

World Futures Day - Young Voices

Post Event Report By Lisa Giuliani, Amna Habiba et al

March 15, 2023

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World Futures Day (WFD) is hosted every year on March 1st by The Millennium Project in collaboration with others to spark a global conversation on the future. This was the tenth edition of their 24-hour around the world conversation about our common futures!

Teach the Future (TTF) wants to make sure young people are part of this conversation. As a result, Teach the Future, in collaboration with The Millennium Project and with the support of many partners and friends, launched the **Young Voices** version of World Futures Day on March 1st, 2021. Teach the Future is a global movement that **promotes futures thinking** for students and educators. Our aspiration is that every young person is prepared to navigate an uncertain world and has the agency to imagine and create their preferred future.

24-hour conversations about the future on March 1st for World Futures Day- Young Voices. The event was hosted on Zoom and streamed Live on YouTube. On March 1st 2023, conversations with young people about the future took place starting at 17:00 (5pm) evening in Auckland Aotearoa NZ all the way around the world ending in Honolulu US 17:00 (5pm) evening the next day. The conversations included sparkling ideas, interesting perspectives. The many great conversations were optimistic and hopeful and exhibited an awareness of and a desire to create beautiful futures. To learn more about WFD click here

Couldn't join online? Want to know what they discussed? Check out the 3 part live stream on our <u>page</u>. You can also check out previous conversations online via <u>YouTube</u>.

It's not too late to participate. We are collecting views from all our participants on the future. Fill out the <u>Futures Times Newspaper</u> and add your story. The results will be shared with UNICEF aggregated, analyzed and reported over time.

Special thanks to:



W UN SDG:Learn

















Office of Research-Innocenti



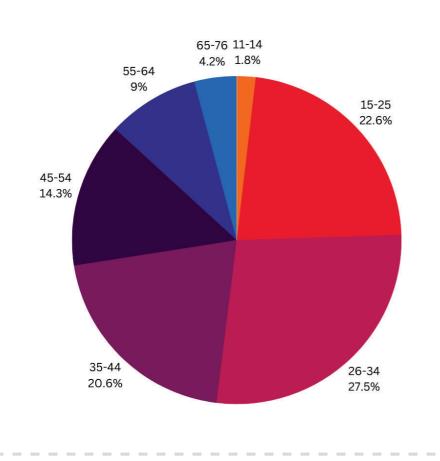
empowering humans



Numbers at a glance, together we surpassed last year's participation and engagement:)



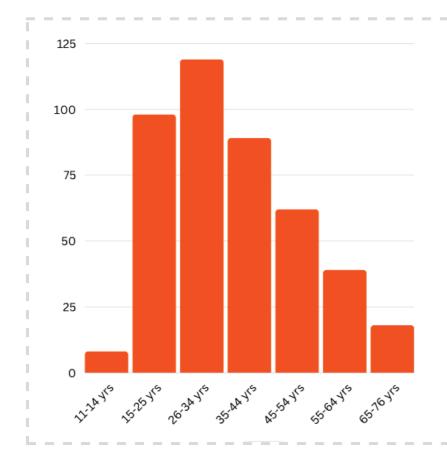
★ This year we sold over 450 tickets



★ Over 100 young voices under the age of 25 registered

★ The leading age group is between ages 26-34 followed by our youth 15-25 year olds

★ Those born in 1997 (26 years of age) were the largest age group of participants



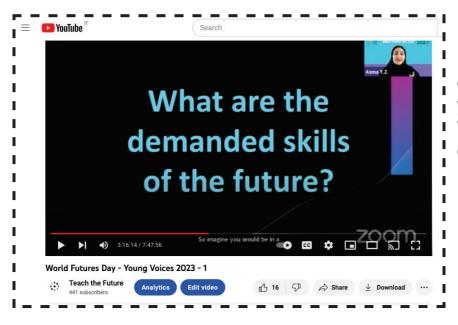
★ Our youngest participants were born in 2012 (11 years of age)

★ Our oldest participant was born 1947 (76 years of age)

- ★ Ethiopia had the largest registered participants at about 68 closely followed by Brazil about 54 registered participants
- **★** Over 50 countries participated with about 65 event volunteer facilitators from all over the world



★ 100% facilitation coverage of all time zones all over the world for the 24 hours



★ 100% live coverage on youtube, with over 700 views and counting

Auckland Aotearoa NZ



Topics discussed: Sustainability, Climate change, education, pollution, gender equality.

