

EUROPEAN YOUNG ENGINEERS



# SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

2025/2026

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# European Young Engineers



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# European Young Engineers



# 1. President's Message



At European Young Engineers (EYE), we believe engineering extends beyond technical expertise. Engineers play a fundamental role in addressing the environmental, societal and economic challenges facing Europe and the wider world. As a network representing young engineers across the continent, we believe our responsibility is not only to support and empower the next generation of engineering professionals, but also to contribute to the discussions and solutions that shape a more sustainable future.

This is our first Sustainability Report that covers the period from April 2025 to September 2026, a period of significant activity and reflection for EYE. Alongside conferences,

policy initiatives, online events and community-building activities, the organisation undertook a strategic review process to better understand the needs, expectations and aspirations of its members and volunteers. The findings confirmed that EYE's greatest strength lies in its network, its ability to create meaningful connections across Europe and its role as a platform for learning, collaboration and representation.

As a technical NGO, EYE recognises the value of established frameworks such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in helping organisations understand and communicate their impact. While this report does not follow a formal sustainability reporting standard, it represents an important first step towards embedding sustainability considerations within EYE's activities, governance and future development.

This report has also been shaped by the voices of our members. Through the strategic consultation process, sustainability, skills development, community building, policy engagement and financial resilience emerged as key priorities for EYE's future.

As EYE approaches a new strategic cycle, this report aims to provide an honest assessment of where we stand today, celebrate the achievements made possible by our volunteers and member organisations, and identify opportunities for improvement. Most importantly, it serves as a foundation for future Boards and future generations of young engineers to continue building a stronger, more impactful and more sustainable organisation.

A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink, located at the bottom left of the page.

## 2. About EYE

European Young Engineers (EYE) is an international non-profit organisation, founded in 1994, bringing together engineering associations from more than 20 European countries and collectively representing around 500,000 young engineers. Now marking over 30 years of activity, EYE continues to build new connections across Europe and beyond, extending its reach to associations that were not previously part of the network. Georgia is a member association, and Serbia's membership is currently pending a Council vote. At the same time, EYE has revisited long-standing partnership agreements, including with Engineers Europe, to ensure these relationships remain active and aligned with the organisation's current direction.

EYE brings together a wide diversity of people, cultures and engineering backgrounds under one shared identity. It functions less like a formal institution and more like an international community, one where young engineers build genuine professional and personal connections across borders. This independence allows EYE to act in the interest of its member associations and the young engineers they represent, free from ties to any single government, company or institution.

EYE operates through a two-tier governance structure. The EYE Council, made up of two representatives from each member association, is the organisation's highest decision-making body: it sets EYE's strategic direction, approves the Statutes, Strategy and Budget, and elects the Management Team. The Management Team, led by a President and seven Vice Presidents, handles day-to-day operations and carries out the Council's decisions, supported by volunteer-led Working Groups across seven departments. The Council meets at least twice a year, usually alongside EYE's in-person conferences.

### 2.1 Mission and Vision

- **Vision:** To be the voice of young engineers in Europe.
- **Mission:** To provide a unique platform enabling young engineers across Europe to connect, network and form a factual-based, collective voice for governmental, industrial and academic stakeholders.

### 2.2 Values

- **Togetherness** — EYE is far stronger in representing young engineers when it works together, fostering an inclusive and respectful environment where members feel welcomed, supported and empowered to contribute.
- **Authenticity** — Only by being honest and open can EYE address matters effectively. Decisions are made collectively and boldly, based on factual, reliable information.

- **Innovation** — Being adaptable in a rapidly changing world is essential. EYE embraces change and encourage thinking outside the box, guided by a collective vision that fuels its ambitious goals. This is also an area members have identified as having the most room to grow.
- **Accountability** — It is EYE's responsibility to provide a platform that enables young engineers to connect, and only by holding itself accountable can its volunteer efforts deliver on this.

