

World Future Day, Facilitator's Guide

This document contains a recommended process for World Future Day–Young Voices.



Facilitators

We are excited that you want to host a time zone during the World Future Day - Young Voices. Make sure you are on the [overview list](#) with your name, email and/or organization.

The **objective** of World Future Day–Young Voices is to give young people the chance to voice their hopes, fears, expectations, and scenarios about the future. We are suggesting a process, based on a process called *Kindertrendrede* (Children's Trend Speech), that Erica Bol has used with young people in the Netherlands. The Dutch have a custom of meeting with municipal officials, and sometimes even the King, to offer them advice about what to do in light of emerging trends and themes. Erica has done the same with young people for the last four years.

One big difference, however, is that we don't have officials to speak to address in our World Future Day. So, we recommend that we simulate them. We are going to ask our young participants to prepare for their participation by selecting **an influential person** who they might know about and who they think can make positive change in the future. These can be government officials, as it is the Netherlands, or business leaders or even celebrities who might have influence.

Pre-event

Before the event, each participant is encouraged to write a **short paragraph** on the "advice" they would give that person about how to deal with what they believe are the most important trends and challenges in the future. And of course, we would love to hear how they think they can have an influence on the issue they raise themselves. All should be done before the event March 1st.

We suggest sharing the link to a [Google form](#) where each participant can optionally enter the following information:

- Their first name
- The city and country where they live
- The influential person they selected
- Any contact information they may have for that person, such as their email or mailing address
- The advice they would give that person to improve the future
- Inspiration on what they can do themselves
- The participant's email if they want to hear back from us about whether we have received a reply from the person they selected

Event

During the event, four or five of the participants, selected at random, will read their paragraph. The rest of the participants will discuss any common themes they heard or questions they might have about the advice. We estimate that that will take 20-30 minutes. If so, the facilitator can keep the discussion going for the full hour, or she/he can repeat the process.

Post-event

We are suggesting two follow-up activities. We will ask a second facilitator to use the input of the google form and/or take notes so that the facilitators can submit a short report on the discussion (one page or less). Teach the Future will publish them afterwards as Young Voices, without attribution except for the countries represented. Please send this in before March 5th

All this information will be held in strictest confidence. We will share it only with the person whom they designate in the following manner:

Dear {designated person},

We are Teach the Future, a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing futures thinking to young people around the world. We and our partners sponsored discussions among young people about the future on March 1 this year, World Future Day–Young Voices. The discussion was based on each young person selecting someone whom they thought could influence the future and sharing their advice with that person.

{Participant's first name} from {city, country} selected you as their influential person, and we are sharing {his, her} advice with you.

{paragraph of advice}

We hope that you will take this advice seriously as an example of what young people care about in the future. If you wish, you can send a reply to WFD.Young.Voices@teachthefuture.org, and we will forward your reply to our young colleague.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Peter Bishop, Exec Director
Erica Bol, Assoc Director
Teach the Future, Inc.
www.teachthefuture.org

And you may contact [Peter](#) or [Erica](#) with any questions or comments before, during or after World Future Day – Young Voices.

Thank you for giving young people the chance to voice their concerns and dreams for the future...

Invite for the event: www.teachthefuture.org/worldfutureday

Background info about participation: <https://www.teachthefuture.org/blog>

Social media hashtags #worldfutureday #youngvoices #millenniumproject #teachthefuture #partner organizations (they will be visible and updated here <https://www.teachthefuture.org/blog>)

NOTE: An important item, when meeting with young people online, is to be conscious of **privacy** and **security**. Both the United States, the European Union, and probably many other countries have laws concerning collecting and disseminating information about minors. As a result, we are not recording these sessions, and we suggest that the young people identify themselves only by their first names. If their full name should come up on the screen, you can change that by selecting Participants at the bottom, scrolling to that name, pressing More and Rename and then deleting all but the first name. And we will maintain the security of the information we collect below according to the procedure outlined there.