**CONCEPT NOTE**

**3rd Sustainable Development Goals Youth Summer Camp**

24 June 29 July – 1 August 2019, Incheon, Republic of Korea

*Co-organized by the United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD) & the United Nations Project Office on Governance (UNPOG) of*

*UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)*

*and the Korea Environment Corporation (K-eco)*

# Rationale

Since the adoption of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in September 2015, UN Member States have been taking proactive actions to achieve the ambitious vision of this transformative plan. However, the rate of global progress is not keeping pace with the aspirations of the Agenda and countries are still confronted with daunting challenges such as climate change, inequality, unsafe drinking water, environmental degradation, energy crises, lack of education and health services, and etc. To tackle these problems, it is imperative for stakeholders at all levels to accelerate collective initiatives and actions.

In particular, the active youth engagement is vital for the successful SDGs implementation as they will be key actors and leaders of the SDGs initiatives, frameworks and processes in the future. Acknowledging the role of the youth, organizations and governments have established various strategies to raise the youth’s awareness on sustainable development. For instance, Youth 2030: The United Nations Youth Strategy, launched on 24 September 2018 by UN Secretary- General, seeks to strengthen and increase commitments at the regional, national and global level to empower the youth’s capacity and contributions for the SDGs.

Since capacity-building activities are essential to the youth’s participation in the SDGs implementation, the number of capacity development programmes conducted by international organizations and governments are growing as well. For example, the Sustainable Development Social Network (SDSN) Youth strives to educate young people about the SDGs and improve their capacity and knowledge through extensive trainings. Provided with necessary skills and opportunities needed to realize their potential, young people can be a major driving force for supporting and enhancing global efforts towards the SDGs.

In this context, UNOSD has been organizing SDGs summer camp for college students annually since 2017 to increase the youth’s awareness and role in the SDGs implementation. The previous Summer Camps took place in 2017 and 2018 which successfully equipped the participating college students with necessary knowledge and capacity to contribute to the realization of the SDGs.

The third SDGs summer camp will take place in Incheon, Republic of Korea. The Incheon Metropolitan City will offer participants opportunities to explore good practices and strategies for the SDGs implementation. Specifically, the planned field trip at the camp will provide opportunities for the participants to experience and learn how the city promote Sustainable Development. The camp will be co-organized by UNOSD & UNPOG of UN DESA and K-eco.

# Objectives

The objectives of the SDGs Youth Summer Camp will include but are not limited to the following:

* Build and enhance knowledge of the youth on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
* Foster the youth’s engagement in dialogues and discussions on the SDGs implementation;
* Provide opportunity to expand network among the youth; and
* Expand UN DESA’s contribution and partnership with young generation for promoting the SDGs.

# Participants and Format

Those who were born between 1991 and 2001 are eligible to apply regardless of their nationalities by submitting application forms and supplementary documents posted on the organizers’ websites. The organizers will select approximately 40 participants based on their motivations, capacities and English proficiency, while ensuring gender and geographical balances. The previous Summer Camps were open only to college students, but this year’s camp has expanded the coverage of the target participants to promote inclusiveness.

The SDGs Youth Summer Camp consists of one half-day preliminary workshop and one three-day main camp. Experts from international organizations, academia, government organizations, NGOs, and the private sector will deliver their insightful ideas on the SDGs to provide key background knowledge and facilitate productive dialogues. The diversity of the speakers will ensure the Youth Summer Camp’s overall quality and motivate the participants to be fully engaged in discussions on their roles for the SDGs implementation.

Each session will include a group discussion which will allow the participants to be highly interactive and provide them a good opportunity to share creative ideas and critical thinking with others on developing more practical approach to the SDGs implementation. The Youth Summer Camp includes a half-day field trip to a project site located in Incheon Metropolitan City to illustrate how the local government is implementing the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. Through the field trip, participants will gain more knowledge and experience on the SDGs. All sessions in the programme will be conducted in English.

# Programme

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| **Preliminary Workshop – Monday, 24 June 2019** | |
| **Time** | **Module** |
| 12:30-13:00 | Registration |
| 13:00-13:10 | Opening |
| 13:10-13:30 | Introduction of the Programme and Organizers |
| 13:30-14:00 | Introduction of Participants |
| 14:00-14:10 | Break |
| 14:10-14:50 | Overview of SDGs and its Progress |
| 14:50-15:00 | Break |
| 15:00-15:40 | Youth Engagement in the SDGs Implementation |
| 15:40-17:00 | Group Activity |
| **Day One Monday, 29 July 2019** | |
| **Time** | **Module** |
| 16:30-17:00 | Registration (ID check, name tag and package distribution) |
| 17:00-19:00 | Room Assignment and Dinner |
| 19:00-20:00 | Ice-breaking Session |
| **Day Two Tuesday, 30 July 2019** | |
| **Time** | **Module** |
| 08:40-09:00 | Registration |
| 09:00-09:30 | Welcoming Remarks |
| 09:30-09:45 | Outline of the Summer Camp |
| 09:45-10:00 | Photo Session and Break |

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| 10:00-10:40 | Session 1   * Frontier Technologies for Public Service Delivery to Accelerate the SDGs * 30-minute lecture, 10-minute Q&A session |
| 10:40-12:00 | Group Discussion |
| 12:00-13:00 | Lunch |
| 13:00-13:50 | Group Presentation 1  - 40-minute presentation and feedback |
| 13:50-14:00 | Break |
| 14:00-14:40 | Session 2   * Disaster Risk Reduction and the Role of the Youth * 30-minute lecture, 10-minute Q&A Session |
| 14:40-16:00 | Group Discussion |
| 16:00-16:50 | Group Presentation 2  - 40-minute presentation and feedback |
| 16:50-17:00 | Break |
| 17:00-18:00 | Sessions 3 & 4   * Session 3 (Climate Change Adaptation) * Session 4 (Climate Change Mitigation) |
| **Day Three Wednesday, 31 July 2019** | |
| **Time** | **Module** |
| 09:00-09:40 | Session 5   * Decent Work and Economic Growth * 30-minute lecture, 10-minute Q&A Session |
| 09:40-11:00 | Group Discussion |
| 11:00-11:40 | Group Presentation 3  - 40-minute presentation and feedback |
| 11:40-12:40 | Lunch |
| 12:40-13:40 | Session 6 Country Cases (3 countries) |
| 13:40-18:00 | Field Trip (related to SDGs) |

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| 18:00-20:00 | Dinner |
| **Day Four Thursday, 1 August 2019** | |
| **Time** | **Module** |
| 09:00-10:00 | Session 7 Group Presentations (20 minutes per group) |
| 10:00-10:10 | Break |
| 10:10-11:10 | Session 8 Group Presentations (20 minutes per group) |
| 11:10-12:00 | Wrap-up and Closing |
| 12:00-13:00 | Lunch |

1. **Schedule and Venue**

The event consists of one preliminary workshop and the main summer camp. The pre- workshop will take place on 24 June 2019 at the Korea Environment Corporation Yeouido Training Office in Seoul and the main Camp will take place from 29 July to 1 August 2019 at the Incheon Airport Aviation Academy in Incheon, Republic of Korea.

# Organizers

This event will be organized by UN DESA and K-eco.

# Outputs

The SDGs Youth Summer camp will produce two primary outputs. They include:

* Young people with enhanced knowledge on the SDGs and their implementation; and
* A short report on the camp with recommendations for future camps.