### 2.3 Structure

EYE is governed by the EYE Council, composed of representatives from each member association, who meet regularly to define priorities, approve initiatives and hold the organisation accountable to its members. This collective governance model reflects EYE's belief that decisions are strongest when made together.

| Indicator                              | Value          |
|----------------------------------------|----------------|
| Member associations                    | current no. 34 |
| Countries represented                  | current no. 24 |
| Young engineers represented (estimate) | ~500,000       |

### 3. Scope and Methodology

This first EYE Sustainability Report covers the period from April 2025 to September 2026, aligned with the current presidency's one-and-a-half-year term.

As a volunteer-led organisation, EYE does not currently apply a formal sustainability reporting standard. However, this report is informally aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) most closely related to EYE's activities and mission, particularly SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). Where relevant, contributions to other SDGs are also highlighted throughout the report.

The report is based on information collected from EYE's governance activities, conferences, projects, public policy work, partnerships, training initiatives and communications during the reporting period.

## 4. Social Pillar

The Social Pillar is at the core of EYE's mission. Through international collaboration, knowledge exchange and volunteer engagement, EYE works to strengthen the voice of young engineers across Europe. The organisation promotes inclusion, professional development, intercultural dialogue and equal opportunities for participation in its activities and governance structures.

### 4.1 Diversity and Inclusion

EYE brings together young engineers from more than 20 European countries and a wide range of engineering disciplines through its member organisations, conferences, Council Meetings and working groups. The organisation is committed to fostering an inclusive environment where participants can exchange perspectives, collaborate across borders and contribute to shaping the future of engineering in Europe.

EYE encourages diversity within its leadership, volunteer teams and event participants, recognising that a broad range of experiences and backgrounds strengthens innovation, collaboration and decision-making.

### 4.2 Skills Development

Supporting the professional and personal development of young engineers is a core element of EYE's mission. Throughout the reporting period, EYE provided opportunities for learning, skills development, international collaboration and knowledge exchange through both online and in-person activities, including the launch of Youth Skills Week, a new initiative held from 13–18 July 2026. Free and open to everyone, this week-long programme offered online sessions designed to help young engineers build professional and personal skills that complement technical knowledge, covering areas such as leadership, CV building, presentation skills and professional networking. Participants were welcome to attend as many sessions as they wished, making it one of EYE's most accessible skills-development initiatives to date.

EYE continued to organise its flagship biannual conferences, bringing together young engineers from across Europe. These events included technical workshops, panel discussions, professional development sessions, technical site visits and networking activities designed to broaden participants' technical expertise, leadership capabilities and international perspectives.

In addition to its physical conferences, EYE delivered a series of online events and webinars, enabling members to access knowledge-sharing opportunities regardless of geographical location.

During the reporting period, EYE further expanded its engagement in sustainability and public policy through collaborative initiatives, including the development of its first COP-focused online event as platform designers in partnership with the YOUNGO Energy

Working Group. This initiative created a platform for engineers and young professionals to discuss energy transition, climate action and sustainable development challenges, and to better understand the political language used throughout UNFCCC negotiations.

Through these activities, EYE strengthened its contribution to lifelong learning, professional growth and the development of future engineering leaders across Europe.

### 4.3 Access and Equity

EYE is committed to providing accessible opportunities for young engineers across Europe, regardless of their geographical location, financial circumstances or professional background.

A significant proportion of EYE's activities are delivered through online formats, including webinars, policy discussions, working group meetings, training initiatives and collaborative projects. This approach helps reduce travel-related barriers and enables participation from members across multiple countries.

EYE further developed its online conference format, building on the initial edition introduced by the previous Board. This included reinforcing online participation options and improving the platform and agenda used for remote sessions, enabling members who were unable to travel due to financial, professional or personal constraints to participate in conference discussions and knowledge-sharing activities remotely.

In addition, EYE strives to keep participation in its conferences as affordable as possible. Organised on a non-profit basis, EYE conferences aim to provide high-quality professional development, networking opportunities and technical learning experience at accessible registration costs.

By combining in-person and online participation, EYE seeks to ensure that opportunities for learning, networking and international collaboration remain accessible to a broad and diverse community of young engineers throughout Europe.

