



Mahidol University
Faculty of Environment
and Resource Studies



Top Priority

Rethinking Climate Action: Youth-Led Breakthroughs

Emerging Breakthroughs on Climate Change

Despite the increasing climate crisis, a 2025 UNICEF-Innocenti working paper, ***Emerging Breakthroughs on Climate Change*** presents a compelling and inspiring vision of a society led by youth around the world. The UNICEF Leading Minds Fellows on Climate presented 26 novel concepts in five major areas: **eco-literacy**, **equitable energy transitions**, **climate finance**, **loss and damage**, and **community-centric governance**. These concepts have the potential to transform global climate response initiatives by prioritizing children's rights, justice, and equity (UNICEF, 2025).



Innovations Across Five Critical Areas



Eco-Literacy

1. Despite the rapid growth of green professions, the majority of young people claim they lack the climate knowledge necessary to take an active role in climate solutions. In order to bridge this divide and foster eco-literacy from an early age, UNICEF highlights the importance of peer-based learning, digital storytelling, and thorough climate education in schools.



Equitable Energy Transitions

2. The paper provides financial options and national policies that enable low-income and climate-vulnerable nations to avoid past injustices in the renewable energy transition. It is becoming clear that context-specific and decentralized energy solutions are needed. Energy transitions tailored to each country may provide more targeted and inclusive energy solutions.



Climate Finance

3. The research encounters policies and financial tools that can shift global investments toward making countries more resilient to climate change, debt relief, and settling for loss and damage, especially in developing countries.



Loss and Damage

4. Loss and Damage emphasizes the importance of assisting governments and the public in dealing with the unavoidable consequences of climate change, as well as advocating for improved measurement of non-economic loss and damage, such as cultural heritage and education.



Community-Centric Governance

5. Community-Centric Governance examines the significance of decentralized governance, youth participation, and conferring legal personhood to nature as vital approaches for empowering local communities and promoting equitable environmental stewardship.

REFERENCE

UNICEF Office of Research – Innocenti. (2025). Emerging breakthroughs on climate change: May 2025 working paper. Florence, Italy. Retrieved from <https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/leading-minds-2024-climate-action>