

## **Addressing climate change and environmental-related issues through child-led advocacy efforts**

### **Description**

This workshop is offered by Save the Children, a non-governmental organisation that works to promote and establish a platform for children to exercise their right to participate and be empowered to meaningfully engage in decision-making processes. The session aims to address climate change and environmental-related issues through child-led advocacy.

It is essential that children's rights to participate is upheld, and that children and their interests are at the centre of climate decisions and policies. Save the Children intends to create a meaningful, safe platform where children, and particularly the most marginalised and vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, can express their concern and ideas as well as ask for an ambitious climate action.

### **Background**

The climate crisis is a children rights crisis that severely risks deepening inequalities within and across borders and generations. Children are exposed to extreme weather events such as floods, cyclones, heatwaves and drought, slow onset events such as sea level rise, water scarcity, desertification, and resource depletion as well as environmental degradations such as deforestation, soil depletion and loss of biodiversity and ecosystems. The impacts of these events affect children's ability to survive, learn and be protected. Without addressing these issues head on, achieving the Sustainable Development Goals will likely be impossible, and we risk losing the progress made towards realising children's rights as set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and to achieve the SDGs.

### **Speaker**

- Leonardo Bezhi, representative of the Child Led Group "Voice 16+" (Save the children)
- Izelda Bakiasi, representative of the Child Led Group "Voice 16+" (Save the children)