



# ‘Climate x’ Leadership Training Program 2023



“Transitioning to a carbon-neutral economy **does not just mean switching away from fossil fuels, it is, rather, a paradigm shift in development**, which will give rise to a new model of modernization that can benefit the world and contribute to a green and prosperous future.”



**Lord Nicholas Stern**

**Chair of the Academic Committee, Global Alliance of Universities on Climate  
I.G.Patel Professor of Economics and Government & Chair of the Grantham  
Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, London School of  
Economics and Political Science**

At COP21 in 2015, the world agreed to limit global warming to 1.5°C, compared to pre-industrial levels by 2050. To remain on target, science tells us that emissions must be halved by 2030. We only have another seven years to meet that goal. COP28 UAE (30 Nov - 12 Dec 2023), the **COP in Asia**, is a prime opportunity to rethink, reboot, and refocus the climate agenda.

Strategically supported by UNESCO and the global partners, the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (**GAUC**) and the Asian Universities Alliance (**AUA**) will officially launch the ‘**Climate x’ Leadership Training Program 2023** on 21st June to provide an exceptional interdisciplinary platform for emerging leaders towards the net-zero future. By empowering young people with the ‘climate x’ mindset, which highlights between climate actions (SDG13) and the other 16 SDGs, helps them globally envision a sustainable future, take innovative actions, and unlock their potential as the ‘1.5 °C talent’ for the carbon-neutral future.





# Who Are We?

The Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (GAUC) was established in 2019, and is comprised of 15 world-class universities from 9 countries on 6 continents. The mission of GAUC is to provide collective leadership in global higher education efforts addressing climate change.

London School of Economics and Political Science

Imperial College London

University of Cambridge

University of Oxford

Sciences Po

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

University of California Berkeley

Yale University

Columbia University

Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

Tsinghua University

The University of Tokyo

**GAUC**  
Global Alliance of Universities on Climate

"U28 for COP28" →

Australian National University

Indian Institute of Science

Stellenbosch University

Nazarbayev University

United Arab Emirates University

King Saud University

**AUA** Asian Universities Alliance

Tsinghua University

Peking University

Seoul National University

The University of Tokyo

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Chulalongkorn University

Universiti Malaya

Indian Institute of Technology Bombay

University of Colombo

University of Yangon

National University of Singapore

Universitas Indonesia

The Asian Universities Alliance (AUA) is a university alliance comprising 15 member universities across Asia. Founded in 2017, through its platform AUA aims to cooperatively address regional and global challenges relating to higher education as well as economic, scientific, and technological development.



## Why 'Climate x'

'Climate x' emphasizes that the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations are closely related to each other. To achieve carbon neutrality, we need to respect nature, and cross-disciplinary barriers, and explore innovative solutions from the perspective of synergies between climate action and the other 16 SDGs.



## Why Youth?



**Dr. Binbin Wang**

The Executive Secretary  
of the Global Alliance of  
Universities on Climate

*" We stand at a critical juncture in history, with the looming threat of climate change casting a shadow over our planet's future. But there is hope and a path forward that leads to a sustainable, carbon-neutral future. This is a task that requires the collective efforts of several generations, not just one. Today's youth are the leaders and pillars of tomorrow, and regardless of their future careers, they must consider carbon neutrality a common cause. That's why we must develop carbon-neutral talents early on."*





Youth are the backbone of a net-zero future. They are not only the inheritor, but also the owner, the creator, and the leaders of such a future.

In 2021, GAUC introduced the revolutionary concept of 'Climate x' and organized the highly successful Global Youth Net-zero Summit attracted **1.25 million global participations**.

In 2022, GAUC upgrade the Summit to the 'Climate x' Campaign. The 'Climate x' Leadership Training Program was first initiated with strategic support from UNESCO, which opened to the students of 15 GAUC member universities, **100 Global Youth Ambassadors** were successfully trained and they are showing collective impacts now around the world.

In 2023, the Training Program will be upgraded! **GAUC & AUA will open the best educational resources to the global youth** to help more college students to understand what the carbon-neutral future looks like and prepare them to be pioneers in building a net-zero future shared by all.





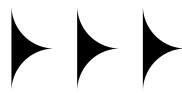


# Program Overview

The 2023 ‘Climate x’ Leadership Training Program follows a "Train the Trainer" approach that consists of a ‘1+3’ Module structure:

“1”

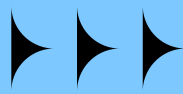
## Coursework Module



In July, students will dedicate approximately 5 hours per week to complete a series of self-paced online coursework and interactive Q&A sessions. This module combines the 'Climate x' Theme courses contributed by professors & researchers from world-class universities within GAUC and AUA to see the future we choose, enhance scientific ingenuity, deepen global governance understanding, and broaden international perspective, as well as the leadership courses to inspire self-exploration and ignite intrinsic drive for self-actualization.

“3”

## Practice Module



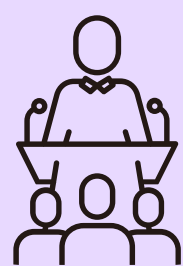
From August to November, upon completion of the ‘1’- Coursework online training, students need to organize 3 local offline or hybrid training practice events which can be delivered in rich and diverse forms (including but not limited to speech, workshop, seminar, etc.), directly impacting a minimum of 100 individuals collectively.



