

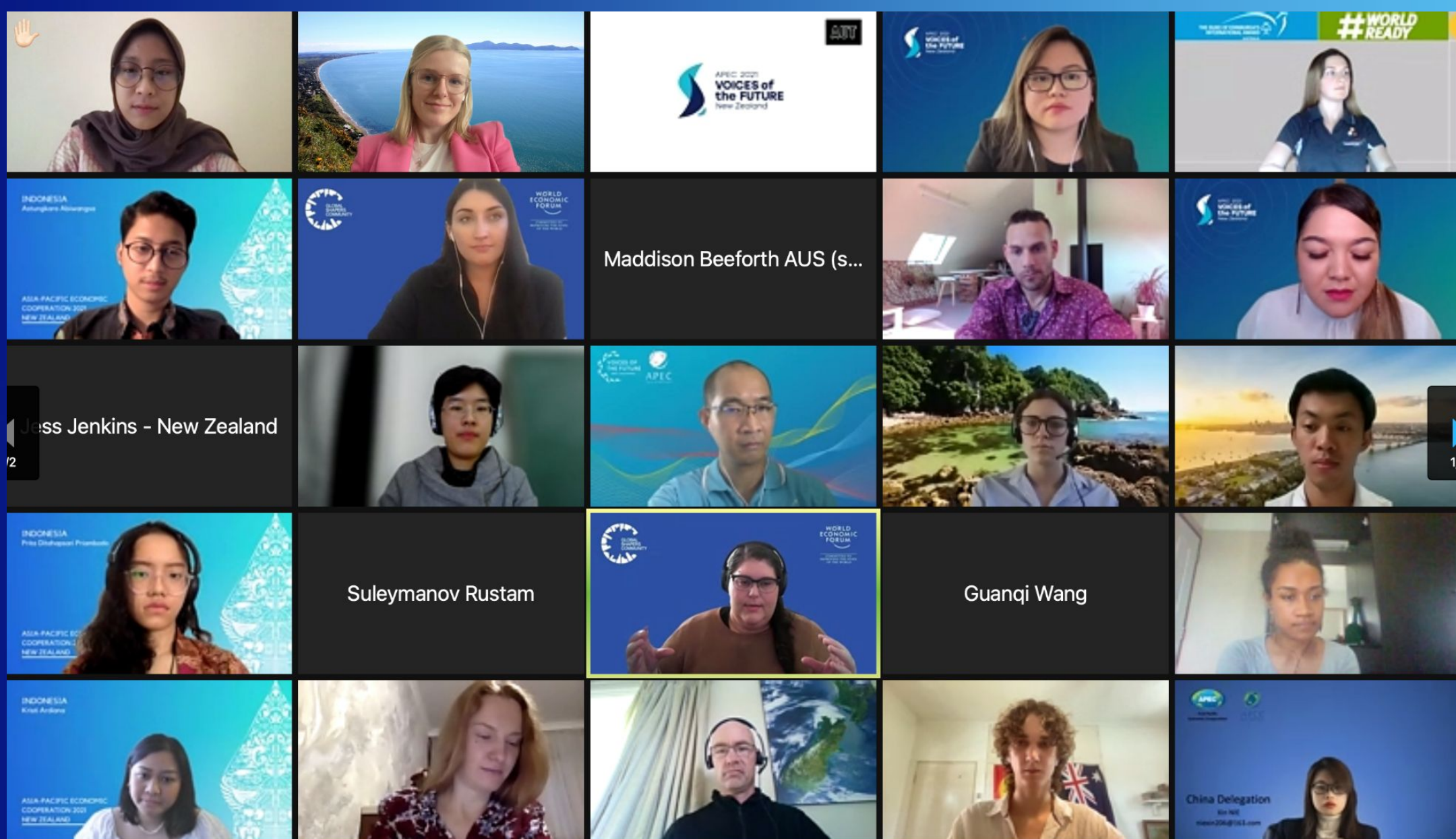


APEC 2021  
**VOICES of  
the FUTURE**  
New Zealand

# APEC Voices of the Future 2021

## *Reflections, Insights and Learnings*

*Haumi ē, Hui ē, Tāiki ē.  
Join, Work, Grow. Together.*



8-12 November 2021

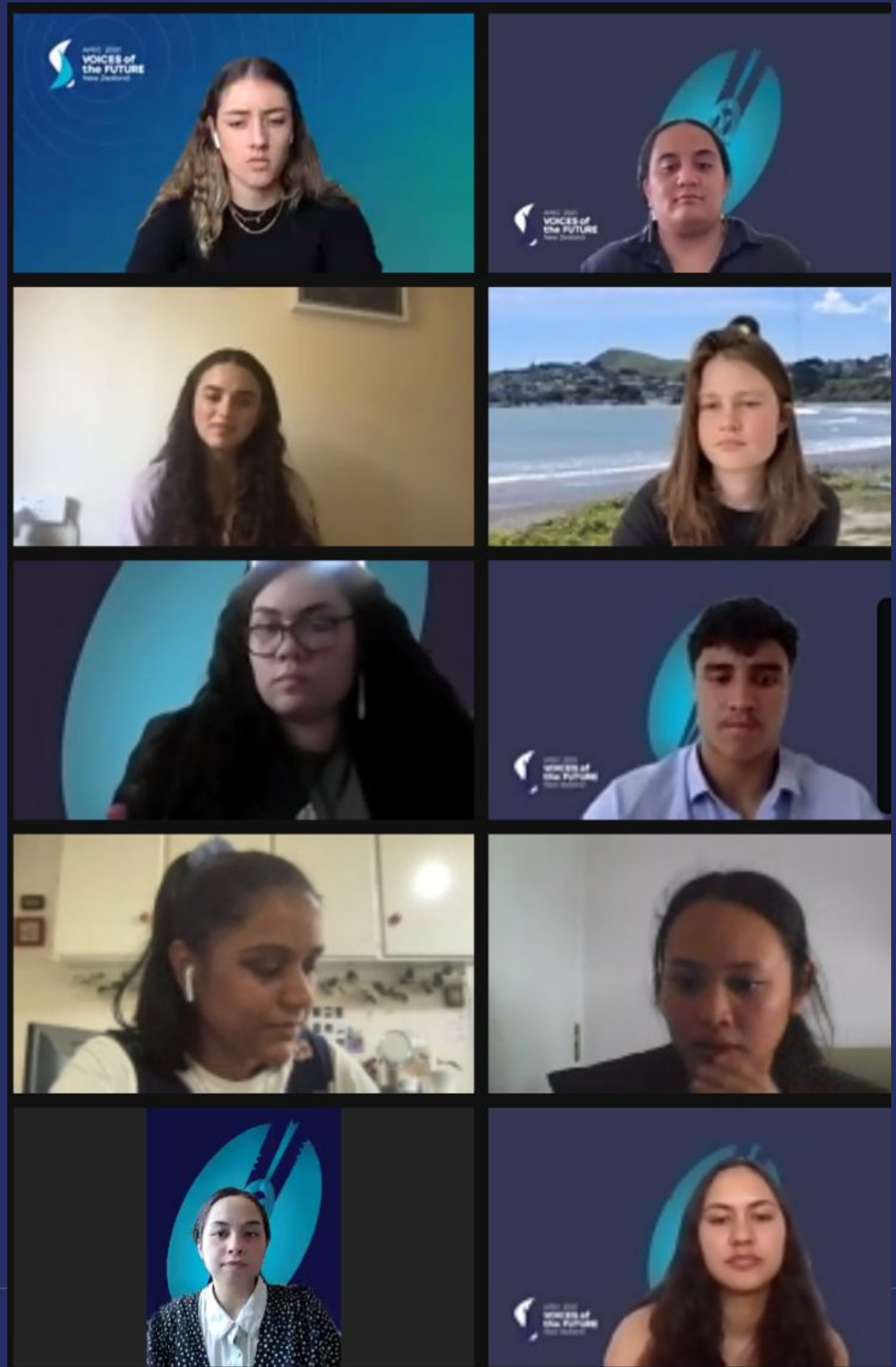
*A special report on the APEC Voices of the Future New Zealand event*

