

## UNA-USA UN75 CONSULTATIONS: AMERICAN VOICES & THE UN



### **UN75 GLOBAL DIALOGUE: AMERICAN VOICES** UNA-USA consulted Americans across the US to capture recommendations on how to achieve a sustainable future

- To celebrate the **UN's 75th anniversary** in 2020, UN Secretary-General António Guterres announced that the UN is hosting the largest global conversation on the role of global cooperation in building the future we want
- As part of the UN75's global dialogue initiative, the **UNA-USA UN75 Committee** was established in June 2019 to develop and conduct the consultations in collaboration with local chapter leaders.
- UNA-USA conducted consultations to **capture voices from all 50 US states, Washington D.C., and Puerto Rico** to understand what's in Americans' hearts, hopes, and dreams about the future of the world
- The output of the consultations will be used to elevate policy recommendations to achieve a sustainable future by 2045
- Notes and recommendations from the Global Consultation will be provided to the United Nations and key
  decision makers within the public sector, including Members of Congress
  - A special UN75 commission was created to gather the data and develop a report for the UN Secretary-General to present at the UN General Assembly in September 2020
- After the June 2020 data transmission, UNA-USA will be promoting the UN75 commission's survey and will continue to encourage additional consultations which will be submitted to the United Nations for additional review



### **CONSULTATION OBJECTIVES**

The consultations revolved around three big questions which were answered by participants across the world



These questions were posed by the UN Secretary-General to all UN member states through country dialogues/consultations and the electronic survey.



80+ consultations reached over 1,850 consultation participants across 52 states/territories, and in Washington D.C.



### **CONSULTATION FORMATS**

UNA-USA invited Americans to participate in two different types of consultations:



#### STATE-SPECIFIC CONSULTATIONS

## See pages 19-25 for findings from state specific consultations

State-specific consultations convened Americans from a specific state or region to participate in a one-hour discussion that covered six key areas:

- climate change and environmental issues
- poverty and inequality
- new technologies
- population changes
- security threats
- breakdown of trust in and between governments

#### **THEMATIC CONSULTATIONS**

See pages 27-33 for findings from thematic consultations

Thematic consultations were hosted by some individual chapters and the UNA-USA national office. Instead of covering six areas broadly, these one-hour discussions aimed to dive deep on one issue area. Thematic consultations took place on five topics:

- global health
- gender equity
- climate change
- peace and security
- Inequalities



### **CONSULTATION DEMOGRAPHICS**

On average, consultations were comprised mostly of mixed gender participants, holding largely professional jobs and higher education levels





#### Vision for the future

• Future of the world that Americans want to create over next 25 years





#### World trajectory and key issues

- Assessment of whether we are on track to achieve desired world
- Impact on progress if priority issues continue

# REPORT PREVIEW

#### Your region's input

• Summary of feedback from consultations in your region

#### **Taking action**

- Actions needed to close the gap and achieve desired future
- UNA-USA's response



# VISION FOR THE FUTURE

What kind of future do we want to create?





### AMERICA'S VISION FOR THE FUTURE

About 50% of consultations reported quality education, reduced inequalities, climate action, and peace as critical for the future

#### % of consultations mentioning Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

# times consultation report listed SDG in submission form / total consultations





### **AMERICA'S VISION FOR THE FUTURE**

#### US consultation participants believe driving progress in these priority SDGs will result in cascading improvements for the other SDGs



"We want to create a just and fair world that offers equitable access to opportunity and education for everyone. We need a more sustainable community with more civic engagement and collaboration at every level."



"We need education connected to teaching about tolerance and respect, building awareness and collaboration."

"We want a place where we embrace a universal environmental and sustainability curriculum in primary and secondary schools and in colleges."



"We want a world with greater equity, justice, and opportunities. Many global issues can be narrowed to access and equality, whether it's climate, gender, access to education, or resources. In the future, we'd like to see space given to people who are vulnerable and/or traditionally excluded from politics and positions of power."

"This world would prioritize and amplify underrepresented voices so we can create greater unity to effectively address any future global issues. Greater accountability is needed, along with greater awareness, in order to solve the world's greatest challenges."



"We want a world that radically enforces climate justice around the world, as that will act as a catalyst for many other SDGs."



"We want racial and environmental justice for all. Many countries currently employ climate policies that disproportionately affect communities of color, impoverished rural pockets, reservations, and urban ghettos, but all humans deserve protection from environmental degradation regardless of their economic background.



