



12-14 AUGUST 2022 | USA NYC

August 14, 2022

Session Concept Notes & Descriptions

Panel Discussion on “Climate Action for People & Planet”

Concept Note

Date: Sunday, August 14, 2022

Time: 10:00 - 11:15 AM

Background

The effect of climate change is detrimental, and it is exacerbating over the years. Many NGOs and IGOs are taking collaborative actions in mitigating climate change, yet many still need to prevent further damage. The UN Sustainable Development Goal #13 calls for urgent actions to address climate concerns. The global dialogue on climate change has shifted its focus from the broader sense of environmental protection to establishing grounds for more sustainable lifestyles for the people and planet.

Globally people are diverting their attention towards more sustainable choices across all areas of life including the job sector. With the advancement of technology, more digital tools are being incorporated into our daily lives. Industry leaders are gradually more dependent on the digital economy as a way to conduct business. The renewable technology industry is advancing energy to benefit people and the planet, ultimately powering economic growth for people. It is essential for more sectors to realize the importance of utilizing digital platforms to minimize further degradation of our environment.

Youth are more involved in taking actions against climate change not only in their local communities, but also on a global scale. Ranging from hosting sustainable lifestyle related events in their local communities to growing their own non-profit organizations, young people have been putting their ideas into action and becoming the next generation of leaders in promoting a sustainable future. Despite youth taking action as individuals, there is a lack of opportunities to engage in climate action in education systems worldwide.

This panel seeks to highlight the green and digital economy with its impact on youth and future job creation, and gaps in education systems that must be filled to better prepare youth for the future. Climate change necessitates action from all parties, as young people and sector leaders must amplify greater actions now in order to prevent further environmental degradation and secure a cleaner and more sustainable future for all.



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Panel Discussion on “Education in Crisis: Refugees & Displaced Persons”

Concept Note

Date: Sunday, August 14, 2022

Time: 10:00 - 11:15 AM

Background

The world displaced persons and the refugee crisis has erupted to new heights over the last several years with 100 million people suffering, of which at least half are children and youth under 18 years of age. As children and youth continue to suffer, so does their access to quality education. The Syrian war has lasted for 10 years resulting in thousands of youth fleeing and living in places without access to education and employment. Conflicts in countries including Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia and Ukraine have led to an upward spiral in the number of children and youth forced to live in such situations.

These people leave behind their homes because they are left with no other option: they do not have enough available resources for a substantial living, or they are forcibly displaced due to violence or environmental threats. Young children suffer the most, as at least 48% of children remain out of school. Multiplied by the global health crisis, the refugee education crisis is further exacerbated. More effective and immediate actions are needed to make significant progress. This requires cooperation from all different sectors, governments, civil society and non-profit organizations to put forward an agenda that would act as the voices of those refugees.

This panel will highlight the faces behind these numbers and their stories. What is life like for them? From Palestine, Syria, Venezuela to now Ukraine and all other parts of the world facing this crisis, life is far from normal. Activists and experts will look deeper into their lives and what it would take to give refugees their right to education to thrive. The discussion will center on expediting progress and accountability for this vulnerable group for a more humane world where refugees and marginalized groups can recover from crises.



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Title: From local to global SDGs impact: An evidence-based approach for youth-led action in sustainable urban development. (Workshop)

Organization: UN-Habitat

Date: Sunday, August 14, 2022

Time: 10-11:15 AM

Description

[See session guide here](#)

Title: Youth lead actions Towards Healthier Urban Environments (Workshop)

Organization: UN-Habitat

Date: Sunday, August 14, 2022

Time: 11:30-12:45 PM

Description

This workshop will use the latest document from UN-Habitat and the World Health Organization Sourcebook: Integrating health in urban and territorial planning as a framework and will use the training materials from the upcoming training modules. The workshop will have a youth and gender lead focus, bringing the example of the Block by Block initiative and the HER-City toolbox.

The workshop will be divided into 2 parts. The first part will have a presentation and videos. The second part will be dedicated to open discussions to share concerns, and experiences and explore ways to engage further.

Moreover, the workshop will be an opportunity to link the urban health sourcebook, training manual, and the UN-Habitat Report on Cities and Pandemics with the WHO Manifesto for a healthy recovery from Covid-19. Focusing on the Prescriptions for a healthy and green recovery: Build healthy, liveable cities.



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Youth Assembly Alumni Panel: From Delegate to Changemaker

Concept Note

Date: Sunday, August 14, 2022

Time: 11:30 - 12:45 PM

Background

The session will focus on various Youth Assembly opportunities that are offered to delegates and how alums and their communities have benefitted from them. Alums will share how they obtained the opportunities, how they leveraged their experiences at the Youth Assembly, and what they are currently working on. They will share their stories, and their advice with those aiming to pursue a similar path, and offer insight into what resources, tools, which may help other young leaders in the future.

