



LUSAKA OAKTREE SCHOOL MODEL UNITED NATIONS  
**LOTSMUN 2026**

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*Architects of Accountability • Redefining Power, Peace and Progress*

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**STUDY GUIDE**

Youth Climate Assembly

**Topic: Youth-led Local Action: Building Renewable Energy Grids and  
Waste-to-Resource Programmes**

## Message from the Secretary General

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Dear Delegates,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to LOTSMUN 2026.

This year, under the theme “Architects of Accountability: Redefining Power, Peace and Progress,” we invite you to consider not only how decisions are made but who is responsible for them, who is affected by them and how meaningful change can be achieved.

Model United Nations is more than an exercise in public speaking. It is an opportunity to understand complex international problems, challenge assumptions, negotiate with people who may disagree with you and transform competing ideas into meaningful solutions.

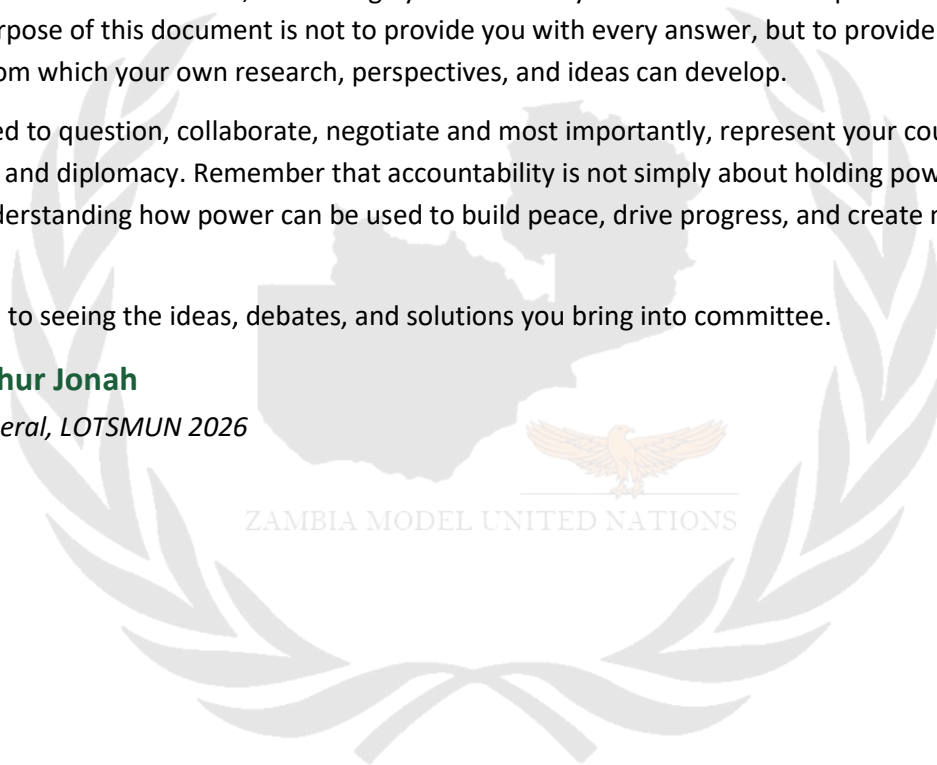
As you prepare for this committee, I encourage you to look beyond the information presented in this study guide. The purpose of this document is not to provide you with every answer, but to provide you with the foundation from which your own research, perspectives, and ideas can develop.

Come prepared to question, collaborate, negotiate and most importantly, represent your country’s position with accuracy and diplomacy. Remember that accountability is not simply about holding power responsible; it is about understanding how power can be used to build peace, drive progress, and create meaningful change.

I look forward to seeing the ideas, debates, and solutions you bring into committee.

