# Bootcamp Application

January - September, 2020

**THE DEADLINE TO APPLY** is **June 19th, 2020**

**Background:**

**Generation Unlimited (Gen U)** is a dynamic global partnership that draws on the expertise of young people, representatives from governments, multilateral organizations, the private sector and civil society to inspire urgent investment in education, skills training, and empowerment for the rapidly growing global population of adolescents and young people (ages 10-24) – which will reach 2 billion by 2030.

The global partnership for Generation Unlimited focuses on identifying, co-creating and supporting solutions that have the potential to deliver results at scale for young people, especially those in the greatest danger of being left behind. Generation Unlimited forms part of the United Nations’ Youth 2030 Strategy and will complement and build on existing programmes that support adolescents and young people.

In Guyana, at the core of GenU’s model will be a multi-sector approach—a platform for stakeholders across sectors to contribute. It is envisaged that when stakeholders from all sectors come together as part of the GenU partnership, momentum will grow, and young people will make progress.

In Guyana adolescents are a key and have significant demography with estimated 21.1% of total population (of 751,223) are between the ages of 10-19 (Census 2012). Recent Labour Force Survey found that the total number of unemployed persons is 37,119, which comprised 15.3% of eligible females (9.9% male) and 21.6% of youth (aged 15 to 24) with 28% of young women. The “worrisome labour market situation of youth” was confirmed by the proportion of youth not in education, employment, or training.

According to 2014 MICS-Guyana, adolescent birth rate stands at 74 per 1,000 women and specifically among girls (aged 15- 19), 13.3% were married or in union (cohabiting). With higher level of functional illiteracy, 14.4% of children (aged 12-16) are not in school. Alarmingly is one in every four children from Amerindian families is out of secondary school.

Adolescents continue to have limited access to extra curricula or recreational activities, limited opportunities for technical vocational skills and few opportunities to participate in issues which are important to them. There are a few national events which involve youth, however, some youth have stated that their participation remains somewhat not as expected.

Due to high potential of revenues from oil and gas, Guyana has been foreseen the fastest growing economy in the world and is one of 82 countries which will grow faster than the world economy. In that context, there is an enormous potential to groom the youngest population to be change makers. Gen U will provide a platform to become digital change makers, embrace green economy and employability for/with smart young people. Special attention with be given to ensure inclusivity and address inequity in engaging with youth from diverse background and locations (including those who are/were in contact with the law and disadvantaged youth) to discuss these issues and to arrive at solutions.

**4. Strategies**

**Youth Challenge**

UNICEF and UNDP are calling for submissions to the Generation Unlimited Youth Challenge, where the young people of Guyana can develop their own solutions to real-world problems and stand the chance to win big and compete on the global stage.

Young people are experts in their own lives and experiences and they have ideas and energy to create a better world for themselves if given the chance. The Generation Unlimited Youth Challenge calls on young innovators to design solutions to improve education, employment and civic engagement. It aims to inspire young people with brilliant ideas, but without the resources to bring them to life.

The Youth Challenge will support young women and young men to identify, understand and solve challenges for them and their peers.

**5. Challenge:**

UNICEF Guyana, in partnership with UNDP and all stakeholders are challenging adolescents and youth to find solutions to:

1. **Education & Training:**

* ***Question*** - How can we ensure that the most marginalized adolescents and youth continue learning and training.

1. **Entrepreneurship:**

* ***Question*** -   How can youth move beyond a roadside stands/ music carts and wash bays to structured enterprise and business?

