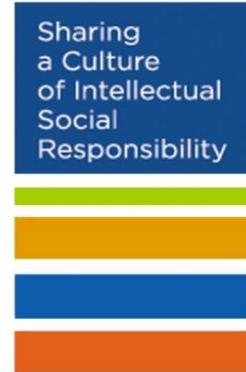




UNAI NEWSLETTER



May - June 2016

DPI/NGO: ‘Let us work together to foster education for global citizenship,’ Ban tells UN conference



The 66th United Nations Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations (DPI/NGO) Conference took place from 30 May until 1 June in Gyeongju, Republic of Korea, with Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon highlighting the vital role that NGOs, academia and youth play in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A series of roundtable discussions, workshops and youth caucuses with civil society representatives focused on education as an entry point toward realizing the SDGs.

Organized in cooperation with the NGO/DPI Executive Committee, the NGO community, the Government of the Republic of Korea and the National Organizing Committee of Korea, the Conference was held under the theme “Education for Global Citizenship: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals Together”. It was the first time the DPI/NGO Conference was held in Asia.

“Education is critical to nurture global citizens who can rise to the challenges of the 21st century,” declared Mr. Ban, encouraging young people everywhere to be global citizens and governments and NGOs to boost youth participation in civic and public life.

“Let us work together to foster education for global citizenship – education that empowers people to contribute to our common future,” he said.

The Conference provided a unique opportunity for members of civil society, the diplomatic community, UN officials, policy experts, scientists, educators, the private sector, trade unions, parliamentarians and local authorities from around the world to discuss key issues relating to the 2030 Development Agenda, with a focus on the creation and strengthening of global partnerships in support of the recently adopted SDGs.

“The support of civil society as a whole, and NGOs and academia in particular, will be key to our ability to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals,” said Maher Nasser, Director of the Outreach Division of the United Nations Department of Public Information. “We are very proud of our partnership with NGOs and universities and believe that the Gyeongju Conference offers a great opportunity to mobilize civil society’s creative talent and energy to support Agenda 2030 and beyond.”

The Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea, Mr. Kyohahn Hwang, reaffirmed his country’s commitment to fostering global citizenship. “Global citizens need to fulfil the basic values of humanity. They need to be proactively involved in solving global issues,” he noted. “This conference, under the theme of ‘Education for Global Citizenship: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals Together’ will encourage people to become involved.”

The conference also examined the role of formal education, informal education and training, and advocacy and public information as means to eliminate inequalities that create or perpetuate marginalization and exclusion.

Crosscutting themes such as gender equality and climate change were discussed and learning was

examined from the perspective of marginalized and vulnerable groups, including indigenous people, and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons (LGBT).

The event culminated in the [Gyeongju Action Agenda](#) for NGOs and academia to harmonize and catalyze efforts for the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

UNAI START: Our Environment & Our Health: Science and Solutions



On 6 June UN Academic Impact organized a conference in the UNAI START series examining how the environment impacts our health. Researchers, public health advocates and policymakers and academics discussed a range of issues- including pollution and its impact on the cardio vascular system, water contamination, the effects of chemicals on reproductive and women’s health, and the connection between air pollution and respiratory illnesses.

Attendees noted that understanding the interplay of the environment with individual and community health is a necessary first step to developing strategies to prevent or delay illness and developmental, metabolic and cognitive deficits. Approaches for maintaining health and preventing and delaying disease require an interdisciplinary approach bringing policy makers, educators and researchers together to embrace the complexity of human health in a rapidly changing environment.

World Humanitarian Summit: Bringing the World Together to 'shape a different future,'



United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon joined the President of Turkey, humanitarian aid workers, human rights activists, youth activists, NGO representatives and international celebrities to urge the global community to shape a different future for the world during the [World Humanitarian Summit](#) (WHS) in Istanbul from 23 to 24 May.

“We are all here because global humanitarian action is unprecedentedly strained,” Mr. Ban told thousands of participants attending the opening ceremony, which featured creative performances and inspiring words by renowned stars including [Forest Whitaker](#), [Ashley Judd](#) and [Daniel Craig](#).

“I proposed this Summit four years ago out of concern for rising humanitarian needs and declining political will. Today, the urgency has only grown,” the Secretary-General stressed.

The United Nations estimates that a record number of people – 130 million – currently need aid to survive. More people have been forced from their homes than at any time since the end of the Second World War.