**Malenji Arthur Jonah**

*Secretary General, LOTSMUN 2026*



ZAMBIA MODEL UNITED NATIONS

# 1. The Youth Climate Assembly

## 1.1 What is a climate assembly?

A climate assembly is a meeting where people come together to discuss climate change, learn from experts and agree on recommendations for leaders. A **youth** climate assembly does this with young people at the centre. These assemblies are real, and they are growing. Here are four examples:

| Assembly                                     | What happened                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Africa Youth Climate Assembly (2023)</b>  | Held on 1–3 September 2023, just before the first Africa Climate Summit. Young delegates from across Africa adopted a Youth Declaration, which included a call for a Youth Division within the African Union Commission. <sup>1</sup>      |
| <b>Youth Climate Assembly, Canada (2025)</b> | 33 young Canadians aged 18–25, chosen by lottery from more than 700 applicants, met for five days in Ottawa. Their proposals included speeding up the clean energy transition by improving the grid that links the provinces. <sup>2</sup> |
| <b>Ida-Viru, Estonia (2021)</b>              | Young people in a region facing a shift away from oil shale gave recommendations that could feed into official plans for the regional transition. <sup>3</sup>                                                                             |
| <b>Seattle, USA (2025)</b>                   | Young people helped the city shape its next climate action plan. Their ideas were sent to the city as feedback for the 2026 Climate Action Plan. <sup>4</sup>                                                                              |

What do they have in common? Young people meet, hear from experts, and produce recommendations that decision-makers can use. Your committee will do the same, as a simulation.

## 1.2 What can this assembly do?

A climate assembly does not make laws. Its power is to **recommend**, to **set priorities** and to **put young people's ideas in front of decision-makers**. In this committee, your work will end in a resolution, a set of recommendations and commitments that delegates vote on. Your chairs will confirm the exact format. A good resolution can:

- call on governments, cities and schools to act;
- ask organisations such as the UN, development banks and youth networks for support;
- propose local programmes that young people can lead;
- set up ways to check progress, such as reports and review dates.

<sup>1</sup> Youth4Nature. Africa Climate Summit and the Africa Youth Climate Assembly: Streamlining Africa's priorities for climate action. <https://www.youth4nature.org/blog/acs-and-ayca-2023>

<sup>2</sup> The Cool Down. Young people huddle with political leaders to solve major global crisis (Youth Climate Assembly, Ottawa). <https://www.thecooldown.com/outdoors/youth-climate-assembly-canada-sustainable/>

<sup>3</sup> Climate Investment Funds. A Youth Climate Assembly in Ida-Viru, Estonia (Just Transition Toolbox). <https://cif.org/just-transition-toolbox/example/youth-climate-assembly-ida-viru-estonia>

<sup>4</sup> City of Seattle, Front Porch. A Look at the Youth Climate Assembly with Seattle Youth Commissioner Lila Fu, 29 August 2025. <https://frontporch.seattle.gov/2025/08/29/a-look-at-the-youth-climate-assembly-with-seattle-youth-commissioner-lila-fu/>

## 2. Introduction to the Topic

Climate change is a global problem, but many of the answers are local. This topic looks at two of them.

**Renewable energy grids** are the networks that bring clean electricity, such as solar power, to homes, schools and clinics. **Waste-to-resource programmes** turn rubbish into something useful, such as recycled materials, compost or biogas. Both work best when they are **local**, built and run by the community, and both can be **youth-led**, planned and run by young people.

The two halves of this topic are linked. Look at how waste and power meet:



This is a simplified picture. Waste is only one of many sources of the emissions that drive climate change, and no single country's waste causes its own droughts. But it shows why energy and waste belong together in one topic.

### 2.1 The scale of the problem

Two gaps sit behind this topic. The first is an **energy gap**. In 2024, about 655 million people in the world had no electricity, and more than 560 million of them lived in sub-Saharan Africa. About 447 million of those were in rural areas, where connecting to the main grid is expensive.<sup>5</sup> The second is a **waste gap**. The world produced about 2.1 billion tonnes of municipal solid waste (household and similar waste) in 2023, and this is expected to reach 3.8 billion tonnes by 2050. In 2020, 38% of it was uncontrolled, meaning it was dumped or openly burned.<sup>6,7</sup>

|                                                                      |                                                                                  |                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>655 million</b><br>people in the world had no electricity in 2024 | <b>38%</b><br>of the world's municipal waste was dumped or openly burned in 2020 | <b>About 20%</b><br>of human-caused methane comes from landfills and wastewater |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Waste and climate are closely connected. Rotting food and other organic waste release methane, a powerful greenhouse gas. UNEP and the Climate and Clean Air Coalition found that landfills and wastewater make up about 20% of human-caused methane emissions.<sup>8</sup> Experts rank the ways of dealing

