NEXT GENERATION CITY ACTION 2023

Enabling youth-led ideas, perspectives and action toward Sustainable Futures – Leaving No One Behind

#NEXTGENERATION #UIA2023CPH #LEAVENOONEBEHIND #DTUDK

























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Dear participants, partners, collaborators and new friends

Next Generation City Action (NGCA) provided 129 students, young researchers and early-stage entrepreneurs from diverse backgrounds from Korea, India, South Africa, Kenya, Ghana, Denmark, Colombia and Mexico with knowledge, skills, tools and network to inspire action and solutions for sustainable futures - leaving no one behind. An initiative shaped around a 3-week hybrid innovation journey in June 2023 and an 8-day program in Copenhagen in July as part of the UIA 2023 World Congress of Architects in Copenhagen. 8 teams and DTU was furthermore invited to join and contribute to the P4G Summit Bogota, Colombia, in September.

We would like to thank you for your relentless engagement and invaluable support on this journey that has led to remarkable outcomes that you can read more about in this booklet and on the official website.

We hope you would like to embark on similar journeys together with us in the future.





Chiara Farné Fratini Senior Researcher DTU Sustain



Marie L. Pollmann-Larsen Team Lead DTU Skylab



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*All photos, except profile portraits, are from the Next Generation City Action initiative and taken by Mikael Schlosser, Maoko Fujisaki, David Pantoja, UIA Congress and participants.

INTRODUCTION

NEXT GENERATION [] ACTION



Next Generation [] Action is a flagship initiative of DTU Skylab, the innovation hub at the Technical University of Denmark, which, at its' core, revolves around youth involvement in the sustainability agenda. Each year, Next Generation formulates a different theme, a field of action, where Denmark takes part as a venue for global decision-makers.

By engaging young academics and entrepreneurs with global decision-makers, through intergenerational dialogues, collaborating and co-creating solutions to sustainability challenges, we provide a platform to inspire current leaders and empower future leaders.

II Next Generation' is exactly what we, the DTU's Executive Board, want student innovation and -entrepreneurship

to be all about: Getting students and startups directly engaged with relevant actors to create opportunities to bring their knowledge and often cutting edge technologies into play in the bigger innovation eco-system."

- Rasmus Larsen, Provost, DTU



PRINCIPLES OF NEXT GENERATION

Youth-led change | Empowering the Next Generation Partnering for impact | Collaboration for a better future Action | Creating Ideas that work for the real world Sustainability | Innovating for a better tomorrow Inclusion | Developing solutions that leave no one behind Beyond congress | Empowering youth for lasting impact





I can tell that there is definitely something very special about this program. The connections, the opportunities and inspiration were truly eye opening."
 Korean Young Academic Participant



DTU Skylab has led the global youth initiative as part of international events hosted in Copenhagen since 2018

Partnerships, sustainability topics and activities are adapted to bring the best value as an integrated part of the global event



Water

+ Youth & P4G Summit Bogotá

AN INITIATIVE RELEVANT FOR EVENTS THAT WISH TO...

...enable representation of young professionals from diverse backgrounds and nationalities.

...develop new ideas and support entrepreneurship by offering students and startups a hybrid innovation course and acceleration with event partners to work on new ideas and perspectives month before the congress.

...create branding, media attention and insight on the role and value of young professionals and sustainable technology-based innovations.

...involve academia in new ways by enabling young professionals to bridge between knowledge, ideas and solutions from academia, and the sustainability challenges, opportunities and stakeholders of the event. **...foster partnerships** between international young talents and the industry - connecting talented students and entrepreneurs to potential future career opportunities and involve partners in new facilitated formats for collaboration.

...provide unique learning environment for young professionals & partners

to work innovative and entrepreneurial in new settings and offer opportunities beyond what is offered through classical course collaborations, congress activities and industry partnerships.

Next Generation City Action was an eminent example of a cross-educational and scientific project working within the scope and purpose of the UIA Congress to come up with solutions to more 'Sustainable Futures - leaving no one behind'. The concrete solutions, which emerged from NGCA initiated by DTU Skylab, has inevitably been pinned to the minds of 6.000+ delegates representing investors, developers, city planners, politicians, architects, scientists, students, young professionals, engineers, and industries. All of them now hold the key to bringing the ideas and solutions to life and creating a more regenerative and inclusive built environment!"

- Mette Lindberg, CEO, UIA World Congress of Architects 2023



NEXT GENERATION CITY ACTION 2023

A strategic partnership with the UIA2023 Secretariat was build from a vision to involve passionate and entrepreneurial young people from all around the world with diverse backgrounds to shape the content and action of the UIA Congress 2023 in Copenhagen.

