Generation Connect Global Youth Summit

Draft Programme

The first-ever **Generation Connect Global Youth Summit 2022** organized by ITU will take place from 2 to 4 June 2022, preceding the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), under the WTDC's theme "Connecting the unconnected to achieve sustainable development".

A summit co-designed with youth!

Bringing together youth from 15 to 29 years old from around the world, and focusing on *Shaping a safe, inclusive and sustainable digital future together - Leaving no young people behind,* the Summit will **engage** global youth and encourage their **participation** as equal partners alongside the leaders of today's digital change, **empowering** young people with the skills and opportunities to advance their vision of a safe, inclusive and connected future. As digital natives, youth are both leaders of today's rapidly changing environment, and that of the future.

The interactive sessions will be organized around the Summit's three main areas of action:

Engage	Empower	Protect
Involving young people in decision-making processes. Youth play an integral role in digital accessibility and policy-making for a digital future. Topics in this stream of the Summit will include digital inequalities, sustainability and the role of youth in policy-making.	Providing resources for young people in the workforce, including youth entrepreneurs, to enhance their digital skills. Offering guidance and equal opportunities for young people is essential in bridging the digital divide. This stream will cover topics such as bridging the gender digital divide, entrepreneurship, mentorship and the future of work.	Fostering the safety and well-being of young people using digital technologies. With digital advancement comes the responsibility to prevent online risks and use technologies efficiently. Topics for discussion will include the role of ICTs in mitigating climate change, online safety, cybersecurity and maintaining mental health and avoiding digital dependencies.

Day 1 - Thursday 2 June 2022

Time	Scheduled Items
8.00-10.00	Badging in the Kigali Conference Centre and transfer to Intare Arena (shuttle buses)
11.30-13.00 (Hybrid, Library)	**Youth Networking Session #1** **The 'Who is Who' at the Summit** *Get to know each other, getting a sense of who is at the Summit, and what are their motivations, ambitions, expectations and backgrounds.*
13.00-14.30	**Lunch Break**
15.00-16.30 (Hybrid, Auditorium)	**Opening Ceremony** *Shaping a safe, inclusive and sustainable digital future together* *Leaving no young people behind* *Art performance*
(Hybrid, Auditorium) **Engage Connect**	**Inter-Generational Dialogue #1:** **Connect - Engage: Making youth change enablers** *Youth engagement is critical in shaping a safe, inclusive and sustainable digital future. Time for action is now. The first inter-generational dialogue will bring together sector leaders and young change-makers to explore how to get and keep every young person connected and make them part of the decision-making process in shaping the digital future they want.* *- It starts with connectivity and being online, so why aren't we there yet? What are we missing? What are the barriers to connectivity, digital access and youth inclusion that need to be lifted?* *- How can we, as young people, engage more in shaping policies to reduce digital inequalities and enhance sustainability, pushing forward a greener circular economy?* *- How can we work together and contribute as change enablers and partners to the digital transformation journey?*
16.30-18.30	**Youth Time**
18.30-19.00 (Hybrid, Library)	**Spotlight Sessions** (TED-style talk)
19.00-21.00 (Physical, Pavilion)	**Opening Dinner for Youth with High-Level Guests** **Youth Networking Session #2** *Teambuilding and a joint vision*
20.00-22.00 (Virtual) **Protect** climate change	**Masterclass #1:** **The power of digital technology for climate action** *This masterclass aims to explore how digital and geospatial technologies can be used to improve understanding of the climate system, help build resilience, and fill data gaps to monitor the Sustainable Development Goals. This session will consist of a panel discussion to explore the importance of digital, geospatial and sensing technologies, followed by a workshop demonstrating use cases on how these digital technologies can drive insights and provide effective solutions for climate action. The session will also explore how young people can get involved in citizen science projects and use open access digital technologies to directly address climate and development challenges worldwide.*