<sup>5</sup> International Energy Agency (IEA). 655 million people still living without electricity underscore urgent need to deliver on universal energy access target (Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress Report). <https://www.iea.org/news/655-million-people-still-living-without-electricity-underscore-urgent-need-to-deliver-on-universal-energy-access-target>

<sup>6</sup> United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Global Waste Management Outlook 2024: Beyond an age of waste, turning rubbish into a resource. <https://www.unep.org/resources/global-waste-management-outlook-2024>

<sup>7</sup> C40 Knowledge Hub. Global waste management outlook (summary of UNEP's Global Waste Management Outlook 2024). [https://www.c40knowledgehub.org/s/article/Global-waste-management-outlook?language=en\\_US](https://www.c40knowledgehub.org/s/article/Global-waste-management-outlook?language=en_US)

<sup>8</sup> UNEP and Climate and Clean Air Coalition. Global Assessment: Urgent steps must be taken to reduce methane emissions this decade (press release, 6 May 2021). <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/global-assessment-urgent-steps-must-be-taken-reduce-methane>

with waste in a **waste hierarchy**: prevent waste first, then re-use, recycle, recover energy, and only last of all send waste to a landfill.<sup>9</sup>

The clean energy picture is mixed. The world added a record of about 690 GW of renewable power in 2025, but to meet the goal set at COP28 of tripling renewable capacity by 2030, additions must average about 1,200 GW a year. IRENA also warned that grids have not kept pace with new clean power.<sup>10</sup> Africa added only 11.3 GW, about 1.6% of the world's new renewable capacity in 2025.<sup>11</sup>

## 2.2 Why local, and why youth?

**Why local?** Main grids are costly to extend to scattered villages. The IEA says that reaching everyone needs a mix of grid extension, mini-grids and stand-alone systems.<sup>12</sup> Waste is also produced in every neighbourhood, so collecting, sorting and reusing it close to home can turn a problem into an opportunity.

**Why youth?** Young people will live with the effects of climate change the longest, and they bring energy and new ideas. The African Development Bank says Africa's renewable energy resources could generate up to 100 million new and improved jobs by 2050, if they are paired with finance, training and support for young entrepreneurs.<sup>13</sup> But finance is a barrier. Less than USD 2.5 billion a year is being directed to electricity access in sub-Saharan Africa, and private finance was only about a quarter of that in 2023.<sup>14</sup>

## 2.3 What does “youth-led local action” mean?

**Youth-led local action** means young people spot a problem in their own community, design a solution and run it, often with support from schools, local governments, businesses and organisations. “Youth-led” means young people make the decisions, not only take part. Examples include a school solar club, a compost programme run by students, a youth cooperative that runs a village mini-grid, or a company that turns plastic waste into building blocks (see Section 4).

### Theme link: Architects of Accountability

Architects design structures that are meant to last. In this committee, you are the architects of programmes that communities can trust. **Who owns** the mini-grid? **Who pays** for repairs? **Who checks** that money is spent honestly? How can a community hold a project, a company or a government to account if the lights go out or the rubbish is not collected? A strong resolution answers “who is responsible?”, not only “what should we build?”

<sup>9</sup> Global Methane Pledge. Waste pathway (annual report), on the waste hierarchy. <https://www.globalmethanepledge.org/annual-report/waste-pathway>

<sup>10</sup> IRENA, COP31 Presidency Türkiye and Global Renewables Alliance. Delivering on the UAE Consensus (2026), as reported in Utilities Middle East: Record renewables additions still fall short of 2030 tripling pace. <https://www.utilities-me.com/news/irena-urges-renewables-surge>

<sup>11</sup> Saur Energy International. Global Renewable Capacity Hits 5,149 GW in 2025, China Leads Surge: IRENA. <https://www.saurenergy.com/solar-energy-news/global-renewable-capacity-hits-5149-gw-in-2025-china-leads-surge-irena-11445028>

