



RCE Youth Publication 2026 Case Study Submission Guidelines

Working title: Youth in Charge: RCE Leaders for Sustainable Futures

1. Eligibility and scope:

The submission must be written by or collaboratively co-written with RCE youth representative(s).

***Definition of youth:** The United Nations defines “youth” as persons between the ages of 15 and 24 for statistical purposes. However, the editorial team acknowledges that the definition of youth can vary substantially across the world. As such, this publication invites submissions from authors and co-authors **aged between 15 and 35**, in line with common practice in sustainability programmes.

Submitted case studies must demonstrate **meaningful youth participation** in project design, implementation, and leadership. Please clearly indicate the level of youth engagement in your project according to the scale below:



Figure 1. Scale of youth engagement (Adapted from UNESCO, 2019).



Submissions are particularly encouraged from projects that:

- Position youth **as partners** or **as leaders** (Figure 1)
- Are led by or engage young people from **underrepresented backgrounds**, including **Indigenous youth**
- Demonstrate successful cases of **intergenerational collaboration**
- Promote **gender equality** and are led by young women and girls
- Empower **young persons with disabilities**
- Utilize or explore the potential of **digital technologies and artificial intelligence** in advancing sustainability

Kindly note that inclusion in the **publication is not guaranteed**; the final selection will be made to ensure balanced thematic coverage, geographic diversity, and representation of varied approaches.

2. Submission Process and Timeline:

The **deadline** for submissions is **2 February 2026**.

Fill out the provided submission template and submit it through the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YouthCallforSubmission>

3. Submission Content:

The case study should be written in English, using clear and concise language that can be easily understood by an international audience. Avoid using jargon, and any technical or context-specific terms should be explained when they appear. Acronyms should be written in full at first mention.

The word count for the case study is **1,000 (minimum) to 1,250 (maximum)** words. The number of words per section in the case study is indicated in Section 'Project Information' in the submission template below. Please make sure to stay within the word count range to help maintain balance and readability across all case studies.

You can see the submission template below, the empty template is attached to the original email. Please name your file "RCE_ABC_Submission" before uploading your file. File must be submitted in the DOC or DOCX format and should not exceed 16MB in size.



Submission template

PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING:

- ✓ All sections are mandatory and must be filled in.
- ✓ Please do not edit, remove, or change any part of this template.
- ✓ Ensure the file does not exceed 16 MB in total size.
- ✓ Provide clear and complete information for accurate assessment.
- ✓ Adhere to the word limit: 1,000 (minimum) to 1,250 (maximum) words.

[PROJECT OVERVIEW]

Project title:

RCE:

Authors/contributors:

Email:

Region: *e.g. Asia-Pacific*

Country:

Level of youth engagement: *Please refer to Figure 1 in the Submission Guidelines*

Target SDG(s):

Stakeholders:

Target audience(s): *e.g. elementary school children, university students, adult learners*

ESD for 2030 Priority Action Areas:

Language(s) of project:

UN Youth Strategy 2030 Priority Areas: *Please refer to [UN Youth Strategy 2030](#) (pp.9-13)*

Duration of project: MM/YY – MM/YY (indicate “on-going” if the project is still running)

[PROJECT INFORMATION]

I. Situation/Issue - “What We Face” (200–250 words) - *required*

Briefly describe the context where the project takes place and what issue your project responds to. Explain why it is important to youth, local communities, and other stakeholders.

II. Actions Taken - “How We Respond” (200–250 words) - *required*

Provide an overview of your initiative/project, including main objectives, activities, and other relevant information.



III. Results - “What We Have Achieved” (200–250 words) - *required*

Describe tangible outcomes (e.g. number of people reached, gender disaggregated data on participants, policy changes, changes in practices) and/or intangible contributions (e.g. improved awareness, changed mindsets, inspiring peers, sparking conversations) that your project has achieved. Please include supporting data where possible.

IV. Lessons Learned - “What We Have Learned” (150–200 words) - *required*

Describe what others (youth, educators, community leaders) can learn from your project. Highlight both enabling factors that support active youth engagement (e.g. policy support, funding) and barriers you have faced.

V. Looking Ahead - “What Needs to Change” (150–200 words) - *required*

Describe what actions are planned or need to be taken in the future to sustain or scale up impact. This can include the next steps and your hopes for growth and partnerships.

VI. “Our Message” (100–150 words) - *required*

Include a brief message (max. 2-3 sentences) that you would like to share with your peers and key stakeholders. Use a first-person perspective.

[MORE INFORMATION]

Share any additional materials (links) you would like to highlight.

[INFOGRAPHICS] - *required*

Share data or statements for **insightful infographics** that support the project’s mission and highlights its impact (e.g. gender disaggregated data on project participants, total number of people reached, etc.)



[REFERENCES]

Use in-text citation (author, year) when referring to information, data or ideas from another source. Please include a complete list of references using Harvard referencing style, in alphabetical order (by author's last name or organization name). Include only works cited in the text — do not add uncited sources. Ensure that all URLs are active and accessible.

Note that the references section **is not included** in the case-study word count.

Visual Attachments

[PHOTOS AND OTHER MATERIALS] - *required*

We ask that your photos illustrate your **project in action** (e.g. activities, exhibitions, products) as opposed to seated group photos. Contributors are encouraged to include **creative elements** such as **photography, visual art, and poetry** that illustrate the project's impact and vision.

Photo	Photo caption	Photo credit