YOUTH IMPACT

2018 ANNUAL SUMMARY
SDSN YOUTH IN NORTHERN EUROPE
YOUTH AS INSPIRATION

The year of 2018 has been busy for SDSN Youth in Northern Europe. Although the network was launched only in 2017, the network has developed quickly. More and more members are joining the community.

It has for the two of us been a privilege to work with the network’s members, projects and partners and seeing it develop close by. On an everyday basis, we have had the great opportunity to see change agents take action, working hard to implement the Sustainable Development Goals with the means available to them. The year of 2018 has therefore only deepened our conviction that youth, young adults, kids and teenagers play, and must play a vital part in the achievement of the SDG’s.

Not only does the youth community provide society with new innovative ideas and solutions, they also have the capacity and the courage to raise their voices and demand change. This can be seen not only by the uprising of the school strikes taking place all over the world every Friday but also in the way that young people engage in politics, social media, and other platforms.

However, we have also seen a hardening political landscape, climate change increasing in speed, and politicians not taking responsibility for our changing world. In this light, we hope that you who are reading this report will be as inspired as we are by the projects and cases displayed here. We hope that they will help you understand the power of youth, the creativity the youth community possesses and its never-ending motivation to be part of the change.

Lastly, we want to thank all our members in SDSN Youth in Northern Europe, our partners and all the different volunteers that have been involved in the network during 2018 – you continue to inspire us! Thank you!
EMPOWERING YOUTH

SDSN Youth educates young people about the challenges of sustainable development and creates opportunities for them to use their creativity and knowledge to pioneer innovative solutions for the SDGs. In addition, SDSN Youth creates platforms for young people to connect, collaborate and integrate their ideas and perspectives into national and regional pathways for implementation of the SDGs. SDSN Northern Europe and its youth division collaborate with actors from Sweden, Finland, Norway, Denmark and Iceland.
Youth Impact Cases
30 days Vegan Challenge

IMPACT CASE

30 days Vegan Challenge

Let’s eat Veggies Uppsala organizes vegan cooking workshops for around 15 participants every Sunday to show ways to adapt to a plant-based diet. Every workshop has a different theme, e.g. thai food or burgers.

Apart from demonstrating plant-based recipes and alternative ingredients, we also try to connect the topic of the workshop to a sustainability issue, that we discuss with the participants, e.g. thai food → mangroves and Climate Change.

ORGANIZED BY

Let’s Eat Veggies, dedicated to responsible consumption and sustainable food systems.

Site: Uppsala, Sweden
Members: >10
Contact: leonie.schiedek@web.de

MAIN LEARNINGS

For us it is important that people understand the necessity of sustainable consumption and how to implement it in their daily lives, e.g. through a plant-based diet. We want to demonstrate the inter-connections between our consumption behaviour and consequences on Climate Change and other sustainability related issues.

ABOUT SDSN YOUTH

We really appreciate being part of a worldwide network that strives for sustainable solutions in order to guarantee the well-being of future generations.
The Innovation Weekend

IMPACT CASE

The Innovation Weekend

Innovation Weekend is a three days’ workshop where students work in multidisciplinary teams to create an innovative solution to a sustainability challenge. Based on their knowledge and competences, we match the student teams with companies and organisations from the region whose work is related to a specific SDG.

During the workshop, we facilitate and guide the students through the experience of developing and verifying new concepts. At the end of the weekend, the teams pitch their solution and prototype to their challenger and prepare for the possibility of a future collaboration!

At the Innovation Weekend in October 2018, the theme was SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities.

ORGANIZED BY

Black Dot connects students with innovative challenges for a sustainable future. Our mission is to empower and equip students to solve the sustainability challenges of today and of the future. We connect academia with businesses, entrepreneurs and researchers to create real societal value. www.blackdot.xyz

Site: Gothenburg, Sweden
Members: 15
Contact: contact@blackdot.xyz

MAIN LEARNINGS

- Letting students work in multidisciplinary teams help them use their different kinds of backgrounds to create unique solutions instead of only working with people with a similar educational background.
- By working on a real life challenge, students are given the chance to make a real impact and create real value for other people. Knowing that the solution might be implemented for real is an incredible force that boosts creativity and teamwork.
PERIOD Empowerment Network

IMPACT CASE

PEN-Period Empowerment Network

PEN is a unique and powerful menstrual health education project in empowering youth and building their capacities to continuously learn and raise awareness on menstrual health and hygiene. The project seeks to improve youth knowledge, skills, and attitudes about menstrual health and hygiene, and increase their awareness about female body, sexual practices, sexuality, etc. The idea that Periods are dirty, shameful and unmentionable affect how women think about and manage their periods, as well as how women are perceived, which is a common misconception that arises as results of menstrual awareness & knowledge gaps in our society. Our society needs to be re-educated about menstruation.

In this regard, PERIOD Empowerment Network seeks to improve youth knowledge, skills, and attitudes about menstrual health and hygiene, and increase their awareness about female body, sexual practices, sexuality, etc. It is a unique and powerful menstruation education project in empowering youth and building their capacities to continuously learn and raise awareness on menstrual health.

ORGANIZED BY

TERRAM PACIS’ mission is to provide youth with the opportunities to participate and engage with society and design educational resources and tools to increase their knowledge, skills and attitudes in the fields of Peace-building, Democracy, Human Rights, Humanitarian Aid, Gender, and Environmental Protection. www.terrampacis.org

This project is implemented in Norway, Portugal, Poland, Greece, Belgium, Spain, Philippines, Sweden, United States, Kenya, Uganda and India. It is co-funded with support from Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency of the European Commission.

