

A.R.C. Challenge Malaysia

Forum

Youth, Climate Change and Cultural Rights

4 February 2021

Report by Carolyn Hong



Contents

Introduction 3

Opening Remarks 4

Presentations: Response to Climate Change in Malaysia and the UK..... 7

Panel Discussion: Youth Voices on a Preferable Future..... 10

A.R.C. Challenge Malaysia Grant Winners 16

Appendix 20

Introduction

The Forum on Youth, Climate Change and Cultural Rights, held as part of the A.R.C. Challenge Malaysia series, brought together young people to share their ideas on building a world that they would like to live in. The discussion sought to deep dive into the impacts of climate change, through the prism of youth, with a particular focus on cultural rights which receive less attention than human rights but are no less important.

The forum is one of the series of activities organised by the British Council Malaysia, in the countdown to the COP26 climate change summit to be held in the United Kingdom.

The 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26), to be held in Glasgow from 1–12 November 2021, will be the largest international climate change summit to be hosted by the UK. It will bring together over 30,000 delegates — including heads of states, climate experts and campaigners — to agree on coordinated actions to tackle climate change.

The A.R.C. Challenge Malaysia aims to encourage dialogue and collaborative projects in the arts, education and science between youths in Malaysia and the UK. It provides a platform for young people from diverse backgrounds and cultures including marginalised communities to engage in exchange of ideas on the impact of climate change on their future.

A.R.C. stands for ‘Awareness, Resilience and Collaboration’.

The project aligns with one of the five priority themes of COP26, ‘Adaptation and resilience’ — helping people, economies and the environment adapt and prepare for the impacts of climate change.

The programme comprises:

- Seed funding grants to kick-start joint UK-Malaysia responses to a shared climate change challenge involving young people aged 18–35
- The Youth, Climate Change and Cultural Rights Forum focusing on climate change and cultural rights specifically from the youth perspective
- A Grants Pitching Session for the seed grant award winners to present their projects to experts, potential funders and collaborators

Opening Remarks

H.E. Charles Hay, British High Commissioner to Malaysia, presented the opening remarks where he spoke about how climate change has already caused destructive and extreme weather events around the world. Noting that their frequency could accelerate in the years ahead, he said the challenges are enormous and multiplying especially for the most vulnerable communities which are now suffering the double impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and climate change.

As countries begin to recover from the pandemic, there is an opportunity to Build Back Better to create a more sustainable economy and lay the foundations for inclusive growth.

The UK has set out a plan to reduce carbon emissions by at least 68% compared to the 1990s level, and several other countries including China, Japan and South Korea have set targets of net zero emissions. The UK has also pledged to protect 30% of its land and marine surface through protected areas, while Malaysia has similarly pledged to maintain at least 50% forest cover as far as back as the Rio Summit in the 1990s. Beyond the preservation of habitat, he said there is an equally urgent need for the rewilding of the planet to protect biodiversity.

“This is not only good for the planet, it is also better economic value,” he said, noting that solar and wind power, for instance, are now not just cleaner but also almost always cheaper than coal or gas-fired power.

The report on the ‘Economic Importance of Biodiversity’ shows the fundamental importance of protecting our natural habitat for our entire economic way of life. Very often, economists consider the environment and the natural habitat as an afterthought in economic planning, but they really need to be thinking about it in a very integrated way.

He emphasised that tackling climate change cannot be solely left to scientists and researchers, or governments and policy makers, or corporate players. As it is increasingly the young who are demanding action, it is imperative that youths be empowered to take action to protect the future of the planet. Whether it’s through education, technology, the arts, science or law, young people are already using their skills and wisdom to speak up for climate action.

“It is very important to encourage the hearing of the voices of youths including by setting up platforms to raise awareness and increase youth participation,” he said.

He said the COP26 summit, to be hosted by the UK in November, will be supported by a build-up of events including a major youth event and a pre-COP summit in September. The A.R.C. Challenge Malaysia is one such initiative organised by the British Council Malaysia in the run-up to COP26. This forum brings together a diverse panel of youth leaders from the arts, science and education from both the UK and Malaysia to think about building a more sustainable future and to explore how youths can make a difference.

