



SPACE GENERATION  
ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Challenge accepted - unlocking the power of virtual events and digital tools for  
capacity building amongst the global space generation**

**64th Session of UN COPUOS  
Victoria Carter-Cortez  
Space Generation Advisory Council  
August 26th 2021**

# Going virtual - an opportunity to democratise access

SpaceGen United was a 9-day virtual event hosted in July 2020

**143 Delegates – 53 Nationalities – 50 Subject Matter Experts**

**100% Online**

**14 Hours Keynote Speeches**

**7 Workshops**



# Bringing value to underserved communities

## Benefits of virtual events as a capacity-building tool:

- ✓ participation cost significantly reduced
- ✓ no travel limitations resulting from lengthy visa processes for in-person events
- ✓ baseline cost of hosting event low
- ✓ opportunity to engage with participants where they are



## Virtual events can be leveraged to enable:

- ✓ global community connection
- ✓ intercultural awareness
- ✓ core space-related expertise and professional skills
- ✓ offering continuity in a time of uncertainty through topical and engaging discussion sessions



# The virtual event 'multiplier effect'

## Generating lasting impact beyond the virtual event

### Impact through sharing experiences

*"During SGU 2020, I was in a remote part of Badagry, Nigeria. I was watching Dan Hart's Keynote when some kids playing around a field huddled around me and joined in. I then educated them on space science and its uses afterwards"*  
**Oluwakorede, SGU Organising Team Member**



YouTube  
Attending the Space Gen United Virtual Congress 2020!  
Attending the first ever virtual Space Gen United Congress!  
#sgac #spacegenunited

**Savri, SGU Delegate sharing her experience on her youtube channel**

### Accessible repository of talks

Click to Join the Live Streaming session!



### Recognition of attendance



# Polling Delegates' Impressions

how would you describe SGU so far?



# SpaceGen United Event Mapping

**Fostering Engagement**

**Virtual Meet and Greet Activities**

**Online Space Trivia**

**Social Media Cultural Challenge**

**Art Showcase and Competition**

**Developing Expertise**

**Workshops with Subject Matter Experts**

**Live Q&A sessions**

**Keynotes with Sector Leaders**

**Panel Sessions on timely topics in the sector**

**Interactive learning and outcome setting**

**Application of media skills to record 3 min video**

**Familiarity with virtual work environments and tools**

**Collaborating with peers w/t diverse backgrounds**

**Tangible production and outcomes**

# SpaceGen United 2020 Working Groups

Space Exploration



Space Exploration Benefits  
for Earth-based Industry



Virtual Hackathon -  
Solving a life indoors



Planetary Defence:  
Safeguarding Earth



UN COPUOS  
Simulation



Space, the final  
frontier



Special Track



# SpaceGen United 2020 Working Groups

## Space Exploration Benefits for Earth-based Industry



- Identification of space exploration technologies and their potential use on Earth
- Analysis of ways to encourage the spin in/ spin out of technologies and to support innovation

## UN COPUOS Simulation



- UN COPUOS simulation held in the frame of drafting a treaty on SRU on the Moon
- International Collaboration as a key to a peaceful and prosperous future

## Virtual Hackathon - Solving a life indoors



- Contributing towards SDG 3 through designing apps that use space technology
- 5 distinct solutions were proposed, addressing emerging issues due to the pandemic using space technology

## Special Track

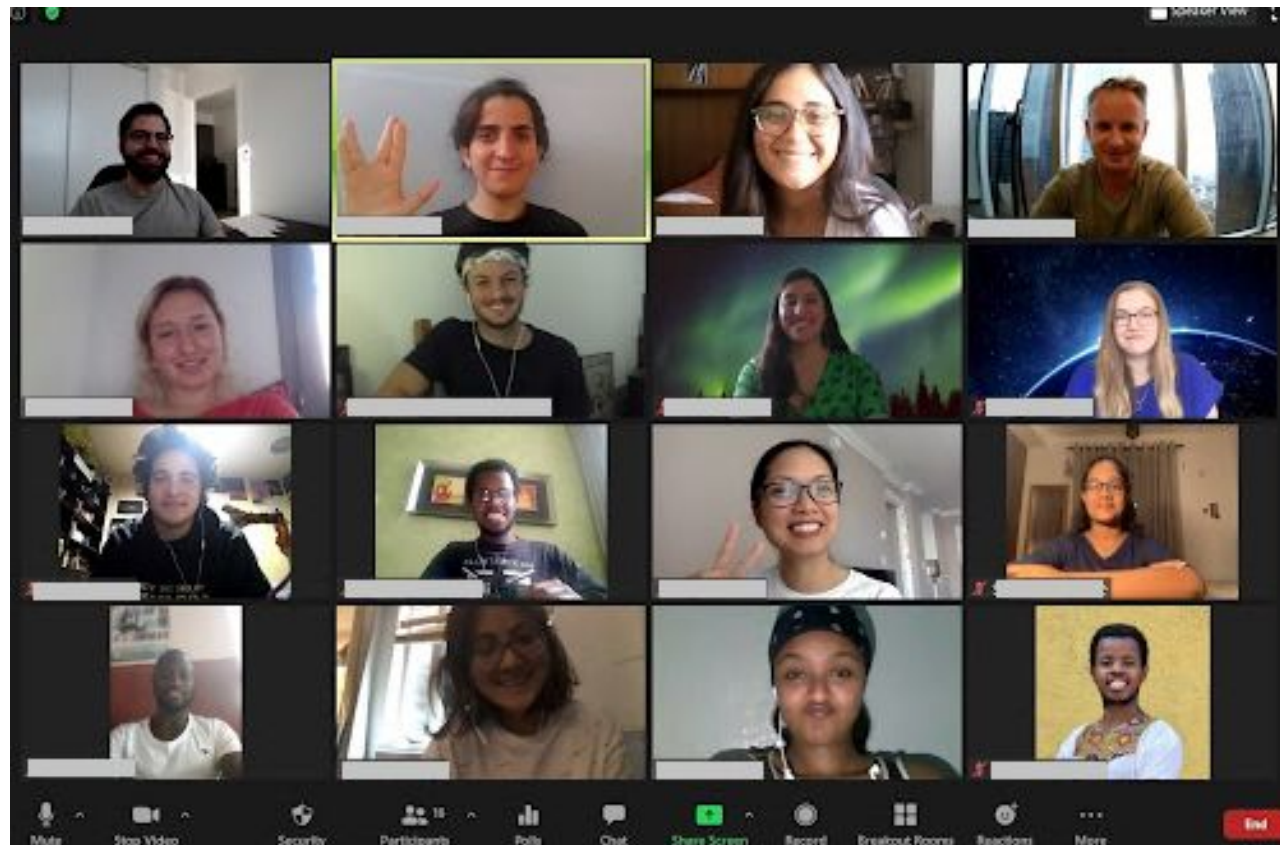


- Fostering Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in the Space Sector in Support of UN SDGs 5 and 10
- Identification of barriers to entry
- Need to communicate positive values of diversity in the space industry
- Transparency and quantified goals



# Main Takeaways

- ✓ Virtual Events can be inspiring, engaging and informative when deliberate measures are taken to motivate such an environment
- ✓ Virtual events offer access and training opportunities particularly for underserved communities
- ✓ There is evidence of such event formats being under exploited and having significant traction and long-lasting when hosted



# THANK YOU !

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