Day 2 – Friday 3 June 2022

Time	Scheduled Items	
09.30-10.30 *(Hybrid, Auditorium)* **Empower** (Entrepre-neurship and skills)	**Inter-Generational Dialogue #2:** **Empower: [Creating/levelling] opportunities for digital entrepreneurs** *Around the world, young entrepreneurs are shaping the future of the digital sector. The second inter-generational dialogue will bring together sector leaders and young entrepreneurs to explore how we can build innovative ecosystems that make youth digital entrepreneurship and social impact possible. In this conversation we will discuss:* *-What skills and resources do young entrepreneurs need to test new ideas and innovative technologies?* *- Where has this worked in the past and what lessons can we learn from these experiences?* *- Who are the key actors and what roles can they play in shaping digital entrepreneur ecosystems?* *- What needs to be done to level-up opportunities for all digital entrepreneurs? What policies can spur innovation and entrepreneurship?*	
10.30-11.00	**Coffee Break**	
11.00-12.30 **Empower-** Gender **Protect –** online safety and cybersecurity	**Youth Index Session** *(Physical, Room Gasabo)* **Generation Connect Gender Champions Workshop** *(Physical, Room Karisimbi)*	**Masterclasses #2 and #3 (simultaneously – hybrid)** **Protect** **1 - Under attack: learn how to deal with a cyberthreat** *(Room Ubumwe)* *Activity: Our society is now more than ever connected by the Internet, particularly in the context of the pandemic. While we are benefiting from the convenience brought by digitalization, we are also exposed to new and evolving risks in cyberspace. These risks underline the necessity to raise our cybersecurity awareness and prepare ourselves with relevant skills.* *This masterclass aims to highlight the significance of cybersecurity to young people and teach them how to protect themselves in cyberspace through learning by doing. Young people will participate in a scenario-based exercise where they will experience a fictitious cyberattack conducted by an adversary. The scenarios proposed, although fictitious, do represent relevant topics and real-life challenges, highlighting the appropriate measures to take to be protected online.* **2 – Your life online: be safe, be empowered** *(Room Amahoro)* *Activity: Being connected is now an inherent part of our daily lives, and while digital technologies bring a myriad of opportunities, there are also many risks. In this masterclass, online safety experts will teach the young participants how to safely be connected and avoid online risks and harms such as online harassment, victimization, cyberbullying, grooming, exposure to misinformation and age-inappropriate content. Participants with be provided with practical tools to learn about their rights online and how to be empowered to leverage on the opportunities brought by connectivity.*

12.30-14.00 **Protect -** Health *(Physical)*	**Lunch Break** *(Pavilion) Outdoor game* **Youth Networking Session #3** *Youth and panellists group meet ups.* *(Pavilion)*	**Masterclass #4** *(Virtual, Gasabo)* **Another pandemic: screentime and mental health** *Activity: Increased reliance on digital technologies has brought numerous positive effects on our daily lives, however, when misused, these can negatively affect us, noticeably affecting young people's mental health.* *In this session, psychology and mental health experts will discuss issues related to social isolation, screentime, and addiction in the context of Covid-19 and our increased reliance on digital technologies for education, work, entertainment, and many other aspects of life. Young people will be invited to share their stories and testimonials on topics including cyberbullying, screentime, and social isolation issues. Invited experts will then co-design with the young participants the suitable coping strategies to maintain a healthy relation with digital technologies and to benefit from them while reducing the risks.*
14.00-15.00 **Protect –** online safety *(Hybrid, Auditorium)*	**Inter-Generational Dialogue #3:** **Protect: building a safer online world** *The COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the acceleration of digitalization have raised a number of online safety issues for youth. In this inter-generational dialogue, sector decision-makers and young leaders will discuss:* - *How to ensure a safer online experience?* - *Are potential solutions an issue of skills, policies or of available technologies?* - *How to build trust and mitigate online harm? How can youth contribute to designing policies and regulations that strengthen a safer online experience for all?* - *What can we do together to better prepare, engage and protect?*	

15.00-16.00 **Empower –** future of work and equality (Physical) (Hybrid)	**Technology and Gaming Hub** **[Walk-in Lounge, 2nd Floor]**	**Youth For Youth Debating Sessions (simultaneously)** **1 - Future of work** (Room Karisimbi, hybrid) *Every young generation tries to foresee its future. Youth wonders about scenarios of the future labor market they will encounter. With new technologies both creating and cutting jobs, the young generation is more inclined to lose jobs because of automation and AI. In this session we will examine:* • *How will automatization and the extension of AI affect your professional future?* • *Are young people receiving the necessary skills and training to prepare for the need to constantly adjust to an uncertain job market?* **2- Bridging the gender digital divide** (Room Ubumwe) *Digital transformation provides new opportunities for the economic empowerment of women and contributes to greater access in economic activities. Digital platforms, access to the Internet, mobile phones and digital financial services offer opportunities for all and incentivize the bridging of the gender digital divide by giving women the possibility to earn additional income, and access knowledge. Bridging the gender digital divide will foster greater gender equality in the labour market, boost economic growth for developing and least developed countries, and build more inclusive, smart societies. In this session, we will examine:* • *What are the difficulties faced by women and girls in accessing ICTs?* • *Is there the need to introduce positive discrimination in STEM fields for women and girls?*		

