

# **CLIMATE CONCERN TO CLIMATE ACTION:**

THE ROLE OF YOUNG  
SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS  
Country Snapshot of The  
Regional Report Vietnam



Youth Co:Lab's regional report "***Climate Concern to Climate Action: The Role of Young Social Entrepreneurs***" provides an overview of the nexus between young social entrepreneurs and climate action. The study explores the views of young social entrepreneurs in the Asia-Pacific region on climate change and its impact, how they are engaged in providing climate solutions, the challenges they face in advancing climate action and their future support needs. Please refer to the full report for the findings, research methodology, survey questionnaire, and a summary of the research limitations via [\*\*\*this link\*\*\*](#).

This country snapshot presents an analysis of 80 survey responses from Viet Nam. This Country Snapshot is intended to be read alongside the regional report.



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# WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE SURVEY?

## WHERE ARE THE RESPONDENTS BASED?

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Youth Co:Lab's report titled *Climate Concern to Climate Action: The Role of Young Social Entrepreneurs* provides an overview of the nexus between young social entrepreneurs and climate action in the Asia-Pacific region. 1,085 young people from 25 Asia-Pacific countries participated in the study. This country snapshot presents an analysis of survey responses from Viet Nam. All respondents (80) from Viet Nam are actively involved with a business or a non-profit organization that aims to achieve a positive social or environmental impact. In this report, these young people are broadly referred to as social entrepreneurs. While the sample size from Viet Nam is small, it is hoped that this snapshot can provide entry points for further discussion about the role of young people in climate action.

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**Social entrepreneurs**, for the purpose of this research, is defined as **'youth who are entrepreneurs and/or actively involved in a business or a non-profit organization that aims to achieve positive social or environmental impact'**. 

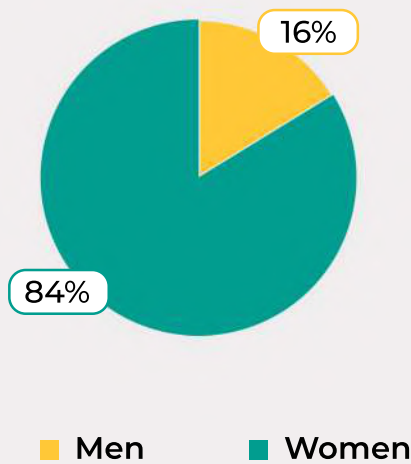
9 percent of survey respondents identified themselves as entrepreneurs. The definition of social entrepreneurship is intentionally left broad to include young people from various types of organizations that are aiming to address social and environmental challenges.

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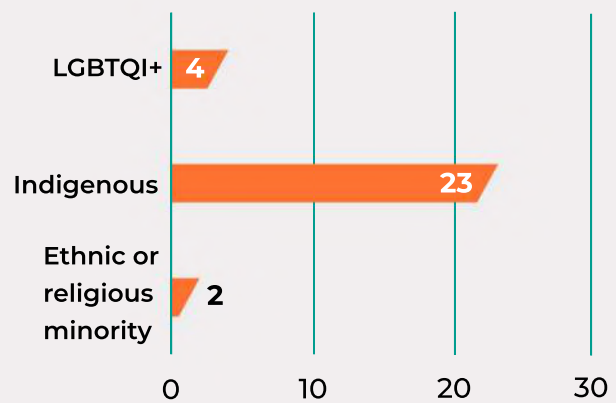
## WHO ARE THE RESPONDENTS?

The number of responses from women (84 percent) were greater than men (16 percent) for the survey. 36 percent<sup>1</sup> of young people identified as being part of one or more of the following minority groups: person with a disability, indigenous, ethnic or religious minority, LGBTQI+, forced migrant or refugee.

