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Migiro urges youth to use skills to promote sustainable development



RIO+20
United Nations
Conference on
Sustainable
Development

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Deputy Secretary-General Asha Rose-Migiro has exhorted young people to use their skills and energy to encourage leaders at next year's United Nations conference on sustainable development in Brazil to commit to accelerate equitable development and poverty reduction.

The UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in June will bring together world leaders and representatives of business and civil society to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, transition to the green economy and poverty eradication.

“One of the primary aims of Rio+20 is to mobilize political commitment and to breathe new life into this cause,” said Ms. Migiro when she [addressed](#) an event at UN Headquarters yesterday organized in partnership with Peace Child International, a United Kingdom-based charity, to mobilize the younger generation to support the Rio+20 agenda.

“Youth can help us push leaders to make the right decisions in Rio – as well as to stay on course after they leave.

“This is the most networked generation in history. You have formidable social media tools at your very fingertips. You can make Rio+20 a forum that engages people in their twenties – and people in their teens and their thirties and even those of us who like to feel young at heart and want to support you.”

Ms. Migiro urged young people to emulate United States actress and UN Youth Champion, Monique Coleman, whose message to the youth across the world is: “It is safe to believe in limitless possibility – that you can follow your dreams, that they are possible, and you don’t have to squeeze into the systems that have already been created. You can trailblaze and make new pathways.”

She commended Peace Child International for its dedication to empowering the younger generation to effect the change they want to see in the world.

“Inspired by the idea of a child encouraging peace between hostile communities, you have cut new paths in promoting international understanding,” Ms. Migiro added.

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[Young people have enormous power to shape better world, Migiro tells students](#)