

# **3<sup>rd</sup> Sustainable Development Goals Youth Summer Camp**

**Closing Remarks by  
Ms. Eunhae Jeong, Senior Development Management Expert, United Nations Office for  
Sustainable Development(UNOSD), UN DESA**

1 August 2019, 11:00 a.m.

Dear Young Scholars, ladies and gentlemen,

We have reached the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Youth Summer Camp. It was our honor to gather such a dynamic and diverse group of 41 young leaders from around the world as well as the experts from the UN system and Korean institutions.

Throughout our Preliminary Workshop and the four-day Camp this week, we had meaningful, productive and fruitful discussions and debates on sustainable development. The time was surely stimulating and we raised critical awareness on the importance and inevitability of advancing sustainable development not only for our community and country, but also for the world. Throughout the Camp, I was especially fascinated by each participant's enthusiasm and passion. So I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for your unprecedented participation. Without a doubt, the Camp has enriched the knowledge on sustainable development and introduced innovative perspectives on achieving sustainable development goals.

As we learned over the past four days, the role of youth is vital for implementation of decent work and economic growth, climate action, disaster risk reduction and frontier technologies for sustainable development. Also, we discussed how we can achieve the Agenda 2030 and reviewed the current status of the SDGs implementation. According to the discussions, youth is the key to sustainable development and their participation is needed more than ever. However, despite our efforts to explore agendas of sustainable development from diverse perspectives, challenges towards achieving the SDGs still remain.

As a leading institution carrying out this vital task, the United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD) will continue to build capacities of young people, entrepreneurs, policymakers, experts and practitioners to contribute to active knowledge exchange and capacity development. In coming months, our Office will host 2019 International Mayor's Forum in Quito, Ecuador, 2019 Sustainable Development Transition Forum in Incheon, Republic of Korea and various conferences, forums and workshops to share knowledge and enhance partnerships. To train future leaders, our Office will also continue to host SDGs Youth Summer Camp, so we urge all of the participants to share the experiences to fellow students and encourage them to participate in the future events for the SDGs implementation.

Also, as you were all informed in the opening session, UNPOG is hosting a youth-related event at a regional forum in this November. I would like to encourage you all to take interest and participate in this event as well as other domestic and international conferences. A few weeks ago in New York, many youth representatives participated and presented their ideas on how SDGs can contribute to their present and future life in the Voluntary National Reviews sessions of their respective countries. I believe that you are as good as they are so keep up the good work that you started already here in the Summer Camp.

Lastly, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our partners UNPOG, Korea Environment Corporation and Incheon Metropolitan City. Also, I thank the Incheon Airport Aviation Academy for their excellent service throughout the camp and Incheon Tourism Organization for funding our field trip. Your support and contribution have led to the remarkable outcome of the camp. A special thanks also to UNOSD's and UNPOG's staff and interns who helped to prepare and coordinate the entire Summer Camp programme.

Dear friends,

I hope this camp has triggered your interest and passion towards sustainable development. And we look forward to witnessing about your contributions in achieving and implementing the SDGs in near future. I wish the best of luck in your future endeavors and we look forward hearing back from you all. Good luck and Thank you.