

International Youth Day 2023 Official Commemoration Webinar Agenda
To be broadcast on Friday, 11 August, at 9:00 AM (EST)

3 mins	<p>Introductory Remarks Mr. Li Junhua, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)</p>
5 mins	<p>Webinar Overview Mr. Kohei Yamada, Associate Social Affairs Officer, Programme on Youth Unit, Division for Inclusive Social Development, UN DESA</p>
25 mins	<p>Panel 1: Skills for Green Jobs Led by UN Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth of the International Labour Organisation (ILO)</p> <p>ILO's most recent estimates show that if policy measures to facilitate a green transition are taken, 8.4 million jobs may be created for young people by 2030, primarily because green investments can often be more labour-intensive than unsustainable investments. For green economies to produce increased employment opportunities for young people, it is imperative for young women and men to acquire the right skills and competencies and to be appropriately prepared to take up green jobs on offer. As young people are often motivated by the aspiration to make a positive impact on society, including a green transition, these skills for green jobs have the potential to generate an influence beyond the green economy, and into the broader social realm (e.g., social protection, social inclusion, social dialogue, etc.).</p> <p>In this context, Panel 1 aims to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the impact of green transition on the labour market and economic opportunities for young people. • Discuss the changing skills demand for youth and future generations. • Foster discussion on the role of partnership in supporting the green transition and skills development for young people, including insights from the recently launched <i>Green Jobs for Youth Pact</i>. <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Sergio Iriarte Quezada, Youth Employment Accelerator, Employment Labor Markets and Youth Branch, ILO <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Rabiya Answer, Assistant Secretary General, Employers Federation of Pakistan • Ms. Boitumelo Molete, Social Development Policy Coordinator/Lead on Climate Change and Just Transition, Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU). • Ms. Hae Kyeong Chun, Technical Officer, Skills and Employability Branch, ILO
25 mins	<p>Panel 2: Green Skills and Sustainable Lifestyles Led by Generation Unlimited (GenU)</p>

	<p>Generation Unlimited recognizes that young people are already taking action to create a more sustainable world, demonstrating their leadership, innovation and problem-solving capacities. These skills are essential for the green transition however analysis from the World Skills Clock highlights that “if current trends continue, more than 60% of young people, or 830 million, will lack the basic skills that will be required in 2030”. Green skills are widely recognized as part of critical transferable life skills (sometimes called “twenty-first-century skills”) that allow people to “become agile learners and global citizens equipped to navigate personal, social, academic and economic challenges”. This aspect of green skills highlights a range of cross-cutting life skills and socio-emotional skills that contribute to “greener ways of thinking, being and doing”.</p> <p>In this context, Panel 2 aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showcase how young people are already taking action to address a myriad of challenges, demonstrating their leadership, innovation and problem-solving capacities. • Discuss the type of partnerships (public-private) needed to enhance green skills at the magnitude we need to build a greener future. • Illustrate the role of education and learning opportunities to help young people acquire skills necessary to contribute to shaping a greener society. <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Julia Stevens, Programme Consultant and Youth Specialist, GenU <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jean Claude Niyomugabo, GenU’s Young People’s Action Team • Ms. Andrea De Remes, GenU’s Young People’s Action Team • Ms. Marthle du Plessis, Partner, PwC Advisory, Africa Workforce of the Future • Shri/Mr. Nitesh Kumar Mishra, Joint Secretary, Director of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, India
25 mins	<p>Panel 3: Skills for A Just Green Transition Led by UN DESA</p> <p>DESA states that “achieving the transition to an environmentally sustainable and climate-safe future is a matter of justice in itself—people in vulnerable situations, poor countries and future generations stand to suffer the most from climate change and environmental degradation”. The concept of a just transition encompasses the strategies, policies or measures aimed at ensuring that no one is left behind or marginalized during the shift to low-carbon and environmentally sustainable economies and societies. Advocating for a just transition highlights an important aspect of green skills: the ability to identify and transform social and economic factors that contribute to inequalities.</p>

	<p>Young people, particularly those facing vulnerable circumstances, bear a disproportionate burden of multiple crises associated with climate change, while struggling to access the benefits of the green transition. It is crucial to equip young people with the transformative capacity to address various barriers and intersectional challenges as they lead the way towards a just and sustainable society.</p> <p>In this context, Panel 2 aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasize the skills required for transformative changes and their significance in ensuring a just transition, while examining different forms of inequality that require attention. • Promote the sharing of experiences regarding youth engagement in political and social dialogues to promote social inclusivity. • Showcase youth-led actions that foster the inclusion of vulnerable groups in efforts to advance structural changes. <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Kohei Yamada, Associate Social Affairs Officer, Programme on Youth Unit, Division for Inclusive Social Development, UN DESA <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Anjali Chalise, School and College Coordinator, Nepalese Youth for Climate Action (NYCA) • Ms. Adejoke Lasisi, Founder of Planet 3R and Jokelinks Weaving School • Ms. Francesca DallaValle, Programme Officer (Rural Youth Employment), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
5 mins	<p>Spotlight Session: UNEP’s Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Team</p> <p>Households are responsible for 2/3 of GHG emissions. This means that the decisions individuals make and their consumption patterns have immense potential to be levers for change. UNEP’s Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Team is working on tools for civil society to identify the sectors and aspects in which they can act efficiently to combat planetary crises. Through applying a ‘people lens’ to sustainability, we seek to empower people to find ways to live better and lighter.</p> <p>Speaker: Ms. Laura Astudillo Mesías, Communications Consultant, Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Team, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)</p>
3 mins	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <p>Mr. John Wilmoth, Officer-in-Charge (Acting Director), Division for Inclusive Social Development, UN DESA.</p>