

## **“303030 Youth Target” contribution for the UN 2023 Water Conference “Water Action Agenda”**

The “303030 Youth Target” was launched during the Youth and Children’s Water Forum at the Second High-Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development 2018-2028” in Dushanbe, by Noémie Plumier<sup>1</sup>, being supported by World Youth Parliament for Water (WYPW), the United Nations International Federation of Youth (UNIFY), the Central Asia Youth for Water (CAY4W), the International Water Association (IWA), and the Water Youth Network (WYN).

The “303030 Youth Target” is a tangible target to contribute to the Water Action Agenda<sup>2</sup>, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and beyond. It is a contribution and a commitment from the Youth, for the Youth, with the Youth taking the main-stage towards a sustainable future leaving no one behind.

Today, a quarter of the global population (1.8 billion people) are between the ages of 15 and 35. It is not only the largest generation of young people the world has ever known but also the most educated generation ever. However, youth are under-represented at all levels in decision-making and service delivery and their ideas overlooked.

Based on the representability of youth in the current society, the role that youth plays in sustainable development in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the fact that youth is a key enabler and changemaker for a just, equal and sustainable future, the “303030 Youth Target” aims for :

**The inclusion, participation and representation at all levels, from all sectors and stakeholders, of at least 30% of youth below 30 years old<sup>3</sup> by 2030;**

The priority youth groups should be the ones most affected by the water crises, such as women, indigenous peoples, people with disabilities and those who suffer environmental racism. Priority should be given across the intersectionality of these groups.

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<sup>1</sup> Youth Advisor at the Water and Climate Coalition and a Facilitator of Strategic Partnership WG of the World Youth Parliament for Water.

<sup>2</sup> The Water Action Agenda will be a voluntary set of commitments from diverse stakeholders; it will be the outcome document of the United Nations 2023 Water Conference in New York.

<sup>3</sup> This target is set based on the United Nations definition of Youth, it can be adapted according to your regional definition.

The “303030 Youth Target” can be achieved via, but not limited to the following examples, the participation of :

- Youth organizations and networks that can commit to strong and diverse partnerships, based on intergenerational and equitable collaborations.
- Private sector and other non-state stakeholder, that can commit to include a 30% of the total workforce being minus 30 years old by 2030 (paid internships or apprentices, junior or senior positions, board advisors).
- Governments that can implement and recognize the “303030 Youth Target” in their national legislation, pushing for national laws and policies for youth. And also give the right example by incorporating the “303030 Youth Target” in their own public institutions.
- United Nations (UN) agencies and other international organisations that can incorporate the “303030 Youth Target” by providing paid internship opportunities, or sponsoring youth participation in high level discussions, dialogues, negotiations.
- River Basin Organizations (RBOs), water agencies, utilities and industries, that can commit to include at least 30% of youth in consultations, discussions, and decision-making processes.
- Local and City Councils that can commit to at least 30% of young representation and participation in their activities.

The target is adaptable enough so each stakeholder can join and apply it as the new Golden Standard policy “303030”.



**World Youth  
Parliament  
for Water**



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