From the first two events, students will transition from "Trainee" to "Trainer". The third event should be arranged during the 2023 Global Youth Climate Week (Nov 20-24), a new-branding international platform that was co-initiated by GAUC, UNESCO, Bloomberg, Rockefeller Foundation, UK Universities Climate Network, and other 100 global partners together right before COP28. This innovative mechanism is for all organizations, institutions, and individuals who care for youth to organize hybrid events around the world and voice out together one week before each COP to keep the momentum. We hope that this interesting opportunity can pave the path for the ‘Trainers’ to become future “Pioneers”.

- Furthermore, the 2023 ‘Climate x’ Leadership Training Program offers additional workshops and lectures to broaden the horizon of knowledge and vision, which include but not be limited to:

Youth mentor workshops:



Students will have the opportunity to meet the Global Youth Ambassadors from last year’s program and hear their stories and adventures.

Global leaders lectures:



Students will also have the opportunity to meet the global climate leaders and industry experts that GAUC invited and explore various climate-related topics in-depth.

Timeline

2023.05-2023.06	Enrollment
2023.07	Self-paced online coursework and interactive sessions with lecturers.
2023.08-2023.10	First and second training practices. Plentiful opportunities to interact with youth mentors and guest speakers.
2023.11.20-2023.11.24	Third training practice on <b>2023 Global Youth Climate Week</b> . Reflect on personal growth and make youth voices heard to contribute to the success of COP28!
2023.12	Upon completion of the '1+3' Module, students will be awarded a certificate of completion and recognized as certified <b>'Climate x' Youth Trainer</b> .
2023.11.30-2023.12.12	Exceptional students may also be honored with the title of <b>Global Youth Ambassador</b> , with the official announcement scheduled during COP28.



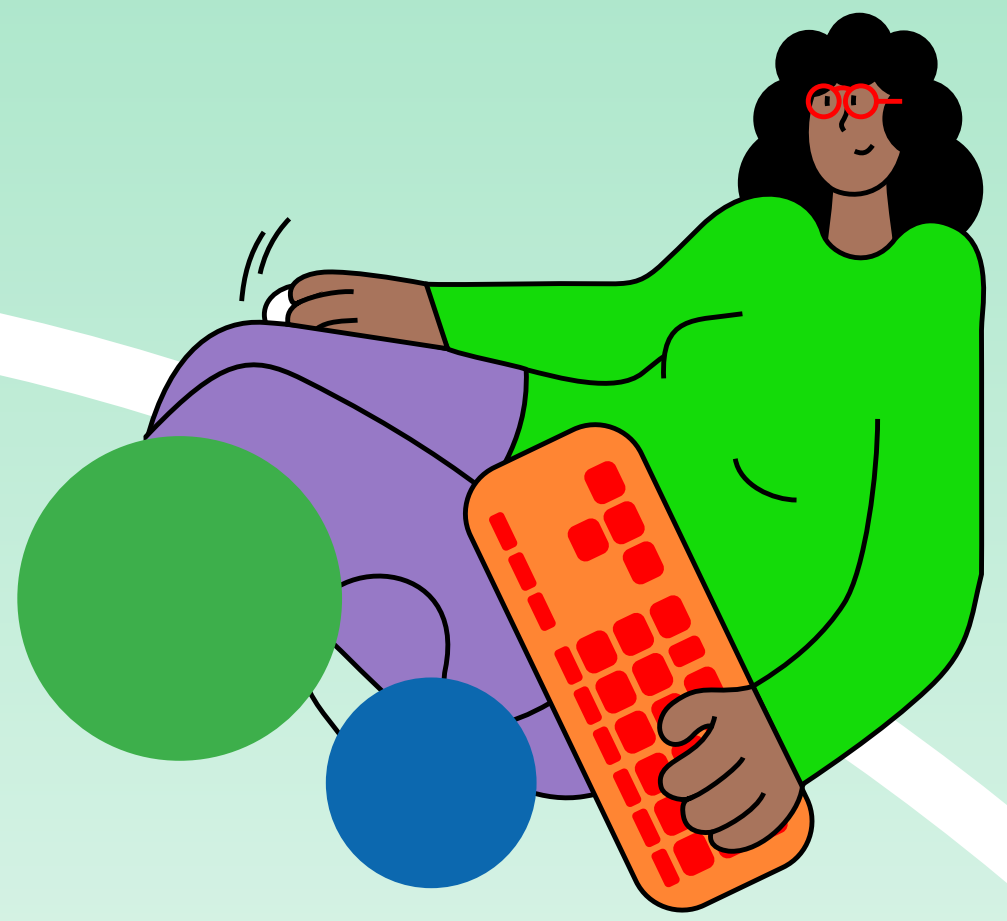
# Who Should Apply?

The 2023 'Climate x' Leadership Training Program is open to **college students worldwide from any discipline** who:

- ☒ Identify with the cause of carbon neutrality and have a strong commitment to it.
- ☒ Demonstrate a strong interest in climate change and sustainability.
- ☒ Demonstrate outstanding leadership potential in previous studies or community involvement.
- ☒ Commit to participating in all components of the program and directly impacting at least 100 individuals.
- ☒ Demonstrate strong English comprehension and expression abilities.







## How to apply

Application deadline: June 30  
<http://climatexleadership.gauc.net/>



Scan the QR code  
to log in to the website



## Contact

If you have any inquiries or issues on submit your application, please send an email with the heading “2023 Climate x Leadership Program” to [gaucevent@tsinghua.edu.cn](mailto:gaucevent@tsinghua.edu.cn)

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<b>Subject</b>	<input type="text" value="2023 Climate x Leadership Program"/>
<b>To</b>	<input type="text" value="gaucevent@tsinghua.edu.cn"/>