As part of the 'UIA2023 Next generation' activities, the youth delegation from Korea, India, South Africa, Kenya, Ghana, Denmark, Colombia and Mexico were provided with unique exposure, connections and platforms of influence to take action before, during and after the UIA Congress.



Universal Design and a focus on *why* and *how* to innovate for 'sustainable futures - leave no one behind', the official title of UIA2023 Congress, was a central driver for the NGCA programme through the provision of tools, research-based advice and mentorship.

40 ideas and solutions targeting sustainable smart cities, circular materials, clean water and air, sustainable construction & architecture was brought into the congress.



THE PROGRAM

- May 31	▶ ₇ June 1-23	> > >] June 26 ▷ ▶	June 28 ▷	June 29 & 30 ♪	July 2-6 ♦	∑ Sep 20-23
Virtual Kick-off Event	Student hybrid innovation course - Boot-camps - Keynotes - Double diamond process - Universal design - Groupwork	Startup acceleration - Boot-camps - Keynotes - Mentoring - Universal design	Virtual congress preperation	Welcome to Copenhagen	Pre-congress program - Congress strategy - Reception - Ecosystem tour - Socialising - City tour	UIA World Congress - Exhibits - Pitches - Sessions	Bogotá Youth & P4G Summit - Exhibits - Pitches - Sessions

The network of fellow entrepreneurs, academia, and industry experts created through the Congress has been an **invaluable resource**, **fostering collaboration and a sense of community** that we will carry forward even after the program's conclusion.

The exposure and visibility provided by the program have **significantly enhanced our credibility** and are instrumental in expanding our network and opening doors to new possibilities." - Kenyan Young Entrepreneur Participant

2023 IN NUMBERS



¹ Net Promoter Score (NPS) indicates customer satisfaction and loyalty on a range from -100 to +100. 30+ considered great and 70+ excellent.

² The Total number of times at least 50% of the update was visible for > than 300 milisec.

*Evaluation survey 2023. Answered by 46% of participants from all 8 countries involved.

YOUNG ACADEMICS TRACK

90 university students in 27 teams selected from leading universities in Denmark, Korea, India, Kenya, South Africa, Ghana, Colombia and Mexico collaborated with international partners to turn one of 6 sustainability challenge briefs into new opportunities during a 3-week hybrid innovation course.

II developed self-confidence, improved communication skills, and a broader worldview... The program provided me access to mentors, experts, and industry professionals who offered guidance and advice."

- Indian Young Academic Participant

6 SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGES



Inclusive and integrated water resource management



Sustainable homes of the future -For people and planet



Urban regeneration -Urban system solutions of the future



Data & inclusion driven water quality



Smart cities - Ensuring inclusivity while balancing innovation & tradition



Behavioural change for water justice

27 STUDENT TEAMS



Example ideas developed by 5 student teams

Student teams turned challenges into inclusive product, service and systemic solution concepts with prototypes, business models, slides and online blog posts that can be accessed through below links



Young Academics SEMI-FACILITATED JOURNEY

The 27 student teams joined a semi-facilitated journey, taking them through the four phases of the double diamond innovation process during 3 weeks of June. Teams worked from their own universities with online sparring and facilitation from international teams, mentors and facilitators.

 I learned how to work with people of different cultures and improved on public speaking and networking skills. I think I can also give others a few pointers now on Ideation and Innovation Challenges."
 South African Young Academic Participant



FACTS

90 students

44 Bachelors 32 Masters 14 PhD

Representing

8 countries 18 universities 17 nationalities

Studying

Architecture Urban Planning Engineering Business Computer Science Geography Anthropology Development Studies



"It fuelled my passion for sustainable development, broadened my perspective, and equipped me with practical strategies for creating positive change. Above all, it allowed me to forge connections with incredible individuals who share the same goals, creating a network of like-minded professionals that will continue to inspire and support each other in the future."

- Danish Young Academic Participant

TOOLS AND RESOURCES USED IN THE PROGRAM

Challenge Brief & Mentors from external challenge partners



Online Handbook & E-learning website (Access-only)

> Program Tools Mentor booking Peer-feedback Deliverables Session slides & recordings

DTU Skylab Design Tool UniversalDesignGuide.com

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Miro Canvas for process facilitation, deliverables & peer-feedback





Culture Map by Erin Meyer for cultural understanding, respect and diversity to drive innovation



YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS TRACK

13 startups went through an acceleration journey equipping them with a strategy for the congress and provided mentorship on inclusion, partnership and technology acceleration

- Our mentors have agreed to **keep on the mentorship journey**, we are very excited about the possibilities and opportunities that lie ahead."
 - Kenyan Young Entrepreneur Participant

It differs from other conferences since there was an **intentional push to personal and cultural development** for the delegates."

