Economic and Social Council Youth Forum
10th Anniversary

CONCEPT NOTE

SDG 17 is your call to action

IDENTIFICATION	
Session title as per programme	SDG 17: Partnerships
Session co-lead UN	ITC: David Cordobés, Claire Sterngold, Julia Zietemann UNESCO: April Tash (HQ/SHS), Ardito Kodijat
Session co-lead Youth	CPDE Youth Constituency CS FfD Youth Constituency Represented by My World Mexico, International Movement of Catholic Students Generation Equality YouthTask Force • Salam Al-Nukta • Rasha Haffer • Shantel Marekera • Chamathya Fernando
Session co-organizers	U-INSPIRE Alliance OIC Youth Forum • Fsahat Ul-Hassan MGCY LAC Regional Caucus, Represented by The Millennials Movement • Rosario Diaz Garavito Generation Action Africa • Daniel I. Ajudeonu

	Department of Global Communications (DGC) • Hawa Diallo UNFPA • Irem Tumer UNDP Youth team HQ • Noella Richard UN Women • Ritah Muyambo
Invited speakers	Eglė Janušonytė; #YouthAgainstCOVID19
	Erik Parigger, Coordinator Responsible Business Conduct (RBC/CSR/MVO), Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship Advisor | Orange Corners Egypt & Mozambique
	Siddharth Hande, Founder Kabadiwalla Connect
	Vensy Krishna, Founder Law School 101
	Maximo Mazzocco, Founder Ecohouse Argentina
	Yamana Zedan, Development Practitioner, Project Coordinator at Peabody Youth Work| Gender-based Violence| Gender Equality| Human Rights
	Pamela Coke-Hamilton, Executive Director, International Trade Centre
Session moderator(s)	Claire Sterngold, ITC, Youth & Trade Programme
Session note-taker(s)	Julia Zietemann, ITC Youth & Trade Programme

BACKGROUND & KEY ISSUES
(approx. 750 words)

SDG 17 underpins all other SDGs. In its own terms it refers to a global partnership—meaning a sort of social contract that involves and enables all to play a part in the achievement of the full set of SDGs. Everyone in every place can play a part. This vision implies solidarity and a common direction. But are these expectations well founded? How does one become a part of this transition to sustainable development by all working in partnership?

Many people – including even generous and socially responsible people - have difficulty recognizing the SDGs as meaningful in relation to their own local issues. Nevertheless, it is easy to understand that hungry people in one neighborhood, county, state or continent are likely to be counted among the hungry at global scale. Lowering the count of those most desperately hungry is ultimately something that must be done by helping one person at a time. The same is true for any other local matter. Work has to take place at a local scale.

SDG 17 puts emphasis on shared responsibility in order to do away with this hesitation caused by the problem of scale. SDG 17 asks everyone to take part in a global partnership. It makes clear that this commitment of all is necessary in order that Agenda 2030 and all its other 16 SDGs will be achieved.

This session will be about how to get started at any level, to innovate a local idea or inkling into global change. Despite that SDG 17 mentions several kinds of human activities – all *antecedents* or *conveyances* that encourage and spread innovations to transform societies, such as science,

tech, DRR, trade, finance, statistics and policy—they are not the only means to generate the transformation. This list is not exclusive. During the session your own ideas will take center stage, and we may consider together how science, tech, trade, finance, statistics and policy may even help your ideas take shape.

So, what is your idea that might be developed and scaled up to really help achieve an SDG? Let's think beyond turning off unused lights or saving water in one's house and fields. Perhaps you know how to overcome the next generation's need for transportation. Perhaps you want more people to generate their own electricity or to ride bikes? No matter the scale or the topic, let us open up a discussion on how ideas are sharpened to become transformative change, through conversations and partnerships, and we may together perhaps identify others who may want to join you or with whom you may wish to join.

This session is more than an introduction to SDG 17, it will aim to light your creativity. With two dynamic guest speakers, and six break-out discussion groups this space will allow for participants to engage, formulate and hone ideas – just one of which may be the breakthrough to achieving an SDG.

SESSION OBJECTIVES
(approx. 100 words)

This session will catalyze engagements among participants for partnering by

- exposing selected success stories demonstrating how others broke down the impossibly large into doable parts in their localities;
- sharing select stories on how individuals carried out their mission by fostering innovative or unique partnerships; and
- enabling focused discussion to activate the inner innovator in every participant.

