

Young People's Action Team (YPAT)

PROFILE BOOK



What is the Young People's Action Team?

The Young People's Action Team (YPAT) is a group of young leaders with strong and expansive grassroots networks who have significant experience in policy and practice in the key areas of Generation Unlimited; education, training, skills, entrepreneurship and civic engagement.

GenU established the YPAT for the systematic and meaningful engagement of young people in decision-making process of Generation Unlimited at local,

regional and global levels.

They serve as a sounding board to Generation Unlimited, ensuring that the voices of young people, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized, are heard by the partnership's governance structures and taken into consideration in planning, operationalization, programmes, and partnerships.





Aggie Lam Wing Tung

She/Her, 27, Hong Kong / [LinkedIn](#)

Aggie is a youth advocate and cultural educator

She began her career in peace education 5 years ago, impacting more than 40,000 young people to connect and understand the world better through cross-cultural dialogues. Since then, she has worked closely with 100+ schools and institutions in Asia and youth ambassadors from 90 countries.

In 2018, Aggie founded the first Hong Kong's non-profit youth-led advocacy organization for global awareness and social inclusion, mentored more than 200 youths as changemakers by providing opportunities to meet global leaders and a platform to organize self-initiated events for their peers. She was awarded a Special Award for Mentorship for Student of the Year in 2019 by South China Morning Post.



Aliyu is the national youth commissioner of the Nigerian Girl Guides Association, which is the largest all female voluntary organization in Nigeria

She is the youngest member on the Nigeria Girl Guides Association's decision-making board, which sits withing the larger World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS). She is passionate about ensuring that young people have a seat at the table and that their voices are heard. Aliyu holds a bachelor's degree in Computer Science from the Federal University of Technology Minna.



Aliyu Asmau

She/Her, 25, Nigeria/ [LinkedIn](#)





Amal Ridene

She/Her, 25, Tunisia / [LinkedIn](#)

Amal is a civil society activist with more than 8 years of local, national and international experience in project management and advocacy

She has worked with the World Scout Committee, the world's largest educational youth movement, and Global Shapers Tunis Hub, an initiative of the World Economic Forum. In addition, Amal leads several women's empowerment and informal education initiatives with her local scout group. She is passionate about youth engagement in climate change and is a member of the "Young Climate Change Negotiators" in Tunisia. She holds a bachelor's degree from Tunis Business School, where she majored in finance and minored in international political economy.





Anahita is an enthusiastic learner who loves working in teams and especially leading and empowering people

After her undergraduate studies, she started her internship at UNDP and afterwards she began to work as a Junior Coordination Consultant in UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Iran. She started volunteering with the Movers Programme in 2021 to empower youth to take action towards Sustainable Development and become leaders and social entrepreneurs. Through the Movers Programme she has trained hundreds of youth from around the world and has mentored them to do the same.

She joined YPAT to continue to be the voice of youth and empower them and to contribute to giving youth a seat at the table as youth are as much stakeholders as any other group of people. Additionally, she believes that youth of today, who are the leaders and senior managers of tomorrow, have the highest capacity in shaping the future of the planet and its people and therefore it is paramount to empower them.



Anahita Hosseini

She/Her, 24, Iran / [LinkedIn](#)





Anastase Ndagijmana

He/Him, 27, Rwanda / [LinkedIn](#)

Anastase is a youth activist, and community mobilizer years of youth leadership experience

He has a deep passion for youth, women and girls' empowerment, community development, and environment protection. Anastase has a Bachelor of Education in Inclusive and Special Needs Education from the University of Rwanda, and he is currently volunteering with an international development organization known as Voluntary Service Overseas. Anastase is the founder and Executive Director of We Got Your Back Rwanda, and chairperson for Young African Leaders Initiative, Regional Leadership Center, East Africa (YALI RLC EA) – Rwanda chapter. He is Pan-Africanist, an African change-maker, and has been selected in the top 20 young Africans leading the change for Gender Justice and Social Innovation in 2019 for social and environmental protection.

Anastase has been one of 11 young Rwandans leading COVID-19 responses in the program of DOT Rwanda known as Street Team Cohort2 during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. He is also a co-founder of East Africa Youth Network which was founded with the mission to protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.



Andrea Remes has a bachelor's degree in South and Southeast Asian Studies and a master's in Political Science with a specialization in international organizations and security and intelligence studies from the University of Leiden in the Netherlands

During her studies, she actively participated in different student associations where she played a central role in improving student life, and in organizing events related to her field of study, as well as cultural and sports activities. After completing her master's degree and following the family tradition of supporting a good cause, Andrea has worked with several non-profit organizations that help children with special abilities, promote gender equality, better education and combat climate change.

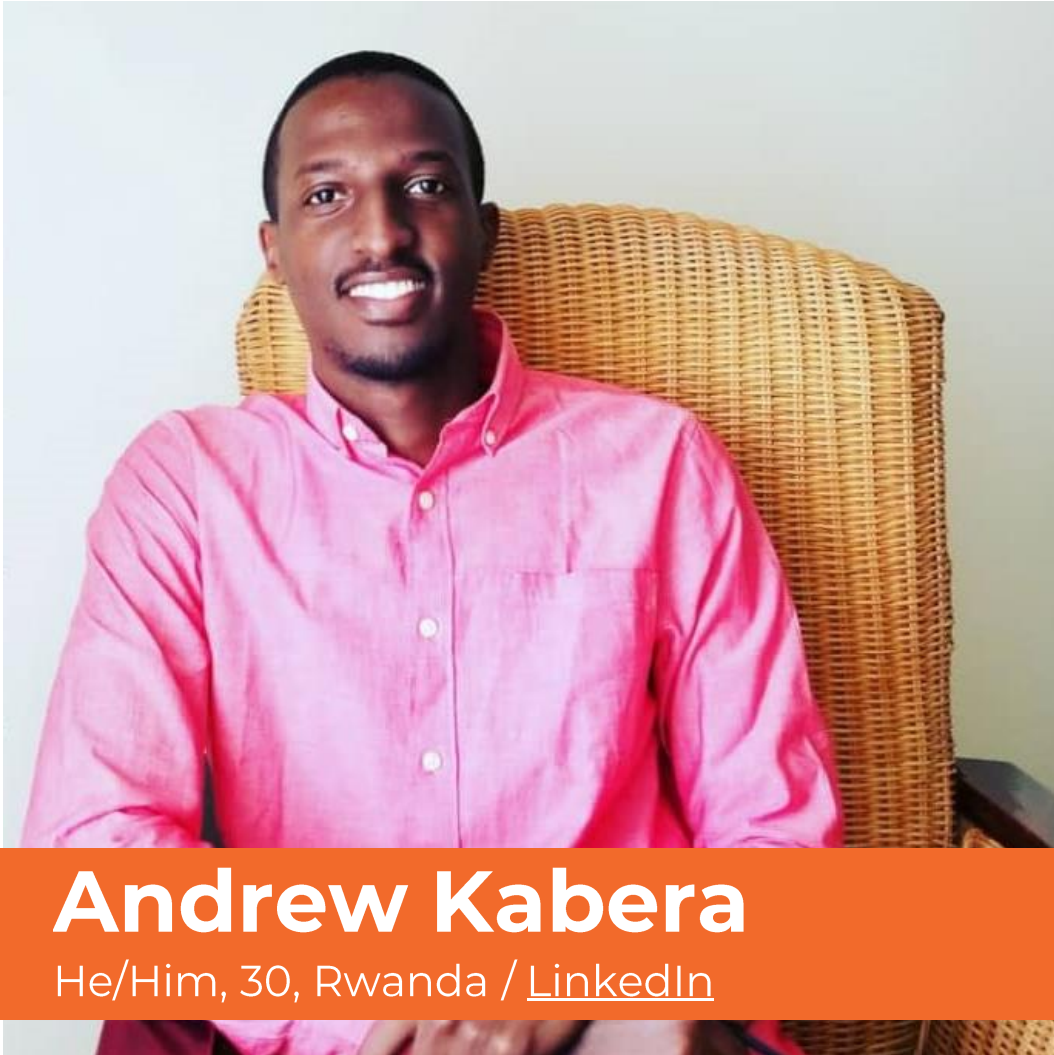
She currently holds the position of Program Manager at UNITE 2030 and is co-founder of the educational platform Erandi Aprende. Being a travel and adventure addict, Andrea has lived on three different continents (Asia, America and Europe) and hopes to leave a mark in the world through her work that seeks to make our planet a better world.