Site: Oslo, Norway
Members: 1200 Youth reached per year. 5 Staff
Contact: secretariat@terrampacis.org

MAIN LEARNINGS

- Pathways to Empowerment in menstrual health awareness. Outputs: A training module & 24 learners trained.
- Igniting the Menstrual Movement Worldwide.
Young Researchers Meeting on Rural Transformation

IMPACT CASE

Young Researchers Meeting on Rural Transformation

This workshop is organized every other year and this year’s meeting focused on rural transformation under three different sub-themes:

1) Rural transformation and the role of smallholder farming
2) Migration, looking into how mobility and money being sent back by relatives working abroad affects rural economies
3) Climate change, the effects of global warming and increased pressure for natural resources.

For two days, the young researchers got a chance to present their own research work and get feedback from experts in the field. The meeting gathered 17 young and motivated individuals from different universities and institutions in Sweden, the UK, Kenya and Switzerland.

ORGANIZED BY

Swedish International Agricultural Network Initiative, SIANI, has a mission to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture. www.siani.se

This workshop was organised by SIANI and SLU Global the meeting in coordination with the Nordic Africa Institute and Stockholm Resilience Centre.

Site: Stockholm, Sweden
Members: 3 000 members, 3.5 full time staff
Contact: info@siani.se

MAIN LEARNINGS

The role of young farmers is essential for the future of both food security and for the economic future for rural areas. However, little research has been done about the aspirations of youth and what makes farming a future career prospect.

Bringing in young researchers and giving them the opportunity to share their research with experts and learn from one another is important; it fosters multi- and transdisciplinary dialogues and avoids silo thinking. That is how research can help to pave the way to sustainable development.
All members of SDSN Youth in Northern Europe

Push Sverige
Global Health Mentorships
TERRAM PACIS
AIESEC in Finland
AIESEC in Gothenburg
The Swedish Development Forum
oikos Copenhagen
The Södertörn association of sustainable development
Handels Students for Sustainability
UN Youth of Finland
Spire
Sustainable Network North Sealand
Black Dot
AIESEC in Norway
Engineers Without Borders Sweden
TEDxYouth Stockholm
Chalmers Students for Sustainability
Crossing Borders
Oikos Lund
Energy Crossroads Denmark
Global Health Next Generation Network (GHNGN)
Swedish Organization for Global Health
International Federation of Surveyors Young Surveyors Network (FIG YSN)
Students for Sustainable Action
Swedish International Agricultural Network Initiative (SIANI)
Young Global Pioneers
Swedish Network for International Health (SNIH)
Sahlgrenska Academy Students for Sustainability (SASS)
KTH Equality Week
Let’s eat veggies Uppsala
SDG Coordinators are the official representatives of SDSN Youth within their university and campus. Their role is to mobilise their campus and student groups behind the SDGs through events, campaigns and projects. Thank you for your hard work this year!

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Umeå University

SARAH ENAYEH
University of Gothenburg

SANDRA ALM
University of Gothenburg

NORÉ ARIFI
Umeå University

FÁBIO PAULOS
University of Gothenburg
COP24 has ended. The echo that remains consists of voices of the young people. The SDSN Youth SDG Coordinator Sandra Alm, student at the University of Gothenburg, visited week two of the conference. A written report and a video are available on the SDSN Northern Europe website.

"THE COP STILL HASN’T LEARNED TO WALK THE TALK"

Sandra Alm, SDG Coordinator
The Sustainability Coach project is a collaboration between SDSN Youth in Northern Europe and Junior Achievement Sweden in Gothenburg, Stockholm and Uppsala. The project connects university students with high school students taking part in Junior Achievement’s entrepreneurial courses. Within the scope of the course the high schools create mini-companies based on an entrepreneurial idea. The university students then function as Sustainability Coaches for the entrepreneurs and coaches them to create more sustainable business ideas. The coaches are trained by SDSN Youth and follows the entrepreneurs though out the academic year hosting different workshops and sessions with the entrepreneurs. In 2018 SDSN Youth trained over 40 students to coach high schoolers in sustainable entrepreneurship.
#MånadensVärldsförbättrare is an article series that highlights young change agents in Sweden within Education for Sustainable Development. The article series is a collaboration between 12 Swedish organizations and part of the UNESCO Global Action Programme (GAP) on Education for Sustainable Development. During 2018 the project released 12 different articles highlighting 12 different change actors.
During 2018, SDSN Youth teamed up with the organisation HumanAct and their campaign Move Humanity. In support of Move Humanity, SDSN Youth in Northern Europe compiled a series of videos in social media. The video series consisted of a mix between interview clips with the HumanAct founder Djaffar Shalchi and infographics to illustrate the message of ending extreme poverty.
**PROJECT**

**REGENERATION 2030**

*ReGeneration 2030* is a meeting place and a movement where youth discuss and propose solutions to reach the Sustainable Development Goals. The movement strives to create more cooperation across state and regional boards to engage in inter-generational dialogues and include the perspective and the leadership of young people. It is led by youth and teenagers from the Nordic and Baltic Sea Regions inspired and initiated from the local network “Bärkraft” on the Åland Islands. During 2018 the movement hosted its first annual Summit with around 100 youth participants.
BUY-NOTHING FRIDAY was a social media campaign that ran during November 2018. It was aimed as a counter-reaction to the growing consumption hype called Black Friday, Black Weekend and Cyber-Monday created by retailers to start-off the Christmas shopping.