the cycle.**

When planning EUYD9 activities NWGs should take account of the outcomes expected from the cycle set by the ESG (see previous section) and develop their own local and national aims for activities in line with these. Furthermore, it is understood there are already many existing good practises in each country relating to engaging young people on sustainability issues. Therefore, NWGs are invited to start planning their consultation by first taking stock of examples of good practice relating to the engagement of young people in sustainability.

[Reporting EUYD9 consultation plans and examples of practice:](#)

NWGs are invited to report the plans for their consultation activities and examples of good practice to the ESG through the **'NWG Consultation plan and examples of practice report'** (due early June 2022). This brief report takes stock of what types of activities are planned to take place during the 9th Cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue, what aims these

activities will have apart from contributing to the EU Youth Dialogue processes, and what approaches are taken to reaching young people with fewer opportunities. In addition, NWGs are invited to identify one good practice example for each of the sub themes of the cycle (see next section for further details). Consultation plans and good practice examples received via this reporting template will be analysed and will serve as one of the inputs to the EU Youth Conference in Prague.

## 2) Conducting national EUYD9 consultation with young people

With consultation plans in place NWGs then move forward with conducting consultations with young people on the theme of the cycle. The consultations will see NWGs doing consultations with young people at the national level to bring together young people and decision makers at the EU level to discuss how the Youth Goals #10 and #3 could be implemented at local, regional, national and European levels.

The thematic framework for the cycle (see next section) should be used as the basis of the NWG consultation activities. This framework is based upon the overarching cycle themes set by ESC. These were then elaborated by young people during the French EUYC and compiled by researchers supporting the cycle.

To ensure meaningful and inclusive participation during the consultation NWGs should prioritise qualitative consultation methods. This can include methods such as youth dialogue events, workshops and similar discussion-based formats. Quantitative consultation, such as opinion polls and surveys, could be a tool for NWGs to disseminate, communicate on and to mainstream the EUYD 9th cycle but it should not be the main goal of the consultation phase.

The annex to these documents contains suggested methods and tools for NWGs to conduct EUYD consultation activities. These focus on qualitative consultation methods that can deliver high quality, meaningful dialogue such as activities to use at youth dialogue events and visual methods. A set of questions for opinion polls (for use on social media or through surveys) are also included in the annexes. These are provided as a more youth friendly alternative to full scientific surveys, and there is no requirement for NWGs to use opinion polls. All methods and tools are entirely optional. It is up to each NWG to choose the process which suits their needs.

### Reporting consultation findings

NWGs are invited to complete the **‘NWG Consultation Phase Report’ (due early Sept 2022)**. This is the main report of the cycle and focuses on identifying the key messages identified by NWGs consultation with young people. It follows similar formats to previous cycles. NWGs provide a summary of messages linked to each sub theme, and opinion poll data can also be reported through this report. Results will be analysed by the research team supporting the cycle used to provide recommendations for stakeholders on the implementation phase of the cycle. *(Please note, compared to the previous cycle, some small changes have been made to the way participant data should be reported. We advise reading the consultation phase reporting template before undertaking your consultation.)*

### 3) Developing implementation phase activities

Moving into the implementation phase, NWGs should consider how to use the results of the national consultations to develop specific methods and means for implementation of concrete measures. This can further be informed by the overall European level results of the cycle and the work of the TRIO Presidencies. In the implementation step, the outcomes of the consultation activities will begin to inform concrete actions how the Youth Goals #10 and #3 could be implemented at local, regional, national levels.

It is understood that not every request made by young people through EUYD9 will be fully realised. In a pluralistic democratic society, the needs and desires of young people must be set alongside the needs and desires of other actors, as well as political and resource limitations. Therefore, a key part of implementation activities may also be providing feedback and communication to young people on the progress (or lack thereof) on specific requests and consultation outcomes. Clear and transparent information should be provided when certain outcomes cannot be progressed.

#### Reporting: the outcomes of implementation activities

To support the feedback and follow-on processes within EUYD 9 NWGs are invited to complete the '**NWG implementation phase reports**' (due Feb 2023). This report provides brief summaries on the activities that were taken by NWGs and their stakeholders, to implement the European Youth Goals #10 and #3 and take action within the theme of the cycle. Results will be analysed by the research team supporting the cycle and used to inform the Swedish EU Youth conference.