# Introduction

Youth representatives from 21 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) member economies assembled virtually during a series of meetings held in October and November 2021. The host economy, New Zealand, offered a unique opportunity to its rangatahi (young people) to be part of APEC by hosting an online domestic event alongside the traditional APEC Voices of the Future International event. The domestic meetings focused on APEC issues within the New Zealand context, supported by local speakers. This provided an opportunity for over 50 young people to kōrero (converse) with one another, tune into the international APEC Voices of the Future event and CEO Summit. Both of these opportunities ensured youth voices were front and centre, to deepen, strengthen and amplify both concerns and visions for a more inclusive and sustainable Aotearoa and wider region.

This year's Voices of the Future event was organised in partnership between **APEC 2021 (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade New Zealand)**, **Auckland University of Technology (AUT)** and **APEC Voices New Zealand** with an **Alumni Working Group** consisting of APEC Voices NZ representatives from previous years supporting the organising committee.

*“APEC Voices brings together young people from the 21 APEC economies, stimulating conversation, and an exchange of ideas. It enables them to connect personally and to form life-long relationships. APEC Voices also provides a unique multinational learning environment for young people from the Asia Pacific region.”*  
- Vannary Kong

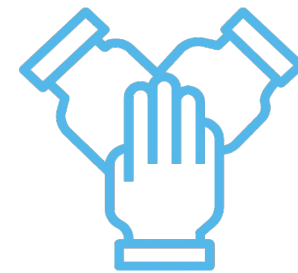


Several participants in the 2021 APEC Voices of the Future event

## Key Highlights & Milestones

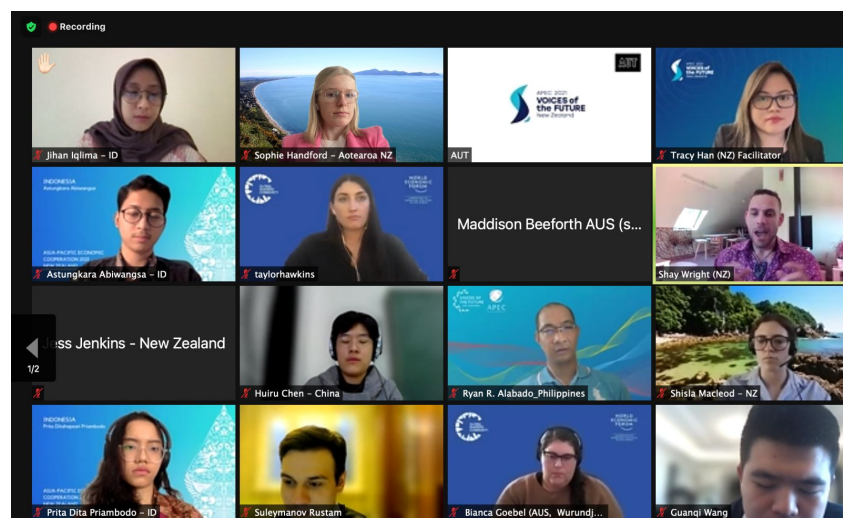
- Most inclusive APEC Voices of the Future event in history - due to the virtual nature of this year's event, all 21 APEC economies were present.
- Pre-summit drafting sessions, facilitated by APEC VoF NZ Alumni, were held to support the drafting of this year's Youth Declaration.
- APEC Voices of the Future International Event was live-streamed online to an international audience.
- In the first time in history, the APEC Voices of the Future 2021 Youth Declaration was handed over to the Chair of APEC: New Zealand Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern.

# Drafting of the Youth Declaration



## Introductory Meeting - 13th October 2021

The 90 minute introductory meeting on October 13th 2021 kicked off the Voices of the Future programme for 2021, bringing together all delegates and educators. Delegates from each economy introduced themselves and their teams, also reflecting on the question "what matters most to young people in your economy as we recover from COVID19?". This created a window into the challenges and opportunities confronting youth across the region, the early stages of a shared understanding which was enhanced as we journeyed along the programme. An overview of the themes enabled participants to begin generating ideas for the declaration.



Participants across the 21 APEC economies meet to learn about the Youth Declaration

## Drafting Sessions

To facilitate the drafting process, four drafting sessions were held to give all economies a chance to contribute to the content of the Youth Declaration. The Youth Declaration was to be presented to New Zealand Prime Minister and Chair of APEC 2021 Jacinda Ardern at the conclusion of the Voices of the Future International event in November. Each group was chaired by a New Zealand alumni of the Voices of the Future programme.

