

PROGRAMME CURRICULUM GUIDE



YOUNG
SDG
INNOVATORS



OVERVIEW

INVEST IN THE NEXT GENERATION OF INNOVATORS

The Young SDG Innovators Programme activates future business leaders and changemakers and challenges them to rethink traditional business models and unlock new business opportunities.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

As a participating company of the UN Global Compact and Global Compact Network in your company is eligible to nominate up to four high-performing young professionals for this programme.

This programme is designed to target high-performing employees at companies participating in the UN Global Compact, who are 35 years or younger and have an interest in business model innovation, sustainability and disruptive technologies.

PARTICIPANTS

"The YSIP program has opened our eyes to the importance of aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in engaging ways that prepare high performing business professionals to further extend their societal impact.

More importantly, we now better understand the roles that major corporations like Cisco play in driving more sustainable growth in our local and global communities.

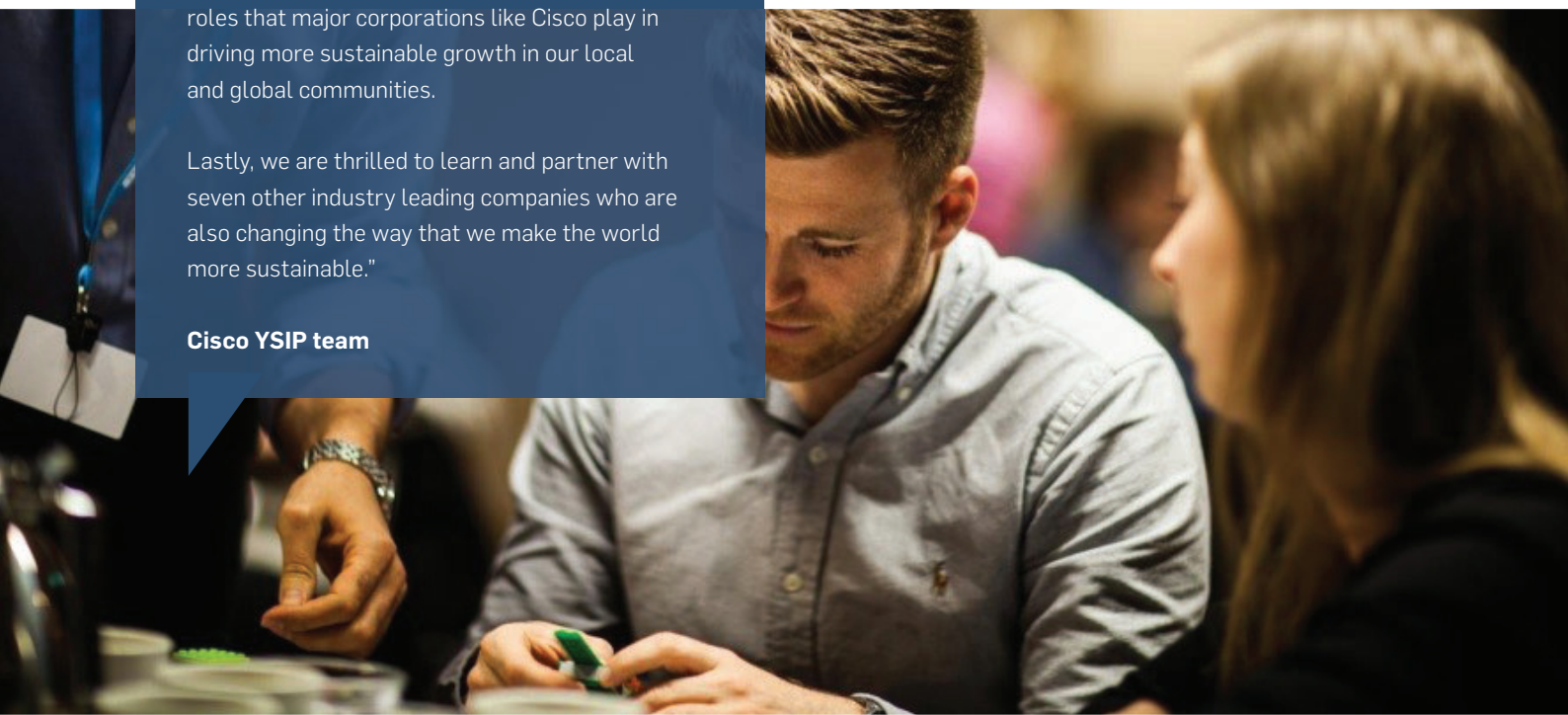
Lastly, we are thrilled to learn and partner with seven other industry leading companies who are also changing the way that we make the world more sustainable."

Cisco YSIP team

PROGRAMME BENEFITS

The Young SDG Innovators Programme is designed to engage your company's brightest and best talent in not only advancing your sustainability efforts but driving innovation and delivering tangible solutions with potential market value for your company.