<sup>12</sup> IEA. Financing electricity access in Africa: State of play. <https://www.iea.org/reports/financing-electricity-access-in-africa/state-of-play>

<sup>13</sup> African Development Bank. Unlocking energy, jobs and opportunity for Africa's growing young population. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/unlocking-energy-jobs-and-opportunity-africas-growing-young-population-84671>

<sup>14</sup> IEA. Financing electricity access in Africa: State of play... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

### 3. Key Definitions

These definitions are written in plain language and adapted from the UN, IRENA, IEA and UNEP sources listed in the bibliography. Learn them, because you will use them in speeches and clauses.

| Term                                 | Meaning                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Youth</b>                         | A young person. There is no single definition: the UN uses ages 15–24 for statistics, and the African Youth Charter uses 15–35. <sup>15,16</sup>                                                                                                     |
| <b>Youth-led</b>                     | Led by young people, who make the main decisions, rather than being only asked for their opinion.                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Local action</b>                  | Action taken in a community, town or city, by the people who live there, to solve a local problem.                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Renewable energy</b>              | Energy from sources that do not run out, such as sunlight (solar), wind, flowing water (hydropower) and heat from the Earth (geothermal).                                                                                                            |
| <b>Solar photovoltaic (solar PV)</b> | Panels that turn sunlight directly into electricity. Solar PV made up about three-quarters of the world's new renewable capacity in 2025. <sup>17</sup>                                                                                              |
| <b>Electricity grid</b>              | The network of power stations, wires and poles that carries electricity to homes, schools, clinics and businesses.                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Mini-grid</b>                     | A small local electricity network, often solar, that supplies a village or town. It can work alone or be linked to the main grid later. One example is the Kanyanga mini-grid in Zambia, which serves 300 to 400 homes and businesses. <sup>18</sup> |
| <b>Off-grid (stand-alone) system</b> | A system, such as a solar home system with a battery, that powers one household or building and is not connected to any grid.                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Energy access</b>                 | Having reliable, affordable electricity available. The UN's Sustainable Development Goal 7 aims for universal access to modern energy by 2030. <sup>19</sup>                                                                                         |
| <b>Load-shedding</b>                 | Planned power cuts that a power company uses when there is not enough electricity for everyone. In Zambia in 2024 they lasted up to 21 hours a day. <sup>20</sup>                                                                                    |
| <b>Energy storage</b>                | Batteries and other systems that keep electricity for later, for example to use solar power at night. About a quarter of new large solar plants in 2025 were built with storage. <sup>21</sup>                                                       |

<sup>15</sup> United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Definition of youth (fact sheet)... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

<sup>16</sup> YouthPolicy.org. African Youth Charter (African Union, 2006)... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

<sup>17</sup> Saur Energy International. Global Renewable Capacity Hits 5,149 GW in 2025, China Leads Surge... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

<sup>18</sup> The Rockefeller Foundation. When Energy Meets Ambition: The Rural Entrepreneurs Powering Africa's Future.

<https://www.rockefellerfoundation.org/grantee-impact-stories/when-energy-meets-ambition-the-rural-entrepreneurs-powering-africas-future/>

<sup>19</sup> International Energy Agency (IEA). 655 million people still living without electricity... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

<sup>20</sup> Afrobarometer. Dispatch No. 1178: Zambians favour ending ZESCO monopoly, investing in solar and wind power, 6 May 2026.