# International

These are set by the TRIO

- ⚙ Results reflected in Council documents under the TRIO Presidencies.
- ⚙ The outcomes of the 9th cycle shape the EU Youth Dialogue resolution under the Swedish Presidency of the EU.
- ⚙ The EU Member States invited to implement the main points and key demands from young people in their countries.

# National

These are set by each NWG

- ⚙ How can the consultation process help you on the national and local levels?
  - ⚙ Young people and their needs can be better heard, taken into account and mainstreamed in the political processes.
- ⚙ How can local and national **implementation activities** be developed from the consultation results?

2

# READ CONSULTATION TOOLKIT

What can you find in there? Overview of:

- ⚙ The EU Youth Dialogue processes
- ⚙ The EU Youth Dialogue international aims
- ⚙ The key EU Youth Dialogue deadlines
- ⚙ Thematic framework for the 9th Cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue
- ⚙ Sub-themes and guiding questions
- ⚙ Guidance on the Consultation Phase of the EU Youth Dialogue

1

# DEVELOP AIMS

## NWG Consultation Planner

Dialogue with young people held  
 Examples of good practices are identified.  
 Consultation process is documented:

- ⚙ What events and activities were implemented?
- ⚙ How many young people and from what backgrounds took part?

Reports are completed.

National aims are either reached during the implementation of the consultations, or followed up on **during the implementation phase**

What to keep in mind?

- ⚙ Sustainable and ecological mobility should be encouraged.
- ⚙ Catering and promotional materials are encouraged to be sustainable, ecological, recyclable and free from intoxicating substances.
- ⚙ Accessibility for every young person, especially young people that require special assistance, should be taken into account (sign language interpretation, access to buildings, visual aids...).
- ⚙ Inclusion is a key principle and reaching out to many diverse groups of young people should be ensured.
- ⚙ Consultation processes can lead to further aims beyond the consultation itself, make sure you plan for these as well.

### NWG Consultation Plan and Examples of Practice Report

- ⚙ Key for shaping the EU Youth Conference in the Czech Republic
- ⚙ Deadline for submission: May/June 2022

### NWG Consultation Phase Report

- ⚙ Key to provide recommendations for stakeholders on the implementation phase of the cycle
- ⚙ Deadline for submission: Aug 2022

### NWG Implementation Phase Report

- ⚙ February 2023
- ⚙ Key for shaping the EU Youth Conference in Sweden

# REPORT RESULTS

5

4

# CONDUCT CONSULTATIONS

3

# PLAN CONSULTATIONS

## **Role of INGYOs in EUYD9**

INGYOs are to be invited to organise and participate in roundtable dialogue events with the EU institutional stakeholders focused on creating and collecting ideas on how to realise the Youth Goals #10 (sustainability) and #3 (inclusion) and where possible through these actions are already moving forward with the realisation of those ideas. Moreover, through the networks and communication channels of the selected INGYOs, the EUYD will become more visible on the European level.

The European Youth Forum will work directly with the INGYOs to organise the roundtable events. Potential methods for roundtable events are shown in the annex to this document.

INGYOs are invited to submit video recordings of their roundtable events, by the deadlines shown at the start of this document. Recording will be analysed by the researchers supporting EUYD9, and key messages will be included in the EUYD9 European consultation report.

## **Core principles for the 9th Cycle of EUYD**

The design, implementation and the follow up of the 9th cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue is based on a set of core principles to be shared by all stakeholders that are involved in the Process.

### Cooperation

Ensuring a meaningful cooperation and continuity between the three involved EU Presidencies and its respective National Youth Councils, the European Youth Forum and the European Commission in a cohesive approach throughout the cycle based on appropriate means, trust, transparency and exchanges at every step of the process. Contributing to the continuity of the EU Youth Dialogue in cooperation with the previous and the up-coming TRIOs.

### Youth Led Process

Bringing young people and youth organisations into the core of the planning, implementation and follow-up of the cycle and regarding all activities at different levels. The EU Youth Dialogue is a youth-led process. National Youth Councils shall be leading stakeholders in the National Working Groups and the European Steering Group. Ensuring that participants in the EU Youth Conferences, youth delegates, ministerial delegates and decision-makers, have the required time and knowledge to engage in meaningful dialogue. Having a real dialogue between decision makers and young people in the cycle and during the EU Youth Conferences by providing means for meaningful engagement.