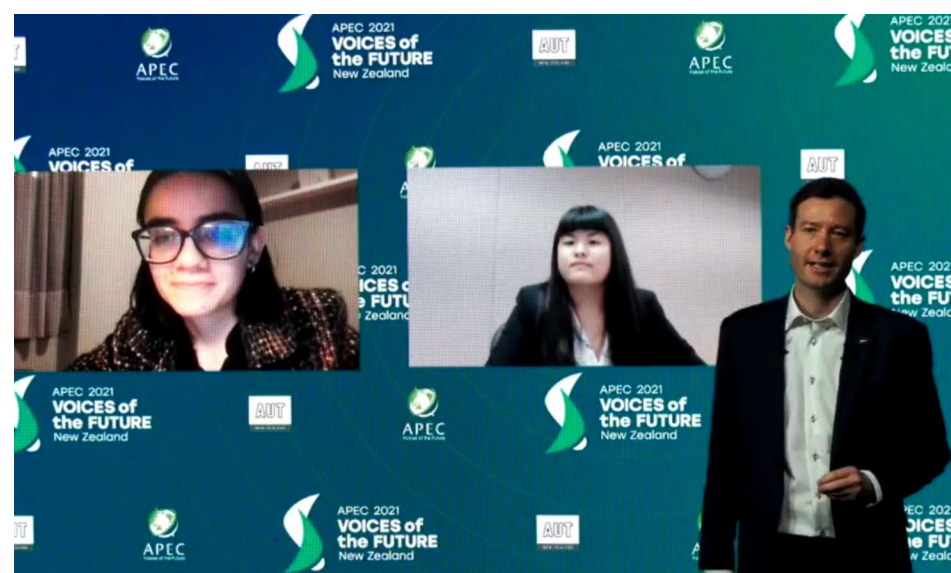
The four drafting sessions focused on one of the four themes of APEC Voices of the Future 2021:

- A Digital Future
- International Cooperation to Combat Covid-19
- A Greener Future
- A Future for All

Each economy was assigned to one of these themes and was asked to present their delegation's ideas on the theme at the drafting session. Each economy nominated an economy spokesperson to present these ideas and also be involved in the subsequent drafting session on the 27th of October. These drafting sessions also featured thought provoking talks by guest speakers. Two economies per theme also nominated lead drafters, who were tasked with pulling together the ideas discussed in their drafting session and putting together the draft of the declaration.

## A Digital Future - 20 October 2021

The Digital Future drafting session included guest speakers **Connie Man Hei Siu** (ITU Asia-Pacific Youth Envoy) and **Dr Mahsa Mohaghegh** (Director of Women in Technology at AUT and AI expert). Discussions took place around how the COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated digital transformation and highlighted that digital technologies are now essential for work, business and public services. However, there are many layers to the digital future that need to be adequately managed to make this a safe and equitable future. Economy speakers from Papua New Guinea, Peru, Singapore, Thailand and the United States all brought unique perspectives to the discussion. It was agreed that the digital economy is a vital aspect of economic growth, along with digital technologies having significant potential to advance social outcomes, such as financial inclusion, better healthcare, and increased sustainability. For this to become a reality, access to technology and digital literacy is critical. The discussions emphasised that cyber security and disinformation need to be better managed by the public and private sectors, and the need to prioritise wellbeing in the age of social media.



Stephani Paliza from Peru and Megan Litz from the USA present their contribution on A Digital Future

## International Co-operation to Combat COVID-19 - 20 October 2021

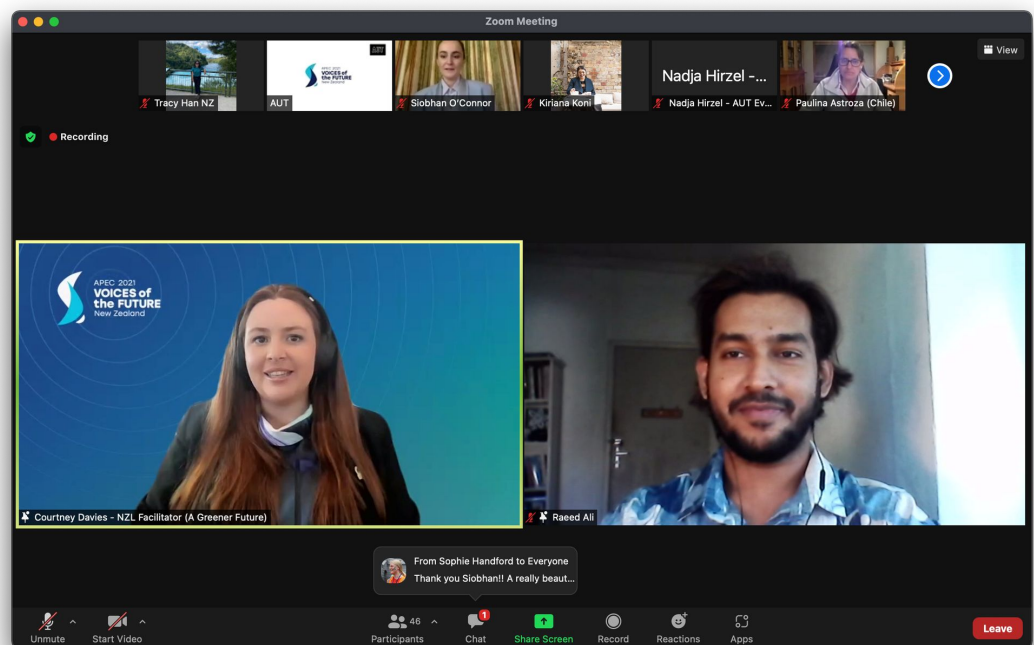
The International Co-operation to Combat COVID 19 session included many different lenses on how leaders, businesses, and civil society can work together to emerge from the pandemic in a better state. Guest speakers **Vannary Kong** (USA Delegate to the Youth G20 in Tokyo and Trade and Connectivity Sherpa at the Youth G7 ) and **Nikita Kent** (Prime Minister's Scholarship to Latin America recipient and intern at the United Nations) focused on how young people can mobilise and create the change they want to see. Other international youth platforms were emphasised, along with how we as youth can work collaboratively in an international capacity. It was also evident that in order to collaborate effectively to combat COVID-19, it is necessary that leaders and decision makers from around the globe collaborate. The importance of education and mental health were also emphasised. Economy speakers from Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines and Viet Nam shared their perspectives on how we can not only combat COVID-19, but emerge from the pandemic more resilient, responsive and sustainable. A key point of discussion was the allocation of resources to ensure that we not only combat this pandemic, but to also ensure that we are not faced by the same challenges in the future.



Brian Wong of Hong Kong and Norman Sim of Malaysia discuss their contributions to the International Cooperation to Combat COVID-19 section of the Youth Declaration

