



# YMCA + UN Youth Climate Summit Global Watch and Do Party

On September 21st we join the world  
in speaking up for our planet



## Event Guidelines

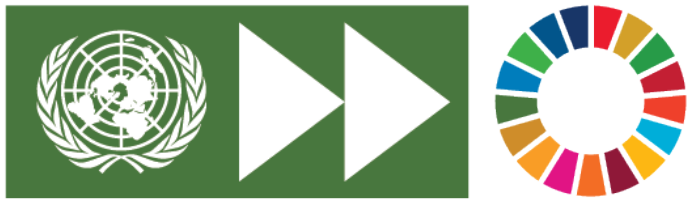
**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS**



**WORLD  
YMCA**



# WHY NOW?



**"Humanity is now standing at a crossroads. We must now decide which path we want to take. How do we want the future living conditions for all living species to be like?"**

*Greta Thunberg, 16-year-old climate activist*

## WHAT IS HAPPENING?

On Saturday 21 September, we join the world in speaking up for our planet. The United Nations is holding the first-ever Youth Climate Summit, calling upon the world to take urgent climate action NOW.

Join this global event by organising a YMCA + UN Youth Climate Summit Global Watch and Do Party at your local YMCA. Anyone can host an event!

## WHAT CAN WE DO?

Check with your YMCA if you can host a *YMCA + UN Youth Climate Summit Global Watch and Do Party* on Saturday 21 September. You can also go fully digital and organise an online gathering!



## AIM

Let's mobilise young people from YMCAs around the world to gather to watch the Youth Climate Summit, engage in a meaningful dialogue, and to commit to take climate action!

## PRINCIPLES

### FLEXIBILITY

You can organise your activity based on your local realities and choose what is most relevant for your team.

### YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

The activity should be youth-led or engage young people directly in the planning and implementation of the programme.

### ACTION-ORIENTED

The activity should encourage reflection on the effects and risks of climate change in the local community, as well as direct action that can be taken for mitigation.

# WHY GET INVOLVED?



**Young people are more concerned about climate change than ever before**



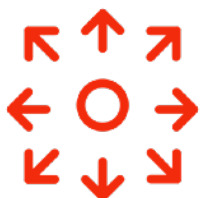
**The time to act is getting shorter and we are lagging behind as a planet**



**It's a great opportunity to use a global action day to engage young people in a meaningful dialogue on climate**



**More than just talk, it can be a first step for concrete action in your local community**



**Greater visibility for your YMCA**



**Louder voice for your young people**



**Great opportunity for a youth-led activity in your YMCA**



# HOW CAN YOU DO IT?



## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

We encourage you to gather as many as your venue will safely and comfortably hold. Our Planet needs **EVERYONE** to get involved!



## LOCATION

It can be your YMCA building, a park, a community center or where you think it's suitable for your needs.



## WHEN

**September 21, 2019**

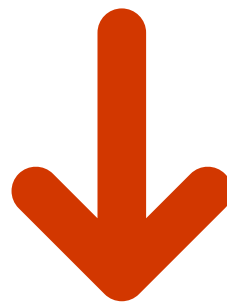
The Youth Climate Summit will be live streamed from 10:00- 18:00 EST, feel free to choose the start and end time that works best for your YMCA.

**Get the Word Out!**

**Register your event at <http://www.ymca.int/climate-event-2019> and share your event details on social media!**

# EVENT DAY

**In building your programme please consider the following types of activities that you can include based on your local reality**



## CONNECT

### Why?

Create a safe space for the discussions and creating an opportunity for the group to get to know each other better.

### Party with a purpose!

We encourage you to make this a fun and engaging event. Ask people to bring snacks to share start with an icebreaker to get to know each other.





## WATCH

### What?

Each party should have a multimedia component, tuning in by watching or through social media to the UN Youth Climate Action Summit.

### What to watch

- A. Live stream of the Summit: <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/youth-summit.shtml> **OR**
- B. Show other climate action videos such as the YMCA175 Environment Panel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2zUaFO615eg>



## DEBATE

### What?

You can add a debate session in your programme, engaging participants in a meaningful dialogue about your community and climate change.

### Discuss

- ✓ Hold a group discussion on how Climate Change is impacting our planet and your community, and determine how you can develop local solutions for Climate Action.
- ✓ The discussion should encourage reflection on the effects and risks of climate change in the local community, as well as what action can be taken for mitigation.



## DO TAKE ACTION

### What?

Even small actions and steps can help make a change, especially when multiplied in our communities. Event hosts, please make sure to capture all of the great ideas and solutions!

### Guiding questions

- ✓ What is the impact of Climate Change in your community?
- ✓ What YMCA has been doing or can do?
- ✓ How do we engage our actions at a local, national and global level?



## SHARE ONLINE

### What?

- ✓ Each party should have a multimedia component, tuning in by watching UN Youth Climate Action Summit. Please share tweets, photos and videos of your gathering using #YMCA4Environment and Youth #ClimateActionSummit on social media.
- ✓ Encourage all participants to Take action - share your proposed solutions on the [UN Youth Climate Summit website \(Take Action section\)](#)
- ✓ Share - join the global YMCA Movement by posting tweets, photos and videos of your event using #YMCA4Environment and Youth #ClimateAction Summit on social media



# 5 STEPS FOR ACTION

1

**Build your own event concept based on this framework and your local reality**

2

**Register your event online at [ymca.int/climate-event-2019](https://ymca.int/climate-event-2019) and share your commitment with the world**

3

**Engage your local community to sign up for the event and prepare for it**

4

**Tune up on social media during your event using the hashtags [#YMCA4Environment](#) and [#ClimateActionSummit](#)**

5

**Share your action plan with your community and on social media to inspire others**



***Good luck!***