"We hope for a world where governments are cooperating with one another for the well being of all. One that has less conflict and is more peaceful brought about by cooperation. People should work together for the common good enabling a good life for all. Global leadership is important. We must make a world that is safe for children."

"We want a world where respect of human rights and social justice is a lived reality, anchored by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. A future where governments, judicial systems and economic policies put social development at the center, promoting social / economic justice."



## ASSESSMENT OF WORLD TRAJECTORY

Are we on track to secure a better world?





#### **Drivers of a better world**

- Access to healthcare
- Advancements in science and technology
- Dedication of grassroots organizations
- Increased access to basic human rights
- Increased global cooperation on issues
- New generation that cares about social issues

better world

#### **Barriers to a better world**

- Conflict and human rights violations
- Displacement and homelessness

uncertain

- Growing inequity of access and opportunity
- Health risks and lack of healthcare access
- Impact of climate change
  - Lack of education equity
- Lack of gender equity

Lack of leadership action to solve issues

worse world

- Lack of trust in and cooperation across governments
- Limited and declining resources
- Poverty, income gaps, job losses
- Systemic racism, including policy racism



## **ASSESSMENT OF WORLD TRAJECTORY** The consultations also posed questions that explored three specific aspects of future world trajectory

**Key Questions** 

1	Next Generation's Opportunity	Do you think your children/grandchildren will have fewer or more opportunities than you had? Will they be better or worse off? (For example, with regard to job prospects?)	
2 Next Generation's Mobility		Do you think you/the next generation will be more or less mobile, socially, economically, and physically?	
3	Future Environmental Health	Do you expect to live in a more or less healthy natural environment? How might the environment be different?	

UNA-USA used these three discussion topics to get more a more granular response about US consultation participants' assessment of the world's trajectory



#### **DEEP DIVE: NEXT GENERATION'S OPPORTUNITY**

US consultation participants were split on whether world trends will result in increased or decreased opportunity for the next generation.







- Expanded resources
- Globalization and international connectivity
- Greater youth engagement
- Improved access and quality of education
- Improved equality between countries
- Increased employment opportunities
- Increased peace and justice
- Increased representation and gender/racial equity
- Increased technology innovation
- Institutionalization of progressive reforms
- More information availability and access

#### Drivers of decreased opportunity

- Climate change
- Continued conflict, violence, and terrorism
- Continued or exacerbated inequality
- Depleted resources
- Inadequate education systems
- Job losses due to automation
- Political conflict and increased nationalism
- Propagation of human rights violations (i.e. child labor)
- Technology gaps



#### **DEEP DIVE: NEXT GENERATION'S MOBILITY**

Similarly, US consultation participants had varying beliefs on whether drivers of increased mobility will outweigh mobility barriers.







- Awareness of climate change
- Global interconnection and travel opportunities
- Improved access and quality of education
- Increased technology innovation
- Reduced discrimination
- Youth leadership

#### Drivers of decreased mobility

- Climate change
- Continued or exacerbated inequality
- Job losses, lack of employment opportunities
- Lack of education access for all
- Lack of gender equity
- Population displacement
- Reduction in or lack of resources
- Stagnation of economic growth
- Technology inequality, digital divide



### **DEEP DIVE: FUTURE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH** However, the vast majority of US consultation participants fear that without reversing trends, environmental health will suffer.



intal	Increased	Uncertain	Decreased
vironme Health	20%	<mark>2%</mark>	78%



- Coordination of activities around climate change
- Improvements in clean water and sanitation
- More pollution control
- New focus on renewables and sustainability

#### Drivers of decreased environmental health

- Continued climate and environmental damage
- Increased air and water pollution
- Increase in natural disasters
- Increase in territory inhabitability
- Lack of environmental protections
- Lack of leadership around climate action
- Lack of sustainability measures or business practices
- Reduction in or lack of resources / food availability
- Reliance on fossil fuels



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## HIGH PRIORITY ISSUES

What is the impact on progress if current high priority issues continue?



