



A Report of the

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Youth Dialogue

Saturday, August 10, 2019

We all have a role to play!



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Youth Champions during the SDGs Youth Dialogue

Introduction

Champions for SDGs is a youth-led initiative bringing together youth champions to contribute meaningfully towards the realization of a future in which all young people are well informed, economically empowered and actively take part in global development issues regardless of their background, gender or social status. The initiative is run by an enthusiastic and ambitious team of young people. They dedicate their time, energy and expertise on a voluntary basis.

Champions for SDGs invited young people for a Sustainable Development Goals Youth Dialogue ahead of the International Youth Day 2019. The dialogue explored the following Sustainable Development Goals with particular focus on the role of young people:

- i. Sustainable Development Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being
- ii. Sustainable Development Goal 4: Quality Education
- iii. Sustainable Development Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities
- iv. Sustainable Development Goal 13: Climate Action
- v. Sustainable Development Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals.

The theme of International Youth Day 2019, “Transforming education”, highlighted efforts to make education more inclusive and accessible for all youth, including efforts by young people themselves. Rooted in Goal 4 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, International Youth Week 2019 examined how Governments, young people and youth-led and youth-focused organizations, as well as other stakeholders, are transforming education so that it becomes a powerful tool to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The youth dialogue managed to set pace of the discussion ahead of the International Youth Day 2019 (#IYD2019).

Objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals Youth Dialogue:

- i. To provide a platform for young people to contribute positively towards Sustainable Development Goals through active participation in sustainability matters
- ii. To enlighten youth champions to take up opportunities through inspirational young change makers in the society.
- iii. To be the leading network of young people that are collectively moving forward and actively taking part in global sustainable development programs through collaborations with others.

Event Schedule:

Time	Activity	In charge
1330 - 1400 Hours	Arrival/Registration	Annmarcy/Austine
1401 - 1410 Hours	Network Background and Updates	Arnold Gekonge
	Introduction (Name, County and SDG)	
1411 - 1444 Hours	Guest Presentations (SDG 3, 4, 10, 13)	Guest Speakers
	Brief Questions and Answer Session	All
1445 - 1524 Hours	The Role of Young People in SDGs	Youth Participants
1525 - 1550 Hours	Way Forward and Closing Remarks	All
1551 - 1559 Hours	Group Photo session with SDGs	Evelyn /All
1600 Hours	Networking and Departure	



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Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Youth Dialogue

Participation Structure (3 Minutes):

- Introduce yourself (County and organization or institution.)
- Your views on SDGs of the day and How education can be used to realize them. (in line with the theme of this year's International Youth Day).
- Recommendation on what should be done to realize the SDGs.

The conversation largely called for increased levels of awareness among young people about their role in pursuance of Sustainable Development Goals through effective and efficient education interventions. Most importantly there is need for fostered collaboration between different stakeholders comprising governments, civil society, young people in youth-led and youth-focused organizations to address global sustainable development.



Youth Champion on Mental Health Issues under SDG 3

i. Sustainable Development Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being

“Most people affected in terms of Sexual Reproductive Health Rights are young people, with high rates of teenage pregnancies, high mortality rates, high levels of new HIV infections and consequently many cases of mental illnesses.” Yvonne Ochieng’. “Mental health is an emerging issue in our country and the world-over that calls for attention. Young people should be empowered through education as a key component, structured to not only give knowledge but also skills to protect and promote their health.” Good health and well-being is not just physical appearance, it means that young people are able to lead a productive life, contribute meaningfully to society and that they are able to cope well with everyday challenges.

ii. Sustainable Development Goal 4: Quality Education

Participants acknowledged that education is key in the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals. It is important to bring out education as a key component in interventions for sustainable development.

“A teacher can take a tender brain and mold it into something... Why can't we value teaching in order to achieve quality education?” Asked Brian Muyekhera. Questions arose around the definition of quality education as a young people. “The reality is, there is a big gap in our conventional education in Africa towards the realization of SDG 4.” Deogratius Magero. Young people need to be strategic by embracing aspects such as mentorship that helps them strategically think about how to achieve their visions and ideas. For instance, in the current job market, employers are considering more of what young people are capable of doing instead of what they have studied so far. Given the 18% national rate of teenage pregnancies (KDHS 2014), issues of Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights should be tackled well by the new Competency Based Curriculum to ensure that the information gap amongst young people is bridged. This will ultimately contribute to reduction of school drop-outs and reducing new HIV infections by giving equipping young people with factual information to make responsible Reproductive Health choices as young adults.



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iii. Sustainable Development Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities

The Fight Inequality Alliance Kenya, talks about fighting Inequality from a personalized perspective. “You can only ask for what you don’t have if you know what you don’t have” Antonia Musunga. “There are different stories of how people are experiencing inequality but the challenges are the same.” Inequality is a global problem. The government should ensure that the constitution sees that everybody achieves and celebrates their rights. (Three short films speaking about Inequality in Kenya were screened in addition to the presentation by Antonia.). Young people need to unlearn and relearn what we do. There are so many things that will be taught that are problematic. How do we question things from a youth perspective? It can only be possible by extensively understanding our context. If we want to achieve anything different, we must purpose to use our privilege of education to talk to other people, identify opportunities to engage in effectively, figure out what we want, and plug into those processes. Youth-friendly spaces are often created, however, if you’re not there, then your interest will not be represented as a young person.



