



**ECOSOC
YOUTH
FORUM**

MADE BY



ECOSOC YOUTH FORUM REPORT 2019

UNHQ, New York, USA

The Forum brought youth leaders from around the world to the United Nations Headquarters in New York. It gave them the opportunity to engage with government representatives, youth delegates, policymakers and other relevant stakeholders in civil society and the private sector.

SPRING 2019



ABOUT THE REPORT OF ECOSOC YOUTH FORUM 2019

The purpose of the report is to showcase insights, outcomes, and reflective youth at the annual ECOSOC Youth Forum since 2012. Back then, with the theme: "Creating a sustainable future: Empowering youth with better job opportunities." The idea is to analyze insights, youth experiences, and useful notes from the official program. Besides, it is to use for meetings and further understand the impact of an event of 1000+ participants like this. Valuable thoughts, networking, and lessons learned were all part of the short week in NY, US. This framework includes apparent facts and statistics to build around an evidence-based approach for implementation of UNs Agenda 2030.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE AGENDA	04
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	06
UNCTAD NEW YORK YOUTH MEETING	08
UNCTAD: YOUTH ACTION HUBS (YAH)	10
ROAD TO ECOSOC - THE PROCESS	12
YOUTH BLAST BY UNFPA	14
OPENING CEREMONY REMARKS	16
UNCTAD YOUTH WORK SDG 8	18
UNCTAD YOUTH WORK SDG 10	22
GALLERY: YOUTH INTERVENTIONS	26
SDG 8: INTERACTIVE SESSION BY MGCY	28
INSIGHTS: UNAOC	30
RELEVANT STATISTICS FOR AGENDA 2030	32
CASE STUDIES: IMPLEMENTATION OF SDGS	34
INTERACTIVE INVESTING IN YOUTH ROUNDTABLE:	36
CLOSING CEREMONY REMARKS	38
MEET THE TEAM BEHIND THE REPORT	40

THE AGENDA.

EQUALITY. EMPOWERMENT. INCLUSION.

The current year's Forum was held under the subject of "Engaged, Included, and Equal." This subject features the significance of incorporating youngsters' commitment to the extent of worldwide talks. It likewise expects to advance universal coordinated effort between the Member States and Civil Society to be bolstered in enabling youthful partners' dynamic commitment.

Young peoples' power is an open door we can't miss. Speaking to over 1.8 billion youngsters everywhere throughout the world, members of the ECOSOC Youth Forum kept on taking a stab at their support at the basic leadership table, and courageously concocted essential proposals on the way toward understanding the SDGs. The current year's gathering right off the bat concentrated on exploring the accompanying six SDGs: SDG4 (Quality Education), SDG8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG10 (Reduced Inequalities), SDG13 (Climate Action), SDG16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

To finish up the current year's Forum in one sentence: "young people must have a seat at the table." The record-breaking number of youth members joined distinctive entire sessions in the two-day discussion and shared their important contributions from how to effectively venture up atmosphere activity, to how to guarantee a superior eventual fate of work. In the opening, the United Nations Envoy on Youth, Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake respected all members with Ambassador Inga Rhonda King, President of ECOSOC, and Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa, President of General Assembly with a significant discourse.

ECOSOCs FOCUS AREAS AT A GLANCE:

- ✓ Promoting Sustainable Development
- ✓ Advancing policy integration
- ✓ Development Cooperation Forum
- ✓ Financing for sustainable development
- ✓ Advising on Haiti's long-term development
- ✓ Coordinating humanitarian action
- ✓ Guiding operational activities for development
- ✓ Providing coordination and oversight
- ✓ Building partnerships, engaging youth and raising awareness on emerging issues.
- ✓ Working with civil society

The current Year's Forum consisted of different territorial and topical sessions. Youth members and Member States shared reports on the usage of the SDGs in various locations. They started the tentative arrangements of understanding the 2030 Agenda and offered bits of knowledge on handling squeezing issues from quality instruction to environmental change.

The main focus is the role of youth in the monitoring, review and the implementation of the Agenda and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In that context, the Youth Forum offers a unique opportunity for youth to voice their opinions, share ideas, and think together about what should be done to achieve the 2030 Agenda but also to how address the challenges they face as youth and the contributions they can make to achieve the youth-specific SDG targets.

The value of the Youth Forum was recognized in the Secretary-General "Critical milestones towards coherent, efficient and inclusive follow-up and review at the global level" (A/70/684). It was prepared in response to paragraph 90 of the 2030 Agenda, that recognizes the potential of the ECOSOC Youth Forum, by stating that the High-level Political Forum could be informed by and benefit from several specific Economic and Social Council forums covering cross-cutting issues in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This includes the existing conference on youth (para 31). The outcome of the Youth Forum in the form of its summary is therefore considered as an informal contribution to the HLPF, and critical elements are referencing in the annual Ministerial Declaration. HLPF stands for High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

DAY ONE

OPENING SESSION // Opening remarks by H.E. Mrs. Inga Rhonda King, opening statement by H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, President of the General Assembly (GA).

PLENARY SESSION // Interactive Roundtable on "Youth 2030: Working with and for Young People" featuring Ministers, other high-level speakers, and youth organization representatives

BREAKOUT SESSIONS on key regional concerns and priorities for youth regarding the SDGs implementation //The regional breakout sessions will help identify the development needs for youth at the regional level and consider how best to articulate and mainstream them in the context of achieving the SDGs.

PARALELL THEMATIC SESSIONS - People, Prosperity, Planet and Peaceful Societies. // The parallel sessions will review progress in the 5 SDGs and make recommendations for implementation at national, regional and global levels. These outcomes will feed into other processes. SDG 4, 8, 10, 13 and 16.

DAY TWO

PLENARY SESSION //Interactive Roundtable: "Investing in Youth Development: Financing and other Means of Implementation". ---

Interactive Dialogue on "Youth, Peace and Security: Challenges and Prospects". ---
Looking to the Future: "A dialogue on the High-level Political Forum (SDG) Summit"

CLOSING SESSION // Interactive Roundtable on "Youth 2030: Working with and for Young People" featuring Ministers, other high-level speakers,



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.

The thematic settings of three simple, but powerful words of “Empowered, Included and Equal” shaped the scene in New York - on the youth side to top politicians and UN Secretary-General António Guterres. Hearing the message directly from the source gave an impact, and we have moved closer to the HPLF and the SDG Summit. High-level places like the UNHQ gives space to unite, shape ideas, and implement together ex. we are creating youth programs nationally.

Inga Rhonda King, President of ECOSOC, said in the closing session; “We’ve heard about unacceptable levels of inequality, and we must come together to overcome the barriers and keep segments of youth, poverty, and insecurity. It is abundantly clear that young people are exasperated and indeed deeply scared about climate change. Additionally, the level of ambition will be much higher if young people were at the decision-making table as we’ve heard.” UNCTAD Youth has been nailing down the focus on SDG 8 and 10, as of the breakout sessions we were heavily involved in as facilitators and speakers. We reflected on the progress made in implementing multi-stakeholder partnerships and initiatives at global and other levels.

That is for the advancement of progress in addressing specific youth needs and to assist the Member States in delivering on youth development related matters within the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Highlighting the facts of over 64 million young people at age 18-24 are unemployed. Even worse; over 600 million youngsters lack basic mathematics and skills due to lack of education. Let’s work compassionately for not just excellent school, but equal and quality education for all genders - no matter the cultural background. Africa youth stated the need to be supported to attain political leadership roles where they could better serve the needs of their constituents. It is worth mentioning that all participants of the ECOSOC Youth Forum are expected to take the Forum’s outcomes and their experience to their communities – further boosting the work to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

Courses should be digitized so that those who attend schools can still ensure continued learning. Education needs to adapt to the skills required in the marketplace continuously; otherwise, numerous young people will lack the competitive edge needed to thrive in the modern market. Expensive education is a paradox because we pay and build upon a pile of student debts. The job description often includes a 3-5 years requirement of experience.

SDG 8: BEYOND GDP

The key stakeholders of young people, governments, employers, workers, volunteer groups, and educational institutions need to work homogeneously towards establishing an ecologically sustainable economic system. The act and aim of generating a venue for intellectual exchange and collaboration on issues related to the theory, policy, and implementation of sustainable development is the first step towards creating a sustainable and balanced earth system. It is very well linked to SDG 4: Quality education and SDG 10: Global inequalities. The reason why is enlightened youth is a powerful movement and drive for change makers. Soft skills are ignored far too often, while hard facts, numbers, and (GDP) budgets are presented. Going beyond GDP implies opening scope for other measures of social and economic progress that surpass what is accounted for through GDP growth.

Only through active and meaningful engagement in the governance of work and promotion of human rights can we sure a brighter future of work, one with social protection and respect for youth rights. Youth voices must be more meaningfully integrated at all stages of the policy process (design, implementation, follow-up, and review) as well as in budgeting. 84,1% of the participants agree that the ECOSOC Youth Forum serves an essential purpose in the monitoring and implementation of SDGs. UN Youth Forum calls for greater access to equal education and decision making*.

As youthful members from everywhere throughout the world shared their worries during the sessions, they likewise proposed essential suggestions on the best way to unravel these issues and bolster the 2030 Agenda. Ms. Sophia Fei Ya Chen, the topical point of convergence, refreshed on the breakout session on SDG8 and recommended that “States must include youngsters in inventively boosting organizations among Governments, the Private Sector, Academia, and different partners,” and putting youngsters at the center of improvement endeavors is critical to tackling a large portion of the monetary issues we face today. In another session, Gogontlejang Phaladi focused on that youngsters must be upheld in political positions of authority with the goal that their needs can be satisfied.

