

2024 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY | GHANA YOUTH MEETING



        

 **youngdiplomatsgh**
World Bank Group Africa Ghana



International Youth Day 2018
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*"Building Ghana's Future Leaders
in Diplomacy & Policy Advocacy."*

Ghana Youth Meeting

International Youth Day 2024



The Ghana Youth Meeting (GYM), hosted by the Young Diplomats of Ghana (YDG) at the prestigious World Bank Group offices in Accra, serves as a unique forum for knowledge-sharing and youth empowerment to commemorate the annual UN International Youth Day in Ghana.

The meeting creates an unparalleled platform for young minds eager to engage in meaningful dialogue, exchange innovative ideas, voice their concerns, and learn from one another to become well-equipped with the skills and know-how to efficiently contribute to the socio-economic growth of the country and the African continent. The GYM transcends traditional conferencing by providing an interactive gathering that leverages the collective

experiences and expertise of participants, invited guests, speakers, and workshop facilitators for a lifelong learning experience and capacity building.

For every attendee, GYM marks the beginning of their journey as a valued member of the Young Diplomats of Ghana (YDG) community, a network dedicated to fostering leadership, inspiring belief in Africa's potential, and driving transformative youth-led policy advocacy and solutions to drive implementation and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Ghana.

About YDG

- The Young Diplomats of Ghana (YDG) is a registered non-governmental and non-profit network dedicated to advancing the development of a new generation of aspiring leaders and diplomats in Ghana, while building their advocacy experience.
- Through comprehensive training, policy campaigns, and research initiatives, selected delegates and members gain access to a wealth of resources and opportunities designed to build, nurture, and harness their skills and potential.
- This empowerment enables them to contribute meaningfully to national discourses as young global leaders and diplomats, and to serve as Ambassadors for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).





Day One



“State of SDGs Implementation and Achievement in Ghana”

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030. Ghana has been actively integrating these goals into its national development agenda, aiming to achieve significant progress across various sectors. This session will provide an in-depth overview of the current state of SDG implementation and achievement in Ghana from the perspective of young people.

The session will focus particularly on:

- Good Health and Well-Being (SDG 3)
- Gender Equality (SDG 5)
- Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8)
- Climate Action (SDG 13)

YDG delegates will be tasked with researching and providing insights into the implementation and achievement of the SDGs in Ghana. The session will take the form of a “rapid fire” presentation, culminating in a call to action for Ghanaian youth to contribute extensively to the implementation of these specific goals and the SDGs in general by all presenters.





Day One

Panel Discussion:

“Empowering Ghana's Youth: Making Informed Electoral Decisions for a Brighter Future”

As Ghana prepares for the upcoming national elections in December 2024, the participation of young people is crucial in shaping the nation's future. This panel discussion will highlight the importance of civic engagement and explore how young voters can make informed and responsible choices at the polls. Most importantly, this panel discussion aims to empower young people with the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to critically assess candidates and policies, thereby enabling them to make electoral decisions that resonate with their aspirations and values.

Key Objectives:

- **Enhance Critical Thinking:** Develop critical thinking skills among the youth to evaluate political candidates, their visions, and goals objectively.
- **Promote Civic Engagement:** Encourage active participation of the youth in the political process by highlighting the significance of youth voices in elections and governance.
- **Encourage Policy Advocacy:** Inspire young people to advocate for policies that address their concerns and needs, fostering a youth-centric approach in political agendas.
- **Educate Youth on Electoral Processes:** Provide a comprehensive understanding of Ghana's electoral system, including voter registration, voting procedures, and the importance of each vote in shaping the future of the country.
- **Enhanced Civic Responsibility:** Participants will be motivated to engage in the electoral process and advocate for their interests.
- **Empowered Decision-Making:** Participants will develop the skills to make informed and objective electoral decisions.
- **Youth Mobilization:** A stronger network of young voters committed to fostering transparent, fair, and representative elections.

Expected Outcomes

- **Increased Knowledge:** Participants will gain a thorough understanding of the electoral process and the importance of their participation.





