

Fourth North and Central Asian Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

“Human Well-being and the SDGs: Recovering after the COVID-19 crisis”

**SESSION #1: High-Level Dialogue with Youth on the
Occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations**

Virtual Meeting Format 2 Sep 2020 (11:00-12:45, Almaty time (UTC+6))

CONCEPT NOTE

Date: 2 Sep 2020	Organizer: ESCAP
Time: 11:00-12:45 (UTC+6)	Session Focal Points: - Ms. Gaukhar Nursha, ESCAP
Language: Russian - English (simultaneous interpretation)	Webpage Link: - https://unescap.un.org/events/2020NCA_SDG Participants Registration: - bit.ly/2020NCA_SDG

Context

The High-Level Dialogue with Youth on the Occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations will serve as a platform that highlights the importance of hearing youth in global discussions, including the distinct perspectives of young men and women, whose voices are often not heard. It is part of the UN75 campaign¹ and a contribution to the Regional Conversation Series on Building Back Better² organized by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

COVID-19 is a stark reminder of the need for cooperation across borders, sectors, stakeholder groups, and generations. Outcomes of the Session will help to identify how well we handle the global trends shaping our future, from climate change to new technologies. It will discuss how NCA countries can achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)³, now that the COVID-19 crisis has thrown us back in our development efforts. Most importantly, the Session wants to explore what roles youth would like to play in the “new normal”.

¹ Details on the UN 75 Campaign can be found here: <https://www.un.org/en/un75>

² <https://www.unescap.org/regional-conversation-2020>

³ Adopted by all member States at the United Nations Summit on Sustainable Development, in 2015:
https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/generalassembly/docs/globalcompact/A_RES_70_1_E.pdf

The discussion will be shaped in a way that ignites a dialogue among active male and female youths from different walks of life with representatives from the United Nations, government, academia and civil society. Discussions will evolve around how North and Central Asian countries⁴ can recover better from the crisis; the degree to which the pandemic has affected and will likely continue to affect young men and women, boys and girls in North and Central Asia. It will discuss how key challenges can be addressed and opportunities realized; while making sure that no one is left behind in our post-COVI-19 societies. It will explore how young people will contribute to global cooperation - a cornerstone for building back better in the North and Central Asia region and worldwide - and what role the UN can and should play.

Session Objectives

The Dialogue will serve as a contributing platform to amplify the vision of young men and women on the future of human well-being, and to formulate concrete steps for the recovery phase into a “new normal”. Main discussion points and recommendations from this Session will feed into regional and global Follow-up and Review processes for the 2030 Agenda, such as the 2021 sessions of the Asia Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development (APFSD) and the and the High-level Political Forum (HLPF).

Agenda

Time	Activity
11:00-11:25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome and Introduction to the Session, Ms. Krista Pikkat, Director, UNESCO Almaty Cluster Office for Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan (5 min) • UN75 Campaign video (2 min) • Introductory Remarks (video message): Mr. Fabrizio Hochschild-Drummond, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Commemoration of the United Nations 75th Anniversary (5 min) • Video introducing Session’s Youth representatives (8 min) • Introduction of Eminent Persons, Ms. Krista Pikkat, UNESCO (5 min)
11:25-12:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dialogue between Eminent Public Persons and Youth (45 min), followed by Q&A with Forum participants (30 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Eminent person:</i> H.E. Mr. Miras Daulenov, Vice-Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan ○ <i>Eminent person:</i> Mr. Toily Kurbanov, the Deputy Executive Coordinator of the United Nations Volunteers ○ <i>Eminent person:</i> Ms. Aziza Umarova, CEO at SMARTGOV Consulting/Associate Editor for Eurasia at GovInsider ○ <i>Youth representative:</i> Mr. Artem Gerasimenko, Founder, “Healthy Cities” Center, Russian Federation ○ <i>Youth representative:</i> Ms. Asel Kubanychbekova, Founder, Women’s Entrepreneurship Development Fund, Kyrgyzstan

⁴ ESCAP defines the North and Central Asia Subregion as consisting of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and the Russian Federation.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Youth representative: Ms. İlayda Eskitaşcioğlu</i>, Beijing +25 Youth Task Force Member, Turkey ○ <i>Youth representative: Ms. Khilola Abdullayeva</i>, Participant SDG Olympiad in Central Asia, Student at Tashkent Engineering Institute of Irrigation and Mechanization of Agriculture, Uzbekistan
11:40-11:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Summary of the discussion and Closing</i>, Ms. Krista Pikkat, UNESCO (3 min) • <i>Participants complete UN75 Campaign Survey</i> (2 min)

Session Documents:

- UN75 Update in full at: <https://www.un.org/en/un75/news-events>
- Join the UN75 conversation at: www.un.org/UN75
- ESCAP, the Regional Conversation Series on Building Back Better <https://www.unescap.org/regional-conversation-2020>
- UN Women, Generation Equality Campaign <https://www.unwomen.org/en/get-involved/beijing-plus-25>
- German Kazakh University (DKU), Eco-Talk: Incubator of Eco-projects, <http://academic-waters.org/en/projects/eco-talk-incubator-eco-projects/>