		Youth Call to Action	Partner Sessions	Coffee Break / Guided Reflection
16.00-16.30		**Youth Call to Action Session #1** (Hybrid, Room Ingagi)	**Partner Sessions** (Room Amahoro) (Room Karisimbi) 17.00-18.00 (Room Ubumwe)	**Coffee Break**
17.00-17.30	**ITU Expert Experience - Mentoring Session #1** *Interactive peer mentoring for students* (Hybrid, Room Amahoro)			**Guided Reflection Session #1** *(virtual)* *Sessions to pause, breathe, reflect, listen and share learnings and experiences.* **Guided Reflection Session #2** (Physical, Room Umuco)
17.30-18.00	*What is your goal once you finish your studies? Do you know how to achieve this? Join us and your fellow students in a peer mentoring exercise aimed at exploring your goals and how to achieve them. Hear about the new ITU mentorship programme and from participants in the Americas who took part in the pilot.*			

18.00-18.30 *(Hybrid, Library)*	**Spotlight Sessions** (TED-style talk)
19.00-20.30	**Youth Dinner** (Pavilion)

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Day 3 – Saturday 4 June 2022

Time	Scheduled Items				
05.00-07.00 **Engage** (virtual)	**Masterclass #5:** **In the shoes of a digital policymaker** *Activity: Young people under the age of 30 are the largest demographic group on the Internet and must be aware of issues related to Internet governance. This masterclass aims to raise awareness and spur substantive discussion through a youth-led simulation of the negotiations of the Internet Governance Forum. Young participants will discuss their positions on Internet issues and digital cooperation, to then formulate what they see as key recommendations. This exercise aims to immerse young people in the topic of Internet governance through an interactive, hands-on approach, guided by youth leaders and policy experts.*				
09.30-10.30 (*Hybrid, Auditorium*) **Empower –** equality (gender)	**Inter-generational Panel Discussion #4:** **Mind the gap: turning equality into reality** *In this last conversation, young leaders and decision-makers will identify what can be done to ensure that as digital transformation sweeps across all aspects of our societies, we don't miss out on this opportunity to ensure gender and equality for all. In this discussion we will examine:* *- How to ensure technologies don't lead to biases and reflect the human diversity?* *- How to break the gender divide and lift barriers for digital gender inclusion?* *- What will it take to enable equal access for all to digital opportunities? Building digital skills to enable women and girls and minority groups to benefit from being active contributors and show leadership in the digital society, what lessons can we learn?*				
10.30-11.00	**Coffee Break**				**Partner Sessions**
11.00-12.30 **Empower** - Digital skills and entrepreneurship (*Hybrid*)	**Masterclass #6** **Digital skills for the future of work** (*Room Gasabo*) *Activity: Digitalization is creating new professions and new opportunities for young people worldwide, marking the necessity of understanding which are the digital skills for the future. This masterclass aims to provide an overview of the existing opportunities for young people to learn relevant digital skills and will engage youth role models that have had successful entrepreneurial online endeavours, ranging from youth influencers/content creators, to digital business entrepreneurs and innovators.*	**ITU Expert Experience - Mentoring session #2** Interactive peer mentoring for young professionals (*Hybrid, Room Amahoro*) *What are your career goals? Where are you on your path to achieve them? Join us and your fellow young professionals in a peer mentoring exercise aimed at exploring your goals and how to achieve them.*	**Youth Call to Action Session #2** (*Hybrid, Room Ingagi*)	**Hackathon Session #1** *HackingDigitalSkills4Jobs (Physical, Gaming Hub area)* *The finalists of the Hackathon will be given the opportunity to show and explain their prototypes. This is a moment to interact with others, share the goals and story of their projects and to showcase their work.*	10.30-11.30 (*Room Karisimbi*) 11.30-12.30 (*Room Ubumwe*)

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Time				
12.30-13.30	**Lunch Break** *(Pavilion)*			
13.30-14.30 *(Physical)*	**Entertainment Activity: poetry, local musical performance** *(Pavilion)*			
14.30-15.30 *(Hybrid) (Physical)*	**Youth Networking Session #4** *(Hybrid, Library) Peer to peer speed dating and youth and panellists meet-ups.*	**Technology and Gaming Hub [Walk-in Lounge, 2nd Floor** (Physical)	**Hackathon Session #2 + Solution Pitches** (Hybrid) *HackingDigitalSkills4Jobs (Auditorium) Each finalist will pitch their prototype in front of an audience and a jury panel made up of cross-sector experts. Selection of winners by jury panel.*	**Partner Sessions** 14.30-15.30 *(Room Gasabo)*
15.30-17.00 *(Hybrid, Auditorium)*	**Closing Ceremony** *Closing remarks Art performance Presentation of the Youth Call to Action Document Testimonials from participants*			
17.00-21.00	**Kigali Tour followed by Closing Dinner**			

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