



Foundations for Tomorrow

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Chapeau

1. **Efforts surrounding the Summit of the Future should build on the substantive efforts of the 2030 Agenda.** Proactive efforts should be made to drive inclusion and unity across schools of thought - such as the work of futurists and sustainable development practitioners - to push against the fragmentation and dilution of efforts that we are currently seeing.
2. **The Summit of the Future should be used as an opportunity to invest in innovations** that will enable the “turbo-boosting” that is so needed to fulfil the promise of the 2030 Agenda. Capitalising on future opportunities and mitigating anticipated risks could provide a much-needed reinvigoration of the journey ahead.
3. **The challenges we face present us with an opportunity to foster the renewed faith in global solidarity** needed to double down on the SDGs. However, this window of opportunity will not last forever. We have the opportunity to capitalise on the innovative thinking, global political leadership, and appetite for solidarity of this moment before the impacts of generational conflict, biodiversity loss, and exponential inequality start creating irreversible damage to our human and planetary wellbeing. Renewed solidarity requires connecting futures-oriented governance innovations across member states, the UN and civil society.
4. **Intergenerational collaboration holds significant untapped potential.** Whilst being distinct from ‘future generations’, young leaders offer essential insights while also having the willingness and optimism to fight for a better future. Intergenerational coalitions can unlock urgent action by breaking down barriers that preclude intergenerational solidarity and fostering mutually trusting relationships.
5. **The 2024 Summit of the Future has the potential to turn these aspirations into action** and should be treated as a launch pad for building increased ambition and shared commitment, as well as local and regional momentum for tailored solutions to the challenges of the 21st century.



6. **This global moment and its surrounding negotiations and initiatives must be genuinely transformational.** The Summit of the Future is an opportunity to move beyond the discussions of the *'what'* and *'why'* of change that are so often the focus of these convenings and traverse the territory of *'how'* action should be taken, capturing concrete commitments to safeguard our future. By building on the increased public appetite for the reimagination of the multilateral system that accumulated in response to the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations, the Summit should be used as an opportunity to unlock and catalyse action across local, national and international levels.
7. **True transformation requires a renewed approach that values the knowledge and agency of all, including indigenous communities and countries from the Global South.** These communities have a unique contribution to make to this agenda, yet are often the most impacted by the challenges of the 21st century. Proactive efforts to rebalance this dynamic are essential to a just and transformational Summit of the Future.
8. **As we approach the 2024 Summit of the Future, we must hold an unwavering standard for bold action in the interests of our shared future,** made possible through collaboration at the highest levels and ensure that we:
 - 8.1. Cultivate concrete commitments to drive progress towards a transformational Summit of the Future,
 - 8.2. Foster the partnerships and networks required to embed resilience and effective foresight capabilities across national governments to strengthen public sector capabilities and unlock accelerated delivery of the SDGs,
 - 8.3. Develop the skillsets, mindsets and innovations required to respond to the evolving development needs of Member States.



Chapter IV. Youth and future generations

1. As we approach the Summit of the future, we must ensure that the narrative around the Summit:

- a.** Surfaces the challenges we face while acknowledging that this is a moment for realistic optimism about the future that can channel hopeful determination to drive rapid national and international governance reforms;
- b.** Treats the global context as an interconnected and indivisible whole and focuses on action beyond the 2030 threshold of the SDGs, looking at least a generation into the future.
- c.** Brings to the fore the connections and common causes between different governance innovations (including measuring what we value, beyond GDP, meaningful youth engagement, intergenerational fairness, solidarity, foresight, future generations, wellbeing economics and existential risk).

2. In the lead-up to the Summit, ensuring progress is made with regards to:

- a.** Appointing the UN Special Envoy for Future Generations, ensuring they are representative of global majority communities, before the Summit and ensuring this position is supported by the necessary resources to drive transformation.
- b.** Supporting genuinely innovative and tangible practices worldwide that protect the rights of current and future generations, including policy innovations, new institutions, meaningful youth engagement, demonstrator projects, and national listening exercises to be showcased at a national level and the High-Level Political Forum.
- c.** Integrating insights from young leaders and leveraging foresight practices and anticipatory governance to consider the interests of future generations across the remaining thematic tracks of the Summit of the Future.

3. The Summit for the Future's Pact for the Future should include:

- a.** A Declaration on Future Generations, which enshrines the rights of future generations as a practical instrument to drive legislative and institutional reforms at the national level.



- b.** A fundamental commitment to fairness for current and future generations, including the need for effective intergenerational dialogue and assessment of public policies from the standpoint of intergenerational fairness – ensuring policies and decisions speak to the needs of future generations, with accountability mechanisms to assess their intergenerational distributional impact.

- c.** A high-ambition capability-building programme to adopt strategic foresight and intergenerational fairness approaches in the UN and across Member States, including commitments to building capability for a foresight ecosystem at all levels of government and to run “national listening exercises” that connect all generations into policy-making in support of the 2030 Agenda’s “new approach” to multilevel (local, subnational and national, multi-stakeholder and multilateral public administration and anticipatory global governance).

Background | Foundations for Tomorrow

Foundations for Tomorrow (FFT) is a youth-driven independent non-profit, steadfast in its commitment to championing intergenerational leadership to protect the interests of future generations, striving for intergenerational understanding and collaboration.

The contents of this submission were drafted in partnership with the [School of International Futures](#), with the support of a shared network of advocates, researchers and political leaders.