### Impact

Ensuring a real impact for the cycle by not only thinking together about what we want to achieve but also committing to taking actions and practically bringing about change for young people in Europe. Being transparent on the expected outcomes of the cycle towards all involved stakeholders, notably young people that take part in the EU Youth Dialogue activities. Developing the EU Youth Dialogue and the EU Youth Conferences by further implementing outcomes and feedback from participants of previous cycles. Connecting the outcomes of the cycle with relevant processes at local, national and European levels, making the EU Youth Dialogue more accessible and well-known in Member States. Focusing

on the European Youth Goals #10 and #3, making them more visible, measurable, and accountable within and outside of the EU Youth Dialogue.

#### Sustainability and inclusion

In accordance with applicable regulations and procedures, considering environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainability by organising all events related to the EU Youth Dialogue in order to fit with the thematic framework of the cycle: Youth Goals #10 and #3.

#### **Core principles in practice for Trio Presidencies, NYCs and INGYOs**

Depending on the stakeholders what is feasible for them, putting the core principles into practice may mean:

- Sustainable and ecological mobility should be encouraged in the organisation of every EU Youth Dialogue event during the 9th cycle.
- Catering and promotional materials are encouraged to be sustainable, ecological, recyclable and free from intoxicating substances.
- All relevant materials for the EU Youth Conferences should be transmitted to participants as soon as possible in a pedagogical and accessible form so that all young people can feel prepared and legitimate to speak and work at the conferences.
- Informal and convivial moments should be encouraged even in working sessions as they are crucial in order for all participants to feel fully integrated in the EU youth Dialogue events.
- Accessibility for every young person, especially young people that require special assistance, should be taken into account (sign language interpretation, access to buildings, visual aid...)

## Section 3: Thematic framework for EUYD9

### Introduction to the thematic framework from the ESG

The thematic framework of the 9th cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue is Youth Goal #10 Sustainable Green Europe and Youth Goal #3 Inclusive Societies under the title “Engaging together for a sustainable and inclusive Europe”. The two chosen European Youth Goals aim at “Achieving a society in which all young people are environmentally active, educated and able to make a difference in their everyday lives” and “Enabling and ensuring the inclusion of all young people in society”. Sustainable development and social inclusion goes hand in hand and if we do not enable and ensure the inclusion of all young people in society, we cannot achieve a society in which all young people are environmentally active, educated and able to make a difference in their everyday lives.

The TRIO considers intergenerational dialogue to be a tool that facilitates not only the involvement of young people in decision-making and policy-making and thus strengthens their participation in democratic processes, but also meaningful and facilitated sharing of views between young people and other generations. This goes in line with Youth Goal #3 that states that society needs to provide more spaces, opportunities, resources and programmes to foster dialogue and social cohesion, and combat discrimination and segregation. In a concrete form, the 9th cycle aims at contributing to the outcomes of the 8th cycle of EU Youth Dialogue under DE-PT-SI TRIO regarding the topic of participation by organizing discussions, debates, meetings and other events for different cohort groups within the topics selected for this cycle. Climate change and the environment remain at the top on the list of priorities for young people in Europe, recent polls show<sup>1</sup>

For the last years, global, European, national and local youth organisations and movements have been alerting the public and policy makers on the climate emergency and its consequences, and calling for action to prevent climate disaster as well as to move forward with the overall implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In addition, major European programmes have been launched recently to tackle the climate change and environmental degradation (such as the European Green Deal, the new European Bauhaus, Horizon Europe). It is important to reflect on how young people could be involved into these programmes.

Society needs to act against climate change and the growing environmental threats. But our society cannot solve a problem that it is not willing to fully acknowledge. During the global pandemic, climate research has noted a drop in CO2 emissions related to the slowing down of global economic activities, emphasising the direct link between human activities and the environment. In order to raise collective awareness of climate change and environmental degradation and their impact, it is timely and important for the future of young people and our society that one of the focus areas of the 9th cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue is the Youth

---

<sup>1</sup> European Environmental Bureau, Climate greater worry than COVID-19 for young Europeans, new poll finds, 2021, <https://eeb.org/climate-greater-worry-than-covid-19-for-young-europeans-new-poll-finds/> European Commission: Flash Eurobarometer 478 “How do we build a stronger, more united Europe? The views of young people “ <https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/2224>