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## Section 1: Eligibility

* Your team must have at least three members, including you, and we recommend no more than five members total;
* Teams are eligible that are starting to work on a new idea or project. For example, for this particular challenge young people cannot apply if:
  + They have already received funding to develop the idea.
  + They are already a registered company or community organization
* Every member of your team must be aged between 14 and 24 on September 23rd, 2019. We welcome diversity! We welcome teams of all genders or none and include diversity of all kinds of identity - gender, sexuality, ethnicity, disability, etc
* Every member of your team must be available to join all days of the workshop **July 15-17, 2020**
* If selected for local seed funding and mentorship, you need to be able to commit to implementing your idea, which could last until at least September 2020
* If selected for global seed funding, you need to be able to commit to ongoing implementation

**Need some help?** We’re here for you. You can always reach out to us:

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| By Phone: | Call or message us at ***(592) 226 7083 Ext. 111 or (592) 226 4040 Ext 242*** and we’ll help you through the Application process |
| By Email: | email us at [jcrosse@unicef.org](mailto:jcrosse@unicef.org) or [nadira.balram@undp.org](mailto:nadira.balram@undp.org) for guidance |

**About your information:** We will only collect information from you if needed for the Youth Challenge. We will only use this information to contact you about the Challenge, and it will not be shared with any partners. You can find out more by contacting us (as above).

## Section 2: Application steps:

**TEAM NAME: Green Creatives**

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**STEP 1. IDENTIFY THE PROBLEM**

Please tell us about the problem you want to try and solve through the Youth Challenge. It should be something that is affecting you, your friends or family, or your community. Write a short paragraph about it. [GUYANA]

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| **Problem Statement - Short details of what the issue is.** |
| Our project aims to elevate local youth creatives and foster a smooth transition from the informal economy to the formal economy. The young creatives are not short on talent but lack a platform that grants their work visibility while promoting inclusivity. They also lack a comprehensive database which identifies for them available grants, loans and funding opportunities. Consequently, they are unable to effectively market their work and profit from it. This is particularly catered to creatives that are involved in the traditional constituents of art and upcycling, an environmental area that also serves to combat one of Guyana’s persistent pollutants- single-use plastics. |

**STEP 2. TELL THE STORY**

In a few sentences, tell us the story of someone affected by the problem. Think about how it is affecting them and why

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| **Story - Who is affected by this problem? How and Why?** |
| There are significant challenges that Guyanese youth who have a creative spark genuinely face when they are actively expressing themselves and attempting to generate an income while challenging the status quo of Guyanese culture. They are perturbed by   1. **Lack of Grants**- There is a perception or perhaps even a certainty that Guyanese artists receive little funding from private or public entities. It may be assumed that far too little is injected to bolster and/ or encourage growth in the varying art forms of expression. As a result of this, many artists, upcyclers, creatives and the like turn to more traditional methods of making their livelihood which would result in persons trudging through the mundane 9 to 5. 2. **A culture which is not conducive to non-traditional art forms**- Upcycling is a relatively new concept to Guyanese. It is a niche market seemingly only appreciated by the few who have a true understanding of what it means not only for the environment but as a different form of art. As a result of upcycling being new to Guyanese, its platform is not truly realized for the environmental benefits to be widespread. The visibility deserved and true essence of what we as a society could gain from such a concept is lost along with the creatives who are not supported. 3. **Unable to fit the mold of what an artist should be specifically women-** The Guyanese culture is perhaps very similar to other Caribbean nation-states' respective cultures when it comes to supporting locally based artists. A sense of anything “foreign is right”, which translates to, if the artist does not fit the mold of what an appealing artist should appear or sound like, then it is far more difficult for upward mobility. The focus is not on content but appearance. This variable is far more serious for females than it is for males. Furthermore, there is a lack of support from Guyanese on all levels which include Local Guyanese and Guyanese living abroad to donate or stimulate the creative spark of their local talents. Guyanese society would often rather consider their local artists' performances and showcases as an act of charity. To the extent that local artists would often be berated for selling their creative content or even charging a price to showcase their talent whether by performance or gallery. |

**STEP 3. WHAT MOTIVATES YOU?**

As a team, tell us why you want to join the Generation Unlimited Youth Challenge.

