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Message from the Chairs
Message from the CEO
Executive summary

2022 Year End Report
Message from the Chairs

Dear Stakeholders,

As we take stock of the progress achieved by Generation Unlimited in 2022, the drive and resilience demonstrated by everyone involved in the partnership has been inspirational. Our shared mission to empower young people has given rise to alliances that transcend industries and national boundaries.

This era of rapid transformation and increasing complexities requires the need to combine strengths and foster global partnerships. Nowhere is this more important than when it comes to young people whose intersecting challenges, from access to skills and economic opportunity to climate change and the need for digital fluency, call for holistic solutions.

This is why we are proud to be part of GenU which is working to prepare young people for the future of work and instill a sense of stewardship in them.

In the first year of GenU's 2022-2025 strategy, we have seen progress in the implementation of its core principles: focusing on 'digital' and 'green' to prepare youth for the changing world of work; prioritizing equity and results for the most disadvantaged, particularly young women; and building a locally driven and globally supported operational model to drive impact with and for young people.

The new Girls' Education Skills Partnership (GESP) programme together with the UK’s Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) and 11 corporations to provide skills training to 1 million girls in developing countries. Another milestone was the launch of the Passport To Earning (P2E) platform in India, which offers job-relevant skills training for young people and positions them for employment opportunities, and which will launch in an additional five countries in 2023.

Moving forward, we will continue to be laser-focused on the strategic priorities articulated in our Strategic Plan (2022 – 2025). Within our mission to skill and connect young people to opportunities, and which will launch in

Dear Partners,

I am pleased to present the Generation Unlimited Year in Review 2022. In this Report, you will read about GenU’s growth and impact in 2022, which was made possible by our ecosystem of partners from across the public and private sectors, civil society and – most importantly – by young people.

The changing landscape of education, global demographic trends, shifting labor market demands, and the sweeping impact of technological disruption and automation, all paint a daunting picture for today’s young people transitioning from school to work.

Yet despite these challenges and accelerating uncertainty, there are incredible opportunities emerging for young people – particularly in the fast-growing digital and green sectors.

I experienced this potential at COP27, where I met with young innovators from over 40 countries – many from "last mile" communities – who participated in GenU’s Imagen Ventures entrepreneurship programme. These exceptional young people presented their ventures, ranging from biodegradable plastic and green sanitation technologies to solar-powered lighting for classrooms. I was inspired to meet the team of young Egyptians from the Soigel venture, who created a high-efficiency organic fertilizer from recycled sugarcane waste that can absorb atmospheric CO2 while improving crop yields.

What these young people – and millions of others like them – need is not out of reach. They need to develop their skills, connect with mentors who will support them on their journey, and have access to small amounts of funding to turn their ideas into reality. At GenU, we are working to unlock this enormous reservoir of potential by making these resources available to help young people create the future they want and deserve.

In 2022, our reach has been truly global, touching the lives of young people in 64 countries across six continents, and reaching over 91 million young people to cultivate relevant skills and make a meaningful impact on society.

A highlight was the successful launch of the Girls’ Education Skills Partnership (GESP) programme together with the UK’s Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) and 11 corporations to provide skills training to 1 million girls in developing countries. Another milestone was the rollout of the Passport To Earning (P2E) platform in India, which offers job-relevant skills training for young people and positions them for employment opportunities, and which will launch in an additional five countries in 2023.

Moving forward, we will continue to be laser-focused on the strategic priorities articulated in our Strategic Plan (2022 – 2025). Within our mission to skill and connect young people to opportunities for employment, entrepreneurship and social impact, we will prioritize equipping them with the skills they need for livelihoods in the digital and green economies, and we will emphasize the engagement of adolescent girls and young women in all our programmes.

As we turn our attention to the future, I extend my sincere appreciation to our esteemed partners, whose unwavering commitment provides the fundamental support for our collective mission.

Generation Unlimited is a Public-Private-Youth Partnership (PPYP) and everything we accomplish with and for young people is because of our partners.

Thank you again for your trust, support and partnership.
Executive summary

Generation Unlimited (GenU) is committed to equipping the world’s young people with skills and connecting them to opportunities for employment, entrepreneurship, and social impact. This year, GenU made notable progress in aligning our actions with the priorities identified in the GenU 2022-2025 strategy. This entailed placing a stronger emphasis on improving opportunities for underserved youth, especially young women, and placing digital and green skills at the forefront to prepare youth for the evolving landscape of work.

In 2022, GenU delivered tangible results in countries through Public-Private-Youth partnerships, where UNICEF Country Offices played a crucial role in providing leadership and support. Particular attention was dedicated to our five ‘accelerator’ countries—Bangladesh, Brazil, India, Kenya, and Nigeria, supported by successful models for the replication of the GenU agenda across countries and continents. Simultaneously, we scaled up GenU’s suite of global solutions, deploying them across a wide spectrum of countries to address diverse needs and challenges.

With over 2600 partners, we reached over 91 million young individuals in 64 countries in 2022 across our four core impact areas. Skills and Employment efforts reached more than 40 million unique beneficiaries, Entrepreneurship more than 8.8 million, Social Impact more than 21 million, and Connectivity more than 20 million. These promising results were made possible through the collective efforts of our diverse partners, with UNICEF playing a significant role due to its broad global presence and deep local operations.

Alongside extensive local programming, GenU’s global solutions made significant progress in 2022 to drive our mission forward. The Passport to Earning programme was launched in the third quarter of 2022 and has empowered nearly 135,000 individuals in India with job-relevant skills in its first three months.

