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Young people bringing the SDG's into reality!

1. United Nations announces young Leaders for the Sustainable Development Goals

New York, September 19, 2016 – The UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, Ahmad Alhendawi, today unveiled the inaugural class of UN Young Leaders for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the Social Good Summit in New York.

The 17 Young Leaders have been recognized for their leadership and contribution to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which includes a set of 17 Goals to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and tackle climate change by 2030.

"Today I am pleased to join in welcoming the inaugural class of UN Young Leaders for the Sustainable Development Goals," said UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. "These 17 young change-makers are a testament to the ingenuity of youth and I congratulate them for their exceptional leadership and demonstrated commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals."

The flagship initiative of the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth comes against a backdrop of increasing efforts by the UN to engage young people in its efforts to achieve the SDGs. Selected from over 18,000 nominations from 186 different countries, the UN Young Leaders for the SDGs will support efforts to engage young people in the realization of the SDGs and will have opportunities to engage in UN and partner-led projects. The initiative will also contribute to a brain trust of young leaders supporting initiatives related to the SDGs.

Speaking at the event, the Youth Envoy, Ahmad Alhendawi, said: "We are proud to announce this group of young global citizens who are already transforming their communities. At the same time, the selection process was an important reminder of the great potential and talent of so many young people around the world, who are making immense contributions to peace, development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals."

The UN Young Leaders for the SDGs will be at the United Nations in New York for the opening of the 71st Session of the General Assembly, where they are scheduled to take part in a series of high-level meetings and events.



About the initiative: The Young Leaders Initiative is powered by the Office of the UN Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth and is part of the Global Youth Partnership for Sustainable Development Goals, launched in 2015 and housed in the Envoy’s Office. From food to fashion to micro-finance, the UN Young Leaders for the SDGs, aged 19-30 years old, come from many different backgrounds, represent every region in the world and inspire all of us to achieve the goals. The UN Young Leaders for the SDGs are recognized for their leadership and contribution to a more sustainable world. They will come together as a community to support efforts to engage young people in the realization of the SDGs both through strategic opportunities with the UN and through their existing initiatives, platforms and networks.

About the Selection Process: The UN Young Leaders for the SDGs were selected through a multi-step rigorous process during which they were also evaluated by a high-level Selection

Committee comprised of representatives from governments, the United Nations, civil society and the private sector.

2. UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network Youth

In 2012, the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon launched the [UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network](#) (SDSN) to mobilise global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical problem solving for sustainable development, including the design and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at local, national and global scales. In 2015, the SDSN launched its official youth initiative (SDSN Youth) to empower youth globally to create sustainable development solutions.

SDSN Youth educates young people about the challenges of sustainable development and creates opportunities for them to use their creativity and knowledge to pioneer innovative solutions for the SDGs. In addition, SDSN Youth creates platforms for young people to connect, collaborate and integrate their ideas and perspectives into national and regional pathways for implementation of the SDGs.

Here you will find the first youth solutions report, published in March 2017

<http://www.youthsolutions.report/>



3. 2017 International Essay Contest for Young People – Learning from Nature

This annual essay contest is organized in an effort to harness the energy, imagination and initiative of the world's youth in promoting a culture of peace and sustainable development. It also aims to inspire society to learn from the young minds and to think about how each of us can make a difference in the world. This programme is an activity of the UNESCO Global Action Programme (GAP) on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), organised by Goi Peace Foundation. This year's theme is "Learning from Nature". Essays can be submitted in English, Spanish French, German or Japanese. Submissions must be received by 15 June 2017.

For more information, click here [click here](#)

4. Call for Participation - International Capacity Building Workshop on Green Growth, Melaka, Malaysia, 19-23 July 2017

The World Youth Foundation, in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Malaysia, International Youth Council, IDEAS for US and other agencies, is organizing the International Capacity Building Workshop on Green Growth in Melaka, Malaysia, from 19 to 23 July 2017. This year's programme will be addressing issues on how young people can achieve a greener planet, make cities more livable and sustainable, and create social inclusion, education and awareness strategies and policies. Selected participants will undergo intense training by qualified trainers which will consist of using "The Hive" model.

Early Registration Closes: 30th April 2017, Late Registration Closes: 10th June 2017

To learn more about the workshop click [here](#). To register follow [this link](#).

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5. Learning to live together sustainably (SDG4.7): Trends and Progress

The international activities on ESD linked to SDG 4.7. are on the way of growing to an international network. Unesco has just launched a website on this topic:

<https://en.unesco.org/gced/sdg47progress>

6. Upcoming events:



- 9 TH WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CONGRESS
SEPTEMBER 9-15, 2017 | VANCOUVER, BC, CANADA

[Call for abstracts for the 9th WEEC](#) in Vancouver (September 9-15, 2017)

extended to April 30th!

- Find the **upcoming events** on the [SDG knowledge platform - calender](#)

7. Publications:

Envisioning futures for environmental and sustainability education

http://www.wageningenacademic.com/doi/pdf/10.3920/978-90-8686-846-9_fm

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