This hybrid approach reflects EYE's commitment to inclusion, equal opportunity and the active engagement of its members, regardless of location or circumstances.

### 4.4 Volunteering

During the reporting period, EYE maintained 121 total user accounts across its digital platforms, with an estimated 50 weekly active users and around 30 participants in weekly meetings. These figures offer a realistic picture of the organisation's active volunteer base at any given time, reflecting the scale of engagement required to sustain EYE's governance, projects and daily operations.

## 5. Environmental Pillar

As a volunteer-led non-profit organisation, EYE's direct environmental footprint is relatively limited and is primarily associated with conference travel, accommodation, catering and event materials. Nevertheless, EYE recognises its responsibility to promote sustainable practices and continuously seeks opportunities to reduce its environmental impact.

Through digitalisation, online participation, paperless communication and sustainability-focused initiatives, EYE aims to minimise resource consumption while maximising its positive contribution to the engineering community.

### 5.1 Conferences and Events

EYE's main environmental impacts are linked to its conferences and international events, which bring together participants from across Europe. While these events require travel and accommodation, EYE and local organising committees actively seek opportunities to reduce environmental impacts through digital materials, sustainable venues, local suppliers and hybrid participation options.

#### EYE Conferences

| Date            | Event                                                                          | Location             |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 24-27 Apr 2025  | 54th EYE Conference<br>"Advanced Manufacturing"<br>hosted by UESA              | Malta                |
| 20 Jul 2025     | 2nd EYE Online<br>Conference                                                   | Online (Gather Town) |
| 18-21 Sept 2025 | 55th EYE Conference<br>hosted by GSCE                                          | Tbilisi, Georgia     |
| 15 Mar 2026     | 3rd EYE Online Conference<br>"Engineering the Twin<br>Transition"              | Online (Gather Town) |
| 7-10 May 2026   | 56th EYE Conference<br>"Engineering the Twin<br>Transition" hosted by<br>ANGPI | Naples, Italy        |
| 22 Aug 2026     | 4th EYE Online Conference<br>"Future Now"                                      | Online (Gather Town) |
| 24-27 Sept 2026 | 57th EYE Conference<br>"Future Now" (ongoing)                                  | Porto, Portugal      |

## International Sustainability and Policy Engagement

| Date              | Event                                                       | Location               |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 12-13 Jun 2025    | UNESCO First Dialogue on Water                              | Paris, France          |
| 16-26 Jun 2025    | SB62 (UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies Session)                     | Bonn, Germany          |
| 21-29 Jun 2025    | London Climate Action Week                                  | London, UK             |
| 12 Oct 2025       | Virtual COP (VCOP30), First 2D Metaverse Climate Conference | Virtual (Metaverse)    |
| 10-21 Nov 2025    | COP30                                                       | Belem, Brazil          |
| 2-4 Mar 2026      | 11th Annual Sustainability Week                             | London, UK             |
| 8-18 Jun 2026     | SB64 (UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies Session)                     | Bonn, Germany          |
| 09-11 Jun 2026    | European Sustainable Energy Week (EYE hosted a booth)       | Brussels, Belgium      |
| 20-28 Jun 2026    | London Climate Action Week                                  | London, UK             |
| 30 Jun-2 Jul 2026 | Lisbon Climate Action Week                                  | Lisbon, Portugal       |
| 18-19 Sept 2026   | LCOY Netherlands                                            | The Hague, Netherlands |

## Strategic Partnerships, European Projects and Institutional Engagement

| Date           | Event                                                                       | Location          |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 23 Jun 2025    | Engineers4Europe Closing Event                                              | Brussels, Belgium |
| 24-25 Mar 2026 | Together in Action 2026                                                     | Brussels, Belgium |
| 26 Mar 2026    | C.f.G. Foresight Workshop                                                   | Brussels, Belgium |
| 11-12 Jun 2026 | ISCETS (International Student Conference on Environment and Sustainability) | Shanghai, China   |

During the reporting period, EYE organised four international conferences and three online conferences, while actively participating in major European and global sustainability forums. These activities strengthened the organisation's contribution to discussions on climate action, energy transition, water management, innovation and sustainable development, while expanding cooperation with engineering institutions, universities, European projects and youth stakeholder networks.