**FIGURE 1. Gender of Respondents**



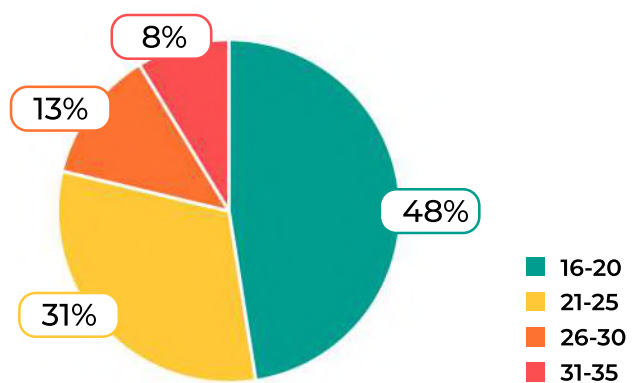
**FIGURE 2. Respondents Who Identify as Being from Minority**



## HOW OLD ARE THE RESPONDENTS?

Overall, 91 percent of the respondents are below 31 years. Almost half of the survey respondents (48 percent) are between 16-20 years.

**FIGURE 3. Age of Respondents**

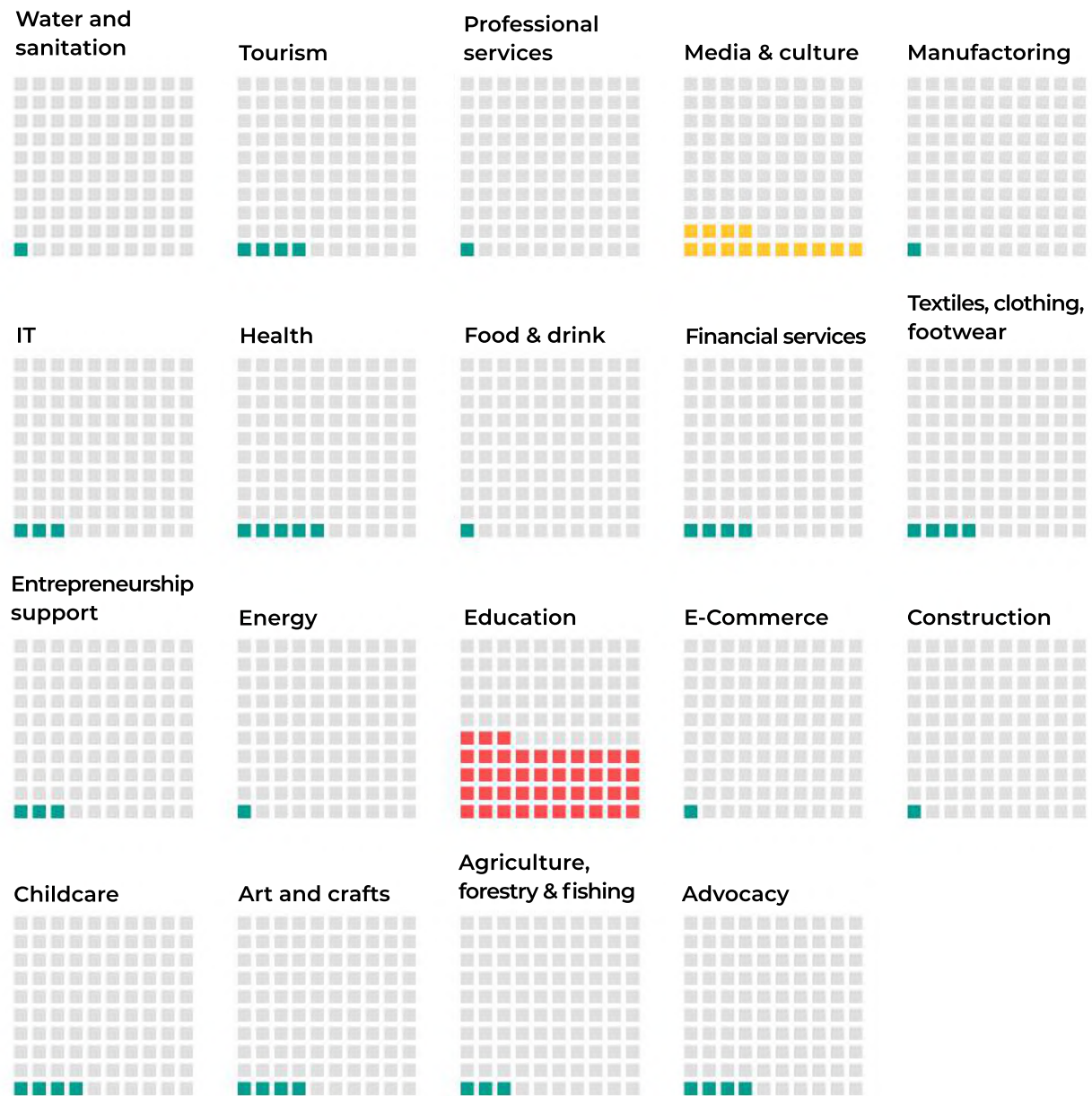


<sup>1</sup> 2 missing responses

