

# Photo Story :

## Working With and For Young People



### 1. The Story behind the Picture

On 24 September 2018 at the United Nations Headquarters, UN Secretary-General António Guterres (center) and the UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth Jayathma Wickramanayake (to his right) participate in a High-Level event on Youth2030 to launch the United Nations Strategy and the Generation Unlimited Partnership. The Secretary-General tasked his Envoy on Youth, in conjunction with the UN system and youth themselves, to lead development of a UN Youth Strategy. Its aim: scale up global, regional and national actions to meet young people's needs, realize their rights and tap their possibilities as agents of change.

### 2. Significance of Youth Participation

By 2030, there will be nearly 2 billion young people aged 10 to 24, over 65 percent will be 15 to 24. This significant population of young people, must learn to deal with a very different world, and can offer an unprecedented opportunity to improve lives, nations and economies. When this large working-age population is constructively employed, overall productivity rises, standards of living improve and investment in human capital increases. With education, skills and empowerment, young people can make the most of their talents and potential and contribute to the peace and prosperity of their communities.

### 3. Youth Leaders' roles

Young people today want the sustainable, peaceful world envisioned in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Realizing their aspirations depends on realizing their rights—to empowerment and development, participation and choice. A [Youth Challenge](#) taking place in 16 countries worldwide this year calls for applications from young people to create solutions that will support the three key pillars of Generation Unlimited: secondary-age education; skills for learning, employability and decent work; and empowerment, with a focus on girls.