The Youth Agency Marketplace (Yoma) programme played a key role in improving young people’s well-being by establishing learning-to-earning pathways for youth across Africa. 172,000 young people gained access to a wealth of free online resources through Yoma that are geared toward skill enhancement, community involvement, and expanding job opportunities. Beyond skills and opportunities, the success of Yoma lies in its efforts to foster and strengthen positive connections in interpersonal and community spheres and nurture holistic support systems for young people. This has provided insights that we are now applying as we expand our skills-to-opportunity support to young people worldwide.

The launch of the Girls’ Education Skills Partnership (GESP) exemplified the potential of Public-Private-Youth partnerships. In collaboration with the UK government and 11 private sector entities, GESP aims to enhance skills for 1 million young women in developing countries to address gender disparities. Moreover, with the goal of promoting STEM education, 21st-century skills, and employment readiness, the GESP Challenge Fund was established, with winning bids set to launch in Nigeria and Bangladesh in 2023, along with the “Passport to Earning” programme, a crucial component of GESP.

In Brazil, One Million Opportunities (1MIO), the flagship programme of GenU, facilitated skill development and employment through nearly 300 free online courses in collaboration with over 120 partners (mostly from the private sector). 142,726 young people completed online or blended courses, and 20,813 young people found jobs. More than 2,000 municipalities in semi-arid and Amazonian regions of Brazil participated in the programme. GenU Brazil’s agenda is evolving beyond 1MIO to put a stronger focus on digital and green skills, in collaboration with Microsoft and Accenture. The unique private sector partnerships established by 1MIO serve as an important case study for understanding the essential elements that contribute to job creation for youth, and the insights that are being gained will be used to scale similar models, enabling young people in diverse contexts worldwide to access meaningful employment opportunities.

The third global edition of imaGen Ventures supported young social entrepreneurs across 45 countries, resulting in 70 national finalist teams who are receiving seed funding and mentorship support, and twelve global winning teams who are benefiting from additional support to develop their innovations, which range from biodegradable plastic and green sanitation technologies to solar-powered lighting systems for schools and bio-briquettes. In Bangladesh, the first imager Ventures Youth Challenge on Climate Change was rolled out with diverse partners. Sixty-two teams participated in bootcamps, and twenty innovative solutions addressing waste management and sustainable energy were selected to receive seed funding and dedicated mentorship. We are using the successes of this initiative alongside numerous other local and global GenU programmes to show global audiences the enormous value of including youth voices, ideas, and actions in addressing pressing issues, including those related to climate change.

The youth-led GenU chapter in Senegal, initiated by Consortium Jeunesse, exemplifies the catalytic impact of youth engagement. Catalytic funding provided by GenU raised about US$70 for every US$1 invested, for a total of about US$14 million. In the suburbs of Dakar, the partnership resulted in the construction of the first youth leadership center, which serves over 22,000 young people in 2022. In 2023, the consortium hopes to provide learning-to-earning and social impact opportunities for 1 million young people, particularly girls.

In addition to our direct impact, GenU actively participated in global advocacy efforts to raise awareness, influence policy change, and mobilize funds for youth opportunities and skill development. Through the introduction of the Green Jobs for Youth Pact at COP27, we emphasized the significance of investments in green skills and jobs for young people. By 2030, this initiative, which was developed in partnership with UNICEF, ILO, UNEP, and young people, aims to create 1 million green jobs, support 10,000 young green entrepreneurs, and encourage sustainable business practices in 50,000 establishments.

We continued to advocate for youth participation in a number of significant international fora, including COP27, where we amplified the voices of young leaders and provided them with platforms to present their perspectives and green solutions. This demonstrated the power of Public-Private-Youth partnership to support and bolster a generation of environmentally-conscious young leaders who are eager to contribute to a net zero future.

Additionally, through innovative resources such as the World Skills Clock and the YouthForesight platform, GenU promoted skilled development, advocacy and knowledge sharing with a wide gamut of partners. The World Skills Clock offers real-time visual insights into global youth skills trends, which are crucial for programme design and investment, in partnership with the Education Commission, UNICEF, and World Data Lab. Meanwhile, the YouthForesight platform, developed in collaboration with the Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth, has emerged as a knowledge-sharing hub, hosting diverse resources and knowledge exchange events among public, private and youth partners across countries and regions.

Finally, recognizing the importance of digital advocacy, on World Youth Skills Day 2022, GenU initiated a global campaign with the hashtag #SkillsRightNow to spur a movement to promote upskilling for youth. The campaign garnered support from GenU’s founding partners, public and private sector leaders, youth, and the UN network, calling greater attention to the importance of investing in youth skills-to-opportunity programmes and pathways.

Note on Results Measurement

- Reach is defined as a young person benefiting from a learning-to-earning and/or social impact activity as a result of the concerted efforts of GenU through its partner network.
- The GenU Global Team supports countries with tailored resources including technical assistance, funding, and support for global programmes that are implemented in multiple countries (e.g., Passport To Earning, Yoma, imaGen Ventures, Global Volunteer Initiative).
- Data for 2022 was collected through UNICEF Country Offices, consolidated and analyzed at the global level between March-April 2023, and subsequently compiled into a master dataset utilizing Stata for efficient analysis.
Introducing Generation Unlimited
Launched at the United Nations General Assembly in September 2018, GenU aims to skill the world’s young people and connect them to employment, entrepreneurship and social impact opportunities. To achieve this, GenU brings together partners from different sectors with a shared agenda to transform education, work and entrepreneurial outcomes for young people, with programmes in more than 80 countries since its inception. At the global level, we identify innovations that have the potential to address youth challenges across multiple countries – and build partnerships and secure investment to scale them. Youth are equal partners in this mission, and GenU is committed to harnessing their ability to drive purposeful action.
Our Focus

GenU supports young people in their journey from school to work, with a focus on digital and green skills and jobs, and with adolescent girls and young women as a priority.

