



YOUNG  
SDG  
INNOVATORS



Dear Joseph,

Congratulations on being selected for the inaugural group of Young SDG Innovators!

We are writing to thank you for heeding the call for the next generation of business solutions for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and taking part in this exciting opportunity for young professionals. Now, are you ready for the challenge?

The 17 SDGs present the greatest opportunity of our time. These Global Goals are the guiding star for knowing what is needed to solve humanity's biggest challenges and improve the lives of billions. The SDGs also present major opportunities for significant innovation and new business models. But leveraging these new opportunities is not going to be easy. With less than 4,000 days left until the 2030 deadline, we will need to disrupt the status quo — now. The challenges we have ahead of us are complex and systemic. Incremental innovation has failed to deliver the necessary advances. It is not a matter of updating “business-as-usual” for the new generation, but disrupting traditional business models and ways of working and creating new systems, platforms and adopting new mindsets to develop the business that will achieve the ambitious vision of the SDGs.

Through the Young SDG Innovators programme, we are bringing together the brightest minds from around the world at the forefront of sustainability and innovation to generate disruptive solutions to the world's challenges. By using the SDGs as a catalyst for innovation and integrating the SDGs into core business, innovative young entrepreneurs and intrapreneurs can take a leading role in this global development movement. Yours could be the generation that has the potential to radically transform life, businesses and the global economy to create the world we want.

We stand at the precipice of change where young people around the world have the potential to become the first group in human history to end poverty, close the gender gap and secure a safe, healthy and equitable future for generations to come. Young SDG Innovators is one key way in which you are contributing to the global movement and showing that the SDGs mean business.

The transformational change to create a better world relies on innovators like you who are willing to take on the world's biggest challenges. Thank you for being part of the UN Global Compact Young SDG Innovators programme. We look forward to working with you to help create the world we want.

Sincerely,

Lise Kingo  
CEO & Executive Director  
United Nations Global Compact

Dima Jamali  
President  
Global Compact Network Lebanon