Agents from UN organizations and the Member States additionally given useful bits of knowledge during the survey of the SDGs. Every one of them kept on repeating their help connecting with youth all inclusive and asked youngsters to be the change our general public needs to push world pioneers to convey their duties and guarantee we all can have a more splendid, reasonable future.

To finish up the current year’s Forum in one sentence: “young people must have a seat at the table.” The record-breaking number of youth members joined entire distinctive sessions in the two-day discussion and shared their essential contributions from how to effectively venture up atmosphere activity, to how to guarantee an eventual superior fate of work. In the opening, the United Nations Envoy on Youth, Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake respected all members with Ambassador Inga Rhonda King, President of ECOSOC, and Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa, President of General Assembly with a meaningful discourse. We need transparent leadership were our outcomes of the Forum are noted and adapted to the overall agenda at HLPF and SDG summit in September at the UNHQ in New York.

*SDG.IISD.ORG/NEWS/2019-UN-YOUTH-FORUM-CALLS-FOR-GREATER-ACCESS-TO-EDUCATION-DECISION-MAKING/



OUR MEETING AT UN PLAZA - UNCTAD NEW YORK

After an exciting day one, we were invited to UNCTAD New York offices at the UN Plaza. A great and warm welcoming by Raymond Landveld, which have been chief at the office for 12 years (!), was a perfect start for our 9th of April morning meeting.

The agenda was our performance were we arranged workshops, had roles as speakers and facilitators. Proud that we, UNCTAD Youth, grabbed that many available spots at the conference. This gives us experience so that we can ensure both organizational and personal growth. We met the interns at the office, and they told us more about a typical work day and particularly how they operate. Arlette Verploegh Chabot and Mariana Soto were online via live phone call, during constructive discussion feedback. Besides, we were handed useful documents, such as the UNCTAD toolbox, technology, and innovation report, and more. Shortly put, valuable cooperation with great feedback along the process weeks before we arrived in New York, between Mr. Landveld and us. All notes will be used to better communication, guidelines, strategy work, etc.



ENLIGHTENT ADVOCACY

UNCTAD Youth Network is here to present and be proactive delegates to make sure our core SDG problems will turn into an innovative solution. Media and newspaper wrote e.g., in Times of Oman.



UNCTAD TOOLBOX

This folder features specific frameworks, investment, and trade policy reviews, gender development, and international investment agreements. Summed up, a handy reference in our work as SDG advocacies.



UN YOUTH 2030 STRATEGY

Investment in four areas will consolidate the position of the United Nations as a global leader in engaging with youth. It will become a pioneer of knowledge, a dynamic source of innovation, a catalyst for solutions, and a champion of accountability. The strategy's thematic priority areas reflect all three pillars of the UN system: sustainable development, peace and security, and human rights.

WE ARE PROUD TO REPRESENT THE TEAM OF UNCTAD YOUTH NETWORK

Every second day we receive a request for technical assistance from a developing country. In 2016, we ran nearly 30 programs (see our Toolbox for details) consisting of 232 projects in 145 countries. Together with our partners, we invested \$39 million -- almost half in the least Developed Countries. We report to the UN General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council but have our membership, leadership, and budget. We are also part of the United Nations Development Group.

Through our assistance, developing countries can better integrate into the global economy by transforming economies, tackling vulnerabilities, improving competitiveness, and empowering people.



Raymond Landveld - Leader of UNCTAD New York



YOUTH ACTION HUBS (YAH)

“Youth are the real owners of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development”, said UNCTAD Secretary-General Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi. He continues the 24th of October 2018 with “If we are to reach the ambitious goals that we have set for ourselves and for future generations, youth should have the opportunity to contribute in shaping global action and molding the mindset change that is required to embrace the values of sustainability and inclusivity.”

The Youth Action Hub is working together with UNCTAD, next to the activities the Youth Action Hub is doing the Youth Action Hub functions as a reference point for UNCTAD. In this way, the voice of the youth around the world is heard, and UNCTAD can use the input from the Youth Action Hubs around the world. The information will be used in discussions about global problems and challenges. On our turn, as Youth Action Hub, we are aware of the issues and challenges that are of current importance globally and work on solving them locally. This framework is what gives the Youth Action Hub strength, being united by multiple Youth Action Hubs around the world collaborating to work on a better world, taking down global challenges by implementing them and solving them locally.

This is what gives the Youth Action Hub strength, being united by multiple Youth Action Hubs around the world collaborating to work on a better world, taking down global challenges by implementing them and solving them locally. The Youth Action Hubs are from Youth 4 Youth, creating opportunities for youth and empowering youth around the world. Creating awareness for the SDGs and highlighting the importance of the SDGs by translating the global issues into local solutions. By educating youth on SDGs and creating tools for the domestic private sector, public sector, and individuals to contribute to the SDGs and empowering everybody to work and contribute to a more sustainable world.

The Youth Action Hubs are from Youth 4 Youth, creating opportunities for youth and empowering youth around the world. Creating awareness for the SDGs and highlighting the importance of the SDGs by translating the global issues into local solutions. By educating youth on SDGs and creating tools for the domestic private sector, public sector, and individuals to contribute to the SDGs and empowering everybody to work and contribute to a more sustainable world.

While digitalization can assume an urgent job in guaranteeing the execution of the SDGs, youth are delicate to the way that innovation can likewise be a base of rejection and imbalance. There is a need to guarantee that the world advantages from advances and that effective administrative system are actualized. Besides, with the expanded number and utilization of information, assurance of information and protection rights has turned out to be critical. Education is another crucial component for youngsters. It is our view that projects and instruction frameworks ought to be adjusting to the present evolving scene.

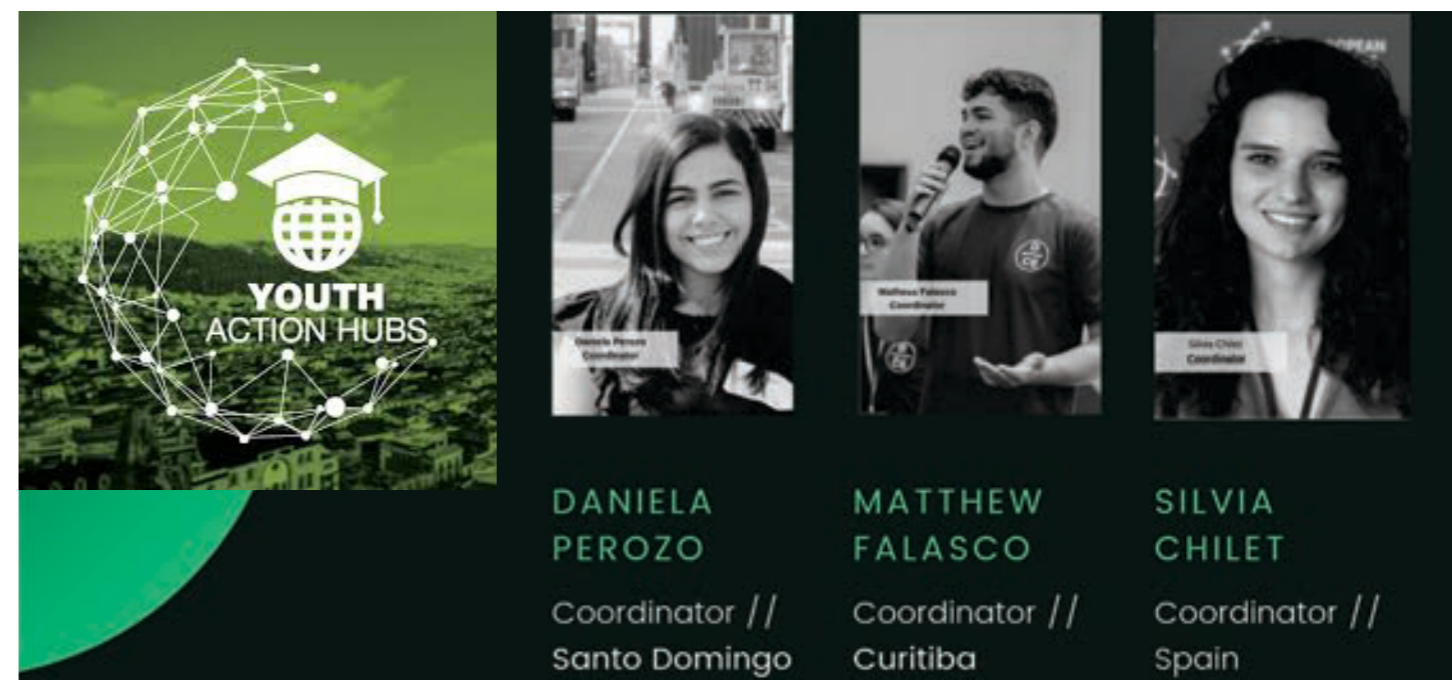
Youth as change makers --> Read more here:

<https://etradeforall.org/youth-prioritized-as-sustainable-development-innovators/>



We, the youth, additionally immovably accept that a committed methodology for new businesses and small and medium-sized undertakings (SMEs) is required to enable them to contend in a digitalized world economy. In this the setting, we need to emphasize the intrigue communicated by youth in our 2017 report, for supporting systems that enable a tyke to profit by the digital economy through business enterprise and independent work. Meaning to connect the computerized gap, young business visionaries do imaginative business models around the idea of intelligent towns. They create adjusted innovations that address specific needs and difficulties that powerless populaces face in rural regions; in this manner, permitting them to be a piece of the computerized change.