As a Public-Private-Youth Partnership (PPYP), GenU brings together worldwide organisations and leaders with young people to collaboratively create and implement solutions on a global scale.

Our operational model forms consortia of partners who leverage their distinctive capabilities, assets, and extensive networks to drive impactful change – placing young people at the heart of our endeavors.

Leveraging UNICEF’s extensive field presence and the convening power of our PPYP platform, GenU has reached more than 300 million young people across 80 countries over the course of four years – improving young people’s skills and facilitating greater access to opportunities for employment, entrepreneurship, and social impact.

In line with the Generation Unlimited Strategy 2022-2025, we are committed to delivering outcomes for those most at risk of being left behind. Our targeted programming addresses inequity and helps young women in particular to achieve their aspirations.

We are focused on preparing young people for the twin transitions – digital and green – that are shaping the jobs of today and tomorrow, and can contribute to the creation of a more sustainable world.

Our Focus

**DIGITAL**
In line with its 2022-2025 strategy, GenU is scaling up EdTech and JobTech initiatives and, where necessary, adopting a blended approach of online, low-tech and offline solutions. Our focus includes addressing ‘digital poverty’ – including both a lack of access to the internet and lack of digital skills – to ensure that young people can take advantage of the myriad opportunities afforded to those with digital access and digital skills.

**GREEN**
GenU is working to skill young people for the green jobs of the future, support green entrepreneurs and agripreneurs, and help connect young people to jobs in the green economy. GenU also supports youth-led social impact and advocacy to protect our planet, whether it’s action on issues related to the climate crisis, biodiversity or sustainable livelihoods.

**GIRLS**
GenU is focusing on the economic empowerment of adolescent girls and young women. Our programmes ensure that they receive job-relevant education and skills. Additionally, young women are provided access to female mentors, opportunities for apprenticeships in non-traditional sectors, and job placements that challenge gender stereotypes. GenU also advocates for policy change and the promotion of positive social norms to foster equal opportunities and choices.

GenU MISSION:
Skill & connect the world’s 1.8 billion youth to opportunity

**PUBLIC-PRIVATE-YOUTH PARTNERSHIP:**
Identifying, co-creating & scaling up programmes via PPYP consortiums that combine partners’ unique capabilities, assets and reach

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**SDCs**
02

Delivering Results
Delivering Results

As the world's first Public-Private-Youth partnership platform, we are on a mission to skill and connect the 1.8 billion young people across the globe to opportunities. We forge stronger pathways towards youth employment, entrepreneurship, and social change through global programmes co-created with youth, equipping young people with the vital skills and mindsets needed to thrive in both personal and professional realms.

"Young people are the ones who will inherit the consequences of climate change, making us key stakeholders in climate action. We have a unique perspective and are more likely to act on climate change than older generations - a reason why public and private partners need to help and work with us in their actions."

Jean Claude Niyomugabo
Member of GenU's Young People's Action Team & Co-Founder of Speke Farms
GenU continued to make significant progress in 2022. By leveraging UNICEF’s extensive field infrastructure and working with over 2600 partners, 91 million young people in 64 countries spanning six continents were reached through programmes across GenU’s impact areas: 1) Skills & Employment; 2) Entrepreneurship; 3) Social Impact; 4) Connectivity.

We have stepped up our efforts to measure the results of GenU programmes in line with the Generation Unlimited Strategy 2022–2025 through a unified reporting mechanism and a new global results framework, enabling ongoing improvements in programme planning and design. These two new initiatives are deepening our understanding of results and shedding more light on GenU’s role in delivering programmes as adviser, convener or funder.

These new monitoring and evaluation efforts showed that countries that are part of the GenU PPYP network implemented a combined total of 406 global and local programmes in 2022. Notably, 55 per cent of these programmes include a digital component, demonstrating the growing role that technology is playing in our efforts to engage and empower young people.

The data collected for 2022 underscores the inclusive nature of GenU’s reach. With slight variations depending on the country and impact area, the young people we reached form a balanced distribution between females and males, who predominantly hail from low socio-economic backgrounds. Their residential locations also exhibit a relatively equal split between urban and rural areas.

The subsequent sections will offer a focused lens on the advancements within each of GenU’s impact areas, including progress on global and local programmes.

### Total Unique Beneficiaries during 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impact Area</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>% by impact area</th>
<th>% female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Skills &amp; Employment</td>
<td>40,573,543</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>8,861,907</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Impact</td>
<td>21,326,411</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connectivity</td>
<td>20,358,514</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>91,120,375</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GenU uses the below results categories to describe how young people engaged in and benefited from programmes at various levels. This approach was developed in collaboration with the GenU Board and GenU’s multi-stakeholder Monitoring and Evaluation Technical Advisory Group. The last column of the table shows the percentage of young beneficiaries who benefited at each level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Result Level</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engage and Inspire</td>
<td>Engaging in learning &amp; knowledge building through access to GenU activities. Examples include: • Participation in GenU-led activities and events; • Active engagement in online/mobile platforms</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skill an Apply</td>
<td>Acquiring and applying skills towards gaining a livelihood. Examples include: • Skilling, Training and Capacity Building; • Certification Achieved and/or Demonstrating Skills; • Real-world Application/Pathway to Opportunity</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transform and Sustain</td>
<td>Connecting youth to opportunities for employment, entrepreneurship and social impact ventures. Examples include: • Obtaining employment and/or improved income; • Creating a new venture and/or grow venture &amp; secure funding</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Skills and Employment

In 2022, our Skills and Employment activities had the most extensive global reach, benefiting over 40.5 million young individuals. With 157 unique programmes delivered worldwide, this impact area stands as the most diverse in our portfolio. Over 31.6 million young people were engaged digitally, either receiving digital skills training or participating in activities on digital platforms. Adolescent girls and young women constitute 50.3% of participants in skilling and employment programmes.