- South African Young Entrepreneur Participant





13 PARTICIPATING STARTUPS



Transforming incomplete construction projects into community spaces



Smart water management system

Saafwater

Real-time water quality analysis

Be uncontaminated... A product of TechXcl India Pvt. Ltd.

Recycling textile waste into building material



Air purification for home and workplaces



Platform and marketplace to stream-

line SMB construction supply-chains



Turning agricultural waste and fungal mycelium into building material

7∠upply

M**O**RKS REID

Utilising building science to drive

sustainable architecture practices

Making it easy for construction companies to transition towards a circular business models



Turning paper waste into building material



Building materials, interior design, and furniture out of plastic waste



Automation of the sustainable construction industry



Building safety diagnostics using deep learning video analysis



NEXT GENERATION UIA WORLD CONGRESS OF ARCHITECTS COPENHAGEN 2023

The Next Generation City Action reached its peak as our delegation of 129 young academics, entrepreneurs and university representatives participated in the UIA World Congress of Architects Copenhagen 2023. Beyond having full access to the UIA Congress equal to other delegates, the following Next Generation activities took part within the congress:



EXHIBITION

The UIA Congress provided a central stage area where all student and startups teams alternated to showcase their solutions – inviting for inspiration, network, feedback and collaboration.



SESSION: THE WORLD'S BEST LNOB 2040 TWEET?

Together with Your2040, we facilitated an innovation workshop to discuss, co-create and share ideas on what solutions would be tweeted about in 2040 for their impact on creating more inclusive future cities where no one is left behind.



PITCH AND AWARD SESSION

Over three sessions, 40 teams took the stage to pitch their ideas to international panels of experts. Partners awarded grants and acceleration scholarships.

The pitch was very good. The questions that the judges asked, were insightful and we look forward to engaging with them, not on stage but behind the scenes."

- South African Young Entrepreneur Participant







NEXT GENERATION TECH BAZAAR & RECEPTION

DTU Skylab hosted Tech Bazar & Reception buzzing with Live Music, invited guests and 40 teams presenting their ideas and solutions. The evening concluded a day with bootcamps, pitch coaching and social activities to support teams in developing a congress strategy, pitch, and be ready for their attendance at UIA2023.







NEXT GENERATION ECOSYSTEM VISITS

The 129 students, entrepreneurs and partners had 1.5 days of presentations, city walks and partner tours that provided examples on how Copenhagen, Denmark and partners are making efforts towards a more sustainable future with great questions and conversations among our delegates on how learnings and approaches can give inspiration to communities in very different contexts.

Ramboll Head Office











Harbour tour with By&Havn



UIA SDG Pavillion by The Danish Plastics Federation

NEXT GENERATION THE YOUTH & P4G SUMMIT 2023, BOGOTÁ COLOMBIA

The initiative was brought to Colombia in September where Bogota was hosting the P4G Summit 2023 and the Young Environmental Leaders Summit & Global Youth Climate Challenge (GYCC).



THE PROGRAM



Young Environmental Leaders Summit and Global Youth Climate Challenge

250 young leaders united to share their perspectives for a greener tomorrow and to develop an action plan that was presented at the P4G Summit. Next Generation City Action was presented as a model for collaboration and our delegates took to the stage to pitch their ideas, inspiring the other youth representatives with their concrete ideas and actions and brought their perspectives into panel sessions.



P4G Summit 2023

1.100 government leaders, CEOs, entrepreneurs, NGOs and investors from 25+ countries joined to set focus on transformative partnerships within biodiversity, energy transition and sustainable cities. A designated area promoted Next Generation City Action, where our delegates showcased their projects for sparring, network and inspiration. Students and startups joined summit sessions and the founder of Myco-Tile took the stage in the panel on "Global Leadership for a Sustainable Future".

∃ July 2-6 → ♦	ר אך Sep 1 אר	ר אר Sep 19	> − Sep 20 > >	∃Sep 21 🛛 🕨 →	Sep 22 & 23
UIA Congress - Tem selection	Virtual congress preparation	Welcome to Bogotá	Kick-off - Innovation - Bootcamp - Collaboration with Colombian youth - Cultural shows - City exploration	Youth Summit - Pitches - Representation in panel sessions - Youth declaration to P4G	P4G Summit - Exhibits - Startups in acceleration session - Representation in high- level panel session

Delegation

12 students, representing 4 invited student teams, and 8 young entrepreneurs, representing 4 invited startups, joined the delegation alongside DTU Skylab and National University of Colombia (UNAL) that lead the development of platforms for the youth delegates to share their perspectives and ideas.

