

Youth Climate Challenge 2026: Sri Lanka NextGen Solutions

Influence Policy. Drive Change. Be part of the Transformation

The Youth Climate Challenge 2026 invites university students across Sri Lanka, to step forward as policy / technology innovative thinkers by developing actionable, and inclusive climate solutions. The ideas are expected to strengthen the current efforts by Government, Corporates and Citizens of Sri Lanka. We trust, as future leaders, you are in a better position to describe and propose the “future we want” and what actions are required. The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce is keen to hear your transformative and timely ideas, with selected proposals potentially taken forward through Chamber-led policy advocacy.

Who Can Participate?

- All undergraduates currently enrolled in a public or private university in Sri Lanka
- Open to students from any academic discipline
- Individual applicants only

Thematic Areas

Participants may submit proposals aligned with one or more of the following national priority areas:

- **Clean Energy Transition & Energy Security**
- **Climate Adaptation and Resilience**
- **Use of IT and AI in Education and Citizen Science**
- **Sustainable Cities and Urban Transformation**
- **Just Transition and Climate Equity**
- **Nature, Biodiversity & Ecosystem Protection**
- **Circular Economy & Resource Efficiency**

What to Submit?

Applicants must submit an **essay-style Climate Policy Concept Paper** that identifies a climate-related challenge aligned with the specified thematic areas and proposes a policy-oriented solution relevant to Sri Lanka. Submissions may include regulatory, institutional, or technology-enabled approaches.

Submission requirements

- *Maximum length: 750 words*
- *Format: **Word document***
- *Language: **English***

The paper should be a concise and well-structured document outlining:

- A clearly articulated climate-related issue
- An innovative and feasible, policy-focused solution
- A realistic implementation approach relevant to Sri Lanka
- Expected environmental, social, and economic impacts

Submission deadline: On or before **15th May 2026**

Entries should be submitted via email to ei@chamber.lk with the subject line: **YOUTH CLIMATE CHALLENGE 2026: CLIMATE SUMMIT**

Eligibility Criteria

- Must be a registered undergraduate student
- Submission must be original work
- Only one submission per applicant
- Policy proposals must be relevant to Sri Lanka's climate and development context

Evaluation Criteria

Content Evaluation

- Relevance to Sri Lanka's climate priorities
- Innovation and originality
- Practical feasibility of implementation
- Environmental, social, and economic impact
- Unique and transformative

Communication & Presentation

- Clarity and conciseness
- Logical structure and coherence
- Ease of understanding

Rules

- Full name, university, and student number must be included in the submission
- Only one submission per applicant
- Late submissions will not be accepted
- Submissions exceeding the word limit will be disqualified
- Plagiarism or unoriginal content will result in disqualification
- The decision of the panel of judges will be final

Panel of Judges

The panel will consist of:

- Two industry experts
- One development agency representative
- One research and policy expert

What You Can Gain

- Participation and recognition at the Climate Summit 2026 on 9th June
- Publication on economy.lk
- Networking with industry and policy leaders
- Certificates and awards for winners of the competition

Why Join?

- Shape real policy
- Meet experts
- Gain national visibility
- Contribute to drive climate action
- Take pride being part of the resilient future of Sri Lanka