In India, close to 150,000 young individuals completed online courses, while a similar number in Brazil finished courses through online and blended approaches, including in marginalized Amazon areas. In Egypt, over 185,000 engaged in job and life skills programmes, while in South Africa, 1.2 million young people were equipped with STEM skills, with a particular emphasis on coding and robotics.

As young individuals resumed institutional learning, GenU’s capacity to deliver large-scale programmes through government systems increased. This was exemplified in Vietnam, where over 8.6 million young people improved their digital literacy through the adoption of a transferable skills and digital literacy programme in schools. Furthermore, an Augmented and Virtual Reality (AVR) programme was piloted in Vietnam to support digital learning in remote areas, benefiting nearly 30,000 individuals, primarily ethnic minority girls.

GenU remains committed to providing low-tech and no-tech upskilling solutions to ensure that young people with limited or no access to internet connectivity or devices are not left behind.

Beyond direct programming, GenU has been engaged in advocacy and knowledge exchange on skills development through tools such as the World Skills Clock and the YouthForesight platform. The World Skills Clock – in collaboration with the Education Commission, UNICEF, and the World Data Lab – visually depicts real-time forecasted trends in global youth skills development, serving as a tool for programme design, advocacy, and investment decisions. On the other hand, the YouthForesight platform, in partnership with the Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth, is facilitating knowledge sharing across PPP partners and across countries and regions.

### Top 10 countries with highest reach numbers in 2022:

- **Vietnam**, **Cote D’Ivoire**, **India**, **Turkey**, **Ghana**, **South Africa**, **Costa Rica**, **Brazil**, **Nigeria**, **South Sudan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Skills &amp; Employment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Beneficiaries</td>
<td>40,973,543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Girls/Women</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of programmes with digital, green, and/or gender focus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of programmes delivered in geographic setting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Majority rural</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Majority urban</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apx. 50% rural/50% urban</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Passport to Earning (P2E)

Passport to Earning provides young people aged 15-24 years with free, world-class and job-relevant skills training and positions them for employment opportunities. In collaboration with Microsoft, Accenture, Dubai Cares, and Silatech, P2E offers digitised content that is provided by public and private sector partners, and is delivered through blended learning, offline, and online modalities.

Built on the Microsoft Community Training platform, P2E aims to skill over 10 million young people, including at least 5 million young women. P2E was launched in India in October 2022, with 148,764 young people having completed courses on the platform by the end of the year (46% completion rate). This success comes as a result of the foundational efforts in the pilot phase, which centered on systematizing partner selection and implementation processes, and enhancing completion rates. P2E will be rolled out in Bangladesh, Brazil, Egypt, Niger, Nigeria, and Rwanda in 2023.

The Girls’ Education Skills programme (GESP)

In 2022, GenU launched the Girls’ Education Skills programme (GESP) together with the UK government and 11 major businesses. GESP is an ambitious initiative aimed at empowering adolescent girls and young women in Bangladesh, India, and Nigeria through skills training. It combines private sector resources with public sector networks and implementation capabilities. Over a four-year period, the programme aims to provide market-relevant skills training to one million young women, fostering stronger transitions from learning to earning.

GESP has completed the inception and planning phase and commenced early implementation. The programme incorporates two components: The Challenge Fund, which awards grants for innovative skilling and employability enhancement solutions; and the Passport to Earning (P2E) platform, a digital resource designed to equip adolescent girls and young women with the necessary skills and certification to secure employment.

Green Jobs for Youth Pact

The Green Jobs for Youth Pact is led by GenU, UNICEF, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Environment programme (UNEP), and a coalition of young people. It will accelerate the creation of green jobs and build green skills in high-impact, climate-vulnerable sectors. The partnership aims to support the creation of 1 million new green jobs, green 1 million existing jobs, provide support for 10,000 young green entrepreneurs and green the operations of at least 50,000 businesses by 2030. As a legacy initiative of Stockholm+50, the Pact was officially launched at COP27 in collaboration with the European Commission, LinkedIn, and YOUNGO: the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change’s official constituency of Youth NGOs.

The high-level Green Jobs for Youth Pact COP27 event was also a key moment for PwC, UNICEF, and GenU to launch the report, The net zero generation: Why the world needs to upskill young people, which highlights how the upskilling and reskilling of youth is critical for a just green transition.
Entrepreneurship

In 2022, GenU made notable strides in cultivating entrepreneurial skills and fostering opportunities for young people.

In Bangladesh, the first ever imaGen Ventures Youth Challenge on Climate Change was implemented, in partnership with Jaago Foundation Trust, SiYB, ILO, Technovation and Bangladesh Brand Forum. Some 8 million youth were reached by outreach campaigns with calls for applications. 62 teams (350 youth) participated in divisional level bootcamps. A total of 20 emerging solutions addressing issues such as waste management and sustainable energy were selected across all the six divisions to receive seed funds and dedicated mentorship support.

In Lebanon, the Generation of Innovation Leaders (GIL) programme – an integrated youth hub that provides a dynamic ecosystem for the development of youth-led startups – imparted entrepreneurial skills to young people and helped form 19 teams with projects tackling issues identified via a U-Report poll. Five teams won the national competition and were incubated by GIL lab and received seed funding.

In Egypt, in partnership with USAID, UNDP, the Egyptian Scouts, Plan International and the British Council, UNICEF held the third edition of the imaGen Ventures Youth Challenge. Supported by three Egyptian Ministries, more than 8000 young people developed innovative solutions for addressing climate change challenges. Selected innovations were awarded seed funding and received coaching by climate experts.