“This is a 21st century United Nations gathering,” Mr. Ban said describing the Summit, adding that its [Agenda for Humanity](#), the document he recently issued to guide discussions and action, is based on three years of consultations with 23,000 people in more than 150 countries.

WHS brought together stakeholders who have a vested interest in improving the global humanitarian system, including more than 65 Heads of State and Government as well as leaders from the public and private sectors.

The UN chief underlined that the world is looking to them for commitments to [five core responsibilities](#):

- [Prevent and end conflict](#)
- [Respect rules of war](#)
- [Leave no one behind](#)
- [Working differently to end need](#)
- [Invest in humanity](#)

In his [remarks](#) to the opening ceremony, UN General Assembly President Mogens Lykketoft said that expectations for the Summit were high. “Now is the time to end the conflicts at the root of the current crisis; to ensure adherence to international humanitarian law and accountability for violations; to make the humanitarian system more efficient and more effective; [and] to stand up for those we are leaving behind,” the Assembly president said, also underscoring the need to secure the extra \$15 billion required to meet humanitarian needs – just one cent out of every \$50 of today’s global economy.

Countries Commit to Action to End AIDS by 2030

United Nations Member States committed to implementing a bold agenda to end the AIDS epidemic by 2030 during the United Nations General Assembly High-Level Meeting on Ending AIDS, held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 8 to 10 June. The progressive, new and actionable [Political Declaration](#) includes a set of specific, time-bound targets and actions that must be achieved by 2020 if the world is to get on the fast-track and end the AIDS epidemic by 2030 within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The High-Level Meeting on Ending AIDS was convened by the President of the General Assembly and co-facilitated by Switzerland and Zambia. At the opening, the President of the General Assembly, Mogens Lykketoft, urged Member States to commit to action.

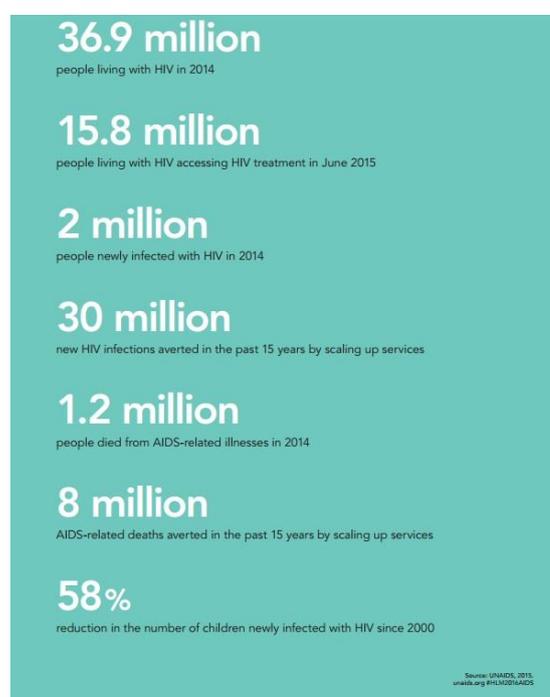
“All stakeholders must now step up to the plate. Today is the day that we collectively say that we will end the AIDS epidemic by 2030,” said Mr Lykketoft. “We must pay greater attention to equality and inclusion, uphold human rights and speak out against stigma and discrimination.”

The meeting focused the world’s attention on the importance of a fast-track approach to the AIDS response over the next five years, aimed at achieving ambitious targets by 2020, including:

- Fewer than 500 000 people newly infected with HIV
- Fewer than 500 000 people dying from AIDS-related causes
- Elimination of HIV-related discrimination

The lessons learned in responding to HIV will play an instrumental role in the success in achieving many of the SDGs, notably Goal 3, good health and well-being, and the goals on gender equality and women’s empowerment, reduced inequalities, global partnerships and just, peaceful and inclusive societies.

One of the main issues discussed was financial commitments to end the disease: countries need to increase overall investment in HIV prevention and treatment from \$19 billion (US) in 2014 to \$26 billion (US) annually by 2020. Crucial additional investment will be needed in HIV research and development. The increased resources will also help to build a platform to address health and social development needs beyond HIV. Equally, the intersections and linkages across the Sustainable Development Goals provide opportunities to leverage resources that address the social drivers and determinants of HIV.



Adolescent girls and young women are disproportionately affected by HIV. Globally, of new infections among adolescents and young people aged 10–24 years, 65 per cent are among adolescent girls and young women. Much more needs to be done to promote prevention programmes based on gender equality, fulfilling sexual and reproductive rights and guaranteeing access to services for this key group”.

