9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SOCOMUN XXXIII

MODEL UNITED NATIONS

FRESHMAN #9

TOPIC: INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Freshman #9
Improving Innovative Technology in Developing Nations

Hello delegates! My name is Isla Burdi, and I will be your Chair for the 2024 SOCOMUN XXXIII conference! I am currently a senior at SM and I've been involved in the MUN program since my freshman year. Outside of MUN, I play for the SM tennis team, ski, and love spending time with friends at the beach! My favorite feature of MUN is the ability to speak with your peers about real-world concerns, which prepares you for the future in an educational and exciting way. To prepare for the conference, I recommend that you invest time learning about the issue rather than rushing through your research for the sake of time. This will leave you feeling prepared and less stressed out for committee, even though this conference is not intended to be stressful. I can't wait to meet you all and hear some great solutions to improve technology in developing nations!

Hello delegates! My name is Niaz Rahnama, and I am your Vice Chair for this conference. I am a third-degree black belt and an instructor in Tae Kwon Do. Outside of school, I love to hang out with my friends. This is my third year in the MUN program as I am currently a junior. I love MUN because it has taught me to step outside of my comfort zone, improve my writing skills, and communicate with others, inside and outside committee. I plan to stay in the MUN program for the rest of my high school career. I can't wait to see you all in committee and good luck!

Hey delegates! My name is Charlie Tarazi, and I am stoked to be your rapporteur for this year's SOCOMUN! I am currently a sophomore and in my second year of MUN here at SMCHS. MUN has improved my communication and leadership skills that I can take with me for the rest of my life and has given me a broader understanding of our world. A piece of advice I would give to new delegates is to do quality research on your topic, as it will help you at conferences with impactful speeches and comments. Outside of school, you can find me on the golf course, playing basketball, or watching Netflix shows! Good luck, delegates!

You are here to learn! If you have any questions regarding this conference, please feel free to contact us at socomunfresh9@gmail.com.

Background

The 9th Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) of the United Nations is centered on "Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure." The objective is to provide durable infrastructure, encourage comprehensive and sustainable industrial development, and cultivate innovation. This objective is to provide universal access to cost-effective, dependable, and enduring energy, while also improving scientific investigation and technical proficiency for sustainable progress.

Initiatives and collaborations have been implemented in both developing and impoverished nations to enhance innovation and technology. An organization that plays a significant role is the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which works together with governments, corporations, and communities to promote innovation ecosystems and improve technical skills. Furthermore, the World Bank's Innovation Labs and the International Finance Corporation's backing of technology companies in developing nations have played a crucial role in enabling these enterprises to get funding and resources. In addition, there has been a rise in public-private partnerships, such as the Global Innovation Exchange (GIE), which aims to link innovators with investors and stakeholders. These partnerships encourage cooperation and the sharing of information to tackle development concerns. These endeavors are focused on utilizing technology and innovation to promote sustainable development, enhance living conditions, and tackle social challenges in developing and underprivileged nations.

The Internet is a very useful tool in many areas of everyday life, but in less developed countries, where it provides the backbone of basic services like banking, healthcare, and education, its impact is greater. Less than 20% of people in underdeveloped countries, shockingly, have access to the Internet, highlighting the critical need for assistance. The creation of the Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries was a reaction to this issue and a pledge to support the development of technology infrastructure. Notably, there has been progress in increasing internet access in underdeveloped countries, which is encouraging. Even yet, the World Bank has acknowledged that broadband internet is essential, however only around 35% of people in poor nations have access to it. However, this difficulty offers a chance to restructure the current infrastructure, going beyond internet access to include improvements in power networks and other essential infrastructure elements. Furthermore, the World Bank believes that by creating jobs, especially in the technology industry, this program would encourage people to choose higher-paying career pathways, which will promote economic growth and lessen inequality.

To stimulate economic growth, boost living standards, and expand overall quality of life, emerging countries require the implementation of innovative technologies and infrastructure. Strong infrastructure, which includes well-built roads and dependable electrical networks, is the foundation of sustainable development. It makes it easier for people, commodities, and services to move around, which in turn increases the amount of commerce and investment that takes place. Through a variety of programs and collaborations, the United Nations plays a crucial part in advocating for and providing assistance for the development of such infrastructure. Furthermore, technology, which includes smartphones and the internet, serves as a driving force behind advancement by facilitating access to essential information, educational opportunities, healthcare services, and financial resources at the same time. The internet, in particular, acts as a portal to global connectedness, making it possible for individuals and communities to take part in the digital economy and share their knowledge and ideas with people from all over the globe.

Developing countries can leapfrog traditional development routes by incorporating new technology into infrastructure projects. These technologies include smart grids and digital transportation systems. This allows these countries to accelerate their socio-economic growth and close the gap with more developed nations. In essence, the synergy that exists between modern technology and infrastructure not only improves the resiliency and efficiency of key services but also encourages interconnection and collaboration, which ultimately leads to sustainable growth and prosperity for all.

Possible Solutions

When fostering solutions, it's essential to note the importance of remaining realistic and providing the committee with attainable, yet interesting solutions. A good rule of thumb is to be able to answer the who, what, when, where, and how of solutions, as other delegates will have those questions. Ensure detail, yet attainability in your solutions to warrant success! A single answer won't cut it; a comprehensive solution necessitates addressing a wide range of factors. If it was simple, the issue wouldn't be so severe! Developing thorough answers is essential to form successful solutions that will be passed by your committee. It is crucial to understand your nation's policy before coming up with any answers and to make sure that any ideas you have are in line with that position. How much authority does your nation have to decide on important matters about this matter and what's the policy? Which nations will support your solution based on relations, and which will not?

The use of Innovation hubs established in developing nations could provide a source for collaboration and entrepreneurship to unlock the potential of innovators in nations without opportunities. These hubs can be equipped with secure facilities, online mentorship, and networks. All of the work done will be conducted in the hubs to ensure security for all equipment. The hubs may or may not be unstaffed for financial reasons, however, IT crews can pay scheduled visits to each location to ensure technology is working correctly. These places can serve as points for collaboration for aspiring entrepreneurs, thus nurturing talent, and fostering an opportunity for change. This will allow for a chance of prosperity as intelligent people in developing nations will be equipped with more opportunities.

Questions to Consider

1. What particular technology requirements and difficulties do developing nations face? How can we get around those requirements?
2. How might already existing infrastructure be applied to support countries even more?
3. What is the stance of your nation about the matter at hand? In what way may my nation use its resources to defend its own beliefs and ideologies?
4. How can relationships be fostered between developing and developed countries to ensure collaboration and support?
5. What NGOs can your nation partner with to aid the issue?
6. What has your nation already done nationally to alleviate the problem? Internationally?

9th SDG Goals

9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all

9.2 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries

9.3 Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets

9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities

9.5 Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending

9.A Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing State

9.B Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities

9.C Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2025.

MUN Impact

If you would like to, take some time to check out the MUN Impact program. In this program, you can use what you learned on the topic and issue at hand and take additional steps to help with the issue in real time. You can visit it here, http://munimpact.org/

For more specific information regarding Sustainable Development Goal 9, http://munimpact.org/sdg-9/

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