Is there still time for Plan B or do we need a Planet B?

What are young people saying? According to our Futures Times Newspaper, "Conversations on light pollution, air pollution, marine pollution, deforestation, poverty, sickness, warfare and so much more. We thought 2020 was bad. Nearly thirty years later, we have gotten way worse than we thought we would. Well technically

speaking, back then we didn't have the technological advancements that we have now so we had reason to believe that the world was going to end by 2050. However, we have new creations and inventions. So what's stopping us you may ask - Humanity - Think about it, if we all truly came together, put our differences aside and work towards a healthier planet won't we succeed? Well, we can't because of politics and trade wars and let's bomb that country because why not. So our question to you is, 'Is there still time for a Plan B or do we need a Planet B?'" -Rathnah, Penang Malaysia



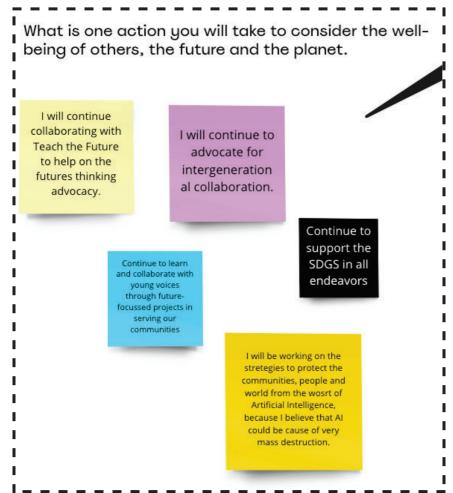
"I love conversations with young people and to hear their big dreams. It would be so cool if we would be able to capture these stories and produce a narrative of the

future. Imagine if we had 400 narratives and would be able to generate a story out of that and share it with UNICEF!!" -Willem Overbosch -Teach the Future

Sydney AU



"I always love hearing you talk about the future and facilitate these conversations because you do so in a really open, encouraging and friendly manner. I was really glad to have been a part of World Futures Day with you. I learnt a lot from the experience and the conversations, and it was great to meet you two again! This has also encouraged me to learn, speak and write about the future more, so thank you for that!" -Swarali



Brisbane AU



Topics Discussed:
Democratizing Futures
Thinking; Malleability of
Time; Temporal
Exhaustion.

We have classrooms without walls. Our media and educational technologies can be harnessed to democratize futures thinking.

What are young people saying? Starts with our individual preferred future and then you start bumping into the preferred futures of the status quo that you may want to undo. Everyone in the room has

positive reception on the idea of "imagination" as the currency of "futures" thinking.



"Jomay was terrific, great energy, and a great role model. The topic was a good one. Democratizing the future is attractive and it also draws people into deeper issues of power and disagreement. ended up with the role of education which is both changing the system and changing the people in the system"

-Peter Hayward

"Democratizing futures thinking starts with a dialogue. Media, as technologies, make this happen. Media are not just by channels of information and entertainment; these are spinners of time and space as it connects people and institutions. Hopefully, in our own little ways, as the media has already been democratized, futures thinking can also be made digestible and accessible for the masses, especially the students." -Jomay Cuevas

Sydney AU



Approximately how many participants attended your session? 11

What topic(s) did you discuss? Future of Work.

Any takeaways: They would like us to present next year on the future of work culture.

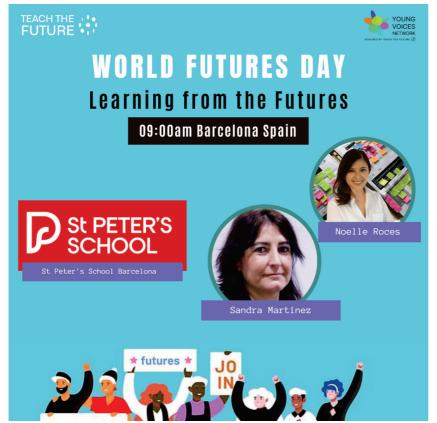
What are young people saying? They highlight the change in the future of work. How culture can influence career choices and preparedness in the future.



