



Confluence 4 Peace #C4P

Toolkit – 8th Beyond the Youth, 2023



YOUTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Introduction

Youth General Assembly is an autonomous assembly that has been formed in order to provide a credible platform that instigates a true sense of policy & strategy making, equitable administration and non-customary legislative, public speaking and social issues by empowering enthusiasm in youth for being the future ambassadors and democrats. Nurturing critical thinking among young people is at the core of the assembly's activities to broaden their perspectives about understanding true democracy. **Youth General Assembly's activities are true example of grassroots movements contributing to the top-level political changes in the country both in the short term via advocacy and in the long term via training next generation of political leaders and ambassadors. Every year, Youth General Assembly recruits around one thousand ambitious members across Pakistan. Till now, we have 7000 alumni and more than 1000 active members.**

Beyond the Youth (BTY) is a flagship event of the Youth General Assembly. This event helps enable young, future, policy and strategy makers to come forward and showcase their leadership qualities. BTY provides a platform for the youth to present their ideas and policies which could serve to eradicate the socio-economic problems in the country. BTY congregates vibrant youth, visionary politicians, and esteemed experts to discuss and ignite change on impactful topics. **Climate change and peacebuilding have remained the most discussed topics in the country this year and therefore, we plan to introduce a new segment to BTY i.e., "Confluence 4 Peace"**

Confluence 4 Peace, organized as one of the sub-segments of BTY, intends to engage young people in developing peace-building dialogues, roadmaps, bridges, and strategies centered around climate change. Confluence 4 Peace will help in identification of the conciliation benefits, as climate change is already affecting the entire region, with no borders attached.

As future generations have more to lose, therefore we bring together youngsters and adolescents, with an emphasis on the shared cultural characteristics of the South Asian region, to introduce the next generation of change agents that will focus on creating common projects, sharing ideas, and engaging with local governments, and thus, be the seeds of peacebuilding while trying to overcome the challenges associated with climate change.

The purpose of this toolkit is to provide a direction to organize the activities during the BTY and this has been prepared in consultation with young people, who are the engaged members of Youth General Assembly. **The purpose of the toolkit is not telling young people what to think, rather to think critically about the world around them!**

Best,
Youth General Assembly

Organization Principles: Key Aspects of the Toolkit

This toolkit is based on three basic aspects, corresponding to each activity.

1. Conflict is an inherent part of the human condition-how it is related to climate change

Conflict is a natural element of human existence and, as such, an inseparable part of any democratic society. Conflicts are complex and linked to various aspects of our society and environment. The hallmark of a prosperous democratic society lies in its ability to directly confront and manage conflict, skillfully embracing and overseeing differences of opinion and dissent among its populace. This aspect of the toolkit covers the basic understanding of the conflict and how conflicts can be linked to climate change as an issue.

2. Geographies susceptible to the climate induced conflicts and commonalities between them

Climate induced conflicts have the tendency to escalate into violent conflicts specially for the countries engaged in cold conflicts. Therefore, it is important to identify the geographies susceptible to the climate induced conflict around the country (in South Asia). Furthermore, it is important to identify the commonalities between these countries e.g., shared culture, youth bulge, climate related projects. Whether on a personal or an international level, peace is possible when parties in conflict with one another use peacebuilding tools to manage their disagreement. Disagreements can be best managed when we start with focusing on commonalities and building trust.

3. Leveraging the power of commonalities to deal with the climate induced conflicts – talking about the future.

It is important to focus on how young people can be peacebuilders by focusing on the future actions/plans/ideas. It is important to create a linkage between commonalities among the nations in the South Asian region and climate induced conflict management. How can we change the future?

Audience

The toolkit is developed for adolescents and young people between the age of (16-25). The content is easily digestible and prepared in consultation with young people. This toolkit can be easily modified and scaled in different contexts. Young people are at an ideal age to talk about peace and conflicts, specifically from the lens of climate change which is a relatively new topic and not addressed elaboratively in their academic books. Additionally, the impacts of climate change have been witnessed by most of the young people in South Asia and Confluence 4 Peace will give them an opportunity to connect their practical experiences with the long-term peace related consequences aligned to the scientific principles while identifying how they can contribute to deal with these consequences. The toolkit will also provide support to the facilitators for engaging youth effectively in experiential and transformative learning.

Activity -1 – Defining the Climate Induced Conflict

Before youth can start thinking about ways to mitigate or deal with climate induced conflict, they need to understand and define that first. In this activity, participants will define the climate induced conflicts and explore its various interpretations to develop their own understanding of the topic.

Objectives

- To think about and consider logic, interpretations, and definitions of climate induced conflicts as a way of forming one’s own understanding of the topic.
- To the role of climate induced conflict in our lives.

Time - 50 mins

Key Resources (15 mins)

Two to three resource persons will be invited online or in person to give a 5 min (each) brief introduction on the topic.

Or

A short video will be played to give a brief introduction about the topic.