Florence Lambert, Head of Arts and Creative Industries of the British Council Malaysia, spoke about the cultural rights dimension of climate change which has often been overlooked while the human rights crisis has been well acknowledged.

The United Nations defines ‘cultural rights’ as pertaining to a broad range of issues such as the expression and creation of art, information and communication, language, identity and belonging to multiple changing communities of shared cultural values, development of specific world visions and the pursuit of specific ways of life, education and training, access, contribution and participation in cultural life, and access to and enjoyment of heritage in all its forms.

Climate change can cause not only physical losses, but also economic, social and cultural losses as entire peoples’ cultural achievements can be wiped out. Climate change is also a threat multiplier as it fuels poverty, political instability and resource conflict in which heritage destruction may take place. Climate displacement threatens cultural diversity including the loss of traditional livelihoods, knowledge and ways of life, and the know-how and techniques needed to respond to such a change.

“All of us will be impacted but the impact will affect people disproportionately,” she said.

Those who had contributed the least to climate change tends to lose the most. The impact will be greater to coastal populations, populations of low-lying island states, indigenous people, rural people, women, people with disabilities, those living in poverty and other marginalised communities.

Climate change can magnify existing gender inequalities between girls and boys and affect the ability of women to participate in cultural life and access educational opportunities. Yet, at the same time, it is women who are the catalysts for climate change activism and play a leading role in driving new ways of life to adapt to the climate crisis.

Indigenous people will also be particularly affected by the impact of climate change because their cultures are so connected to the land and eco-systems. These cultures can be tools for climate change mitigation and other strategies. They are part of the solution to climate change impacts, but they are also at risk of becoming casualties of climate change.

“It is critical that we start listening, respecting and learning from those who have sustained their lands and ways of life for centuries,” she said.

As climate change is the most significant inter-generational equity issue of our time, she said youths must fully participate in shaping climate policy.

Climate change cannot be addressed exclusively through technical, technological or scientific solutions. A holistic approach must include human beliefs, values and behaviour. The role of the cultural sector is as important as science and technology as arts and culture can bridge the gap between science, policy and civic action. They provide a space for collective reflection, debate and action against climate change, and can mobilise activism.

Presentations: Response to Climate Change in Malaysia and the UK

Speakers:

- **Professor Dr Joy Jacqueline Pereira, National University of Malaysia**
- **Alison Tickell, Director of Julie's Bicycle, UK**

Professor Dr Joy Jacqueline Pereira, Principal Research Fellow at SEADPRI-UKM in Malaysia, spoke about the risks of apathy which will allow global warming to rise by 2°C as compared to 1.5°C. Although the difference is tiny, the implication is vast for hundreds of millions across the world. A lower rise would mean less extreme weather, a 10cm lower sea level rise, 10 million fewer people exposed to the risk of rising seas, lower impact on biodiversity and species, smaller reductions in yields of maize, rice and wheat, up to 50% less water shortages globally, and lower risk to fisheries. This means several hundred million fewer people will be exposed to climate-related risk and poverty by 2050.

Tropical Southeast Asia is projected to experience the largest impacts of climate change on economic growth but has a low to medium readiness for extreme rainfall and heat. The rising carbon dioxide and particulate matter levels are also major risk factors for lung cancer but increasing use of renewable energy and better healthcare investment can reduce its prevalence.

Disaster Resilient Cities — a joint UKM-Cambridge project

Responding to the need for better preparation, a joint UKM-Cambridge project, led by Prof Joy (UKM) and Prof Lord Julian C.R. Hunt (Cambridge), has been established for the forecasting of local level climate extremes and physical hazards for Kuala Lumpur. Meteorological parameters are used to create models of geophysical hazards and atmospheric hazards which are disseminated on a multi-hazard forecast platform. This will enable better management of these hazards, capacity building and outreach.

Prof Joy explained that the information will be accessible to communities as well as youths in order to take organic action. On the role of youths, she said they could focus on the post pandemic aspiration to Reset Better or Build Back Better.

