4th Sustainable Development Goals Virtual Youth Summer Camp
Syllabus and Participant Guide

Organized by the United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD) of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), and in partnership with the Korea Environment Corporation (K-eco)

1. Introduction

Today, there are 1.8 billion people between the ages of 10-24—they are the largest generation of youth in history (UN, 2019).[1] With nearly 90 per cent of youth live in developing countries, and these numbers are expected to grow—between 2015 and 2030 alone, about 1.9 billion young people are projected to turn 15 years old, yet youth are not leading the implementation of the 2030 Agenda (UN, 2019).[2]

Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in September 2015, UN Member States have been taking voluntary actions to achieve this transformative agenda. However, the rate of global progress is not keeping pace with the aspirations of member states, and societies are still confronted with daunting challenges such as climate change, inequality, environmental degradation, energy crises, lack of or weak public services and most recently, a global pandemic that has threatened to delay progress on the Global Goals. To tackle these problems, it is imperative for stakeholders and institutions from global to local levels to accelerate collective actions. But one stakeholder – today's youth is of primary importance in forging the leadership, ideas, energy and hope to demand change and build constructive solutions to these challenges.[3]

> *"The natural environment is deteriorating at an alarming rate: sea levels are rising; ocean acidification is accelerating; the last four years have been the warmest on record; one million plant and animal species are at risk of extinction, and land degradation continues unchecked."*
>
> *"let us harness the ideas and energy and sense of hope of young people —in particular young women — demanding change and constructive solutions."*
>
> **- UN Secretary-General António Guterres[, 3]**

Actively engaging youth and shaping their knowledge, skills and mindsets for sustainable development is vital to the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the coming decade. Not least because youth are already becoming political leaders, social and green entrepreneurs and champions of change, but also because they will only increasingly do so in the decades to come. Many leaders today are aware of the power of youth to galvanize change, as seen when a then 15-year old climate activist Greta Thunberg started her #FridaysforFuture movement that has now spread globally.[4]

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[1] United Nations, 2019. Retrieved from: https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/youth/
[2] United Nations, 2019. Retrieved from: https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/youth/
[3] United Nations, 2020. Retrieved from: https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/speeches/2020-01-22/remarks-general-assembly-priorities-for-2020
[4] Greta Thunberg is a Swedish climate activist who began her movement for climate action at the age of 15. For more information see: www.FridaysforFuture.org

Acknowledging the role of youth in sustainable development, organizations and governments alike have established strategies to raise youth's awareness and capacity for the SDGs. For instance, "Youth 2030: The United Nations Youth Strategy" was launched on 24 September 2018 by the UN Secretary-General. It seeks to strengthen and increase commitments from global to national levels to empower youth's capacity and contributions for the SDGs. The UN has also launched key campaigns to engage youth, such as *Be The Change*, provides practical ways youth and all citizens can champion how to "walk the talk" when it comes the SDGs, by changing consumption patterns, transport methods, and much more.[5] Lastly, in September 2019, during the UN Secretary-General's SDG Summit, Heads of State agreed on a Political Declaration committing to a Decade of Action and ten accelerators that include youth throughout (A/RES/74/4).

In this context, UNOSD has developed the capacities of youth on Sustainable Development since the office's inception nearly a decade ago. With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015, UNOSD began organizing SDG Youth Summer Camps to empower youth leaders to think critically and get engaged in implementing the Goals. Three SDG Youth Summer Camps have been organized with over 150 youth trained thus far.[6]

2. Objectives

The objectives of the SDGs Youth Virtual Summer Camp will include, but are not limited to the following:

- Build and enhance knowledge of selected youth on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- Foster youth leadership skills, with design-thinking, critical-thinking, and engagement through dialogues and exercises on SDG implementation;
- Provide opportunities for networking among youth; and
- Expand the host institution's partnership with youth leaders for the SDGs

3. Methodologies

The fourth SDG Youth Summer Camp will take place with a fully virtual learning methodology, using the CISCO Webex Training platform and other digital tools to enable and strengthen virtual collaboration. Participants will be introduced to the digital tools and online learning methodology, which comprises multiple sessions on the Webex Training platform totally approximately 19 learning hours. These tools are described towards the end of this document.
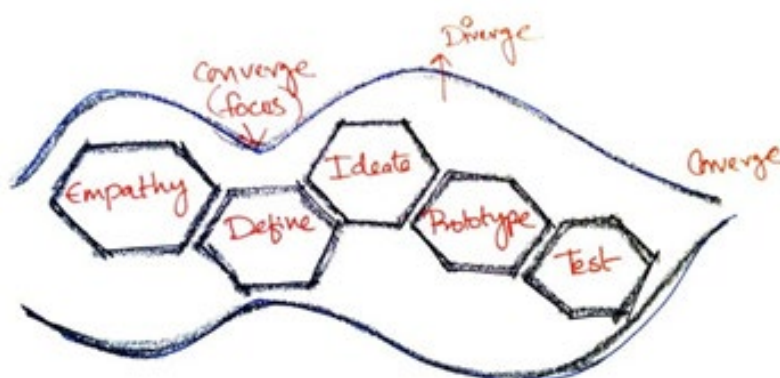
The learning process for the camp will use a Design Thinking methodology for a user-centric approach in developing accelerated solutions. Through this methodology, youth will contribute to SDG implementation by understanding users, redefining problems and creating innovative solutions. The methodology allows participants to develop empathy, systems-thinking, and critical-thinking skills, while also developing ideation or creative thinking, collaboration, negotiation, evaluation, advocacy, and other essential leadership skills.

