

9<sup>th</sup> Global ECPD Youth Forum

YOUTH POWER FOR THE COMMON FUTURE

### **BUILDING FORWARD TOGETHER**



### **SDG'S AS THE MEANS OF WORKING ON FUTURE GOALS TOGETHER**

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### THE HISTORY 1980s - 2000s

•1987: The UN set up the Commission on Environment and Development, also known as the Brundtland Commission, named after its Chair Gro Harlem Brundtland.

•1992: Earth Summit in Rio resulted in Agenda 21.

The Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) was created to ensure effective follow-up of UNCED, to monitor and report on implementation of the agreements at the local, national, regional and international levels. It was agreed that a five year review of Earth Summit progress would be made in 1997 by the United Nations General Assembly meeting in special session.

•2002: World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg The full implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Commitments to the Rio principles, were strongly reaffirmed.

### THE EVOLUTION: from MDGs & UNGC

- •2000-2015 Millennium Development Goals and Post-2015 Agenda
- Key MDG achievements:
  - More than 1 billion people have been lifted out of extreme poverty (since 1990)
  - Child mortality dropped by more than half (since 1990)
  - The number of out of school children has dropped by more than half (since 1990)
  - HIV/AIDS infections fell by almost 40 percent (since 2000)
- •The Private Sector Inclusion: in 2000 Kofi Annan also initiates the UN Global Compact opening to private sector collaboration.

#### Learning from the MDGs



The MDG implementation produced valuable insights on development cooperation.

- Focus on sustainable development.
- •Greater **participation of the private sector** and improved public-private sector partnerships.
- •Better mainstreaming of gender equality and women empowerment.
- Integrating of environment sensitivity.
- Engagement of local stakeholders.

#### **3 Dimensions of Sustainable Development**

Sustainable development has been defined as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.



For sustainable development to be achieved, it is crucial to harmonize three core elements: **economic** growth, **social** inclusion and **environmental** protection.

#### THE 2030 AGENDA

**The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development** (Rio+20) in Rio de Janeiro, in June 2012, galvanized a process to develop a new set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which will carry on the momentum generated by the MDGs and fit into a **global development framework** beyond 2015.

- In the interest of creating a new, people-centered, development agenda, a global consultation was conducted online and offline.
- Civil society organizations, citizens, scientists, academics, and the private sector from around the world were **all actively engaged** in the process.
- Activities included thematic and national consultations, and the My World survey led by the United Nations Development Group.
- Specialized panels were also held and provided ground to facilitate intergovernmental discussions.

#### **SDGs development process**



### UN SDGs: a deeper dive...

- The **SDGs** replaced the **MDGs** for the period 2015-2030.
- They are **17 global goals** and 196 targets that apply **to all countries**, not just developing countries (as with the MDGs).
- They too set targets for basic needs, but in addition have to focus on sustainable development, including:
  - Clean energy: renewable, low carbon.
  - Decent work: for a decent wage, avoiding exploitation.
  - Sustainable cities: for more than 50% of the world's population living in urban areas.
  - Protecting oceans and ecosystems.

However, SDGs are not legally binding.

### Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Eradicating poverty is not a task of charity, it's **an act of justice** and the key to unlocking an enormous human potential. Still, nearly half of the world's population lives in poverty, and lack of food and clean water is killing thousands every single day of the year.

Together, we can feed the hungry, wipe out disease and give everyone in the world a chance to prosper and live a productive and rich life.

1 NO POVERTY

ZERO

#### Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Hunger is the leading cause of death in the world. Our planet has provided us with tremendous resources, but **unequal access and inefficient handling** leaves millions of people malnourished.

If we promote sustainable agriculture with modern technologies and fair distribution systems, we can sustain the whole world's population and make sure that nobody will ever suffer from hunger again.

#### Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

Over the last 15 years, the number of childhood deaths has been cut in half. This proves **that it is possible to win the fight against almost every disease**. Still, we are spending an astonishing amount of money and resources on treating illnesses that are surprisingly easy to prevent.

The new goal for worldwide Good Health promotes healthy lifestyles, preventive measures and modern, efficient healthcare for everyone.