Materials

- Flip charts
- Sticky notes
- Markers
- Worksheets

Process

- Access to key resources will be provided.
- One facilitator will be allocated to each table, who will take the notes and summarize the conversation. Facilitator will be responsible for filling the worksheet for the group & presenting the findings.
- Participants will be grouped & perform the following tasks:
 - Write “climate induced conflict” in the middle of the flip chart and come up with one word defining this kind of conflict and elaborate on the reason for choosing that word.
 - Incorporating all the perspectives from the group, define what is climate induced conflict as a group.
- Discussion will be organized by the facilitators with the following prompts and notes will be taken & recorded:
 - Why do climate induced conflicts occur? Over what?

- What is the difference between conflict and violence?
- Why can climate induced conflicts convert into violent conflicts?
- What are some of the similarities between conflicts at a personal, local, national, and international level?
- What do you think the role of perception is on climate induced conflict? (Stress the importance of perceived differences, and that it can be over relationships, information, interests and expectations, resources, and/or values.)
- What are ways climate induced conflicts can be positive or have good endings?
- How do you feel when you have successfully resolved a conflict?

Worksheet
Define climate induced conflict:
Why does climate induced conflict occur?
What are the key risks associated with the climate induced conflicts? (negatives)
What are the key opportunities associated with the climate induced conflicts? (positives)

Assessment Metrics:

- Definition of climate induced conflict
- Productive discussion during the group work & exchange of perspectives

Activity -2 – Identifying Geographies & Commonalities

Climate induced conflicts are not bound by the borders and therefore, dynamic. To manage climate induced conflicts effectively, it is important to identify geographies around the country which will be affected and the identify commonalties among these geographies to build trust leading to peace. In this exercise, young people will explore geographies susceptible to climate induced conflicts in South Asia and commonalities.

objectives

- To explore the geographies in South Asia which are susceptible to climate induced conflict and identifying the most vulnerable countries.
- To understand the role of relationships in conflict management.
- To understand the role of commonalities and trust in building these relationships.

Time

50 mins

Materials

- Flip charts
- Sticky notes
- Markers
- Worksheets

Process

- One facilitator will be allocated to each table, who will take the notes and summarize the conversation. Facilitator will be responsible for filling the worksheet for the group & presenting the findings.
- Participants will be grouped & perform the following tasks:
 - Draw a map of the country and identify the geographies around the country or within the country which are susceptible to climate induced conflicts.
 - Participants will identify the most vulnerable geographies.
- Discussion will be organized around the following points for vulnerable geographies identified and facilitator will take notes on the worksheet:
 - Issues: What are the sources of conflict (resources/values/needs) and how they are linked to climate change?
 - History: Is there any history of the conflict in the identified geographies?
 - Relationship: What is the status of relationship between the conflicting geographies?

- Style: How are these geographies preparing themselves for climate induced conflicts?
- Commonalities: Are there any commonalities among the conflicting geographies? Can these commonalities be used to build trust and build peace?
- Management: What can the conflicting geographies do to mitigate or manage climate induced conflicts?

Worksheet
Geographies vulnerable to climate-induced conflict – Identifying parties.
ISSUES: Sources of conflict
HISTORY: History of conflict (if any)
RELATIONSHIP: Status of relationship
STYLE: Current style of conflict management/mitigation
COMMONALITIES: commonalities and trust building for peace
MANAGEMENT: Ideas to mitigate climate-induced conflicts

Assessment Metrics:

- Understanding the vulnerability of various geographies to climate induced conflict and underlying causes.
- Exchange of perspectives regarding the history of conflict, commonalities, and conflict management.

Activity -3 – Reshaping the Future!

Young people can be peacebuilders by focusing on the future actions/plans/ideas. It is important to create a linkage between commonalities between the nations in the South Asian region and climate induced conflict management. In this activity, young people will consider how can they change the future and how will they disseminate the knowledge/perspectives they have gained during confluence 4 peace festival.

objectives

- To brainstorm and prepare the recommendations, plans, dissemination strategy based on the lessons learned and the activities conducted.
- To prepare a 5 min presentation/story and proposed recommendations and dissemination strategy – next steps.
- To commit to: disseminating to their local community and presenting the prepared recommendations to the Indian counterparts in the follow-up online call.

Time

30 mins

Materials

- Flip charts
- Sticky notes
- Markers
- Dissemination commitment form

Process

- One facilitator will be allocated to each table, who will take the notes and summarize the conversation. Facilitator will be responsible for presenting the findings and getting the dissemination commitment form filled.
- Participants will be grouped & perform the following tasks:
 - Propose two to three recommendations for the policy makers to manage climate induced conflicts while leveraging the power of commonalities between nations – these recommendations will be shared with policy makers and advising members after BTY.
 - Propose two to three recommendations for the young people to manage climate induced conflicts while leveraging the power of commonalities between nations – these recommendations will be shared with Indian counterparts in the follow up call and with the broader alumni group.

- Every participant will lay out a dissemination strategy (how they plan to disseminate the lessons learned about mitigating climate induced conflicts) and share that with the group.

Assessment Metrics

- Preparing recommendations for policymakers and young counterparts.
- Preparing a dissemination strategy.
- Signing the dissemination charter pledge to disseminate the learnings.