### **UN75 HIGH PRIORITY ISSUES**

Throughout the dialogues, the UN wanted to gather diverse perspectives on what is needed to bring improvements to seven key areas

The Impact of Digital Technologies

**2** A New Era of Conflict and Violence

**3** Inequality – Bridging the Divide

**4** The Climate Crisis – A Race We Can Win

**5** Shifting Demographics

**6** Investing in Health for an Equitable Future

Women and Girls – Closing the Gender Gap



### **STATE SPECIFIC CONSULTATIONS: WHAT WE HEARD**

While four Sustainable Development Goals stood out in discussions as particularly important, six key issues areas emerged. The follow pages will take a deep dive to explore comments around these topics:



Notes: UNA-USA consultation form examined these 6 issue areas. They align with 5 out of 7 of the UN75 issue briefs. The unique issue explored in UNA-USA consultations was "breakdown of trust between governments and between governments and individuals." The missing issues from the UN75 issue briefs are "investing in health for an equitable future" and "women and girls – closing the gender gap." The other two issue briefs are covered in the thematic consultations.

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In consultations, attendees were asked: what is the world impact if trends in climate change and environmental issues continue?

The following are categories of specific examples mentioned during consultations.

### DEEP DIVE: CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES



Impact on world if trends in climate change and environmental issues continue

- **Environmental damage**: Increased pollution, damage to ecosystems and ocean life, and biodiversity extinction
- Food and water crisis: Reduction in natural resources which could lead to food and water shortages, as well as a disruption to the food chain
  - **Growing inequalities**: Climate change has outsized impact on developing countries, which increases global inequalities; also has larger impact on vulnerable populations and may sometimes cause a slowdown or reversal of social justice initiatives
  - **Habitat loss**: Disruption to habitable territory, such as by rising sea levels, which could result in population displacement and conflict over territory and resources
- 5 **Natural disasters**: Rise in extreme weather conditions (fires, floods, etc.) that could be life threatening
- 6 Personal health risks: Changes in environment can have adverse impacts on health outcomes and increase health risks, especially in vulnerable populations



In consultations, attendees were asked: what is the world impact if trends in poverty and inequality continue?

The following are categories of specific examples mentioned during consultations.

### **DEEP DIVE: POVERTY AND INEQUALITY**



#### Impact on world if trends in poverty and inequality continue

Conflict: Continued misunderstandings between people which could drive conflict and human rights violations

**Global inequalities:** As the economic gap widens, developing countries will fall further behind developed countries; may increase need for countries to take on international debt or foreign aid

**B** Homelessness and displacement: Lack of affordable housing and climate inequalities that drive population displacement will result in increased homelessness and lives lost



**Income gap:** Income gap will widen as the top 1% continue to increase their wealth while the marginalized see no economic progress and increasing underemployment; systemic discrimination shapes unequal access to opportunity

Lack of social protections: Poverty is a barrier to social protections, and thus, vulnerable populations will be unable to access or afford proper education, healthcare, or healthy food, or achieve gender equity within current social program structure



In consultations, attendees were asked: what is the world impact if trends in new technologies continue?

The following are categories of specific examples mentioned during consultations.

### **DEEP DIVE: NEW TECHNOLOGIES**



#### Impact on world if trends in new technologies continue

**Cyber warfare & security threats:** Technology may be utilized to carry out cyber warfare attacks or security threats

**Job losses:** Rise of technology and AI will increase company reliance on automation, which will eliminate jobs and make a population of the US unemployable due to a persistent digital skills gap

**Misinformation and hate speech:** Technology and social media can be used to propagate misinformation and hate speech; reduced human connections can perpetuate these trends

Privacy violations: Risk in increased privacy violations due to lack of data protection

5 **Propagated inequalities:** Lack of equal access to technology will further foster inequalities across groups, especially in education and labor markets

Unlike other issue areas, consultation participants also discussed benefits of new technologies, including new opportunities for digital advocacy, world connectivity, innovation, and employment

Notes: Predicted impacts are not rank ordered; each impact was referenced at least once in a consultation



In consultations, attendees were asked: what is the world impact if trends in population changes continue?

The following are categories of specific examples mentioned during consultations.

### **DEEP DIVE: POPULATION CHANGES**



#### Impact on world if trends in population changes continue

1

**Conflict & human rights violations:** Overpopulation and forced migration will contribute to conflict over territory and resources and, in some cases, may lead to exclusion of foreign populations or human rights violations

**Escalated climate risk:** Growth in population will contribute to increased pollution and carbon emissions, which may ultimately result in health risks, including sterilization

**Overpopulation:** overpopulation will lead to insufficient economic, social, and environmental resources to sustain the world's population, which may lead to issues such as famine, increased education inequity, and forced migration



In consultations, attendees were asked: what is the world impact if trends in security threats continue?