iv. Sustainable Development Goal 13: Climate Action

Currently, virtually all countries in the world are seeing and experiencing first-hand the drastic effects resulting from climate change. Greenhouse gas emissions have been on the rise and continue to rise. The gases are now more than 50 percent higher than they were in 1990. Global warming is also causing long-term changes to the world’s climate system. Irreversible consequences are likely to occur if immediate action is not taken. A stronger resilience of regions that are more vulnerable, ought to go hand in hand with efforts to increase levels of awareness and integrate measures into the various national policies and also strategies. Many current technological measures, innovations and political will have the ability to limit the increase in global mean temperature up to two degrees Celsius, above pre-industrial levels. To achieve this, urgent, collective action is absolutely necessary with a well-integrated approach in order to make progress in all the Sustainable Development Goals.



v. Sustainable Development Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Within the State Department of planning there is a department for SDGs implementation co-chaired by the SDGs Kenya Forum and Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA). The committee brings together government, private sector, academia, civil society, media and other stakeholders. “Implementation of SDGs is not just a government agenda and despite the current indicators of progress, still, more needs to be done to ensure that the implementation process speaks at grass root level.” Florence Syevuo. Further, every year in July there is a reporting process termed as voluntary national reviews for the Sustainable Development Goals at The High Level Political Forum usually held in New York. Countries voluntarily report through the bi-annual reports on SDGs. Majority of the population of Kenya are young people who are educated and skilled, however opportunities for them are limited and/or inaccessible. Young people ought to come up with a united front and speak out for reduced inequalities, quality and affordable health-care in order to change the narrative. Young people should be equipped with skills on how to engage with their leaders and know how to ensure that they deliver what they were elected to do. Article 55 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 gives young people a lot of power and they should stand up and for their rights.



Methodology used:

The dialogue was anchored on a participatory approach with a dedicated one hour for youth participants to contribute their views. A few structured presentations; oral, power point, experience sharing and video sessions on reducing inequalities were also employed. The entire conversation was broadcasted LIVE on the Network's Facebook Page (<http://www.facebook.com/Champions4SDGs>) to loop in participants who could not make it to the event. The entire conversation is also accessible on YouTube via this link: (<http://bit.ly/2lxQsk6>). The online conversation also took place concurrently using the hash tags: #Champions4SDGs and #InternationalYouth-Day2019

Participants:

Forty participants, comprising of young Sustainable Development Goals champions, in and out of school took part in the dialogue. Participants were drawn from different counties, majority of them based in Nairobi. Participants consisted young people from Kakamega, Kericho, Kisii, Kitui, Busia, Nakuru, Kiambu, Mombasa, Kilifi and Nairobi Counties. We plan to hold similar dialogues in other regions in subsequent dialogues such as Nakuru and Mombasa.



Idea sharing on partnerships for SDGs

Venue, date and Convener:

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) youth dialogue took place on Saturday, August 10, 2019 from 13:30 – 16:00 Hours at The Bazaar Plaza – fifth floor; American Space. The dialogue event was convened by the 'Champions for SDGs' Youth Network.

Champions for SDGs Contact People:

1. Arnold Gekonge,
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2. Alvin Mwangi
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3. Evelyn Odhiambo
Co-Chair; Champions for SDGs,
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Conversation on the role of young people in realizing SDGs



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Budget:

	Item	Status	Description/Quantity	Cost (Kshs.)	
1.	Participant List	Ready	List with atleast 80 participants (Design Ready).	20	00
2.	SDGs Dialogue Schedule and other basic print outs	Ready	Printed copies for atleast 60 participants (Design and Printing).	200	00
3.	SDGs Informational Booklets	Ready	One hundred copies provided by the State Department of Planning	0	00
4.	Multimedia documentation: Photography and Videography	Ready	Member's phone(s) helped take pictures and videos for online media and documentation.		
5.	Fully charged phone for Facebook LIVE	Ready	The team lead's phone was used.	0	00
6.	SDGs Dialogue banner:	Ready	(Design by team member)	800	00
7.	Invited Guest Speakers: - Yvonne Ochieng - Antonia Wanjiku - Deogratus Magero - Florence Syevuo - Grayson Marwa	Ready	Five Confirmed Speakers as listed on the left.	0	00
8.	Moderator - Arnold Gekonge	Ready	Responsible for moderating the entire SDGs Youth Dialogue.	0	00
Total Expenditure				1,020	00

Acknowledgements:

- Projects and Programmes Directorate, State Department for Planning.
- American Spaces.
- SDGs Kenya Forum.



Participant List:

1. Abiero Austine Otieno
2. Achoch Mildred Akinyi
3. Atieno Emma
4. Gekonge Arnold Nyaboga
5. Irungu Alvin Mwangi
6. Kamanu David Nene
7. Karega Grace Wanjiru
8. Kaviti Stellah
9. Kivugo Rahma
10. Koskei Edwin
11. Mabonga Kelvin
12. Macharia Harrison Kimani
13. Maraka Khasim
14. Marwa Grayson
15. Mogambi Esther Bosibori
16. Mugweru Shevvy
17. Musunga Antonia Wanjiku
18. Musyoka Julius
19. Musyoka Stella Mutave
20. Muthee Neema
21. Muyekhera Brian Lugaga
22. Mwaro Francis Mware
23. Nandwa Jairus
24. Nyatichi Ruth
25. Ochiel Phoebe Adhiambo
26. Ochieng' Yvonne
27. Odhiambo Evelyn
28. Omari Brian
29. Omondi Erick
30. Ong'era Devina
31. Opondo Dorice Amondi
32. Oranga Elisha
33. Otemba Albert
34. Otieno Brian
35. Ougo Stephen Ochieng
36. Owenda Silvester
37. Syevuo Florence
38. Wahome Kenneth
39. Wanjiru Annmercy Wairimu
40. Zindonda Kelvin Wanjala





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