The good news is that the number of Youth Action Hubs are continually growing. In each YAH city, there is one pointed out as their coordinator with an accredited diploma signed by Arlette Verploegh Chabot. The award is an official paper stating the role as a proud representative for growth, closing gender gaps, and working around the clock for the implementation of United Nations Agenda 2030.



UNCTAD Youths YAHs is a significant step ahead and aligned with the topic of this years ECOSOC Youth Forum. The 2019 ECOSOC Youth Forum convened on the theme ‘Empowered, Included, and Equal.’ The UN Secretary-General said the key messages and outcomes of the Youth Forum would be shared with decision-makers. Particularly regarding policymakers in the series of meetings that are aiming at catalyzing greater ambition and action to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda. Tools like Slack are used for smart team collaboration, followed up with monthly meetings. A typical YAH includes roughly 5-8 board members. Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn are preferred social media channels so far in our network. Best of luck to all coordinators! #family



ROAD TO ECOSOC YOUTH FORUM - THE PROCESS -

We have all worked hard over recent years to get to this position. Please do not call us lucky, because we have sacrificed time, efforts, and resources in the form of monetary funds to reach this far. Being part of UNCTAD Youth, we feel forever thankful. The big reason why is when we need a push, there is a right hand reaching out close by with significant interaction within our WhatsApp groups. It is funny to think that over a year ago we haven't heard of each other or met, but look at us now. We travel from four continents to grasp the air of UNHQ and participate in ECOSOC Youth Forum 2019 with over 1000+ other participants. That is a huge milestone. Period.

We, the Youth, strive for getting our voices loud and clear for our core SDGs that we genuinely care to implement. It is paradise thinking to take many shortcuts. It may work in the brief run, but far away in the long term. UN Global Compact, UNFPA, MGCY, World Youth Report, and Youth compact are all great resources to dig into for a better understanding of the SDGs. The overall 17 SDGs alone is abstract on its own, and therefore the process has been time-consuming, but worth looking into specific parameters and indicators that is stronger connected to the core of Agenda 2030. UNCTAD Youth (18-30) got started just a couple of years ago. A recent UNCTAD report highlights young people's voices and ideas for achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It's time to move forward — happy reading of this ECOSOC Youth Forum 2019 report.



“

Education is education. We should learn everything and then choose which path to follow. Education is neither Eastern nor Western, it is human.

”



— Malala Yousafzai, *I Am Malala*: Nobel Peace Prize Winner 2014

YOUTH BLAST BY UNMGCY

PRE-SESSION 7TH OF APRIL (UNPA Offices)

The pre-session called Youth Blast was arranged by the hosts of the conference: UNFPA, UNDP & UNMGCY. Here we got lively debates, refreshments, and a TEDx speaker. SDG 4, 8, 10, 13, 15 & 17 in focus here and at UNs ECOSOC Youth Forum 2019. A nice kickstart of the upcoming week, finished by a social event in the evening. The thoughts behind this concept were to warm up people so it wouldn't be that scary to reach out on Monday. I think it worked pretty well. The main presenter was [Steve Seung-joon Lee](#) (UNMGCY).

Objectives for Youth Blast:

- * Share and discuss content related to
- * The UN system, multilateralism, and UN processes; Sustainable development, especially the SDGs under review.
- * Major Groups and other Stakeholders system;
- * How the ECOSOC Youth Forum fits into the overall UN processes of youth and sustainable development, especially the High-level Political Forum;
- * Soft skills and practice in drafting short statements and building discussions in formal settings to drive desired outcomes;
- * Skills related to advocacy, whether at the local, national, or global level;
- * Strategies to share knowledge with young people in their communities to amplify the impact of

SDG 10 & 17: [Donovan Gutfieres](#) (UNMGCY)

- Necessary to look at inequalities within a country
- Linked with action agenda (2015) – a financing mechanism to move from design to implementation
- Financing: Clusters: Finance flows, redirect those funds + the role of trade (WTO)
- Intellectual property rights (IPR).
- UNFPA agenda: Tech + potential harm. Tech framework
- Data & accountability (statistical conditions) □ Gov.
- Sustainable issues □ Reference to policies reference. How do we ensure they're talking to each other?
- Emerging concern: From reactive -- > Let's assess our resources, safeguards and ahead of time. SDG compass. SDG 17: A compass for all of the 17 sustainable development goals.
- UN Youth strategy 2030: Study and invest in the future workforce.

Key Q: How to ensure migrants have docs? Gender equalities?
Right type of skills needed for the future of jobs?

UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund):

Topics:
Young people. Human rights & gender equality.
Population matters. Sexual & reproductive health.

<https://www.unfpa.org/>





OPENING REMARKS 8th of April

The invite-only Forum addressed the theme “Empowered, Included and Equal,” which is aligned with the idea of ECOSOC and the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality” in 2019. It will also review progress in the areas of quality education (SDG 4), decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), reduced inequalities (SDG 10), climate action (SDG 13), peace, justice and strong institutions (SDG 16), and partnerships for the goals (SDG 17).

Notes from Council president: We need to mobilize together, highlighted the SDGs, inclusiveness and 2019 – a particular year: Youth contribute to the SDG summit in September 2019. “Let’s hear your vision, your proposed solutions, and implementation. You’re the future and strive like you – the youth.”

President General Assembly (GA): Creating co-initiative (SDG 16 & 17). It can’t talk shops, because we genuinely need implementation now. A smart tip is to “re-embrace” the task before you. Aggressive action is our job, and we need a better flow of communication to get this correctly done. Three key messages

- 1) Inter-generational cooperation --> Transparent business and policy making.
- 2) More job (increase the min. wage) --> Scaling the SDG 8.
- 3) Interactive dialogue --> Key actors and ambassadors for a more significant and equal future.

DAY ONE



Interactive round-table on the SDGs

- SDG media zone: A TEDx style stage with interviews, short speeches and music
- #Youth2030 – SoMe. Word of mouth and SoMe marketing and branding of UN.

National and regional level strategy on the Sustainable development goals

Beyond boundaries. What is your reflection on how youth can contribute on the 2030 Agenda? (Moderator) // **Secretary-Generals Envoy on Youth : Jayathma Wickramanayake**

MGCY representative : “Yet.. Our scholars have disappeared. Gender equality. We are the ethnic groups. Young people are wandering around. Youth sharing language. Empowered. Include. Equal. = Not just outcomes, but prejudices.”

H.E. Sim Ann (Senior Minister of Singapore) : “Over the past years Singapore have engaged within areas like inclusiveness. 1) Youth are key to move from conversation to action. 2) Singapore Action Plan Incl. youth vision. 3) Building on data, research and identifying partnerships with GOV, NGOs etc. 4) Work closely with community groups, stakeholders of widest of Singapore society i.e. mentorships (Singapore business district). 5) Youth masterplan - A space that inspires and drives creativity and growth.

H.E. Lusine Kallon (Deputy minister of youth affairs Sierra Leone) : “In line with the UN Youth 2030 strategy. National equipment. Working on the Agenda 2030. Youth as the agents of change. Incl. seminars on best practices. Launched the 2019-2030 strategy plan. By 2023 w/ closing on the gender equality gap. Youth policy design.”

What is your action on the youth strategy? (moderator)

Ms. Trine Rask Thygesen (Denmark)

- Danish Youth Council
- «We’re youth people working for and by local people. Equal partner 100% focus, straight on point.”

How do Egypt meaningful contribute to the UN 2030 Youth Strategy? (moderator)

H.E. Ashraf Sobhy (Minister of youth Egypt) : Investing and empower. The circular economy. Training projects. Assessment. Age: 9-30 SDG 3, 8.5.2 focus. Youth initiatives. “If he can’t do it, she can it.” National metrics.

The European Youth Strategy (Austrian leadership) : The process, formulation and key roles? (moderator)

Austria Minister statement: 2019-2030, announced at EU. Over 55000 young people expressed their opinion incl. decent work and employment and development 11 goals : freedom and security. Erasmus+ University program to support young students. “We’re committed to contribute to innovation and listen to young people in order. **Engage. Empower. Action.** Fellow Austrian: GFMD-Y. “Be bold, take action and empower us. Nothing happens without. Solidarity.

We’ve now have a broader statement round. Next segment of the discussion.

SDG 16 // What role, specially young women, and how to make sure young people can safely participate? - A violence free and inclusive society

How to express the view? Hon. Rayya Manthari (IPU Young Parliamentarians).

Evaluate and express the voice of independent people. Involved into research. Robust participation. Young people need to be active partners in order to follow up properly – fulfilled in life.

SDGs 4, 8, 10, 13, 16 & 17 UNFPA focus on 6 goals each year.

SDG 8: Decent work

Ms. Tina Hovevar
- Vice president of



- 1) Invest in skills
- 2) Changing in the job market.
- 3) Free health care.
- 4) Youth friendly labor market.
- 5) New economy (aligns with people values.

Highlight key implementations (SDG 8):
Mr. Agustino Alejandro Batto Carol (EIDO), MGCY : How to move from global to national level?

- We’re not naive. Open tech. Economic policies that puts people over greed. Versality. Join UNMGCY. Let’s shapen the future together.

SDG 10: Reduced inequalities (sustainable infrastructure)

How to ensure the youth participation regarding socio-economic area?

H.E.S. Mungunchimeg (Mongolia): The Gov. of Mongolia has developed a strategy for 2019-2022. Youth council, startups increasing. Interpolicies. Asking special attention around specialization. Open and accessible spaces is key to build agency resilience.

