



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



National Youth Day India 2026

(163rd Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda)

ICERT-UN Youth Symposium: Youth's Voices for Global Sustainability

International Council for Education, Research and Training

(ICERT) Pennsylvania, USA & India

ICERT-Sophia: Education & Learning Advancement Division, International Council for Education, Research and Training (ICERT), is organising ICERT-UN Youth Symposium: Youth's Voices for Global Sustainability on Jan 12, 2026, on the occasion of National Youth Day India 2026.

Objective: To amplify youth's voices and empower educators to co-create sustainable futures through innovation, compassion, and action-driven learning.

Sub-Themes (Suggestive only - any relevant idea is welcome!)

- Sustainable Schools & Green Campuses
- Technology for Good: Innovation & Accessibility
- Health, Wellness & Peace in School Life
- SDGs in Action: Local Impact Stories
- Equity & Inclusion in Education
- Community Engagement for Sustainability
- Creative Solutions for Climate Change or Waste Reduction
- Fostering Digital Literacy or Global Citizenship

Categories of Participation

Students

Youth Pioneers: Class 6 to 8

NextGen Leaders: Class 9 to 12

Teachers

Plenary Session for Teachers: Action research or innovations for children's development

Participation: Free for all teachers, students, and schools

Presentation Format

- Mandatory: PowerPoint or digital poster (PDF, Canva, etc.)
- No Oral Presentations (without digital support) Allowed
- Realistic, practical, and innovative ideas especially encouraged

"Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam International Excellence Award"

ICERT Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam International Excellence Award recognize prominent personalities/ educators for their valuable contribution toward child empowerment, child welfare, education, health, achieving social inclusivity, and eliminating the equity barriers.

Register for Presentation and Award: <https://forms.gle/wDjtKJa4azk6vyL39>

Register for Participation: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/NeS64ZozRXa_s58sZwcUiw

"Empowering Youth's Voices and Elevating Teacher Leadership, For a More Sustainable World"



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Teacher Plenary Session

1.5-hour session for selected teacher presentations

Focus on classroom innovations, action research, or sustained initiatives

Teachers present through digital posters or PowerPoint (8–10 min each), with Q&A

Participation Guidelines

- Each School may register:**
- One student per student category (max: 1 Youth Pioneer + 1 NextGen Leader) for presentation
- One teacher for teacher presentation
- Unlimited students and teachers for general (non-presenting) participation
- Presentation Duration:** 8–10 minutes per presenter
- Registration Deadline for Presenters:** Jan 05, 2026
- Participation Registration (non-presenting):** Open through Jan 12, 2026
- Jury decision is final.**

Awards & Certificates

- ICERT-UN Young Changemaker Certificate: Awarded to best ideas & presentations in each category (Five awards in each category)
- ICERT-UN Voice of Excellence: For best practices, ideas & presentation based on rubrics. (Five awards in each category)
- All participants (students, teachers) receive certificate of participation
- All presenters receive certificate of presentation
- All recognition is digital and free

Key Notes

Each presenter must use a digital presentation (PPT, poster, or similar).

All presenters are required to have their cameras on during their presentation.

Ideas should be feasible, action-oriented, or demonstrate creative problem-solving for sustainable development

School coordinators should ensure only one student per student category and one teacher are formally nominated for presentations (others may join as audience)

Expected Outcomes

Strengthen youth leadership in sustainability education.

Foster collaboration among schools for SDG-based projects.

Recognize and showcase child-led innovations with real-world relevance.

Contact & Helpline

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Evaluation Criteria

For Student Presenters (Youth Pioneers & NextGen Leaders)

Criterion	Description	Points
Creativity & Originality	Unique, imaginative idea or solution	20
Relevance to Sustainability/SDGs	Clear link to global sustainability or school/community impact	20
Practicality & Feasibility	Realistic, implementable, and actionable ideas	20
Clarity of Digital Presentation	Well-organized, visually clear poster/PPT, and understandable flow	15
Engagement & Delivery	Enthusiastic, confident, and effective explanation and Q&A	15
Overall Impact	Visual appeal, persuasiveness, and relevance	10
Total		100

For Teacher Action Research Presenters

Criterion	Description	Points
Innovation & Action Research	Focus on new, data-driven or impactful classroom efforts	25
Relevance to Child Betterment	Clear link to improved student learning or well-being	25
Applicability & Transferability	Ideas adaptable by other teachers/schools	20
Clarity of Digital Presentation	Visually effective, concise, and engaging	15
Reflection & Questions	Ability to respond thoughtfully and reflect on practice	15
Total		100

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