

“Young Changemakers: Empowering Future Leaders for a Sustainable World”

Date: 21st November 2024

Venue: SDG Pavilion, Blue Zone

Time: 12:15 – 13:00hrs

Brief description of the event

The recently held UN Summit of the Future's preamble clearly outlines the need to recognise children and youth as agents of change and the need for intergenerational dialogue and engagement, including with and among children, youth, and older persons, to be considered in our policy and decision-making processes to safeguard the needs and interests of future generations.

To contribute to this global ambition. We propose an inter-generational dialogue on 21st November at the SDG pavilion with children and youth from various countries including Zambia, Somalia, Malawi, Rwanda, Pakistan and Sierra Leone. This intergenerational panel discussion will explore the crucial role of children and youth in driving sustainable development and addressing global challenges. By bringing together young people and experienced professionals from various fields, the event aims to foster intergenerational dialogue, inspire innovative solutions, and highlight the potential of young people-led initiatives to contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the face of climate change.

Session Objectives:

1. **Amplify Young People's Perspectives:** To recognize and celebrate the unique skills and perspectives that young people bring to sustainable development, highlighting successful youth-driven initiatives.
2. **Address Challenges and Opportunities:** To identify and discuss the challenges young people face in implementing sustainable projects, particularly in the context of climate change, and explore ways to strengthen partnerships with them.
3. **Empower Youth-Led Change:** To inspire and empower young people to become active agents of change, fostering a movement towards a more sustainable and equitable world.

Draft Agenda:

1. **Introduction and Welcome (5 minutes)** Brief overview of the panel's objectives
Introduction of panellists
2. **Youth-Led Innovations: A Catalyst for Change (5 minutes)** Presentations by young panellist highlighting their innovative projects and their impact
Discussion on the unique perspectives and skills that youth bring to sustainability efforts

- 3. Bridging the Generational Gap: Collaboration for Success (25 minutes)** Panel discussion on the importance of intergenerational collaboration Sharing experiences of successful partnerships between young people and experienced professionals. The discussion will also look at challenges faced by youth-led initiatives and explore strategies for overcoming obstacles and inspiring others to take action
- 4. Q&A Session (5 minutes)** Open discussion with the audience.

Speakers proposed:

- 1 children
- 1 youth
- UN bodies rep
- Government Climate Negotiator
- Child Focused Agencies rep

Comments/Suggestions

Due to the event being child-led and child-participatory, we wish to be allocated a morning slot to ensure their session ends on time and we safeguard them. To better align with the COP29 thematic days, we propose this event to be held on 18th November which is a children's and youth day.

In line with the collaborative spirit, this event is being co-organized and co-hosted by the members of the Joining Forces Alliance comprising of ChildFund Alliance, Plan International, Save the Children International, SOS Children's Villages International, Terre des Hommes International Federation, and World Vision International.