



Concept Note

Introduction

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) also known as the Global Goals are blueprints to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity; 17 in number, the Goals interconnect and in order to leave no one behind and often the key to success on one will involve tackling issues more commonly associated with another.

The SDGs build on decades of work by countries and the UN and are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership for the people and the planet. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

Background and context

2019 and 2020 provide an opportunity for advancing the historic agreement of the SDGs. It is, therefore, a strategic moment for a step change in youth mobilization and engagement. The implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals has so far been limited with the government undermining efforts to reduce poverty, low investments in health and education, youth unemployment, disregarding the Paris agreement and closing the space for legitimate dialogue

Young people are already suffering the impacts of climate change and low investment in human capacity and infrastructural development. They are impatient for change and are not willing to accept inaction from the government as achieving the SDGs is pivotal for a better and inclusive society for youth and generations yet unborn.

The period between 2019 and 2020 have the potential to foster irreversible momentum for enhanced ambition in 2020 to deliver on the SDGs. There is an urgent need for youth power to add pressure on decision makers in politics and the economy. We need to strengthen and amplify the voices of youth who are ready to take action, and demand for transformational change towards achieving the SDGs in Nigeria.

We aim to connect with youth and civil society organizations across Nigeria to call for ambition and build a basis to further explore for strategic collaboration into 2020 and beyond.

Objectives

- A youth consultation with 2,000 participants in 20 states across the 6 geopolitical zones of Nigeria that will amplify the demands of youth for immediate and concrete actions towards achieving the SDGs.
- Keep pressure on the Nigerian government to follow up on the agreements they pledged in 2015, and demand increased ambition by 2020 for the transformative change we need to see for a just and sustainable nation.
- Ensure actions in at least 15 states, building on the relationship with existing civil society organizations in these states.
- Create a two-year strategic plan around involving young people in the localization of the SDGs with a youth call to action.
- Share stories of youth from different parts of Nigeria who are actively campaigning on specific goals.
- Develop an action pack for youth on cost-effective projects they can get involved with towards the drive to localize the Agenda 2030

Target audience

The regional dialogue aims to raise awareness among young people to take action towards SDGs 2, 3, 4, 8, 13 and 16 while encouraging them to target key decision makers in government and business to be accountable for these 'youth SDGs.

The dialogue will allow young people to share their concerns and create a two-year strategic plan that will help government and business work with youth for power actions within the identified SDGs.

Theme

- Amplifying Youth Voices for the SDGs

Date

August 10, 2019

Partnership/Collaboration

Please send an email to info@nigerianyouthsdgs.org

About Us

The Nigerian Youth SDGs Network is a 220 member coalition of youth led/focus civil society organizations with presence in more than 20 states in Nigeria working on amplifying the voices of youth in advocacy and SDG project implementation.