"Great experience and I do consider participating next year too."

-Asma Yousuf Zainal

Barcelona Spain



"ST Peters as a school has a very open mind about all the tech that is appearing like Chat GPT, and it's encouraging us to try and have our own opinions about it"

-Sandra



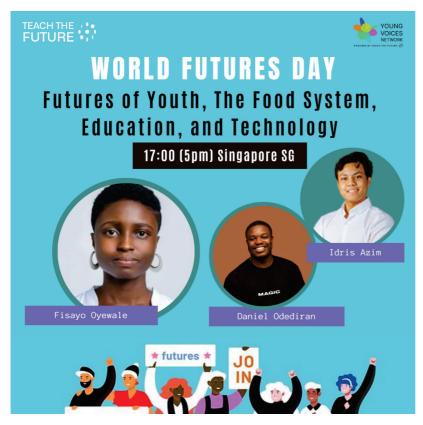


veja.abril.com.br

Sucesso do ChatGPT levanta debate sobre limites da inteligência artificial

Apelo do mecanismo que escreve textos para lá de decentes ilumina um caminho: não é o caso de temer ou condenar a IA, mas de saber usá-

Singapore SG



Topic(s) discussed: Future of Youth, Technology, Food Systems, and Education.

The world of education is ripe for change, and stands at the precipice of further transformation. The needs of modern youths, industry, and the slow pace of academia in a post-normal society will necessitate more rapid changes in the next decade.

What are young people saying? Young people believe there needs to be a change in the way education is conducted.



"The session was found to provoke many interesting opinions and thoughts from both the facilitators and participants. The dynamic of having 3 facilitators allowed us to play off each other's points very well. Feedback from participants found that the session was informative and enjoyable. What helped

our session was a series of guiding slides to help keep the discussion on track. Statements provided by the facilitators helped stimulate discussion on topics concerning the future. In retrospect, one aspect that we could have approved would have been to reduce the depth of topics we explored, as we had to cut short discussions on some topics to make up for time."

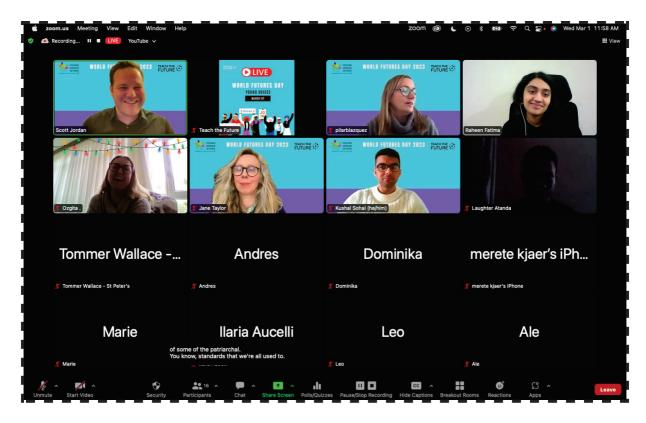
-Idris Azim

Bangkok TH



"A thought to throw out. We say FutureS to keep it plural and open, so as many voices can be represented as possible. Yet once things happen (the present) it becomes one thing that is or has happened. Yet can we as futurists keep history plural (as I'd argue it is) and how do we keep the present from becoming less than plural perhaps? I'd add that hindsight is not always as clear as we might think. How do we cope with the idea that our preferred future

may not be right (in the moral and personal sense)?" -Scott



Dhaka BD & New Delhi IN



Approximately how many participants attended your session? 10

Topic discussed: Futures of Vulnerability.

Takeaways, from this experience? Importance of trust, love and safe spaces to imagine futures and transform oppressive mindsets. We need to reframe what we 'value' (i.e. money or community).

What are young people saying? This is an important topic that merits more futures

-thinking Vulnerability is understood differently across contexts. Technology might shape the future of vulnerability.