Andrea Remes

She/Her, 26, Mexico / [LinkedIn](#)





Andrew Kabera

He/Him, 30, Rwanda / [LinkedIn](#)

Andrew is a Rwandan young professional experienced in green growth and a District Technical Assistant within Rwanda's secondary cities

He has a demonstrated history of working in national, international, and inter-governmental organizations dedicated to supporting and promoting strong, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth in developing countries. He holds a bachelor's degree in urban and regional planning from the school of the built environment under Makerere University and an MBA in Project Management from Oklahoma Christian University. His objective while practicing is to explore innovative ways of promoting sustainable development in developing countries and examining policies and governance practices that encourage environmental sustainability and competitiveness in the emerging economies. He also aims at creating social networks to develop world class solutions to urban planning challenges.





Anis Mansour is a Divalto ERP Developer with a French company

He is a Youth Ambassador with the Tunisian Ministry of Youth and a Member of the Executive Committee of the Youth Advisory Council on North Africa and the Middle East. Anis was selected by the United Nations as an international success story in youth work. He is an expert in youth work through his experience (nearly 10 years) and through his contribution to the development of several programs and projects that benefit young people at the national, regional or international levels.



Anis Mansour

He/Him, 28, Tunisia / [LinkedIn](#)





Amira Khallaf

She/Her, 28, Egypt, [LinkedIn](#)

Amira Khallah is an Egyptian environmental researcher

Amira Khallah studied Environmental Science at The Faculty of Science, Alexandria University, and has been active in saving the environment since she was a teenager. She has facilitated programs and workshops to promote positive action and participated in campaigns to raise environmental awareness. Currently, she is the team leader of Lampa Environmental Initiative.





Art Spahiu

He/Him, 30, North Macedonia / [LinkedIn](#)

Art is the co-founder of the Organized Youth Association (OYA) in Macedonia, one of the most active NGOs in his region.

He also works full-time as the Business Support Coordinator at the Youth Resource Center, iCan Gostivar, in Gostivar, Poloshki, FYRO Macedonia. He is passionate about supporting and enabling youth activism. He holds a masters in Civil Law from Universiteti I Prishtinës.





Awonke is an enthusiastic individual who naturally gravitates towards human empowerment and development projects

This can be attributed to her love and care for people that has been a part of her life since childhood. She is an academic holding a bachelor of commerce in Accounting, a higher certificate in Accounting, a certificate in Accounting. She is also TEFL certified and is currently pursuing an Advanced Diploma in Accounting.

Awonke works as a Real Estate Agent and supplements her income with tutoring English online. She enjoys the fast-paced industry of real estate as she is naturally a go-getter. She is the co-founder of Hope For Eve, a woman empowerment non-profit organization, a young leader in the Girl Guide Association, U-Report steering committee member and the founder of YouAble organization, which was born from her life mantra “whatever you set your mind to, you’re able to do it.”



Awonke Majikijela

She/Her, 27, South Africa / [LinkedIn](#)



Bekalu is a computer and blockchain enthusiast from Ethiopia

He's the founder of Nilestream.co, an "East African alternative to Spotify" that aims to disrupt the "dead music scene." Bekalu and his team aim to provide seamless general audio streaming for the African market with the goal to minimize the high audio piracy rate for Ethiopia specifically and Africa generally (currently the rate of audio piracy in Africa is the 83%). He is a youth advocate and has run trainings and workshops in collaboration with SOS Children's Villages in Addis Ababa focused on entrepreneurship.

Bekalu Temesgen

He/Him, 22, Ethiopia / [LinkedIn](#)





Cynthia Nyongesa

She/He, 26, Kenya / [LinkedIn](#)

Cynthia founded the blog and brand “Cynthia Untamed” to highlight the stories of young people who are positively impacting their communities

She also interviews CEOs, gamechangers, and influencers to inspire young people. Cynthia has been an advocate for the rights of children and a UN Volunteer with UNICEF Kenya. She currently works as the Youth Advocacy and Partnerships lead with the UNICEF office in Nairobi, Kenya.





Eglantina Avidua

She/Her, 24, Kosovo

Eglantina is a mentor, activist and changemaker

She works at BONEVET Makerspace, a child-friendly environment designed to stimulate children's curiosity, imagination and creativity. She combined her passion for art and desire for social change through founding a social enterprise, "3DX", that empowers young people with Down syndrome to create and sell their own 3D printed models. She is currently studying for her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology at the University of Prishtina.





Elizabeth advocates for young people from historically marginalized and disenfranchised communities

She has served as a member on and a youth advisor to the Boards of organizations that are dedicated to improving opportunities and outcomes for youth, including America's Promise Alliance, the nation's largest partnership of its kind, bringing together hundreds of national nonprofits, businesses, communities, educators and ordinary citizens behind the idea of making the promise of America accessible to all young people. Elizabeth was a policy and communications assistant at the Children's Defense Fund of Minnesota, an executive assistant to the President of Headwaters Foundation for Justice, and a legislative assistant to Senator Pappas (65, DFL).

She was named an Emerging City Champion by 8 80 Cities (2018), a Women's Foundation of Minnesota Innovator (2018, 2019), and a UN Women National Gender Youth Activist (2020). She also served as the U.S. delegate to the Youth 20 (Y20) and Girls 20 Summit in Argentina, for the first-ever G20 Summit held in South America, where she advised G20 leaders on education and jobs, the future of work, and ending gender-based violence against girls.



Elizabeth Zalanga

She/Her, 25, Nigeria/ [LinkedIn](#)



Elvira Kalmurzaeva

She/Her, 29, Kyrgyzstan / [LinkedIn](#)



Elvira served as the Executive Director of "IDEA Central Asia" before beginning her Masters degree at Texas A&M University

She has experience working with youth organizations and programs and is knowledgeable on the political and socio-economic context of human rights and youth issues in the Central Asian region. She is a former OSCE Youth Ambassador and the Speaker of the Kyrgyz Youth Parliament. She is currently studying International Development and Economic Policy and is a Bush Board Fellow at The Bush School of Government and Public Service.