# WHAT SECTORS ARE THE RESPONDENTS OPERATING IN?

The survey respondents were active in a diverse range of sectors. The top three sectors were: Education (43 percent), Media and Culture (14 percent), and Health (5 percent).

**FIGURE 4. Sector of Organizations**





# WHAT DO SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS THINK ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

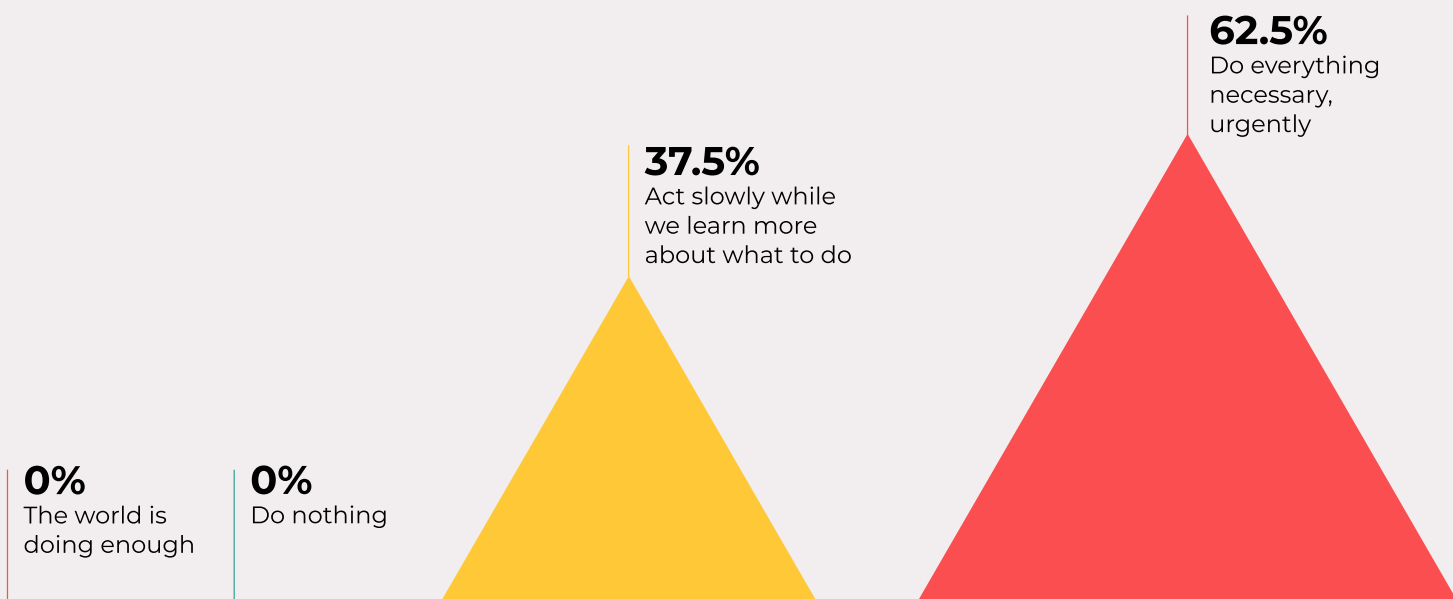
## **CLIMATE CHANGE IS A GLOBAL EMERGENCY**