Goal #10 Sustainable Green Europe. The emphasis on this Youth Goal aims to encourage further discussion on how to tackle the climate emergency, to implement sustainable development goals and to further ensure that everyone starts taking responsibility for their actions and the impact they have on our planet and on the lives of current and future generations. Becoming sustainable is not a choice, it is an obligation. However, to approach sustainable development only by looking at the environmental dimension without taking into account other dimensions of sustainability, notably economic and social dimensions and more specifically focusing on inclusion and intergenerational justice, is to empty sustainable development of its political meaning and its social project. Intergenerational dialogue, as a method of ensuring the inclusion of all young people in society, can strengthen young people's participation in democratic processes, but also improve meaningful and facilitated sharing of views between young people and other generations. Therefore, the TRIO decided in this cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue to also partially focus on the Youth Goal #3 Inclusive Societies. Environment degradation and climate change are deeply intertwined with global patterns of inequality.<sup>2</sup>

The most vulnerable people bear the brunt of environment degradation and climate change impacts, yet they have contributed the least to the crisis and are not sufficiently involved in decision making processes to address it. As the impacts of environment degradation and climate change mount, and even have been enhanced by the global pandemic, millions of vulnerable people face greater challenges in terms of e.g. extreme nature events, health effects, food security, livelihood security, water security, and cultural identity. These impacts have a direct impact on social cohesion. The actions call for intergenerational solidarity and justice so that the benefits for present generations would not stand in conflict with the rights of future generations. Decisions made now in the Green Deal will have long-lasting implications for future generations and must reflect the interests and views of younger citizens. Despite the increased consensus around the need to address intergenerational equity, policy responses have so far been inadequate. Many young people have the impression that they are not really 'spoken with' but rather 'spoken to'. They feel their participation serves the purpose of 'youth washing' of certain policies or decisions, rather than being a genuine exercise in consultation and inclusion. Successful engagement and appropriate inclusion require a level of trust and open communication. Young people should be considered and involved as equal partners in a continuous intergenerational dialogue (as opposed to one-off meetings) on policy development and processes, to which they can provide valuable contributions.

This joint approach of the TRIO is key during the 9th cycle and will be collectively addressed within the 18 months period, even though each member of the TRIO may give a specific focus during its presidency on some aspects of this overall issue. Young people are one of the most vulnerable groups that have to face these challenges. In addition, one third of young people in Europe are at risk of poverty and social exclusion<sup>3</sup>

Many do not have access to their social, economic and political rights. Many continue to face multiple forms of discrimination, experience prejudice and hate crimes. Increased migration,

---

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/social-dimensions-of-climate-change>

<sup>3</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1632154381478&uri=CELEX%3A42018Y1218%2801%29>

especially from developing and war-torn countries, also brought several social and inclusion challenges. Therefore, it is crucial to work towards the fulfilment of the rights of all young people in Europe, including the most marginalised and excluded. As mentioned above, many young people are already a leading force of proposition and action to build a sustainable world. It's important that all of them, even the ones with less opportunities are empowered to develop their full potential as actors of change. Sustainable development goals cannot be achieved without involving every young person and realising their rights. By putting together the European Youth Goal #10 and its main targets together with the Youth Goal #3 and combining them with the most pressing current issues, it will be up to young people to choose from the set of targets, the targets that they think are important to be addressed during the cycle.

## **EUYD9 Sub-themes and guiding questions**

In order to facilitate the work of the NWGs and INGYOs and well as to ensure cohesion in the EU Youth Dialogue across all EU countries, the ESG has designed a set of sub-themes for EUYD9:

1. Information and Education
2. Action and Empowerment
3. Governance
4. Mobility and Solidarity
5. Access to infrastructure

When designing their activities NWGs and INGYOs can focus on either all the sub-themes or just a selection of them depending on their national priorities.

Based on the initial impetus from the ESG, these themes have been elaborated by conference participants as part of the French EU Youth Conference.

Each sub theme includes a **Guiding Question**. The guiding questions provide a tool for NWGs to design their local and national dialogues and should be used to plan the topics of EUYD9 consultations activities. **The guiding questions are NOT designed to be sent directly to young people** instead they provide an overarching framework for planning and report. The accompanying annexes include a set of discussion prompts which break down the guiding questions into simpler questions which can be discussed directly with young people. NWGs are asked to report the outcomes of their consultation activities to the ESG using these guiding questions. Therefore, in order to find answers to the guiding questions, NWGs are tasked with conducting qualitative consultations with young people and reporting a summary of responses through the 'NWG consultation phase report' (see annex). NWGs response to these guiding questions should be based on their analysis of outcomes of consultation with young people.