- Accelerate integration of the SDGs into your company's business strategy through collaboration, innovation and knowledge sharing
- Create a culture of innovation to address the SDGs and showcase the programme's tangible outputs and results. Increase employee engagement and professional development opportunities for valued talent, including:
 - High-quality, cutting-edge and inspirational workshops from thought-leaders in the sustainability and disruptive technology fields
 - Opportunities to provide mentorship and leadership in the programme, collaborate with innovation experts, and share best practices
 - Tools, resources and expertise by leading innovative companies
- Gain global recognition for participation in the programme



THE CURRICULUM

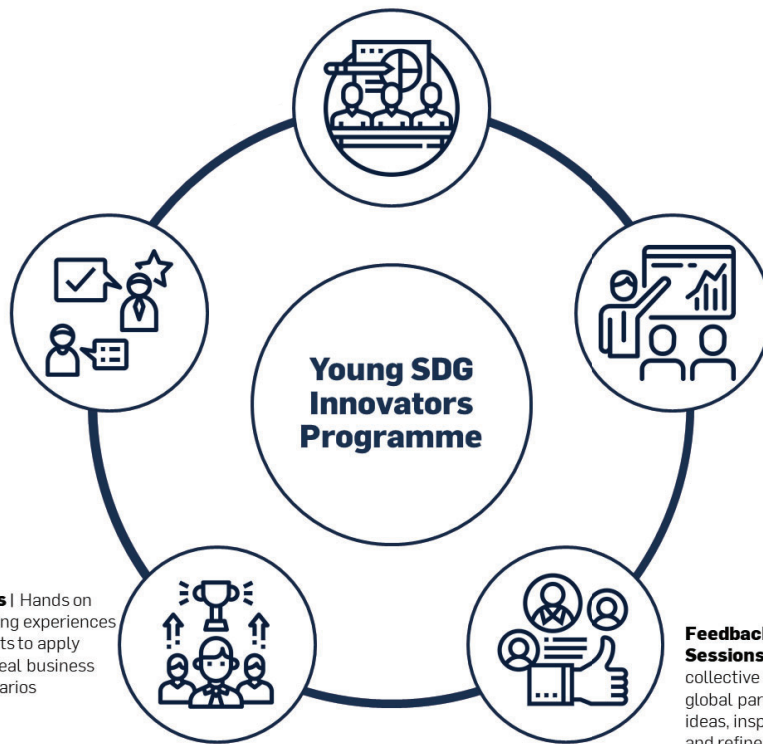
In-person and virtual learning sessions | Access to innovation and sustainability thought-leaders to understand breakthrough technologies, industry disruption and business models through a series of learning workshops

Mentoring and Coaching | Guidance from ideation and design to development and supporting participants to take their ideas forward within their companies

Live Case Studies | Insight from real-life examples and field visits to serve as inspiration and models in various context

Team Challenges | Hands on collaborative learning experiences allowing participants to apply tools and skills to real business problems and scenarios

Feedback/Peer Learning Sessions | Taking advantage of the collective knowledge and expertise of global participants to challenge ideas, inspire new thinking and test and refine project solutions



A comprehensive curriculum with a blend of learning opportunities, including online and in-person workshops, team exercises, case studies, company visits and forum discussions. During this ten-month accelerator programme, Innovators will:

- 1. Collaborate** with thought leaders in a series of team exercises and interactive learning opportunities involving real-world challenges, peer feedback and sparring, and mentoring and coaching.
- 2. Connect** to entrepreneurial young professionals from around the world to leverage the Sustainable Development Goals as a catalyst for the development of new products and services relevant to their business.
- 3. Build** organizational learning skills that will enable employees across different functions to develop innovative solutions to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals through new technologies, initiatives and business models.

“So great to be mixed with other participants outside of our company team. It was so challenging in a positive way and fruitful to get input outside of your company.”

Denmark YSIP Team

“It was a valuable opportunity to gather with other innovators from different companies and share thoughts on different subjects.”

Turkey YSIP Team

4
WEEKS

ONBOARDING

START YOUR SDG LEARNING JOURNEY

Complete a series of online learning modules and print materials to explore and better understand the core concepts around business, the Sustainable Development Goals and Breakthrough Innovation to build a solid foundational knowledge before you start the programme.

In this section, Innovators will:

- Complete self-directed assignments on the SDGs and Breakthrough Innovation using a mix of online and video materials
- Gain a better understanding of what the SDGs are and how they relate to business
- Learn key terminology around the SDGs
- Be introduced to Breakthrough Innovation and how it aligns to the SDGs



Participants should set aside **2-3 hours** in total to complete this work during the four weeks of onboarding.