In India, the Youth for Social Impact initiative (YFSI) was organised—a collective effort by Telangana State Innovation Cell (TSIC), Department of Higher Education, Telangana, UNICEF India, Inqui-Lab Foundation, Y-Hub, and YuWaah (GenU India). 11,823 students from 490 colleges were trained in design thinking and entrepreneurship. The top ten teams were selected to receive mentorship support.

Youth-led entrepreneurship in the GenU network continued to thrive in 2022. For example, Speke Farms, the agripreneurial start-up founded by Young People’s Action Team member Jean Claude Niyomugabo of Rwanda continued to support smallholder farmers to expand their client base via digital tools. Jean Claude represented GenU at COP27 and the Commonwealth Youth Forum, where he spoke about the power of youth-led innovation to change societies.

Motobrix, a youth-led social enterprise that engages unemployed youth in the provision of affordable energy in the form of organic briquettes made from environmental waste continues to thrive. Established by the young entrepreneur Calvin Shikuku and his team members in one of Kenya’s largest informal settlements, the enterprise has utilised 10 tonnes of waste and created 50 green jobs in 2022, an experience which Calvin shared with world leaders at COP27.

Top 10 countries with highest reach numbers in 2022: Bangladesh, Burundi, South Africa, Egypt, DRC, Kenya, Tajikistan, Syria, Turkey, Honduras

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
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<td>37%</td>
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<td>Majority urban</td>
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<td>Apx. 50% rural/50% urban</td>
<td>39%</td>
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In 2022, GenU’s social impact programmes engaged over 21 million young people globally. Established volunteering activities saw robust participation, with 2.6 million youth volunteers active in India alone. The cumulative number of volunteers reported by participating countries reached 10.5 million in 2022 through our Global Volunteer Initiative (GVI), while over 5.5 million young people applied their skills to addressing the issues that matter most to them and their communities.

Top 10 countries with highest reach numbers in 2022: India, Nigeria, Vietnam, Egypt, Burundi, Ghana, Mexico, Thailand, Cote D’Ivoire, Honduras

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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Digital</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Green</td>
<td>57%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Majority urban</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apx. 50% rural/50% urban</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Volunteering builds essential skills that are needed in an increasingly complex and uncertain environment. GVI establishes and scales youth volunteer programmes in countries around the world using its proven methodology, which is based on a human-centred design approach and has been successfully deployed in over 40 countries.

Over the last four years, GVI has mobilised over 12 million volunteers, reaching approximately 200 million people and delivering results for children and families across a range of issues – from the COVID-19 response and children’s re-enrolment in school to advocacy for clean air.

The extensive work of GVI in fostering climate volunteerism among young individuals over the years laid the groundwork for the conception and creation of The Green Rising, a new initiative that is gearing up to mobilise 10 million young people at the grassroots level to protect themselves and their communities from the climate crisis.

In Brazil, GVI and the UNICEF Country Office launched a 3-year volunteer programme to combat climate change and environmental degradation. In this first year, 1,500 volunteers in the Amazon and the semi-arid region came together via climate action clubs to take action on locally relevant issues. They have already reached 350,000 people including through: awareness campaigns in schools and within the local community, planting of native seedlings, hiking ecological trails in indigenous villages, and waste collection at river sources.
Connectivity

Internet connectivity remains key to ensuring that young people have equitable access to the digital sphere and all the opportunities that come with it.

Working alongside governments, UNICEF, the International Telecommunication Union, Private Sector and Mobile Network Operators, GenU supported programmes, interventions and advocacy aimed at connecting young people to the internet. This includes the Giga initiative, through which over 21 million students secured access to the internet across 5,600 schools by the end of 2022. Young people were also connected in the Democratic Republic of Congo through a large pan-African partnership with Airtel Africa, while extensive mapping work of school connectivity in Thailand was conducted alongside the Government and partners though the SchoolNet Thailand programme, which will improve the knowledge base and ability to advocate for connecting these schools to the internet in the future.

Top 10 countries with highest reach numbers in 2022: Sudan, Thailand, Nigeria, Botswana, Bhutan, Kenya, Rwanda, Costa Rica, Tajikistan, El Salvador
GenU at COP27:
Empowering youth for climate action

GenU’s participation in COP27 marked a crucial moment to underscore young people’s role in driving action towards a net-zero future. It was also an opportunity for GenU to communicate its reinforced focus on green skills and jobs and urge stakeholders to ensure that youth are equipped to contribute meaningfully to climate action.

Through a slate of over 30 side events, GenU pushed for heightened investment in green skills and jobs for young people. These forums highlighted youth-led climate action and gave young people a platform to share how they are taking action to combat climate change.

The scope of youth-led innovations generated within the GenU youth network that were showcased at COP27 encompassed biodegradable plastics, green sanitation solutions, solar-powered lighting systems tailored for educational settings, and bio-briquettes, and demonstrated the potential of young people to drive meaningful climate action.

We also launched the Green Jobs for Youth Pact together with UNICEF, ILO, UNEP, and young people, with ambitions to transform 1 million existing jobs into green ones, support 10,000 young green entrepreneurs, and promote sustainable practices in 50,000 businesses by 2030.

Building on the enthusiasm for youth-led climate action cultivated at COP27, GenU will unveil ‘The Green Rising’ programme in 2023. This global initiative, conceived in partnership with youth, is poised to engage millions in climate action and spark a youth-led climate movement. The Green Rising will build on the Global Volunteer Initiative’s work on fostering climate volunteerism, with the goal to engage 10 million young individuals at the community level in taking practical steps to protect their communities from climate change. Through The Green Rising, GenU aims to strengthen the contributions of young people towards environmental sustainability and community resilience.
Accelerator countries

The Generation Unlimited Strategy 2022–2025 prioritizes a group of geographically diverse countries with large populations of youth not in education, employment or training, and with committed coalitions that can create greater impact as a PPYP.

