



## What to Expect: Programme Details

The UN Global Compact Young SDG Innovators Programme engages young professionals from companies participating in the UN Global Compact around the world to learn how to use the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a catalyst for the development of new products and services. Each team of young Innovators will, over the course of 10 months, work on a challenge specific to their company with the goal of designing more sustainable business models, initiatives and products that will advance the company's sustainability efforts while driving innovation and delivering tangible solutions with potential market value.

The programme has six phases:

**Pre-Boarding:** Setting internal and programme expectations and understanding the programme objectives as it relates to the company.

**Onboarding:** Exploring the core concepts around business and the Sustainable Development Goals and Breakthrough Innovation to understand and apply to relevant challenges facing business today.

**Challenge Definition:** Testing out innovation tools to frame and validate a specific SDG business challenge pertinent to their company that will form the basis of a solution to be developed to address it.

**Solutions Development:** Designing a solution to address the challenge and then taking the idea from a concept into a fully defined project.

**Solutions Validation and Testing:** Moving project solutions to more refined versions through testing and validation within the company and with external stakeholders.

**Offboarding:** Incorporating the trainings, skills and projects from the programme back into participants' respective companies to embed breakthrough thinking within their organizations.

The programme offers a mix of diverse blended learning opportunities:

**Innovation Camps |** Five 2-day in-person immersive experiences where time is spent in interactive workshops and facilitated group activities focused on problem-solving and applying learning and tools to address real-life challenges.

**Digital Courses and Online Learning |** In addition to in-person events, participants will remotely access leading innovation and sustainability resources and training to understand breakthrough technologies, industry disruption and business models through the lens of the SDGs. Courses include: *SDGs and Design Thinking*, *How to Innovate with Impact*, *Align Corporate Strategy to the SDGs*, *The Role of Disruptive Technologies and Business Models in the SDGs*.

**Team Challenges |** Hands on in-person and online collaborative learning activities allowing participants to apply tools and skills to real business problems and scenarios.

**Live Case Studies |** Insight from real-life examples through experiential case studies where participants are given an insider's perspective into corporate SDG innovation asking questions and applying their own solutions to the company's challenges to serve as inspiration and models to apply to their context.

**Feedback and Sparring Sessions |** In-person and online opportunities to benefit from the collective knowledge and expertise of all Innovator teams globally and challenge ideas, inspire new thinking and test and refine project solutions.

**Mentoring and Coaching |** Support and guidance from external mentors, experts and peers – from ideation and design to development – to guide participants on how to take their ideas forward within their companies.

**Leadership Assessment |** A final project presentation is made to the Innovators' senior management towards the end of the programme, allowing them to assess commercial viability and explore future pathways to continue project development.