

## YOUTH SDG SUMMIT

# Empowering Urban Youth for Active Participation in their Local Communities

Thursday, June 10 – 10 - 11am (Toronto Time)

### Introduction

Young people are learning, innovating, connecting, and taking action to drive change in their communities and to help the world achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. However, many face untold impediments in being drivers of change: Homelessness, lack of skills training, gender-based discrimination... the list goes on. When youth have access to the appropriate resources and opportunities, this leads to empowering youth seize opportunities and take action in their local communities and contribute to national and global dialogues and decision making. By empowering the youth of today, all of society realizes the dividend and the youth of tomorrow will have greater influence on the future. Opportunities for youth education and life-long learning are key to empowerment and activate participation of youth, thus harnessing the full potential of youth as change makers in their local communities. Governments, organisations and individuals alike are creating opportunities to facilitate the development and learning of youth, thereby creating the leaders of tomorrow.

The Session is being organized by Urban Economy Forum during [UNITE 2030's Youth SDG Summit](#).

### Format

Time: June 10 – 10 – 11am.

This proposed session will be a panel discussion between youth, governments and international organisations to discuss challenges, opportunities and models for empowering youth in their local communities.

### Key takeaways:

1. Call on urban stakeholders and youth organizations to contribute to ongoing global dialogue to empower youth for active participation in their local communities
2. Examine barriers and opportunities to empowering urban youth for active participation in their local communities
3. provide practical examples of empowered youth for active participation

### Potential Speakers:

1. Urban Economy Forum
2. Government of Canada
3. United Nations
4. UN-Habitat
5. United Nations Youth Delegate
6. City of Toronto