To further reduce the environmental footprint of its activities, EYE increasingly relies on digital communication tools, online meetings and remote collaboration. During the reporting period, webinars, online workshops, virtual conferences and the first COP-focused online event organised in partnership with the YOUNGO Energy working Group enabled international participation without the environmental impacts associated with travel.

EYE also continued to promote sustainability awareness through conference programmes, technical sessions, public policy activities and discussions addressing climate action, energy transition, innovation and sustainable development.

While the organisation does not currently measure its carbon footprint, it recognises travel-related emissions as the most significant environmental aspect of its operations. EYE remains committed to increasing the use of digital participation formats, promoting sustainable event practices and exploring future approaches to monitoring and reducing the environmental impact of its activities.

## 5.2 Digitalisation

Digitalisation plays a key role in reducing EYE's environmental footprint and improving accessibility across its international network.

As a geographically distributed organisation, EYE relies heavily on digital communication and collaboration tools for governance, project management, working group activities and member engagement. Most meetings, planning activities and

internal communications are conducted online, reducing the need for travel and associated emissions.

Throughout the reporting period, EYE continued to prioritise digital communication channels, including webinars, online events, newsletters, social media and virtual meetings. Conference information, registrations and participant communications were also managed primarily through digital platforms, limiting the need for printed materials.

The introduction of online participation options for EYE conferences further supported both environmental and accessibility objectives, allowing members to engage remotely when travel was not feasible.

In addition, EYE organised several online events and knowledge-sharing initiatives, including its first COP-focused online conference developed in partnership with the YOUNGO Energy working Group. These initiatives expanded participation opportunities while significantly reducing the environmental impacts associated with in-person events.

Through its continued commitment to digitalisation, EYE contributes to more resource-efficient operations while maintaining active engagement with young engineers across Europe.

### 5.3 Climate Advocacy

As an organisation representing young engineers across Europe, EYE contributes to sustainability not only through its operations but also through advocacy, knowledge-sharing and participation in policy discussions related to climate action and sustainable development.

During the reporting period, climate and sustainability engagement became an increasingly important part of EYE's activities. Following the election of the current President at the 54th EYE Conference in Malta, the organisation expanded its involvement in international sustainability processes and created new opportunities for young engineers to contribute to climate-related discussions.

EYE participated in several international events and platforms, including the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies sessions (SB62 and SB64), COP30 in Belém, European Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW), UNESCO's First Dialogue on Water, Lisbon Climate Action Week and London Climate Action Week. Through these engagements, EYE brought engineering perspectives into discussions on climate action, energy transition, sustainable development and the future skills required to deliver these objectives.

These engagements enabled EYE to establish new relationships with policymakers, youth delegates, industry representatives and international organisations, strengthening the recognition of young engineers as relevant contributors to sustainability and climate policy discussions.

A key milestone was the continued development of EYE's hybrid engagement model. Alongside its physical conferences, the organisation hosted three Online Conferences, strategically scheduled between in-person events to maintain year-round engagement with members across Europe. This approach enabled broader participation, strengthened community-building and reduced geographical barriers to involvement.

In addition, EYE co-developed and hosted the first Virtual COP (VCOP30) in partnership with the YOUNGO Energy working Group. The initiative created an innovative digital space where young professionals, engineers and stakeholders could exchange perspectives on climate negotiations, energy systems and sustainable development, while improving understanding of the UNFCCC process and its relevance to the engineering profession.

EYE also continued to strengthen its public policy activities through position papers, strategic demands and stakeholder engagement focused on topics including climate negotiations, hydrogen infrastructure, renewable and green technologies, critical raw materials, engineering education and cybersecurity for industrial systems.