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| **Motivation - Tell us why this is so important to your team!** |
| We want to create an avenue through which creatives in Guyana can not only source income but also showcase their many talents. We acknowledge that many young people are passionate about their creative skills and want to generate an income. We also recognize their inability to do so as a result of the selective appreciation of the arts in Guyana and the limited circulation of information regarding funding opportunities. We want creatives to see that they can in fact - from their passion - earn a sustainable income. We aim to do away with the narrative that arts do not support a livable income through the provision of a neutral platform open to all genders, ages and art forms. However, through all this, we want to educate young people on how they can be smart about their waste particularly through upcycling and this is driven by our passionate commitment to environmental sustainability. |

**STEP 4. BUILD YOUR TEAM**

List the names and information for each member of your team, a team is at least 3 people and no more than 5. We welcome members with disabilities of any and all kinds, there is a space at the end of this section for you to tell us how we can best support your members with disabilities.

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| **TEAM MEMBER 1** *(This is who we’ll contact if your team is selected.)* | |
| First name: | Khadidja |
| Last Name: | Ba |
| Age: | 22 |
| Town/Village: | Queenstown |
| Email: | Khadidja.ba97@gmail.com |
| Phone number: | 6675441 |

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| **TEAM MEMBER 2** *(You must have AT LEAST 3 team members.)* | |
| First name: | Nareema |
| Last name: | Khan |
| Age: | 20 |
| Town/Village: | Vreed-en-Hoop |
| Email: | Nareema15@gmail.com |
| Phone number: | +44 7768 667612 |

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| **TEAM MEMBER 3** *(You must have AT LEAST 3 team members.)* | |
| First name: | Suphane |
| Last name: | Dash- Alleyne |
| Age: | 20 |
| Town/Village: | Malgre Tout |
| Email: | [Suphanedash50@gmail.com](mailto:Suphanedash50@gmail.com) |
| Phone number: | +592 655 2357 |

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| **TEAM MEMBER 4** *(You must have AT LEAST 3 team members.)* | |
| First name: | Romichelle |
| Last name: | Brumell |
| Age: | 22 |
| Town/Village: | Cummings Lodge |
| Email: | romichellebrumell@gmail.com |
| Phone number: | +592 618 2696 |

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| **TEAM MEMBER 5** *(You must have AT LEAST 3 team members.)* | |
| First name: |  |
| Last name: |  |
| Age: |  |
| Town/Village: |  |
| Email: |  |
| Phone number: |  |

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| **GUARDIAN** *(Is your team under 18? Add a guardian here)* | |
| First name: |  |
| Last name: |  |
| Age: |  |
| Town/Village: |  |
| Email: |  |
| Phone number: |  |

***NOTE! We welcome applications from young people with disabilities of any and all kinds. If a member of your team has a disability, please fill in the following: :***

Team member number or guardian: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ What accommodation would be helpful? For example: wheelchair access, documents in electronic format, documents in Braille, sign language service. Please tell us: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## CONGRATULATIONS, you’re done!

***Submit your application 19th June 2020.***

You can submit your application in several ways:

* Online: the preferred way for you (easiest and fastest) to submit your application is online. Visit UNICEF Guyana and Suriname Facebook page for link to form, fill out and send to UNICEF.
* By Email: email your completed application guide to us at [guyanacomm@unicef.org](mailto:guyanacomm@unicef.org)
* In Person: drop off a hard copy of your completed Application Guide at one of our Pre-workshop Meetups in your town--or drop it off at:-

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

One UN House

107-108 Duke Street, Kingston

Georgetown

or

UNICEF Guyana and Suriname

Guyana Office

72 Brickdam, Georgetown

* By Phone: Call us at **UNDP**: 226 4040 Ext 242 or **UNICEF Guyana and Suriname**: 226 7083 Ext 111 or 106

***We’ll contact your team by [1 Week after deadline] to let you know if you’ve been accepted to the Workshop. Good luck!***

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## Section 3: Tips for your Application!

These tips will support you through the process of applying to Generation Unlimited Youth Challenge! There are 4 steps to the application:

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| **Application Steps** | | | | | | |
| **Step 1** | **→** | **Step 2** | **→** | **Step 3** | **→** | **Step 4** |
| Check eligibility | Answer 3 Questions | Form your Team | Submit! |

If it seems like a lot, don’t worry—we promise it’s way, way easier (and shorter!) than it looks. In fact, all of the questions are designed to help your team submit the best possible application, and we’ll even give you some tips along the way:-

During the Workshop, we’ll work together to create solutions to challenges around the respective challenge areas—but the most important step in creating a successful solution is to get a good understanding of the **problem**. The following tips will lead you through forming a team, identifying and analyzing a problem faced by you and your peers.