More information is available in the [Report of the United Nations Secretary-General for the High-Level Meeting on Ending Aids](#) (available in six UN languages).

Many Languages, One World: Winners to Meet at United Nations General Assembly in July 2016



From a pool of over 3,600 entrants, ELS Educational Services, Inc., has selected 60 students from 36 countries and 54 universities as winners of the 2016 Many Languages, One World® international essay contest.

The winners have been invited to attend the Many Languages, One World Global Youth Forum in New York City which will culminate in an event in the UN General Assembly where contest winners will present action plans related to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Many Languages, One World contest challenged students around the globe to write an essay examining global citizenship, cultural understanding, and the role that multilingualism can play in fostering both. Entrants submitted essays in one of the six official United Nations languages, which could be neither the student's first language nor his/her primary language of instruction.

Follow the conversation on social media using #MLOW2016.

UNAI Member Spotlight: UNAI Korea & Global Citizenship Education



[UNAI Korea](#) (Korea Association in support of United Nations Academic Impact), a non-profit organization made up of 68 member universities and institutions in the Republic of Korea, brings together academic communities both in the Republic of Korea and abroad to support [UNAI's 10 principles](#). UNAI Korea has been working on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the promotion of [Global Citizenship Education \(GCED\)](#) in higher education.

From 30 May to 1 June, UNAI Korea co-organized the 66th United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI)/NGO Conference in Gyeongju, Republic of Korea and hosted a workshop titled "Platform for GCED in Higher Education" where scholars, students, NGOs and research institutions discussed how universities design and implement GCED curriculum and shared best practices from universities around the world.

Ms. Yoonhee Hwang, Deputy Executive Secretary of the UNAI Korea called the conference "an historical milestone of accelerating the movement of GCED with various actors from civil society. UNAI Korea recognizes that there are limited guidelines for developing GCED curriculum and partnership between universities, thus UNAI Korea will make an effort to be the platform of GCED."

To advance this goal, UNAI Korea in partnership with the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Korea and member universities of UNAI Korea, developed and disseminated guidelines for designing GCED curricula. A curriculum for Global Entrepreneurship is currently being developed and will be used in Nguyen That Thahn University in Hanoi, Vietnam starting fall 2017, and next year the group will roll out a GCED curriculum focused on environmental sustainability.

Ultimately, UNAI Korea hopes to disseminate the GCED-based learning modules to all universities in East Asia.

In addition to the development and implementation of GCED curricula, UNAI Korea offers several programs for university students to help them understand GCED. The program "Youth Leadership Outreach" provides GCED lectures to students of UNAI Korea member universities so they can teach GCED to high school students in developing countries. This year, select university students will head to Armenia where they will share their GCED knowledge with high school students across the country

For more information about UNAI Korea, please visit: <http://www.unaikorea.org/>.

The UN in Your World: Awareness and Action on the SDGs



Three UNAI members, Global Education Motivators (GEM), Effat University in Saudi Arabia and Chestnut Hill College in the United States, began working together this spring to help support the success of the new [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) by collaborating across cultures to broaden perspectives on how to achieve the Global Goals. Under the direction of GEM, students worked in support of the UNAI directive *"to provide a mechanism for such institutions to commit themselves to the fundamental precepts driving the United Nations mandate, in particular the realization of the universally accepted Sustainable Development Goals."*

Using technology to overcome the 7,000 mile distance, students and educators from the two schools met in real time on 7 December 2015 via an interactive videoconference facilitated by GEM from the United Nations Headquarters. It was during this conversation that the idea of collaboration between the two schools to support the SDGs was born.

On 22 March 2016 the schools participated in a videoconference from the United Nations with Ramu Damodaran, Chief of UNAI, and Pragati Pascale, former Chief of the Development Section of the Department of Public Information, on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the SDGs.

Ramu Damodaran explained how the SDGs improved on the MDGs by being broad enough to support holistic solutions that included universal human rights, human development and environmental sustainability. The new goals were tied to the five "Ps" of people, planet, prosperity, peace, and partnerships. This was connected by Wayne Jacoby of GEM to the four "Cs" of Global Education: communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking.

The conversation continued on 14 April 2016 with the second part of the series concentrating on the moving students from awareness to action on the SDGs. Friedrich Solta of United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and Patience Stephens of UN Women discussed the SDGs and interacted with students from both schools via videoconference from the UN.

Students from both schools are now collaborating via Twitter and Google Docs to develop solutions to help achieve the SDGs. Students from both schools will prepare short videos where they talk about the UN in Your World videoconference experience and what they learned about the SDGs.