Best practices to ensure youth can access safe space?

H.E. Robiamny Nadesha Balcaer (Dominique republic): National commitment and this has paved the wave. 250.000 people were involved. Young people have training and agents of change is a powerful program of ours. Dev. of Planny app. Easy accessible, plus an online consultation platform to reach max. of people.

What do you see as barriers to include local and national actions? (moderator)

Victor Lopez Carmen, MGCY: Indignance youth. Does not mention indignance people specifically. Indicators: 10.2: Member states must look at article 21, incl. economic power. Equal and self-governance.

SDG 8: THEMATIC BREAKOUT SESSION

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Our session aimed at seeking solutions from the youth for ensuring decent work and economic growth. Suggestions for SDG 8 under Theme 2: Youth transitions to an honest job: education, employment, and entrepreneurship opportunities in urban and rural areas - marketplace under various heads of Policy Making, Soft skills, rural youth and technology, and innovation are four keywords here worth highlighting.

The global economic inequality between countries has decreased in the past decades. Here are our thoughts on the central SDGs for UNCTAD Youth. SDG 8 and 10 are two of our central focused SDGs, concerning SDG 4, 5, and 17 - fostering global partnerships. Shortly put, we need to grasp the reality of establishing a more sustainable and balanced ecosystem through transparent policymaking.

SDG 8: BEYOND GDP

The key stakeholders of young people, governments, employers, workers, volunteer groups, and educational institutions need to work homogeneously towards establishing an ecologically sustainable economic system. The act and aim of generating a venue for intellectual exchange and collaboration on issues related to the theory, policy, and implementation of sustainable development is the first step towards creating a sustainable and balanced earth system. It is also essential to understand that sustainable development requires a system of SDG 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic activity which is compatible with, and not destructive of either the ecological or social webs of life. We are a part of these webs, and our health, well-being, and lives depend on their interaction. Three focus areas:

- ✓ 1. Decent work that pays a living wage and not keeps youth merely in financially liquid but a salary to which they can live. Work that is meaningful and imparts skills which are transferable to a degree between sectors, in leu of the 4th Industrial revolution and work that is backed by law and regulation ensuring a safe and productive work environment. Gender equality in society and wellbeing. Development that builds critical and transferable skillset, while advancing lifelong learning as a culture and social education as a habit.
- ✓ 2. Gender equality in society and well-being
- ✓ 3. Development that builds critical and transferable skills set, while advancing lifelong learning as a culture and social learning as a habit.

The fast economic growth of developing markets like China, India, and Brazil have also contributed to this convergence of the global south towards the global north. Despite this improvement, inequality persists and requires joint global actions to ensure prosperity for all, but we cannot take it for granted. Today we face some challenges to the cooperation across countries. For example, the change of the global income distribution, on one side we have a slowing down growth in rich developed countries while on the other hand, a high-income growth is present in the emerging economies, this may cause tension and decrease the support for open trade with these countries and more open migration policies.

What kinds of work which produce social or environmental value are not included when counting GDP?

1) Informal economies such as barter transactions, subsistence economics, etc. a) We can use data statistics to calculate this informal economy and it to a GDP. b) Using employment rates and job statistics can serve as a good proxy for GDP growth. 2) Volunteerism - Acts of volunteerism usually are not included in these economic outputs. Examples of volunteers during cyclone day or a national day of cleanup every month. 3) Care - this can be in many forms: Elderly, children. 4) Teaching - The full influence that a teacher has on a child most definitely vastly outweighs a teacher's salary, and hence tends to be underrepresented in GDP calculations.

SDG 8: Rebuilding Trust

The meaningful participation of young people is integral to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. With dedicated targets for Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 8, to "promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all" 1, the role of decent jobs for youth in a sustainable and equitable economy is evident. The availability of decent jobs is tied to government interventions, yet educational curriculums around the world have not been sufficiently able to provide the skills and competencies to provide solutions needed to reverse challenges related to youth employment. This is especially the case for the vast majority of young people — 88 percent— who live in developing countries, more than half of whom residing in rural areas. Although agriculture remains the largest employer for rural young people, it is often no longer attractive or feasible to many youths.

Job quality remains a significant concern among young workers. In 2018, 145 million young workers in emerging and developing countries were estimated to live in moderate or extreme poverty, especially in rural areas; that is on less than \$3.10 a day. Furthermore, at 76.7 percent, more than three-quarters of working youth around the world currently have simple jobs. The situation is especially bleak in developing countries, as a youth in the informal economy make up 96.8 percent of all working youth. Moving ahead, the focus needs to be on scaling up action and impact on youth employment and enabling young people to be ahead of the curve in a rapidly changing world of work. The outcomes of this breakaway session were strongly interlinked as showed that this challenge we face of an eroded social contract between youth and institutions of work is as a result of multifaceted global challenges. Links from migration to global economic systems and inequalities were highlighted in the process of developing the outcomes. The method of getting to these recommendations included consultations with the representation of a significant youth group from across the world. These consultations happened in three groups exploring various areas of decent work, decent pay, the meaning of social security, and the role of technology in changing the landscape of employment.

SDG 8: Youth transitions to decent work: education, employment and entrepreneurship opportunities in urban and rural areas. Marketplace under various heads of policy making, soft skills, rural youth and technology and innovation.

Our session aimed at seeking solutions from the youth for ensuring decent work and economic growth. Firstly, spaces must be created for programs and policies around child despite their background locations, gender, and diversity. Secondly, technology must fill the same gaps that technology created. Courses should be digitized so that those who attend schools can still ensure continued learning. The third recommendation is that volunteerism and internships must become a part of the curriculum, and all courses should be paid. There must be equal pay for equal work.

Furthermore, in this session, we talked about accreditation for refugees:

- mentorship
- technical training/apprenticeship
- there should be youth employment opportunities programs set up by the government.

Include diversity at policy-making starting at young ages:

- include different fora to bring out the discussion, create such platforms to include all young voices
- more inclusion through liberal arts education
- education needs to continuously adapt to the skills required in the marketplace.

UNCTAD Youth in action.



SDG 8: OUTCOMES BREAKOUT GROUPS

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH.

The current year's Forum was held under the subject of "Engaged, Included, and Equal." This subject features the significance of incorporating youngsters' commitment to the extent of worldwide talks. It likewise expects to advance universal coordinated effort between the Member States and Civil Society to be bolstered in enabling youthful partners' dynamic commitment. The session featured a series of conversations on the role of young people in accelerating progress towards sustained economic growth and decent work for all.

THE KEY STANDPOINT

Going beyond the GDP today and neoclassical views of economics, we should carry one united fundamental perspective: As stated SDG 8.2 that is to achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading, and innovation, including through a focus on high-value-added and labor-intensive sectors. This implies that top value-added work contributes to economic fertility (Hepburn, 2013). Hence, we must move beyond necessary measures of GDP, promote decent work, promote decency of unpaid work or volunteering as an essential life skill development aid and a vital tool to provide holistic experiences, has to be acknowledged acceptable to all, beyond GDP and the traditional framework of economic development in any country.

In the words of Brundtland (Hinrichsen, 1987), "you cannot tackle hunger, disease, and poverty unless you can also provide people with a healthy ecosystem in which their economies can grow" extending this quote and "unless you provide a healthy economy and environment for YOUTH that is sustainable, inclusive and full to participate meaningfully in, to grow and to decide."

Kenneth Gyamerah co-facilitated the SDG 8 market place on youth transitions to decent work: Education and entrepreneurship opportunities. Through open interactive discussions, we called on young people to provide concrete recommendations that will help bridge the unemployment gap, help young people to successfully transit to decent jobs and also promote inclusion of rural youth into the market economy.

It is worth highlighting that the progress made towards achieving the SDG 8 has been slower than expected towards SDG 8, economic growth, which is essential to end poverty and prepare young people employable has not yet been converted into enough job creation. The problem of unemployment has become a massive threat to ending poverty and, ensuring global peace and security.

However, youth employment remains the fulcrum of the SDGs. Young people are very enterprising and can create jobs. Therefore, there is a need for national governments to restructure the school curriculum to provide youth with the relevant skills and lifelong opportunities for them to be able to create their jobs and also acquire decent jobs. Many teens in rural communities are usually left behind because the possibilities are limited. The Fourth Industrial Revolution brings many opportunities through digitalizing the economy, but it will have an impact on the way the benefits of economic growth are distributing across and within countries.



DAY ONE

TRACK 1: Beyond GDP: youth perspectives on well-being, the environment, and inclusive economic growth.

- ✓ All jobs have value, therefore all jobs must be measured. There is a need to "de-growth", because life is about living well, not living better. It is essential to promote workers' rights and to push for regulations that boost living standards.
- ✓ Going beyond GDP implies opening scope for other measures of social and economic progress that surpass what is accounted for through GDP growth.
- ✓ By acknowledges work for what it is and for what it is worth, and recognizes the important contribution of work in the informal economy, domestic work, motherhood, and other important activities with large contribution to the economies.

TRACK 2: Youth transitions to decent work: education, employment and entrepreneurship opportunities in urban and rural areas

- ✓ Financial access must be provided to entrepreneurs that need funds and relationships with other countries to be developed to ease the business.
- ✓ Programs should be tailored to the problems persisting in the rural areas. Understanding the challenges and realising the potential while marrying the both for best results is imperative.
- ✓ There must be a shift in existing offline platforms to online with special emphasis on digitising the rural.