**3** GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

#### Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning

Education liberates the intellect, unlocks the imagination and is fundamental for self-respect. It is the key to prosperity and opens a world of opportunities, making it possible for each of us to contribute to a progressive, healthy society.

Learning benefits every human being and should be available to all.

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

#### Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Gender bias is undermining our social fabric and devalues all of us. It is not just a human rights issue; it is a tremendous waste of the world's human potential. By denying women equal rights, we deny half the population a chance to live life at its fullest. Political, economic and social equality for women will benefit all the world's citizens. Together we can eradicate prejudice and work for equal rights and respect for all.

### Goal 6: Ensure access to water and sanitation for all

**One in three people live without sanitation**. This is causing unnecessary disease and death. Although huge strides have been made with access to clean drinking water, lack of sanitation is undermining these advances.

If we provide affordable equipment and education in hygiene practices, we can stop this senseless suffering and loss of life.

#### Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Renewable energy solutions are becoming cheaper, more reliable and more efficient every day. Our current reliance on fossil fuels is unsustainable and harmful to the planet, which is why we have to change the way we produce and consume energy.

Implementing these new energy solutions as fast as possible is essential to counter climate change, one of the biggest threats to our own survival.

ECONOMIC GROWTH

#### Goal 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all

**Economic growth should be a positive force for the whole planet.** This is why we must make sure that financial progress creates decent and fulfilling jobs while not harming the environment. We must protect labour rights and once and for all put a stop to modern slavery and child labour. If we promote job creation with expanded access to banking and financial services, we can make sure that everybody gets the benefits of entrepreneurship and innovation.

#### Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



A functioning and resilient infrastructure is the foundation of every successful community. To meet future challenges, our industries and infrastructure must be upgraded. For this, we need to promote innovative sustainable technologies and ensure equal and universal access to information and financial markets.

This will bring prosperity, create jobs and make sure that we build stable and prosperous societies across the globe.

### Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

TO REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Too much of the world's wealth is held by a very small group of people. This often leads to financial and social discrimination.

In order for nations to flourish, equality and prosperity must be available to everyone - regardless of gender, race, religious beliefs or economic status. When every individual is self sufficient, the entire world prospers.

### Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

**The world's population is constantly increasing.** To accommodate everyone, we need to build modern, sustainable cities.

For all of us to survive and prosper, we need new, intelligent urban planning that creates safe, affordable and resilient cities with green and culturally inspiring living conditions.



# Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Our planet has provided us with an abundance of natural resources. But we have not utilized them responsibly and currently consume far beyond what our planet can provide. We must learn how to use and produce in sustainable ways that will reverse the harm that we have inflicted on the planet.



#### Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

13 CLIMATE ACTION

Climate change is a real and undeniable threat to our entire civilization. The effects are already visible and will be catastrophic unless we act now. Through education, innovation and adherence to our climate commitments, we can make the necessary changes to protect the planet. These changes also provide huge opportunities to modernize our infrastructure which will create new jobs and promote greater prosperity across the globe.

#### Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources

14 LIFE BELOW WATER



Healthy oceans and seas are essential to our existence. They cover 70 percent of our planet and we rely on them for food, energy and water. Yet, we have managed to do tremendous damage to these precious resources. We must protect them by eliminating pollution and overfishing and immediately start to responsibly manage and protect all marine life around the world.

#### Goal 15: Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss

15 UIFE ON LAND

A flourishing life on land is the foundation for our life on this planet. We are all part of the planet's ecosystem and we have caused severe damage to it through deforestation, loss of natural habitats and land degradation.

Promoting a sustainable use of our ecosystems and preserving biodiversity is not a cause. It is the key to our own survival.

### Goal 16: Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

**Compassion and a strong moral compass is essential to every democratic society.** Yet, persecution, injustice and abuse still runs rampant and is tearing at the very fabric of civilization.

We must ensure that we have strong institutions, global standards of justice, and a commitment to peace everywhere.

# Goal 17: Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

The Global Goals can only be met if we work together. International investments and support is needed to ensure innovative technological development, fair trade and market access, especially for developing countries. To build a better world, we need to be supportive, empathetic, inventive, passionate, and above all, cooperative.