INGYOs should use the guiding questions and accompanying discussion prompts in a similar manner to structure their discussion at their roundtable events.

Each sub theme also has a **good practice collection** suggestion. These can be used by NWGs to guide their reporting of good practice examples as part of the 'NWG Consultation plan and examples of practice report' (see annex).

A full outline of the sub-themes is shown in the table below.

<b>Cross cutting sub - theme</b>
When working with all sub themes NWGs and INGyOs should take into account sub-target of <b>youth goal #3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Ensure that marginalised young people are participating in all decision-making processes and are key players, particularly in processes concerning their own rights, wellbeing and interest”</li></ul> and the concept of <b>Intergenerational dialogue</b> as described above.
<b>Sub-theme: 1. Information and education</b>
<b>Relevant Youth Goal targets:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure everyone including young people knows the effect of their actions on the environment (YG10).</li><li>• Strengthen outreach of information to marginalised young people, to ensure they are aware of spaces, opportunities and experiences available to them (YG3).</li></ul>
<b>Sub theme description:</b> Climate change is a complex issue and as such spans different scientific areas, connects different policy domains, links to many areas of human production and consumption, and can be difficult to fully grasp in all its implications. Young people should have access to youth-friendly information sources, and opportunities to learn about the nature and causes of climate change, and its relation to social inequalities all around the world. These learning opportunities and resources should be based within the formal education as well as in non-formal and informal learning contexts.. These resources and opportunities need to be accessible, inclusive and reach out to young people from all walks of life. They should also focus on climate change aspects (e.g., what is it, what affects future predictions, how it connects to current economic and production realities we live in, what actions can be taken individually and nationally, etc.), as well as the link between the climate change and social inequalities (e.g., effects of climate change on different nations, the topic of climate refugees, the occurrences when climate change introduced famines, potential for war conflicts connected to droughts in certain regions, etc.).
<b>Guiding question for qualitative consultation:</b> What are the key features of youth friendly information sources and learning opportunities for young people, on the topic of climate change and the link between climate change and social inequalities? If no such information sources and learning opportunities exist in your country, what should they look like?
<b>Good practice collection:</b> Describe a good practice example of information sources and opportunities which works well in connection to climate change and the link between climate change and social inequalities. What helped this concrete example to become a success?

## **Sub-theme: 2. Action and empowerment**

### **Relevant Youth Goal targets:**

- Empower the entire society especially young people to act as agents of change for environmental and sustainable development (YG10).
- Provide more spaces, opportunities, resources and programmes to foster dialogue and social cohesion, and combat discrimination and segregation (YG3).

**Sub-theme description:** The needs of young people should be represented at all levels of government and should enable young people to have their interests reflected in the decision-making processes. Such tools that ensure the needs of future generations are taken into account in policymaking are essential especially when dealing with burning questions of today, such as the climate emergency. These tools should ensure intergenerational dialogue takes place at all times when decisions affecting more than one generation are debated and taken. Exploring the tools and mechanisms used in ensuring dialogue and balance in decision making can help provide a basis on which such tools become widely used across European countries and institutions. These can be e-tools, parliamentary or legal processes and guarantees, committees of various titles that oversee generational justice in decision-making, youth organisations conducting advocacy and many other formats. It is also crucial that these tools are transparent and in communication with young people via different channels.

**Guiding question for qualitative consultation:** What successful mechanisms and methods are young people aware of that ensure the needs of their generation are taken into account in decision-making processes affecting their current life and future? If no such mechanisms exist, what should they look like or what examples from other contexts do you find useful and successful?

**Good practice collection:** Describe an example of good practice of a youth participation mechanism which is successful in going beyond consultation, holding policy makers accountable for what was agreed upon? What helped this concrete example become a success?

### **Sub-theme: 3 Governance**

#### **Relevant Youth Goal targets:**

- Take into account the environmental impact of every policy and life decision while ensuring that young people are included in sustainable development policy-making on all levels (YG10).