TRACK 3: Rebuilding trust: meaningful youth engagement in the institutions of work

- ✓ We must creatively incentivize open and equitable stakeholder partnerships – including governments, private sector, and civil society – and we must regulate all form of employment to create decent jobs for youth (work that is paid, that provides security and leads to tangible social impact.) However, we must also always partner with youth in a meaningful way.
- ✓ Only through active and meaningful engagement in the governance of work and promotion of human rights can we sure a brighter future of work, one with social protection and respect for youth rights. Youth voices must be more meaningfully integrated at all stages of the policy process (design, implementation, follow-up, and review) as well as in budgeting.
- ✓ Better jobs for youth will come only through this collective action, policies that guarantee access to quality education, skills, markets, networks, information and technology and engage all young people from all different backgrounds and all settings, including young people in the rural economy, young people with disabilities, and young indigenous peoples.

SDG 10: THEMATIC BREAKOUT SESSION

REDUCE INEQUALITY WITHIN AND AMONG COUNTRIES.

The thematic breakout session on SDG 10 consisted of three different tracks, the same system as of SDG 8. Here played Daniele Guadagnolo and Chenxi Zhu a crucial role as speakers to enlighten the 70 person+ strong roundtable. Fredrik A. Kaada cofacilitated track three with a Danish partner; Pia Risør Bjerre. José Alvarez cofacilitated another track on SDG 10. A new and interesting experience for Kaada as a co-facilitator, but it went all fine with the guidance from Bjerre's years of manager/coordinator.

"It is vital for us, for me, that you see this as a critical challenge. If not the most crucial problem of the European Continent. As Italian, I can attest that the situation is vital. I fight every day to promote cultural and social inclusion. In most cases, those people (migrants and refugees) are not able to find decent jobs or accommodations because they are seen as from the locals. It makes everything harder for them. There is a lack of understanding." - Daniele Guadagnolo (UNCTAD Youth)

Being different doesn't mean being wrong

This is not only an Italian problem but a European one since there is a significant lack of cooperation about this topic. To fix it and, more in general, to reduce inequalities between rich/poor people, regardless sex, ethnicities, beliefs, and race, we need to adopt policies to empower the bottom percentile of income earners and promote economic inclusion of all, as the UNs said. However, how can we do it? We have to spread this concept to the people. An idea of freedom, kindness, and tolerance. In this way, we can reach the local governments and promote a real change. Real actions that lead to a better world. Everyone has the right to live a proper and decent life, and we slowly forget it. We need to ponderate possible solutions to fix this situation. I am not saying that this will be easy; it could even lead to the change and the effects of the global political economy on this topic.

The global economic inequality between countries has decreased in past decades

This is partly thanks to the effort of international and national communities to fight extreme poverty, for example, the global commitment to favor the exports of the least developed countries (LDCs). The fast economic growth of emerging markets like China, India, and Brazil have also contributed to this convergence of the global south towards the global north. Despite this improvement, inequality persists and requires joint global actions to ensure prosperity for all, but we cannot take it for granted.

Today we face some challenges to the cooperation across countries. For example, the change of the global income distribution, on one side we have a slowing down growth in rich developed countries while on the other side, a high-income growth is present in the emerging economies, this may cause tension and decrease the support for open trade with these countries and more open migration policies.

The perception that resources are limited, the access to opportunities is a zero-sum game; there must be winners and losers is a dangerous mindset that can undermine the international cooperation system. So in conclusion, or perhaps as we enter this discussion further, we need to interrogate: 1) how are we interconnected as the world and what does this mean for state, regional and global challenges. 2) rethink to what extend the international bodies address and influence global solutions. 3) how do we use the youth voice in promoting and championing the positive sum game that comes with multilateralism. As a Chinese proverb says: "when everyone adds firewood, the bonfire will burn higher".

DAY ONE

There have been a few upgrades since the selection of the 2030 Agenda, specifically: increments to the last 40 percent of the worldwide populace concerning salary disparities, the decrease of settlement costs, and global development. Be that as it may, construction has not been uniformly disseminated. Also, to add to the difficulties of SDG 10 are a couple of megatrends that could influence execution to incorporate changes to the work market and segments for occupation development because of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, constrained movement because of contention and delicacy in nations, and environmental change.

Governments have a critical job as an empowering influence to help administrative and social approaches that improve the flood of budgetary streams and reasonable ventures, for example, in the foundation, social assurance, human advancement, that can like this lessen imbalances in general. Governments frequently recognize what strategies should be done; however, political will and authority are required to settle on the emotional decisions that are important to diminish imbalances. At last, with regards to execution, we have to recall that variety is an arrangement decision.

Information is fundamental for modifying and creating a productive and exact strategy. Policy-making can't survey circumstances or create suitable reactions without information. With the ascent of more current advances, we can move past customary family overviews, which are critical in catching pay appropriation and utilize new methods –, for example, the digitalization of records – to help political pioneers in their policymaking – getting the monetary approaches directly as lessening disparity has a more significant effect on poverty than expanding development.

The work market must be changing following meet youngsters' rights and needs; there should be a transferable connection between capabilities all around, the scholarly world, and the work market should be firmly associated. We need to walk the discussion and pay our understudies and increment availability to assets, including human-to-HR, which will at that point, this way, increment the potential spread of information and further assets.

The involvement of youngsters must be shielded and guaranteed all through the execution of SDG 10. Youngsters ought to and will consider governments responsible, and we need frameworks for authentic, balanced governance in government workplaces, including youngsters. The SDG's give a chance to bring issues to light, instruct, and draw in youngsters everywhere throughout the world. Rights-based instruction ought to be providing from kindergarten age, and youngsters ought to be viewed as an asset in the execution of all SDG's. Youngsters are ready, capable, and ought to be in the driver situate, incorporated into significant necessary leadership forms. Base up methodologies, given intersectionality and rights-based methods, can and will give youngsters the stage they have to meet up and defend change.



UNCTAD Youth
in action.

SDG 10: OUTCOMES BREAKOUT GROUPS

REDUCED INEQUALITIES.

There's nothing to hide that governments have a central role at stake, as an enabler to support legislative and social policies that support the influx of financial flows and suitable investments, such as in infrastructure, social protection, human development, that can consequently reduce inequalities overall. Governments often know what policies need to be done, but political will and leadership are required to make the tough choices that are necessary to decrease inequalities. In the end, when it comes to implementation, we need to remember that variation is a policy choice. Right below you'll find critical messages around SDG 10.



A clear GAP

We cannot
achieve
sustainable
development
if we
exclude
any part of
the world's
population.

Key messages

- * Young individuals ought to be in the driver's seat for a change, having a genuine and significant job in primary leadership forms
- * Governments must act, to needs and build up a quality strategy to battle imbalance, because of reliable information and the encounters of target-gatherings.
- * Indigenous populations and young individuals should be shielded and associated with all procedures identifying with SDG 10
- * Wealth isn't streaming down, it's shooting back. The stream down impact has been guaranteed, again and again, however, it isn't working, and the framework must be rethought.
- * Intersectionality should be at the center of any investigation made in connection to imbalances.

Disparities dependent on salary, sex, age, handicap, sexual direction, race, class, ethnicity, religion, and opportunity keep on enduring over the world, inside and among nations. In spite of significant increases made in lifting individuals out of poverty, imbalances and huge inconsistencies stay in pay and riches, just as access to essential human rights. A few gatherings - rustic networks, indigenous individuals, youngsters, ladies, those with different capacities - keep on disproportionately worry about the concern of disparities.

The 2030 Agenda is the agenda of the young generation. The SDGs echo the richness and complexities of the lives of young people. Partnership with this young generation—that is the largest and most educated one—is, therefore, crucial and indispensable to deliver on the SDGs. We heard about growing inequality, which is already at unacceptably high levels. All young voices need to be heard and included irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, or economic or another status. This is critical for breaking down barriers and reducing inequalities to achieve the SDGs. The pink banner on the left side sums up this spread quite merely.

DAY ONE

TRACK 1: Income and wealth inequality

- ✓ Think globally applicable solutions -, but also regional and targeted solutions are required to address regional and targeted sources of issues.
- ✓ Recognize that we are all at various levels of development and are therefore constrained by what is possible in our own contexts. Education - mandatory and provided (vocational, language barriers and access to tertiary). **Contextualize** - regional and national level recognize that we all face different realities.
- ✓ One well-defined solution (preferably with action steps) is better than several abstract ones.

TRACK 2: Interlocking forms of inequalities and discrimination

- ✓ Examples of interlocking categories of discrimination: sexual orientation and gender identity and expression (SOGIE), living with disabilities, HIV/AIDS status, living in a rural area, faith, ethnicity, class and income, migrant/refugee status and living in conflict and post-conflict settings.
- ✓ Safe migration and mobility of young people across countries and ensure the implementation of inclusive policies. Openness and building shelter as a short term solution, until they have better solutions.
- ✓ As the international community works towards closing the income inequality gap (particularly in developing countries), one of the best ways is to reinvest in sustainable business models. Including youth at the policy, the table would be a beneficial and fair way to invest into Youth2030 Agenda and local pressure, so other young people equally benefit from fair wages.

