Beyond Volunteering Workshop

Equipping YOUth for Social Action

Nov 12 (Sat) 10am - 4pm
Esther Lee Building, CUHK Main Campus

FREE
RSVP NOW: bit.ly/SDGworkshop
Contact: cgh.sdg@cuhk.edu.hk
Lunch provided

Are you interested in social change?
How can you make a difference, for good?
Want to learn how to critically analyse existing programmes?

Come and learn from NGO experts about how to use your time and resources to make a difference!

www.cgh.cuhk.edu.hk/sdg  |  #cuhksdg
Beyond Volunteering: Equipping YOUth for Social Action

1. Executive Summary
An increasing sense of civic commitment and social responsibility has led to a steady rise in engagement in volunteering activities amongst Hong Kong students. Although such effort is commendable, the reality is that good intentions can often lead to unintended and even harmful consequences. This is particularly the case when considering the nature of short-term overseas service trips, which do more to provide students with life experiences in developing countries, instead of actually helping the local population. Meanwhile, student-initiated social action initiatives (local and abroad) can often offer simplistic solutions which do not necessarily address the needs of their target populations; they also tend to work alone instead of in partnership with experienced NGOs, and operate using unsustainable models. To highlight some of these criticisms and challenge students to think beyond existing volunteering paradigms, the CUHK Centre for Global Health and Office of Student Affairs will run this full-day workshop as the finale event of 2016 for the CGH Sustainable Development Goals Series. Entitled “Beyond Volunteering: Equipping YOUth for Social Action”, the aim of the workshop will be to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to run effective and strategic social action programmes which generate meaningful change. Individuals and organisations pioneering alternative and innovative approaches will contribute their experiences and insight through a keynote speech, panel discussion and afternoon skill-training breakout sessions. Overall, it is hoped that this workshop will provide a space to challenge students to consider how they can use their time, resources and skills in a wise manner, to develop innovative initiatives which address social problems in a strategic and meaningful manner.

2. Background

A. CGH Sustainable Development Goals Series
The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a defining paradigm of our time: consisting of 17 goals and 169 targets, they represent a common international framework to mobilise governments, civil society and individuals globally to take action to reduce poverty and make the world a better place. As their mandate begins this year, the CUHK Centre for Global Health is running a series of events aiming to highlight the international importance of these global goals and localising their relevance within the Hong Kong context, with a view toward catalysing local action. This workshop will be the finale event of this series for 2016, and will provide a space to examine the SDGs within the Hong Kong context. For more details about this series, please visit www.cgh.cuhk.edu.hk/sdg.

B. “Beyond Volunteering: Equipping YOUth for Social Action”
The idea of volunteering is not new in Hong Kong, especially not within the student population. Having relatively more time and energy, many students are involved in youth service organisations, with the altruistic goal of helping the underprivileged. In The Chinese University of Hong Kong alone, there are over 25 student organisations focused on social services. However, such willingness to serve does not always result in high-impact nor sustainable programs. More often than not, the huge potential in students is under-utilised, as they do not have adequate knowledge or skills to tackle the problems they are trying to address. At times, their programmes lack impact because they cater more to the needs of students as opposed to those of the local population. Meanwhile, most student initiatives work in silo, instead of in partnership with existing stakeholders who have more experience and expertise on working in that particular field. This workshop will provide a space for students to consider how they can move beyond the traditional volunteering paradigm to use their time, resources and skills to contribute toward initiatives which address social challenges in a strategic and effective manner.

3. Workshop Details

A. Focus
Beyond Volunteering: Equipping YOUth for Social Action

**Objectives**
- To create a platform for exchange and collaboration among local student initiatives and established NGOs
- To empower participants with knowledge and skills to engage in strategic and effective social action
- To encourage youth to locate their work within a broader context of the SDGs

**Outcomes**
- To run a full day workshop which engages 100+ students
- To equip students with a particular skill in an area of their choosing
- To educate students regarding the SDGs and their relevance to the Hong Kong context

**B. Logistics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>12 November, 2016 (Sat)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>10.00am – 4.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
<td>Esther Lee Building, CUHK Main Campus</td>
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<td>Organisers</td>
<td>CUHK Centre for Global Health &amp; Office of Student Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Audience</td>
<td>Students from CUHK, other Hong Kong universities, and selected high schools</td>
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**4. Programme**