<https://www.afrobarometer.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/AD1178-Zambians-favour-ending-ZESCO-monopoly-investing-in-solar-and-wind-power-Afrobarometer-6may26.pdf>

<sup>21</sup> IRENA, COP31 Presidency Türkiye and Global Renewables Alliance. Delivering on the UAE Consensus... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

| Term                             | Meaning                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Municipal solid waste</b>     | Waste from homes, markets, shops and offices that a city or town is responsible for collecting.                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Uncontrolled waste</b>        | Waste that is dumped in the environment or openly burned instead of being collected and managed safely. It was 38% of the world's municipal waste in 2020. <sup>22</sup>                                                                  |
| <b>Waste hierarchy</b>           | A ranking of the best ways to deal with waste: prevention first, then re-use, recycling, energy recovery, and last of all disposal in a landfill. <sup>23</sup>                                                                           |
| <b>Waste-to-resource</b>         | Turning waste into something useful, such as recycled materials, compost, biogas or building blocks, instead of throwing it away.                                                                                                         |
| <b>Circular economy</b>          | An economy that keeps materials in use for as long as possible by reducing, re-using, repairing and recycling. UNEP estimates that a circular approach to waste could bring a net gain of USD 108.5 billion a year by 2050. <sup>24</sup> |
| <b>Composting</b>                | Turning food scraps and garden waste into a soil improver (compost) using air and time.                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Biogas</b>                    | A fuel gas made when organic waste, such as food waste or manure, breaks down without air in a sealed tank. It can be used for cooking, heating and electricity.                                                                          |
| <b>Waste-to-energy</b>           | Getting energy from waste, for example by capturing biogas or by burning waste under controlled conditions to make heat and electricity. It ranks below re-use and recycling on the waste hierarchy.                                      |
| <b>Methane</b>                   | A powerful greenhouse gas released when organic waste rots in landfills and dumps. <sup>25</sup>                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Mitigation and adaptation</b> | Mitigation means cutting the causes of climate change, for example by using solar instead of coal. Adaptation means preparing for effects that are already here, for example drought-proof water and power.                               |
| <b>Waste pickers</b>             | People who earn a living by collecting and selling recyclable materials from streets, bins and dumpsites, usually without a formal job. A fair programme should include them. <sup>26</sup>                                               |
| <b>Climate finance</b>           | Money from public and private sources used to pay for climate action, such as grants, loans and investments.                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Accountability</b>            | Making sure that people and institutions who hold power or money can be checked and must answer for the results.                                                                                                                          |

<sup>22</sup> C40 Knowledge Hub. Global waste management outlook (summary of UNEP's Global Waste Management... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

<sup>23</sup> Global Methane Pledge. Waste pathway (annual report), on the waste hierarchy... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

<sup>24</sup> United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Global Waste Management Outlook 2024: Beyond an... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

<sup>25</sup> UNEP and Climate and Clean Air Coalition. Global Assessment: Urgent steps must be taken to... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

<sup>26</sup> UN-Habitat. Lusaka city profile (solid waste management). [https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2022/07/lusaka\\_en.pdf](https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2022/07/lusaka_en.pdf)

## 4. Case Studies

These cases show the problems and some possible solutions in real life. Facts come from the sources in the bibliography. Estimates sometimes differ between sources, so check the dates and methods. **You must represent your assigned country's view.**

### 4.1 Zambia: hydropower, drought and the power gap

Zambia depends heavily on hydropower, especially from the Kariba Dam. During the 2023–2024 drought the power company ZESCO had to run Kariba at 215 MW, far below the 1,080 MW it is built for.<sup>27</sup> Load-shedding reached up to 21 hours a day in 2024.<sup>28</sup> In a national survey, only about one in 25 Zambians said they had a reliable supply of electricity, and 70% supported government investment in wind and solar.<sup>29</sup>

Many Zambians have no grid connection at all. Estimates of access vary by source and year. The World Bank and African Development Bank's Mission 300 energy compact for Zambia uses 53.6%, and the government aims for universal access by 2030.<sup>30</sup> Access is far lower in rural areas: one study reports a rural electrification rate of 8.1% in 2024.<sup>31</sup>

Mini-grids show what local action can do. In Petauke District, Eastern Province, the Kanyanga mini-grid is a 100 kW-peak solar site run by ENGIE Energy Access. It serves 300 to 400 homes and businesses and powers irrigation that helps farmers depend less on rain.<sup>32</sup> Zambia has also planned to bring off-grid power to 1,000 rural communities.<sup>33</sup>