The following are categories of specific examples mentioned during consultations.

### **DEEP DIVE: SECURITY THREATS**



#### Impact on world if trends in security threats continue

1

**Continued conflict and risk of terrorism:** Ongoing risk of increased warfare and advances in weaponry or rise of new threats such as cybersecurity or biological threats, which may increase the risk of terrorism

Lack of basic rights: Security threats may reduce access to basic human rights, such as
freedom from exploitation, privacy rights, access to healthcare, and gender equity

**Misinformation:** Rise of misinformation due to media distortions or lack of press freedoms

**Political threats:** Risk of politically motivated violence and the resurgence of trade wars and/or cold wars as a result of decreased diplomacy



In consultations, attendees were asked: what is the world impact if trends in lack of trust in and between governments continue?

The following are categories of specific examples mentioned during consultations.

### DEEP DIVE: LACK OF TRUST IN AND BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS



#### Impact on world if trends in breakdown of trust in and between governments continue



**Increased partisanship:** Increased political partisanship will continue to divide consultation participants, leading to political gridlock and decreasing faith in the political institution; divisive and extreme positions in national government will be strengthened



**Lack of community support for reforms:** Lack of community relations and non-diverse representation will reduce political engagement and support for necessary reforms and government-provided solutions

**B** Lack of international cooperation: Reduction in strategic alliances such as NATO and breakdown in global deals, such as nuclear disarmament or climate change agreement

**Rise in authoritarianism:** Decline in respect for democratic values and a rise in authoritarian governments

Weak and corrupt institutions: Rise in, and lack of ability for international collaboration with, corrupt government institutions

## THEMATIC CONSULTATIONS

What insights were gleaned from deeper discussions on specific issues?



#### **THEMATIC CONSULTATIONS**

UNA-USA conducted some thematic consultations to drive deeper discussions on specific issues. The following five are the themes that either a UNA-USA statewide consultation or a nationwide consultation utilized in their line of questioning to draw out overall opinions/feedback:



#### **Commentary**

Some UNA-USA chapters and three consultations conducted by UNA-USA national office utilized specific themes to appeal to the passion areas of US consultation participants who are not as familiar with the UN

- The Global Health, Gender Equity, and Climate Change consultations had nationwide audiences
- Some UNA-USA chapters facilitated thematic local consultations while still answering the three main questions posed by the UN Secretary General
- These thematic consultations were all aligned with the UN75 seven emerging risks



#### **THEMATIC CONSULTATION DEEP DIVE: GLOBAL HEALTH**

Consultation participants shared how current trends in global health are integrated with the outcomes of other key issue areas. Their comments are categorized below.

"An ideal world will have **universal health care, better health emergency infrastructure, and strengthened health systems**. There should also be better collaboration on all levels."



Climate Change and Environmental Issues "Climate change and **pollution** hold the greatest **threat to global health**. People need to make healthier and more sustainable choices in regards to themselves and their environment."



"In the new world, we will see new security threats. Our **privacy** will be under threat in the changing world."

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"This issue affects global health, as many who are in disadvantaged situations **lack access to healthcare**."



Breakdown of Trust In & Between Govts "There needs to be greater global collaboration, especially during health emergencies. Governments need to better understand local and community health needs."



"There is great potential for technological advancements to **improve access to healthcare**, like with mobile clinics."



#### **THEMATIC CONSULTATION DEEP DIVE: GENDER EQUALITY**

Consultation participants discussed interrelation between gender equity and key issues and share their hopes for technology to improve equity. Their comments are categorized below.



"An ideal world will have more women in power and decision making and more institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women."



Climate Change and Environmental Issues "The impacts of climate change and gender equality are interrelated. Women and girls **will be more vulnerable** as they become subject to **restricted access** to resources, education, and parity."



Breakdown of Trust In & Between Govts "Governments need to **prioritize women's rights** and involve more women with decision making, or else **rollback will occur** and trust will decline."

Poverty and Inequality "Period poverty and general poverty will increase and **disproportionately affect women**. Unless activism increases and governments **do a better job for women, inequality will remain**."



"Technologies can help navigate policy change, improve access to female education and education on women's rights/health, and create a platform for increased activism."

UNA\*USA

#### **THEMATIC CONSULTATION DEEP DIVE: CLIMATE CHANGE**

Consultation participants stated how climate change has adverse impacts on poverty and security and call for government collaboration. Their comments are categorized below.