Delivering results in our priority countries and enabling other countries to drive strong GenU programmes are the global partnership’s main focus. Additionally, there is also support for GenU’s organic expansion into new countries. By the close of 2022, GenU had delivered programmes benefiting young people in over 80 countries globally since its inception.

Among the priority countries, GenU is focusing on five ‘accelerator’ countries. As early adopters of GenU, Bangladesh, Brazil, India, Kenya, and Nigeria have demonstrated initial results that can now be leveraged for large-scale impact.

In addition, there are a range of countries, such as Senegal, that are accelerating their GenU efforts, and several others that are looking to launch GenU programmes and establish PPYPs.
Yuwaah!, the GenU India chapter, reached over 23 million young people in 2022. This work examines innovation and scale, particularly across its learning-to-earning and social impact areas, through opportunities for skills development and employment. Yuwaah! has been a key partner in initiatives including the integration of the Microsoft Learning portal and has collaborated with State Governments to enable young people to develop innovations to address problems in their communities. Yuwaah! Youth Hub, supported by PwC and Cap Gemini, is being further developed and once operational it will skill and connect millions of young people to opportunities. Moreover, Yuwaah! was also selected as the Interim Knowledge Partner for G20’s youth engagement strategy and contributed to the five tracks (Y20).

Yuwaah! also restructured its governance model in 2022, and now has a 3-layer governance structure—strategy and direction; a Leaders Council which brings together public, private, and youth leaders; Working Groups, which support the 2023 plan; and a local Young People’s Action Team (YPAT) consisting of 42 young people from India.

GenU Bangladesh

GenU Bangladesh, driven by its public, private, and youth coalition, is progressing towards its ambitious goal of enabling 17 million young people to be skilled and connected to liveable citizenship by 2025. It is led by UNICEF, government ministries, UN agencies, the World Bank, presidents of 15 industry associations representing over 500 businesses, civil society organisations and young people. Of note, the first imaGen Ventures Youth Challenge on Climate Change was held, with participation of 62 teams (350 youth) who developed 21 solutions/prototypes on issues such as waste management, sustainable energy, rain harvesting and organic produce that will receive seed funding and mentorship support. In 2022, the GenU Bangladesh Youth Action team was also established, comprised of 80 youth. The Alternative Learning programme, led by BIAC, UNICEF, ILO, and a private sector consortium, was further developed and continued to provide out-of-school adolescents, girls at risk of child marriage across the country with foundational literacy, vocational skills and on-the-job training for entry into the labour market. Over 12 million students will benefit by 2025 from a gender transformed, life skills-based and market-relevant curriculum.

GenU Kenya

GenU Kenya’s ambition to expand digital solutions that will connect 10 million young people to learning, skills and employment opportunities by 2023 is demonstrating market traction. As a new Government entered its term, GenU continued to be anchored in the Office of the President, co-chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office.

In 2022, over 300 additional schools were connected, enabling internet access for nearly 140,000 young Kenyans. Kenya’s Digital Literacy programme (DLP) continued supporting the electrification and digital infrastructure of schools, and investments were made in digital literacy and training, financial services training, employment and entrepreneurship opportunities, and civic engagement. Three such platforms include Yoma, Ajira and the Kenya Youth Employment and Opportunities Project (KYEOP), which improves the wellbeing of youth in Kenya by equipping them with essential training, internship, and business grant opportunities.

GenU United Nations

In 2022, GenU is fully engaged with the G20 and its youth engagement strategy, facilitating the First Learning to Earning High Level Meeting, consisting of Government, Private Sector, Young People and a UN Agency to discuss the Learning to Earning declaration of goals they would like to achieve, and plans have been drawn up to deliver on these goals.
03

Delivering as a Partnership
Delivering as a Partnership

Bridging the gap between the world's leading organisations and young people to tackle the most pressing issues of our time.

As a leading PPYP, we work to maximize the potential of young people worldwide. Our strength stems from our strong collaboration with governments, businesses, United Nations agencies, international financial institutions, foundations, civil society organisations, and, most importantly, young people themselves.

These partners each contribute unique capabilities, assets, and influence that enable us to identify, co-create, and scale impactful programmes. Governments provide regulatory frameworks and policy support, businesses provide critical expertise, innovation, and resources, and UN agencies provide a wealth of knowledge and global reach. International financial institutions and foundations fuel our endeavors with crucial funding, while civil society organisations lend their deep understanding of communities and grassroots networks.

Young individuals, at the heart of GenU, invigorate our initiatives with their dynamism and unique perspectives, ensuring that our programmes are relevant and can make a tangible difference in the lives of the youth we serve.

This synergistic blend of diverse partners drives our impact, ensuring that our initiatives resonate powerfully across different sectors, cultures, and demographics, and ultimately empower young people to shape a more vibrant, inclusive, and sustainable future.
In 2022, the GenU Global Team maintained a thriving partnership with the Young People’s Action Team (YPAT), a group of 72 impressive youth leaders from over 30 countries, now in the second year of their mandate.

Our collaboration with young people includes bi-monthly consultations on global programmes, joint initiative creation, and robust skill-sharing and capacity-building sessions. Our YPATs not only frequently contribute to the ideation of partner initiatives and programmes, but they also play leadership roles in the youth advisory bodies of various partner organizations. They have successfully represented GenU’s mission in global bodies such as the Global SDG Youth Ambassador, UNESCO, UNGEI, Green Jobs for Youth Pact, alongside ILO and UNEP; and the Youth Economic Opportunities Initiative 2030, among others. The YPATs have been trailblazers for the GenU mission on the global stage.