From 19 to 27 June students then participated in the Global Solutions Lab, an eight day conference held every year at Chestnut Hill College. It challenges participants to design problem solving strategies with Medard Gabel, a protégé of Buckminster Fuller. Participants work in small teams across cultures to find solutions to various problems associated with the SDGs.

Students from more than 10 countries participated in this year's conference, working across cultures on these solutions. Students got to present their small group solutions to UN staff, representatives from the private sector, members of civil society and philanthropic organizations at the United Nations on 27 June.

ASPIRE Chapter Spotlight: East Stroudsburg South High School

Generating movement towards positive dialogue, fostering good will, and strengthening the foundation of our American democracy: these are the goals of the [United Nations ASPIRE](#) chapter of East Stroudsburg South High School. Uniting around the diversity of its members, ASPIRE aims to make an impact globally and locally by actively pursuing social justice while developing a broader understanding of global citizenship.

As students operating with 21st Century technology and the ability to communicate across the world at their fingertips, ASPIRE students reject the passive in favor of the active. An idea needs to be put into action and not merely put on social media. A criticism must be accompanied by a plan towards positive change. ASPIRE students seek to be fully aware of their responsibilities to their local and global communities as evidenced in their actions and their service.

Moved by the Syrian refugee crisis, ASPIRE students started a coin drive for the Malala Fund which raised over \$600 for girls' education. Impacted by two suicides in our school district, students disseminated outreach materials and crisis hotlines via Twitter while fundraising \$250 for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. A discussion on political efficacy was followed by an initiative to register students and staff to vote, a tour of our Capitol in Harrisburg, and a youth discussion with our state legislator for over 150 students hosted in our high school library. Illustrating that diversity includes all students, ASPIRE members volunteered weekly with our special needs students while fundraising over \$800 towards their Spring Gala, attending as guests and "buddies".

As the adviser of the ASPIRE chapter of East Stroudsburg South High School, I have been given the unique opportunity to learn and be educated alongside my students at the United Nations Headquarters. We have received master class lessons from renowned figures such as Dr. Jane Goodall, Noble Peace Prize Awardee Jody Williams, Dr. Deepak Chopra, former UK Prime Minister Gordon Brown, United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, and on two occasions, Malala Yousafzai, among many others. At the United Nations, our ASPIRE chapter has listened and learned from people who have transcended the traditional definitions of leader and activist. They have made the world a better place for us, often at the risk of their own lives.

ASPIRE students have taken these lessons back to our community, highlighting our belief that what we

learn is only as good as we can use it to improve our own community. At our high school in the Pocono region of Pennsylvania, we have hosted Pulitzer Prize winning author of the best selling non-fiction *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide* Sheryl Wu Dunn, United States Congressman Matt Cartwright (PA-17th), United States Congressman Tom Marino (PA-10th), Democratic senatorial candidate Admiral Joe Sestak, and Glamour Magazine College Woman of the Year, Afghan activist Noorjahan Akbar. We are not a college or university. We are not located in or around a major city. We are not a private academy. We are an economically disadvantaged rural high school.

ASPIRE students believe that they can accomplish what they set out to do because they have learned firsthand from those that took great risks to improve their communities and the lives of others, the vast majority of whom they will never meet. The ASPIRE chapter of East Stroudsburg South High School has shown that the opportunity they have been given to engage with academics, activists, politicians, and world leaders is a positive investment in youth that pays off exponentially in the present, the future and in our communities. This investment promotes peace, social justice, and global citizenship by simply opening the door and allowing youth to be part of the conversation.

Michael Healey
Advisor United Nations ASPIRE
AP US Government and Politics Instructor
East Stroudsburg South High School
East Stroudsburg Area School District

UNAI Members Using Sport for Development

Sports provide more than just a way to stay fit, they can be a powerful tool to promote cross cultural understanding, social integration and economic development across geographical, cultural and political contexts.

Several United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) member institutions have recognized the pivotal role athletics can play in bridging divides and have undertaken a number of initiatives to capitalize on the unifying power of sport.

Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne offers nearly 50 physical programs that attract more than 4,200 student participants every year. UEFAPS (the physical activity organization at Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne) is open to all students on campus and offers activities such as soccer, basketball, boxing, jujitsu, kungfu and Tai Chi.

Advancing gender equality in sports is also a mission for the Sorbonne. Last year, more than 2,000 female students participated in UEFAPS' programs, outnumbering male participants by nearly 100.