"It was an enjoyable experience to co-facilitate the session. With our different entry points, understanding of vulnerability from psychotherapy and social science perspectives and futures literacy laboratories, we were able to codesign an engaging session, enabling participants to explore desirable futures, reframe their assumptions and identify challenges for the future."

-Kushal



Islamabad Pakistan



Approximately how many participants attended your session? 20

What topic(s) did you discuss? Climate change, Time Traveler Game, Polak Game

Takeaways, or quotes from this experience? There is a lot of positive energy in our youngsters.

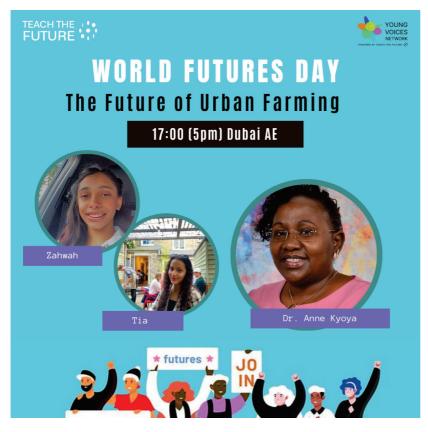
What are young people saying? Youngsters have a very optimistic and bright image of the future in regards to Climate Change.

"Great experience. One hour passed very quickly. I was impressed by some of the other content of other presenters. Being interactive helps a lot and the few people who attended my session were very positive that they learnt something... also went away with concerns about climate change".

-Umar Sheraz



Dubai AE



Approximately how many participants attended your session?

Topic discussed? The Future of Urban Farming.

Takeaways, or quotes from this experience?

1.There is regional disparity in the extent to which urban farming is currently being practised.

2. The young are kind of scared about the future, including how urban farming will turn out. 3. Young people are concerned about

how climate change will.impact the future of urban agriculture.

What are young people saying? The need to address climate change challenge in relation to urban farming



Overall reflection of the session:

"1. Young people's knowledge of.urban farming is varied since some.countries like Singapore do very limited urban farming.
2. Young people are either not very passionate about the future of urban farming or are fearful about what is coming.

3. Young people are

aware that climate change will certainly influence the future of urban farming.
4. Intergenerational engagement is critical in educating the youth as regarding developing their foresight capabilities." -Dr. Anna Kyoya

Ethiopia



Approximately how many participants attended your session?

Topic discussed? The future of Ethiopian youths.

Takeaways, or quotes from this experience? Despite the challenges we are currently facing in Ethiopia, "We're so optimistic about our future and we can act to make it better for our next generation!"

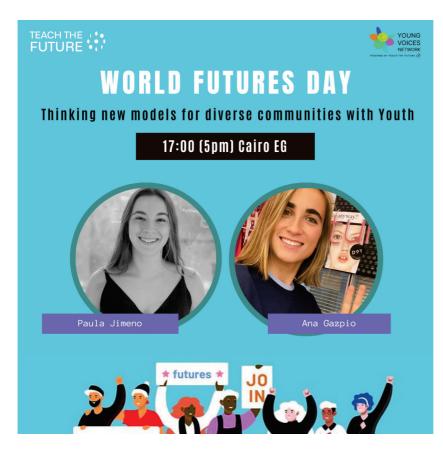
What are young people saying? Young Ethiopians participating

in the event were so excited to learn more about the opportunity to enhance their skills on foresight thinking and integrate with their daily routine and their works.



"Though the one hour schedule was too short to discuss all issues, I am happy that the young Ethiopians discussed the future of their country, digital skills needed to cope with the changing dynamics of technologies, etc." -Rida

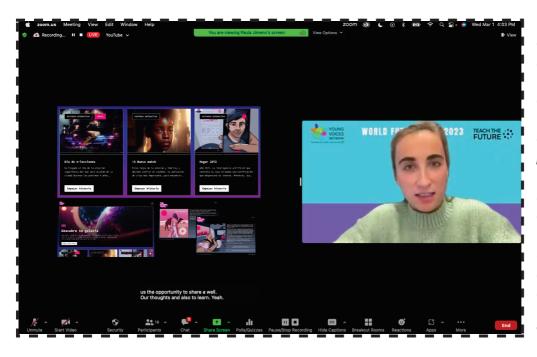
Cairo EG



Topic discussed: Thinking of new models for diverse communities.

