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## SUSTAINABILITY AMBASSADORS' PROGRAM

### *Fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) Youth Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)*

**2022 Conference Theme:**

***A sustainable future? The green and digital transitions: prospects,  
opportunities and challenges for Nigerian youth.***



## SECTION I

### 1) INTRODUCTION:

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is the education and sensitization component of promoting and implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs are a set of 17 Goals, which map out strategies for development taking into cognizance of the needs of the present without compromising that of the future generations. ESD is one of the various channels through which the SDGs are advocated to lead to their actualization. Youth, as agents of change and development are key stakeholders in the implementation of the SDGs and are indeed key parties to its promotion. One of the main relevance of ESD to youth is in building visionary and responsible leadership and governance skills for a sustainable future generation. Making youth conversant with the SDGs, and espousing them to their prospects for future generations, it is believed will help inspire youth to take action and promote them in their different spheres of influence.

### 2) THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The goals are meant to be implemented through action. Their realization is to a great extent reliant upon leaders being versatile with them, understanding their content and the prospects they hold for the future of societies. Promoting awareness on the goals is very pertinent to their actualization.



GOAL 1- NO POVERTY	•End poverty in all its forms every where and increase prosperity (7 targets)
GOAL 2- ZERO HUNGER	•Acheive food security, improve agriculture and end hunger (8 targets).
GOAL 3-GOOD HEALTH AND WELLBEING	•Ensure good health and promote wellbeing for all , at all ages (13 targets)
GOAL 4- QUALITY EDUCATION	•Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all (10 targets)
GOAL 5 -GENDER EQUALITY	•Acheive gender equality and empower all women and girls (9 Targets)
GOAL 6-CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	•Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
GOAL 7-AFFORDABLE CLEAN ENERGY	•Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all (5 targets)
GOAL 8-DECENT WORK AND ECON. GROWTH	•Promote sustained inclusive and sustainable economic growth including productive employment and decen work for all (12 targets)
GOAL 9- INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	•Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation (8 targets)
GOAL 10- REDUCED INEQUALITIES	•Reduce inequalities within and among countries (10 targets)
GOAL 11- SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	•Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
GOAL 12- REPOSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	•Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns (11 targets)
GOAL 13 -CLIMATE ACTION	•Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impact (5 targets)
GOAL 14 -LIFE BELOW WATER	•Conserve and sustainably use ocean seas and marine resources for sustainable development (10 targets)
GOAL 15- LIFE ON LAND	•sustain restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial eco-systems, manage forests, halt desertification, land degradation and biodiversity loss (12 targets)
GOAL 16-PEACE JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	•Promote peaceful and inclusive societies, provide access to justice for all and build strong institutions (12 targets)
GOAL 17 -PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS	•Strenthen the means of impleemntation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development (19 targets)

### 3) THE SUSTAINABILITY AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

The Sustainability Ambassadors program started in 2017 when Bayero University Kano hosted the first youth Conference on ESD. Participants were drawn from five tertiary institutions as well as the five Regional Centers of Expertise on ESD. Since then, it has evolved into a multi-stakeholder initiative, with Bayero University Kano as the host, and coordinator. The program consists of an annual training, thematic discussions on sustainability issues, mentorship, internships, and community projects for the students. It also includes component on curriculum development, research and publication. The

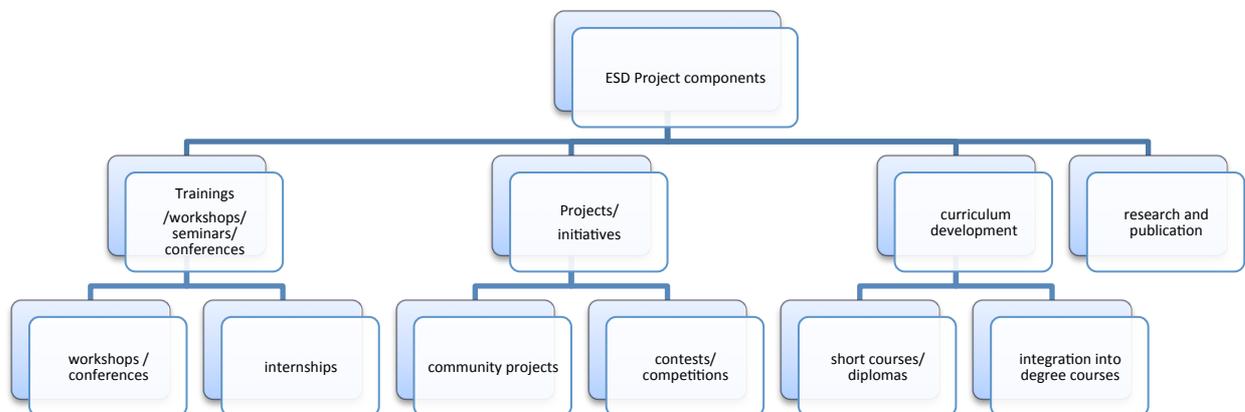


Sustainability Ambassadors Program is domiciled within the Center for Gender Studies, BUK, which acts as the coordination point. An ESD youth hub has been established within the Center as an ideas hub, to provide the sustainability ambassadors with the ‘space’ to discuss ideas, initiate projects and activities and generally engage with each other on sustainability issues.

#### 4) OVERALL PROGRAM OBJECTIVE

The overall program objective is to alleviate extreme poverty through action for sustainable development. It targets youth in the most vulnerable and poverty affected area of Nigeria - the North. The project acknowledges the promising prospects of the SDGs in addressing development challenges in a sustainable manner, and seeks to connect learnings of youth in tertiary institutions with action for development. The program links the poverty in the society with lack of awareness, understanding and appreciation of how their individual action can be streamlined to achieve collective societal objectives for development, and the specific prospect of doing that through the SDGs.