6
WEEKS

CHALLENGE IDENTIFICATION

DISCOVER BREAKTHROUGH OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR COMPANY

Test out innovation tools to learn how to frame and identify your SDG business challenge. Through different activities, Innovators will gain the necessary tools and inputs they will need to understand and frame a specific challenge that is relevant to their company.

In this phase, Innovators will:

- Be introduced to new tools like the SDG Compass, SDG Goal Finder and SDG Problem Exploration Problem Set to understand how to map out and prioritize their company's SDG impacts across its value chain
- Access video case studies on how leading innovation thinkers are applying a breakthrough mindset to solve the world's most pressing challenges
- Learn how to identify and frame your company's business challenge that is tied to ambitious SDGs
- Apply design thinking methodologies to the SDGs
- Practice Breakthrough Innovation to identify SDG business opportunities for the company
- Meet their Team mentors that will guide them on their innovation journey throughout the programme



Participants are required to attend **one (1) two-day** Innovation camp in addition to committing **1-2 hours** of group work or self-guided learning per week over the six-week period for this phase.

8
WEEKS

CHALLENGE DEFINITION

SHAPE YOUR CHALLENGE AND EXPLORE BREAKTHROUGH BUSINESS MODELS

Utilize design thinking ideation methods to refine and validate your specific SDG business challenge that will form the basis of a breakthrough business solution.

In this phase, Innovators will:

- Test out structured methods and tools that can be used for the process of refining and defining their SDG business challenge
- Explore key characteristics of sustainable business models that can be applied to breakthrough innovation
- Take part in live case studies of companies employing breakthrough business models
- Access video case studies on how specific business models are driving the next generation of sustainable business and responding to the SDGs
- Engage in peer coaching groups to communicate their challenges to other Innovators and receive feedback and guidance
- Meet with their Team Champion to validate their SDG business challenge



Participants are required to attend **one (1) two-day** Innovation camp in addition to committing **1-2 hours** of group work or self-guided learning per week over the eight week period for this phase.

8
WEEKS

SOLUTIONS DEVELOPMENT

TRANSLATE YOUR IDEAS INTO ACTION

Let your creativity take over. Devise potential solutions that will effectively address your company's SDG business challenge, going through constant iteration and experimentation, to generate new ideas and test them for viability.

In this phase, Innovators will:

- Learn how to design a solution to address the SDGs and take the solution from idea to concept and into a fully defined project
- Become acquainted with twelve (12) disruptive technologies identified as having the greatest potential impact on the SDGs
- Work in teams to learn how to rapidly generate and assess new concepts and ideas through structured design thinking methods
- Access video case examples of disruptive technologies and bringing about business breakthroughs on key sustainable development challenges
- Learn the basics of "pretotyping" or rapid prototyping, and methods to quickly test out and validate new ideas



Participants are required to attend **one (1) two-day** Innovation camp in addition to committing **1-2 hours** of group work or self-guided learning per week over the eight-week period for this phase.

6
WEEKS

SOLUTIONS TESTING & VALIDATION

MEASURE YOUR SDG IMPACT

Move project solutions to more refined versions through testing and prototyping and understanding how to validate the solution for SDG impact within the company and with external stakeholders.

In this phase, Innovators will:

- Be introduced to the prototyping process and skills they will need to develop effective prototypes for their solution
- Understand the difference between prototyping and prototyping
- Explore core concepts of impact assessment methodologies and understand how to consider the SDG impact of business actions
- Take part in live case studies of development organizations leveraging technology and innovation to achieve their goals
- Understand how to prepare the SDG business case for their solutions and how to practically communicate the SDG impact of their solution
- Meet with experts from civil society, UN and social enterprises on their SDG business solutions



Participants are required to attend **one (1) two-day** Innovation camp in addition to committing **1-2 hours** of group work or self-guided learning per week over the six-week period for this phase.

5
WEEKS

OFFBOARDING SETTING UP FOR INNOVATION SUCCESS

Prepare on how you can take the learnings, skills and projects developed in the programme back into your organizations. Build the confidence and skills you will need after the programme concludes to continue with your solutions and become SDG change agents within your companies.

In this phase, Innovators will:

- Learn how to identify and prioritize stakeholders within their company in order to ensure that their solutions succeed
- Gain skills and strategies to frame and communicate their ideas in compelling and authentic ways
- Frame their ideas to understand the right lens for different stakeholders they are making their case to pitch their solutions
- Hear stories from other intrapreneurs and start-ups about how they manage resilience in the face of adversity when trying to make change within their organizations
- Be introduced to other programmes and platforms they can join as options for those interested in continuing with their intrapreneurship journey after they complete the Young SDG Innovators
- Present their solutions to a multistakeholder panel of Experts



Participants are required to attend **one (1) two-day** Innovation camp in addition to committing **1-2 hours** of group work or self-guided learning per week over the five-week period for this phase.

