

United Nations Development Programme

Chairs:

Hello there, delegates, my name is Nyle Masoom, and this is my second time chairing UNDP! It's also my 4th year in Model UN. I am a junior at Pittsford-Mendon High School. Besides MUN, I take wholeheartedly to my photography and violin-playing, along with a love for philosophy and car culture. Please go ahead and contact either of us with any questions or concerns. I can't wait for an exhilarating conference with you all!

My name is Jacob Harron and this is my very first time chairing a Model UN conference. I am a senior at Jamesville-Dewitt High School where I do cross country, swimming, and track during the school year. I also participate in extracurricular clubs such as Math Team, Science Olympiad and of course, Model United Nations.

Committee Description:

The UNDP is a committee that seeks to create sustainable development and necessary infrastructure through international cooperation. While Model UN does have unlimited funding, using it to finance all projects and resolutions is not a permanent solution. Delegates are encouraged to come up with creative resolutions to topics put forth, and to avoid infringing on the sovereignty of other nations.

This committee will be run Harvard Style, meaning that resolutions are not to be written until the date of the conference itself. Additionally, it is highly suggested that every delegate write at least one position paper on a topic, as doing so will be necessary to be considered for an award. However, you will not be eligible for

awards and your position paper will not be accepted if it has bullet points or numbered lists. Position papers can be emailed to the chairs or handed in on the day of conference. Above all, this is not a competition, so have fun!

Connections with International Development Workers

Wherever in the world the UN or an NGO does its work, it has to send staff to do it, and this staff comes from all over the globe. This creates some interesting problems. Because they have such a diverse and foreign background, UNDP staff, or International Development workers (IDWs) end up not engaging with civil society that well.

As you may imagine, a lot of this is cultural. Because they are selected on such a short timeframe and from all over the world, UNDP staff usually lack knowledge and understanding of the locality they're dealing with, and thus fail to connect with the community on that level. They are also usually lacking in language skills of the region, so that adds another level of difficulty in making proper connections.

Furthermore, the locals that are recruited to work with IDWs are usually from a singular group or class, since they speak a European language that lets them communicate. Thus they are not representative of the society being worked with, and they are often opposed or reluctant to working with grassroots civil society.

The IDWs themselves are recruited on short term contracts, meaning the institution has no long term memory, and they do not get to build meaningful and long lasting relationships with communities they're working with. Often, they are also more interested in furthering their career than achieving UNDP goals.

How can the UNDP ensure that IDWs make meaningful connections with the people they're helping?

How can the UN recruit local helpers that better connect with the society?

http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/documents/partners/civil_society/publications/2012_UNDP_Strategy-on-Civil-Society-and-Civic-Engagement_EN_final.pdf

<http://web.undp.org/evaluation/documents/thematic/conflict/chapter3.pdf> - pg

26

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2016/06/humanitarian-aid-business-as-unusual/>

Image

<http://www.un.org/News/dh/photos/large/2015/April/150426.nepal.unicef2lge.jpg>

Management of Growing Populations

Currently, developing nations are facing the highest rates of population growth. Unfortunately, the respective governments have an inability to control this due to any combination of corruption, international issues and disputes, and simple apathy towards this topic.

Urban centres, in many of these places, tend to grow outwards instead of upwards. This is caused by a lack of infrastructure, lesser technological standards, and the sheer cost of building, maintaining, and living or holding a business in high rise buildings; traditional structures are just much cheaper and easier to build.

This presents a flurry of problems. Surrounding land is effectively destroyed, ruining the surrounding environment. People living in suburban areas use more resources per capita than those living in the denser inner city. Also, it becomes harder to manage the safety of the city through police and fire departments as it spreads ever larger.

Many developing nations, instead of combating this, encourage rural and suburban growth, depleting most of the land for the use of housing the population without looking to the consequences.

What should cities be doing to make efficient use of space as they grow?

What should the UNDP tell developing nations to do in terms of healthy population management?

How can the UN encourage beneficial and efficient city growth?

World's Population Increasingly Urban

<http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/news/population/world-urbanization-prospects-2014.html>

Leave No City Behind

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/blog/2016/5/2/Leave-no-one-and-no-city-behind.html>

A Planet of Suburbs

<http://www.economist.com/suburbs>

Degradation of the Automotive Industry

In numerous countries around the world, automotive industries serve as one the largest pillars of their respective economic sector. With large companies like General Motors, Chrysler, and Ford making large profits off of their product, business seems to be booming in some of the more developed nations in the world.

However, currently 90% of road traffic deaths and injuries occur in low and middle income nations. In both urban and rural areas, degradation of existing environments has been a key risk factor for these numbers. In addition, there is sometimes a complete lack of adequate infrastructure in these localities, posing a risk to everyone involved, especially pedestrians and cyclists.

On another note, the Automotive Industry is widely regarded as the leading source of lead air pollution in the world as one car provides the same amount of lead exposure as a house using lead paint. There have already been restrictions on products containing lead like paint, but there is no such legislation pertaining to cars.

How can UNDP provide certain automotive safety infrastructure for some of the developing countries? How can we create new guidelines to cut down on the dangerous pollutants that automotive factories emit?

Environmental Defense Fund: Automobile Industry Pollution

www.edf.org/news/automobile-industry-largest-source-lead-pollution-today

PWC News: Future Challenges Facing the Automotive Industry

<http://www.pwc.com/gx/en/industries/automotive/publications/how-to-be-no-1-facing-challenges-in-the-automotive-industry.html>

EY News: Driving Transformation in a Fast Moving World

<http://www.ey.com/GL/en/Industries/Automotive>

Enhancing Development Cooperation

In an attempt to build off of the success of the Millennium Development Goals in 2015, world leaders established the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This Agenda is made up of 17 different goals made “to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and tackle climate change by 2030. Among these goals is the idea of revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development.

Being the United Nations Development Programme, it is clear that we play a major role in the success of these Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It is our duty to help support the process in achieving these goals for the next decades and urgent action is needed unlock the true power that trillions of dollars in private resources can provide in order to completely deliver on these goals. We as a committee must find ways to accomplish this so that we can actually make the world a much better place for the future.

It is our job to think of ways to make the movement of reaching these goals more efficient by receiving aid from all mediums around the world. When thinking of solutions make sure you think outside of the box and create unique solutions as to how increase the development cooperation between the public, the United Nations, countries governments and well as Non-Governmental Organizations.

What methods that were employed during the success of the Millennium Development Goals can we use to achieve the SDGs for 2030? Which NGOs can be utilized for maximal success in preparation for these goals to be reached? How can we get the public involved to help reach the SDGs?

UNDP: Sustainable Development Goals

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sdgooverview/post-2015-development-agenda.html>

UN: Millennium Development Goals Report

http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/2015_MDG_Report/pdf/MDG%202015%20Summary%20web_english.pdf

UCM: Building Public Support for Development Cooperation

<https://www.ucm.es/data/cont/docs/430-2013-10-27-PP%2002-07.pdf>