



## Call for Faculty Mentors and SDG experts

Funded by the Government of Canada's Outbound Student Mobility Pilot Program Global Skills Opportunity (GSO), **York University's Go Global SDGs in Action Student Challenge**<sup>1</sup> aims to empower York students and their peers around the world to take action towards the achievement of SDGs with a global lens. Through facilitated discussions, workshops, and immersive abroad opportunities, York students and their peers will develop global competencies, leadership, digital fluency, and project management skills necessary to take action on SDGs. By participating in the program, students will learn and experience the opportunities and challenges in leading community action for social change.

York University is looking to engage faculty members with expertise and interest in the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to mentor and provide advice and supports to student project teams participating in the SDGs in Action Challenge.

### Roles and responsibilities of Faculty Mentors and SDG experts

1. Share expertise and knowledge on the SDGs prioritized for the year one of the project:
  - SDG 1: No Poverty
  - SDG 2: Zero Hunger
  - SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being
  - SDG 4: Quality Education
  - SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals
2. Plan and deliver knowledge building webinars/workshops on at least one of the SDGs identified.
3. Provide feedback and advice to student groups and projects on specific SDGs – from Ideation, Pitch and Community project implementation.
4. Participate in the evaluation of the SDG projects for awarding at the Knowledge Fair event planned for March/April 2022 (tbc date).
5. Faculty Mentors and SDG experts will be eligible to receive a small honorarium and a Certificate of Appreciation from York University and global partners.

### Project Overview and Timelines

- Explore (January - February 2022): Students will participate in workshops to build SDG knowledge and global competencies. including concepts in international development, social change, grassroots

<sup>1</sup> This program is a follow-up to the International Indigenous Student Exchange Virtual Pilot.

movements, and community engagement. Every year the project will focus on 4 SDGs plus SDG17 which is relevant for each individual SDG. The workshops are designed under the principles of inclusive pedagogy, intersectionality and Universal Design of Instruction (UDI).

- Engage (February - March 2022): Student groups will plan and execute SDG community action projects advised by faculty mentors and in collaboration with student peers from York global partners. Teams will be supported by York project teams from project ideation, pitch and implementation.
  - Exemplify (End of March/first week April 2022): At a Knowledge Fair, Students will share their experiences and learnings by showcasing SDG community projects with the wider York community, Canadian peers and international partners. Student projects will also be recognized for:
    - **SDGs in Partnership Award**—awarded to the project that demonstrates outstanding collaboration and community engagement
    - **Creative Solutions Award**—awarded to the project with the highest degree of interdisciplinary thinking to mobilize and engage communities to act on the SDGs
    - **Best Overall project**
- \*Project assessment indicators include (1) SDG Level of Integration, (2) Level of community engagement and partnerships, (3) Innovation and creativity, and (4) project continuity/sustainability.
- Experience (May 2022 onwards). When travel resumes, York student participants will have the opportunity to study, research and work in the universities and communities they've collaborated with for the SDG community projects.

### **Confirm your interest**

Send the confirmation of your interest as Faculty Mentor/SDG expert **by Monday, December 6, 2021**. We will be hosting an information session for confirmed faculty mentors (tbc date/time).

### **Contact Information:**

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### **Program Website:**

<https://yorkinternational.yorku.ca/sdgaction/>

### **Pilot Program 2021-2022**

#### **SDG Knowledge-Building Workshops (7-9 PM ET Toronto via Zoom)**

- **January & February 2022**

#### **Global Skills and Project Management Workshops: (7 to 10pm ET Toronto via Zoom)**

- **February 2nd 2022:** Setting up Projects for Success: SMART Goals [developing action plans]
- **February 3rd 2022:** Community-Based Collaborative Action [how to engage with partners, do's and don'ts of ethical sustainable development]
- **February 15th 2022:** SDG Project Plan due date

#### **SDGS in Action Symposium: March 25th 2022**