



**Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD)**  
(Institution of National Importance by the Act of Parliament No. 35/2012)  
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports  
Government of India



## Call for Papers and Registration Details

### International Conference on Achieving Youth-Specific SDGs: Key Challenges and Policy Responses

**Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu, India – 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

*Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD) in partnership with The Commonwealth Youth Programme (CYP), London, UNESCO-MGIEP, India, International Labour Organization (ILO) and International Organization for Migration (IOM) is pleased to announce the International Conference on Achieving Youth Specific SDGs: Key Challenges and Policy Responses. The Conference will be held from 15-17 February 2018 at RGNIYD, Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu, India.*

**Final Date for Full Paper Submission: Friday 2 February, 2018**

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#### A. Conference Objectives, Tracks and Themes

The objectives of the conference are:

- Situation/context analysis of youth specific SDGs
- Create an interface between experts and researchers working in the identified thematic areas to present their work and initiate discussions
- To assess existing roadmap towards youth as partners and youth-centric planning in implementing SDGs
- To propose Policy Briefs in the selected thematic areas

The conference will have two tracks on the following:

- Track 1: Paper presentations
- Track 2: Symposium on Achieving Youth Specific SDGs

#### Track 1: Paper Presentations

Papers are invited on any of the following themes and subthemes with focus on SDG targets. Gender, marginalized communities and disabled section are themes cutting across the subthemes mentioned below:

##### 1. Skill Development & Entrepreneurship

- Technical and Vocational Skills
- Policies on Skill Development
- Entrepreneurship

## **2. Employment & Labour Market**

- Youth Employment/ Unemployment
- Decent Jobs
- Youth & NEET
- Disabled & Working Conditions
- ILO & Global Job Pacts
- Labour Rights & Safe Working Environment

## **3. Youth & Climate Change**

- Environment Security Assessment
- Green Jobs
- Blue Economy
- Environmental Justice

## **4. SDGs through the lens of Migration**

- Student migration
- Trafficking & Migration
- Migration Policies
- Worker Rights
- Peace & Conflict Resolutions

## **5. Gender**

- Equal Pay for Equal Work
- Women and Work
- Violence and Exploitation against women and girls
- Gender Discrimination

## **6. Education for Sustainable Development**

- Cultural Diversity
- Peace & Non-Violence Education
- Global Citizenship
- Sustainable Development and Sustainable Lifestyles

## **7. Youth Centric Institutions & Strengthening Social Equality for Youth and Communities**

- Youth mainstreaming for reducing social inequalities for youth
- Strengthening cross-sectoral institutional mechanisms for youth-centric delivery, including the development of legislation and policy
- Social Protection Policies for youth
- Youth Participation in Public Policy Making

## **Track 2: Symposium on Achieving Youth Specific SDGs**

The Symposium will follow the below-mentioned methodology:

- It will be a frontal and interactive symposium where morning sessions will introduce the core issue of the workshop through panel presentation by experts, which will facilitate background setting for breakout sessions. Interactive sessions in the afternoon aim to discuss and design possible structure and content of proposed policy briefs.
- The symposium will begin with plenary sessions by lead experts in the thematic areas identified, which will be followed by comments/observations from experts and open discussions.

- Each breakout session will be coordinated by an expert in respective thematic areas. The discussions in the breakout sessions will be focusing on the structure and content of policy briefs to be developed post-workshop.
- The guiding questions to be discussed in the breakout sessions will be developed by a team in consultation with experts. The guiding questions will be indicative in nature and the group members are free to add/ modify guiding questions.
- In each of the Breakout sessions, the participants will be provided 4-6 leading questions to deliberate and come up with 5-6 key points on each of the questions. The Chair/Co-chair will then present the groups' perspective at the plenary.

The intended outcomes of the symposium are given below:

- It is planned to develop policy briefs in selected thematic areas by a team comprising experts working in the respective thematic areas. The teams will be led by renowned experts from the representing countries.
- The proposed policy briefs will highlight the urgency of the problem and the need of action in proposed thematic areas, which will serve as an impetus for future course of action.