## A Greener Future - 21 October 2021

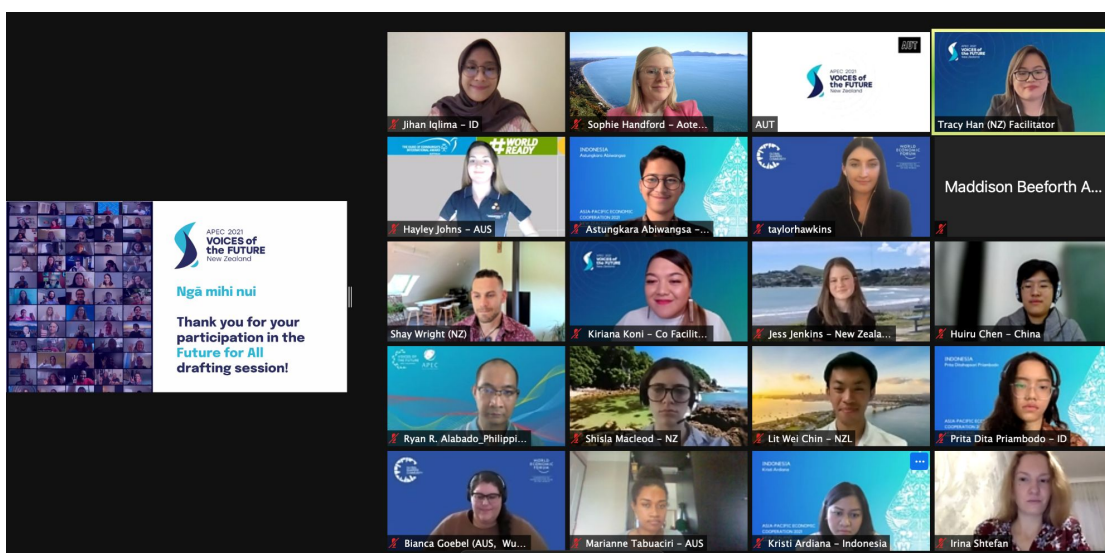
The Greener Future discussion really highlighted the urgency young people feel to combat climate change. This is, without doubt, the biggest challenge of our time. Guest speaker **Siobhan O'Connor** (Project Manager at Predator Free Hauraki) shared an insightful perspective, emphasizing the interconnected nature around environmental challenges including how our fresh waters and biodiversity is impacted by human activity. Guest speaker **Raeed Ali** (youth environmental activist) shared his perspective on lived experiences around adaptation techniques to some of the environmental challenges currently facing Fiji. The greener future discussion highlighted a number of critical environmental issues facing different APEC economies, solutions to some of these challenges and importantly, the shared vision of collective action to achieve greener economies across our APEC region and a greener future together. We heard from economy speakers throughout Brunei, Chile, Canada, Mexico and Chinese Taipei, weaving their intercultural experiences and perspectives to enrich the declaration.



*Greener Future facilitator Courtney Davies speaks with guest presenter Raeed Ali of Fiji*

## A Future for All - 21 October 2021

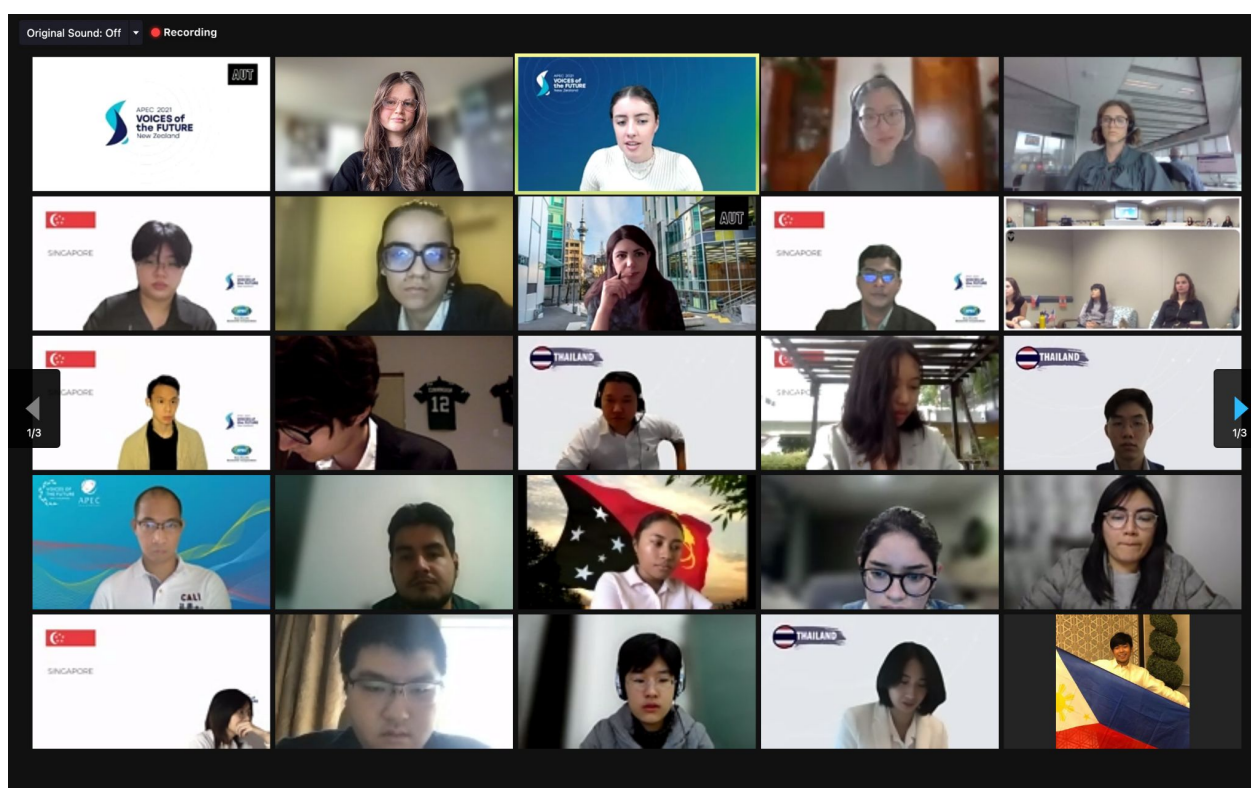
The Future for All session was a highly engaging and immersive event, which was reflective of the diversity in the APEC region. Some participants emphasised indigenous groups, other ethnic minorities, and women. Guest speaker **Shay Wright** (indigenous social entrepreneur and APEC Voices of the Future alumnus) shared some of his research which included some alarming facts, yet gave us hope with practical actions. Guest speakers, **Bianca Goebel** and **Taylor Hawkins**, from the World Economic Forum in Australia, also shared their research offering insights from the Davos report. Finally, Economy speakers from Australia, China, Indonesia, Russia and New Zealand shared their ideas on creating 'a future for all'. What brought us all together was to ensure that youth have a genuine voice at the table, regardless of background. We agreed that as youth are the ones being affected by decisions made today, we should at minimum be consulted in these decisions.



*Future for All drafting economies of Australia, China, Indonesia, Russia and New Zealand led by alumni Tracy Han and Kiriana Koni*

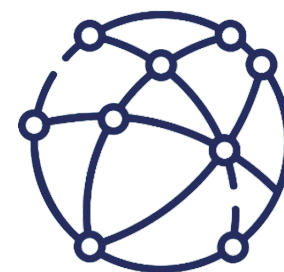
## Final Drafting - 27 October 2021

The final drafting session provided an opportunity for our international lead drafters, economy spokespeople and facilitators to work through the draft declaration. Drawing on the details outlined in the drafting session plans, each theme group explored the existing elements enabling economy spokespeople to provide feedback. Each group had a different way of achieving this - some already had a larger portion written whereas others used this session to add more depth. After 45 minutes of interactive dialogue, our lead drafters then reported back to the wider group to ensure a more cohesive document that would soon be the 2021 APEC Voices of the Future Youth Declaration. This enabled interdisciplinary collaboration between others involved in the declaration and encouraged a multicultural perspective.