We need to hear and amplify young people's voices. Their needs, aspirations and ideas are needed for a better and more inclusive creation of our futures.

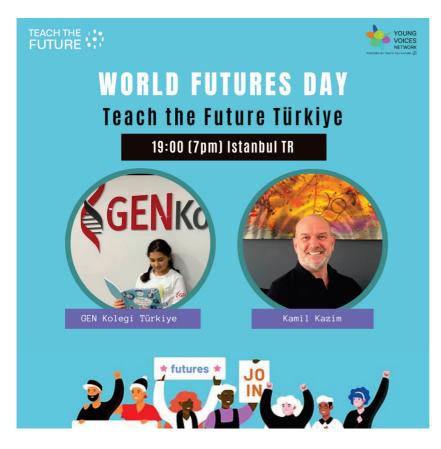
What are young people saying? They feel a constant negative vibe when thinking about their future, as the society speaks and visualizes dystopian futures all the time. They want to take part in the decision-making spaces.



"Empathy and imagination, from safe and joyful experiences, are the most powerful tools when imagining alternative futures. Diversity is a key element in those futures."

-Ana

Istanbul TR



Topic discussed: Futures Thinking and the earthquake in Türkiye.

We futurists always converse about Futures Thinking and base future scenarios on multiple futures. However, how does it feel when you go to sleep one night and are forced to wake up into a situation where there is no future! How does this feel? This is my lesson after the big earthquake on 6. Feb. where in 11 cities all together 15 million people were hit and the final count was

43K+ dead, 110K+ injured persons, 4K+ buildings inhabitable....

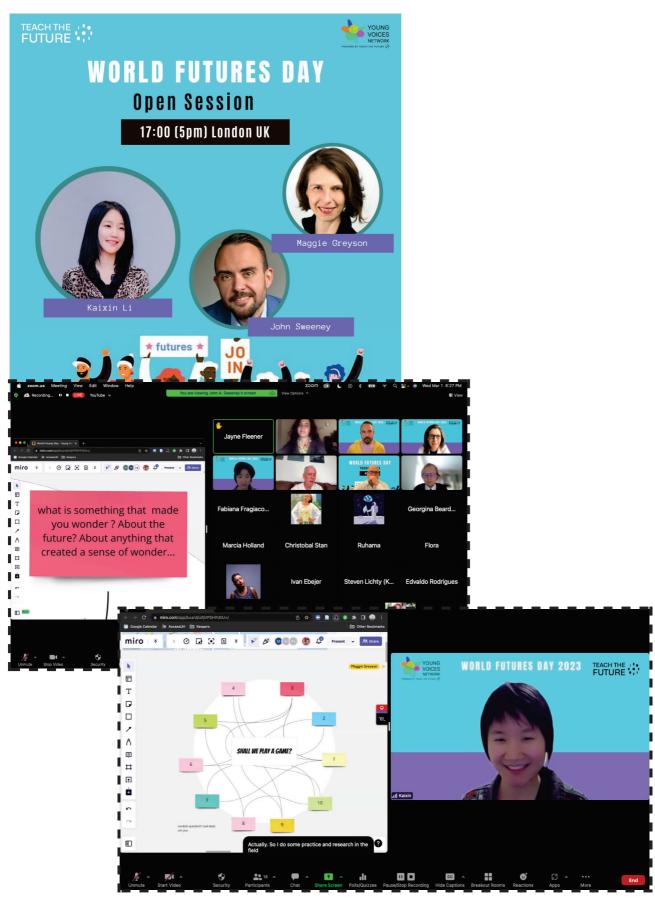
What are young people saying? Those who have been exposed to Futures Thinking Studies were mostly positive in the approach and others were also enthusiastic about FT.



