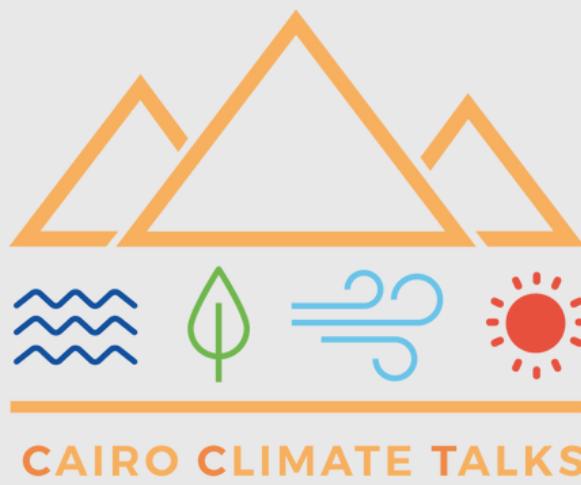




Embassy of the
Federal Republic of Germany



The Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Cairo and the Ministry of Environment of the Arab Republic of Egypt

have the pleasure to invite you to the 70th Cairo Climate Talks (CCT) Panel Discussion

Keeping the Momentum Up: how do we activate young people to save the planet?

on Wednesday, 14th of October 2020 at 5:30 pm (Cairo time)

Virtual CCT via Zoom (Please register [here](#))

2019 was the year that Fridays for Future became a popular global youth movement, holding politicians responsible and urging them to implement climate agreements in order to ensure environmental justice and limit global warming. It was a year of colourful mass protests around the globe, which acknowledged the need for intergenerational climate activism, to ensure that future generations are handed over a liveable planet.

But climate activism is not new. In Germany, the impacts of the Nuclear disaster of Chernobyl in 1986 were a turning point for the public's acknowledgment of how our actions are destroying our environment. While the political landscapes differed strongly in both parts of the divided Germany – the German Democratic Republic (GDR) in the East and the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) in the West – people began to come together to discuss how politicians and industries could be held accountable. Like today, youth led initiatives were the loudest in demanding political action, and later focused strongly on individual action as well. The term Umweltbewusstsein (environmental awareness) is now deeply engrained into German's self-image and shapes their interaction with the environment.

In January 2020, German Chancellor Angela Merkel stated that within the next 30 years we are going to have to change our entire way of living and engaging in economic activities, and encouraged youth activism stating that "younger generations have good reasons to have especially high expectations of politicians."



The Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) was founded in 1997 to specifically address industrial pollution in Egypt. Through this new agency, climate politics and environmental assessment have received continuous attention from the Egyptian government. But as is globally the case, in Egypt as well, youth have always been at the forefront of shaping the discourse, coming up with innovative ideas and begin ambitious initiatives to increase awareness. Youth -ounded initiatives like Youthinkgreen or Banlastic are maturing and pursuing impactful ventures to encourage Egypt's move towards a greener more sustainable path. The Ministry of Environment has taken note of the youth's efforts and continues to support those initiatives working on the common goal of environmental and climate preservation.

However, industrial pollution, non-sustainable consumer habits and the relocation of factories and pollution from the global North to the South, are still threatening our planet and our health. Covid-19 has reminded us all, that catastrophes often have unexpected ripple effects, which enables us to know better than ever before how to communicate and tell stories on how climate change will eventually affect every single one of us, in multiple and maybe surprising ways. Because of that, we have to say: Climate activism needs to continue, and youth need to continue to be at the core and the forefront of climate action.

The 70th Cairo Climate Talk will give us the space to discuss what can we learn from today's and the past's initiatives in both Germany and Egypt, and how we can translate that into activating even more youth to save the planet.

The discussion will be opened by

H.E. Dr. Cyril Nunn
Ambassador of the Federal Republic of
Germany to Egypt

H.E. Dr. Yasmine Fouad
Minister of Environment of
the Arabic Republic of Egypt

Panelists

Shady Khalil
Co-Founder & Managing
Partner at Greenish

Johannes Herrmann
Activist with
Fridays for Future

Marlene Jahn
Representative of the
Green Youth Party Berlin

Manar Ramadan
Co-Founder & R&D
Head at Banlastic

Moderator: Noor Noor, Conservation Expert and Youth Leader



JCCE
Egyptian German Joint Committee
on Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency
and Environmental Protection



Implemented by
giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

DAAD

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service