Through these activities, EYE consolidated its presence within international climate and sustainability discussions, expanded its network of institutional partners and strengthened its public policy activities. The organisation created new opportunities for young engineers to engage directly with climate and energy debates while demonstrating the value of engineering expertise in shaping evidence-based solutions to global challenges. EYE also strengthened its role as a bridge between technical knowledge and policy dialogue, ensuring that the perspectives of young engineers are represented in discussions shaping Europe's sustainable future.

While EYE's direct environmental footprint remains relatively limited, its greatest contribution lies in empowering young engineers to participate in shaping the sustainable transition and in promoting evidence-based engineering solutions to global challenges.

## 6. Governance Pillar

### 6.1 Decision-Making Structure

EYE is governed through a democratic and representative structure involving its Member Organisations, Board and Council.

The Council serves as the organisation's primary decision-making body and brings together representatives from EYE's member organisations. Council Meetings are held regularly, including during EYE conferences, to review organisational activities, discuss strategic priorities, approve key decisions and elect leadership positions when required.

The Board is responsible for the day-to-day management of the organisation and the implementation of decisions approved by the Council. Regular Board meetings support

coordination across departments, working groups and projects, ensuring continuity and effective governance between Council Meetings.

This structure ensures that member organisations actively contribute to EYE's direction, strategy and development.

## 6.2 Transparency

EYE is committed to maintaining open communication with its members and stakeholders.

Organisational updates, project outcomes, conference information and governance matters are regularly shared through member communications, newsletters, social media channels, Council Meetings and internal reporting mechanisms. Important decisions are discussed within the appropriate governance bodies and communicated to member organisations to ensure transparency and accountability.

The publication of reports, position papers and activity summaries further supports EYE's commitment to sharing its work and impact with its members, partners and the wider engineering community.

## 6.3 Partnerships

Partnerships play an important role in EYE's ability to create opportunities for young engineers and increase its impact.

During the reporting period, EYE continued collaborating with industry partners, professional engineering institutions, universities and youth organisations. These partnerships supported conferences, technical visits, workshops, hackathons and policy-related activities, providing members with valuable opportunities for learning, networking and professional development.

Examples include cooperation with industry partners through initiatives such as the Audi Hackathon, collaboration with engineering institutions across Europe and partnerships with organisations active in sustainability, energy and public policy discussions.

Through these partnerships, EYE strengthens its international network, promotes interdisciplinary collaboration and helps ensure that the perspectives of young engineers are represented in discussions shaping the future of engineering and society.

## 7. Initiatives and Milestones of the Year

- **April 2025 – September 2026 | EYE Conferences and Council Meetings**

EYE continued to deliver its flagship biannual conferences, bringing together young engineers from across Europe through technical sessions, workshops, networking activities, governance meetings and technical site visits. Hybrid participation options were also introduced to improve accessibility and inclusion.

- **October 2025 | Launch of the First Virtual COP Initiative**

In partnership with the YOUNGO Energy working Group, EYE developed and hosted its first COP-focused online event, creating a platform for discussions on climate action, energy transition and the role of engineers in delivering sustainable solutions.

- **2025–2026 | Expansion of Hybrid Participation**

To improve accessibility and reduce barriers to engagement, EYE introduced online attendance options for conferences, enabling members who could not travel to participate in selected sessions and organisational activities.

- **2025–2026 | Renewal of Partnership with Engineers Europe (EE)**

EYE renewed its Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Engineers Europe, reaffirming the long-standing partnership between the two organisations and strengthening future collaboration and engagement.

- **July 2026 | Youth Skills Week**

EYE organised its first Youth Skills Week and continued to expand its programme of online events, webinars and knowledge-sharing activities, supporting the professional development of young engineers across Europe.

- **August 2026 | Partnership with HerCareer**

EYE signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with herCAREER, the leading career and networking platform for women and gender-diverse talent. This partnership supports the professional development of young women and gender-diverse engineers across Europe, reinforcing EYE's commitment to diversity and inclusion within the engineering profession.