Young people can:

- Learn from previous resets during World Wars 1 and 2 where structural changes were centred on human wellbeing and dignity
- Promote just and ethical transformation to limit global warming to 1.5°C
- Build resilience within their communities
- Address risks in the long and short term, including pushing for open access information
- Enhance digital transformation, land-based solutions, ecosystem rehabilitation

She encouraged youths to take ownership of climate change issues — “This is your world, be the driver of your change.”

Alison Tickell, Director of Julie’s Bicycle in the UK, spoke about how the Covid-19 pandemic has accelerated the inevitable ‘great reckoning’ with a deeply broken economic system which is, in turn, breaking the natural systems.

Julie’s Bicycle is a London-based charity founded 13 years ago to help the UK music industry reduce its environmental impact and to develop new thinking on global environmental challenges. Having extended this to the wider creative sector, it works across the cultural sector to help artists make their work more sustainable, particularly since 2012 when the Arts Council of England made environmental reporting a requirement for funding. Its objectives include net zero carbon, restoring nature, inspiring public action and championing climate justice.

Julie’s Bicycle is founded on two basic ideas — that the climate crisis is in fact a cultural crisis, and that solutions cannot be found in the existing system because it is this system that has brought the world to the brink. Alison said there needs to be a change in cultural thinking and policies, and a mobilising and unifying international approach that brings sustainability and justice into the fabric of the arts.

“This is fundamentally about cultural rights. We need to put environmental thinking into the very heart of our work,” she said.

Towards this end, Julie’s Bicycle works across the cultural sector to help artists make their work more sustainable, particularly since 2012 when the Arts Council of England made environmental reporting a requirement for funding. Its objectives include net zero carbon, restoring nature, inspiring public action and championing climate justice.

Alison said the origins of the climate crisis is, in large part, the prevailing attitudes of human supremacy over other cultures and other life forms. This has fuelled the enduring global growth model that has dispossessed millions of people of land, livelihood and culture, and destroyed the natural world. Climate change lies in the very history of human conquest and cultural values that promote happiness through consumption.

“This is why the environmental crisis is fundamentally a cultural crisis,” she said.

What can culture and creativity do for the climate challenge?

Alison said there is now emerging leadership, often led by young people who are purposeful and committed. Seven trends or key areas are evident in the creative climate movement. The first is artwork which is creating new content that is breathing new life in the world, and the second is climate activism which is speaking to power in an organised way. The third is organisational leaderships which have embodied new relationships between nature and arts and culture, and the fourth is in design and innovation where makers are rethinking and redesigning how we exist in the world. The fifth trend is collaboration which is beginning to supersede the old notion of competition, the sixth is pathfinding a new creative ecology around nature, and the seventh is policy changing.

Alison believes that the renewal is gaining momentum, and this can be seen in the idea of countries committing to net zero carbon, something which was once very rare.

“Artists have always activated social change. We have this opportunity to transform a cultural ecology that is no longer fit for purpose into an ecology that is equitable, collaborative, resilient and restorative,” she said.

RESPONSE to CLIMATE CHANGE in MALAYSIA & the UK

COP 26
THERE'S AN OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO BUILD BACK BETTER

TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE is our JOINT RESPONSIBILITY

THIS IS YOUR WORLD, BE THE DRIVER OF YOUR CHANGE

IS ASEAN READY for a 1.5°C WORLD?
LOW-MEDIUM LEVEL of READINESS for EXTREME RAINFALL & HEAT

CLIMATE CHANGE is a CULTURAL CRISIS BUT WE CAN ALSO HELP PREVENT IT!

7 KEY TRENDS:
A CREATIVE CLIMATE MOVEMENT
1. ART WORK
2. ACTIVISM
3. ORGANISATIONAL LEADERSHIP
4. DESIGN & INNOVATION
5. COLLABORATION
6. PATH-FINDING
7. POLICY CHANGING

ROLE of YOUTHS
• LEARN from PREVIOUS RESETS
• PROMOTE JUST & ETHICAL TRANSFORMATION
• BUILD RESILLIENCE from GLOBAL to LOCAL SALES
• ... and MORE!

4 BIG THEMES
• NET ZERO CARBON
• CHAMPIONING CLIMATE JUSTICE
• INSPIRING PUBLIC ACTION
• RESTORING NATURE

WE NEED to START LISTENING & LEARNING from THOSE THAT HAVE SUSTAINED THEIR WAY of LIFE FOR CENTURIES

"CHANGE CULTURE, CULTURE CHANGES the WORLD."