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Young social entrepreneurs surveyed in Viet Nam believe that climate change is a global emergency (100 percent). 63 percent of survey respondents feel that all necessary action should be urgently taken to tackle climate change. However, 38 percent of young people feel that tackling climate change should be done slowly while learning more about what to do. The results suggest the need for a greater shared awareness and knowledge on the urgency for climate action and approaches for tackling climate change even among those who are already concerned about climate change.

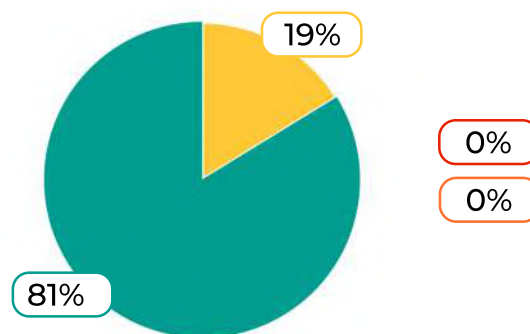
## SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS BELIEVE CLIMATE CHANGE WILL IMPACT THEM NEGATIVELY

**FIGURE 5.** Urgency of Action Among Social Entrepreneurs Who Believe in the Climate Emergency



**81 percent of social entrepreneurs** are very concerned that climate change will negatively impact them personally at some point in their lifetime.

