

## THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH: A UN GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK NIGERIA PERSPECTIVE



The UN Global Compact Network Nigeria is proud to be a member of the Global Alliance for Youth (Nigeria). We associate ourselves with the lofty vision of the Alliance which is in close alignment with the imperative for corporate sustainability in the area of Decent Work for Youth - a core Principle of the UN Global Compact, demonstrated by our work through the **Young SDG Innovators Programme (YSIP)**.

**THE YOUNG SDG INNOVATORS PROGRAMME** is an opportunity for participating companies of the UN Global Compact to identify young talent within, collaborate and accelerate business industry-relevant innovation towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The programme activates future business leaders and change-makers, to develop and drive innovative solutions through new

technologies, initiatives, and business models; and contribute significantly to the delivery of their companies' sustainability objectives.

This, the YSIP is on course to achieve, by engaging the brightest and best talent in these companies; both to advance their sustainability efforts, and to deliver further tangible business solutions with potential market value, through sustainable innovation.

As Participants of the YSIP, young Nigerian employees (termed 'Innovators') are able to:

- ❖ Engage in accelerated learning opportunities that include online and in-person workshops, case studies, company visits and forum discussions;
- ❖ Connect with other business units and collaborate on innovative projects relative to the company and industry;
- ❖ Build work relationships through coaching, mentoring and peer-to-peer networking opportunities and learn from some of the brightest minds working on sustainability and innovation from around the world;
- ❖ Be part of a global network of leading young professionals from some of the top companies across every continent.

## **THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE**

The close synergy between the four Principles of the Alliance and the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact (all carefully embedded in the YSIP) is noteworthy:

- ❖ **Human Rights:** respect for fundamental human rights, including labor rights, throughout their business activities - consistent with **UNGC Principles 1 & 2 (Human Rights)**;
- ❖ **Safety and Health:** ensuring safety at work, preventing work-related accidents, injuries and illnesses, and ensure safety from any sort of discrimination or harassment; enshrined in **Principles 1 & 2 (Human Rights) and Principles 3-6 (Labour)**;
- ❖ **Business Integrity:** compliance with all applicable ethical laws and regulations in the countries where materials are sourced, produced and

incorporated to their own products, or where their services are delivered; synonymous with **Principle 10 (Anti-Corruption); and**

- ❖ **Minimum salary:** compliance with local minimum salary requirements for all jobs, including apprenticeships and internships - closely aligned with **Principle 3-6.**

The participation of Network Nigeria in the Global Alliance for Youth (Nigeria) is a clear statement of our intent to engage with the private sector to further entrench the corporate sustainability agenda particularly in the areas of Women and Youth inclusion, Sustainable Innovation, Decent Work and Economic Growth.

We are proud that this Alliance will serve to practically drive sustainable business, by bridging the gaps in youth employment and entrepreneurship through access to 21st Century-relevant education, capacity-building and value-chain integration for sustainable innovation across industries.

## **ABOUT UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK NIGERIA**

The United Nations Global Compact Network Nigeria is one of the 71 local networks (country office) of the UN Global Compact. Guided by The Ten Principles and the 17 SDGs, we support companies and stakeholders in understanding what responsible business means within a global and local context and provide guidance to translate sustainability commitments into action. Global Compact Network Nigeria stimulates and facilitates the creation of local connections and serves as a catalyst to companies and stakeholders to achieve Agenda 2030.

The UN Global Compact Network Nigeria mobilises a local movement of sustainable companies and stakeholders with the aim of improving the lives of future generations.

For more information, follow @globalcompactnigeria on Instagram, UN Global Compact Network Nigeria on LinkedIn or visit our website at [www.unglobalcompactng.org](http://www.unglobalcompactng.org)