CULTURE & CULTURAL RIGHTS are CASUALTIES in the CLIMATE EMERGENCY, but, are also USEFUL TOOLS to SHAPE a HOLISTIC RESPONSE.

PROFESSOR DR. JOY JACQUELINE PEREIRA

ALISON TICKELL

Panel Discussion: Youth Voices on a Preferable Future

Panellists:

- Toh Zhee Qi, Malaysian Youth Delegation
- Atteleth Don Peris, Reef Check Malaysia
- Eliza Collin, sustainable fashion and material designer
- Wendy Teo, Borneo Laboratory
- Shaq Koyok, artist and advocate for indigenous rights



Toh Zhee Qi, Malaysian Youth Delegation, a law student in the University of Malaya, explained the legal perspective in environmental protection in Malaysia. The Malaysia Youth Delegation is a youth-led environmental non-governmental organisation. Zhee Qi said Malaysia has many good laws on environmental rights but the enforcement has been weak and very little action has been taken against big corporations to hold them accountable for environmental pollution. She said there is a need for improvement in enforcement, something that is owed to the present and future generations.

Shaq Koyok, indigenous artist and advocate for indigenous rights, spoke about the environment and forest being a part of the cultural identity of the indigenous people. He is currently involved in trying to stop development of the Kuala Langat North Forest Reserve located near his village. He works with his community through art workshops to empower them with knowledge of their rights to protect themselves against land encroachment and the loss of their land and identity. Shaq said as youths have a significant role, he also mentors communities in schools to spread awareness of environmental protection.





Eliza Collin, sustainable fashion and material designer, talked about a future where she hopes people will have more awareness of their impact on nature, and are empowered to make better choices. Her work focuses on raising awareness of alternative methods and processes, and systems and materials. One of her recent projects is in collaboration with Wendy Teo, Borneo Laboratory, on the narratives of soil — to look into this untapped material and its applications, and to bring ancient techniques back to the forefront. She has also worked on a project to present a series of conversations on how people perceive the non-human world. Modern

fashion, she said, has been the driving force for many of the issues being faced today, and she believed that it is her duty to carry out her fashion practice with more awareness.

Wendy Teo, Borneo Laboratory, works in the area of change-making projects in local craftsmanship engagement, upcycling waste, creative ecosystem building and destination making. She spoke about her thematic reading club which encourages its 28 members to find ways to learn and explore differently. One of the books which they had analysed is ‘The Uninhabitable Earth’ which suggested that climate change can lead to loss of habitat, virus mutation and pandemics, in turn fuelling climate refugees and pandemic refugees.

Wendy also spoke about ‘The Role of Art’, and their discussion on how the metrics of success in art has been reduced to clicks, likes and shares. This has led them to question if this has prevented art from truly participating or disrupting the societal narrative in a meaningful way, as artistic endeavours can change mass consciousness over the ecological sphere. She said while many believe that the world is facing an ecological, social or political challenge — “but I think the real crisis we have been facing all this while is a moral crisis”. There is a lot to do and undo.





Atteleth Don Peris, Reef Check Malaysia, works in marine conservation. He explained that through their work, they have come to realise that there are communities of local islanders who rely on the resources which they are trying to conserve, and that they cannot deprive the community of their livelihood. Their work now focuses on implementing ways for the local community to be part of the resource management, and to empower them for conservation.

Young people, he said, are generally well exposed, and can have a positive impact. There is a need to dismantle the belief that

they have to be a conservationist, scientist or environmentalist to contribute. That is not true. They can be in marketing, sales or design, and still promote conservation and sustainability.

Responses from the Speakers to the Panel Discussion

Alison Tickell commended the youth panellists for their creative practices and said the underpinning idea of a 'moral compass' is an important one as there is a need to reframe the existing system in a completely different way. It's a cultural crisis that has to be addressed.

Prof Joy agreed with the sentiment that youths need not have a scientific background to contribute to climate change action, and that transformation can come through different ways.

