





# Young Creators Use Virtual Reality to Inspire Action at the 2019UN General Assembly

Third MY World 360° selection announced featuring climate change and inequality, inspiring renewed action on the Sustainable Development Goals

September 16, 2019 | New York, USA - Coinciding with the annual United Nations General Assembly in New York, the <u>United Nations SDG Action Campaign, Digital Promise Global</u>, and <u>Oculus from Facebook</u> present the third MY World 360° playlist—a collection of youth-produced immersive stories from around the world that spotlight issues most relevant to young people and their communities.

Young creators from 24 countries submitted 76 media projects for consideration for the third MY World 360° playlist. The selection includes youth voices from Argentina, Brazil, Hong Kong, India, Kenya, Uganda, and the United States, with a focus on Climate Action and Reducing Inequalities. The stories allow viewers to examine issues of climate and inequality in settings that range from the Amazon rainforest, to the largest dumpsite in Eastern Africa, to the bustling Sham Shui Po neighborhood in Hong Kong.

Their stories will be screened at the United Nations Headquarters in New York during the UN General Assembly High-Level Week from September 23-27, coinciding with the first ever SDG Summit. The SDG Summit will gather heads of state and government from around the world to comprehensively review progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 <u>Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</u>. A small team of MY World 360° youth creators will be at the UN General Assembly to screen their work for heads of state and government, activists, UN officials and thought leaders and take delegates into the immersive worlds they captured to inspire action on the SDGs.

Launched in 2018, MY World 360° supports young people worldwide to develop their digital skills, share their perspectives, and advance positive action on the SDGs.

"Young people are leading the way in making the Sustainable Development Goals a reality. Each of the MY World 360 films is a powerful call to action to accelerate progress on the Goals, and we will do our best to ensure their voices are heard by world leaders and decision makers." said Marina Ponti, Director of the United Nations SDG Action Campaign."

"We're excited to support youth all over the world to develop their digital skills and share their perspectives using emerging technology," said Karen Cator, President and CEO of Digital Promise. "Through our partnership with Oculus and the UN SDG Action Campaign, we're thrilled to bring youth media creators to the UN General Assembly to screen their films and share with a global audience why these kinds of learning experiences are so powerful."

#### MY World 360° Playlist

The newest MY World 360° playlist features the following films:

- Tu Prejuicio, Mi Identidad (Your Prejudice, My Identity) by students at Fundación Puerta
   18 in Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Cipó de Jabuti Amazon Riverine Stories by Global Shapers Community in Porto Alegre,
   Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- Decolonize Your Eyes by GatoMÍDIA in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Ribeirinhos The Struggle of a People by students at High School Maria Elizete Fona Nunes, in Breves, Pará, Brazil
- Diversity in Sham Shui Po by students at the University of Hong Kong
- Break the Bias by youth at iEARN-India in Pune, India
- The Forgotten Ones by BlackRhinoVR in Nairobi, Kenya
- The Farm Cops For a Hunger Free Society by students at Gayaza High School in Kampala, Uganda
- Around the Same Table by students at Cedar Ridge High School in North Carolina, United States

All of the films can be viewed at www.myworld360.org.

MY World 360° offers tools and resources to help participants learn about the SDGs, and to develop the skills needed to create 360° media to represent their perspectives and their communities in an immersive and compelling way. Youth participants from around the world are eligible to contribute media, including 360° photography and film, AR/VR content, and other forms of immersive content, to MY World 360°. Further details about tools, methods, and submission guidelines are available on the MY World 360° program page.

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#### **About the United Nations SDG Action Campaign**

The <u>United Nations SDG Action Campaign</u> is a special initiative of the UN Secretary-General, mandated to support the UN system-wide and the Member States on advocacy and public engagement in the SDG implementation. Building on innovative and impactful engagement techniques deployed since 2002, the UN SDG Action Campaign creates awareness about the 2030 Agenda, empowering and inspiring people across the world to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) while generating political will to make them attainable by 2030.

# **About Digital Promise Global**

Digital Promise Global is a nonprofit organization working to spur innovation in education. By working with educators, entrepreneurs, researchers, and leading thinkers, Digital Promise Global leverages technology, taps into research, and shares powerful stories to improve the opportunity to learn around the world. This work supports people's development of learner agency, and their ability to operate in a global context. For more information, visit the <u>Digital Promise Global website</u> and follow @Global DP for updates.