



## YLP with March NYC Conference (March 11-14, 2026)

Get creative with a Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)! Each conference is dedicated to a specific SDG, which becomes the theme of the SDG Design and Cultural Performance Night. Learn more about this conference's specific SDG below to influence your design, songwriting submission, and cultural performance!



**SDG 11** seeks to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. With rapid urbanization and now over half the world's population living in cities, housing affordability has reached crisis levels. Climate threats intensify urban vulnerabilities. Cities are central to climate change efforts as urban populations grow, with rising temperatures and flood risks threatening billions. Creating safe, resilient and sustainable cities requires coordinated investments in affordable housing, climate-resilient infrastructure and inclusive governance. Cities must strengthen land access, improve transportation and expand financing while prioritizing green-space restoration and climate-smart planning in underserved areas. This integrated approach – combining infrastructure, financing and participatory governance – is essential for inclusive cities that leave no one behind.





## THE SDG REPORT 2025

UP TO  
**3 BILLION PEOPLE**  
STRUGGLE TO  
**AFFORD HOUSING**

**1.12 BILLION**

**LIVE IN SLUMS OR INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS  
LACKING BASIC SERVICES**

**11** SUSTAINABLE CITIES  
AND COMMUNITIES



**United Nations**

Department of  
Economic and  
Social Affairs

**FOR FULL REPORT**

[UNSTATS.UN.ORG/SDGS/REPORT/2025/](https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2025/)

Goal 10 infographic, source: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2025/>

## TARGETS AND INDICATORS

Targets and indicators allow delegates to monitor a country's progress towards achieving a specific SDG, with the target as the goal and the indicator designates the measurement by which those targets can be judged a success or failure.



*Watch this short video from the UN*

| TARGET 11.1   | INDICATOR 11.1.1   |
|---|--|
| By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums.   | Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing.  |
| TARGET 11.2   | INDICATOR 11.2.1   |
| By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons. | Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities.                                    |
| TARGET 11.3   | INDICATOR 11.3.1   |
| By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries.   | Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate.  |
|   | INDICATOR 11.3.2   |
|   | Proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management that operate regularly and democratically |

*Explore all of the SDG 11 Targets and Indicators*



## SDG DESIGN - HOW TO APPLY

Interested students can create an original design for the conference that illustrates Maria Montessori's vision of having children collaborate to find solutions to the SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities. Designs must be submitted in US letter size or A4 size paper, using paints or colored pencils (computer assisted designs will not be considered).

Submission Due Date: Step 3 Deadline - January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026

One design per conference is chosen. The winning design concept will be developed by a professional designer to create the final image for the conference design (in a digital vector file). The selection of the design contest winner is based upon a combination of factors, including: the concept expressed, the creativity, and the ability to develop the design concepts. The winning selection must be consistent and supportive of creating solutions to the world's most pressing problems, the Sustainable Development Goals. The design contest is not a judgment on the technical design abilities of the submission.

### SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. The design must be hand-drawn on a blank paper (US letter 8.5" x 11" or A4 paper 8.3" x 11.7").
2. Teachers must scan the drawing, save it as a PDF or JPEG, and upload it to the Design Contest Application Form on your school dashboard, within the deadlines for Step 3 (please note that they differ by Conference). One design per delegate.
3. Please indicate your school name, name, and age of the student who has created the design.
4. Please upload a pdf that contains 2 pages: 1 for the design and 1 for a short description (of 5 lines at least) of what the design symbolizes and the decision to have this image represent the SDG goal in question.





## OTHER ONSITE OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

### CULTURAL PERFORMANCE NIGHT

On one of the evenings during the conference, students can participate in a Cultural Performance event, watching or performing musical numbers or skits that represent their own culture, the culture they learned about and the SDGs theme of the conference!

Interested coordinators can submit delegates' performances adding:

- Name, description, and number of delegates involved in the performance is necessary.
- If music is required for the performance, this is required to be uploaded here.

Please ensure you follow the music file specifications to properly upload the file.

Submission Due Date: Step 3 Deadline - January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026



# OTHER ONSITE OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

## COUNTRY DISPLAY BOARDS

### ACTIVITY

Students work together to create a physical country display board (about the country they will represent during an MMUN conference. Each delegation is required to participate in this activity by exhibiting the work they made in class.

### GOALS

The main objective of this activity is to help students learn about a foreign country. This activity emphasizes research, brainstorming and teamwork skills. Your country display should help people who visit MMUN learn something about the country you are representing at the conference.

The display should contain key national information and background, usually addressing the categories of the fundamental needs of human beings - use the Montessori chart for helpful ideas to consider displaying.

### MATERIALS

For a physical on-site display board - a Standard tri-fold, free-standing display board is required. Pay attention to the display board sizing requirements - trifold or bifold freestanding poster boards are recommended as long as the display dimensions don't exceed 36" (width) and 48" (height). The board must stand on its own without leaning.

### EXHIBITION

The Country Display will be exhibited in person or virtually during the conference for all participants to view and learn about the different country delegations.

Bring your Delegation Country Display Board directly to NYC and enjoy the exhibition!

### QUESTIONS?

If you have questions, please contact us at [info@montessori-mun.org](mailto:info@montessori-mun.org)

