Have your say! Empowering Youth to Support SDG 16

Concept note
Side Event – ECOSOC Youth Forum

Basic information

Organizers: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and youth delegates from Afghanistan, Brazil and Ethiopia
Partners: Hope for Education and Leadership in Afghanistan
Date: 9 April 2019, 1:15-2:30 pm
Duration: 75min
Venue: TBC
Target audience: Youth, education advocates, civil society and national policymakers

Objective of the side event

The side event will bring together different perspectives on how young people can support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 16, including how it is related to other SDGs. In particular, the interactive event will count on the presence of young speakers from Afghanistan, Ethiopia and Brazil who will share their experiences to address rule of law challenges through education. The audience will be challenged to consider the variety of topics reflected within SDG 16 and within other SDGs. Examples of these topics include:

- Crime prevention and criminal justice;
- Corruption;
- Organized crime, including trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, firearms trafficking and illicit financial flows; and
- Terrorism and violent extremism.

Expected outcome

The views of youth as expressed in this side event will be collected by UNODC and presented as a Conference Room Paper during the 28th Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), which is a functional commission of ECOSOC. During its 28th session, members of the CCPCJ will address the implementation of SDG 16.

Background: Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration

At the conclusion of the 13th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Qatar, the Doha Declaration was adopted. Calling for the integration of crime prevention and criminal justice into the wider agenda of the United Nations, and endorsed by the General Assembly, the Doha Declaration has at its centre the understanding that the rule of law and sustainable development are interrelated and mutually reinforcing.

To translate the Doha Declaration into reality, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) – with the financial support of the State of Qatar – launched an ambitious Global Programme aimed at helping countries achieve a positive and sustainable impact on crime prevention, criminal justice,
corruption prevention, and the rule of law. This four-year initiative promotes peaceful, corruption-free and inclusive societies for sustainable development, through a people-centred approach that provides access to justice for everyone and builds effective and accountable institutions at all levels. Two of the Global Programme’s components focus specifically on youth: the Education for Justice (E4J) initiative and Youth Crime Prevention through Sports.

The Education for Justice (E4J) initiative
The Education for Justice (E4J) initiative - under the Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration - has been developed to create and disseminate education materials in UNODC mandated areas of crime prevention and criminal justice across the primary, secondary and tertiary education levels. Overall, the objective is to empower youth to become socially responsible global citizens with a sound moral and ethical compass who are prepared to tackle the world’s challenges related to the rule of law, particularly on SDG 16 and other related Sustainable Development Goals. E4J also supports the 2030 Youth Strategy, particularly the First Priority (Engagement, Participation and Advocacy) as well as the Fourth Priority (Youth and Human Rights).

Schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Part of the side event</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:15-1:30</td>
<td>Opening remarks</td>
<td>United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Representative from the State of Qatar, TBC</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30-1:50</td>
<td>Part One – What are our Challenges?</td>
<td>Youth representatives from Brazil and Ethiopia</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:50-2:10</td>
<td>Part Two – What can We Do?</td>
<td>Youth representatives from Afghanistan and Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:10-2:30</td>
<td>Recommendations and conclusions</td>
<td>UNODC</td>
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Guiding questions

The event will focus on why young people should get involved in supporting SDG 16 in their communities, as well as how education, sports and life skills can empower youth to support the rule of law. This event will look at the following interlinked issues:

- What is the relationship between peace, justice, institutions and sustainable development?
- What are the different issues addressed by SDG 16 and how do they relate to other Sustainable Development Goals?
- How can education empower youth to support SDG 16?
- How can I get involved in positively impacting my community in support of SDG 16?

Which networks and partnerships can I rely on to support my work on SDG 16?

Programme outline and structure

This side event is structured into three parts:

- The first two parts will include a youth-led dialogue to discuss different realities and priorities for youth in relation to SDG 16 as well as how education can provide platforms for youth engagement;
• The conclusions and recommendations will focus on messages that can be sent to Members of the CCPCJ during its 28th Session in May 2019.

Co-moderators:

• Rahmatullah Hamdard, Hope for Education and Leadership in Afghanistan
• Yusuf Mehadi and Rediet Wondwossen Delelegne, Lebawi Academy, Ethiopia
• Maurício Peixoto, Youth Representative, Brazil

Outline

Logistics

Invitations will be distributed by e-mail, social media and through flyers during the ECOSOC Youth Forum.