



27 September 2025 | In-Person | 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

**AFS Intercultural Programs Office, 5 Hanover Square, Suite 1402, New York,
NY 10004**

[The International Youth Conference](#) 12 (IYC12) organized by the International Organization of Youth, taking place from September 24-27, 2025, in New York City, New York, and online, will explore the theme “Youth Solutions for a Changing World.” In collaboration with and support from UN-Habitat, UNITAR, UNEP, MGCY, IAAI GloCha, and AFS Intercultural Programs, this global platform empowers young leaders to create impactful solutions for a more peaceful world. IYC12 will feature dynamic plenary sessions, skill-building workshops, and collaborative discussions focusing on policy making, social development, and global partnerships. Aligned with the 80th session of UNGA in 2025, this event offers an opportunity for youth to drive transformative change. Join us in shaping a future led by youth!

Panel: Show Us the Money: From FfD-4 to SDG Summit 2027 - A Dialogue on Means of Implementation

Co organisers: Financing for Development Children and Youth Constituency, Youth Science-Policy Interface Platform

Description of the Session:

From 30 June to 3 July 2025, the United Nations organized the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4). Framed as the “once in a decade opportunity” to bring meaningful reforms to the Global Financial Architecture, over 15,000 participants gathered in Seville to assess progress since the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, review the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration, and establish a “renewed global financing framework” to uplift the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2030.

The final 38-page outcome document presented major commitments across seven key areas: domestic public resources, domestic and international private business and finance, international development cooperation and development effectiveness, international trade, debt, systemic issues, STI (science, technology, and innovation), and follow-ups to previous commitments.

To catalyze implementation of these goals, states also launched the Sevilla Platform for Action, a combination of over 130 multisectoral and multilateral initiatives designed to mobilize new and

innovative financing for inclusive development, debt relief, and climate resilience.

Despite the ambitious outcomes, children and youth faced significant roadblocks in engaging with the FfD Process during the “Road to Seville”. Children were met with eligibility requirements that prohibited them from participating in the ffd main conference, and the youth constituency lacked plentiful opportunities to bring its contributions to the Conference Plenary.

The Global Digital Compact (GDC) is a United Nations framework adopted in September 2024 to guide global digital cooperation and governance, aiming for an open, free, and secure digital future for all. It commits countries to uphold human rights online, close digital divides, promote an inclusive digital economy, and establish frameworks for artificial intelligence (AI) governance by establishing an independent AI scientific panel and a Global Dialogue on AI Governance

Similar challenges and barriers exist for Children and youth to engage with the global Digital Compact implementation and follow-up mechanisms.

Building up on the momentum of the Pact for the Future adopted at the 2024 Summit of the Future, which highlighted the critical need to boost SDG investments and reform the global financial architecture for the next generation, the perspectives of children and youth becomes even more important in achieving effective, meaningful, and long-lasting implementation of the outcomes of FfD4 and the global digital compact.

This session will provide a space where these urgent questions and issues can be addressed, by framing the FfD and Digital agenda within the broader theme of Means of Implementation. Through a collaborative approach between experts in Financing for Development and Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI), the session will trace the trajectory from the first FfD Conference to the upcoming 2027 SDG Summit.

Moderator:

- **Mr. Jaewon CHOI**
Thematic Focal Point, Tax
FfD Children and Youth Constituency of the Major Group for Children and Youth

Executive Director
DMUN Foundation

Speakers:

- **Mr. Michael LIHANDA**
Special Adviser to the Observer
Office of the Observer of the DMUN Foundation to the United Nations Headquarters and
Bretton Woods Institutions
- **Ms. Shari SPIEGEL**
Director, Financing for Sustainable Development Office
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- **Prof. Adaeze OKIKA**
Senior Advisor
Permanent Mission of the Pan-African Intergovernmental Agency for Water and
Sanitation for Africa to the United Nations
- **Ms. Yu Ping CHAN**
Head, Digital Partnerships and Engagement
United Nations Development Programme

Preliminary Agenda

10:30 - 10:35 | Opening Remarks

The Moderator will provide short remarks that would set the scene for the forthcoming discussion and introduce the distinguished panelists.

10:35 - 10:50 | Tour-de-table by Panelists

Each panelist will have the opportunity to provide a short remark (3 minutes each) highlighting their perspectives on the agenda of the Session.

10:50 - 11:25 | Interactive Discussion

Opportunity will be provided for participants to raise questions and comments from participants, and each panelist will receive 3 minutes each to respond to relevant questions and comments at the end.

11:25 - 11:30 | Closing Segment

The Moderator will summarize the key insights and outcomes of the Session and deliver his closing remarks.

Guiding Questions

1. How are children and youth being mentioned in the outcome document of “Compromiso de Sevilla” or the “Global Digital Compact” ?
2. How can children and youth be meaningfully integrated into the preparatory process for the 2027 SDG Summit, specifically on the element of MOIs for Agenda 2030?
3. Where are the biggest financing gaps for the SDGs, and what systemic reforms do we most urgently need? What is the role of Civil Society, Private and Public Sector?
4. Which commitments from the Sevilla Platform of Action and global Digital Compact should be prioritized before the SDG Summit 2027 to deliver effective progress on the SDGs?

Expected Outcome

The Session is expected to provide participants with a more children and youth-oriented understanding of the key outcomes of

- FfD4, especially on the nexus processes linked to FfD conferences, such as the United Nations Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation and the Economic and Social Council's Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters.
- Global Digital Compact on the nexus of processes linked to DTI conferences, such as THE UN AI Dialogues, WSIS forum and the STI Forum.

A central outcome of this session will be the identification of joint priority areas on means of implementation for Agenda 2030. This will include the identification of the most pressing issues that hamper the effective operationalization and mandate delivery of MOIs, such as sovereign debt, illicit financial flows, and financing gaps for the SDGs.

Another anticipated outcome would be the creation of intergenerational recommendations for financing and science, technology, and innovation. In particular, the outcomes of this session will seek to move beyond treating children and youth rightsholders as passive observers or victims but position them as active co-creators of multilateral economic and social policy that can demonstrate their capacity for contributing to policy design and implementation.