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## Skills development to enable youth to participate in the green transition through meaningful youth engagement, articulation and representation.

COP 28 Green Education Hub Session

**Thursday, 7 December 2023; 10:15-11:00 (UAE Local time)**

### Background

Populations continue to face the risks of human-induced climate change, inefficient use of resources, rising temperatures and sea levels, climate-related inequality, and disproportionate distribution of investments for the green transition. Fundamental transformations in economies and societies are required to change the course of global progress. As Member States strive to achieve net zero by 2050, measures to counter the long-term impact of biodiversity loss, pollution and resource depletion are being put in place. These efforts are stimulating global economy transformations that have an impact on technologies, production, goods and services, and increased demand for sustainability skill sets. Technological and material advances emerge, which now require new skills and competencies.

The reality of the climate crisis is increasing the demand for learners and workers who possess the qualifications, skills and mindset that can bolster green growth. Continuous updates in teaching and training that match technological and material advances are required to ensure they reflect current skills needs. To steer in this direction, education and training systems are called upon to enable individuals, as agents of change, to acquire knowledge, skills, values and attitudes to support net-zero development where societies can be empowered and economies can pursue growth that is equitable for all, sustainable and successful. UNESCO's strategy for TVET 2022-2029 supports the repositioning of TVET as a pathway for individuals to learn, work and live, and as a catalyst for digital and green transformation and sustainable economies.

The green transformation must take place at all levels and include all members of society. Transformations in learning and skills development must consider the critical role of young people as agents of change and the future workforce. They also require a strong foundation of knowledge and practical skills that can be applied to transform practices in the workplace. Transformations in systems must go hand in hand with the responsibilities of education and training authorities to set out policies and strategies that support the shaping of a just and green transition of economies.

The UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for TVET, in close collaboration with its partners, including its UNEVOC Centre – the Higher Colleges of Technology (HCT), the United Arab Emirates, and World Skills International, is organizing the session to showcase the perspectives and achievements of young people empowered through their engagement in TVET. They will share their experiences in acquiring relevant skills and knowledge and applying them to become young agents of change for the green transition. The panel will also discuss about relevant interventions of selected organizations working to help transform TVET and develop skills that match the new standards in professional working environments and meet the needs of technological and material advances.

## Objectives

- Share the relevant experiences of young people and gather insights into their role and efforts in acquiring knowledge and skills that can prepare them to better engage in the green transition.
- Call to action: Encourage more youth to actively engage in a just and green transition.

## Organizers and key partners

- Higher Colleges of Technology UAE, UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for TVET and World Skills International

## Venue

- Higher Colleges of Technology (HCT) stand, Zone 6, Greening Education Hub, Mobility Pavilion

## Technical specifications

The session will be conducted in English, and in-person.

- [Greening TVET promotional video](#) (3:11 mins)
- [Greening TVET teaser](#) (1:40 mins)

## AGENDA

Moderated by Ms Priscilla Gatonye, Programme Officer and Team Leader for Inclusion and Youth, UNESCO-UNEVOC

**10.15-10.20**

**Skills development to enable youth to participate in the green transition through meaningful youth engagement, articulation and representation.**

Introduction to the session on the need to meaningfully engage young people in the just and green transition.

Introduce the panel on youth perspectives (25 mins)

- Ms Megan Yeates, World Skills Champion and Apprentice Coordinator, FTA Ireland
- Ms Maryam Almarzooqi- HCT Sustainability COP28 Ambassador
- Mr Mohamed Alzaabi- HCT Sustainability COP28 Ambassador
- Ms Meera Alhosani- HCT Sustainability COP28 Ambassador

**10.20-10.45**

*Panel discussion*

**10.45-11.00**

Q & A

Wrap up

## PROFILES

### Moderator

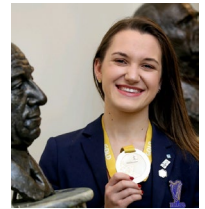
**Priscilla Gatonye**, Programme Officer, Inclusion and Youth; Gender and Youth Focal Point, UNESCO-UNEVOC

Priscilla supports the development and implementation of the UNEVOC Network strategy, with a particular focus on the thematic area of inclusion and youth, including the International Centre's ongoing work on entrepreneurial skills development, and gender equality in TVET. She also acts as Regional Focal Point for Africa and in this capacity develops regional strategies to involve members of the UNEVOC Network in Africa in UNESCO-UNEVOC's activities. She worked for 10+ years in various capacities within the TVET sector as well as in youth empowerment and employability advisory. Priscilla holds a B.A. in Economics from the University of Nairobi, an M.Sc. in International Supply Chain Management from the University of Exeter and AEVO's international master trainer qualifications in vocational and work pedagogical knowledge, skills and abilities.



### Panelists

**Megan Yeates**, WorldSkills Champion and Apprenticeship Coordinator, FTA Ireland  
Megan Yeates is a Logistics Industry Ambassador and WorldSkills Champion who works to highlight and promote opportunities in the industry for young people and the next generation, especially highlighting opportunities for women. Formally a Logistics Project Manager and Lecturer, she is currently working as an Apprentice Coordinator for Transport and Logistics Apprenticeships in Ireland.



**Maryam Almarzooqi**, HCT Sustainability COP28 Ambassador, HCT UAE

Maryam Almarzooqi is a second-year Electrical Engineering student known for her innovative and eco-friendly initiatives. A graduate of NYUAD's Young Filmmakers Programme, she has a well-rounded education, including completing a community engagement course at the University of Michigan. Maryam's leadership skills shine through her team's first-place-winning eco-friendly project in collaboration with UAEU and Rize. Her profile reflects a unique blend of technical expertise and a commitment to sustainable solutions.



**Mohamed Alzaabi**, HCT Sustainability COP28 Ambassador, HCT UAE

Mohamed Alzaabi is an aspiring entrepreneur and sustainability advocate. As an undergraduate student, he actively contributes to fostering environmental consciousness. Mohamed is a future sustainability leader in the Y4S programme by Masdar, passionately advocating for sustainability and youth empowerment in the battle against climate change. He has participated in various negotiation simulations to further these causes. In addition to his academic pursuits, Mohamed is the founder of a startup that has received four awards this year, showcasing his commitment to revolutionizing pet care. Simultaneously, he serves as the Vice President of the Student Council at HCT, demonstrating his leadership in academic matters.



**Meera Alhosani**, HCT Sustainability COP28 Ambassador, HCT UAE

Fluent in both Arabic and English, Meera is a highly skilled Graphic Designer proficient in Adobe (Photoshop, After Effects, Illustrator, etc.) and Microsoft Office. As a dynamic leader, she not only presided over the Photography Club at Higher Colleges of Technology but also served as Vice President, showcasing her versatility. Meera's standout achievements include clinching 1st place in both Graphics Studio and Typography courses at HCT's prestigious BEST OF THE BEST Competition. Her flair for creative problem-solving, coupled with her quick learning abilities, positions Meera as a rising star in the media industry.