In 2022, the first YPAT delegates were elected by their peers to serve on the Global Leadership Council. These young people include Najib Matar of Lebanon and Andrea Remes of Mexico. In addition, Jean Claude Niyomugabo of Rwanda and Anahita Hosseini of Iran were elected to serve as co-chairs of GenU’s workstreams on entrepreneurship and social impact. The GenU Youth Engagement team has been working with country offices to undertake similar initiatives and embed young people in GenU governance structures across the globe.

GenU has also set up a Youth Advisory Group as part of the Green Jobs for Youth Pact, a joint initiative with ILO, UNEP and UNICEF, to ensure the Pact is co-created and implemented with and for young people. Members of the Youth Advisory Group are outstanding young climate activists and green livelihood experts representing constituencies such as YOUNGO, young workers and employers, green entrepreneurs, or students.

GenU also worked to elevate youth voices in high-level forums and discussions in 2022, including the United Nations Economic and Social Council Youth Forum, the Commission on the Status of Women, Generation Connect, Schools2030, Transforming Education Summit and Pre-Summit in Paris, and COP27.

The year 2022 saw youth-driven innovation flourish within the GenU network. One of our YPAT members, Udit Singhal from India, received recognition in Forbes India’s 30 Under 30 list for his climate venture, Glass2Sand, an innovative project transforming discarded glass into bio-efficient resources. Another YPAT member, Sefora Kodjo from Côte d’Ivoire, saw the successful expansion of her women’s empowerment consortium, the SEPHIS Foundation, gaining the backing of the German development organisation, GIZ. Meanwhile, Wevyn Muganda, a YPAT representative from Kenya, propelled her community’s recovery from the pandemic in Mombasa. Through her social impact enterprise, ISIRIKA, she linked young individuals to volunteering and civic engagement opportunities, thereby fostering community resilience and progress.

At COP27, GenU provided an essential platform for young voices, spotlighting youth-led climate action in over 30 events and advocating for investments in green skills and jobs.
Feature Story

It's a hot and humid morning on John Ochieng’s farm on the outskirts of Kisumu town, near a small lagoon. John is a bright and healthy 77-year-old who strides through the fields in bare feet, some of his toenails missing after decades of labour. He enjoys practicing his English. “How are you coping with the atmospheric pressure this morning?” he asks with a twinkle in his eyes.

John collects a bag of manure from young entrepreneurs Chelsea and Steven of Saniwise Technologies. Their company has designed an eco-friendly toilet and sells manure and chicken feed produced as a by-product. John draws some water from a borehole and leads the team to a nearby field where he is growing spinach, aubergines, tomatoes and lettuce. He carefully packs some of the manure around a small lettuce in the centre of a hole in the field, then moves onto the next one.

“I met Chelsea and Steven over there by the lagoon,” John says, pointing back the way he came. “I was curious about the toilet they had built. They told me that it makes manure and chicken feed, so I bought some samples from them. I like the products – the manure helps my crops grow very green and fruitful. When I gave my chickens the feed, they enjoyed it. It’s good to see young people helping themselves.”

Saniwise Technologies is a youth-led organisation that develops sustainable and innovative toilets to improve public health and reduce environmental impact. The company has developed a toilet design that uses black soldier fly larvae to break down solid waste and create manure that is suitable for using on farms like John’s. Their toilets are made mainly from recycled materials, including plastic waste and tetra packs, and are well-ventilated to provide a pleasant experience for users.

Toilet prototype

Behind the Saniwise office is a prototype toilet, spotlessly clean and painted blue and yellow, which Marketing Manager Chelsea Johannes, 22, demonstrates. “This is the black soldier fly larvae,” she says, pointing to several white grubs in the toilet pan. “They’re digesting the waste. You can see that it already looks more like soil. In four days’ time, it will be ready to sell as manure.”

Chelsea says that she got the idea for the toilet from growing up in an informal settlement with poor sanitation, leading to high rates of diarrhoeal diseases among children, who also miss school as a result.

“Having been brought up by a single mum in a low-income area, I understand the challenges,” she says. “Toilets are hard to maintain, and no-one wants to contribute money to empty them properly. That’s one of the reasons we set up Saniwise. My mum helped me and now I want to do something to help back. I’m excited that we’re getting to actualise our dream.”

Youth marketplace

The Saniwise team has benefited from UNICEF-supported training and seed funding, through Generation Unlimited (GenU) and its global programme, the Youth Agency Marketplace (Yoma).

Generation Unlimited aims to see more than 30 million young Kenyans in education, training or employment by 2030. As part of promoting young people’s creativity, GenU runs an annual youth challenge – now called imaGen Ventures – which targets youth groups with innovative ideas. This includes boot camps, where participants gain business skills, and seed funding for the winning teams to implement their ideas.

The Youth Agency Marketplace (Yoma), meanwhile, is a digital marketplace that helps young people boost their employability by completing personalised online training courses, taking part in challenges and community activities, and connecting with potential employers. As they complete tasks, they are rewarded with digital tokens that can be swapped for goods or services, and their successes are recorded on a digital CV, that they can share with potential employers.

“Yoma is a bit like a LinkedIn for young people,” says UNICEF Kenya Technology for Development Officer Brian Keya Elahalwa. “Youth account for 60 percent of all unemployed people in Africa. Yoma and GenU respond to this by opening up opportunities for all young people, not just the better off. The platform offers pathways from learning to earning that build young people’s skills and connect them to jobs or entrepreneurship opportunities.”
Vocational skills

In partnership with the Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs, UNICEF is rolling out Yoma through local youth centres across Kenya, which already provide free Internet for unemployed young people. One of these centres is in Konoin, Bomet County, high up in the hills above Kisumu and surrounded by lush green tea plantations.

