



Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing®

UNITED NATIONS ACTIVITY REPORT

The 20th session of the [2017 Summer Youth Assembly at the United Nations](#) presented both an opportunity and a challenge to stimulate and ensure youth engagement and participation in achieving an inclusive and sustainable future where no one is left behind.

Guided by the overarching principle of the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), “leaving no one behind,” the conference explored issues and solutions for sustainable development in the social, economic, and environmental dimensions. While youth are among those subjected to exclusion and marginalization, they have the potential to accelerate and achieve sustainable development in their communities and beyond. With their unique sets of skills and perspectives in today’s ever-evolving world, they remain at the frontlines of innovation and change.

The event was 9-12 August 2017 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, NY, United States.

Report submitted by Marnie Colborne, STTI United Nations Youth Representative

The purpose of this event was to provide insight on how important youth action is in achieving the 2030 sustainable development goals. With relevant examples of project leaders, delegates were introduced to efforts that are making a difference as a means of inspiration.

Everyone in for the 2030 Agenda: Working Together and Leaving No One Behind

Presenters: Karen Newman, UN Consultant for the United Nations Development Program, @knewman2000; David Baxter, International Development and PPP Consultant/Sustainability and Resiliency Strategist; Isabel Perez Dobarro, Project Leader, Sustainable Development Solutions Network Youth, @isaperezdobarro, @SDSNyouth; Natalia Caruso, Director of Partnerships, MADRE, @Madrespeaks

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the challenge of our generation, and the youth must take action. Isabella Perez Dobarro introduced the “Youth Solutions Report” at <http://www.youthsolutions.report/>. The aim of this report is to give further voice to young leaders and innovators by allowing them to communicate their undertakings, forge new partnerships, and be a driving force behind the 2030 Agenda. The report highlights 50 solutions that have been identified by youth as essential to focus on including rising unemployment rates, the importance of sustainability, having a global voice for autism, and the improvement of education and literacy rates in schools, to name a few. The efforts of young people should be celebrated and showcased. The report emphasizes the importance of bridging the gap that continues to exist between youth-led solutions and stakeholders including businesses, governments, and fellow citizens who could further empower, support, and invest in them. More information on sustainable development can be found at <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/>.

The SDSN Youth Network (<http://sdsnyouth.org>) is a way for youth to become more involved with creating powerful solutions for the Sustainable Development Goals. There is an opportunity for youth to join and become more involved as part of the team; however, there are no vacancies at this time. There is still an opportunity for youth groups and organizations to become members.

Climate change was emphasized extensively during the Youth Assembly. The Green Climate Fund Scholarship Pilot Project was introduced to allow donor countries from developed nations to donate money toward developing countries and small island states to adopt climate change strategies. Universities and colleges can donate money towards this fund.

<https://international.agsci.colostate.edu/files/2015/06/2016-GCFSP-General-Information-Brochure.pdf>

Social media is another way that youth and our members can stay more engaged with the United Nations. The United Nations has a variety of social media platforms that can be utilized by members to stay engaged with worldy events: <http://www.un.org/en/sections/about-website/un-social-media/index.html>.

A few to mention include accounts on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, and Snapchat, which is extremely exciting because it shows live updates of current situations.

You can watch [Everyone in for the 2030 Agenda: Working Together and Leaving No One Behind](#) on United Nations Web TV.