TRACK 3: - The powerful role of young people in leaving no-one behind

- ✓ What are young people demanding for inequalities to be significantly and substantially reduced?
 - o Equal employment. Safeguard against tokenism but focus more on meaningfully engaging young people. The only way we can do so is by educating young people about
- How to meaningfully engage member states and entities in supporting the role of youth in reducing inequalities?
 - o UNICEF and the Romanian government created Junior Ambassadors (selected 4) to represent children and youngsters and brought the perspectives of children and consulted on behalf of children around Europe. This is new, but an excellent example of inclusion.
 - o Teenagers would like to voice up their issues but usually, don't know how. UN agencies should promote their programs more especially in areas/platforms that teenagers have access to them, plus educate young people
- How can differences between rural and urban areas be taken into account in the implementation of SDG 10?
 - o CSOs and NGOs can build the bridge and promote the engagement of rural and urban. They can facilitate power sharing, opportunity sharing as well as relationship building.
 - o In tackling the disparity, reaching people and empowering the info is harder. The use of mass media to reach the unreachable.
 - o Generally, we can use different forms/platforms to reach both rural and urban youth.

Gallery: Youth interventions



Rich content and great meeting with UNCTAD New York.



Fredrik & Chenxi in front of Columbia University.



Active discussion between Danièle Guadagnolo & LeAndré Knight.



Deepening our relationships within UNCTAD Youth Network. José & Ali in front.



UN General Assembly Hall // Fredrik & Chenxi



Deal making between generations at the UNHQ.



From left: Alena Dique, Sediqa Fatima., Fredrik Kaada., Chenxi Zhu., Danièle Guadagnolo & Ndumiso Mngomezulu.



SDG 8: Beyond GDP. Alena Dique speaking in one of the interesting breakout sessions.



SDG Media zone - a popular one by the youth.



A good level of SDG discussion.



Alena Dique in front of the UN Plaza.



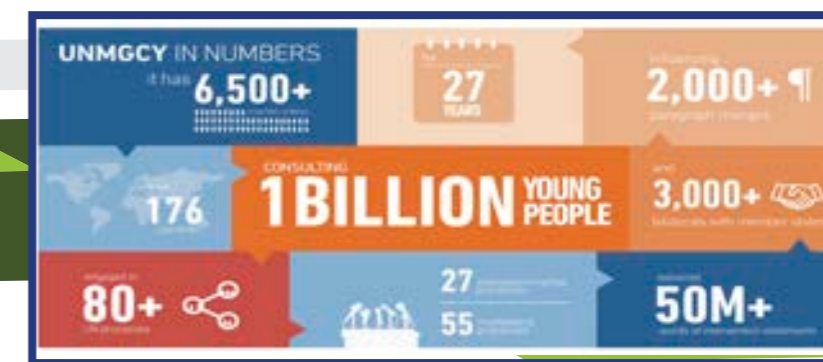
The subway life.



Kanika Sahijwani, Alena Dique & Ndumiso Mngomezulu in a debate, prepping for the next intensive hours on their way to the UNHQ.

The famous quote *"One child, one teacher, one book, one pen can change the world."* by Malala Yousafzai, describes this gallery very well.

SDG 8: Decent jobs, future of work, lifelong learning. Intergenerational roundtable by UNMGCY



The interactive session was held the 2nd day at the forum as an interesting discussion, led by UN MGCY (founded in 1992). We maxed the capacity of the room, but that didn't stop us from going 30 min. over the original time. It was fascinating how the debate started with SDG 8 got woven into several branches about SDG 4 and 13 as well.

Along the way, I took some notes, while actively listened in on the robust and transparent youth voices sharing their knowledge and experiences. As you see, we raised numerous questions, thoughts, and bright ideas for best practice of implementation.

SDG 4.7 --> We need a new learning paradigm, integrating a set of comprehensive skills: soft skills leadership and effective communication an essential part of any skillset.

- Global Schools program (educating teachers on SDGs).
- Raise the awareness about certain and respect skills: White-collar jobs like doctors.
- Multilateralism institutions (...) one size fits all solution isn't right.
- Security and social protection, plus the need to understand habits
- Quality education vs. student debts. 25% of jobs do not exist in the future.
- "We fail to teach more in the problem we have in Africa. How are we researching the skills we need?"
- Research: The job sector (human condition) -> to be bold. Transferable skills (soft skills & hard skills"
- Side note: NLP: Neuroscience) Raising more awareness around emotional intelligence as an important skillset refers to the ability to identify and manage one's own emotions.

THE MOST UNMGCY'S FOCUS AREAS AT A GLANCE:

- ✓ **Policy and Advocacy:** The organization facilitates the collective participation of young people in official and formal avenues of policy design, implementation, monitoring, follow-up, and review at all levels.
- ✓ **Capacity building.** Facilitating activities for young people with aims to enhance understanding, knowledge, and skills in relation to sustainable development, meaningful engagement, and the UN system.
- ✓ **Youth action.** UN MGCY provide young people with a platform that encourage them to lead, join, showcase, and share innovative and effective actions addressing the needs of people and the planet.
- ✓ **Knowledge.** Providing young people a reference for discourse, creating an evidence base through the assessment of existing knowledge, generating of new knowledge, identification of emerging issues, and effective use of knowledge in dissemination.



- Beyond GDP: Weapon, immaterialism
- Youth in rural communities: Empowering them through tech.
- The conversation of gov. vs. forcing regulation
- How to make better regulations? How to regulate a problem?
- Inclusion of people with disabilities, linked to traditional labor market
- Barriers: Racism in the EU region, privileged people within certain nationalities (hindering accessing jobs). Beyond GDP session: A prominent: Gender equality - a common narrative.
- How to build something more sustainable for rural?
- Teaching soft skills to women Selling them on the market Paradox: 50 women selling the same items.
- **Sediqa Fahimi (UNCTAD Youth):** raising the questions about how to access the market, finance, VISAs. Internships.
- Voluntary work - Not part of the SDG 8.
- Entire population: Domestically Raising their children (invest into it women) Building the nation from the ground up. Values, intrinsic jobs
- Case study (US, Californian perspective) : A highly skilled.
- How to deal with high-skilled immigrants? (bright sight: extreme poverty is limiting...) Utilize a better framework
- Creating: Reskilling a issue? Not only a problem with immigrants.
- The paradox of being too skilled – over being overqualified
- The university needs to be better equipped. The gap between bachelor degree and your first job? The paradox of studying for 5 years for a master degree and meeting the sky high requirements right after graduation.
- How to create an ecosystem were we are digitizing the work
- ILO - International Labour Organization (100 years in 2019).
- From financing to the SDGs: Marginalized youth We need to embrace the institutionalizing of decent work. Entrepreneurs - fight for your right. Know your rights and get your needs. We should be not be overthinking, but rather thinking in actionable, simple steps to gather a movement and a growing following..



UN Major Group for Children and Youth
the space for children and youth in the United Nations

UNMGCY have consulted with 1 billion+ children and youth in more than 175 countries, since 1992.
<https://www.unmgcy.org/>

KEY NUMBERS

120 countries and 26 international org. are members of the Group of Friends of UNOAC. Since 2008, UNOAC has launched seven editions of Youth Solidarity Fund, providing seed funding and capacity building to 63 youth-led organizations spread over Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe. 40 regional youth leaders (18-25), from 23 different countries, were intensively trained in intercultural understanding between 2016 - 2018.

INSIGHTS: **UNAOC** United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

The motto of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations is "Many Cultures, One Humanity," which sums up that particular need to fill a policy gap in the governance of cultural diversity in 2005. Nevertheless, it is still very relevant today, where we have seen an escalation of violent extremism, the polarization of attitudes, and racism.

UNAOC was established to serve as a soft-power political tool of the UN Secretary-General for conflict prevention and conflict resolution. Shortly put, it is a coalition against extremist forces, a movement to advance mutual respect for cultures, traditions, and religious beliefs. A platform to bridge divides and overcome prejudice, misconceptions, and polarization. The UNAOC was intended to promote affirmative collective action in society as a means of addressing the threats that emerge from the violence - overcoming both cultural and social barriers. Combined with the UN Global Compact (close to 10.000 CSR (corporate social responsibility) focused businesses and the rise of our Youth Compact, there's indeed light at the end of the tunnel. At the fine heart of UNAOC'S work lies the notion of genuine partnerships.



The truth is - today more than ever - diversity is the reality that informs human life. Diversity means embracing pluralism in nations and cities, tribes and villages, in ethnicities and identities, in beliefs, faiths, and traditions.



- H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, High representative for the UNAOC.



Decalogue: 10 core principles for the renewed vision for the Alliance.

1. **RESPECT** for all nations and peoples, regardless of their creed, culture, and civilization.
2. **DIALOGUE** as an essential tool for engaging in a better understanding of different cultures and perspectives.
3. **TOLERANCE** as a basis of respect for every person's human dignity and fundamental rights with full appreciation.
4. **EMPATHY** as an ethical virtue to build bridges of mutual understanding and cooperation in our quest for universal acceptance.
5. **INCLUSION** as a process that promotes the full and equal right of individuals and groups to participate in their society, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion and gender identity.
6. **DIVERSITY** as a positive and enriching concept; a just imperative, inseparable from respect for human dignity.
7. **SOLIDARITY** as a commitment to help others in difficult situations in a spirit of mutual assistance and concern.
8. **DIGNITY AND EQUAL RIGHTS** of all members of the human family as interdependent and mutually reinforcing and forming the foundation of freedom and justice in the world.
9. **MULTICULTURALISM** as a process of expressing diversity in an age of globalization and not simply an attitude or view about others.
10. **"Convivencia"/living together as a sacred duty and attitude of peaceful coexistence.**

RELEVANT STATISTICS FOR UN'S AGENDA 2030.