**Sub-theme description:** Youth participation mechanisms often include a consultation component, but it can be difficult to see beyond the multitude of follow-up processes on the political level to ensure the results of the participatory mechanisms have been implemented, or at least taken into account. Seeing results is, nevertheless, one of the key conditions of meaningful participation, as opposed to tokenistic youthwashing in which events are only labelled as youth participatory without any follow-up processes in place, and hence with no chance of achieving any results at all. At the same time, political processes are often complex and take time, which can impair feedback and follow-up processes, making well defined structures for follow-up an important tool in this domain. Strengthening meaningful youth participation via increasing accountability of policymakers and decision-makers (e.g., by implementing well-defined follow-up processes to the participatory mechanisms) can be achieved by identifying key success factors of mechanisms leading to such accountability. In case such mechanisms cannot be identified, young people should think forward to outline how such mechanisms could look like, and in what phases of the policy process these would be most effective, in order to outline and implement them in the future.

**Guiding question for qualitative consultation:** How can youthwashing be avoided in youth participation mechanisms, holding decision-makers accountable to what was agreed upon as a result of different participatory activities? If no such accountability mechanisms exist, what should they look like to be successful?

**Good practice collection:** Describe a good practice example of a mechanism ensuring needs of young people are taken into account in decision-making processes (e.g., generation tests, etc.)? What helped this concrete example become a success?

## Sub-theme 4. Mobility and solidarity

### Relevant Youth Goal targets:

- Support and strengthen opportunities for young people to volunteer in the environmental sector (YG10).

**Sub-theme description:** Youth mobility and volunteering in the environmental sector can take place in many different forms: as a semester abroad, as a volunteering year in a neighbouring country, as an internship in the European Parliament, or as a work placement after the studies are over. These opportunities can enable young people to volunteer and take part in environmental initiatives, support environmental organisations or to become involved in sustainability and inclusion causes. In all those cases, it is imperative that all young people, including marginalised young people (e.g., ethnic and religious minorities, mentally or physically disadvantaged, NEETs, and many others), have equal opportunities to participate and enjoy the many advantages such mobility periods can bring to both personal and working lives. Identifying mechanisms which help marginalised young people to take part in such opportunities, makes these opportunities attractive and relevant to them, is hence key to increasing their participation in the future and contributing to positive societal development.

**Guiding question for qualitative consultation:** What helps different groups of marginalised young people to take part in different EU-wide mobility opportunities related to the environment?

***This guiding question should only be used in consultations with young people with fewer opportunities as it directly links to their concrete life experiences.***

**Good practice collection:** Describe an example of good practice of a mobility opportunity fit for different disadvantaged young people? What helped this concrete example become a success?

## **Sub-theme: 5. Access to infrastructure**

### **Relevant Youth Goal targets:**

- Ensure everyone especially young people has access to eco-friendly infrastructure for living a more sustainable lifestyle (YG10).

**Sub-theme description:** When tackling climate change, infrastructure young people live in to a large extent affects their choices when it comes to sustainable living. Accessibility of public transport within as well as outside of population centres impacts how many young people rely on personal means of transportation. Presence or absence of quality cycling lanes affects how many young people will choose bike over car in their daily commute. Access to affordable, sustainable, and quality housing determines where the young people will live and how much commuting they will need to do in order to access employment, social and healthcare services, and do their shopping. Availability of shops offering local produce, again, influences the shopping choices of young people and affects sustainability of their everyday living. In order to support access of young people to such infrastructure they see as necessary for making sustainable choices, we need not only to identify the key infrastructural elements young people desire, but also explore how these elements need to work together to allow young people using the whole system towards sustainable living. Just as eco-friendly public transport that only stops at large malls with no sustainable products in stock will not allow young people to shop, eat, and consume sustainably, then building eco-friendly houses will only work if they are built at accessible places or supported by subsidies in the area of electromobility. Exploring key infrastructural elements as well as their interplay in allowing young people to live sustainably is key in making these changes happen.

### **Guiding question for qualitative consultation:**

What key elements of infrastructure (e.g., transportation, housing, services, etc.) need to be accessible to young people in order to support them in living sustainably? How can these key elements of infrastructure work in synergy to support young people in living sustainably?

**Good practice collection:** Identify a good practice example of an infrastructural system (i.e., not only key elements of infrastructure, but such which work very well in synergy of several elements that support sustainable choices), that is highly praised by the young people, and describe why that is? What helped this concrete example become a success?