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|  | **TIPS for Step 1: Identifying the Problem** |
| * *Try taking 20 minutes with your whole team to come up with as many problems as possible before narrowing down to one.* * *It’s better to think small and specific than big and general. Think specifically and concretely about problems that you, your friends or family experience around <edit to match design challenge>* * *A problem can usually be stated in 1-3 sentences.* | |

**Getting selected**

We are looking for teams who have thought hard about problems in their community, and who are really motivated to understand how those problems impact people and to work together to build solutions. We’re also looking for feasible problems (problems that, together, we can do something about) and impactful problems (problems that affect many people, or problems that affect a few people severely). Above all we’re looking for motivation and commitment (teams which will stick it out until the end despite the setbacks). Keep this in mind and you’ll do great!

**Through the application process, priority will be given to young people from disadvantaged or marginalised backgrounds. This will vary by country and is within the control of the local hosts, but could include disadvantage due to gender, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, geography, religion, displacement or conflict**

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|  | **TIPS for Step 2: Telling your Story** |
| * *Ask yourself, “Who did/does the problem impact?” “Why is it happening?” “What were the effects?” and “What happened afterwards?” Where the problem is impacting girls more than boys or women more than men, think through the reasons why. If the problem is impacting boys more than girls or men more than women, think through the reasons why.* * *This should be a real story about a real person. Please change or omit the names to protect their privacy.* | |

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|  | **TIPS for Step 3: What Motivates You?** |
| * *What is your background, your interests, your passions* * *Be yourself, we want to know what makes you passionate.* * *Don’t be shy, share as much as you want.* * *Tell us what you hope you can achieve.* * *Tell us what makes your team so great.* | |

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|  | **TIPS for Step 4: Forming a Team** |
| * *Choose teammates with a mix of interests and skills—your team is better off with different types of thinkers!* * *Gender diverse, trans, and genders of all kinds or none are strongly encouraged to apply. Teams with diversity in ethnicities, abilities, genders, and other beliefs usually have an advantage when developing their solutions, during the Youth Challenge .* | |

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## Section 4: Values of the Generation Unlimited Youth Challenge

This section is for youth participants to understand more about the Youth Challenge and the values that are reflected by the organizations responsible for it.

**The Generation Youth Challenge believes in the following:**

* **A human rights-based approach:**
  + Young people are recognized as key actors in their own development, rather than passive recipients of the Youth Challenge benefits and services.
  + The Youth Challenge identifies the realization of human rights as a key goal of development for participants.
  + Participation in the Youth Challenge is both a means and a goal.
* **A strengths-based approach to adolescent development**
  + Young People are capable of changing, growing and becoming positively connected to their community.
  + Young people’s confidence is improved through positive feedback.
* **By youth for youth:**
  + Young people’s ideas and creativity are the cornerstone of this Challenge
  + Adults play a facilitating and empowering role within the Challenge - through their communication style, during the bootcamp and subsequent mentorship; they should not seek to influence or steer the ideas and project
  + Where possible, youth are engaged as facilitators and mentors, as well as Challenge participants
* **We are all equal:**
  + We are committed to foster and encourage the engagement of disadvantaged youth in all stages and phases of the Youth Challenge
  + We welcome teams of all genders or none and diversity of all kinds of identity - gender, sexuality, ethnicity, disability, etc
* **We are all working together:**
  + There is no automatic entry for specific young people or groups into the Challenge. There is a transparent application process.
  + The Youth Challenge is a collective learning journey for everyone. It is an inclusive approach that aims at personal growth and community development - it is not about winners and losers.
* **A learning approach:**
  + We will embed real-time learning in everything we do to implement the contest, in the same way that we seek to embed this mindset in supporting young people to develop their ideas and projects
  + Things won’t always go as planned - this is a learning opportunity; not a failure
* **No limits on potential!**
  + We see no limits to the potential of young people