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[5] For example, see https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/be-the-change/

[6] UNOSD has organized three Summer Camps thus far, with the following number of participants per session, 2017 included 56 youth participants, 2018 included 51 youth participants, and 2019 included 52 youth participants. In total, 159 youth participants were trained through these events.

4. Learning Outcomes

After taking part in the Virtual Summer Camp, students will be able to:
- Communicate on the role of youth in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals
- Describe the steps of the design thinking methodology and how design thinking can accelerate effective SDG implementation
- Apply design thinking in all its phases to the development of a prototype solutions to advance the SDGs

5. Participant Criteria

Those who are born between 1992 and 2002 are eligible to apply regardless of their nationalities by submitting application forms and supplementary documents posted on the organizers' websites. English proficiency is required among applicants.

Participants should currently be residing in the Republic of Korea and access the virtual sessions in Korean Standard Time (KST).

The organizers will select a maximum of 40 participants based on their motivation, capacities and English proficiency, while aiming for gender and geographical balance.
Upon selection, the participants will be surveyed to assess interest areas under the 2030 Agenda to facilitate group formation during the preliminary workshop.

6. Structure and Agenda

In its virtual format, given the current impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing requirements, the total camp will be held fully online using the CISCO Webex Training platform. The total camp now includes 19 learning hours for accepted participants.

Preliminary Workshop: Participants will be engaged in a preliminary workshop as planned on 20 July for three learning hours.

Main Summer Camp: Over two-weeks from 10-21 August, participants will be engaged in 3 online sessions per week held on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for daily modules not exceeding 2.5 hours each. The main camp period includes six modules and approximately 16 learning hours.

Preliminary workshop Monday, 20 July, 9am-12pm 3 learning hours	
Time	**Content**
9:00-9:10 (10')	**Welcome and Introduction of the Virtual Summer Camp format**
9:10-10:25 (75')	**Session 1: Overview of SDGs and the Decade of Action to Accelerate Progress and the Role of Youth**
10:25-10:45 (30')	**Session 2: Youth leadership for Accelerating SDG implementation & Design Thinking – Youth CityPreneurs models and Case on Sustainable Consumption and Production**
10:45-12:00 (75')	**Session 3: Intro to Design Thinking and Empathizing Part I**

4th SDGs Youth Summer Camp 10-21 August (M, W, F) 16 Learning Hours	
Module 1 - 2.5 hours Mon, 10 August, 10:00-12:30	
Time	**Content**
10:00-10:10 (10)	**Opening and Welcome Remarks**
10:10-11:10 (60')	**Session 1: Design-thinking for the SDGs Revisited**
11:10-11:30 (20')	**Session 2: Practical operational performance for Sustainable Development carried out by K-eco**
11:30-12:30 (60')	**Session 3: Hands-on experience: A case study of SDG-incorporated solution/prototype**
Module 2 - 2.5 hours Wed, 12 August, 10:00-12:30	
Time	**Content**
10:00-12:00 (120')	**Session 1: Ideate based on group research - Ideating for successful SDG implementation**
12:00-12:30 (30')	**Session 2: Leaving no one behind: What does it mean in the global, national and local context?**
Module 3 - 2 hours Fri, 14 August, 10:00-12:00	
Time	**Content**
10:00-11:00 (60')	**Session 1: Prototyping Solutions**
11:00-12:00 (60')	**Session 2: Prototyping Solutions and Testing**

Module 4 - 2.5 hours Mon, 17 August, 10:00-12:30	
Time	**Content**
10:00-11:00 (60')	**Session 1: Finalizing Group Presentations and Group Testing Discussions**
11:00-12:30 (90')	**Session 2: Innovation using Design Thinking and Dialogue Session**
Module 5 - 2.5 hours Wed, 19 August, 10:00-12:30	
Time	**Content**
10:00-11:00 (60')	**Final Group Presentation #1** Prototype Solutions per Group (10 minutes per group)
11:00-11:10 (10')	Break
11:10-12:10 (60')	**Final Group Presentation #2** Prototype Solutions per Group (10 minutes per group)
12:10-12:30 (20')	**Concluding statements**
Module 6 - 1 hour Fri, 21 August, 10:00-11:00	
Time	**Content**
10:00-10:50 (50')	**Awards Ceremony**
10:50-11:00 (10')	**Closing Remarks**