## **B. About Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD)**

Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu, is an Institution of National Importance by the Act of Parliament No. 35/2012 under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India. The RGNIYD was set up in 1993 under the Societies Registration Act, XXVII of 1975.

As the apex national agency for youth development, the Institute strives to develop into a globally recognised and acclaimed centre of academic excellence in the field of youth development, fully responsive to the national agenda for inclusive growth, and the needs and aspirations of young people of the country to realise their potentials to create a just society.

RGNIYD serves as a youth observatory and depository in the country thereby embarking on youth surveillance on youth-related issues. It has a wide network with various organizations working for the welfare and development of young people and serves as a mentor.

RGNIYD functions as a think-tank and vital resource centre of youth-related activities for youth development in India. It also engages in seminal research in the vital areas of youth development and coordinates Training Programmes for state agencies and the officials of youth organisation, besides the Extension and Outreach initiatives across the country.

As the apex institute at the national level, it works in close cooperation with the National Services Scheme (a university and college based student volunteer programme), and the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (the largest identified grassroots level youth organisation in the world), and other youth organizations in the implementation of training programmes. The Institute is a nodal agency for training youth as a facilitator of youth development activities in rural, urban as also tribal areas.

## C. Background to the Conference

### Sustainability as an agenda for youth development

The initial interpretation of the word 'Sustainability', as an attempt to close the gap between development and nature, has broadened in the present context to embrace all aspects of development. The journey from Brundtland commission to 'Agenda 2030' has been remarkable as it resulted in all nations accommodating sustainable development in the national development agenda. Yet the journey so far has been filled with challenges such as unaccomplished/ partially accomplished targets, stressful ecosystem and looming climate change. This challenge creates a pressure on development experts to broaden the concept of development and accommodate more innovative ways of addressing developmental issues. It has been a proven fact that sustainable development requires dialogues among all stakeholders and the dialogue needs to be positioned from the premise of intrinsic values. The signposts/milestones to development need to be identified from the people who are denied the opportunity to realise the benefits of development. The Agenda 2030 is a step forward in this direction and the success in achieving SDGs largely depend on how young people in the world embrace the concept of sustainable development.

The youth of today are the change agents of a more developed, better world and they will be the leaders of tomorrow. The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) look at the young persons over the world to participate in leading the change. SDGs represent a collective best vision for the future – a vision that promises the generations a safe, hospitable planet, on which every person has the chance for a prosperous and peaceful life. Providing the youth with the expertise and institutional knowledge to carry out the plan we've built to sustain our planet through 2030 is the need of the hour. For the reason that the youth today will also bear the consequences of any inaction, it is imperative that they become the flagbearers for achieving the SDGs as they have the biggest stake in their success.

The pivotal role played by the youth in achieving the SDGs is evident from the fact that almost all the 169 targets, directly or indirectly, influence the youth specific goals and their importance in pushing the agenda towards 2030. To achieve this, youth mainstreaming requires an institutionalized focus. In addition, youth mainstreaming principles need to be incorporated as an important agenda in policy documents. This will result in achieving social equality, addressing the concerns of equality and justice.

### SDGs and targets focussed

| SDG       | Target  |
|-----------|---|
| Goal No 4 | <b>4.4</b> By 2030 increase by (x) percent the no of youth and adults who have relevant skills including technical and vocational skills for Employment, Decent Jobs and Entrepreneurship   |
|           | <b>4.7</b> By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development |
|           | <b>4.B</b> By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in   |

