

Ideas for Change Contest Guidelines

Turn your ideas into action.

Background

To ensure that young people's voices are heard and they are included in the work of the UN, the United Nations Project Office on Governance (UNPOG), under the Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG) of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), continues to host the **Ideas for Change Contest** which aims to invite young people to share their ideas; and help them turn these ideas into action.

This year, the Ideas for Change Contest on "*Empowering Young People as Digital Innovators to Realize the SDGs*" invites young people born between 2000 through 2008 to come up with innovative ideas to help realize the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Particularly, they will be asked to submit innovative project proposals covering UNPOG's six (6) priority action areas: i) strengthening institutions for more integrated solutions, ii) enhancing national implementation, iii) harnessing innovation and digital government, iv) bolstering local action to accelerate implementation, v) reducing disaster risk and building resilience, and vi) ensuring leaving no one behind.

The contest will offer prospective teams the opportunity to be heard by their peers and representatives from different UN agencies and other institutions which could help to further progressing and implementing their project.

Eligibility

Students and young professionals between the ages of 16 through 24 are invited to submit their ideas for the competition. Prospective teams must consist of three (3) members, and may be formed from across different schools, institutions, companies, countries, and nationalities.

Requirement

To join the contest, teams are required to register as a contestant from the link [here](#). The team will also need to complete the Contest Entry Form and upload the document along with a PowerPoint presentation which visualises their ideas of change unto the registration link.

Note: Prospective teams are required to sign in using their g-mail account to upload entry materials. Should they encounter problems logging in, please reach out to the e-mail provided below.

Evaluation and Selection Process

As a preliminary round, the essay entries will be evaluated by UNPOG staff. The content of their essay will be assessed according to their knowledge and delivery of the issue, organisation of the content, and creativity and feasibility of the ideas.

Shortlisting of Contestants

Five (5) prospective teams will be shortlisted following the assessment of the contestant's submission entry. The shortlisted teams will be invited to prepare a PowerPoint presentation of their essay and present it on the day of the Youth Forum. The team leaders will also be contacted via the e-mail address they have provided on the entry form.

Winners

Three (3) winners will receive a certification award from the Ministry of the Interior and Safety (MOIS), Ministry of Environment, and Incheon Metropolitan City of the Republic of Korea. The winners will be selected fairly and openly by evaluators and audience participation.

Timeline

Process	Date
Announcement of the Contest	12 July 2024
Deadline for the Submission of Entry	16 August 2024
Screening of Entries	22 –23 August 2024
Announcement of Short-listed Teams	26 August 2024
Presentation	6 September 2024

Outcome

The five (5) shortlisted teams will be invited to join the Youth Session of the UN DESA's Regional Symposium. The MOIS awardee winners will also be invited to deliver an in-person presentation of their project proposal during the Youth Session of the Regional Symposium.

For inquiries, contact:

Ms. Carolit Salvacion
Associate Networking and Outreach Expert
UNPOG/DPIDG/UN DESA
carolit.salvacion@un.org