**FIGURE 6.** Level of Concern That Climate Change Will Negatively Impact Respondents Personally



- Somewhat concerned
- Very concerned
- Not too concerned
- Not at all concerned

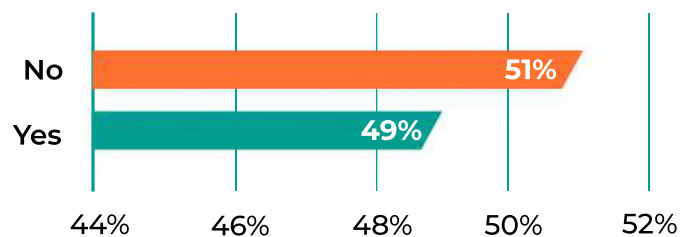


# HOW SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS ARE TAKING CLIMATE ACTION

## CLIMATE CHANGE-RELATED PRODUCTS AND SERVICES



**FIGURE 7.** Respondents Involved with an Organization That Offers a Product or Service to Combat Climate Change

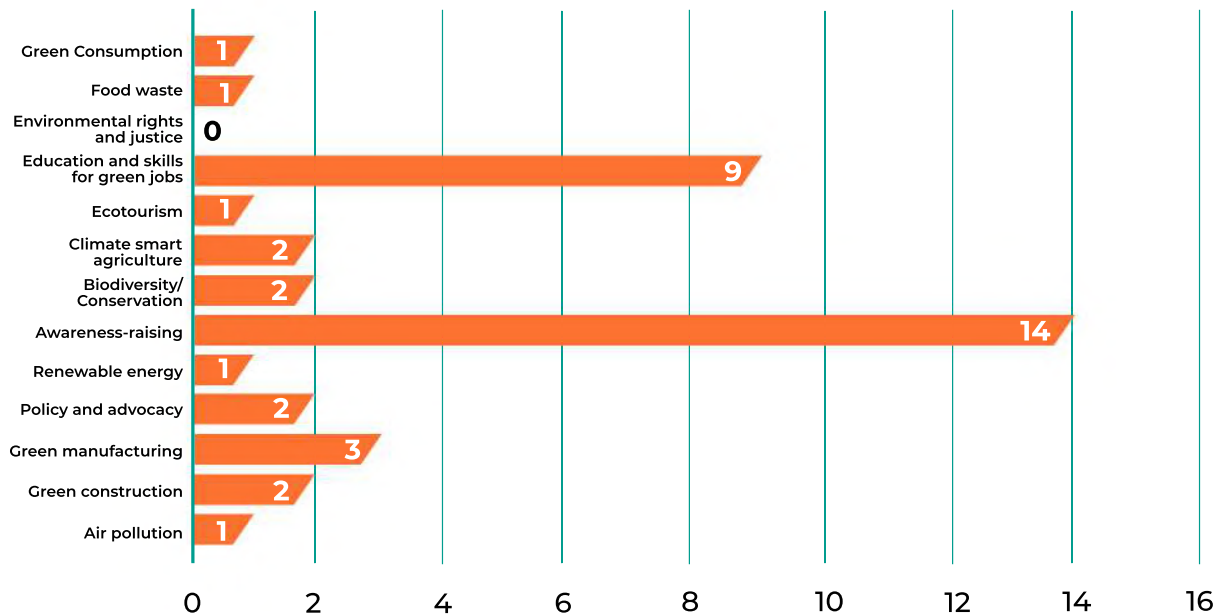


49 percent of young social entrepreneurs are actively engaged in an organization that offers products or services that aim to combat climate change and its impacts.

**SECTION 03: HOW SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS ARE TAKING CLIMATE ACTION**

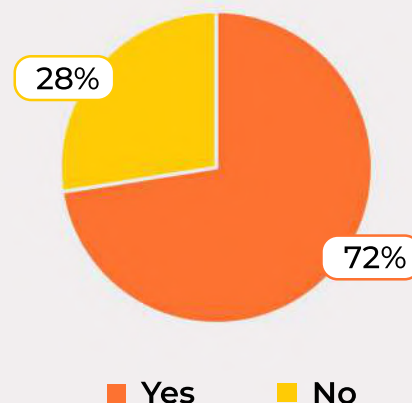
Among those whose organizations provide these products or services, awareness raising is the most common product or service category. This is followed by education and skills for green jobs and green manufacturing.

**FIGURE 8. Respondents Involved with an Organization That Offers a Product or Service to Combat Climate Change by Service or Product Categories**



In addition to shaping climate solutions, **72 percent of social entrepreneurs are involved with organizations that take active steps to minimize the negative environmental impact of their organizations' operations**

**FIGURE 9. Respondents involved with an Organisation That Takes Action to Minimize the Negative Environmental Impacts of Its Operations**



# A SNAPSHOT OF CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

A snapshot of climate solutions by young social entrepreneurs in their local communities are presented in this section. These initiatives range from addressing food waste, to introducing nature-based technology, and raising awareness in communities. They showcase the catalytic role young social entrepreneurs can play in shaping local solutions, scaling up climate initiatives and supporting communities that are most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.



## FUWA

An enterprise in Viet Nam that makes enzymes for cleaning liquids from disposed pineapple peels. All products are designed with the objective of reducing toxicity from industrial homecare products. They distribute their products through the Refill network to minimise the use of plastic containers.



## 2030 Youth Force Việt Nam

A leading youth-organization network that supports in accelerating SDGs implementation in Viet Nam. They aim to connect Vietnamese youth, raise awareness around climate change and social entrepreneurship as well as SDGs among communities. They organize youth empowerment training camps, youth forums, and events to promote social activism.



