Environment and Climate Change:
In the wake of Covid-19, what form of government intervention do we need to reach the Paris Agreement targets?

Introduction
With devastating effects impacting most sectors of the global economy, Covid-19 has quickly reversed long-established paradigms around government intervention to limit unemployment and social collapse. This unprecedented crisis comes in the middle of the climate emergency, a global threat likely to impact our societies at a far higher level than Covid-19. How can government and publication be framed to reduce our negative impact on the planet and reach the Paris Agreement targets? Both African and European states have vowed to act by signing the Agreement, and they are needed as a force to push the agenda globally.

Objectives
The session’s goal is to put forward honest and direct questions to the panelists for them to debate and exchange ideas, possibly with questions taken from social media in real time. The vibe of the panel should be "no frills" or "hard talk". Overall, we see this panel session as a frank discussion on burning topics regarding climate action and government intervention (Can states bail out high-emission companies with no strings attached? What role can the EU and the AU play?). Panelists should be encouraged to use a simple language and not dive into policy details to engage a youth audience.

Format
- A debate panel with a dynamic format (The Stream on Al Jazeera can be an inspiration source)
- To ensure that the panel also serves an educational purpose, we suggest including a short introduction about climate change key facts (< 10 mins), ideally at the beginning of the panel. The Climate Collage, an online tool to describe the key cause/consequence links on climate change can be an efficient tool in this regard. This would leave 40 mins to dive into the panel itself with the necessary key facts and figures in mind.

Speakers
Moderator: AU-EU Youth Hub Young Expert.
- **Dr Jane Goodall (UK)**, Primatologist and anthropologist, World’s foremost expert on chimpanzees
- **Felwine Sarr (Senegal)**, Writer and associate professor of economics at Gaston Berger University in Saint-Louis, co-founder of LASPAD
- **Agnes Kalibata (Rwanda)**, Agricultural scientist and policymaker, and president of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)
- **François Gemenne (Belgium)**, Researcher and former Executive Director of the Earth Policy Research Program
- **Sanna Marin (Finland)**, current Prime Minister (as backup)