"An idea world will address greenhouse gas emissions better, have improved education on the environment, and have more sustainably managed ecosystems and biodiversity."



Climate Change and Environmental Issues "Climate change is an issue **foundational** to many others. We need all levels of the world to **stand by sustainability**, from individuals to governments."



"Armed conflict and war may increase if climate change and environmental issues are left unchecked."

Poverty and Inequality "We need better **support and legal action** for **children and disadvantaged people groups**, as they are affected by climate change much more than others."



In & Between Govts

"Global collaboration and **accountability is lacking**. Also, governments should collaborate more with local communities in problem-solving."



#### **THEMATIC CONSULTATION DEEP DIVE: PEACE AND SECURITY**

Consultation participants discussed how climate change and inequality drive conflict and address the need for education and mediation. Their comments are categorized

#### below.

"We want to create a world with education, equity, and disarmament. Education connected to teaching about tolerance and respect, building awareness and collaboration. Equity related to issues such as gender equality, economic viability, no poverty, creating a sustainable food supply chain, and creating equal access to resources. Disarmament connected to creating a world where this is strong mediation of conflict and fewer weapons."



Climate Change and Environmental Issues "If we do not combat global warming, this issue will cause a **lack of resources** such as water and food, and **displacement** of people, which can lead to **conflict over territory/resources**."

Poverty and Inequality

"Inequality will be a major **driver of conflict** and **misunderstanding** between peoples."



Security Threats "Peace and security will be threatened if **current tensions** are allowed to continue **without education/awareness building** and mediation."



### **THEMATIC CONSULTATION DEEP DIVE: INEQUALITIES**

Consultation participants discussed linkages between inequalities and other key issues, specifically focusing on climate change and pandemics. Their comments are categorized below.

"We want a future that is **culturally diverse**, uplifting historically marginalized groups of people. Since women are on the front-line during not only this pandemic but in every industry worldwide, **policies and programming need to be created to support women**. Further, corporations have found that when the workforce is more culturally diverse, it **increases growth and profitability**."





Climate Change and Environmental Issues "This is an issue that **affects us all regardless of our socioeconomic status** in the world. A collaborative effort is crucial so that we can combat the negative effects of climate change."



Population Changes "Due to climate change and environmental issues, we will continue to have **more displaced persons worldwide**."

Poverty and Inequality "Affordable housing is especially affected by inequality because lower income residents face major challenges locating safe and affordable housing."



Breakdown of Trust In & Between Govts "Inequalities have always existed in the USA. COVID-19 has put a spotlight on those inequalities; particularly, **access to healthcare and employment**. It's important to bridge gaps between the people and government so we form **strong alliances**."



"New technologies can assist in **solving our critical problems**. Digital and virtual platforms can be leveraged to **advance advocacy** for the UN by coordinating virtual interviews with community leaders."



## REGIONAL FEEDBACK

What was top of mind for consultation participants in your region?



### **UNA-USA REGIONS** We aggregated consultation data by UNA-USA's 11 regions

Full regional findings reports can be found at unausa.org/un75

#### **Map of UNA-USA Regions**



#### **Consultation Attendees per Region**

Region	# Attendees	% of Total
New England	97	5.1%
Mid Atlantic	162	8.6%
Mid East	163	8.6%
South East	179	9.5%
Great Lakes	146	7.7%
North Central	120	6.4%
South Central	30	1.6%
Rocky Mountain	48	2.5%
Northwest	23	1.2%
Mid Pacific / SoCal	545	28.9%
National	375	19.9%



### **UNA-USA REGIONS**

Region reports will be provided to UNA-USA Regional Reps, regional chapter leaders, and consultation attendees

#### **Map of UNA-USA Regions**

35

WA MT ND OR ID SD WY NE IN KS MO TN OK AZ NM AR MS TX

- **Regional summaries captured** insights from both UNA members and non-members
- Report will be provided to UNA-USA • **Regional Representatives, regional** Chapter Leaders, and all consultation attendees
- To check out the findings from your • region, check out unausa.org/un75







# TAKING ACTION

What action is needed to help us achieve a brighter future?


#### **RECOMMENDED STAKEHOLDER ACTIONS**

UNA-USA consultations asked American participants to share what actions each stakeholder group should take to create a better future





#### **RECOMMENDED STAKEHOLDER ACTIONS**

US consultation participants believe each stakeholder group has the ability to take action to create a better world. The chart below indicates specific focus areas that consultation participants indicated as necessary for the stakeholders to address.