"There was a very positive atmosphere, multicultural, good feeling and sharing among the participants and of course the affiliation to TTF Global made a big difference. Those who were also members of the Young Voices Family stood out with their attitude,

experience and knowledge. I was more than happy to be present at the event. The efforts for the organization were much appreciated." **-Kazim**

London UK



Poland



" I even left a question that was discussed with a lot of enthusiasm. I was afraid of participating though, so I just listened and texted. I'm a public speaker but it felt really good watching and listening to those great people from all over the world. They were so smart, so detailed, and so particular. I loved the talk on AI and how it impacts life. I was worried about the inclusion, especially

of the developing countries. [my enhancement. TR] If I had the courage I would have suggested that the developers of AI should consider including AI in the curriculum to have all generations on board henceforth. This will reduce cases of universities and schools banning the use of AI in exams and stuff like that. In a nutshell, I had an awesome time and I learned a lot. I'm looking forward to next year, God willing." -Young Teacher outside Nairobi participating



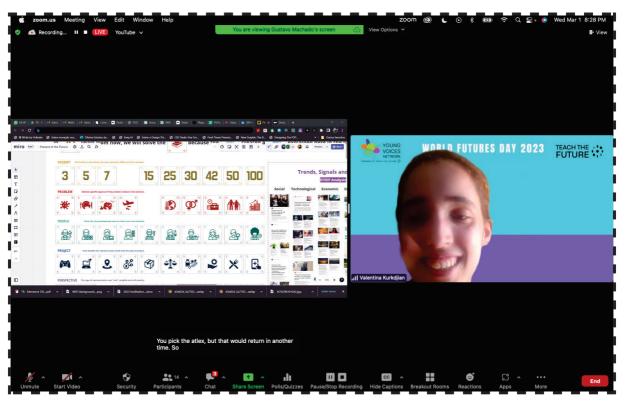
Rio de Janeiro BR



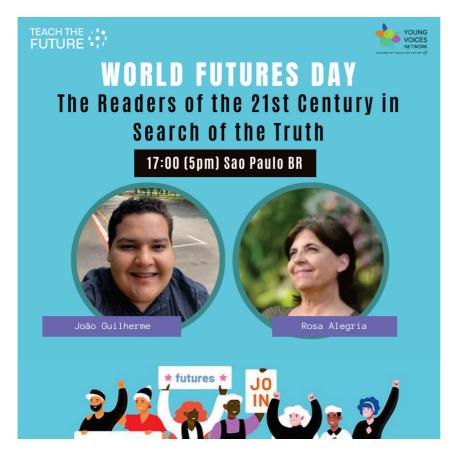
Approximately how many participants attended your session? 13

"We played a learning game that introduces futures thinking through the development of an artefact from the future."

-Valentina Kurkdjian Teixeira



São Paulo BR

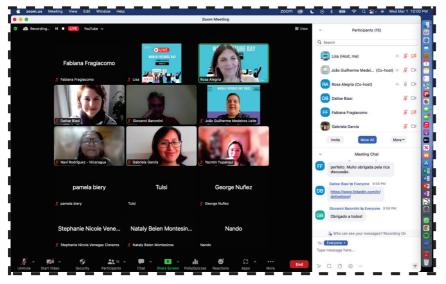


Approximately how many participants attended your session? 30

Fact Or Opinion? The Readers Of The 21st Century In Search Of The Truth.

Takeaways, or quotes from this experience? The Brazilian session addressed reading skills in the digital age. How to identify what is fact and what is opinion? What paths can we create to rescue critical thinking? For new generations to

develop critical thinking towards what is read, seen and listened, schools should develop media literacy in the early stages of education so that we can have conscious citizens in what they think and decide. The quality of discussions were outstanding. Media literacy is something like futures literacy in schools: new frontier knowledge fields that represent emerging learning needs and are extremely important in a changing and networked world.



"WFD Youth Version is an extraordinary initiative, very well organized with warm facilitators and hosts. Congrats for all these incredible efforts. TTF is being recognized as a youth conversational space in the world, mainly because of WFD and NGFP"

-Rosa

Halifax CA



Topic discussed: Human rights and technology

Takeaways from this experience: Creativity and innovation arise based on the need to overcome inequalities and gain life experience.

