

Unlocking the Next Generation of Changemakers

Saturday September 16 | 12:15 pm - 1:45 pm | SDG Action Weekend | CR12

On September 16, the United Nations Foundation hosted *Unlocking the Next Generation of Changemakers*, a high-level, intergenerational event at the 2023 SDG Summit. The event brought together major youth-led and youth-focused organizations, international organizations, champion Member States, and private sector, and other partners to accelerate SDG delivery and lay the groundwork for the Summit of the Future.

The event was supported by partners of the [Unlock the Future](#) coalition, leaders of the largest youth organizations reaching almost one billion people globally. The coalition harnessed this opportunity for long-term, high-impact investments in next and future generations and to launch the [Unlock the Future Declaration II](#) and [The Road to 2100](#).

The following includes key insights from the dialogue:

"If I were the president of a country, I would put in place mechanisms that ensure children's safety not only in 2030 but also for the years 2100, 2200, and 2300. And I'm not waiting to become the president of any country to do this either." — **Ms. Ayisha Siddiqa, Climate Advisor to the UN Secretary General**

"One thing that I hope leaders across generations keep at the front of their mind is to have a truly intergenerational approach to planning." — **Ms. Ulrika Modéer, UN Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy, UNDP**

"For me, the first step in the right direction is to have leaders and people from all over the world listening to young people and actually asking the questions of what their needs are." — **Ms. Luiza Diniz Vilanova, UNICEF Youth Advocate**

"A classroom is not just handing out notebooks. It needs to be something bigger. It needs to involve curiosity and innovation." — **Mr. Muhammad Hassan Dejana, Climate Educator and Alumnus of Teach For Pakistan**

"I hope that education is no longer a privilege anywhere in the world. Our investments in technology will be to bridge the gap and not just to continue to expand the gap." — **Hon. Minister Chernor A. Bah, Minister of Information and Civic Education, Government of Sierra Leone**

"It's time to bring focus. My message is to remind everyone and remind all leaders to stay honest and true to the commitments we made." — **Mr. Ahmad Alhendawi, Secretary General, World Organisation of the Scout Movement**

"Young people need to sit at the table on equal terms with decision makers, who have to realize it's not that dangerous to give up power for youth to gain influence." — **Ms. Cecilia Zade Iseni, Danish Youth Delegate**