**A. Programme Rundown**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09.30</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>Welcome, Opening, and Group Photo</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.15</td>
<td><strong>Introduction to SDGs</strong>&lt;br&gt;This would provide participants with context regarding the SDGs, their importance and relevance to the Hong Kong setting.</td>
<td>SDG Steering Committee representative</td>
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<td>10.30</td>
<td><strong>Keynote Speech: Innovative Models for Creating Change</strong>&lt;br&gt;A testimony of what led the speaker to found and run a social enterprise with an innovative +++ model. The talk would serve to inform, challenge and inspire participants.</td>
<td>Baby Hero</td>
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<td>11.15</td>
<td><strong>Student Initiative Hotseat</strong>&lt;br&gt;Representatives from student organisation are given 2 mins each to pitch their social action projects.</td>
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<td>11.30</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>11.45</td>
<td><strong>Panel Discussion: Beyond Good Intentions: Developing Strategic and Effective Programmes</strong>&lt;br&gt;This would highlight how good intentions can sometimes unintentionally lead to negative consequences. The discussion would provide recommendations for developing strategic and effective initiatives that address the actual needs of people in on the ground.</td>
<td>Asian Charity Services, Elephant Branded, I.Care, AIESEC</td>
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<td>12.45</td>
<td>Briefing for afternoon sessions</td>
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<td>13.00</td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong>&lt;br&gt;Student Initiatives Showcase + SDG Photography Exhibition</td>
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Parallel Sessions
This would equip participants with concrete skills to support their engagement in social action initiatives.
- Project Management
- Sustainable Lifestyles
- Engagement in UN initiatives

- World Vision
- CU x Rubbish
- UN Major Group for Children and Youth (UN MGCY)

15.30 Student Presentations: Outcomes of Discussion

15.45 Presentation of Prizes
SDG Photography Competition

Prof Fok Tai Fai, CUHK Pro-Vice Chancellor

16.00 End of event, Evaluation

B. Student Initiatives Showcase
The foyer section of the venue would celebrate and showcase various student social action projects, through a range of interactive booths and posters. Workshop participants would be able to explore and learn about these initiatives during the break and lunchtime sessions; meanwhile, student groups may be able to recruit future team members.

C. Photography Competition
Throughout the Fall Semester of 2016, a SDG Photography Competition will run to provide a creative avenue for students to engage with the Sustainable Development Goals in their daily surroundings. Submissions will be judged in two categories: ‘human’ (showcasing the invisible heroes who work tirelessly toward social action with little credit), and ‘thematic’ (artistic photos relating to one of the goals). The shortlisted photos will be selected and exhibited in the foyer area of the workshop, whilst the winners will be presented prizes by a CUHK official in the closing ceremony.

5. Speakers and Facilitators

- Prof Tony Nelson, Representative, Sustainable Development Goals Steering Committee
- Samar Shaheryar, Co-Founder, Baby Hero
- May Wong, Associate Director, Asian Charity Services
- James Boon Munroe, Founder, Elephant Branded
- Cindy Chan Pik Ying, Director, I.Care Centre for Whole-person Development
- Janet Chu, Director of Global Volunteers, AIESEC in Hong Kong
- Dr Joyce Ching, Health Technical Specialist, World Vision Hong Kong
- Judy Ho, International Ministry Officer, World Vision Hong Kong
- Sharon Lo, Regional Focal Point (N&amp;SE Asia), UN Major Group for Children and Youth
- Hideaki Tonoaki, Policy Manager, Japan Youth Platform for Sustainability
- Prof Fok Tai Fai, CUHK Pro-Vice Chancellor

6. Organising Partners

A. CUHK Centre for Global Health
The CUHK Centre for Global Health (CGH) (www.cgh.cuhk.edu.hk) is a platform that links a diverse range of local and international stakeholders together to discover, inspire and act on global health and equity issues. CGH fosters scientific discovery through the promotion of global health research, teaching and exchange amongst students and Faculty. We inspire our community to engage in conversations on international health and social issues through a range of creative and dynamic events. We also seek to galvanize people to take actions toward a more equitable and sustainable world. Beyond this, CGH acts as a bridge: between disciplines, between stakeholders, between students and local civil society, and between the local and the global.
B. Office of Student Affairs
The Office of Student Affairs (OSA) (www.osa.cuhk.edu.hk) aims to facilitate the all-round personal development and growth of students at CUHK. OSA’s goal is to meet students’ progressive needs and help them to realise their potential as they advance along their educational path at the University. To assist their students to explore and experience different aspects of university life and make the best out of it, OSA provides a variety of activities and services, from services for non-local students to mental-wellness promotion as well as career planning and development.

7. Contact

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