## Section 4: Linking to the European Year of Youth

Following the announcement by President von der Leyen in her 2021 State of the Union address that 2022 should be a year dedicated to those who have dedicated so much to others, the Commission submitted in October its formal proposal to designate 2022 the European Year of Youth to the co-legislators. In December 2021, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union have reached an agreement that the year 2022 shall be designated as the ‘European Year of Youth 2022’<sup>4</sup>

The European Year of Youth will pursue four objectives. The overall objective of the European Year of Youth is to ‘boost the efforts of the Union, the Member States and regional and local authorities, together with civil society actors, to empower, honour, support and engage with young people, including those with fewer opportunities, in a post-COVID-19 pandemic perspective with a view to having a long-term positive impact for young people.’

The European Parliament and The Council of The European Union decision highlights that the Year of Youth ‘should build on and seek synergies with European events and initiatives.’

Taking this into account, the ESG invites NWGs and INGYOs to:

- Consider how their EUYD activities might be used to contribute to the specific objectives of the European Year of Youth<sup>5</sup>, particularly *“promoting youth participation and enhancing the use of existing and new innovative tools, channels and programmes that enable all young people to reach policymakers by identifying, collecting and sharing experiences and good practice and raising awareness among policymakers of those tools, channels and programmes”*
- Liaise with the [national year of youth coordinators](#) in the planning and development of EUYD activities to develop synergies with the Year of Youth
- Consider using the Year of Youth branding and [logo](#) for the dissemination and outreach relating to EUYD activities (Further tools available shortly from the [Year of Youth](#) web page).
- Disseminate information about EUYD activities through the Year of Youth [Activities Map](#).
- Consider holding EUYD events or activities on the 9th of May for Europe Day.

---

<sup>4</sup><https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32021D2316&qid=1642626583525>

<sup>5</sup> (ibid)

## Section 5: Data protection and participant consent

### Guidance for NWGs

At all times National Working Groups remain responsible for activities they arrange as part of their activities and any accompanying data collection they undertake in the framework of the EU Youth Dialogue.

Your NWG, and the organisations within it, are fully responsible for ensuring local, national and European laws are followed in these activities and data collection. This includes:

- Ensuring you have fulfilled your duties with regard to data protection under GDPR. In all circumstances your working group or an organisation within it remains the data controller of any personal or sensitive personal data you collect.
- Ensuring you have put in place appropriate procedures for securing participants consent (and where necessary parent / guardian consent) to participate in activities and for participants data to be gathered by you.
- Ensuring that participants understand how the information they give is shared on an anonymised basis with the European Youth Forum for the purposes of informing the findings of the EU Youth Dialogue Process.

Under no circumstances should your dialogue activities and data collection be advertised as being collected for or conducted by the TRIO of Presidencies, the EU Commission, the European Youth Forum or any of the organisations connected with the European Steering Group.

In general, you should not share or send personal data of EUYD participants through your working group reports, or by any other method, with the European Youth forum, or any other organisation connected to the European Steering Group. The only exception to this is when:

- You are sharing the contact names and details of working group members, as indicated on the reporting templates.
- You are submitting photographs and videos to the European Youth Forum as part of the participatory photo and video methods. You should follow the instructions given in the participatory photo and video methods, and ensure you obtain suitable consent from the young person and or their parent/guardian to share these photos directly with the European Youth Forum if you intend to do this.

Quotes from participants can be included in your working group reports. Please ensure that these are anonymised and the young person who is quoted is not identifiable.

## Guidance for INGYOs

At all times INGYOs remain responsible for their roundtable events and any accompanying data collection they undertake in the framework of the EU Youth Dialogue.

When video recording roundtable events INGYOs should follow their own data protection policies and ensure that:

- They have obtained consent from participants to be video recorded
- Participants understand and consent to the sharing of this recording with the European Youth Forum for analysis by the ESG appointed research team.
- Participants in the roundtables understand the things they say may be quoted in the EUYD consultation report(s), any quotation will be fully anonymised.

The European Youth Forum will work collectively with the INGYOs to agree a suitable process for sharing information and obtaining participant consent for the roundtable events.

## Section 6: Contact details and further enquiries

There are online spaces organised for the National Working Groups and INGYOs on the BASECAMP platform. They are open for all members of the NWGs and INGYOs taking part in the process and aim to foster cooperation and exchange of practice. In order to access it, please send a request to the Secretariat of the European Steering Group to [kristof.papp@youthforum.org](mailto:kristof.papp@youthforum.org).

If you have any questions or issues, do not hesitate to contact the European Youth Forum as the Secretariat of the European Steering Group of the 9th EUYD cycle at [kristof.papp@youthforum.org](mailto:kristof.papp@youthforum.org). All reports should also be submitted to this address.