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Add to YouthEngage

Title

Annual Letter to the Youth of the World!

Dear Friends,

We are happy to share with you our annual 19 Days Campaign for prevention of violence and abuse against children and youth 1-19 November 2017.

You are invited to visit the Campaign Kit **online** to learn about the 19 campaign themes and to find ideas for action especially those addressed to youth. The world needs your active participation to transform your societies where much abuse and violence is still the norm. You can make all the difference in creating a world free of violence and help make the UN Sustainable Development Goal Target 16.2 a reality.

In 2015, 17 Sustainable Development Goals were agreed by 193 UN Member States to shape the global agenda for sustainable development in the next fifteen years and beyond. Achieving these goals will require an unprecedented mobilization of the energy and skills of young people, and recognition of their significant role in promoting them.

WWSF 19 Days Campaign organizing committee
www.woman.ch

We take this opportunity of sharing with you below a presentation by Dario Piselli, PhD student in International Law at the Geneva Graduate Institute, entitled:

Mobilizing the World's Youth through the SDGs

« Young people today comprise one fourth of the global population. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development emphasized the need to address the daunting challenges facing these growing demographics, including unemployment, access to education and health care, and general lack of opportunities. Yet one aspect continues to be largely overlooked in the highest spheres of politics: the incredible potential of mobilizing and supporting young people's active contribution, rather than just discussing their needs and problems.

Young people are more likely than older adults to become entrepreneurs, have higher literacy rates, and are more networked than the rest of the population. They are the most educated generation in history, and are uniquely positioned to deliver transformative change across

multiple sectors of society. Crucially, young people's well being will depend on the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

In 2015, after collaborating for two years with the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (a global initiative launched by Ban Ki-moon and directed by Prof. Jeffrey Sachs), I asked to become a project leader for SDSN Youth, its newly founded youth division. One of my main tasks was giving voice to young leaders and innovators while engaging with UN agencies, governments, NGOs and the private sector, allowing them to communicate their undertakings, forge new partnerships and ultimately receive the support they need to scale up their activities.

On 31 January 2017, I oversaw the publication of the first edition of the Youth Solution Report, the result of a year-long process conducted in collaboration with Ashoka, PANORAMA, (managed by IUCN and GIZ), Sustania, The Resolution Project and many others. The Report, presented at the United Nations on the same day, identifies 50 youth-led projects, including entrepreneurial ventures, educational programs, research activities, and charity initiatives, and provides them with a platform that addresses the difficulties that young innovators face in securing funding, building capacity and communicating their experience. It constitutes the first step of a long-term strategy by SDSN and SDSN Youth to promote and fund youth-led problem-solving, and I hope it will inspire young leaders as well as being a powerful call to action for policymakers world wide.”

Link to the Youth Solution Report <http://www.youthsolutions.report/the-report>



To achieve the SDGs, we need innovative technologies and programs targeted at key priorities, including health, education, power, connectivity, agriculture, and environmental protection. The Youth Solutions Report is an ambitious and invaluable initiative to showcase and disseminate youth-led projects that offer SDG breakthroughs.

— Jeffrey Sachs

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Young people did not create the major challenges facing the world, such as poverty, hunger, climate change and inequality, but they are the generation that are going to have to live with the consequences. So it is great to see young people picking up the baton to become part of the solution.

— David Griggs, Director, Monash Sustainability Institute