



UNITED NATIONS ACTIVITY REPORT

To celebrate the 27th [United Nations International Day of Older Persons \(UNIDOP\)](#), the United Nations hosted “Stepping into the Future: Tapping the Talents, Contributions and Participation of Older Persons.” This conference explored the future of global aging by examining how technology, entrepreneurship, and civic engagement enhance older persons’ contributions to societies throughout the world.

The event was conducted 5 October 2017 at the United Nations Headquarters, New York City, New York, United States.

Report Submitted by Constance Sobon Sensor, Sigma United Nations Liaison

Research, age-related technological innovations, and models of civic involvement and entrepreneurship were presented to show how older and younger generations that work together strengthen their voices and become active forces in their communities and governments. The keynote speaker was Marc Freedman, Founder and CEO, [Encore.org](#). He spoke about founding his company that matches the talents of older people with needs in the community to the benefit of both. He recognized that when people retire today, they retire to do something else, not to sit in a rocking chair. He said that society is changing and needs to allow space for older people (aged 60+) to mentor others with their experience and wisdom in specific areas of expertise and talent. In addition, many older persons are starting their own internet-based businesses, which also reflects the state of work in the age of digital technology.

This briefing is archived at <http://webtv.un.org/search/international-day-of-older-persons-2017/5599181246001/?term=older%20persons&sort=date>