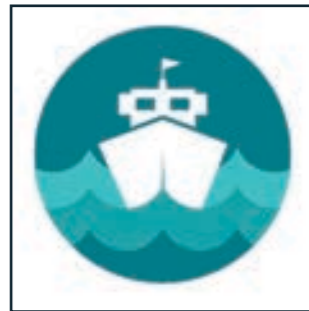
The source is primary UNCTAD's handbook of statistics dated 2018. Therefore all facts are from 2017, except for the first one. The directory is a simple guide on several industries, and at the same time highlights the considerable gap between the least developing countries (LDCs) and the developed world. We need to have a straight focus and do transparent business with clear guidelines and laws to provide genuine win-win offers. It is a fight over areas, resources, and human rights that have, with no doubts, affection on the pattern of global trade.



Japan to provide 1.3 million vaccines to kids in developing countries as part of UN's SDG targets.

(June 2019) **thejapan times**

Terms of trade for LLDCs and LDCs in Africa and Haiti improved by 10% in 2017. **+10%**



Maritime transport // World seaborne trade

Developing economies share of global goods unloaded rose to **63%** in 2017, while **4.4 / 10.7** billion tons of goods loaded in Asian seaports.

GDP growth rate in LCDs was well below the Agenda 2030 target of 7%, while seeing growth in developing economies in Asia and Oceania by 5.6% (2017). 



50% More than half of the world population live in urban areas (2017).

Balanced trade (2017). North traded as much with the South as with the North. Value: **US \$6.3 trillion**

Trade openness **declining** fastest in developing economies in Asia and Oceania (2017).



QUALITY SOURCES FOR YOUTH TO FOLLOW

We have gathered rich content to follow, get more involved and move boldly forward, while at the same time implementing the SDGs with a strong network and sensemaking.



António Guterres (UN Secretary-General) at Investing in Jobs for Young People in Africa
Remarks by H.E. António Guterres, United Nations Secretary General, at A Call to Invest: Investing in Jobs for Young People in Africa, organized by Mission of Canada to the United Nations.

<http://bit.ly/UNmeetingAfricanJobs>



Compact for Young people in Humanitarian actions is an unprecedented and collective commitment of key actors to ensure that the priorities, needs and rights of young women and young men, girls and boys affected by a disaster, conflict, forced displacement and other humanitarian crises, are addressed. Without no doubts, that they are informed, consulted, and meaningfully engaged throughout all stages of humanitarian action.

<http://bit.ly/GlobalCompactrefugees>



BeyondMe is all about enabling charities to benefit from a growing movement of generous professionals. They're doing this by empowering future leaders to support important causes, so they can continue improving themselves, their businesses and society. Impact: 1500+ business professionals have joined. beyondme.org/impact/



International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) features the SDG Knowledge Hub. This is clearly an outstanding source to explore and dig into facts, smart figures, predictions+ about every single of UN's 17 SDGs.

<https://sdg.iisd.org/>



The beauty of Agenda 2030 (5 min.)
<https://youtu.be/dkSCgd69Pvo>

SDGS

1. NO POVERTY
2. ZERO HUNGER
3. GOOD HEALTH & WELL-BEING
4. QUALITY EDUCATION
5. GENDER EQUALITY
6. CLEAN WATER & SANITATION
7. AFFORDABLE & CLEAN ENERGY
8. DECENT WORK & ECONOMIC GROWTH
9. INDUSTRY, INNOVATION & INFRASTRUCTURE
10. REDUCED INEQUALITIES
11. SUSTAINABLE CITIES & COMMUNITIES
12. RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION & PRODUCTION
13. CLIMATE ACTION
14. LIFE BELOW WATER
15. LIFE ON LAND
16. PEACE, JUSTICE & STRONG INSTITUTIONS
17. PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

FEATURED CASE STUDIES // UNCTAD YOUTH NETWORK



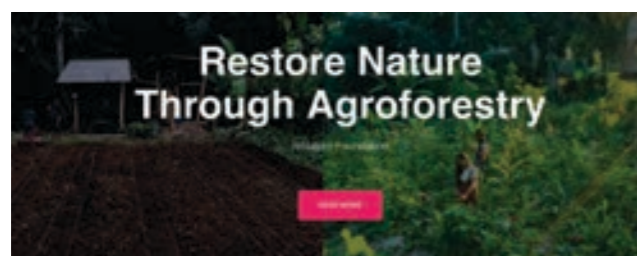
KINECTO // getkinecto.com/

The slogan is MOVE. STORE. CHARGE. Over the past decade, electronic devices have become a part of our daily lives. However, without power, these gadgets are merely blocks that have no use or purpose. This is where Kinecto comes in. Kinecto takes away the conscious act of charging by making the process wholly sustainable and wireless. Kinecto is a wireless charger that revolutionizes charging through motion. You carry this device around with you, and energy from your daily movements will be stored to charge any other device you want — Wireless, sustainable, and portable tool to invest in.



THE FOUNDERS OF KINECTO // RABIA AND ZAID MUGHAL

The Mughal siblings, both in their early 20s, are in the process of building a growing tech startup. They have also won several entrepreneurial competitions while attending university. They are co-founders of Kinecto, which is a sustainable tech startup that has been called “the most promising and innovative startup in Qatar” by several organizations. The Mughals are driven and dynamic individuals who are exceedingly familiar with the business culture in most of the European and Asian countries Attendance including The Web Summit, CES Consumer Electronics Show and the UN last year at UNCTAD Youth Forum and World Invest Forum in Geneva.



reNature Foundation // renaturefoundation.nl

reNature Foundation provides information, guidance and supports local authorities, cooperatives, and farmers in setting up sustainable agriculture in the form of agroforestry. reNature Foundation is founded by Marco de Boer and Felipe Villela. They met at the TFF Summit. We promote the use of sustainable agricultural practices, called Agroforestry systems. It is characterized by blending multiple trees, shrubs, and crops and even livestock that reinforce and complement each other, thus achieving more variety of yields and the natural balance in our ecosystem. The company restores nature through smart agriculture.



Selected partners in reNatures valuable network.



Ugandan Nobel Prize nominee (2015) Victor Ochen meets footballer star and Ballon d'Or winner Ricardo Kaká in front of UNHQ in New York. Source: bigeye.ug/

Victor Ochen & AYINET

Executive Director, African Youth Initiative Network

The two met after Ochen conveyed a discourse at a High Summit during the UN General Assembly with speakers including Ban Ki-Moon, Secretary General of the UN. Victor Ochen, after being designated for the lofty Nobel Prize, has been globe-running for his magnanimous help for individuals whose lives were influenced by the LRA war in Northern Uganda. He heads an NGO called African Youth Initiative Network (AYINET). Ochen last visit in Norway was his limited attendance of the Norwegian NHHs Symposium in Bergen with the main topic being human rights. He thrived at the stage in celebrity company with Kerry Kennedy, President of Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights.

AYINET four pillars of work include youth leadership development, medical and psychosocial rehabilitation, sexual reproductive health, plus sports, art and culture. This is truly a case study to be proud of, because so far through 14 years of AYINET existence, they have treated 21.000 mutilated victims of torture. Additionally, 160 youth groups have been mobilized and trained, not to mention over 100,000 victims of war given great trauma support.

<http://africanyouthinitiative.org/>

<http://www.weforum.org/people/victor-ochen>





SDG Media Zone: #ACT NOW. The Zone hosted youth activists, digital media influencers and short debates.



SDG Media Zone: Ari Afsar singing about the SDGs. The young artist have previously song for Michelle Obama.

INTERACTIVE ROUNDTABLE: INVESTING IN YOUTH

The 2030 and Addis Agendas underscore the need for multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology, and financial resources, to support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in all countries. Companies and multi-stakeholder participation are integral to the follow-up and review process.

As we move into the fourth year of implementation of the SDGs, there is a growing global recognition of the critical role young people can play. At a time when policy and investment decisions are meant to be increasing evidence-informed and data driven, information on youth development and well-being unfortunately often remains fragmented and inconsistent. This limits our understanding of how young people are doing vis-à-vis other population groups and peers in other countries, and it helps explain why the needs of young people often remain underexposed. Quality data and evidence are crucial for monitoring progress and for ensuring continued commitment around SDG priorities for youth along with other components of the 2030 Agenda.

Featured objectives

- * Share best practices and facilitate the exchange of information on how financing for youth development has been facilitated by the Member States in the implementation of the national plans designed to achieve the 2030 Agenda SDG
- * Reflect on progress made in implementing multi-stakeholder partnerships and initiatives at global and other levels to advance progress in addressing specific youth needs and in assisting the Member States in delivering on youth development related matters within the 2030 Agenda.
- * Provide an opportunity to discuss emerging initiatives for improving data quality and availability and measuring progress with regards to youth development and well-being by tracking data over time against relevant indicators, at national, regional and global levels.

Strong coordination between ministries of finance, planning, and relevant line ministries and agencies is required. A country's budget mainly reflects how well political commitments are being translated into direct actions to benefit the most marginalized youth. Regrettably, Ministries of Youth often tend to be under-funded and their portfolios isolated. Moreover, global funding for youth entities and youth movements is inadequate to facilitate their contributions to youth development and sustainable development.

It's essential to be mindful of the importance of national allocation as well as development assistance to address the immediate financing needs of youth; there is also a strong case for increasing external support for youth-specific purposes in countries most in need. The size of investment required to reap the full benefits from ongoing demographic changes is clearly beyond the financing capacities of most low and lower-middle-income countries. Prioritizing assistance for youth-focused services in these contexts can strengthen the catalytic role of development assistance, the private sector, and philanthropies, and contribute to the SDGs in the long run.