Monmouth University in the United States is happy to participate in promoting "Sports for Sustainable Development" through several events during the upcoming academic year focusing on gender pay equity in sports and other related themes.

The U.S. women's national soccer team made news earlier this year when they filed a wage-discrimination action against the U.S. Soccer Federation, charging that although they generated \$20 million more in profits than the U.S. men's team, they were paid about a quarter what their male counterparts earned. This reflects the situation of women in professional sports globally, in which female athletes face numerous challenges including access to basic resources, ability to afford training, gear and other necessities, and sociocultural stereotypes that act as barriers to women's equal participation in sports. Monmouth University hopes to address the sustainable development goal of gender empowerment that can begin in sports, but have a larger overall impact on gender equity and equality globally.

For over ten years, the UK Sport-supported International Development through Excellence and Leadership in Sport project (IDEALS) has placed students from the University of Bath and the Wallace Group - a partnership of universities with a shared ethos towards sport as a positive tool for development, including Bath, Loughborough, Stirling, Durham, Northumbria, St. Andrews and Cardiff Metropolitan - in Zambia to undertake coaching and education through sport in and around Lusaka.

The program is directly supported by the participating organizations and [International Inspiration \(IN\)](#), the international development

charity born out of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games with the aim of inspiring and transforming the lives of young people around the world through the power of sport. IN is dedicated to using the power of sport to involve, inspire and positively impact the lives of children, young people and marginalized groups around the world.

Sport is not a cure-all for development problems, but it is a mirror of society that can bring people together and foster inclusion, understanding and cooperation.

Upcoming International Days and Observances

15 July: [World Youth Skills Day](#)

18 July: [Nelson Mandela International Day](#)

30 July: [International Day of Friendship](#)

12 August: [International Youth Day](#)

19 August: [World Humanitarian Day](#)

5 September: [International Day of Charity](#)

15 September: [International Day of Democracy](#)

21 September: [International Day of Peace](#)

27 September: [World Tourism Day](#)

1 October: [International Day of Older Persons](#)

2 October: [International Day of Non-Violence](#)

5 October: [World Teachers' Day](#)

24 October: [United Nations Day](#)

Learn more about UN International Days on the [United Nations website](#).

New e-Resources

United Nations Television (UNTV) produces award-winning programmes covering the wide range of issues addressed by the United Nations system of organizations for broadcast and online viewing. These programmes may be used to anchor lessons, to launch classroom discussions or to introduce panel presentations. Some of them are currently in use in classes and in textbooks for language and business courses.



21st Century monthly news magazine
www.unmultimedia.org/tv/21stcentury

This month our award-winning TV magazine features the following compelling reports:

Programme No. 115

The Van Boven Principles (12'12")

During the 70s and 80s, many Latin American governments waged war on their own people – disappearing, torturing and killing at will. The United Nations Human Rights chief during that period stood up to them. For the first time ever, states were held accountable for their crimes - and they still are.

Detained in Italy: Misery for Migrants and Refugees (10'16")

In Europe it's the biggest movement of people since World War II. Hundreds of thousands are fleeing war, hardship and persecution. Many end up in Italian detention centres.



UN in Action short feature series www.unmultimedia.org/tv/unia
Short features on the UN's work in the field available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish and Russian.

India: Tigers Face Extinction (6'18") #1518
Mozambique: Healthy Living (3'50") #1519
Ecuador: Hundreds Dead, Thousands Injured (3'13") #1520

More resources

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Why join UNAI

We welcome new members to UNAI. Find out some of the benefits of membership here:

a. It is a global network of schools of higher learning and research, now comprising over 1,200 members in some 120 countries. As a collaborative platform, UNAI members learn from each other and enhance each other's skills and tools.

b. As a member, you will have direct access to the United Nations Academic Impact, an initiative of the UN Secretary-General, and be able to use United Nations resources.

c. You will be able to use the logo of the United Nations Academic Impact on your website and in promotional materials, thus raising your institution's visibility and international profile.

d. You will be able to request assistance in connection with any activity in support of UNAI.

e. You and your students can join, either in person or via the internet, in "Classroom Conversations" organized by UNAI at UN Headquarters.

f. You can request briefings/interactive presentations on UN themes by United Nations experts.

g. As a member, you are required to submit a periodic activity report, which is then uploaded on the UNAI website. As your activities become better known among UNAI global membership and beyond, your institution's international profile enhances.

Sounds interesting? Find out more at academicimpact.un.org