#### **United Nations**

Address global issues and create change for a better future through advocacy, education, community engagement, international policy coordination and accountability measurement and tracking

#### UNA-USA

Create a better future by engaging local US consultation participants (individuals, organizations, governments) in the UN's efforts to drive positive change around global issues

#### Individuals

Promote positive change by:

- Activism and community engagement, including engagement with local orgs.
- Civic engagement
- Education of oneself and others
- Sustainable lifestyle choices (recycling, reducing carbon emissions)

#### Organizations

Address world issues through:

- Public private partnerships (community-based programs, government partnerships, education)
- Sustainable business solutions, including alignment with SDGs and progress tracking
- Future growth investment
- Equitable policy development

#### Governments

Foster action and collaboration through:

- Sustainable policies and services, including incorporating SDGs into policy development
- Global collaboration, including ongoing engagement with the UN
- Community engagement, support, and services
- Public private partnerships





#### **STAKEHOLDER DEEP DIVE: UNITED NATIONS** UN should use its platform to address global issues through advocacy, education, community engagement, and coordination



Action	Priority	Description
Advocacy of Global Issues		<ul> <li>Encourage member states to work towards SDG goals, with focus on country-level strategies based on needs</li> <li>Promote change around specific issues such as climate crisis, international migration, healthcare access (eliminate preventable diseases), inequalities (racial inequality, indigenous people's rights, income gap), human rights violations, and peacekeeping</li> </ul>
Inclusive Engagement		<ul> <li>Promote widespread engagement around UN initiatives, specifically focused on youth, community / grassroots organizations, and private corporations</li> <li>Create links with local communities and organizations and host inclusive discussions to collect feedback and incorporate community voices, especially from underrepresented populations, into decisions</li> </ul>
Policy Coordination and Accountability		<ul> <li>Work with world leaders to resolve differences and encourage cooperation and sharing of best practices, engaging with the science and academic communities and amplifying expert advice</li> <li>Hold member states and companies accountable for SDG goals and enforcement of international laws / treaties</li> <li>Create better data tracking and measurement, including system for US to share data and report on progress</li> </ul>
Education and Marketing		<ul> <li>Encourage schools and universities to incorporate education on the role of UN</li> <li>Externally communicate to the world the positive impact of the UN, using media and art to elevate understanding of core UN values</li> </ul>





Action	Priority	Description
Engagement of Domestic Constituents		<ul> <li>Create strong American base of support for UN by clearly articulating goals of the UN and how they translate to local communities; monitor and report progress on how local communities are directly advancing the SDGs</li> <li>Increase chapter advocacy activities and non-member participation, including lobbying efforts, and actively target youth and reaching out to underrepresented demographic groups to make chapters inclusive of the communities they represent</li> </ul>
Advocacy of Global Issues and UN Initiatives		<ul> <li>Promote 2030 SDGs across US and inform consultation participants on progress and shortcomings; global issues of interest include health outcomes, gender equity, elimination of discrimination, human rights, press freedoms, global empathy, inclusive and representative politics, and equal access to services, information and resources</li> <li>Support US-UN relations by engaging elected officials at all levels of government, strengthening awareness of UNA-USA and of UN initiatives, and increasing UNA-USA presence at legislative sessions</li> </ul>
Formation of Partnerships		<ul> <li>Promote inclusive community engagement by collaborating with local businesses and community members and supporting international efforts and NGOs</li> <li>Create a platform for grassroot organization to connect and support each other in addressing the SDGs</li> <li>Increase collaboration between regional UNA-USA chapters</li> </ul>
Education and Marketing		<ul> <li>Educate the public on the SDGs by connecting with experts to engage schools, universities, and the community at large to bring awareness of the 2030 agenda</li> <li>Increase knowledge of UNA-USA by sharing topics on social media and forming closer relationships with journalists</li> <li>Bolster chapter marketing campaigns by leveraging the digital platforms</li> </ul>



## Attend local commission meetings and other feedback forums where we have a platform to voice our opinions and influence change Education Educate ourselves and others about critical issues and the SDGs; support educators to embed lessons about SDGs in school systems Have conversations with those who have different opinions and/or belief systems and seek out unbiased news sources to enable us to challenge our own beliefs and create more nuanced opinions Make intentional, sustainable lifestyle choices (i.e. carpooling, donation, recycling) that can individually contribute to meeting the SDG goals; use purchasing power to encourage businesses to make sustainable choices Make active effort to be aware of implicit biases and learn about different cultures