Question & Answer Session

Question (Moderator): We recently had a landmark case in Malaysia on planning governance which was won in court. Are courts an avenue for activism in Malaysia to change the power dynamics? Can the courts be a way to beat Big Money which is shaping the land in detrimental ways?

Toh Zhee Qi responded that this court decision was welcome because the courts had previously taken a conservative approach in which it found that certain decisions of the government cannot be adjudicated in court. This was because the persons who had filed the case did not have a special interest in the matter and was thus considered to be without legal standing. That has been a long-standing hurdle. She noted that as a developing country, Malaysia has many economic considerations, and that while the young want environmental conservation, it did not mean that they want the economy to come to a halt. Instead, they want sustainable development, and an understanding that the environment also has an impact on the economy.

Shaq Koyok said a group of activists has been working to bring the Kuala Langat North case to court as the Selangor state government has not even acknowledged that indigenous people are living in the area. He said the indigenous people have a right to the forest.

Wendy Teo spoke about the indigenous people's struggle for cultural identity in the face of the loss of their environment. She told about a trip to a Penan village in the interior of Sarawak to build a kindergarten to bring education to this community. She, however, soon discovered that there were many things which city people can learn from this community with their vast knowledge of medicinal herbs and other skills. There is now a risk of such knowledge disappearing.

Question (Andy Hickson): Do the panellists think that sustainable development is really sustainable or a way to maintain the status quo? Should we be looking at indigenous models of ecological regeneration championed by indigenous people?

Eliza Collin responded that there is a need to question the understanding of the word 'sustainability', and to have an understanding of all the stakeholders to find the sustainability model that works best in the specific scenario.

Shaq Koyok said many developments including the one being planned for the Kuala Langat North reserve, has been labelled 'sustainable' simply because plants will be imported to replace the forest that will be cleared. That, he said, is greenwashing.

Don Peris explained that the word ‘sustainable’ is often defined using the criteria of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He said it can be misleading if one goal is achieved at the expense of the others, for instance if a forest is cleared to build a resort where locals are employed. The Local Employment goal is met but not the others. He added that sometimes, compromises have to be made at the start. For instance, in his work, they have to start by focusing on the livelihoods of the communities before empowering them for conservation. In a few years in the future, they can focus more on conservation and their ideal outcome. “We have to start somewhere, and take into account cultural, social and economic needs,” he said.

Drummond Masterton (commented via chat): The direction of travel is the starting point, and a moral, social and ethical compass is crucial. The SDGs can be applied in crude ways just like any other guidance tool but it does engage the conversation.

Prof Joy (commented via chat): In addressing climate change, we need a just and equitable transition. These groups need dedicated resources, technology and capacity building, including the plantation and clothing industries. Fundamentally, the workers’ rights have to be protected.

Question via chat (Brenda Parker): Given that we are now in a climate emergency, there is a big responsibility on educational institutions to equip students to deal with this. What are the skills that we should be teaching and revolutionising our curricula with? Is it coding, economics?

Eliza Collin responded that when she was an undergraduate student in fashion, they were not taught awareness of material choices or an understanding of the impact or challenged to look into the production process. Art education needs to change in this way, to get people to really understand their material. For example, painters may be painting works that challenge our perception of climate change but they may not have the awareness of where their paints or canvases come from. “We can’t only be talking about the problem, we have to be embodying it into everything that we do.”

Question via chat (Deivaseeno Dorairaj): What are the approaches taken to address the issue of climate change in the agricultural sector in Malaysia? For example, the burning of rice straw after the harvest of paddy.

Prof Joy (responding via chat): We should innovate to reduce open burning from the agricultural sector as it contributes to air pollution which directly affects our health and wellbeing. It also contributes in a small way to emission reduction.

Question via chat (Yvonne): What are your thoughts on the PM’s initiative to plant 100 million trees? Do you think it will have an impact on your goal towards carbon neutrality?

Comment via chat (Noraini Ruslan): The waste management system (for example, prevention, reduce, recycle, reuse) needs to be emphasised because it does play a crucial role in minimising climate change effects.

