

Davos Agenda 2021

January 25-29 | #DavosAgenda

The Global Plastic Action Partnership's *Plastic Action Champions*

Frustrated by decades of slow progress, youth are waging war on plastic pollution in local communities and on global stages. Meet eight determined young leaders who form part of the inaugural cohort of the Global Plastic Action Partnership's *Plastic Action Champions*, launched this month. Their calls to action will be published on the Forum's [Agenda](#) blog in the lead-up to the Davos Agenda week.

If media would like to interview these youth leaders, please contact interviews@weforum.org

Andhyta Firselly Utami, 28

Based in Indonesia, a country facing an enormous plastic pollution challenge, "Afu" is an Environmental Economist at the World Bank where she leads research on incentive schemes for the circular economy. Afu provides analytical support to the government, identifying policy options to reduce marine plastic pollution.

Fionn Ferreira, 20

In 2019 Fionn was the winner of the Google Science Fair for his method of extracting microplastics from the water. An Irish scientist and innovator, Fionn has since founded [his own enterprise](#) where he is creating a device to efficiently remove microplastics while also partnering with a global engineering firm to fine-tune his designs.

Forbi Perise, 24

Known as the "plastic man" in his hometown in Cameroon, Forbi led a plastic collection campaign in his community, one where recycling was virtually non-existent. Forbi collected 5000 plastic bottles and convinced one of the sole recycling companies in the country to collect his load. He aims to educate his community on plastic pollution to build a movement to improve his country's waste practices.

Hannah Testa, 18

At the age of ten, [Hannah](#) realized that one of our biggest environmental problems was one we can control – plastic pollution. In her home county in Georgia, USA, Hannah played a role in creating a 2019 law to eliminate single-use plastics from government properties. In 2020, Hannah was part of a group of advocates that introduced federal legislation, "The Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act" in the U.S. Congress.

Inés Yábar, 25

Inés co-leads [L.O.O.P.](#) (Life Out of Plastic), a Peruvian social impact company with an ambition to conserve the marine ecosystem. Inés co-created a national campaign on plastic waste, culminating in an annual weekend clean-up where citizens collected data on the debris. Ultimately, the data led to the adoption of a national law in Peru banning single-use plastic.

Joshua Amponsem, 29

Joshua is the founder of [Green Africa Youth Organization](#), a Ghana-based advocacy organization dedicated to environmental sustainability and community development. Pioneering community-based zero waste

approaches in peri-urban locations, Joshua aims to formalize the informal waste sector and to provide green jobs to youth and women.

Melati Wijsen, 20

A self-proclaimed “full time changemaker”, Melati founded [Bye Bye Plastic Bags](#) with her younger sister at the age of 12. After working with like-minded people and organizations, their advocacy led to a ban on plastic bags, styrofoam, and plastic straws on their home island of Bali, Indonesia, in 2019. Today, Melati is excited about a new project, YOUTHTOPIA, which aims to empower youth to become changemakers.

Swietenia Puspa Lestari, 26

Inspired to do more with her scuba diving hobby, in 2015 “Tenia” founded [Divers Clean Action](#) (DCA), an Indonesia-based, youth-led organization focusing on marine debris clean-up. DCA has since developed expertise on integrating waste management systems on small islands and works with over 1500 volunteers across Southeast Asia.