"Young people committed to the future. Young people with communication skills. Generating safe spaces for young voices guarantees reflection processes. The work of facilitators in pairs helps to better

interact with the conversation. Reducing inequality gaps in access to technology is something urgent in Latin America." -Naví Argentina Rodríguez Rivera



New York US



Approximately how many participants attended your session?

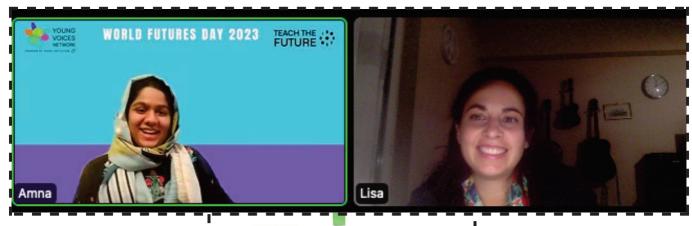
Topic Discussed: Skills for the Future -Resilience & Social Justice.

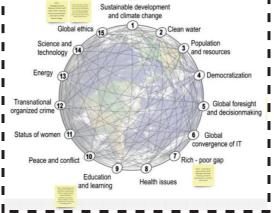
Youth Takeaway:

"Hope - it's something that I hold on to in this world. If we don't have hope, we can't have a better future." -Amna

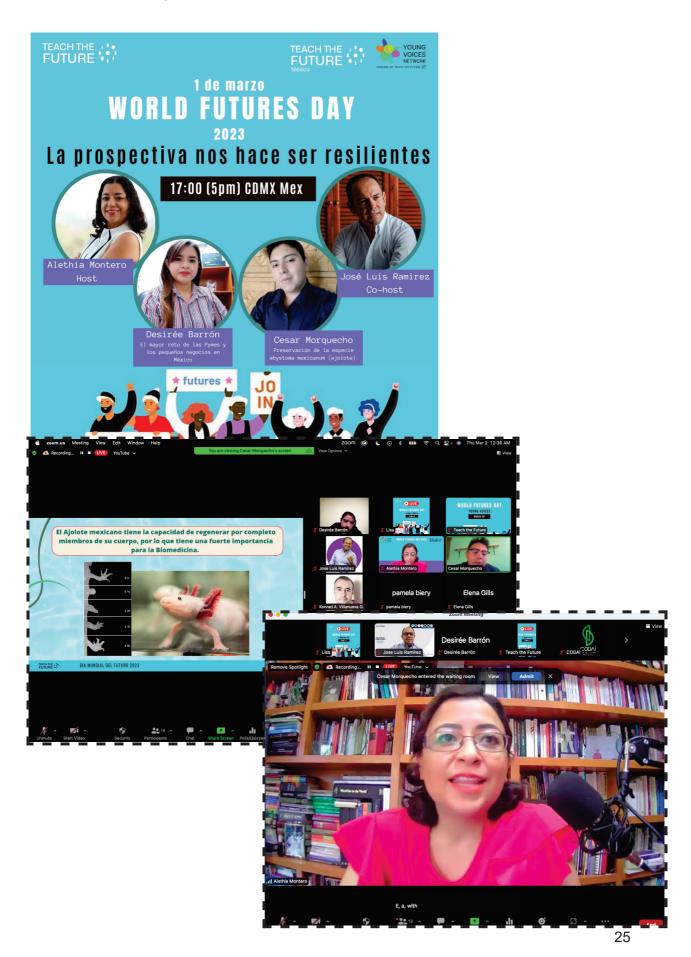
Overall reflection of the session: "I was honoured to be part of the WFD 2023 event. It

was a great conversation talking about resilience, hope, and the importance of having skills to bounce back from local & global issues." - Amna





Mexico City CDMX



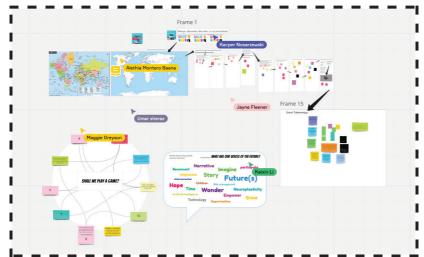
Calgary CA



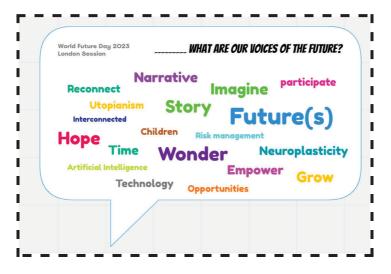
Approximately how many participants attended your session? 20

Topic discussed: Hopes for the future.