The centre has two computer rooms and a recreation area, where young people can chat or play pool and darts. The pool table is old and needs propping up under one leg but still works. One of the young people, Nicholas Rono, lines up a shot and pockets a coloured ball in the far corner, while Konion Youth Office Mike Jassor looks on.

“Young people face many challenges these days, like alcohol and drug abuse, but the number one challenge is the lack of employment opportunities,” Mike comments. “Yoma has been very critical for us. It helped us train 40 young people on the fundamentals of digital marketing. UNICEF came and taught us how to use the platform. They also provided reimbursements and helped us with technical challenges. The young people really appreciated the training. I believe that they are a potential gold mine lying there for employers.”

Saniwise Operations Manager Steven Ochieng, 23, also took part in the Yoma training on digital marketing at a similar youth centre in Kisumu. This gave him essential skills to help promote the business online. “Before Yoma, we were not that active on social media, which was a great concern to us,” he explains. “People would hear the name Saniwise, but they didn’t actually know what we do.”

Steven says that a key benefit of the training was that it was offered free of charge by the STEM Impact Centre, removing a barrier for many young people. “I really enjoyed the training. I learned about graphic design and digital marketing. I used the skills to produce our company profile and posters for our digital platforms. From this, we’ve had inquiries from people in the community who wants to adopt our toilet. It’s brought us exposure to the market.”

Participating in the Generation Unlimited challenge has also helped Saniwise expand their business. During the bootcamp, the young team formalized their products, registered the business, learned financial planning and honed their investment pitches. These efforts paid off, as Saniwise went on to compete in the global GenU competition, ultimately winning second place overall and around 1.2 million Kenya shillings in seed funding.

“The GenU bootcamp was very engaging and it was fun learning from each other,” Chelsea comments. “We were excited to be one of the global winners and will use the seed funding this year to construct and install more toilets, including in the nearby informal settlements.”
Young People’s Action Team

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Founding Partners

Youth are the core of our partnership, and our Founding Partners are its bedrock.

These global organisations bring an unparalleled level of expertise and commitment to skilling and livelihoods, supporting GenU with knowledge, networks and core resources.

Founding Partners play an integral role in supporting skills development and mentorship and unlocking opportunities for young people.

United in their commitment to young people, our Founding Partners have placed investments in youth at the forefront of their agendas. Their dedication fuels our efforts, reinforcing our belief that unlocking the potential of youth isn’t just beneficial, it’s absolutely essential.

When every young person is skilled, empowered, connected and work-ready, their innovation and ingenuity will thrive, giving all of us reasons to be hopeful about tomorrow.
In 2022, the Government of the Netherlands’ support helped to improve the prospects for young people across Bangladesh, Kenya and Niger and supported the global winners of imaGen Ventures to take forward their youth-led initiatives, most of which are tackling climate change. As a steadfast supporter of GenU, Irish Aid’s core contributions were critical for GenU to mobilise additional resources from the public and private sectors and develop and scale learning-to-earning and social impact programmes in all countries.

Other Governments also contributed financial resources to advance GenU’s mission and support specific programmes:

- Government of Austria
- Government of Estonia
- Government of Germany
- Government of the Netherlands
- Government of the United Kingdom

In addition to GenU’s Founding Partners, the following corporations and foundations contributed financial resources to advance GenU’s mission:

- Accenture
- Ericsson
- Microsoft
- Meta
- Standard Chartered

Corporations
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- Capgemini
- DSM
- ING
- Mastercard
- Pearson
- Telenor Group

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- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- Office of the UN Secretary-General’s Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel
- United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- United Nations Girls’ Education Initiative (UNGEI)
- United Nations Global Compact
- United Nations Office of the Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth (UN Youth Envoy)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Governments and Inter-Governmental Organizations
- African Union (AU)
- Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- Canada
- European Commission (EU)
- Egypt
- Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)
- MERCOSUR
- The Netherlands
- Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- Republic of Indonesia
- Republic of Kenya
- Republic of Rwanda
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom

Civil Society Organizations
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- Children’s Investment Fund (CIFF)
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- Dubai Cares
- Education Development Center
- Elman Peace and Human Rights Center
- Goodwill
- Higher Life Foundation
- IamtheCODE
- International Youth Foundation
- Junior Achievement Worldwide
- New York Academy of Sciences
- Plan International
- Sustainable Fish Farming Initiative
- SOS Children’s Villages International
- Teach For All
- Theirworld
- The Tony Elumelu Foundation
- World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts
- World Organization of the Scout Movement
- World YMCA

International Financial Institutions
- African Development Bank
- Islamic Development Bank
- World Bank
Thank you to all our partners, without whose support Generation Unlimited could not have achieved such remarkable results for young people in 2022.
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Ahmad Alhendawi, Secretary-General, Organization of the Scout Movement
Rania Al-Mashat, Minister of International Cooperation, Egypt
Audrey Azoulay, Director-General, UNESCO
Kate Behncken, Vice President and Lead, Microsoft Philanthropies
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Mariya Gabriel, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, European Commission (EU)

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Stephen Omollo, CEO, Plan International
Harjit S. Sajjan, Minister of International Development and Minister responsible for the Pacific Economic Development Agency of Canada
Vibhu Sharma, Co-Chair, Global Partnership on Children with Disabilities Youth Council
Ravi Venkataraman, Special Representative for Young People & Innovation, UNICEF

New representatives will be identified in 2023 from Islamic Development Bank, International Labour Organization and The Netherlands.
Unlocking opportunities for young people today means 1.8 billion reasons to be hopeful about tomorrow.
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