The youth raised their voices and demanded a seat at the policy table, linking from local actions to national and international meetings. The UN Global Compact and UN Youth Strategy are evidence that we move in the right direction. Regardless of this, gender equality and equal rights for decent payment for work and investing in quality education are fundamental for youth. As far as we could see, the SDG Media zone was alive from early morning to the end of the day's program. Dealing with enormous student debts, there should be an increase of internships broad over the scale of niches.



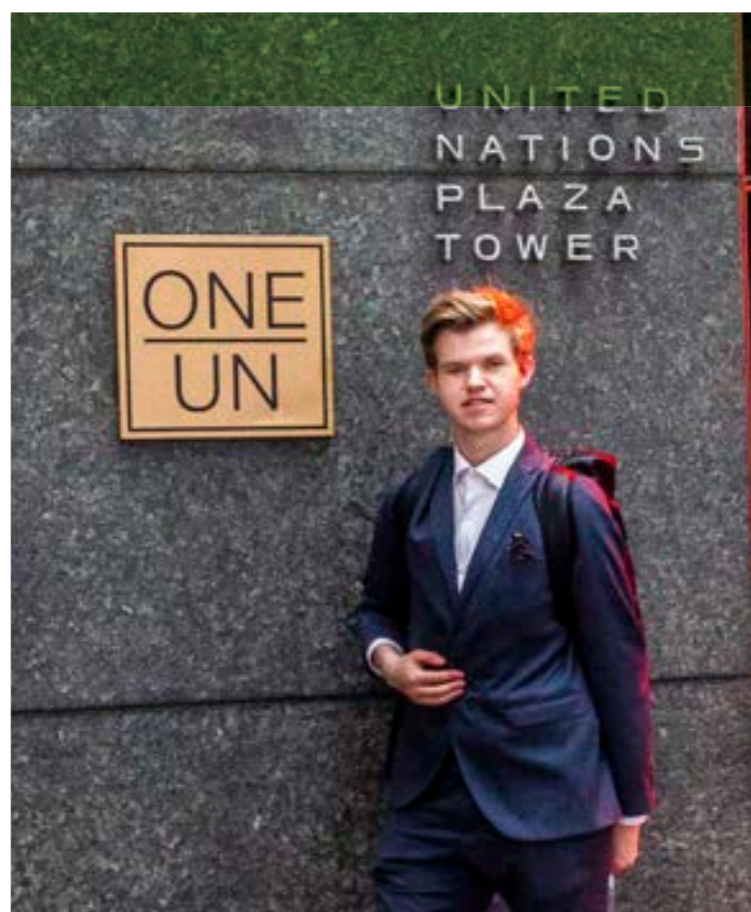
CLOSING CEREMONY REMARKS

This was another insightful wrapping up two great days. Participants identified the following issues and priorities during our discussions: The 2030 Agenda is the agenda of the young generation. The SDGs echo the richness and complexities of the lives of young people. Partnership with this young generation--> that is the largest and most educated one--is therefore crucial and indispensable to deliver on the SDGs.

Many Governments established national plans and mechanisms, including youth councils, to ensure the engagement of youth in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including in monitoring and ensuring accountability.

- Progress on the SDGs remain slow, including on climate action. Young people are demanding that leaders listen to their concerns and deliver on the promises envisioned in the 2030 Agenda.
- We must increase the representation of young people in decision-making bodies at all levels.
- The economy needs to be transformed, including through gradually phasing out subsidies for polluting industries such as fossil fuel industries, while supporting and promoting sustainable alternatives. This should be seen as an opportunity to create jobs, including for young people and women, and boost innovation and economies. Capacity-building and access to green technology is essential in that context, especially for developing countries.
- We heard about the need of young people to know their rights in order to act on their rightstotice and human rights for young people.
- We must promote the participation of young people in formal and informal decision-making and peace processes and empower young people to foster coexistence in and between societies divided by conflict. There is concern that young people are marginalized from mainstream political and civic participation based on a perception that they are agents of violence and lack the capacity and skills to meaningfully participate in political decision making. Industries such as fossil fuel industries, while supporting and promoting sustainable alternatives.

- Efforts to include young people in election processes were welcomed. Youth can mobilize and register voters, thus fostering electoral participation and preventing violence.
- Young people emphatically prioritized access to education as millions remain stripped of this fundamental right. Inclusive and quality education is a driver of sustainable development, including climate change adaptation and building peaceful, resilient societies.
- We must ensure young people can acquire skills for work and life through formal, informal, and non-formal education. Education systems need to provide hard and soft skills, practical and theoretical knowledge to empower young people to be successful and adapt to a rapidly changing the environment. They should provide quality and accessible training opportunities, such as internships and volunteering. Quality education should be contextualized and localized. SDG16 was considered a key enabler for the entire 2030 Agenda with its linkages between peace, justice, and strong institutions and other SDGs on education, reduced inequalities, partnerships, and sustainable cities and communities. We must invest in young people as critical agents of change.
- For young people, the exclusion was considered as a form of violence and an inter-generational injustice. All types of social, economic, political, and civic inclusion must be part of a strategy for peace and development. Quotas for youth participation in politics and decision-making were suggested. Economic integration was considered vital for empowerment and for combatting poverty and achieving the SDGs.
- We need to build bridges and include a diversity of young people in the review and follow-up of the SDGs, including in the Voluntary National Reviews. This can entail both ensuring a substantive focus on youth, as well as the engagement of young people in the VNR process. Important inclusion of the most marginalized and young people working at the local level must be prioritized to ensure leaving no one behind. We were reminded that to provide representation, and we must change mindsets and transform systems. The need to focus on the peace, security and development nexus was underscored to find durable solutions for refugees, returnees, and internally displaced persons. This could effectively roll back the drivers of mass and forced displacement, as well as the devastating impacts of climate change. Sustainable long-term financing is necessary for youth organizations' work. The youth need to be provided with technological tools, data, and mentorship, as well as physical spaces, to develop their ideas and innovations. Equally, youth-serving organizations need to be provided with a platform and tools to support future youth leaders.



Fredrik Asche Kaada
(Chief Editor)
NORWAY

Fredrik (23) is a bold, young Norwegian with a Bachelor of Marketing and branding management. Last year he did a group presentation the official UN 2030 Youth Strategy at UNCTAD Youth Forum 2018 in Geneva. Through active participation, he gained great insights that led to this New York trip with UNCTAD Youth and a better international business network. Past work includes an 84 pages UNCTAD Youth Magazine 2018 with six years of voluntary work nationally for The Norwegian Trekking Association (DNT) and KRIK. Currently working on a marketing startup called Net Expert Hub and has a keen eye for design and strategic communication.

The work around this report has been a long and learning experience. I want to thank these exceptional team members of mine that have contributed with notes, pictures, insights, and constructive critiques. Based on this, the ECOSOC Youth Forum 2019 report is finished and ready to share with e.g., UNCTAD member states.

MEET THE TEAM BEHIND THE REPORT

THANK YOU TO ALL
CONTRIBUTORS:



LeAundré Knight
BARBADOS

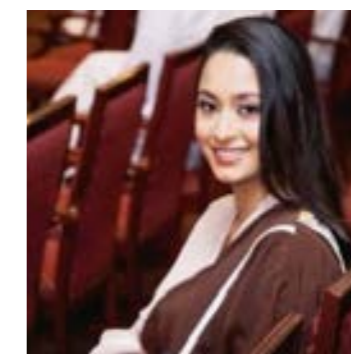
CFO Easy Connect || Economics and
International Studies



Ndumiso Mngomezulu
SOUTH AFRICA

Global Development &
Business Strategist. |

An award-winning development & business, marketing speaker - with over a decade of speaking experience who empowers his audiences with cutting edge knowledge, plus key tools for business impact.



Alena Dique
SULTANATE OF OMAN

Sustainable Development Goals Advocate | Finalist Young Leader of the year 2019, Middle East Award | Field of interest: Youth Development, mental health, women empowerment & education.



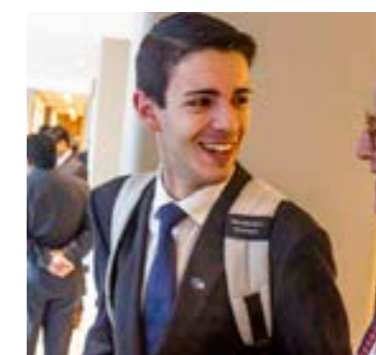
Chenxi Zhu
CHINA / ITALY

Communication intern (UNCTAD) | Brand ambassador for EY | Past president of Bocconi Chinese Student Association | Multicultural background | Speaker at ECOSOC Youth Forum 2019



Kanika Sahijwani
INDIA

Assistant Manager, India Infrastructure Publishing | Youth Leader, UNCTAD Youth | Youth Manager South East Asia, AFI | Speaker at ECOSOC Youth Forum 2019



Daniele Guadagnolo
ITALY

UNCTAD Youth Leader | Client Associate at Dentsu Aegis Network | Delegate at BETA Italia | Member of Climate Action Europe (CAN Europe), fighting climate change. | Speaker at ECOSOC Youth Forum 2019



Kenneth Gyamerah
GHANA

Chevening Scholar | AFI Changemaker | RCS Associate Fellow | An Associate Fellow of the Royal Commonwealth Society.



UNCTAD
Youth
Network



CONTACT US: UNCTAD

Palais des Nations, 8-14,
Av. de la Paix, 1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

T: +41 22 917 1234

F: +41 22 917 0057

unctadinfo@unctad.org

unctad.org/en/Pages/Youth-Network.aspx



Youth
Schedule



Youth
Data



Opportunities
for Youth



UNCTAD
Youth Forum



UNCTAD
delivers on the SDGs