Contribute to grassroots movement by empowering community members to identify issues they care about and take action in their local communities
 Volunteer with local organizations and create community partnerships and coalitions
 Leverage social media tools and write letters to the editor at local newspapers to advocate for important issues

political process, getting involved in elections, and voting for leaders who support the SDGs

• Hold elected officials (locally and nationally) accountable in addressing inequities and supporting the SDGs by engaging in the

Priority Description

#### **STAKEHOLDER DEEP DIVE: INDIVIDUALS**

Through community and civic engagement, ongoing education, and lifestyle adaptations, every individual can make a difference



Action

Activism and

Community

Engagement

**Civic Engagement** 

#### Businesses can contribute to a better future through partnerships and developing sustainable strategies, investments and policies

**STAKEHOLDER DEEP DIVE: ORGANIZATIONS** 



Action	Priority	Description
Public Private Partnerships		<ul> <li>Create partnerships with public sector and civil society organizations to work together to address key world issues (i.e. healthcare, wealth inequalities, education, food security, housing); foster cross-sector and global partnerships</li> <li>Use social capital and share best practices and resources to collaborate and solve problems on a systemic scale and secure more sustainable resources</li> </ul>
Sustainable Business Solutions	6	<ul> <li>Incorporate SDGs into business vision and agenda, creating sustainable business solutions aligned with SDG goals</li> <li>Implement green business models and be fully informed on organization's entire supply chain to enable companies to take action to make more sustainable sourcing choices</li> <li>Actively recruit individuals with sustainability values and capabilities</li> </ul>
Future Growth Investment		<ul> <li>Invest in all communities, creating job opportunities and providing training to equip communities with employable skills</li> <li>Promote innovation and science advancements and invest in entrepreneurs who will develop new solutions</li> </ul>
Equitable Policies		<ul> <li>Create diversity &amp; inclusion policies and those that create healthy relationship between employers and employees</li> <li>Put more women in senior leadership positions</li> <li>Provide a platform for underrepresented people to have their voices heard and make products / services accessible to traditionally disadvantaged populations</li> </ul>



#### **STAKEHOLDER DEEP DIVE: GOVERNMENTS**

Governments should deliver sustainable services and foster collaboration, leveraging community engagement and partners

Action	Priority	Description
Sustainable Policies and Services		<ul> <li>Incorporate SDGs and other UN agenda items into local policies; invest in services aligned with SDGs</li> <li>Increase diversity of representation, including more women in positions of power</li> <li>Fund programs that uplift people out of poverty, i.e. social services that invest in the most vulnerable populations; conduct systemic outreach to vulnerable groups to increase awareness of and access to resources and programs</li> </ul>
Global Collaboration		<ul> <li>National leaders, including Congress, must support international cooperation and action for SDGs by providing funding for the UN and working with allies and other nations to promote human rights and social justice domestically and internationally</li> <li>National leaders must uphold treaties, including those for indigenous populations, and other global agreements</li> </ul>
Community Engagement		<ul> <li>Involve more of civil society in the decision-making process, collaborating with community members and local experts to make strong arguments for change and incorporating transparency into the political process</li> <li>Incorporate input from community organizers on local challenges to develop context-specific policies and funding proposals that acknowledge nuances of problems facing their community, while still aligning with state initiatives</li> </ul>
Public Private Partnerships		<ul> <li>Hold corporations accountable for sustainable business practices and develop programs that provide training and job opportunities to workers who currently has a skills or occupation gap (i.e. digital skills gap, green economy)</li> <li>Coordinate with private sector around coordination of resource allocation programs and development of new economic and entrepreneurship opportunities</li> </ul>



### UNA-USA TAKEAWAYS

How will UNA-USA use the consultation feedback to enhance our programs and goals?





#### **UNA-USA's Mission**

#### Inspire

Programming that shows the impact of the UN and UN agencies and highlighting its principles

#### Educate

Opportunities to increase awareness of the work of the UN and to understand needs and solutions

#### Mobilize

Advocacy actions that underscore the relevance of the UN for Americans and US lawmakers



**CONSULTATION TAKEAWAYS FOR UNA-USA** In response to consultation feedback, UNA-USA will explore three options to address consultation participant suggestions:





Raise Awareness Communicate how existing UNA-USA programming addresses consultation participant feedback for desired UNA-USA actions

Extend / Enhance Programming

Identify opportunities to expand current UNA-USA initiatives



Launch New Initiatives

Develop new offerings based upon consultation feedback



#### **CURRENT UNA-USA INITIATIVES**

UNA-USA has many current initiatives that address many of the needs and goals consultation participants stated as important for UNA-USA to offer as a stakeholder.

