

Concept Note + Agenda
Generation17 Dialogue: Seoul Edition!
Technology, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship for All

Organizers: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Venue: Location: **HJBC Gwanghwamun, Seminar Room E**

Date: May 20th

Duration: 3 hours, from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Target Audience: Youth leaders, students, and social entrepreneurs

1. Background and Rationale

Generation17, in partnership with Samsung, continues to empower young leaders to advance the Sustainable Development Goals through innovation, advocacy, and community action. Building on this momentum, UNDP proposes a dynamic and youth-centered side event, on the sidelines of the YL's trip to Suwon, to strengthen youth engagement, promote collaborative problem-solving, and expand awareness of the Generation17 community and the Samsung Global Goals App.

Traditional panel discussions often limit youth participation to passive listening. This side event will spotlight intergenerational and cross-sector dialogue as a catalyst for innovation. It will bring together Generation17 Young Leaders, UNDP, Samsung, private sector actors, NGOs, and innovation ecosystem partners (e.g., incubators) to share practical experiences and explore how partnerships can empower young innovators.

The session will also highlight the Samsung Global Goals App as a tool for awareness, engagement, and action, while creating space for participants to co-design solutions to current global challenges, particularly around digital inclusion, innovation, and equitable access to technology.

2. Objectives

The event aims to:

- Highlight successful cross-sector partnership models in Korea that support youth innovation and entrepreneurship;

- Foster intergenerational dialogue between youth leaders and key stakeholders (UNDP, Samsung, private sector, NGOs, incubators);
- Showcase real-world, technology-driven solutions led by young innovators;
- Explore global digital gaps and identify tangible, scalable solutions;
- Present the Samsung Global Goals App as a platform for engagement and impact;
- Facilitate a hands-on co-creation process through a mini innovation sprint;
- Strengthen Generation17's positioning as a global community of changemakers.

3. Target Audience

- University students and young innovators (undergraduate and graduate)
- Youth-led organizations and networks
- Startups and social entrepreneurs
- Innovation ecosystem actors (incubators, accelerators, NGOs)

4. Event Format and Methodology

The session will follow a **two-part interactive structure**:

Part 1: High-Level Dialogue (Panel): Powering Youth Leadership Through Transformative Partnerships for the Global Goals

A moderated discussion featuring:

- UNDP representative(s)
- Samsung representative(s)
- Generation17 Young Leader(s)
- Young SDG Advocate- entrepreneur(s)

Focus:

- Examples of support to youth entrepreneurship and innovation
- Role of partnerships in scaling impact
- Technology as an enabler for inclusive development
- Addressing global digital divides through collaboration

Part 2: Dialogue + Mini Innovation Sprint

- Generation17 Pitch session with 5 Gen17 leaders
 - Young leaders demonstrate their solutions for the problems in their communities in 5 minutes.

Participants will then:

- Form small groups guided by Young Leaders and UNDP
- Identify key challenges (digital inclusion, climate tech, gender, circularity, etc.)
- Co-design simple, practical, tech-enabled solutions
- Pitch ideas in short presentations

Participants will be asked to select an area of interest and potential ideas to elaborate when they sign up for the event. They will be asked to link ideas to technology. Each Generation17 young leader will present their work as a case study first, pitch presentation of 5 minutes. By the end of the session, groups will be asked to present their ideas briefly, similarly to the presentations they heard at the beginning, fostering collaboration and creativity.

5. Proposed Agenda (3-Hours)

00:00 – 00:05 | Welcome & Opening

- Opening remarks (UNDP / USPC)
- Introduction to the Generation17 Seoul Dialogue and session objectives

00:10 – 00:45 | Panel Discussion

Theme: Powering Innovation Through Cross-Sector Partnerships

Round Table Discussion moderated by a Gen17 young leader

- Role of partnerships in supporting youth entrepreneurship
- Technology & innovation for the Global Goals (highlight the Samsung)
- Addressing digital gaps globally

Practical examples from speakers

00:45 – 1:15 | Networking - Lunch Break

1:15 – 02:15 | Mini Innovation Sprint

- Generation17 pitch presentation (2-3 young leaders, 5 minutes max)

- Group formation
- Challenge identification
- Solution design
- Coaching by Young Leaders and UNDP

02:15 – 02:45 | Group Presentations & Feedback

- 2–3 quick group pitches
- Key reflections from speakers
- Call to action & closing

02:25 – 03:00 | Closing & Next Steps

- Call to action
- Networking invitation