*All economy spokespeople and lead drafters meet to work on the final Youth Declaration*

# 2021 APEC Voices of the Future International Event



The APEC Voices of the Future International Event was a jam-packed two days, with many layers of conversations being built, and connections being made.

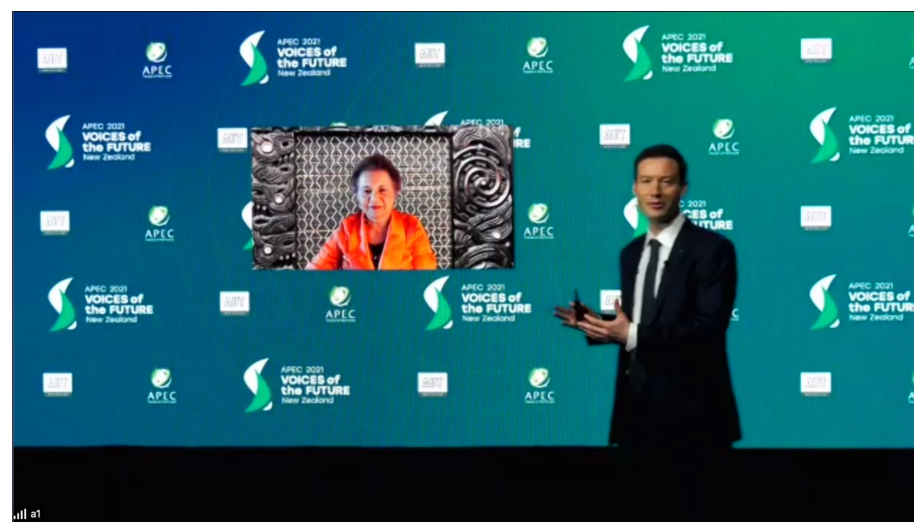
The event kicked off with an address by **Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria**, the executive chair of APEC, who welcomed hearing ideas from the youth of the region. This keynote address was followed by sessions on International Cooperation to Combat Covid-19 and A Digital Future. Each of these sessions opened with an overview of the key points in the Youth Declaration for each theme, provided by the theme lead drafters. The International Cooperation to Combat Covid-19 featured speeches from **Eduardo Pedrosa** (Secretary-General of PECC) and **Afiqah Ramizi** (President of the New Zealand International Student Association). This was followed by an address from **Alvin Tan** (Minister of State for Culture from Singapore). The Digital Futures session featured an interview of **Susan Wojcick** (CEO of Youtube) by **Sarah Chrisp** (New Zealand Youtuber) and a presentation by **Susan Chen** (Director and Head of People at Riot Games). Day one was capped off by a keynote speech from **Rachel Taulelei**, the Chair of ABAC 2021.

Day 2 of the event started with keynote addresses by **Jayathma Wickramanayake**, the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, and **Wayne Hay**, International correspondent at Al Jazeera. This was followed by sessions on the Greener Future and Future for All themes, each following the same format as the previous day. The Greener Future theme featured guest speakers **Kim DeRidder** (Regional Director of The Asia Foundation's Environment Programme) and **Juan José Guzmán** (Advocate for human rights and the environment and founder of Pacto X El Clima). The following Future for All session guest speakers were **Edwina Pio** (New Zealand's first Professor of Diversity at AUT) and **Mayumi Sato** (Gates Cambridge scholar and researcher for the UNEP@50 Report for the UN Environment Programme).

The [2021 APEC Youth Declaration](#) hand-over was perhaps the pinnacle of the Voices Event, signifying a genuine acknowledgement of youth voice within the APEC region. For the first time in its 23-year history, the Declaration formed during the International Voices of the Future Programme was received by the Chair of the APEC Summit.

As an incubator of ideas, APEC enables regional economies to share a diverse range of perspectives on the foremost issues impacting the Asia-Pacific. This year's Youth Declaration sought to foster more of these ideas, contributing to Leaders' discussions in a practical and tangible manner.

The 2021 Declaration is unique in both tone and structure. Previously, APEC Youth Declarations have been created with the purpose of guiding potential discourse around the APEC region. This year, the Declaration called for measurable action, utilising targeted language towards APEC Leaders and an outcomes-focused approach.



APEC Voices of the Future alumni Tim McCready introduces a speaker



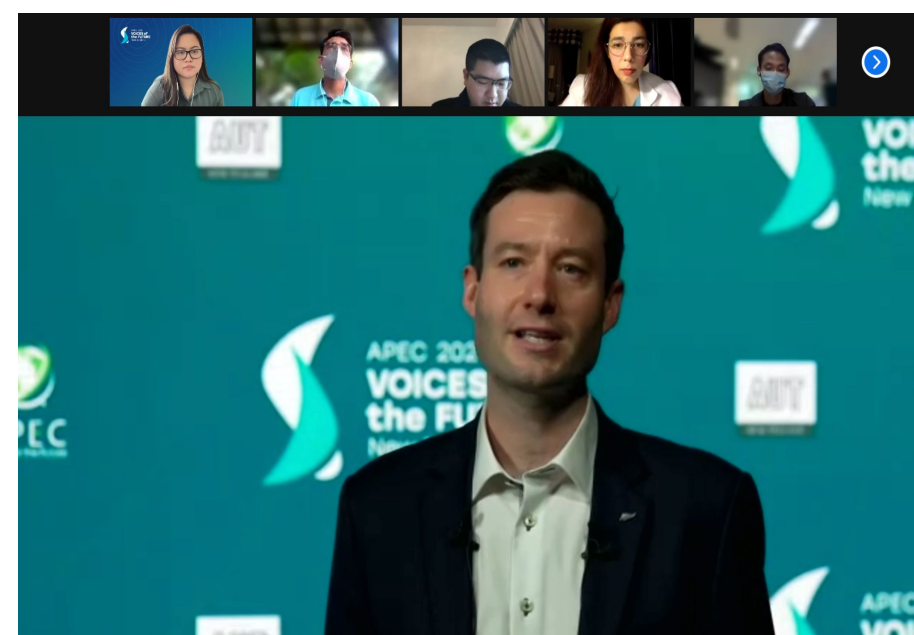
NZ Delegate Jess Jenkins presents the 2021 APEC Youth Declaration to Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern



New Zealand delegates Shisla Macleod, Jess Jenkins and Sophie Handford after handing over the APEC Youth Declaration for 2021



APEC Voices of the Future alumna Courtney Davies introduces Minister Priyanca Radhakrishnan (Minister for Youth) during the domestic APEC Voices of the Future event



APEC Voices of the Future alumnus Tim McCready MC's the APEC Voices of the Future event

# APEC Voices of the Future NZ Domestic Programme



New Zealand also hosted a domestic Voices of the Future programme, including delegates from each of New Zealand's eight universities, nominees from Te Puni Kōkiri and Te Rangitūpuku as well as the four delegates who attended the international event. While the event was intended to be in person, COVID lockdown restrictions forced the event to be moved online. The domestic delegates were able to watch the International event and attend the CEO Summit. In addition, there were sessions ranging from 20 minutes to an hour and a half run for the domestic event each day from the 8th to the 12th of November. Each of these sessions were hosted by New Zealand Alumni of APEC Voices of the Future.