Fernanda Soria

She/Her, 29, Peru / [LinkedIn](#)

Fernanda is an activist and feminist who created an organization called "I could be her" or "Yo podría ser ella"

Her organization provides tools to deal with violence to children, teenagers, caregivers and teachers .
Fernanda is a lawyer and a psychologist working as a promoter of gender issues in practical action in a project that builds the capacities of farmers in Cajamarca, Peru. There, she organized workshops with rural women on violence and gender stereotypes. In the academic field, she is pursuing a master's degree in gender studies and public policy at FLASCO, Argentina.



Fredrick is a government officer and a technologist entrepreneur working with Kenya's Ministry of ICT, Innovation & Youth Affairs as a program secretariat and regional coordinator

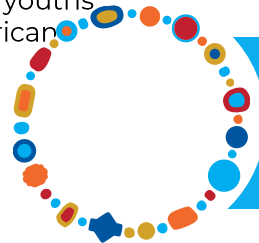
He is currently engaged in the government's Ajira Digital Program – an initiative that seeks to empower over one million youth to access digital job opportunities through training and mentorship. He has been a passionate leader, mentor and educator on the gig economy, entrepreneurship and digital workspace. Through his leadership and networks, the Ajira Digital Program has reached out to over 2 million youths and over 100 partners in Kenya's historically marginalized coastal region. Furthermore, he provides leadership and supervision to all program's implementing partners and intern-officers in providing oversight in the implementation of all program activities in his region.

Thus far, he has spearheaded the establishment of partnerships with universities, county governments, and private investors to secure opportunities for youths to improve their livelihoods. To foster sustainability, he has established Ajira Digital mentorship program where experienced innovators and entrepreneurs are assigned youths to mentor and nurture. Fredrick is an alumnus of the Young African Leadership Initiative (YALI) Program.



Fredrick Ochieng Odosy

He/Him, 30, Kenya / [LinkedIn](#)





Frida Julieta Montalvan

She/Her, 19, Mexico / [LinkedIn](#)



Frida is an 18-year-old teenager from Mexico who is passionate about social change

She is a passionate and dedicated person. She started her journey of social change thanks to an organization called INSPIRE, where she noticed that her community felt alone and unheard. She decided to act and change the route of this organization, creating different activities through leadership, social action and entrepreneurship. From that moment, she understood the power of the youth and its voice and started being part of other groups and organizations to continue educating herself of youth needs. She therefore joined “Unidos” to work with people with disability and became the leader of her high school student group to continue learning from leaders around her.

Thanks to this journey, she has had the opportunity to help people become better versions of themselves while creating a chain of social leaders. Frida is thankful to have the opportunity to now represent and communicate the needs of her generation.





Ineza Grace

She/Her, 26, Rwanda / [LinkedIn](#)



Ineza is an Eco-Feminist impact-driven actor in the climate change sector serving the global community

She believes in the value of sharing frontline voices, concerns and actions in the pursuit of achieving global climate justice. Her passion for climate justice can be tracked in her involvement in The Green Protector, where she serves as the executive officer, and in the Loss and Damage Youth Coalition, where she serves as the coordinator. She holds a bachelor's degree in water and environmental engineering from the University of Rwanda and is fascinated by climate policy. She is a leader by example and always ready to learn.





James Okina

He/Him, 22, Nigeria / [LinkedIn](#)

James created a youth-led movement that has impacted the lives of over 3,300 children to date

A “serial entrepreneur,” at the age of 15, he founded “Street Priests,” to transform the lives of children living on the streets in Nigeria. Inspired by his own experience, Street Priests Inc. runs community programs that combine social and emotional learning to help reintegrate at-risk youth into society.





Jean Claude is social entrepreneur and social media agri-influencer based in Kigali, Rwanda

He is very passionate about Agri-Tech, conservation agriculture and their related technology in general. He has a Bachelor of Sciences in Conservation Agriculture from Rwanda Institute for Conservation Agriculture (RICA). With a vision of making Africa an Agri-Tech Hub and solving the problems he observes in his community, especially in smallholder farmers and youth, he founded Speke Farms, a social enterprise that leverages the power of technology (Website, social media, USSD and SMS) to inspire youth to venture into conservation agriculture, agroecology, and conserving the environment. It provides market linkage between farmers and consumers with the addition of training through extension services and investment consultants to help them to turn agriculture into profitable business ventures.



Jean Claude Niyomugabo

He/Him, 23, Rwanda / [LinkedIn](#)





Jimena Ojeda Ramirez

She/Her, 28, Peru / [LinkedIn](#)

Jimena is an Environmental Scientist and International Relations graduate from Iowa State University

Born and raised in Peru, she is passionate about international cooperation and service to the community and gender equality. In 2007, she joined the World Organization of the Scout Movement, taking leadership positions at a local, regional and national level, always advocating for youth engagement and empowerment. Jimena is a member of the Youth Eco-Zone in Peru, being part of the team in charge of the promotion and implementation of the SDGs. She currently works in New York in a non-profit organization as an environmental educator and in forest and environmental conservation, focusing on the impact and importance of contact with nature and the outdoors as an educational and therapeutic tool. She is also starting a research on the impact of climate change on society, specifically on the displacement of women and minorities. Jimena is fully committed to achieving a society where both men and women are treated fairly, but also where everyone cares about and protects our environment.





Iris (Jingyun) Pi is the Co-Founder of Stories to Action, a global platform to amplify youth voices on their sexual and reproductive health and rights for social changes

Iris is a global citizen, who has work, training and volunteer experience in the Philippines, Egypt, the United States of America, Thailand, Vietnam, etc. She was born a feminist with an undying care for the rights and wellbeing of women and girls. She was awarded the GRO-GEST Fellowship (2020) under the auspices of UNESCO, and UNFPA Global Youth Innovation Fellowship (2019) and worked for the UNFPA China office as an Innovator in Mobile Health.

She holds an M.A in Social Work concentrating on people with excessive substances use at Nanjing University and a graduate certificate in International Relations in the Johns Hopkins University-Nanjing University Center for Chinese and American Studies. She was previously enrolled in International Gender Studies at the University of Iceland.



Jingyun (Iris) Pi

She/Her, 30, China / [LinkedIn](#)



Kalia Velázquez

She/Her, 27, Mexico / [LinkedIn](#)

Kalia was born in the northern part of Mexico but has lived all her life in a city called Querétaro

She loves being outdoors, in spaces where she can be one with nature, and being with friends and family. One of her greatest passions is working with and for kids, as she's convinced that they need to be a part of the conversation on the most important issues we face today, and that a lot of times their rights are not respected. She started working as a volunteer with different organizations very early, and that's how she decided to pursue a degree in management and development of social enterprises and work with nonprofit organizations. She believes alliances are the key to achieving our goals and dreams of making a better world for all kids, especially for girls and young women.



