

ASIA-PACIFIC FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2019

“Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”

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Redesigning Youth Engagement for Sustainability: A Showcase of Outcomes from the UNODC-TIJ Youth Forum on Innovation, Justice and Collaboration for the 2030 Agenda

Venue: Conference Room 4, 1st Floor, UNCC

Date: 28 March 2019

Time: 17:15-18:30

Organizers: Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ), The United Nations Office of Drugs and Crimes (UNODC)

Background:

On 2-3 March 2019, the TIJ, in partnership with the UNODC, had successfully hosted the “**TIJ-UNODC Borderless Youth Forum: Innovation, Justice and Collaboration towards 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**”, leveraging the advancement of technology to create a meaningful and empowered youth engagement in strengthening justice and the rule of law for a sustainable development. Joining hands with an expert from the Hasso Plattner Institute of Design (the “d.school”) at Stanford University who pioneered the technique called “Design Across Borders”, this forum applied such technique and enabled over 150 youth with 14 nationalities to join the forum virtually from 10 countries. While being thousand kilometers apart, youths got to learn more about human stories of injustice through the online interactive interview session with over 20 local experts who join virtually from around Asia. Youth also worked together in small, distributed and multinational teams to create prototypes of possible solutions to address pressing regional issues, especially with the focus on three main justice-related issues: 1) Social reintegration of ex-offenders; 2) Gender-based violence; and 3) Access to justice for marginalized and vulnerable groups. The learning process of the forum and proposed ideas from youth will in turn enhance the promotion of the Sustainable Development Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions, as well as Goal 17 on partnership for the Goals.

Scope:

With the world-first-ever Borderless Youth Forum, our ultimate hope is that this method could serve as a catalyst to connect and empower networks of passionate youths around Asia Pacific.

This side event will present a showcase of the outcomes of the UNODC-TIJ Youth Forum under the title *Redesigning Youth Engagement for Sustainability: A Showcase of Outcomes from the UNODC-TIJ Youth Forum on Innovation, Justice and Collaboration for the 2030 Agenda*.

Key Questions:

The side-event will discuss the following points:

- The creation of channels for youth to engage constructively and meaningfully in light of the promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals 16 and 17;
- Youths' perspectives on how to solve justice-related issues, along with their engagement at all levels to enhance justice in order to realize the SDGs;
- The utilization of technology to enhance international collaboration among youths to reduce cultural and logistical barriers, thereby promoting peer-to-peer learning experience and extensive networks of support groups;
- The extraction of lessons learned, along with current/future trends of the application of human-centered problem-solving approach as a tool to strengthen the Sustainable Development Goal 16 in the Asia Pacific region, as well as explore its possibilities and limitations.

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About the organizers:

Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ) is a Thai public organization in affiliation with the UNODC as the only Program Network Institute (PNI) in Southeast Asia. Through academic research, policy advocacy and capacity building approaches, the mission of the TIJ is to uplift criminal and social justice in Thailand and the region, especially promoting and strengthening the Rule of Law for sustainable development.