#### 5) THE ESD PROJECT STRUCTURE





## SECTION II

### 6) 2022 TRAINING THEME

#### ***A sustainable future? The green and digital transitions: prospects, opportunities and challenges for Nigerian youth***

The choice of this year's theme is deliberate. Since the COVID 19 pandemic, we have witnessed transformational changes in some key areas demonstrating the connectivity of mankind and the impact of human action. The harsh economic impact of the pandemic has spurred keen interest in new economic trends, one of such is the twin transitions to green and digital economies. These concepts are evolving speedily, and opportunities and challenges abound around these themes. But there are concerns as well, especially for developing countries. Will these open up more opportunities that will address endemic poverty and narrow economic divides, or will they exacerbate existing global inequalities? Will it be a second chance for Africa's teeming population? How can mobilizing action for these as key components of the SDGs be promoted and actualized? Thus, this year's conference is targeted towards imparting knowledge and skills about the relevance of the twin transition to our economy. It seeks to inspire the Sustainability ambassadors to act as transformative change agents through initiatives in the green and digital spheres.

### 7) KEY WORDS

Green economy, climate change, food security, digital transition, technologies for development, youth action, innovation, sustainability.

### 8) MAIN SDGS TO BE DISCUSSED

- Goal 7 on affordable and clean energy
- Goal 8 on decent work and economic growth
- Goal 9 on industry innovation and infrastructure
- Goal 10 on reduced inequalities
- Goal 11 on sustainable cities and communities
- Goal 12 on responsible consumption and production

These will be discussed in the context of other SDGs.



## 9) TRAINING GOAL

The goal of the training is to transition students to act as change makers and activists for development through the SDGs. It is targeted towards directing their knowledge base and learning from a content focused experience, to action and practice in the diverse fields of their studies, and also in various spheres of their lives. Participants are expected to implement action plans around their choice areas of sustainability and report back by the next conference.

## 10) TRAINING OBJECTIVES

This training is both an induction and refresher course for sustainability ambassadors. The training shall focus on achieving the following objectives for participants:

- 1) To impart knowledge and understanding of sustainability concepts, how they apply in their various spheres of studies, and how they affect different aspects of their lives.
- 2) To stimulate creativity, critical thinking and innovation that will help participants conceive, develop, and implement transformative projects that will address specific aspects of the SDGs.
- 3) Expose participants to concept of the twin green and digital transitions, highlighting the opportunities and challenges involved, and demonstrating their roles as stakeholders in the twin transition.
- 4) Promote youth action and motivate them to take initiative on transforming challenges into opportunities of both economic and social value through enterprise, innovation and technology.
- 5) Equip participants with skills, tools and resources that will build their capacities in accessing grants, creating networks and exploring opportunities locally and internationally
- 6) Imbibe passion for promoting the SDGs among the sustainability Ambassadors.

## 11) EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Participants are expected to:

- 1) Become conversant with the concept of sustainability and how it applies in various spheres of life.
- 2) Become familiar with the SDGs, understanding the importance and impact of the SDGs as they relate to the development of Nigeria and achieving Sustainable development.
- 3) Understanding the roles of the sustainability ambassadors and what the program entails- Expectations, level of engagement and opportunities.
- 4) Implement transformational projects that will address the wide range of issues under the SDGs



## 12) SOME KEY CONTENT

The scope of the engagements will cover:

- 1) Digital innovation and design thinking
- 2) Agri-prenuership and food security
- 3) Social entrepreneurship
- 4) Strategic planning ???
- 5) Proposal writing?? Practical session.

## 13) MODALITIES

- A pre-training and post-training assessment will be made to evaluate the participant's appreciation of key concepts and understanding of expectations
- An experiential approach will be adopted in the sessions that matches content with practical skills.
- Excursions and visits to factories, and other relevant locations will be factored in.

## 14) SELECTION CRITERIA

Each of the Six Universities will be sent a request to send representatives with the following requirements: Indicate that we are looking for students with the following qualities:

1. An active member of his/her class, with good academic potentials, promising prospects and good inter-personal skills.
2. Must be between first and second year of study (if it is a 4-year program); and not older than year 3 (if it is a 5- year program).
3. Must reflect gender-equity in the nominations.
4. Must read the accompanying manual prior to the conference. A pre-conference round-table session will be conducted based on the manuals.

## 15) PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS:

s/n	INSTITUTIONS	NO.
1)	Sustainability Ambassadors.	75 (TBC)
2)	Bayero University Kano.	15
3)	Yusuf Maitama Sule University.	5
4)	Kano University of Science and Technology.	5
5)	Federal University Dutse.	5
6)	Yusuf Bala Usman College of General and Legal	5



	Studies, Daura	
7)	Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria	5
8)	Khadija University Majiya.	4
9)	University of Abuja, Gwagwalada.	3
10)	Skyline University Kano.	3
11)	Nile University, Abuja.	3
12)	University of Maiduguri.	3
13)	Bukar Abba Ibrahim University, Yobe State	3
14)	Modibbo Adama University, Gombe.	3
15)	Niger State University, Minna.	3
16)	Nassarawa State University, Keffi.	3
17)	TOTAL	145

#### CONTACT

Professor Aminu Dukku  
Centre for Gender Studies  
Bayero University Kano  
+2347033042943  
[amdukku.soc@buk.edu.ng](mailto:amdukku.soc@buk.edu.ng)  
Bayero University Kano, Nigeria  
PMB 3011, Kano State

Regional Centre of Expertise -RCE Kano  
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Mr Usman Muhammad Mareri  
[usmanmareri@gmail.com](mailto:usmanmareri@gmail.com)  
[+2348095328394](tel:+2348095328394)