Karabo is an award-winning youth and gender activist who has committed her career to advancing social justice and socio-economic freedom through advocacy and campaigning, groundwork, research, advisory and high-level project coordination

She was raised in a rural village in South Africa that exposed her to the realities of insecurity, poverty and inequality – which led to her interest in social development. Karabo is a law graduate from the University of Witwatersrand. She has worked with organizations like UNFPA, the British Council, CIVICUS and the African Union in social development and peacebuilding. Karabo is an outgoing member of the Youth Advisory Panelist for UNFPA South Africa, one of the 12 global Youth Power Panel with Restless Development and a Youth and Gender Innovation Expert for UNDP's Africa Borderlands Centre grant award committee. She is the African Youth Ambassador for Peace with the African Union, the Coordinator of the Commonwealth Youth Human Rights & Democracy Network and a Campaigns Coordinator at Change.org. She is a Program Director for a grassroots organization called Sesi Fellowship and Skill Hub focusing on women's empowerment, administering projects under the Global Fund and the Joint Gender Fund.



Karabo Mokgonyana

She/Her, 25, South Africa / [LinkedIn](#)



Kesevan Veloo

He/Him, 27, Malaysia / [LinkedIn](#)

Kesevan ("Kay") is a Malaysian-born IT enthusiast striving to empower communities through agriculture and technology

He is currently a Fulbright Graduate Scholar based in Washington State University – Pullman pursuing Agricultural Automation Engineering. Kay also focuses on creating fun agriculture devices to attract the younger generation's interest in farming and educate them on proper plant cultivation. He is fired up in empowering youth to take action in their community for a better future. As a member of UNDP's Movers Programme and Avast Foundation's Youth Leadership Board, he raises awareness about Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and brings out the best in them through social entrepreneurship. He is also the Founder/Co-host for Malaysia's Listen To Me Lah podcast, a platform for youth to share their daily encounters with mental health anonymously. Born in a multicultural family, Kay possesses the skill to communicate in 6 languages (and counting). He is a black belt holder for both Taekwondo and Judo, and a newbie in Shorinji Kempo. He likes chilling in cafes, meeting new people, and making good memories.



Kristen is an activist and social entrepreneur from Monterrey, Mexico

Driven by a passion for building inclusive and sustainable cities, she studies Civil and Systems Engineering at Johns Hopkins University as a Hodson Trust Scholar. She is the co-founder of Cabilde, Mexico's first civic engagement app. Concerned by the lack of accessibility for congressional data and inspired by youth-led activism, she designed a web app that would display legislative data in a user-friendly way and include tools for constituents to advocate for the issues they care about. Cabilde is set to launch in 2022 and is part of Fast Forward U's 2021 accelerator. Since Kristen was 16, she has advocated for gender equality through the UN Foundation's Girl Up.

She co-founded Girl Up Monterrey and started a STEM program at a home for girls. She's a FIRST Robotics alumna, having led her team to a regional Chairman's award. Kristen has worked at the 21st Century Cities Initiative as a data researcher, collaborated with the UN Women Safe Cities Initiative as a workshop facilitator, and spoken at the UN's International Telecommunication Union Talking Tech Series. She believes social change is intersectional and interdisciplinary.



Kristen Corlay

She/Her, 21, Mexico / [LinkedIn](#)






Lamea Tanjin Tanha

She/Her, 22, Bangladesh / [Website](#)

Lamea is a social entrepreneur and activist currently studying English at the University of Dhaka

She is passionate about economic development and transgender rights, which led her to create TransEnd, the largest youth-led organization working towards trans empowerment in Bangladesh. TransEnd is a platform that aggregates data and facilitates the organization of social awareness campaigns for transgender people. In addition to her work as the CEO and founder of TransEnd, Lamea also served as the Chief Strategy Officer at CrossRoads Initiative, which is the largest AI-based Eductech startup in her country. Lamea is an Ashoka Young Changemaker, ALLY Fellow, Peace First Fellow and the Diana Award 2021 recipient. She believes in making a difference one step at a time.





Laraib is a lecturer, activist, trainer, entrepreneur and founder of the reproductive health and rights organization, MASHAL

She has developed Pakistan's first mobile application of its kind, Bridge The GAP (Giving Access to Planning), which spreads awareness about HIV/AIDS, contraceptive methods for men and women in English and in Urdu. The main component of the application is the Geo-fenced Family Planning services available nearby for free, just a click away. Along with it, psychology centers providing counselling to young people for free of cost are also included with their phone numbers in mobile and web app. She is the focal person for SRHR in the Prime Minister National Youth Council in the health & wellbeing group.



Laraib Abid

She/Her, 30, Pakistan / [LinkedIn](#)






Linh Thuy Dang

She/Her, 24, Vietnam

Linh brings her voice to advocate for the rights of people with disabilities by mobilizing their knowledge and creating strategies for activism, particularly through media and research projects

She is currently working with children with disabilities in a non-profit organization and engaging in disability research and activism projects in Vietnam. To represent the voices of youth with disabilities, Linh has participated in several consultation workshops hosted by UNICEF Vietnam such as the Green Transition Workshop, Youth Consultation Workshop, and other platforms like the initiative of applying Augmented Virtual Reality (AVR) in education, research on impacts of climate change and air pollution on children/adolescents/youth with disabilities and education. Linh also involved in the ASEAN youth forum and the transnational network of girls and women with disabilities in the Global South. An outcome of her professional work can be demonstrated in two published articles with the Canadian Journal of Children's Rights (Dang, 2019) and Agenda (Nguyen, Dang & Mitchell, 2021) where she sought to emphasize the collective engagement and activism of young women and girls with disabilities from the Global South.





Lucia started getting involved in Mock United Nations at 14 and ever since she's grown to believe that she could be part of change in the real world

Mock United Nations gave Lucia the motivation and purpose she did not know she was missing. It did not only give her a career path to follow, Law, but also taught her that no matter your age, if you have a revolutionary idea, you can change the world. This is what motivated her to create HELPMUN, a small nonprofit organization meant to develop knowledge about MUNS and create social change through knowledge. The philosophy behind HELPMUN is that education and revolutionary ideas can be a change in the world, regardless of how young or old you might be. She believes that the only way to promote change in the world is to learn about it, the problems that we encounter daily, and how to solve them.



Lucia Rengel

She/Her, 18, Ecuador / [LinkedIn](#)



Samanjar is currently leading the operations of the BRAC Youth Platform, a platform to prepare adolescents and young people for the ever-changing nature of life, citizenship, and work, through a comprehensive package of 21st-century skills development programs

She is passionate about meaningful youth participation from the grassroots level to the decision-making process. Samanjar has facilitated more than 300 young people on leadership, active citizenship, and community problem-solving engagements. She also served as a member of the country's first UN Youth Advisory Panel for two years. Samanjar is an advocate of sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR), comprehensive sexual educations (CSE), and as well as has been part of a regional advocacy forum by the Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW). She co-facilitated 170 youth on accessing youth health rights and being able to make informed decisions.