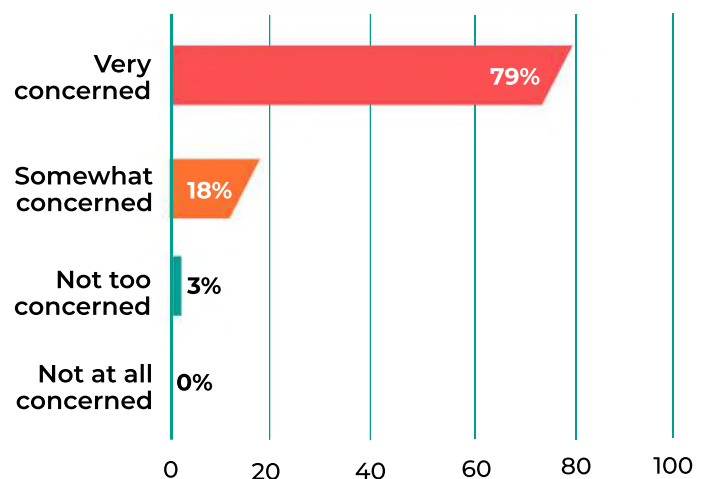


# HOW CLIMATE CHANGE IS IMPACTING SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS

## FUTURE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

98 percent of young social entrepreneurs are very or somewhat concerned about the future impacts of climate change on their organizations.

**FIGURE 10.** Level of Concern About the Future Impacts of Climate Change on the Organization

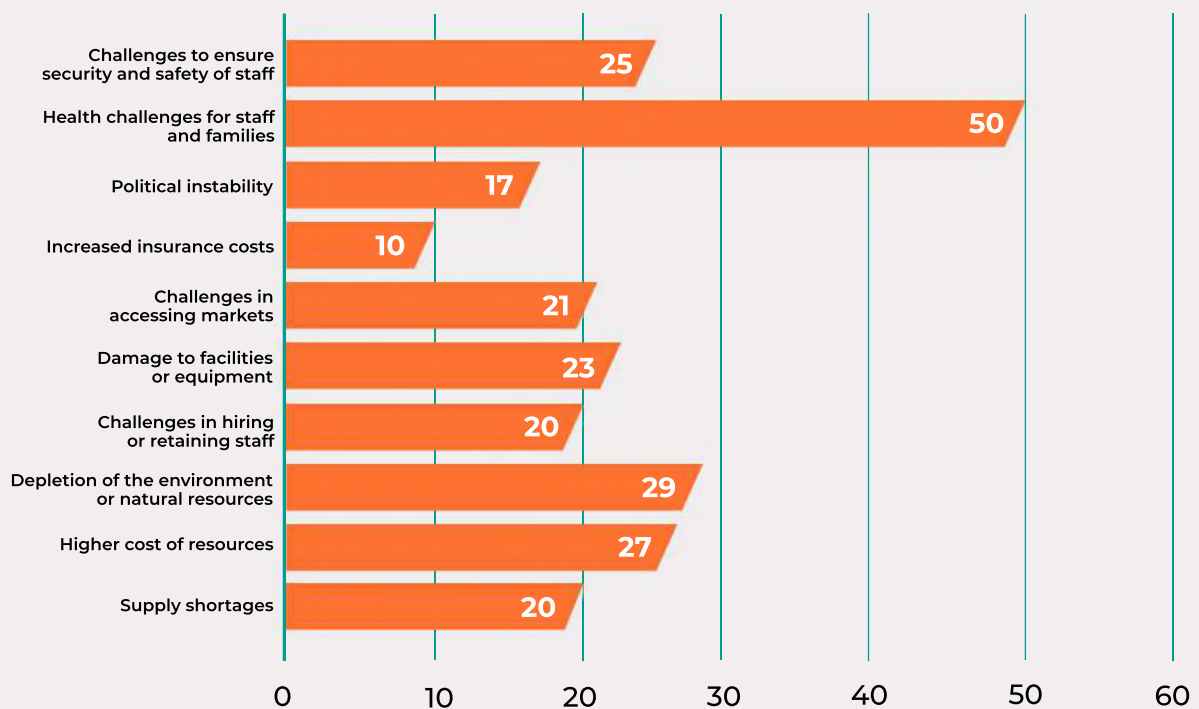


## CHALLENGES CAUSED BY CLIMATE CHANGE EXPECTED TO NEGATIVELY IMPACT ORGANIZATIONS

**90 percent of the young social entrepreneurs** expect some challenges caused by climate change to negatively impact their organizations.