The domestic programme started with an introductory session on Monday, which consisted of welcomes from The APEC New Zealand Voices Trust, AUT and APEC 2021 (Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade). Each delegation also provided an introduction. The delegates were then split into five groups for an icebreaker activity.

The Tuesday session started with an address from New Zealand **MP Arena Williams**, an APEC Voices of the Future Alumna. The delegates then split into four groups (one per theme) to discuss a few questions on their chosen theme. These groups were facilitated by the four delegates representing New Zealand at the International Event. Thoughts were then presented back to the whole group at the end of the session.

The Wednesday session featured a keynote address from **Stephen Jacobi**, the executive director of ABAC. This was followed by a panel discussion facilitated by **Dr Jessica Vredenburg**, Assistant Professor in Marketing at AUT. This panel included **Haylee Putaranui** (Global Head of Diversity and Inclusion at Fonterra), **Professor Jarrod Haar** (Professor of Human Resource Management at AUT) and **Kaye-Maree Dunn** (Director at Making Everything Achievable Limited).

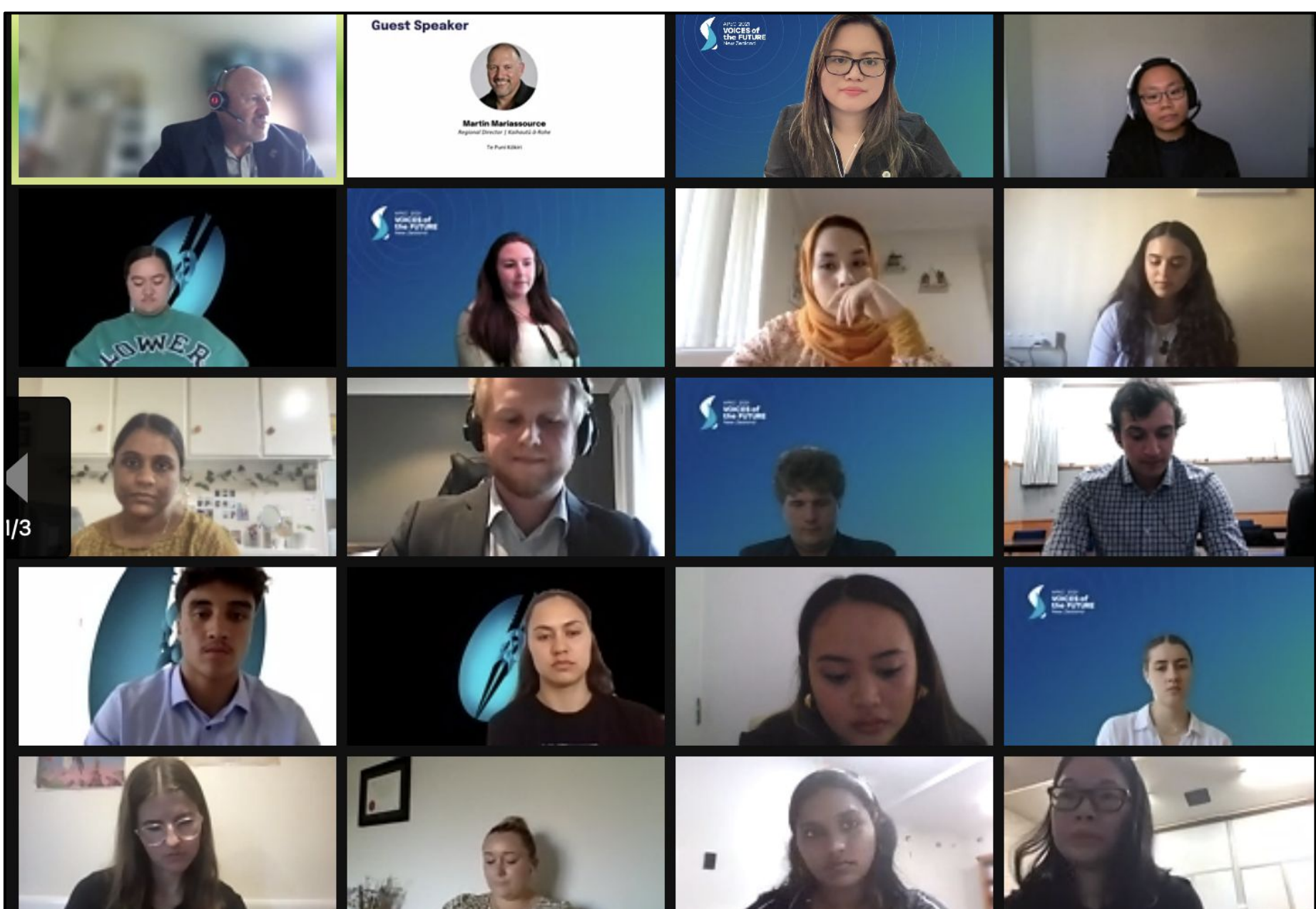
The Thursday session featured an address by New Zealand's Minister for Youth, **Priyanca Radhakrishnan** and the Friday session wrapped up the event with a short speech from **Angus Fletcher** (Executive Chair of the Fletcher Trust), the presentation of certificates for our New Zealand delegates, the presentation of the June Gould Award and a reflective session, where the delegates split into small breakout rooms to chat about their thoughts on the event. The programme then wrapped up with closing comments from **Professor John Randal** (Associate Dean at Victoria University of Wellington) and **Derek McCormak** (Vice Chancellor of AUT).

Below are a couple of insights shared by NZ Delegates:

*"The delegates of the Voices of the Future came together to discuss the various challenges faced by APEC economies. The conversations sparked various interesting ideas, and brought forward a number of issues as each delegate contributed their opinions arising from their personal expertise and background."*

*"It has been personally very rewarding for my personal, political and business minded growth."*

*"We urge the leaders of APEC to take concrete measures in cooperation towards a more resilient, prosperous, and equitable region."*



Some of the New Zealand APEC Voices of the Future domestic participants

# APEC Voices of the Future Alumni Involvement

Perspectives and involvement of APEC VoF as alumni has been quite pertinent especially with the pivot to online due to COVID. For a programme with such a strong and significant focus on young people, it was crucial to draw on the involvement and experience of previous VoF alumni as a steering group to ensure the focus remained on the success of the future generations

The Alumni Working Group (a sub committee of the APEC Voices of the Future Organising Committee) have played a unique and active role in the organisation of this year's APEC Voices of the Future event. The group led the drafting process for the Youth Declaration (including sourcing, interviewing and briefing each of the external speakers), facilitated all of the drafting sessions during the pre-summit for each team and throughout the planning process ensured that a youth perspective was front and centre. The alumni working group brought forward their unique experiences as previous APEC VoF delegates and provided valuable insight into the virtual drafting process which involved coordination between the approximately 124 delegates across 20 APEC economies and time zones.