### 4.2 Lusaka: a city and its rubbish

A 2021 survey by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) found that Lusaka produced about 1,423 tonnes of waste a day, but only 338 tonnes (about 24%) were collected. The other 1,085 tonnes a day, the equivalent of more than 180 truckloads, were dumped illegally on roadsides, in drains and on unauthorised sites. The city has one official landfill, at Chunga, which has suffered from leaking liquid waste and unstable waste mounds.<sup>34</sup> UN-Habitat gives lower figures, about 1,200 tonnes a day with 480 collected, and says that only about 40% of residents can get a collection service.<sup>35</sup>

The same UN-Habitat profile says about **half of Lusaka's waste is organic**, such as food scraps. That is the kind of waste that can be composted or turned into biogas. Community-based enterprises already collect waste in unplanned settlements, and about 1,000 people scavenge for recyclables at disposal sites and on

<sup>27</sup> Energy Policy (ScienceDirect). Power system expansion and renewable integration for drought-resilient electrification in Zambia, 2025. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0301421525002939>

<sup>28</sup> Afrobarometer. Dispatch No. 1178: Zambians favour ending ZESCO monopoly, investing in solar and... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

<sup>29</sup> Afrobarometer. Dispatch No. 1178: Zambians favour ending ZESCO monopoly, investing in solar and... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

<sup>30</sup> World Bank Group and African Development Bank (Mission 300). National Energy Compact for Zambia.

<https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/54ece4387e7fd4bde8f1b29f55aa579d-0010012025/original/M300-AES-Compact-Zambia.pdf>

<sup>31</sup> Energy Policy (ScienceDirect). Power system expansion and renewable integration for... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

<sup>32</sup> The Rockefeller Foundation. When Energy Meets Ambition: The Rural Entrepreneurs Powering... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

<sup>33</sup> Bloomberg. The Mission to Electrify Africa Might Finally Be Under Way, 2025. <https://www.bloomberg.com/features/2025-africa-electrification/>

<sup>34</sup> Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Towards Cleaner Lusaka: solid waste management in Lusaka (citing a 2021 JICA survey), 2025. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/zambia/information/topics/2025/1579276\\_59730.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/zambia/information/topics/2025/1579276_59730.html)

<sup>35</sup> UN-Habitat. Lusaka city profile (solid waste management)... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

the streets.<sup>36</sup> The Japan–Zambia Lusaka Clean City Project (2022–2027) is working on collection, a transfer station and the landfill.<sup>37</sup>

### 4.3 Kenya: Gjenge Makers turns plastic into paving blocks

Gjenge Makers is a Nairobi social enterprise started by a young Kenyan engineer, Nzambi Matee. It shreds household and industrial plastic waste, mixes it with sand, heats it and moulds it into paving blocks. In 2022 it was making about 1,500 blocks a day and had recycled 50 tonnes of plastic in 2021. Matee said that Nairobi produces about 500 tonnes of plastic waste every day.<sup>38</sup> By 2024 the company had reportedly recycled over 200,000 kg of plastic and created 600 jobs, including for women, young people and waste pickers.<sup>39</sup>

Local reporting also points out the limit of a single enterprise. Gjenge was turning 10 to 20 tonnes of plastic into pavers in a month.<sup>40</sup> At Matee’s estimate, Nairobi’s plastic waste is roughly 15,000 tonnes a month, so this is well under 1% (a rough comparison, because the figures come from different years).

### 4.4 Nigeria: young people run mini-grids, but funding is hard to reach

A policy study of Nigeria’s solar mini-grid sector by the research group Afripoli estimates that young people make up **82% of full-time staff** in mini-grid companies. But it finds that government support for youth-led start-ups is weak, and that without tailored support they are locked out of government-funded mini-grid opportunities.<sup>41</sup> The study also mentions YouthVoltAfrica, an initiative started by a young Nigerian to build the skills of African youth in the energy transition.<sup>42</sup>

#### Think like a delegate

Young people do much of the work but find it hard to win contracts and grants. What could an assembly ask governments to change?

How would you make sure that any support for youth-led projects is fair and honest, and does not just go to those with the best connections?