Mahmuda Samanjar Chowdhury

She/Her, 30, Bangladesh / [LinkedIn](#)



Majida Ismail Ali Farah

She/Her, 27, Palestine



Majida works with the Start of Hope Team in the Gaza District on a project to stem violence against women with disabilities and domestic violence

She is a member of the Regional Adolescence of Youth Majiles (RAYAM) and has worked with the Social and Free Thought Organization to promote women's health, wellness and empowerment in the region. She is an advocate for people with disabilities, providing trainings, workshops and education sessions with non-governmental organizations in her community.



Mateo is a 24-year-old tech entrepreneur from Buenos Aires

When he was 17 he achieved the “International Robotics Champion” title, and a year later created his first company: Asteroid, whose first product, “Háblalo”, already assists more than 215,000 people with communication disabilities around the world, entirely for free. Mateo today serves as Head of Innovation for ORT Schools, and his book "The Battle for The Future" has sold +40k copies (#1 Best Seller 2021).

He has grown into a huge social influencer for inclusion, science and technology throughout Latin America and was recognized as Humanitarian Innovator of the Year by MIT Technology Review, Best Social Innovator by Peking University and Outstanding Entrepreneur by the National Congress, among other important awards. His company, Asteroid, was selected in 2020 as one of the Top 100 Startups Worldwide by the Global Entrepreneurship Network in Saudi Arabia. Lately, Mateo was included in the "MERCOSUR 2021 Ranking" as the 38th most influential businessman in Argentina.



Mateo Salvatto

He/Him, 24, Argentina / [LinkedIn](#)



Michael is a young social and climate action activist and entrepreneur from the Indian state of Mizoram

He is a Research Scholar working on the production of biodiesel from microalgae in JAIN University, Bangalore, Karnataka, India. He has won several national and international awards, some of which include “Young Investigator Award” International Conference on Advances in Algal Biotechnology, 1st runner up at the South Asia Biosafety Conference, a winner of Bio-Innovation contest organized by Mizoram University, and he is currently incubated under Mizoram University BioNest Bio Incubation Center.

He also has several research publications and a book chapter on biofuel. Michael has co-founded a youth-led initiative called “Chawikan” (which can be translated as ‘to uplift’) to empower the youth of the indigenous Mizo Tribe, for which his team was awarded the 1st Runner up Project Award winner at the Asia Pacific Youth Exchange and Global Social Innovation Idea Contest, 2020. He is a Mover Ambassador under the Movers Programme, a fellow of the Youth Empowerment and Climate Action Platform (YECAP) and a youth ambassador of Earth Day Organization.



Michael V.L. Chhandama

He/Him, 30, India / [LinkedIn](#)



Najib Matar

He/Him, 20, Lebanon / [LinkedIn](#)

Najib is a 20 years-old passionate social work student, researcher, social activist, and gender equality advocate from Lebanon

He has an international TOT in human development and a big experience in facilitating youth peer workshops. A member of the MENA Regional Adolescent and Youth Advisory Majlis (RAYAM), he was selected last year to be the Mayor of Impact 2021 at the Volunteer Circle and a lead facilitator of the Participatory Action Research. In 2020 he founded Act4Impact initiative to raise and amplify the voice of Lebanese youth, and to empower them to participate in the decision-making level and so many other youth-led initiatives. He believes that youth are the leaders of today who will shape the tomorrow we all strive for.





Naswiru has been in the work of genocide prevention, youth empowerment and capacity building for the past decade

He is the Executive Director of Peace and Love Proclaimers (PLP) “Youth for Change”, an organization aimed at bringing positive change in the world through peace, unity and development. PLP launched Walk to Remember, a commemorative walk that brings together young people from all over the world to end mass atrocities. The walk has taken place in 25 countries around the world and attended by dignitaries such as President Paul Kagame and First Lady, other Heads of states and diplomats, among others. PLP has also been awarded by H.E Jeannette Kagame, the First Lady of Rwanda, as an outstanding youth organization. Naswiru Shema has a Bachelor’s degree in Information Technology from the University of Rwanda, College of Science and Technology. He has a strong passion for Public Relations and Communications. He is a person with strong convictions, defending what he believes in. He has keenness towards learning and innovating and loves coming up with new ideas.



Naswiru Shema

He/Him, 23, Rwanda / [LinkedIn](#)



Nikita Sharma

She/Her, 22, India

Nikita is from the Indian state of Himachal Pradesh

She is an active volunteer of The Bharat Scouts and Guides, was the chairperson of State Youth Committee Himachal Pradesh, and member of the National Youth Committee (2020-2021). She is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Education from GCTE Dharamshala. She has attended conferences on SDGs and was one of the observers in the 37th World Conference (WAGGGS). Additionally, Nikita is working as a core member of BSG YUWAAH partnership.



Origene is a cross-cultural leader, certified SDGs Game Global Facilitator, and entrepreneur, the founder and CEO of O'Genius Priority Ltd

O'Genius Priority Ltd. is a Rwandan software company that focuses on developing highly interactive educational content to ease teaching and learning of STEM subjects, using gamification technologies. He is a computer programmer who has developed four national award-winning innovations in ICT space. He holds a BSc in mechanical engineering and completed an entrepreneurship specialization at Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. He also holds a Diploma in global cross-cultural leadership issued by the Junior Chamber International (JCI) leadership academy in Japan.

Origene co-founded and served as the Program Manager and Deputy Country coordinator for six years of a public speaking organization. He was also project coordinator, for three years, of the Rwanda Speaks project from Rwandan First Lady's IMBUTO Foundation, that was implemented in 18 districts across the nation. He served the Junior Chamber International-JCI Rwanda in 2021. He also worked as a digital ambassador in Kigali City and Entrepreneurship facilitator for Digital Opportunity Trust Rwanda at the University of Rwanda, College of Business and Economics.



Origene Igiraneza

He/Him, 29, Rwanda / [LinkedIn](#)



Praise Majwafi

He/Him, 23, South Africa / [LinkedIn](#)

Praise is a member of the creative economy and a social entrepreneur, with a Bachelor of Commerce in Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Being a technology-savvy centennial, Praise has helped start-ups and corporations deal with disruptive opportunities that will continue to change the way we do business and perceive opportunity in the world today. As a social entrepreneur, he is a co-founder of AYA Africa, an online marketplace and magazine for made in Africa creative brands. AYA Africa blends the lessons from business with the diversity and complexity of social values, and in the process pursues opportunities for change that contribute to local economies. They seek long-term sustainability for African entrepreneurs, while simultaneously combining the pursuits of purpose and profit. Praise is a firm believer in the collective potential of young people and their involvement in steering the world in the right direction, through inclusive leadership and consulted decision-making. As engaged members of society, he believes that nothing can stand in the way of the unlimited generation.



Precious is a 24-year-old Policy Analyst

At the age of 19, she was awarded her Bachelor in Economics and at 22 she obtained a Master in Economics and Policy Analysis from the University of Limerick, Ireland. Precious is passionate about defining and promoting the “African Brand” through the lens of economics and policy analysis. She is a committed advocate for women and girls with a keen focus on building their capacity and providing mentorship opportunities for young people. Her passion for volunteerism has led her to join several coalitions of young people on areas such as financial literacy, ending child marriage, menstrual hygiene awareness, Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights and AIDS in Africa and Europe.