At a minimum, all participants exposed to the rationale behind the wide range of SDG 17 targets.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES
(approx. 100 words)

- Participants leave better prepared and more motivated to initiate actions to address Agenda 2030 in any of its parts, by choosing their own partnership vision.
- Participants understand that achieving the SDGs begins at a local stage and a contribution to the SDGs can be done by anyone - and partnerships can be very helpful and useful for their achievement
- An overview of critical steps to forming effective partnerships and some type of infographic on effective partnerships as a legacy of this event. (This is not yet finalized

where this could be shared on social media of co-leads a s a follow up action or directly with attendees)

- 6 inspiring people engage in a conversation to discuss partnerships, their efficiencies, different types, innovative approaches to partnerships and best practices by sharing success stories demonstrating how others broke down the impossibly large into doable parts in their localities. The conversation is non-traditional by asking the engaged speakers to either address questions to each other on a rolling basis and to pull those questions from a prepared list shared with them earlier by the co-leading members (up to 3-5 min per contribution and one contribution per speaker). There will be no session moderator as speakers will be encouraged to engage with one another.
- The audience will engage with speakers by asking questions directly into the chat box. Further engagement with young people will be possible by asking certain audience members to address their concerns vocally. By asking young people to raise their hands, they will be given the floor by giving them speaker privileges to share their insights. (1 min per contribution)
- Questions will be collected during 5-10min and then answered by the speakers
- The session will close by identifying from the Q&A between speakers and between speakers and the audience, the critical steps to developing innovative and successful partnerships will be held which will also leave the door open for individuals to follow up, and to take away inspiration and potential new partners. The idea being that an outcome of this session could be a guide or a series of steps for engaging and building successful partnerships that can later be distributed to attendees.

OVERALL STRUCTURE AND FLOW
(approx. 300 words)

- Chairperson's (Claire Sterngold - ITC) introduction to SDG 17 (5 min); layout session plan; shares the trello board with all info on the speakers via chatbox; all speakers will address this question to their co-speaker and will adapt it thematically:

How do we use partnerships to empower youth to contribute to the SDGs? In your opinion, what does the ideal partnership look like?

Possible sub-themes to address (please add here the sub-themes you would like to address in your area) Some examples are:

- Informal vs. formal

- Environment
- Gender
- Education
- Health
- Covid-19

Speakers will be paired to foster small mini-conversations

Pairing 1

- Speaker 1 – Answers a question and asks another to the next speaker
- Speaker 2 – Answers a question and asks another to the next speaker

Pairing 2

- Speaker 3 – Answers a question and asks another to the next speaker
- Speaker 4 – Answers a question and asks another to the next speaker

Pairing 3

- Speaker 5 – Answers a question and asks another to the next speaker
- Speaker 6 – Answers a question and asks one more quick answer question that all speakers answer

  (30 min)

- Q&A from audience to speakers (10 min)
  - Chairperson starts a conversation with the audience: What are the best tools/ how-tos when creating an effective and innovative partnership and compiles these with the speakers into 7-10 critical steps?
  - Share a link to a trello board where this is compiled and information on the speakers is available. Guests can also use this board to post their info to seek partners (10 min)
- Chairperson's concludes discussion (5 min); sums up discussion and shares about the relaunch of the International Trade Centre's platform for aspiring & established youth entrepreneurs Ye! Community.
- **Closing remarks and official re-launching of the Ye! Community platform given by the ITC Executive Director, Pamela Coke-Hamilton**

Speaker list:

1. Eglė Janušonytė, #YouthAgainstCOVID19
2. Erik Parigger, Coordinator Responsible Business Conduct (RBC/CSR/MVO), Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship Advisor | Orange Corners Egypt & Mozambique
3. Siddharth Hande, Founder Kabadiwalla Connect
4. Vensy Krishna, Founder Law School 101
5. Maximo Mazzocco, Founder Ecohouse Argentina
6. Yamana Zedan, Development Practitioner, Project Coordinator at Peabody Youth Work| Gender-based Violence| Gender Equality| Human Rights
7. Pamela Coke-Hamilton, Executive Director, International Trade Centre

DISCUSSION QUESTION
(approx. 300 words)

How do we use partnerships to empower youth to contribute to the SDGs? In your opinion, what does the ideal partnership look like?

Possible sub-themes to address (please add here the sub-themes you would like to address in your area) Some examples are:

- Informal vs. formal
- Environment
- Gender
- Education
- Health
- Covid-19

PREPARATORY EVENTS (approx. 200 words)

- Preliminary conversation with speakers whereby a set of questions will be shared with the speakers and we will invite them to share some of their own, so as to craft an overall question set that each of the speakers can use to pose their questions to one another. We will also discuss with them the idea of having a trello board for enhancing speaker visibility on their work and so as to skip time during the session on introductions
- Send participants information material, e.g. video, with a short briefing about the state of SDG partnerships
- Discuss with speakers the concept to close the session by putting together a guide or a series of steps that can be distributed as a concrete outcome to the session detailing how to build partnerships and take action!

SUGGESTED READING

The global goals we've made progress on -- and the ones we haven't | Michael Green (video)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N3SQlrmV1cE

UN Sierra Leone: From hunting elusive gems to expanding an agribusiness – Tamba's story, UN News 29 Dec 2019

Increased community-based engagement seen as critical to build climate action and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, UN News, 19 Jul 2019

UN Global Compact: 17 SDGs to Change the World (website)
https://www.unglobalcompact.org/sdgs/17-global-goals