Among respondents (8 missing responses) who expected some challenges caused by climate change to negatively impact their organizations, the most expected challenges are health challenges for staff and family (69 percent), depletion of the environment or natural resources (40 percent), a higher cost of resources (38 percent) and challenges to ensure security and safety for staff (35 percent). The results highlight the expected negative impacts of climate change on the entire organization ranging from the product or service being developed to challenges facing staff.

**FIGURE 11. Challenges Caused by Climate Changes That are Expected to Negatively Impact Organizations**



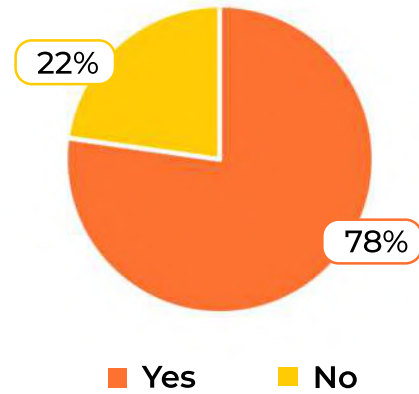
## PREPARING FOR THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

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**78 percent of surveyed young people would like to do more through their organization to combat climate change and its impact.**

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**FIGURE 12.** *Social Entrepreneurs Who Would Like to do More Through Their Organization to Combat Climate Change*



**50 percent of young social entrepreneurs are taking actions to prepare their organizations for the impact of climate change.**

# HOW WE CAN SUPPORT SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS TO ACCELERATE CLIMATE ACTION

## BIGGEST BARRIERS TO ADVANCING CLIMATE ACTION

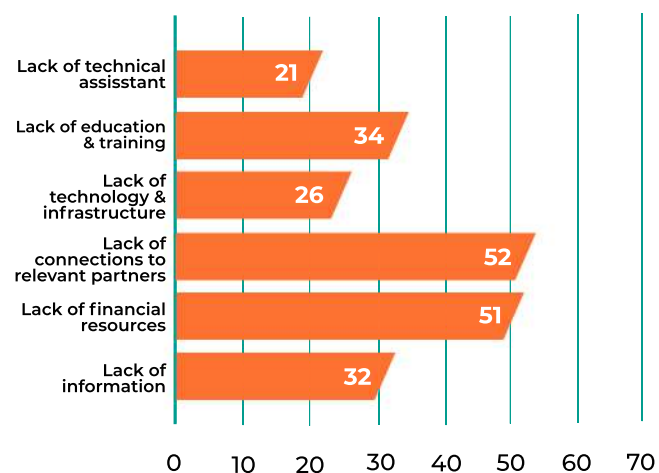


**91 percent of young social entrepreneurs are facing challenges in their efforts to advance climate action.**



<sup>2</sup> 7 missing responses

**FIGURE 13.** *Barriers to Advancing Climate Action through Organizations*



Among those who face challenges in their efforts to advance climate action<sup>2</sup>, the most common obstacles are the lack of connection to relevant partners, the lack of financial resources and the lack of education & training.

## ENTRY POINTS FOR ADVANCING CLIMATE ACTION

The survey aimed to provide context to a less explored topic by trying to understand the catalytic role that the young social entrepreneurs in the Asia-Pacific region play in tackling climate change, and the current challenges they face in amplifying their climate action.

The summarised entry points adopted from and based on the findings of the regional study is aimed at guiding discussions on developing capacity building initiatives, framing in-depth research and creating dialogue between stakeholders on advancing climate action of young social entrepreneurs.

▶ **Facilitating engagement and partnerships** between young social entrepreneurs, government and private sector to take their efforts to scale by providing targeted support to equip them with the skills and knowledge to engage with different networking platforms and forums.

▶ **Enhancing access to different funding resources** including through philanthropy and impact investing by connecting young social entrepreneurs and financial service stakeholders to address the critical barriers they face.