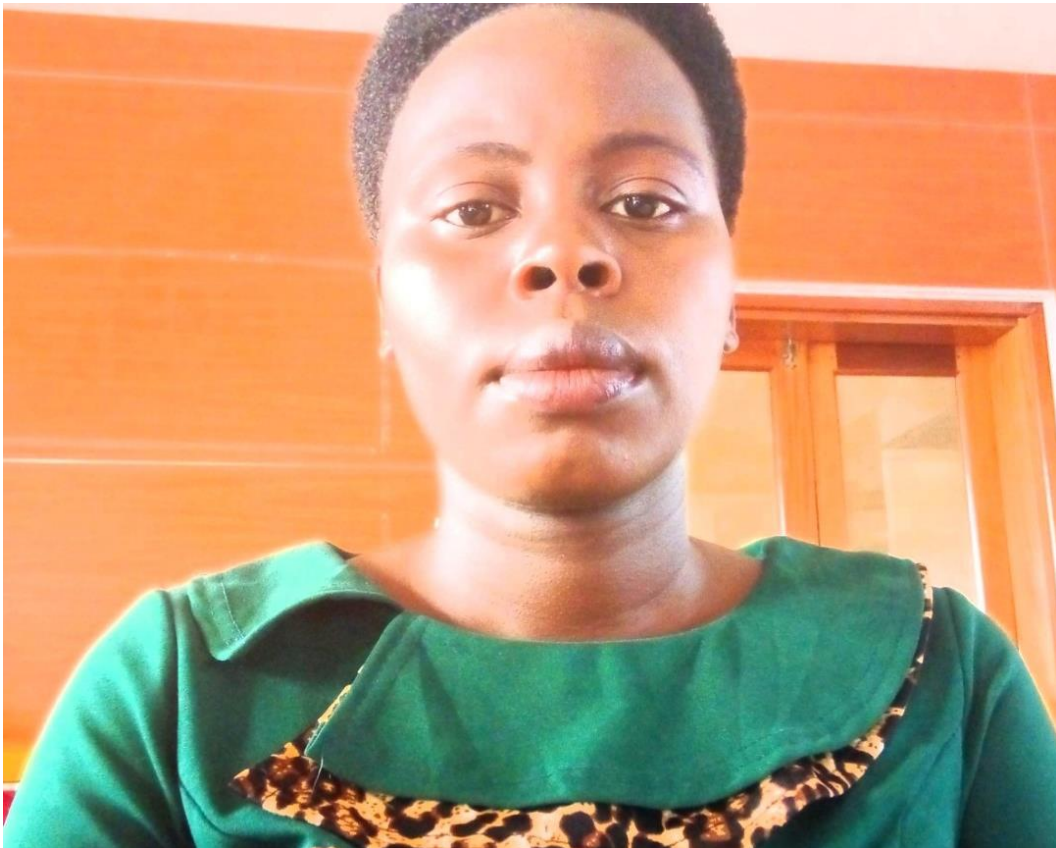
She has 8 years of volunteer and professional experience in the community development space. Precious currently sits as a Youth Ambassador for ONE Campaign and serves as a Youth Engagement Associate with the Youth Division of the African Union Commission (AUC). In her role, she provides support for the implementation of the MOCAAP youth engagement framework and the implementation of the 1 Million by 2021 Initiative of the AUC. Precious holds high-level dialogues and supports ongoing youth-led community engagements and conversations.



Precious Agaecheta

She/Her, 24, Nigeria / [LinkedIn](#)





Priscilla Kusuro

She/Her, 29, Uganda / [LinkedIn](#)

Priscilla is a gender equality activist working to end domestic and sexual violence in Uganda

She is the founder and CEO of Sabinu Transformation Initiative, an organization that has reached over 10,000 women and girls in the Sebei region with messages to end female genital mutilation, end child marriages and promote positive marriages. The organization also conducts skilling sessions with girls and women, focused on equipping them to participate in income generating activities. She holds a bachelors degree in business administration from Makerere University and is currently pursuing a postgraduate diploma in Monitoring and Evaluation from the Uganda Management Institute.



Punam is a member of International Youth Coalition since 2020

She is doctor by profession and advocates for gender equality and Mental health. This experience has driven her passion for creating youth friendly environment for youth. She is involved in the Rotaract Club and has been a youth judge for Generation Unlimited.



Punam Kunari Thapa

She/Her, 24, Nepal

Quynh is an active Vietnamese young citizen desiring to devote positively her capabilities to societal progresses

As a dynamic youth and a passionate citizen, she has taken part in several social activities and community development programs for around ten years so far. Graduating from Hanoi Foreign Trade University with a major in Business English in 2015, she is the Co-Founder & Former National Coordinator and currently an Advisor of 2030 Youth Force Vietnam, which is a network of youth-led organizations across Vietnam and belongs to a bigger youth network in the Asia-Pacific region. Quynh has gained diverse interaction with youth empowerment, youth development and active citizenship education activities. Thus, she has interest and experience in working with young people, empowering them to unlock their potential and become leaders. She is also passionate about cultural exchange and heritage preservation, especially in Viet Nam and other ASEAN Member States.



Quynh Thuy Do

She/Her, 29, Vietnam

Rafik is the founder of Beyond Tekhmamek, a social enterprise that is shifting the education system in Algeria and beyond

Beyond Tekhmamek aims at making education more useful by modernizing it with the corresponding global challenges. At his organization, they promote the STEM & Soft-skills among young students. Through his project, he was selected as a 2018 Global Changemaker. He studies business and computer science at the American University of Beirut, where he was awarded a full scholarship from the Middle East Partnership Initiative.



Rafik Amrani

He/Him, 21, Algeria / [LinkedIn](#)





Safa Claudia Uwingeneye

She/Her, 21, Rwanda



Safa is a Girl Guide in Association des Guides du Rwanda

She has 7 years experience contributing to AGR's Mission of enabling girls and young women to acquire skills for their development and autonomy and to become agents of positive change as responsible citizens. She is an international change agent who has experience in implementing development priorities, community projects management, communication, conflict management amidst diversity, advocacy campaigns, security in foreign countries, personal and financial management, social media, photography, videography and press.

Samantha is a young Rwandan passionate about technology

Samantha is currently enrolled at Akilah Institute in Information System. The reason why she has chosen Information System, it is because she passionate about technology and she believes that it is a key to the success and development in general. She has skills in database, web development, leadership and communication. Eventually, her career goal is to become fully qualified and experienced programmer, with the longer-term aspiration of moving into data analyst.



Samantha Giramata

She/Her, Rwanda / [LinkedIn](#)



Sefora Kodjo

She/Her, 30, Côte d'Ivoire / [LinkedIn](#)

Young Ivorian committed to the empowerment of youth in general and women in particular, Sefora brings a rich experience marked by various large-scale initiatives over the past twelve years through her organization: the SEPHIS Foundation

The SEPHIS Foundation (currently operating in Togo, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of Congo, Mauritania, Guinea, and Senegal) is also taking action to strengthen youth leadership and participation. The impact of SEPHIS is estimated at more than 16,000 beneficiaries with a community of more than 500 volunteers. Sefora's initiatives have earned her numerous recognitions at the national and international level, from the African Union, the US Department of States, the UN Women and President Obama. Sefora is also the President of the consortium of the top 15 youth organizations in Côte d'Ivoire. Her program for young women's empowerment called the African Women of the Future ("AWF") has trained more than 156 young women entrepreneurs from francophone African countries. She recently secured a credit line of \$2,000,000, allowing her expand her programming and reach more women entrepreneurs.





