This session will take stock of the key messages from the five subregional multistakeholder SDG forums, then engage stakeholders in a collaborative deep-dive discussion on Ambitious and Poverty-Reducing Subregional Solutions in two urgent climate action areas – sustainable energy transition and water resource management.

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Nearly one billion young individuals aged 10-24 reside in 32 low- and middle-income countries across Asia and the Pacific, representing 60% of the global youth population. However, their sustainable development prospects in this region have been severely hindered by a lack of decision-making opportunities and meaningful avenues for participation. Marginalized youth, including those with disabilities, diverse sexual orientations, gender identities, lower economic backgrounds, Indigenous backgrounds, and ethnic or minority affiliations such as Dalits, face even greater challenges and are often silenced or neglected.

In response to these challenges, youth across Asia and the Pacific urge for:

- Meaningful and inclusive engagement of youths, especially those from marginalized communities, in all systemic processes at subnational, national, and regional levels, moving beyond tokenistic participation, including in monitoring and accountability mechanisms.
- Increasing investment in pro-poor, gender-responsive, and disability-responsive social protection to align with the global average of 11% of GDP, with a focus on universal transfers across the lifespan to ensure a decent standard of living for all.
- Regional coherence in policies and programs, prioritizing the transition to a green economy by promoting green job opportunities and entrepreneurship among youth. This includes developing tailored capacity-building programs for youth involvement in climate adaptation and circular economic development.
- Ensuring youth-led initiatives and innovations inclusion in all policies and programs, including climate action, poverty alleviation, and employment promotion, by recognizing and addressing intersectional issues faced by young people in all their diversities, including disability.
- Prioritizing international development cooperation for Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and conflict-affected nations and ensure