



ChildFund International, ChildFund Alliance, and Generation Unlimited

Background and Generation Unlimited Description

By 2030 there will be 2 billion young women and men seeking opportunities for a bright future throughout the world.

[Generation Unlimited](#) (GU) is a global partnership that aims to ensure that every young person is in education, learning, training or employment by 2030. The effort forms part of the United Nations Secretary-General's Youth 2030 Strategy and will complement and build on existing programmes that support adolescents and young people. Generation Unlimited brings together the private sector, governments, international and local organizations – and young people – to identify and scale up the best solutions for three major challenges: access to **secondary age education and technology, acquisition of employability skills, and empowerment, especially of girls**. Generation Unlimited will develop a new and dynamic model that will include co-creation of innovative solutions for youth, brokerage of critical support, provision of mentoring and funding, and most importantly, placing young people at the forefront of change. Partnership governance includes the following categories:

- **Leaders:** The most visible drivers of the partnership, leaders will be called on to use their influence to open opportunities, advocate for Generation Unlimited and mobilize resources.
- **Global Board:** Members of the Global Board will provide strategic direction, mobilize knowledge, resources and leadership, and oversee the partnership.
- **Partnership Forum:** The forum will be charged with implementing partnership plans by participating in the co-creation and the implementation of solutions. The forum will include global, regional and local members to mobilize networks around the world.
- **Champions:** In addition to the three governance bodies, Generation Unlimited will be supported by high-profile individuals who will lend their voice and credibility to its efforts. Champions will include celebrities, heads of state, experts and young people.
- **Secretariat:** The ambitious goals set for Generation Unlimited require a lean and flexible Secretariat that can harness and coordinate the expertise of multiple partners from around the world. The Secretariat will be responsible for strategic planning, partnership and Investment support, young peoples' engagement and participation, communications, advocacy and engagement, administration and operations.

So far, Generation Unlimited has engaged the global community in the following activities:

- **July 2018 – Generation Unlimited Co-Creation Workshop** – Paul Bode, Acting VP for Program Development attended on behalf of ChildFund International and ChildFund Alliance. We were asked

to review 20 plus “solutions” that would be discussed in greater detail at the event. Shelby French, STA for Adolescent and Youth Development and Protection for ChildFund International also provided technical assistance in review of the solutions in advance of the workshop.

- **September 11, 2018 – Front Runner Solutions Review** - ChildFund International was invited to attend a post workshop meeting where a smaller review group shared their feedback on 9 of the 20 plus solutions. These 9 were chosen as the initial group for further analysis and support based on their potential for scalability and readiness for new support. Each of the nine fit into one of the three areas of focus including secondary education and technology, skills for employment and decent work, and empowerment, especially of girls. Generation Unlimited will assist this group with finding partnerships, as well as resources/funding in the coming year.
- **September 24th – Generation Unlimited Communications Launch** - The communications launch for Generation Unlimited was attended by celebrity ambassadors including the world's most popular K-pop band, in coordination with the launch of the UN 2030 Youth Strategy. Leaders at this event were called to the stage where they shared commitments to the 2030 strategy and Generation Unlimited. Meg Gardinier and Anne Goddard attended the launch.
- **Coming Up - Global Youth Co-design Challenge** – To ensure that Generation Unlimited includes direct youth leadership, youth from 16 countries will be invited to submit solutions that address the 3 Generation Unlimited priority areas. Deadlines for submission have yet to be released but will be determined by each participating country. Global winners will be announced in 2019.
- **Coming Up – Future Solution Submissions** - In the future, there will be other opportunities for solutions to be submitted, reviewed, and supported. Dates for this TBD.

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ChildFund Alliance and ChildFund International are exploring how we can work together to support and participate in this effort as well as determining the value it would add to our work. This includes:

- What type of participation is most appropriate and available in the current Generation unlimited leadership structure
- Where and from where could we submit ChildFund solutions in the future for consideration
- And how CFI and the Alliance can coordinate in the best interests of each organization

Currently, ChildFund International is deepening and expanding its global work with adolescents and youth (Life Stage 3) via development of a global program model called **Space, Skills, and Voice**. This model reflects a thorough analysis of ChildFund’s adolescent and youth work to date including our comparative advantage and positioning in the youth space, as well as an assessment of external trends and gaps that ChildFund is well positioned to fill. Globally, adolescent and youth programming is expanding and increasingly recognized as a critical component for economic development, violence reduction (including gangs and extremism) and overall physical and mental well-being of communities. Space, Skills, and Voice will provide a strong platform for other critical youth activities including sexual and reproductive health, addressing gender-based violence, employment readiness, and civic engagement and leadership. CFI sees Generation Unlimited as a potential opportunity to further engage and leverage our expertise in the broader global focus on adolescence, youth, and the safe transition to adulthood.