Responses by the Speakers to the Q&A session

Alison Tickell commented that it is profoundly important to look into how the younger generation is supported through education. The education system is as broken as the economic system as it is built on a set of values that is unfit for purpose. There is a need to rewrite the curricula for a more accurate view of history, and to celebrate the protectors of the world who are deeply connected to the land.

Prof Joy touched on the SDGs, noting that studies have shown that there are more benefits than trade-offs in taking climate action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

A.R.C. Challenge Malaysia Grant Winners

An open call for applications was made in December 2020 for three seed funding grants of up to £10,000 each to kick-start innovative, joint UK-Malaysia responses to a shared climate change challenge involving young people aged 18–35. Applications were encouraged from the arts and creative industries, education, science and civil society sectors to collaborate and offer innovative and interdisciplinary solutions that create awareness and enhance resilience among youth.

Jazreel Goh, Director of British Council Malaysia, said 25 applications were received for projects that were technical and scientific, as well as artistic and creative. The projects were all innovative and exciting.

She said the British Council believed that these three words — Awareness, Resilience and Collaboration — stand at the heart of the action against climate change, and that youths can be the driving force of change. The British Council will continue to bring awareness around climate change issues, increase young people’s access to dialogue, and help global leaders and policy makers to understand the needs and concerns of young people. She also highlighted a British Council scholarship programme aimed at female STEM graduates in Southeast Asia to study a Master’s degree in the UK, with energy and climate change as one of the eligible areas.

Below are the three winners of the seed funding grant who will also have the opportunity to pitch their projects during the A.R.C. Challenge Malaysia Grant Pitching Session on 25 March 2021 to potential funders, policy makers, research, academic and youth organisations.

RIPPLE Responsible Innovation Plastics Project for Life & Environment



Biji-biji Initiative (MY) &
Falmouth University
(England, UK)

Weaving Hopes for the Future



Klima Action Malaysia
(MY) & Students for
Global Health (UK)

VISION - Virtual Impact Story Telling in our Network



neOOne Associates (MY)
& SEA International CIC
(Scotland, UK)

RIPPLE – Responsible Innovation Plastics Project for Life and Environment

Lead: Biji-Biji Initiative (Malaysia)

Partner: Falmouth University (UK)

A joint project between Biji-Biji Initiative (Malaysia) and School of Architecture, Design and Interiors of Falmouth University (UK).

The project aims to identify meaningful design opportunities to escalate the value of plastic waste through product innovation, behavioural shifts and novel manufacture.

The volume of plastic waste is rising globally but the ability to reuse the material is affected by the volatile market value and regional differences in recycling technologies. This has often led to the burning or illegal disposal of plastics, resulting in pollution, damage to ecosystem and human health. The idea that plastic values are low and complicated to recycle should be reimaged through innovation and the creation of new values through waste.

Students from Falmouth University, aged 19–30, will work in collaborative teams to innovate new products and communication opportunities, leveraging on the existing waste processing and material strategies utilised by Biji-Biji Initiative.

The expected outputs are a range of product innovation that utilise the upcycling of plastic waste, training and communication material documenting how to design products for the circular economy from waste, knowledge and skills transfer through design hackathons, and skills transfer workshops by Biji-Biji Initiative for Malaysian marginalised communities.

Weaving Hopes for the Future

Lead: Klima Action Malaysia (Malaysia)

Partners: Gerimis Art Project (Malaysia) and Students for Global Health (UK)

A joint project between Klima Action Malaysia, Gerimis Art Project (Malaysia) and Students for Global Health (UK).

This project is rooted in four principles: education, activism, empowerment and creative art. Selected Orang Asli youths will participate in a mentorship programme that will culminate in the commissioning of an art installation and creative outputs for exhibition to the Malaysian public and at COP26 in Glasgow.

The Orang Asli are some of the most vulnerable to climate impacts as they live and depend on the Malaysian rainforest. Orang Asli youths, aged 18–35, will participate in a mentoring programme on climate activism, culminating in an art installation comprising a weaving artwork that combines the patterns of traditional craft with the deforestation patterns.

The project will take a mentorship approach with eight Orang Asli youths, aged 18–35, from two villages, selected as participants.

The expected outputs are an art installation comprising a weaving artwork that combines the symmetrical patterns of traditional craft with the deforestation patterns. The installation will be set up at the COP26 summit in Glasgow. A series of other creative works encapsulating the voices of Orang Asli youths will be presented via social media.