In the chart below, the dark boxes are the main themes indicated by participants as what UNA-USA should focus on and the light boxes indicate specific examples of how UNA-USA currently supports these themes

Advocacy of Global Issues and UN Initiatives	Engagement of Domestic Constituents	Formation of Partnerships	Education and Marketing
UN Day Events	Youth Engagement Programs and Fellowships	UN SDG-oriented organizations	School curriculum/Model UN
Advocacy initiatives (climate, women, refugees, etc.)	Historically Black Colleges & Universities Engagement	Service-oriented partnerships	2020 Communications Plan Tools (i.e. UNA Today)
Member of Congress Report Cards	Champions Program and Targeted State Outreach	Ongoing national partnership opportunities	UNA-USA National Council of Regional Representatives
Advocacy templates and sessions	Global Engagement Summit and Global Engagement Online Series		Membership Drives
Lobby Day on Capitol Hill with Members of Congress	World Federation of United Nations Assocs.		Fellowships and Delegate Opportunities
In-District Member of Congress meetings	Global Leadership Summit		
, Affinity Groups	Passport (members-only) programs		

#### **NEXT STEPS FOR UNA-USA**

Consultation feedback will help UNA-USA better serve as the connector between the UN and Americans as individuals and within organizations and government.



United Nations				
UNA-USA Create a better future by engaging local US consultation participants (individuals, organizations, governments) in the UN's efforts to drive positive change around global issues				
Individuals	Organizations	Governments		



## WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

The following pages outline these next steps that you can take:

- 1. Take action to advocate for the UN75 resolution to recognize the UN's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- 2. Join UNA-USA if not already a member
- 3. Take the one-minute survey if you were unable to participate in a US consultation
- 4. Listen to UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres' report on UN75 findings from other member states during the UN General Assembly in September 2020
- 5. Read about progress made to achieve Sustainable Development Goals



# 2020 AND BEYOND

ASK YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO SUPPORT H.RES.1024 IN COMMEMORATION OF THE UN'S 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY.

## Text 75 to 738-674



#### JOIN OUR MOVEMENT OF 20,000+ AMERICANS WHO SUPPORT THE UNITED NATIONS!

## UNAUSA.ORG



## Missed your chance to participate in a consultation?



<u>Complete this one-minute survey</u> to share your vision for the future with the United Nations!



Findings from UNA-USA's consultations have been sent to the UN and will be reviewed during the 75th Session of the UN General Assembly.





The 2020 UN <u>General Assembly</u> begins Tuesday, September 15 and will be held virtually.





The UN recently released the state of the world's progress toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.



**Read the 2020 Sustainable Development Goals Report** 







#### UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## Special thanks to the UNA-USA UN75 Committee:

Rachel Bowen Pittman, Executive Director, UNA-USA Teta Banks, Ed.D., Chair, UNA-USA National Council Marielle Ali, Chair, UNA-USA UN75 Committee Herb Behrstock London Bell Marcia Brewster Paula Boland Mel Boynton Farah Eck Katrina Finch

Sarah Hopkins Anna Mahalak Karen Mulhauser Patrick. A. Murphy DeAnthony Nelson Marco Sanchez Kai Stansberry David Stillman, Ph.D. Jeanne Betsock-Stillman Zephanii Smith-Eisenstat Gillian Wilson Troy Wolfe

Questions? Email UN75@unausa.org





#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**



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Kathy is a Kellogg MBA Candidate with management consulting experience passionate about developing localized solutions to global challenges. Conducting projects abroad instilled in Kathy the importance of understanding local contexts when institutionalizing solutions to create sustainable change. After Kellogg, Kathy will join the Boston Consulting Group's Washington D.C. office. Kathy's board experience includes serving as a Governing Board Member of GlobeMed and Young Professionals Board member of Reach the World. Kathy graduated with dual degrees in Economics and Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania.

Kathy developed this report in consultation with Farah Eck, Senior Director at UNA-USA.







UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## UNA-USA GLOBAL CONSULTATIONS SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

JULY 2020