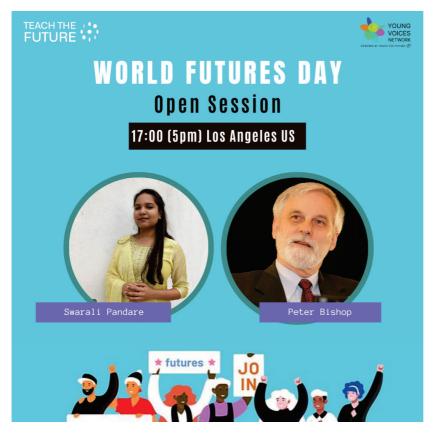
Takeaways from this experience: Always inspiring to be a part of something led by youth and for youth! Deona is such an aspiring leader!



"The sessions were very well organized and promoted. I appreciated the sample social media posts and graphics. When my hour session ended I was so enthusiastic to continue into the next sessions, simply as an observer. Thank you all!" - April Michele



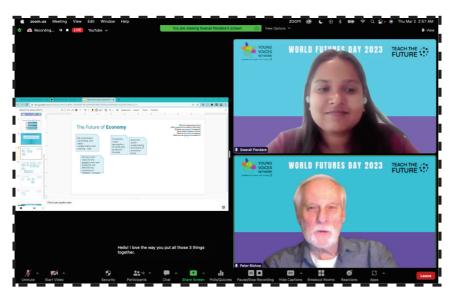
Los Angeles US



Approximately how many participants attended your session?

What topic(s) did you discuss? Love, Food, Bea, "hopes we move into the future holding love not only romantically, but also for each other in general, ourselves and our world so that we treat each other with compassion and build a future that serves us all, including how we see food and the economy."

What are young people saying? There is a sense that young people are conscious of how the world is changing and that we the people have the agency to impact the change. Things like a more open and equitable future where we have love for ourselves, each other and the planet came up during



the session. We also spoke about recognizing that we are not in a locked-in situation and the world as it is now can and will change. This point was made with a lot of hope.

"It was great to see people with various kinds of expertise sharing their thoughts on the topics we discussed. Bonus

points for making use of Miro or other tools for collaborative activities, or coming up with questions or games related to the topic in advance."

-Swarali

Juneau Alaska US



Approximately how many participants attended your session?

Topic Discussed: Grassroots Childcare Cooperative.

Takeaways from this experience: Expansion of cooperative childcare and online curriculum with Membership.

What are young people saying? There's much to learn and evolve from in school from a holistic standpoint.

"Cooperative childcare is at its peak of importance because of the ways of the world. Grassroots is standing in the gap within local communities to bring families together. This will better support children and their families to succeed. There is no real success to any family without the community component that empowers everyone."

-Renee

Honolulu US



Approximately how many participants attended your session?

Topic Discussed: Millennium Project's 15 challenges.

Global foresight decision-making is one of them. Cool to know that and be able to better clearly align myself with a purpose.

What are young people saying? I didn't know this existed.

"Your overall reflection of the session. Really cool to connect with people from different backgrounds. We all found something interesting and tied together through the 15 challenges and I appreciated that. I invited one of my mentees and he found it really interesting as

well. Easy introduction into the pathway for youth into civilizational foresight. Excited for next year and I hope that I continue to meet new people."

-Hauson Le

"I'd like to add that the parallel <u>WFD for Young Voices</u> that Peter Bishop, Lisa and their staff at <u>Teach The Future</u> organized yesterday drew close to 400 participants across the globe. Thanks to their excellent organization and leadership, this was by far the largest engagement of teens and college students we've had since we started this parallel day long event 4+ years ago."

-Ted



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Discord

This report has been developed with the insights of the following Teach the Future Network Members, Young Voices Network and other Partners:

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