VISION – Virtual Impact Storytelling in our Network

Lead: neOOne Associates (Malaysia)

Partner: SEA International CIC (UK)

A joint project between neOOne Associates (Malaysia) and SEA International CIC (UK).

The project aims to facilitate the sharing of methodologies between Scotland and Malaysia in storytelling, visioning and digital recording, as a powerful means of communicating change.

Storytelling, a traditional activity in both cultures, can communicate new approaches for tackling environmental issues. Participants from creative and natural science backgrounds will come together to share perspectives and ideas. The sharing of tools will be a key element — it's not just about people from different disciplines working together but also becoming skilled in using each other's tools. Without cultural interactions, our innovation and ideation will be too limited to achieve change.

The project will involve groups of 12–15 young people each from Scotland and Malaysia, ranging from academicians, environmental and community activists, social entrepreneurs as well as non-governmental bodies. The participants will be guided to stand as their future selves, create and tell the story of their unique vision, and then work with others to plan for its realisation and action.

The expected output will be six to eight ARC projects related to climate change initiatives, and a Virtual Global Impact Festival to showcase the climate change projects. The proposed festival will leverage on digital social media platforms and online channels to create mass awareness and reach the public beyond the participants.

RESPONSE to CLIMATE CHANGE in MALAYSIA & the UK



COP 26

THERE'S AN OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO BUILD BACK BETTER



TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE is our **JOINT RESPONSIBILITY**

IS ASEAN READY for a **1.5°C** WORLD?

LOW-MEDIUM LEVEL of READINESS for EXTREME RAINFALL & HEAT



THIS is YOUR WORLD, BE THE DRIVER OF YOUR CHANGE

ROLE of YOUTHS

- LEARN from PREVIOUS RESETS
- PROMOTE JUST & ETHICAL TRANSFORMATION
- BUILD RESILIENCE from GLOBAL to LOCAL SALES
- ...and MORE!



CLIMATE CHANGE is a CULTURAL CRISIS BUT WE CAN ALSO HELP PREVENT IT!

7 KEY TRENDS: A CREATIVE CLIMATE MOVEMENT

1. ART WORK
2. ACTIVISM
3. ORGANISATIONAL LEADERSHIP
4. DESIGN & INNOVATION
5. COLLABORATION
6. PATH-FINDING
7. POLICY CHANGING

4 BIG THEMES

- NET ZERO CARBON
- CHAMPIONING CLIMATE JUSTICE
- INSPIRING PUBLIC ACTION
- RESTORING NATURE



WE NEED to START LISTENING & LEARNING from THOSE THAT HAVE SUSTAINED THEIR WAY of LIFE FOR CENTURIES

"CHANGE CULTURE, CULTURE CHANGES the WORLD."



CULTURE & CULTURAL RIGHTS are CASUALTIES in the CLIMATE EMERGENCY, but, are also USEFUL TOOLS to SHAPE a HOLISTIC RESPONSE.



MODERATOR SHARAAD KUTIAN



ALISON TICKELL



PROFESSOR DR. JOY JACQUELINE PEREIRA

YOUTH VOICES on a PREFERABLE FUTURE



PRESERVATION of the ENVIRONMENT & CULTURAL IDENTITY is INTERTWINED

EVERYONE has a ROLE to PLAY! NO MATTER HOW SMALL, it HELPS.

THE FOREST DOESN'T CHOOSE ITS INHABITANTS



THE PEAT FOREST is LIKE a SPONGE for CARBON WE RELEASE in the ATMOSPHERE

SDGs ARE A GOOD FRAMEWORK, BUT FURTHER SCRUTINY ON THEIR IMPLEMENTATION IS NECESSARY AS THEY CAN BE MANIPULATED BY UNSCRUPULOUS PARTIES

EMPOWER STUDENTS to HELP THEM MAKE THOSE CONNECTIONS

NEED MORE EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE URBAN & SUBURBAN AREAS



TOM ZHEE QI



ATTELETH DON PERIS



ELIZA COLLIN



WENDY TEO



SHAQ KOYOK