Day Two



Workshop 1:

“Harnessing Digital Innovations for Youth Empowerment and Economic Growth”

Overview:

With the goal of bridging the gap between technology and youth empowerment, this workshop will focus on how digital innovations can be leveraged to empower young people and drive economic growth in Ghana. It will cover the latest trends in digital technology, explore opportunities for youth in the digital economy, and provide practical insights into how these technologies can be used to foster personal and professional growth as well as entrepreneurial ventures and creating jobs.

Key Focus Areas:

- **Latest Trends in Digital Technology:** Participants will gain an understanding of cutting-edge digital technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), blockchain, the Internet of Things (IoT), and mobile applications.
- **Opportunities in the Digital Economy:** The workshop will explore various avenues within the digital economy where young people can find opportunities. This includes digital marketing, e-commerce, software development, fintech, online education, among others. Discussions will highlight how the digital economy is transforming traditional business models and creating new pathways for economic participation.
- **Job Creation through Technology:** The workshop will demonstrate how digital innovations can lead to job creation by highlighting sectors that are ripe for disruption through technology in Ghana and the African continent.
- **Real-World Applications and Success Stories:** The workshop will provide case studies and real-world examples of how digital innovations have successfully been implemented in Ghana and other African countries. These stories will serve as inspiration and provide practical examples of how participants can apply what they learn in the workshop to their own contexts.
- **Enhancing Professional Development:** The workshop will provide participants with the tools and knowledge to advance their careers in the digital age.





Day Two



Workshop 2:

“Leadership in the 21st Century: Navigating Realities and Overcoming Challenges”

Overview:

21st century leadership is a perspective of leadership intended to respond to the unique challenges and opportunities of today's fast-paced and ever-changing world. More than the behaviors, traits, and styles of individuals, 21st century leadership views leadership as an inherent skill which has to be discovered and nurtured to help advance one's personal and career growth.

Leadership in today's world is not limited solely to the domain of those "in charge." It is a quality in which everyone must participate, empowering individuals to stand out within social, corporate, and professional networks.

Key Focus Areas:

- Understand Modern Leadership Dynamics:** Participants will explore the current leadership landscape and the skills required for effective leadership in the 21st century. This will include examining how globalization, technological advancements, and cultural shifts are reshaping the expectations and roles of leaders in various sectors.
- Build Essential Leadership Skills:** Develop critical leadership skills such as strategic thinking, communication, and emotional intelligence.
- Tackle Contemporary Challenges:** Address the specific challenges young leaders face today, including digital transformation, social issues, and sustainability. Participants will explore strategies to navigate these complexities and leverage opportunities to drive positive change.
- Foster Innovation and Creativity:** Encourage innovative thinking and problem-solving among young leaders.
- Promote Inclusive and Ethical Leadership:** Highlight the importance of diversity, equity, inclusion, and ethical practices in leadership. Workshop will focus on creating inclusive environments that respect and value diverse perspectives, and on making ethical decisions that build trust and integrity in leadership roles.





Day Two

2024 International Youth Day Debate

“Tertiary Institutions Should Prohibit the Use of Artificial Intelligence by Students in Academic Work.”

Overview:

The 2024 International Youth Day Debate will be the fourth in a series hosted by the Young Diplomats of Ghana (YDG). This debate provides a valuable platform for YDG Delegates and GYM participants to present their unique perspectives on a given subject, focusing on issues of social and developmental importance. The debate not only fosters critical thinking, public speaking skills, and constructive dialogue among the youth but also encourages young people to actively engage in discussions that can significantly impact their communities and the nation at large.

- The motion for this year's debate is "**Tertiary Institutions Should Prohibit the Use of Artificial Intelligence by Students in Academic Work.**" The debate surrounding the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in academic settings, particularly in tertiary institutions, has gained significant attention.
- In a growing global and digital landscape, AI tools have become increasingly sophisticated and accessible, prompting discussions about their role in education.
- This year's debate will provide a platform for young leaders to delve into these complex issues, presenting well-researched arguments and engaging in thoughtful discussions. By participating in this debate, young people will not only refine their debating skills but also contribute to a broader conversation about the role of technology in education and its implications for future generations.
- The outcome of the debate is expected to offer valuable insights into how tertiary institutions might navigate the challenges and opportunities presented by AI in academia. It will also reflect the views and aspirations of the next generation of leaders, who are poised to shape the future of education and technology in Ghana and beyond.





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