Side Event Summary

The International Association for the Advancement of Innovative Approaches to Global Challenges (IAAI)

Organizing partners:
- UN Habitat Youth Programme https://www.unhabitatyouth.org/
- UNESCO Management of Social Transformations Programme (MOST) https://en.unesco.org/themes/social-transformations/most
- ECOS – Climate Education, Communication and Outreach Stakeholders Community https://climateecos.org/
- ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability https://iclei.org/
- Climate Chain Coalition https://www.climatechaincoalition.io/
- GloCha Tech GesmbH public-benefit corporation, Klagenfurt/Austria


Themes of the side event:
- The Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) research project initiative Knowledge4ACE (= development of a scientific model of a global-local multi-stakeholder climate action innovation system)
- the Action for Climate Empowerment global governance innovation project ACE AT (https://action4climate.support)
- technological and non-technological solutions for global and local climate action empowerment, developed by the Global Challenges Action Network GloCha www.glocha.org and its links to the UN Digital Cooperation Agenda
- Multistakeholder cooperation arrangements with UN Habitat et al for the provision of Climate Action Empowerment as a Service
- Resource Mobilization for Climate Action Innovation & Mass mobilization for climate action with the power of music

Target audience:
- UN system & member states -> presentation of ACE_AT support structure and GloCha as partners for rethinking and reorganizing the future of an all-of-society UN system
- Funders/investors/donors -> demonstrating the value of ACE_AT & GloCha concepts, work and networks/communities
- Potential partners -> presenting our work and engagement opportunities
Key messages:

We are living in challenging times – disruptive times – often frightening times

But these uncertain times are also an opportunity for new things to emerge - new thinking, new solutions, new (technology enabled) communities.

The ACE_AT & GloCha side event to the UN STI Forum 2021 highlighted the collaborative effort of the UN system, national governments, subnational governments and non-state actors working towards designing the future of the Action for Climate Empowerment programme within the UNFCCC process (in the run-up to the UN Climate Change conference COP26, which will be held in November this year in Glasgow) as one of the most significant global governance innovations spaces for UN system innovation towards enhanced non-party stakeholders’ (=non-governmental plus sub-national government stakeholders) engagement.

The ACE innovation project ACE_AT and the Global Challenges Action network GloCha are lighthouse stories of a group of people and institutions joining forces to build something new, which will empower everyone, everywhere to contribute to the common good on local and global level.

And the side event has been led by the shared understanding that science, technology and innovation are essential in global public sector innovation, helping to scaffold the creation of mechanisms, tools and ecosystems for more effective implementation of global goals for sustainable development and climate action.

Speakers:

- Miroslav Polzer, Executive director - IAAI, Chairperson - GloCha Ftd.NY, CEO - GloCha Tech GesmbH
- Doug Ragan, UN Habitat Youth Programme – Youth Engagement in World Environment Situation Room w. UN Environment
- Minna Aslama Horowitz, Vice president – IAAI, Researcher, educator, University of Helsinki, St. John’s University, CEU
- John Crowley, UNESCO Management of Social Transformation Program – Climate Action Empowerment through Knowledge
- Alexandre Caldas, UN Environment – The World Environment Situation Room and its youth engagement programs
- Talieh Wögerbauer, Austrian Federal Ministry for Climate Action – ACE focal point, Republic of Austria, ACEAT project coord.
- Timothy Damon, Co-Focal pdpoint, Education, Communication and Outreach Stakeholders Community ECOS
- Katherine Foster, Open Earth Foundation & Social Alpha Foundation (Youth) Climate Action Tracking, Reporting & Rewarding
- Jim Fournier, Tru.net – The next generation of purpose driven social networking
- Ali Mustafa, GloCha Fdt NY / Generation Next Voice of Youth
- Eileen Doohan, GloCha Fdt NY, ClimateHacks.org
- Domenico Vito, Climate Reality Project Italy & YOUNGO
- Yunus Arikan & Purya Salehi, Local Governments for Sustainability ICLEI, Action for Climate Empowerment Innovation for and with Cities
- Tom Baumann, Climate Change Coalition, Data and Digital Innovation Infrastructure for Climate Action Empowerment
- Alexey Shadrin, Evercity.io & Climate Chain Coalition – Digital Finance for Climate Action Empowerment
- Tihomir Divjak, GoForesight Institute, Satellite based Internet access and e-learning solutions for Africa
- Makoto Okobo Music for SDGs / ActionNow Campaign
- Gloria Kins, Society and Diplomatic Review
- Michael Platzer, IIAI & Coalition of Faith Based Organisations for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Vienna
- et al.

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