### 4.5 More cases to research

Other examples to look at include the 2025 Youth Energy Summit in Cape Town, part of Global Citizen’s campaign to help triple renewable energy in Africa,<sup>43</sup> and the African Development Bank’s YouthADAPT programme, which backs young African climate entrepreneurs, including projects on solar-powered water

<sup>36</sup> UN-Habitat. Lusaka city profile (solid waste management)... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

<sup>37</sup> Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Towards Cleaner Lusaka: solid waste management... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

<sup>38</sup> AFP (via France 24). “Trash has value”: Kenyan inventor turns plastic into bricks, 29 March 2022. <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20220329-trash-has-value-kenyan-inventor-turns-plastic-into-bricks>

<sup>39</sup> IHRB Just Stories. Turning Plastic Waste into Sustainable Urban Solutions: Kenya’s Gjenge Makers. <https://www.just-stories.org/database/turning-plastic-waste-into-sustainable-urban-solutions-kenyas-gjenge-makers>

<sup>40</sup> Unbias The News. Can plastic bricks pave a road out of Kenya’s plastic waste problem? <https://unbiassthenews.org/plastic-waste-bricks-kenya-recycling/>

<sup>41</sup> Afripoli. Scaling green technologies and youth employment in African tech startups: the Nigerian solar mini-grid sector. <https://afripoli.org/view-pdf/108/scaling-green-technologies-and-youth-employment-in-african-tech-startups-the-nigerian-solar-mini-grid-sector>

<sup>42</sup> Afripoli. Scaling green technologies and youth employment in African tech startups: the... (See earlier note or bibliography.)

<sup>43</sup> Global Citizen. Africa’s Energy Future Is in Good Hands With a Youth-led Approach (Youth Energy Summit, Cape Town, June 2025). <https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/africas-energy-future-is-in-good-hands-with-youth/>

and irrigation.<sup>44</sup> Find sources on the situations most relevant to your country. Use official and UN sources first, and check dates, because situations change quickly.



<sup>44</sup> African Development Bank and Global Center on Adaptation. YouthADAPT Challenge 2025 profiles.  
[https://www.afdb.org/sites/default/files/documents/publications/youthadapt\\_enterprise\\_profiles\\_2025\\_v5.pdf](https://www.afdb.org/sites/default/files/documents/publications/youthadapt_enterprise_profiles_2025_v5.pdf)

## 5. Preparing for Committee

### 5.1 Questions a strong resolution answers

1. **What problem does it solve?** Power, waste, or the link between them? In which place, and for whom?
2. **Who leads, and is it realistic?** Name who runs it: young people, schools, local governments, companies or community groups. Can a community build and repair it with the skills it has?
3. **How will it be paid for?** Ideas without money or a plan stay ideas.
4. **How will it be checked?** Add reporting, and a date to review progress.
5. **How does it deliver accountability?** This is the theme of the conference. Show it.
6. **Who benefits?** Does it reach rural communities, women and girls, and waste pickers, or only those who are easy to reach?
7. **Can it win support?** Will delegates from different regions and income levels vote for it?

### 5.2 Guiding questions for your research

1. What is your country's energy mix, and how many of its people lack reliable electricity?
2. How does your country deal with waste? How much is collected, recycled or dumped?
3. What laws, targets or programmes already support solar, mini-grids, recycling or composting?
4. What role do young people play in your country's climate policy, and how does your country define youth?
5. What can your country realistically offer: money, technology, training, diplomacy?
6. Which countries share your goals, and which will you need to persuade?
7. Where would your country compromise, and where would it never give way?

### 5.3 Where to research

- **IRENA** and **IEA** for energy data and progress on the tripling goal.
- **UNEP** for reports on waste, methane and the circular economy.
- **World Bank** and **African Development Bank** for energy access programmes such as Mission 300.
- **UN News** and **YOUNGO** for youth action in UN climate talks.
- Your country's official statements at the UN, and the websites of its energy, environment and youth ministries.

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AFP (via France 24). "Trash has value": Kenyan inventor turns plastic into bricks, 29 March 2022.

<https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20220329-trash-has-value-kenyan-inventor-turns-plastic-into-bricks>

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Guide done by:

**Malenji Arthur Jonah**

*Secretary General, LOTSMUN 2026*

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