

# Global Youth Festival Programme

**PLEASE NOTE:** *The programme is subject to change based on logistical, environmental, or organizational adjustments as deemed necessary*

**Theme:** “Guardians of the Endemics: Youth Driving Conservation in the Albertine Rift”

**Dates:** 12th – 14th July 2025

**Venue:** Kisoro District, Uganda

## Day 1: Friday, 12th July 2025 – Arrival, Opening & Inspiration

**Venue:** Kisoro District Headquarters Grounds

Time	Activity
08:00 – 10:00	Arrival & Registration of Participants
10:00 – 11:00	Opening Ceremony with Cultural Performances (hosted by Kisoro youth & Batwa cultural troupe)
11:00 – 11:30	Keynote Address: “Why the Albertine Rift Matters to the World” – Renowned Conservationist
11:30 – 12:30	Ministerial Remarks & Partner Speeches (Ministry of Tourism, NFA, UWA, UNESCO, etc.)
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 – 15:00	High-Level Panel: “Youth as Drivers of Biodiversity Conservation in Africa”
15:00 – 17:00	Youth Innovation Showcase (20 selected youth-led conservation projects)
17:30 – 19:00	Networking Social – Music, Stories & Conservation Poetry
19:00	Dinner & Overnight at designated accommodations

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## Day 2: Saturday, 13th July 2025 – Action, Knowledge & Field Learning

**Venue:** Field Sites & Workshop Tents (Bwindi Buffer Zone / Echuya Forest / Lake Mutanda)

Time	Activity
06:30 – 08:00	Bird Walk & Nature Photography (with Uganda Women Birders & UWA guides)
08:00 – 09:30	Breakfast & Daily Brief
09:30 – 12:30	Parallel Workshops: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bird Banding &amp; Monitoring</li><li>• Forest Mapping &amp; Tree Tagging</li><li>• Butterfly Identification &amp; Citizen Science</li></ul>

- Indigenous Knowledge & Conservation Ethics
- Conservation Filmmaking & Storytelling |  
 | 12:30 – 13:30 | Lunch in the Field |  
 | 13:30 – 16:00 | Community Interaction: Youth Dialogue with Local Farmers & Eco-Entrepreneurs |  
 | 16:00 – 17:30 | Conservation Hackathon (problem-solving session on habitat loss, poaching, youth employment) |  
 | 18:00 – 19:30 | Fireside Talk: *“From Passion to Profession: Youth Careers in Conservation”* |  
 | 20:00 | Night at Camp (Optional Tent Experience or Hostels) |

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## Day 3: Sunday, 14th July 2025 – Reflection, Commitment & Celebration

**Venue:** Kisoro District Stadium

Time	Activity
08:00 – 09:30	Breakfast & Youth-Led Prayer for the Planet (interfaith blessings)
09:30 – 11:00	Plenary: <i>“Building a Transboundary Youth Movement for the Albertine Rift”</i>
11:00 – 12:00	Presentation of Festival Declaration & Youth Conservation Pledges
12:00 – 13:00	Award Ceremony (Best Youth Projects, Photo Contest Winners, Partners’ Appreciation)
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch & Closing Entertainment (Live performances, dance, Batwa drumming)
14:30 – 15:00	Closing Remarks by Local Leaders, Festival Organisers & Partners
15:00 onward	Departure & Optional Visit to Lake Mutanda or Mgahinga Cultural Centre

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## Additional Features

- **Exhibition Stalls:** NGOs, eco-innovation hubs, colleges, and youth enterprises, hotels, Tour companies, tourist guides, crafts, coffee hubs, and more ..
- **Media Tent:** Livestreaming sessions, social media booths, interviews
- **Green Corner:** Tree planting, seedling giveaways, sustainability games
- **Youth Market:** Handmade crafts, eco-products, organic foods