



**GLOBAL  
RIGHTS  
ALERT**

## THE **energy** 2024 TRANSITION FESTIVAL

"Young People driving the Energy Transition in Africa"

# CALL FOR ESSAYS ON ENERGY TRANSITION

### BACKGROUND:

The seventh of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals is addressed to universal access to clean, affordable and sustainable energy.

This comes on the back of rising global CO2 emissions and the nascent threat of a global climate change. As a response, there efforts to mitigate the effects of greenhouse gases (GHG) by transiting to cleaner forms of energy.

The energy transition seeks to decarbonise all sectors and most especially the energy sector from which 73% of GHG emanate.

All these efforts are aimed at achieving climate justice. Climate justice means "the maximised inclusion, meaningful participation and equality Discourse on climate change ought to involve everybody".

This means that the most vulnerable are treated as stakeholders and not onlookers. At the global level, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change recognises the vulnerability of young people and has extended constituency status to allow them shape global discourse on climate change.

Uganda discovered commercially viable deposits of oil in 2006 and has since made efforts to extract its fossil fuels.

Despite raising concerns of the potential for a backtracking as a result of oil development projects, the government of Uganda has articulated a dual approach of using its oil and mineral revenue to help realise the energy transition while also meeting her climate change targets transition.

The country's Nuclear Energy Act for instance represents the highest form of ambition towards moving away from fossil fuels to cleaner forms of energy. While these efforts are commendable, young people have not been actively involved in the formulation and shaping of the various laws and policies on the energy transition.

This presents an urgent requirement for extensive programs that target youth since they have to deal with the effects of climate change in the near future, but also present an opportunity to shape the transition agenda and harness its attendant opportunities.

Research shows that the involvement of young people in the development of these policies is critical in strengthening their ability to adapt to the effects of climate change. Ultimately, this has the potential bearing of shaping future climate action. It is against this background that GRA seeks essays from young people between 18 and 30 years on how young people can drive the energy transition.



### Our Interest:

Global Rights Alert's Climate Justice Programme aims to address the climate challenge by promoting inclusion, equity, and resilience in the face of a rapidly changing environment. We understand that energy transition is part of climate justice. It is crucial for communities, particularly young people to have access to the latest technologies that promote environmental and climate stewardship for building resilience and sustainability, as well as harness the tools and opportunities that energy transition promises.

Our programme aims to bridge the technological divide by ensuring the equitable dissemination of climate-smart technologies. This involves providing training and support to communities, fostering innovation, and making sure that the technological solutions are culturally sensitive and tailored to meet the specific needs of each community.

Theme: Young People driving the Energy Transition in Africa

Eligibility: Open to all young people between 18 and 30 years of age. Young women are particularly encouraged to submit essays.

### Submission:

Interested candidates should submit essays ranging from 1500-2000 words on the theme by 10th May 2024. All entries should use Garamond, Font Size 12, with 1.5 spacing. All entries shall be in English and should be submitted to [innovation@globalrightsalert.org](mailto:innovation@globalrightsalert.org). Entries shall be in PDF format and saved as [Name of the Candidate] [Age] [ETFE] for example Miria Owor Doe 26 ETFE.

### Judging Criteria:

Submissions will be graded by an independent panel of adjudicators according to the following criteria:

- Relevance to the theme
- Originality and creativity
- Clarity and organization of ideas
- Quality of writing
- Evidence and support for claims raised

### Plagiarism:

GRA maintains a zero tolerance policy to plagiarism. Entries that present other people's intellectual inputs as original shall be disqualified from the competition.

### Prizes and Recognition:

The top 3 entries will be formally recognised at the Energy Transition Festival and shall receive rewards and prizes that shall be announced in due course