4 INVITED STARTUPS

4 INVITED STUDENT TEAMS

THE AFTER

MOVIE





WORKING TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

27 new ideas developed, **13 startups** accelerated, winning teams receiving awards & scholarships worth more than **€ 30.000**, however, most importantly, the biggest outcome of the initiative was:

Partners gained a new understanding of their challenges and found new inspiration. They also had their knowledge of sustainability and inclusion expanded.

AN EMPOWERED NEW GENERATION OF SUSTAINABLE CHANGEMAKERS

- 91% want to continue working on their developed idea*
- 95% consider continuing working in the built/city sector*
- 100% consider continuing working with sustainability*
- 100% consider continuing working with inclusion*

- The teams I was involved with brought a unique blend of fresh perspectives, technological adeptness, and adaptability to the challenge ... providing older and more established people in the field with invaluable guidance for crafting solutions that are forward-thinking, equitable, and transformative."
 - Challenge representative

- Participating in NGCA has developed my organisation to such that it continues to be an ambassador of change regarding Climate Change."
 - Challenge representative



- I cried hundreds of times HAHA, because of the emotions (all of them good) that this experience brought to me. It's was just unbelievable having this experience from one day to another, knowing that I'm not a person that can easily access to this kind of experiences because of my economic situation. This definitely **changed my life and my expectations of what I want for my future**. This experience clearly stated a "before" and "after" in my life."
 - Colombian Young Academic Participant

Through the program and my mentors, I had the honors of paying a courtesy visit to HQ of NGO in Copenhagen for collaboration opportunities. I am waiting to be scheduled for a meeting with their secretariat here in Kenya to **explore the possibilities of collaboration** in more detail."

- Kenyan Young Entrepreneur Participant



INVITING FOR PARTNERSHIPS

CONGRESS PARTNER

The initiative is co-created in partnership with a world congress to bring innovation and youth-led action to their sustainability theme.

MAIN SPONSOR

The initiative is funded and enabled by strong partnerships with industry-leading foundations and public partners

CHALLENGE PARTNER

The initiative is anchored in industry challenges that are proposed by our challenge partners.

COLLABORATOR

The initiative is powered by various collaborators who support as mentors, supervisors, speakers, judges or program contributors.

- Personally it has expanded my thinking especially to look beyond providing social solutions to addressing the aspirations of bottom of the pyramid people. It also gave me **confidence as to how great ideas can be generated and converted to products quickly with the right approach, support and motivation.** My organisation will benefit from the possibility of working with the startups to create social impact. We are also planning to improve our innovation quotient."
- Challenge representative

- Upon learning of the initiative and engaging with the programme, I would be motivated to participate again as the engagement with the students, the exposure to new fields and ideas, and the opportunity **to be at the forefront of potentially new innovative solutions was an enriching experience.**"
 - Challenge mentor

It has shared a format which we can drive locally as an innovation agency, targeting youth."

- Challenge representative



6 REASONS TO GET INVOLVED

Next Generation is a strong partner on your side, ready to deliver value that goes beyond youth involvement.

1. ACCESS TO TALENTS

Through the initiative, you gain direct access to talented international students & researchers from leading technical universities as well as young professionals who are skilled and eager to make an impact.

2. ACCESS TO GLOBAL INNOVATION SYSTEM

DTU Skylab not only operates at the core of the Danish innovation system - but through Next Generation grants you access to promising early-stage startups around the globe hungry to disrupt the industry.

3. STAY AT THE BEAT OF THE INDUSTRY

Ideas and solutions proposed by our participants provide you with inspiration and the latest insights - and help you stay at the beat of the industry!

4. PART OF A STRONG INDUSTRY NETWORK

We connect public and private partners in the industry across borders, enabling opportunities for new partnerships on a corporate level.



5. A GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR YOUR ENGAGEMENT

We provide the branding and communication platform to make your engagement visible at a global scale.

6. A JOINT PLATFORM AT A GLOBAL CONGRESS

We create strong platforms to showcase ideas by the next generation at global summits or congresses. Four editions have been brought to life since 2018.

THE PROJECT TEAM



Marie L. Pollmann-Larsen Team Lead. DTU Skylab





Project Coordinator, DTU Skylab

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Sara Dømler Project Coordinator, DTU Skylab



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Thank you to program mentors, speakers and partners

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...and many more

GET IN TOUCH

Would you like to hear more about collaboration opportunities?

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ENABLED THROUGH STRONG PARTNERSHIPS







www.nextgenerationcityaction.com