Title: How to build a more inclusive community during a highly polarized era (Workshop)

Organization: AFS Intercultural Programs

Date: Sunday, August 14, 2022

Time: 11:30-12:45 PM

Description

What happens when different groups of individuals have to learn to live together in the same environment? From eye-opening discussions to polarized arguments and conflicts, you will experience it all. This simulation experience will allow you to come together as one and develop a common agreement, taking into account your differences in order to live together peacefully and respectfully.



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Title: Efficiency, Sustainability, Prosperity – A Discussion with the World Bank

Organization: World Bank

Date: Sunday, August 14, 2022

Time: 3-4 PM

Description

As global populations expand and the climate changes, pressures on natural resources will inevitably escalate, with worsening economic consequences. The World Bank's latest research demonstrates that there are significant opportunities for using the world's scarce and valuable natural capital more efficiently. Doing so would simultaneously stimulate increases in economic productivity and improvements in environmental outcomes. Such a transformation is shown to be both feasible and environmentally and economically desirable. Join Jason Russ, World Bank's Senior Economist, for an interactive presentation on the nexus between efficiency, sustainability and prosperity, followed by a hands-on exercise for the participants to apply the knowledge to design strategies that can enhance sustainability in their countries.

Title: The Long-Term Mental Health Effects of COVID-19

Organization: Blanton-Peale Institute & Counseling Center

Date: Sunday, August 14, 2022

Time: 3-4 PM

Description

This session will cover the basics of mental health, the impact of COVID-19 and the resiliency factors that will enable continued growth in the aftermath of the pandemic. This session will also cover the role of how trauma can impact wellness in the long term. In turn we will also consider what holistic wellness means for mental health such as caring for our bio-psychosocial-spiritual health to counter the effects of traumatic phenomena. We will consider simple therapeutic exercises to enhance wellbeing.

Title: Realities of Human Trafficking (Workshop)

Organizer: Dr. Purnaka Lohendra de Silva

Date: Sunday, August 14, 2022

Time: 3-4 PM

[Required readings for delegates see here](#)



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Panel Discussion on “Youth In Action: Impact, Solutions and Innovation for People & Planet”

Concept Note

Date: Sunday, August 14, 2022

Time: 4:15- 5:00 PM

Background

Today, young people aged 10 to 24 make up one-quarter of the world’s population. The aspirations and achievements of these 1.8 billion people will obviously shape the future. Similarly, young people in the labor force make up a considerable percentage of the world’s population. Yet youth and young professionals are often left out of critical discussions that concern them. They are frequently overlooked or given the last-minute speaking role in policy and decision-making processes. This must stop.

Given the appropriate tools, resources, and space to innovate and flourish their ideas, young people stand to be the generation that will steer us from destruction toward a more sustainable world/future. Moreover, they have a significant role in achieving Agenda 21 for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Therefore, involving youth in all aspects of the United Nations' work is critical.

The establishment of the UN (United Nations) Youth Office offers an opportunity for involving young people in the brainstorming design creation entity that will speak to youth concerns and participation.

This panel will present examples of youth leadership and action toward addressing global challenges. Speakers will share their personal and professional experiences to illustrate how youth can act as leaders and changemakers, inspiring them to “*Dare to Shape the World*.”



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Title: Leveraging Trustworthy AI for Social Impact (Workshop)

Organization: IBM

Date: Sunday, August 14, 2022

Time: 4:15-5:15 PM

Description

Artificial intelligence is often thought of only as advanced robots, but what if we could predict natural disasters before they happen? Track diseases such as COVID-19 as it spreads to eliminate it sooner? Or to improve the lives of people living with disabilities? While AI has the potential to deliver largescale social impact, what do we do when artificial intelligence is used in sensitive areas and creates new problems like data discrimination? This workshop will examine how to apply artificial intelligence to social, humanitarian and environmental challenges while understanding the risks and challenges of leveraging new technologies.

Youth Assembly Ambassadors Program (Panel)

Concept Note

Date: Sunday, August 14, 2022

Time: 4:15- 5:15 PM

Background

The session will focus on the Youth Assembly Ambassadors Program for delegates interested in becoming an Ambassador. This panel will feature current Ambassadors who will discuss their work spreading awareness of the SDG's and the Youth Assembly among their network, the opportunities and challenges that arose during their time as Ambassadors, and advice to future Ambassadors.