These five alumni, **Tracy Han, Courtney Davies, Zachary George-Neich, Kiriana Koni** and **Hannah Pattullo** worked tirelessly and volunteered a collective 410 hours throughout the planning stage to bring this event with a youth flair to life (equating to watching the whole Lord of the Rings trilogy over 44 times!).



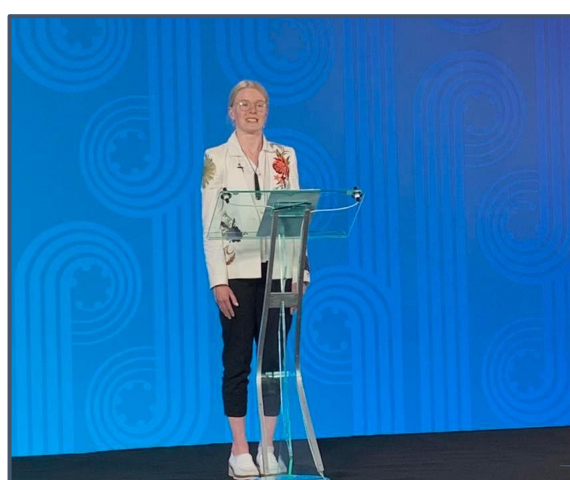
## APEC CEO Summit



*Lit Wei Chin speaks of the Youth Declaration at the APEC CEO Summit*

Across the two-days, delegates virtually attended the APEC CEO Summit where they heard, and learned from the world's most powerful CEOs, business leaders, entrepreneurs, thought leaders, Prime Ministers and presidents of APEC economies. Each topic throughout the day started and ended with a keynote speaker or address from an APEC Leader. Between sessions, engaging panel discussions provided deeper insights into the topics.

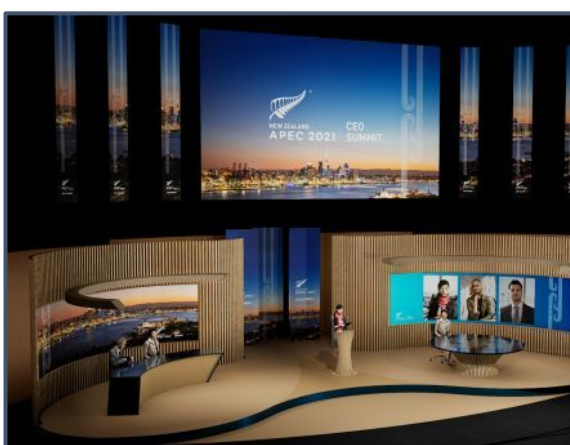
The first day started with a Pōwhiri, that set the scene for opening remarks from CEO Summit Chair, **Barbara Chapman** and APEC 2021 Chair, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern. The first topic to ground the conversations in the CEO Summit was to understand the economic state of the world. Keynote speaker **Mathias Cormann**, OECD Secretary General highlighted some common trends that have been supporting and hindering the recovery of economies around the globe. He brought it back to seeing the opportunities further OCED and APEC partnership to make our recovery stronger, resilient, and consistent across regions.



*Sophie Handford speaks of the Youth Declaration at the APEC CEO Summit*

Delegates then heard from business leaders from DHGate, Jacobs Engineering Group and Fonterra about their organisation's responses and recovery from COVID-19 and the transition to a more digital workspace was a common thread through this. A framing of the digital disruption uncovered what opportunities this brought to trade and a reminder of ESG within a digital future. Panels discussed how a sustainable future could look and the role of investment in renewable sources of energy including solar and green hydrogen. Keynote, **Dr David Suzuki** a broadcaster, scientist and author mentioned the importance of taking more bold climate action to respect and remain within ecological boundaries. **Amal Clooney**, International Human Rights Lawyer, was one of the standout keynotes for the day, really highlighting that, in today's world, businesses must pay attention to issues concerning human rights.

Day two brought the topic of Environment, Social Governance (ESG) to the forefront. **Richard Edelman**, CEO of Edelman gave an interesting keynote to start the day, talking about 'The Primary of Trust'. As basic as trust could sound, it dove deep into the complexities of it from consumer behaviours to the trust of employees being the foundation of a successful organisation. Panel topics included conversations around how businesses can be a force for good and the importance of indigenous peoples and youth to be at the centre as we look to the future.



*APEC CEO Summit streamed live from Auckland*

New Zealand delegates, Lit Wei Chin and Sophie Handford, had the opportunity to share on behalf of APEC Voices of the Future delegates about the experience of working alongside the various economies to produce the Youth Declaration and also the opportunity to lay out what is in it. We called for accountability and actions, focussed on education, equity & well-being, from APEC across the four themes.

In APEC CEO Summit tradition, the closing was a handover from CEO Summit Chair, **Barbara Chapman** to Thailand APEC CEO Summit Chair, **Dr Po**. Barbara wishes with optimism that the next CEO Summit could possibly be in person and emphasises that a successful 'fit for the future' recovery will need to be an intersection of a social-centred, people-centred and planet centred recovery.

The APEC CEO Summit has clearly provided the opportunity to learn, to be inspired, to connect digitally and to provide a platform for young people's voices to be heard. This is only the start of the journey, so much more can be done to elevate young people's voices within forums such as the CEO Summit.