7. Background Readings

Required
- Design Thinking and Sustainable Development Goals Handout (will be distributed on 20 July after the preliminary workshop)
- Sustainable Development Goals resource document (will be distributed on 20 July at preliminary workshop for identifying key targets and synergies)
- United Nations Global Sustainable Development Report Press Release and Infographics (2019) Accessed at: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/globalsdreport/2019#media
- United Nations (2020) Long-term future scenarios and the impact of current trends on the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals. Long-term future scenarios and the impact of current trends on the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (May 2020) Accessed at: https://undocs.org/en/E/2020/60
- United Nations (2020) Political declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly (October 2019) (A/RES/74/4). Accessed at: https://undocs.org/A/RES/74/4
- Cserhati, Agnes (2019) The Power of Innovation and Design Thinking in Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. United Nations System Staff College. Accessed

at: https://www.unssc.org/news-and-insights/blog/power-innovation-and-design-thinking-implementing-2030-agenda-sustainable/

Videos
- United Nations (2018) "Do you know all 17 SDGs?"
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0XTBYMfZyrM
- UNDP – "This is how the UN moves the SDGs from paper to practice"
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TH8IsHLQ2mQ

Optional Readings and Resources
- United Nations (2020) Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council on the annual theme "Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development". Accessed at: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/26509HLPF_MD_29_June.pdf
- United Nations (2020) Report of the Secretary-General. Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development Accessed at: https://undocs.org/en/E/2020/59
- SDG Acceleration Actions. Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform. Accessed at: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgactions

8. Webex Dos and Donts

Please do:
- Test your computer audio and video before you join a session (please use desktop or laptop instead of mobile phones)
- Mute microphones during presentations (however, keep your videos on unless instructed otherwise)
- Use the Webex and Slack designated spaces to post questions to be addressed by the speakers, hosts, facilitators, or other designated contact points
- Use your designated first & last name and email address (the one you used for the application) in registering for the Webex session, Slack and other communications tools. For Example: "Jane Doe"
- Focus on the Webex Training session, there is a function that shows participants' attentiveness
- Abide by the **UN Values (Integrity, Professionalism, Respect for diversity)** during the entirety of the course, including group discussions and offline peer to peer engagement
- Agree and click "Yes" to the prompts during the Webex Training when prompted to join or leave breakout groups (also click 'Yes' to the message which asks you to 'mute' the main group when joining the breakout sessions)

Please don't:
- Quit in the middle of the session
- Claim host when you join the Webex session
- Unmuting yourself while the presentation is undergoing
- Annotate or write on the Webex presentation "whiteboard" screen unless encouraged
- Attend class/session while driving or riding in a moving vehicle
- Use profanity or offensive language
- Use emoji function
- Use other programs and browsers as the host can monitor if a participant is not paying attention
- Post to "everyone" on the chat board or slack "general" channels other than for posting relevant questions, suggestions, or appropriate comments
- Send unsolicited or inappropriate private messages to others during the sessions

9. Tools we will use

- **Webex Training Platform:** The CISCO Webex training platform provides a solution for delivering impactful virtual trainings that we will be using throughout the Summer Camp, for lectures and small breakout sessions. Each time you will be sent an invite to join the training session. We recommend downloading the Webex app onto your laptop to stay connected and test your audio and camera functions each time. Visit: https://www.webex.com/training-online.html

- **Slack:** an online application that functions as a collaboration hub to connect users. It can replace email to help teams and groups work together seamlessly. It's designed to support the way people naturally work together, to collaborate with people online as efficiently as face-to-face, with opportunities to create different 'channels' or conversation spaces for groups and share files, knowledge, and more. We will be using Slack for continuing our discussions online at any time and especially our group work and more! You can download the app on your phone, computer or use the web version. Visit: UNOSD.slack.com #design4sdgs

- **Google Jamboard:** This is a collaborative, digital whiteboard that makes it easy to create without boundaries and share ideas in real time among many participants. We will be using this to ideate, brainstorm and exchange ideas together. You will likely need a google account to be more actively engaged in the Jamboard. Visit: Jamboard.Google.com

10. Organizers

United Nations Office for Sustainable Development, UN DESA
The United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD), established in 2011 in Incheon, the Republic of Korea, supports U.N. Member States in planning and implementing sustainable development strategies, notably through knowledge sharing, capacity development, research, training and partnership building. The Office is managed by the Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG) of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), and supported by Ministry of Environment, Republic of Korea, Yonsei University and Incheon Metropolitan City. Visit: https://unosd.un.org/

Korea Environment Corporation
Korea Environment Corporation (K-eco) is a quasi-governmental organization under the Ministry of Environment and it is aimed at becoming a global, total environment services provider. Based on its mission to contribute to the eco-friendly national development through the improvement of the environment and promotion of resource recycling, K-eco carries out nationwide works related to climate, air, water, soil, waste treatment, resource circulation, environmental health and environmental facilities. Visit: http://www.keco.or.kr

11. Criteria for Final Presentations and Evaluation

To be updated

12. Contact information

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