

YOUTH STATEMENT

Delivered by:

Binsar Sihotang at The Global Youth Environment Assembly, Nairobi 2024

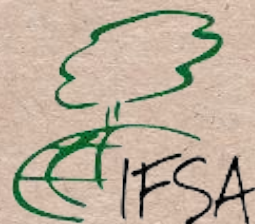
Global Focal Point to the United Nations Forum on Forests

FOREST FOR FUTURE

People often do not realize how important it is to take care of forests when talking about making more money. This causes a lot of bad things to happen to our climate and environment.

For example, last year, a huge area of about 18.5 million hectares of forest in Canada got burned. That's like 70% of the whole United Kingdom's land area. This megafire released 480 megatons of carbon into the atmosphere. Also, the pledges made by the member states, to end deforestation by 2030 is not really being taken seriously. Countries like the United States, Russia, Brazil, Canada, Indonesia, and others are still losing a lot of trees.

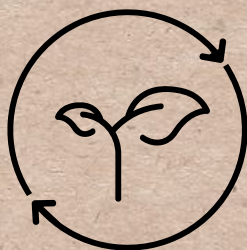
Therefore, we really need to pay more attention and do better at keeping our forests healthy. As young people, we want to keep informing today's leaders and decision-makers that forests are critically important for addressing climate and environmental issues.



3 URGENT FORESTRY ACTIONS

First, Consider restoring, protecting, and creating more urban green spaces under your jurisdiction.

This aligns with the UN's decade on ecosystem restoration and has multiple positive effects not only for the environment but also for the livelihoods and green job opportunities for local communities and younger generations.



Second, carefully evaluate the national fiscal policy on sustainable forest management.

This is crucial because forests bring in income not just through timber production, but also this ecosystem provides clean air, water, and regulating the temperature of the environment.



Third, start educating the younger generation about forests and the environment from an early age in the school curriculum.

Creating awareness about forest conservation and environmental protection early on is essential. This way, children and young people will develop a better understanding of the importance of forests and the environment. This early commitment can inspire more people to love nature and appreciate the sounds of the forests.



We believe that focusing on these three crucial aspects will contribute to building a stronger and resilience future and achieving sustainable development and other global agenda while ensuring the well-being of our forests.