- **2025–2026 | Climate Policy and UNFCCC Engagement**

EYE continued strengthening its contribution to climate and sustainability discussions through its UNFCCC-related activities and policy engagement. Building on its participation in the SB60 process, EYE further developed opportunities for young engineers to contribute technical perspectives to international sustainability discussions.

- **2025–2026 | Development of EYE Public Policy Activities**

EYE continued to strengthen its role as the voice of young engineers in Europe through policy discussions, stakeholder engagement and the promotion of engineering perspectives on sustainability, innovation and societal challenges. The organisation continued building upon its first European policy statement and related policy initiatives.

## 8. Key Metrics

The following key metrics provide a snapshot of EYE's activities, engagement and organisational reach during the 18-month reporting period from April 2025 to September 2026. They highlight the main achievements and areas of focus that contributed to EYE's mission of connecting, empowering and representing young engineers across Europe.

| Indicator                                          | Value                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Member Associations                                | 34                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| International Conferences Held                     | 3                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Online Conferences Held                            | 3                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Virtual COP Conferences Organised                  | One                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Newsletters and UNFCCC Magazine Editions Published | 4 newsletters, 2 UNFCCC magazines<br><br>Note: all documents available <a href="https://linktr.ee/eyengineers">https://linktr.ee/eyengineers</a>                                      |
| Strategic Demands Published (SBs and COP)          | 3                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Key focus areas                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conferences,</li><li>• Public Policy,</li><li>• Sustainability,</li><li>• Skills Development,</li><li>• International Collaboration</li></ul> |

## 9. Goals for the Next Term

The findings presented throughout this report, together with the outcomes of the strategic review process, provide a clear indication of EYE's strengths, achievements and future priorities. While the organisation enters its next term from a position of strength, supported by a credible European network, a strong conference model and an expanding role in public policy and sustainability discussions, continued development will be required to ensure long-term resilience and impact.

The strategy process also identified organisational sustainability as a critical area for the coming years. Financial resilience, diversified funding sources, stronger partnerships, volunteer retention, knowledge transfer and continuity between Boards should become long-term priorities. Several contributors highlighted that EYE's challenge is not a lack of activity, but ensuring continuity, focus and knowledge preservation across leadership transitions. As EYE continues to grow, future reporting could also benefit from a broader set of organisational indicators, including financial sustainability, sponsorship development and long-term organisational capacity.

Finally, EYE should continue investing in skills development, accessibility and member engagement. Expanding opportunities for learning, leadership development, international collaboration and hybrid participation can help strengthen the member experience while ensuring that EYE remains relevant and accessible to future generations of young engineers.

During the reporting period, EYE strengthened its position as a recognised European platform for young engineers, expanding its activities, public policy engagement, sustainability initiatives and international partnerships. Building on these foundations, the next Board should focus on four long-term priorities: Connect, Develop, Represent and sustain.

These priorities reflect not only the outcomes of the strategic review process and stakeholder consultations, but also EYE's ambition to strengthen its impact, broaden its influence and continue serving as the voice of young engineers in Europe.

## 10. Acknowledgements

EYE would like to express its sincere gratitude to all individuals and organisations who contributed to its activities during the reporting period from April 2025 to September 2026, mostly to Vice Presidents of EYE during this period.

We thank our Member Associations, Council representatives, Board members, advisors, project managers, working groups and volunteers whose dedication, expertise and commitment continue to make EYE possible. As a fully volunteer-led organisation, every conference, initiative, publication and achievement presented in this report has been made possible through their efforts.

We also extend our appreciation to our partners, collaborating organisations and speakers who have shared their knowledge, supported our activities and contributed to the development of opportunities for young engineers across Europe.

Special thanks are given to everyone involved in EYE's conferences, the hosts, public policy initiatives, sustainability activities and strategic review process. Their contributions have helped strengthen EYE's role as a platform for professional development, international collaboration and the representation of young engineers.

Together, European Young Engineers continue to build a strong, collaborative and forward-looking community for young engineers in Europe.