Shahnoza is the founder of the project "Hujjat.tj", the recipient of JACAFA Scholarship Program, and the recipient of an excellence scholarship of TNU

During her school years, she participated in many regional and international competitions. She won an international competition for young entrepreneurs, which was conducted in Moscow. She also became the winner of international competition "infoMatrix - Asia 2018" in Kazakhstan. In 2018, she became a student at the Tajik National University. Having 6 years of volunteering experience, she was a coordinator of volunteers in the Peshraft Public Charity Organization. In 2018-2019, she had an internship in 55 Group holding company.



Shahnoza Eshonova

She/Her, 22, Tajikistan



Soth Peosamrang

He/Him, 25, Cambodia / [LinkedIn](#)

Samnang is a 25-year-old gay man in Cambodia, working as an activist for LGBTIQ+ rights in the country

Samnang is also a member of *Loveisdiversity* team working on raising awareness of LGBTIQ+ rights through online platforms. Since coming out to their family and the public in 2016, Samnang has been involved with many events and organizations in Cambodia working on LGBTIQ+ rights. Samnang also engaged with the first batch of SDGs Youth Ambassador Program in Cambodia to make sure that LGBTIQ+ rights are considered and that no one is left behind, safeguarding inclusiveness in the implementation of SDGs. Samnang is an active youth member of the United Nations Youth Advisory Panel team (UNYAP) and is interested in the fields of anthropology, advocacy, human rights, gender and sexuality studies.





Srishti is a disability rights activist based in Delhi, India

She is pursuing an MA in psychology and has been working in the field of disability rights since 2018. Her work focuses majorly on disability and sexuality, education and accessibility. She was one of the six fellows selected from all over the country for the leadership program by Rising Flame in 2019. She has also worked with various organizations that aim to empower and/or advocate for the disabled community.

Apart from this, Srishti has been a part of different projects. She was one of the protagonists for an educational toolkit on sexuality and disability which was launched in 2021. She is also a writer and writes about a wide range of issues underlying disability. She has been featured on digital websites like Youth ki Awaaz, Feminism in India, Agents of Ishq, etc. She aspires to become a mental health professional while also contributing to the developmental sector.



Srishti Pandey

She/Her, 23, India / [LinkedIn](#)



Taibat Hussain

She/Her, 26, Nigeria / [LinkedIn](#)

Taibat Hussain has over four years of transnational experience working in the not-for profit and development sectors

While working as a researcher with Restless Development, she conducted research and analyzed data, especially around proffering solutions to the challenges associated with education and work for young people in light of COVID-19. More recently, she has been working for dRPC as a gender consultant on the 'Partnership for Advancing Women in Economic Development' project, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Taibat has volunteered as education and gender equality champion for several groups, including her initiatives Rising Child Foundation and Women Speaker Tribe. As a development economist, Taibat enjoys focusing on the topics of education, work, women advancement and grassroots development. She has written extensively on these issues and has proven strength in analyzing emerging challenges and developing efficient solutions. Taibat is a fellow of Emerging International Leaders, UK, member of SOAS Feminist Economics Network, a recipient of Talents of the Future Award 2018, and a 2019 Commonwealth Shared scholar.



Taima is an avid volunteer and young Middle East representative to the United Nations.

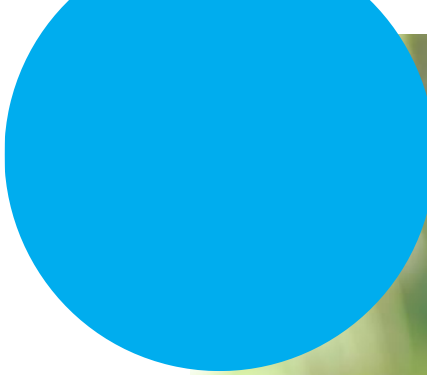
Since 2012, she has lived with her family in the Zaatari camp for Syrian refugees in Jordan. In 2018, she was nominated to represent the children of the Middle East and the camp in particular at a United Nations conference in Geneva, Switzerland. She's also participated in consultative workshops with men for the Alliance for Girls' Issues in the Middle East and North Africa and has completed numerous trainings in research skills and their applications. She is an active and passionate practitioner of the arts and currently facilitates a music therapy program in her community.



Taima Qasseem Muhammad Harisi

She/Her, 20, Jordan





Tashin empowers young people in his community to tackle climate change and promote children's rights

He does this through the “Lal Sabuj Society,” which he created in 2015. At the age of 12, Tashin started publishing a monthly newspaper named “The Monthly Lal Sabuj” to promote children’s creativity as well as write on the impact of climate change on children in his community.



Tashin Uddin

He/Him, 22, Bangladesh





Tamara-Marie Oge Elumelu

She/Her, 20, Nigeria / [LinkedIn](#)

As Founder of LSE Talk: Africa Society, Oge not only champions young Africans in the diaspora, but works to proactively create a much-needed safe space for all students to learn about Africa, be enlightened about the continent, and discuss and explore solutions to issues relevant to young people across Africa

She has also been supporting the Tony Elumelu Foundation, particularly on their TEF Entrepreneurship Programme, which identifies, funds, trains and mentors thousands of young African entrepreneurs across all 54 African countries. Oge also founded St Catherine's School's first Model United Nations Society and served as the first African student to be appointed Head Boarder. In this role, she led all students in the boarding community, serving as chief liaison officer between the young people and school officials.



Tatenda is a social rights activist who has dedicated her career to promoting the welfare of young people and the development of marginalized urban communities

She has achieved this by engaging authorities from local to national levels so young people's voices are amplified and their needs are prioritized. She is currently studying Business Administration at the University of the People. Tatenda is the Executive Director of Youth Alliance for Safer Cities (YASC) a network of youth-led associations and Community Based Organizations working together to make cities safe for the young people by engaging relevant authorities and advocating for the realization and advancement of young people's rights. Currently, YASC is working with Plan International under the Safe and Inclusive Cities project to promote the creation of safe spaces for the young people, increased access to decent income and work, thereby leading a strengthened civil society in Zimbabwe.



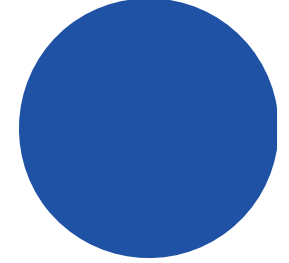
Tatenda Churu

She/Her, 30, Zimbabwe / [LinkedIn](#)



Tendai Kunyelesa

She/Her, 22, Zimbabwe / [LinkedIn](#)



Tendai is a vibrant, young female leader who is passionate about advancing the rights of girls and young women

Tendai believes in peer-to-peer mentorship, supporting communities of girls and young women to engage in spaces pertaining to their rights, especially where decisions about their well-being are being made. Most of all, Tendai believes that being a girl does not preclude you from being a leader.