# Personal Reflections

*"I initially thought the online platform would hinder the ability to create a meaningful declaration where all voices are accounted for, however I was proven wrong. This year's Voices of the Future event was remarkable, and the process of drafting the declaration was definitely a highlight. The mana of all the participants was evident, their energy was contagious, and their passion and understanding for each other's perspectives was moving."*

**- Shisla Macleod (2021 APEC Voices delegate)**

*"The APEC Youth Declaration is a symbol of unity amidst crisis, representing cross-cultural collaboration and understanding. Individual voices can make an impact, but collective cooperation can be a true force for change. Participating in APEC 2021 confirmed that the issues facing young people in our motu are almost unanimously reflected across the Asia-Pacific. Investment in our future is not an idealistic concept; it is embedded within our present thoughts, considerations and active decisions."*

**- Jess Jenkins (2021 APEC Voices delegate)**

*"There is something really powerful about diverse youth voices coming together to work towards a common goal. Right from the beginning, I felt an overwhelming sense of passion and drive but also responsibility and uncertainty as we find ourselves at a crucial time where change is no longer an option, it is a must. I have learnt that although some of the world's largest issues may be felt differently across economies, it is clear that a collective effort is required to solve them. Whilst we call for action, the mahi done, relationships made and insights shared, are rewarding and exciting in their own right. This experience is something that will undoubtedly stay with me forever."*

**- Hannah Pattullo (2018 APEC Voices alumna)**

*"This year's APEC Voices of the Future was groundbreaking in many ways. For the first time in the programme's history, all economies were represented by youth delegates and the Youth Declaration was formally presented to this year's Chair of APEC. These are fantastic achievements. While we, as a region and as youth, are facing some difficult challenges (many of which are time critical), there are still many opportunities and tangible actions that can be taken to overcome these obstacle. It was a privilege to facilitate an event that enabled youth to develop a wider and deeper understanding of these critical issues facing our region from each other and from guest speakers as well as the opportunity to make their voices heard through the Youth Declaration.."*

**- Zachary George-Neich (2017 APEC Voices alumnus)**

*"In words of Princess Te Puea Herangi: "Mahia te mahi, hei painga mō te iwi. Manaakitia te iwi, whangaingia te tangata. Kia mau ki te aroha, me te rangimarie." The sentiment of this whakatauki (Māori proverb) signifies the importance of working together for the betterment of the people, looking after one another and sustaining love and peace. This whakatauki reflects the nature of my experience with APEC Voices of the Future 2021"*

**- Kiriana Koni (2021 APEC Voices alumna)**

*"At such a pivotal moment, this turning point we find ourselves at, it was easy to feel the huge responsibility which came from being a part of these APEC kōrero over the last few months. We have celebrated our differences and the values that unite us. We discussed the challenges aka. opportunities with us right here, right now and through a focus on solution thinking, were able to dream up a future for the APEC region where we see people and the planet being able to thrive"*

**- Sophie Handford (2021 APEC Voices delegate)**

*"In times of a crisis, the opportunities to be innovative and collaborative are key to a thriving economy. APEC 2021 has shown that anything is possible if we are to join, work and grow together. Although we could not do this face to face, being digitally connected has allowed us to learn and experience things differently. This year, for the first time the formal acceptance of the APEC Youth Declaration by the APEC Chair signifies this is only the start of the journey, and I can see the light for opportunities to a better future that is inclusive if we are to elevate youth voices."*

**- Lit Wei Chin (2021 APEC Voices delegate)**

*"It is no surprise to see that the most prevalent issues that were identified as part of the Youth Declarations of previous years have re-emerged year after year and also in this year's APEC VoF 2021 Youth Declaration. The global COVID 19 pandemic has exacerbated existing issues affecting the Asia Pacific region, widening gaps in inequality and demands a change in mindset in the way we approach solutions. More than ever, it requires the perspectives of our youth. The process of drafting the 2021 Youth Declaration which was for the first time in APEC Voices history, carried out virtually due to the restrictions of COVID is an example of how collaboration and digital diplomacy amongst youth can happen in ways not imagined before. As an alumna of APEC Voices, it has been an absolute pleasure to have had the opportunity to facilitate this process."*

**- Tracy Han (2017 APEC Voices alumna)**

*"To echo the contributions of our team as aforementioned, APEC is such a powerful tool to unite, educate, empower and inspire both the current generation and next generation of changemakers across the Asia-Pacific region. No other Summit has quite the capacity nor numbers to invoke change that is so desperately needed. Yet at the same time, APEC Voices of the Future is a pivotal opportunity to highlight the power of youth-led initiatives, demonstrated by an event heavily influenced through our New Zealand alumni who offered their skills and time, purely voluntarily, whilst working full time jobs and juggling study during a COVID-19 lockdown because they too can see the benefit that APEC Voices of the Future has. This adventure has been of both personal and professional significance to me, especially being able to continue to contribute to such a momentous document from my experience in 2016. APEC Voices of the Future is a programme that enables the voices of each individual to add to a collective and that is the reason I am excited to remain engaged for years to come."*

**- Courtney Davies (2016 APEC Voices alumna)**



# Special Acknowledgements

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude and thanks to **AUT (Auckland University of Technology)**, **APEC 2021 (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade New Zealand)** and the **APEC Voices International Secretariat** who have worked alongside the **APEC Voices NZ Trust** to deliver APEC Voices of the Future 2021. A special mention to **David** and **Christina Ward**, **Dale Bailey** and **Martin Mariassouce** from the APEC Voices NZ Trust, **Mark Pearson** and **Jordan Gribble** from APEC 2021 as well as **William Ho**, **Samantha Cruttenden** and **Nadja Hirzel** from AUT, for their leadership and commitment to the programme through their respective roles. We would like to acknowledge the hard work of all 2021 APEC Voices Delegates. This includes the international delegates from 21 APEC economies led by host country, Aotearoa New Zealand representatives **Lit Wei Chin**, **Sophie Handford**, **Jess Jenkins** and **Shisla Macleod**, and the domestic delegates from participating universities and groups.

*APEC Voices of the Future Alumni facilitating the Youth Declaration and APEC VoF domestic event*



We are grateful for the extensive contributions, facilitation and voluntary hours committed by APEC Voices of the Future alumni **Tracy Han**, **Courtney Davies**, **Zachary Georgie-Neich**, **Kiriana Koni** and **Hannah Pattullo**.

We would like to thank New Zealand APEC Chair, Prime Minister **Jacinda Ardern**, for her commitment to listening and engaging with youth in her APEC agenda and all of our distinguished guests and speakers for their time and the valuable insights that were shared.

Finally, thanks to our event MC **Tim McCready**, various partners for media creation and coverage, and all other supporters for making the first virtual APEC Voices of the Future a true success. This would not have been possible without the dedication and leadership from all parties involved and we are incredibly grateful.

## June Mayne Gould Leadership Award

The June Mayne Gould Leadership Award for the APEC Voices of the Future, which was launched at the APEC Voices 2011 in Honolulu, is named in honour of June Mayne Gould for her immense contributions in the development of youth leaders in the 21 APEC Member Economies and will be presented annually to an outstanding participant who has demonstrated sincere, positive, encouraging, helpful character and leadership throughout the APEC Voices Week, greatly contributing to the program by helping other delegates do their best and get the most out of their APEC experience.

The recipients of the award this year are **Sophie Handford** and **Tracy Han**.

The names of the 2021 recipients of the June Mayne Gould Leadership Award will be recorded on a special commemorative plaque placed at the APEC Voices Secretariat, which is based at the National Youth Achievement Award Council of Singapore and are invited to act as advisors to the following year's APEC Voices programme, in Thailand 2022.