### Partnering is an essential approach to SDG impact.



The 2030 Agenda is based on an interconnected economy, society and environment.

### Institutional arrangements for SDG implementation

- Some countries have created new entities for SDG implementation (e.g. Bangladesh, Ghana, Colombia, Philippines)
- Other countries are using existing institutional frameworks for SD (e.g. Estonia, Ethiopia, Germany)
- In some countries (e.g. Norway, Uganda) SDG implementation is led by key ministry (e.g. finance)
- Many countries have started engaging local authorities (e.g. Spain, Mexico, Germany, Colombia, Finland)



#### **Active engagement of parliaments**

- In **Norway**, Government will follow up on SDGs through annual budget process and will present relevant documents for Parliamentary approval
- The **Finnish** Parliament's Development Policy Committee is tasked to follow up on SDG implementation
- An SDG Task Force has been established in the National Assembly of Pakistan
- The Parliament of **Trinidad and Tobago** has established a new Joint Select Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development.



### Mechanisms for CSO and private sector engagement

- In Estonia, the Commission for SD acts as a stakeholder forum and performs advisory functions in the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs.
- In Germany, the Council for SD advises the government on sustainability policy. It comprises 15 individuals from business, trade unions and other stakeholders appointed by the Chancellor.
- •The **Netherlands** has a established the "Global Goals Charter NL" stakeholder coalition. Participants have signed the charter and are contributing to SDG implementation.



#### **ECE-RCEM**

- Economic Commission for Europe: Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism – a platform with official status of MGoS aimed to enable stronger cross constituency coordination and ensure that voices of all these constituencies in each sub-region of UN ECE are heard in intergovernmental processes at regional and global level.
- •The platform is initiated, owned and driven by the CSOs.
- CSOs have the diversity of expertise which can improve policy making, advocacy and awareness raising towards addressing the development needs of citizens.
- As an open, inclusive, and flexible mechanism, RCEM is designed to reach the broadest number of CSOs in the region and works with 14 constituencies and 5 sub-regions in ECE.
- •ANYONE FROM MEMBER STATES CAN JOIN <a href="https://ece-rcem.eu">https://ece-rcem.eu</a>

### SDGs and private sector: from CSR to ESG

- •The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals are increasingly being viewed as an opportunity to usher in a new and refined age of affirmative action through **responsible investing**.
- •Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG) are the three broad areas that can provide targets for a business to meet in order to improve its sustainability and lower its risk level across various factors.
- Corporate Social Responsibility is often seen as the predecessor of ESG, leading the way in making businesses more socially responsible and making them think about their impact.
- •SDGs though being more thematic than corporate centric, can help in **aligning** sector and company specific ESG factors with broader societal and environmental goals.
- In some regions, such as the European Union, there are already ESG compliance regulations in place.

### ESG to SDGs: Connected Paths to a Sustainable Future

Environment Social Governance 1: End Poverty 2: Zero Hunger 3: Good Health and Well-Being 4: Quality Education 5: Gender Equality 6: Clean Water and Sanitation 7: Affordable and Clean Energy 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure 10: Reduced Inequalities 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities 12: Responsible Consumption and Production 13: Climate Action 14: Life Below Water 15: Life on Land 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions 17: Partnerships for the Goals



### Our personal contribution towards SDGs

Change starts with you. Seriously. Every human on earth—even the most indifferent, laziest person among us—is part of the solution. Fortunately, there are some super easy things we can adopt into our routines that, if we all do it, will make a big difference.

Have a look at just a few of the many things you can do to make an impact!



<u>The Lazy Person's Guide to Saving the World –</u> <u>United Nations Sustainable Development</u>

### **CHECK YOURSELF: TRUE OR FALSE**



The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were cancelled due to inefficiency.



The Sustainable Development Goals implementation runs from 2015 till 2030.



SDGs apply to developing countries to help them grow.



There are 17 Goals and 169 Targets in the 2030 Agenda.



Sustainable Development Goals are legally binding for all countries.

#### **Goal + Action = Success**