1
WEEK

SOLUTIONS SHOWCASE PROMOTE YOUR BREAKTHROUGH SOLUTIONS

The Solutions Showcase is an opportunity to commemorate the end of the programme and highlight the programme outcomes to participating companies as well as other organizations involved or interested in the programme.

During the Showcase, Innovators will have the opportunity to:

- Demonstrate their work and outcomes from the programme
- Share their reflections from the programme and lessons learned
- Mix and network with social enterprises, civil society organizations, UN, Government and Innovators from previous rounds
- Learn more about and explore other companies and organizations that are mobilizing breakthrough solutions for the SDGs



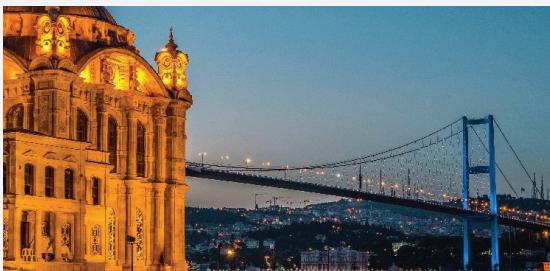
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GLOBAL INNOVATION CAMPS

CONNECT TO YOUR GLOBAL PEER GROUP

Global Innovation Camps are optional in-person workshops that will allow participants to meet with their global Innovator peers through case study discussions, small group exercises and dynamic workshops. In addition to the in-country Innovation Camps and online learning, the Global Innovation Camps offer extra opportunities for those interested to deepen their sustainability skillset, broaden their knowledge of global sustainable business practices and collaborate with peers outside their country.

2020 Schedule of Global Innovation Camps



Credits: Burak Karaduman

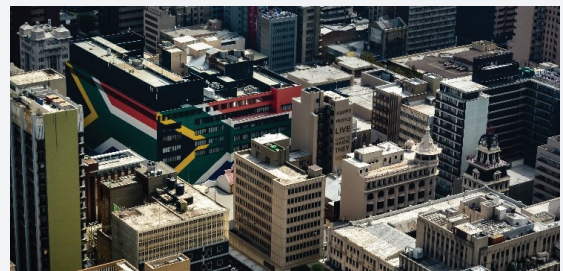
GLOBAL KICKOFF EVENT

8-9 OCTOBER, 2020
ISTANBUL, TURKEY

Organized by Global Compact Network Turkey with the support of United Nations Global Compact, the Global Kickoff event will bring together Innovators from all around the world for a global Innovation Camp.

Sessions will feature Innovators from the previous round of the programme showcasing their solutions and sharing their experiences and lessons learned.

All participants are also invited to attend the Making Global Goals Local Business – Turkey event, which is a two-day forum that will bring together leaders from business, civil society, Government, and the United Nations to catalyze collective action and impact on the Ten Principles and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Credits: Jacques Nel

GLOBAL INNOVATION CAMP

18 NOVEMBER, 2020 (DATE TBC)
JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

Organized by Global Compact Network South Africa with the support of United Nations Global Compact, the Global Innovation Camp will bring together Innovators from across the globe to share and learn from each other and collaborate with a diverse and exceptional group of young professionals.

All participants are also invited to attend the Making Global Goals Local Business – South Africa event on 19 November.

PROGRAMME CALENDAR

A consolidated full programme view including all activities. Topics, times and events are subject to change.

ONBOARDING	CHALLENGE IDENTIFICATION	CHALLENGE DEFINITION	SOLUTIONS DEVELOPMENT	SOLUTIONS TESTING & VALIDATION	OFFBOARDING
Business and the SDGs	The Breakthrough Mindset	Sustainable Business Models	Disruptive Technologies	SDG Impact Assessment	Storytelling
Introduction to Breakthrough Innovation webinar Hosted by John Elkington	Using SDGs as a Lens for Innovation	Innovation Field Visit	SDG Ideation Tools and Methods	Prototyping SDG Solutions	Identifying Key Stakeholders
Global Kickoff Workshop	SDG Challenge Framing	Challenge Presentations	Rapid prototyping, or "Pretotyping"	Innovation Field Visit	Building Resilience
Networking Event	Challenge Lab: Identifying SDG Opportunities			Communicating SDG Impact	Solutions Presentations
	Global innovation Camp				Networking Event

PROGRAMME AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES:

- Bangladesh
- India
- Nigeria
- Turkey
- Brazil
- Kenya
- Norway
- Ukraine
- Canada
- Lebanon
- Philippines
- United Kingdom
- Denmark
- Mexico
- South Africa
- United States

TALK TO YOUR PROGRAMME MANAGER

For more information about the programme, contact your country programme manager.

www.unglobalcompact.org/sdgs/young-sdg-innovators