



Summit of the Future Action Days Side Event

***From Idea to Action and Impact:
mobilizing the outcomes of the Summit of the Future***

21 September 2024, 9:46-11:00 am
Conference Room 11, UN Headquarters, New York
UN WebTV: <https://webtv.un.org/en/asset/k1d/k1djyd4gpu>

Organized by:

The Republic of South Africa, The Kingdom of Thailand, UNESCO's Management of Social Transformations (MOST) programme, UNESCO-MOST BRIDGES Coalition, the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory of Arizona State University, the Wales Commissioner for Future Generations, the World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS), the Center for Science and Imagination, ASU, University of Wales Trinity Saint David, The Club of Rome, Learning Planet Institute, Globethics, the School of International Futures, Leonardo/ISAST, the Tamkeen Community Foundation for Human Development and the InterAction Council.

Background on the event

This event addressed the ways in which the outcomes of the Summit of the Future could be mobilized through coordination across global, regional, national and sub-national networks and organizations. Particular emphasis was placed on how commitments outlined in the Declaration on Future Generations could be realized through specific approaches and proposals of the Wales Protocol for Future Generations, which addresses the practical challenges of implementation at multiple scales of action.

A high-level meeting of UNESCO Social and Human Sciences Sector, the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner of Wales, and the UNESCO-MOST BRIDGES Coalition during the Summit of the Future preparatory ministerial meeting in New York on Sept 21, 2023 led to the formation of a much larger international consortium of Member States, intergovernmental organizations, academia and civil society partners over the following 9 months. Eventually reaching 16 members spanning public and private sectors, this consortium largely took its final shape between the Future Generations Forum in Cardiff (April 2024), the United Nations Civil Society Conference in Nairobi (May 2024) and the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) extraordinary session and MOST Forum at UNESCO headquarters in Paris (June 2024). Two youth consultation events were organized prior to the Summit of the Future, during the first week of September: 1) at the Global Ethics Forum in Geneva (co-organized by Globethics,

BRIDGES and The Club of Rome); and 2) at Learning Planet Institute in Paris (co-organized by UNESCO, LPI, BRIDGES and SOIF). Summary reports from both these consultations can be found here: <https://bridges.earth/projects/summit-of-the-future-consultation-reports/1>

Following up on the Summit and its outcomes (the Pact for the Future, the Declaration on Future Generations and the Global Digital Compact), further vital work is expected to continue over the coming year, engaging stakeholder communities and groups who were not in a position to attend the Summit of the Future and the Action Days in New York. Additional consultation workshops and labs will be co-organized with partners in our SOTF consortium and are expected to take place in Paris, Washington, DC, Tempe, AZ, Cape Town, Cardiff, and Bangkok in late 2024 and early 2025. Organized together with the sponsoring Member States (South Africa and Thailand), the sponsoring UN organization (UNESCO Social and Human Sciences Sector), a national partner (Office of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales), the lead academic organizing partners (BRIDGES and the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory at ASU) and lead civil society partners (The Club of Rome and WAAS), these engagements are expected to extend and deepen the focus on implementation with impact foregrounded in the side event ‘From Idea to Action and Impact’ by identifying effective approaches and specific initiatives to be followed through in the coming year. This will expand a growing database and mapping of demonstration cases, while also informing the preparation of a report for policymakers focused on impactful implementation. A report will be prepared for the next ordinary session of the Intergovernmental Council of UNESCO’s Management of Social Transformations programme in 2025, with recommendations on how effective models and approaches of mobilizing actors across sectors can be extended and adapted for greater impact in the context of MOST Intergovernmental Council Member States.

Key Issues discussed in the side event

- The proposed scales of engagement of the ‘Wales Protocol for Future Generations’ as a guide for achieving the ambitions of the *Declaration on Future Generations*
 - 1. What is the role of people and communities?
 - 2. What can national/state governments do?
 - 3. What can be accomplished regionally and internationally through the multilateral system and through effective cross-sectoral collaboration meaningfully engaging civil society?
- How do we shape better national and international policies and capacities for future generations?
- Striking a balance: meeting urgent needs and preparing the way for viable long-term solutions
- Building 21st century skills to equip future generations
- Ethical AI and technical learning resources for a flourishing future
- Building new engagement capacities for an inclusive, just and resilient future
- Adapting and extending effective models (already existing) for societal transformation and a flourishing Earth
- Mapping of demonstration cases and approaches enabling the development of futures literacy, foresight and planning capabilities for wider expansion and adoption at all the proposed scales of engagement and action as a necessary step in delivering effective anticipatory governance.

Key recommendations for action

- More fully and systematically engage under-resourced communities of knowledge, action and purpose as stakeholders in policy and governance contexts, for example:
 - Youth
 - Indigenous communities
 - Local, Traditional and Indigenous knowledge systems
 - (far more) Women
 - Civil Society in its diversity
- Develop significant new investments across sectors seeking to
 - Increasing modalities of intergenerational knowledge exchange and collaboration and innovation of new structures to enable these modalities;
 - Increasing global South-South / South-North knowledge exchange & collaboration and establishment of new structures/infrastructures to enable these modalities.
- Work within multilateral and legislative frameworks to establish and support champions in member state contexts and at sub-national levels to prioritize and implement strategies and policies prioritizing equitable, just and peaceful futures and promoting planetary health and well-being.
- Establish a UN special envoy for future generations, as proposed by the UN Secretary-General and promote the establishment of ministerial/national-level roles among member states for an office responsible for safeguarding the well-being of future generations, such as the Wales Commissioner for Future Generations,
- Promote the development and democratization of Higher Education, Innovation and Research/Sciences (including humanities, social sciences, arts and traditional/non-academic knowledge domains, in addition to STEM and applied technical disciplines) as crucial to building sufficient knowledge and action capacities and necessary for wide-scale implementation in societies. In this effort, harness advanced technologies, pedagogy and delivery systems to expand and enhance global capacity for education of future generations.
- Consider more regionally specific implementation strategies, as different regions may face unique challenges in applying the proposals of the Wales Protocol for Future Generations to delivering on the ambitions the Pact of the Future.
- In various contexts undertake a wider systematic mapping of tested projects, initiatives, approaches and models that can help to deliver on the ambitions and commitments adopted by world leaders at the Summit of the Future, as outlined in the Pact for the Future and its annexes the Declaration on Future Generations and the Global Digital Compact.
 - Mapping would seek to identify and showcase a wide range of tested exemplars across numerous scales of engagement (community/local, national/state government, regional/international, including multilateral, and cross-sectoral private-public and civil society).
 - A framework of viable targets and indicators must be developed that addresses each of these scales of engagement.

Webpage to find more information:

<https://asuevents.asu.edu/event/idea-action-and-impact-mobilizing-outcomes-summit-future?eventDate=2024-09-21>

The Republic of South Africa



The Kingdom of Thailand