Tharindra Arumapperuma

She/Her, 27, Sri Lanka / [LinkedIn](#)

Tharindra is an Emerging Leader representing the Asia Pacific Region in the International Council of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation

Tharindra is also a Board Member representing The Award in the Global Youth Mobilization for Generation Disrupted (GYMGD) Programme, formed in alliance with the Big Six Youth Organizations. She has over 6 years of experience working with young people from diverse backgrounds on the grassroots level, where she has been able to implement projects on leadership, resilience, non-formal education, entrepreneurship skills and youth empowerment. She is an International Business Management graduate and is currently reading her Master's in Business and Organizational Psychology at the University of Northampton, while working as an Assistant Programme Manager with CurveUp (PVT) Ltd on a series of projects based on empowering start-up entrepreneurs.





Trina Hoti

She/Her, 21, Kosovo



Trina is a 20-year-old sociology student at the University of Prishtina

Since the age of 13 she has been engaged in advocacy for children's rights, chairing the Prishtina's Municipal Assembly of Children and then the monitoring group of the Convention of Children's Rights Respect Our Rights. She currently is the facilitator of the Youth Reference Group within the UNICEF program in Kosovo. As a delegate of Kosovar youth, she has represented Kosovo in international events, such as the European Week of Action for Girls (2018) and on the two editions of the Western Balkans Summit. She also met with senior Kosovar decision-makers and chaired several parliamentary sessions in the Assembly of Kosovo on the International Children's Day. She is a member of the Changing the Story's Youth Advisory Board. Currently, Trina is a research intern at European nomadic biennial Manifesta by being part of the research team on gathering the collective memory for the former Hivzi Sylejmani City Library in Prishtina.

Udit is a 20-year-old social entrepreneur, finance & tech enthusiast and artist from India

He is the founder of Glass2Sand – an environment-friendly zero waste initiative and “no glass to landfills” movement. He conceived the idea at age 16 to address the menace of glass waste by crushing it into commercially-valuable sand. In September 2020, he was appointed by the United Nations as one of 17 Young Leaders for the SDGs from around the world for his contributions to sustainability. As part of this role, Udit delivers speeches at Global Conferences and strategizes closely with various UN organizations for effective youth climate action. He is currently a penultimate-year student at University College London, studying Management Science.



Udit Singhal

He/Him, 20, India / [LinkedIn](#)



Ulises Brengi

He/Him, 23, Argentina / [LinkedIn](#)

Ulises is a learning experience designer and advocate for young people in Argentina

He started a youth-empowerment initiative at 16 that focused on recycling in public high schools, works to engage young people on human rights, and now studies Landscape Architecture in Buenos Aires while also serving youth-led organization “Eidos Global” to equip young people with soft and digital skills for the future of work.





Vandara Singhal

She/Her, 25, Cambodia / [LinkedIn](#)

Vandara is a program and youth engagement manager at Impact Hub Phnom Penh

She is passionate about making positive change in Cambodia and the world through her youth empowerment work. Using her skills in communications, community building, and project management, she has been involved and has designed a number of youth programs and event series related to leadership, employability and entrepreneurship, including Youth Co:Lab Cambodia, Changemakers and others. She loves the movement of GenU, "Nothing about us without us", and hopes to learn how to utilize her skills to make the world more inclusive through her work and advocacy.



Vicky Aridi is a young Kenyan lawyer who has championed and designed inclusive programmes, youth strategies and projects for 150 countries across the globe

She currently serves as the Youth Coordinator for Africa and Middle East at Fairtrade Africa where she leads the youth program in 33 countries in Africa and the Middle East. She also serves in advisory capacity to the United Nations Joint SDG Fund on youth engagement and sustainable development.

She has served as the Youth Liaison and Advocacy Office at John Snow Inc where she was head of the youth program for Sub Saharan Africa and South Asia. She has also previously served as the Project Officer (Operations) and Advisor for Africa where she was leading and coordinating projects in 150 countries across the globe on youth skills building, employment, climate change, entrepreneurship and advocacy for United Nations SDSN Youth.



Vicky Aridi

She/Her, 25, Kenya / [LinkedIn](#)





Victoria is a youth leader and international volunteer based in Accra, Ghana

She works as a Child Rights advocate at “Curious Minds”, a broadcasting platform centered around ensuring that all children and young people are well informed and participating in decision-making that affects their lives by advocating, generation knowledge, sharing information, building partnerships and training young activists at local and national levels. Victoria is a student of the Ghana Institute of Journalism and a UNICEF Young Leader on Primary Health Care.



Victoria Quaynor

She/Her, 23, Ghana / [LinkedIn](#)



Viet Anh Tran

He/Him, 29, Vietnam / [LinkedIn](#)

Viet Anh Tran is an enthusiastic entrepreneur

He is the founder and CEO of Spiderum: an ecosystem of products supporting personal youth development in Vietnam. Viet Anh Tran also founded Islander, which is a decentralized world facilitating knowledge transfer & accelerating mass crypto adoption. He holds a bachelor's degree in International Business from Aalto University.



Wevyn Muganda is a human rights activist from Mombasa, Kenya

Wevyn Muganda is a human rights activist from Mombasa, Kenya. She is currently the Cora Weiss Peacebuilding Fellow at the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders and the Coordinator for ISIRIKA. ISIRIKA is a grassroots based social enterprise for youth and women in Mombasa that brings youth and women together to affirm common humanity and connect them to opportunities for action to achieve social justice. Her blog 'Beyond the Lines' is disrupting the narratives of violent extremism through stories and interlocution of laws and policies.

In March 2019, she received the 'She Can' award for her outstanding work in advancing human rights and increasing access to justice for women affected by violence. She also briefed the UN Security Council on the implementation of the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda. In 2020, she co-initiated Mutual Aid Kenya, a Covid-19 response initiative providing essential supplies and enhancing political participation amongst communities in informal settlements of Mombasa and Nairobi. She is part of UNDP's Global Youth Initiative '16x16' that supports 16 activists from all over the world in advancing SDG 16.



Wevyn Muganda

She/Her, 28, Kenya / [LinkedIn](#)





Zawad Alam

He/Him, 23, Bangladesh / [LinkedIn](#)

Zawad is a passionate learner, facilitator, active citizen and climate enthusiast from Bangladesh

He is currently pursuing his bachelor's degree at the University of Dhaka. He is a content creator and very passionate about designing and 21st century skills. He is the co-founder of Chalkboard, which is a renowned multidisciplinary content based EdTech platform in Bangladesh. In 2021 he won the COP26 Challenge Fund from the British Council and successfully completed a 50 Day Climate Awareness Program in Bangladesh. Zawad is passionate about education equality, both in Bangladesh and internationally. In his free time, he loves debating, travelling and meeting new people.





**GENERATION
UNLIMITED**

✉ genuyc@unicef.org

🌐 www.genunlimited.org

📷 [genunlimited](https://www.instagram.com/genunlimited)

🐦 [@_GenUnlimited](https://twitter.com/_GenUnlimited)