▶ **Supporting skills exchange and capacity building initiatives** to deliver sustainable climate solutions by facilitating knowledge exchanges on best practises, financing options and technologies to accelerate climate action.

▶ **Establishing multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms** to foster collaboration between decision makers and young social entrepreneurs to address challenges impacting the effectiveness of their organisations.

▶ **Generating data and research** to provide up-to-date evidence to engage current and aspiring social entrepreneurs in climate action.

## OUTLOOK

Overall, the research findings show that young people, with their entrepreneurial mindset, are driven and committed to tackle the impact of climate change within their communities. Young social entrepreneurs remain optimistic and are ready to partner with climate actors to strengthen their collective efforts towards tackling climate change and building a resilient future for all.



## I. ABOUT VIET NAM YOUTH4CLIMATE

### 1. Background

Under the Climate Promise program, UNDP Viet Nam launched the Viet Nam Youth4Climate initiative in 2020 in collaboration with the Ministry of Natural Resources & Environment. This initiative builds on UNDP's long experience in mobilizing and working with youth and students in Viet Nam, including the 2030 Youth Force Viet Nam, and in youth social entrepreneurship.

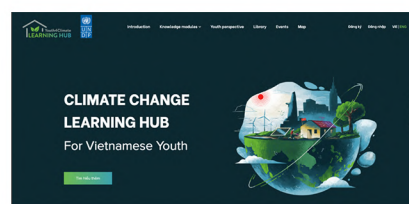
### 2. Objectives

- ▶ Raise environmental and climate awareness of the youth and empower them through building technical capacity.
- ▶ Listen to Youth's voices to capture current bottlenecks and opportunities for them to undertake climate action.
- ▶ Establish regular platforms for dialogues with the Government and policymakers.

## II. KEY RESOURCES

### 1. Climate Learning Hub

The Climate Learning Hub is a centralized hub of resources on climate change, climate science and climate policy for youths and youth entrepreneurs. Designed as a collaborative learning platform, the Hub is easily accessible, interdisciplinary and cross-sector with 05 main categories: (i) Theme-based knowledge modules; (ii) Youth perspective articles; (iii) Library of climate-related resources; (iv) Event calendar; (v) Map of youth climate action projects.



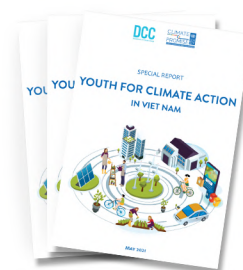
### 2. YNet Viet Nam

The Youth Climate Action Network - YNet Viet Nam was formed from the Special Report Writing Camp organized by UNDP and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, with the mission of building capacity, connecting youth movements and initiatives in the field of environment and climate with nearly 20 member organizations and 100 volunteers nationwide.



### 3. Special Report on Youth for Climate Action in Viet Nam 2021

The Special Report on Youth for Climate Action in Vietnam 2021 outlines the challenges faced by youth in undertaking climate action, such as limited access to technology and finance and a lack of cooperation with stakeholders and highlights the accelerators that hold the promise of unblocking these bottlenecks. It also introduces a concrete action plan towards COP26 to enhance the capacity and contributions of youth.



### 4. Special Report on Youth for Climate Action in Viet Nam 2022

The Special Report on Youth for Climate Action in Vietnam 2022 provides detailed information on the obstacles and challenges faced by Vietnamese youth, as well as the unique climate action roadmap of the young Vietnamese generation for the upcoming period. It contains 04 key themes: (i) youth in climate policy and decision-making processes, (ii) accelerating the transition towards a circular economy, (ii) climate mitigation towards net zero, and (iv) climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.

### 5. Other project activities:

Annual Youth4Climate Action Roadmaps have many other outstanding activities that attract the participation of climate-conscious young people across the country, including Youth Energy TOT (cohort of 10 youth TOTs focusing on the topics of energy access & energy transition), Youth4Climate Policy Working Group (cohort of 20 youth members working on the topics of Just Energy Transition & Climate Change Education), etc.



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