|            |  |
|------------|--|
|            | higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries                             |
| Goal No 5  | <b>5.2</b> Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.  |
| Goal No 8  | <b>8.5</b> By 2030 achieve full and productive employment and Decent Work for all Women and Men including for young people and persons with disabilities and equal pay for work of equal value                                     |
|            | <b>8.6</b> By 2020 substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or Training   |
|            | <b>8.8</b> Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment                                     |
|            | 8b By 2020 develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment and implement the global jobs pact of ILO   |
| Goal No 10 | <b>10.1</b> By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average  |
|            | <b>10.2</b> By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status                                   |
|            | <b>10.3</b> Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard            |
|            | <b>10.4</b> Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality   |
|            | <b>10.7</b> Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies  |
| Goal No 13 | <b>13.B</b> Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective Climate Change related planning and management in less developed countries including focussing on women, youth and marginalised communities                      |
| Goal No 16 | <b>16.2</b> End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children   |
|            | <b>16.6</b> Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels  |
|            | <b>16.7</b> Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision making at all levels   |
|            | <b>16.10</b> Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements  |
|            | <b>16.A</b> Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime |
|            | <b>16.B</b> Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development   |

#### D. Guidelines for Abstract and Paper Submission

Abstracts submitted for the conference should have the following:

- Title and thematic area and subsection to which the paper is targeted (select from Section A, Conference Themes): This will appear in the Book of Abstracts and

should contain information that allows conference delegates to decide whether to attend your paper presentation;

- Name, Affiliation and Contact Details (Phone and Email Address) of the Author. In case of more than one author the paper should carry the name and affiliation of all the authors and should clearly indicate the corresponding author with phone and email address.
- Between 300-500 words. This limit does not include references and key words;
- 3-7 Key Words;
- Submitted in Microsoft Word, Times New Roman font, 12pt, justified, 1.5 spacing;
- Submitted in UK English;
- Checked for spelling, grammar and punctuation.

Full Papers to be presented at the conference should contain the following:

- Title and thematic area and subsection to which the paper is targeted (select from Section A, Conference Themes);
- Name, Affiliation and Contact Details (Phone and Email Address) of the Author. In case of more than one author the paper should carry the name and affiliation of all the authors and should clearly indicate the corresponding author with phone and email address.
- An Abstract of 75-200 words.
- Should not exceed 8000 words (including tales and appendices);
- Submitted in Microsoft Word, Times New Roman font, 12pt, justified, 1.5 spacing;
- Written in accordance with the American Psychological Association(APA) style guide;
- Submitted in UK English;
- Checked for spelling, grammar and punctuation.

## E. Submission

Abstracts/ Full Paper can be sent to [sdg4yth@gmail.com](mailto:sdg4yth@gmail.com) with the email subject "Abstract/Paper Submission – Theme No.\_\_\_\_"

**Final Date for Abstract Submission: 28 November 2017**

**(Abstract Submission Date Extended to 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017)**

**Final Date for Full Paper Submission: 2 February 2018**

The Abstract Submission Date is relaxable for The CYP (Commonwealth Youth Programme) member-countries. However, the last date for full paper submission remains the same for all.

## F. Publishing Partner



The shortlisted papers will be submitted to Routledge for academic review. Routledge (Taylor & Francis Group) has shown initial interest and would like to see and review the complete manuscripts to be published by Routledge. In case more number of quality papers is available, Routledge would be interested in publishing them as a separate volume.

## G. Registration Details

| <b>Indian Delegates</b>      | <b>Registration Fee*</b> | <b>On-the-spot Registration Fee*</b> |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Academicians & Practitioners | INR 2000/-               | INR 2500/-                           |
| Students (PhD/Post doc)      | INR 1000/-               | INR 1500/-                           |
| <b>Foreign Delegates</b>     |                          |                                      |
| Academicians & Practitioners | USD 200                  | USD 250                              |
| Students (PhD/Post doc)      | USD 150                  | USD 200                              |

[Please click here to pay online](#)

\*This amount covers seminar kits, food and refreshment and boarding and lodging. Details for paying registration amount will be made available at a later date. Registration Fee also applies to non-paper presenters.

Accommodation arrangements will be made for foreign delegates in the nearby hotels/resorts of international standards. Details will be shared once abstracts are accepted.

Travel Allowance (TA) will be available for a limited number of paper presenters.

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*For any questions on this Call for Papers & Registration Details, please write to [sdg4yth@gmail.com](mailto:sdg4yth@gmail.com)*