







NextGen United Nations Leaders Bootcamp

Ready to Lead Global Change?

Designed for ambitious high school students, this one-of-a-kind experience empowers you to build real-world leadership skills while receiving expert mentorship and earning recognition that will set you apart in college admissions and beyond.

What You Will Gain From This Bootcamp



Master the Skills that Matter

Gain a strong foundation in critical thinking, cost-benefit analysis, and the real-world policymaking process. Plus, develop the charisma and communication skills to become a truly influential leader.



Claim Your Nobel Laureate-Signed Certificate

Earn a certificate signed by Manoj Juneja, Deputy Executive Director & CFO emeritus of the UN World Food Programme and 2020 Nobel Peace Prize recipient.



Unlock UN-Level Mentorship

Get personalized guidance and feedback from seasoned top UN experts. This is your chance to learn from the best and accelerate your growth.



Present to a UN Panel of Experts

Showcase your skills and knowledge to a panel of UN experts. This is your moment to shine and gain invaluable feedback from those shaping global policies.



Secure a Coveted Recommendation Letter

Stand out from the crowd with a personalized recommendation letter from the Chair of the Project Decision-Making Committee – a powerful tool to unlock future opportunities.



Launch Your International Career with a UN Internship

Get your foot in the door with a remote internship at Catalyst Advisory, working on real-world UN projects and initiatives for the private sector. This is your chance to make a tangible impact on a global scale.



Expand Your Global Network and Win Big

Team up with top talents to compete for prestigious awards like the Global Impact Solution Award and Sustainable Innovation Award. Showcase your excellence, gain international recognition, and shape your future leadership.

Ready to Enroll? Sign up!



Program Schedule | All sessions are virtual.

July Cohort

9am ET/9pm China on the following dates, each session is 1.5 hours.

- July 7
- July 17
- July 10
- July 21
- July 14
- July 24

August Cohort

9am ET/9pm China on the following dates, each session is 1.5 hours.

- August 11
- August 14
- August 14August 18
- August 21
- August 25
- }
- August 28

Bootcamp Highlights

Two Tracks

Participants can specialize in either Sustainability & Geopolitics or Finance/Tech.

Real-World Case Studies

Program uses actual UN case studies to provide a practical, hands-on learning experience.

Capstone Project

Participants collaborate on a team project, applying their learning and showcasing their skills.

Expert Mentorship

Teams receive personalized feedback from UN experts on their capstone projects.

Presentation to UN Panel

Get feedback from those shaping international policy and present your work to a panel of UN experts.

Flexible Scheduling

Two cohorts available to accommodate different summer schedules.

Meet Your UN Instructors & Mentors



Manoj Juneja

35+ year's leading UN agencies with expertise in poverty reduction, food security, and global development. Chartered Accountant and ex-Deputy Executive Director & CFO of WFP. Founded Catalyst Advisory, co-chaired UN innovation initiatives, and taught at LSE.



Tommaso Paiar

20 years driving change in UN & private sector with Bain consulting experience. Expertise in strategy, private equity, and data analytics. Founding member of UN Advisory Alliance and business school lecturer.



Advit Nath

25+ years leading finance & development across UN, IFIs, and private sector. Expert in innovative financing, partnerships, and impact investing. Former senior roles at IFAD/UNDP/UNFPA. Board member (IFRS/INATBA), WEF speaker.



Sandra Westlake

17-year WFP veteran as Head of Global Partnerships, raising \$161M+ from private sector. Forged strategic alliances with KFC, Mastercard, and Gates Foundation. Led global teams, leveraging corporate expertise for humanitarian impact.



Jiaqi Chen

Co-Founder & Associate Director at Catalyst Next. Consultant at Catalyst Advisory, supporting UN change initiatives, and at WFP, driving digital transformation projects to enhance operational efficiency.

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Expert Educators Guiding Your Bootcamp Journey



Maya Gobert

Director of Student Innovation and Founder of the Leadership & Innovation Lab. Cornell grad (Economics/Political Science) with global experience in finance, marketing, and education. Mentored students worldwide into Ivy League and top universities.



Avi Hegland-Fisher A Colgate and Penn Law grad with a Wharton Certificate, excels as an educator. Awarded for 200+ pro bono hours, she now tutors students in writing, testing, and college admissions.

Rewarding Path

AWARD	CRITERIA	% OF STUDENTS (APPROX.)	SIGNED BY
Certificate of Completion Individual	Attend ≥90%, complete all assignments, contribute to Capstone Project	>90%	Nobel Laureate Manoj Juneja
Special Team Awards (examples) Team	Capstone excellence by track and across tracks	>60%	Catalyst Next Awards Committee
Capstone Excellence Award Team (All Tracks)	Strongest overall Capstone Project		
Distinguished Presentation Award <i>Team (All Tracks)</i>	Most professional and compelling final presentation		
Recommendation Letters Individual	Leadership, contribution, growth, professionalism (Mentor + Tutor + Peer review)	~20%	Track Mentor + Nobel Laureate Manoj Juneja
Internship Invitations Individual	Professional readiness, real-world potential (post-Capstone review)	~5-10%	Catalyst Next Awards Committee

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Sample Capstone Projects

SUSTAINABILITY





Youth-Driven Carbon Coin Initiative

Empowering Sustainable Choices



The "Youth-Driven Carbon Coin Initiative" successfully delivered a functional prototype and compelling video pitch, demonstrating a novel rewards system designed to incentivize sustainable actions and promote awareness of UN SDG 13. Through rigorous research, collaborative design, and technical execution, the team developed a user-friendly app prototype integrated with a robust carbon coin calculation model, effectively translating everyday sustainable behaviors into tangible rewards. The final two-minute video pitch, accompanied by a comprehensive presentation and project report, effectively communicated the project's vision and potential impact, showcasing a powerful tool for youth engagement in climate action.

FINANCE







Money for Good: A UN Youth Finance Challenge Boosting "ShareTheMeal" Donations



The "ShareTheMeal: Educating for Impact" campaign successfully developed and pitched a targeted strategy to increase donations from students' parents and teachers, building upon the World Food Programme's existing seasonal success. Through thorough research and analysis, the team, comprising a Research/Analysis Lead, Creative/Campaign Lead, and Marketing/Outreach Lead, gained a deep understanding of the "ShareTheMeal" platform and its target audience. This foundation enabled the creation of a compelling campaign concept, complete with resonant messaging and engaging visual elements, designed for seamless integration within the school environment. A comprehensive outreach plan, utilizing both online and offline channels, was developed, alongside a robust system for tracking campaign effectiveness. The final presentation, featuring a campaign simulation video and a document aligning the initiative with UN Sustainable Development Goals, effectively communicated the campaign's potential impact and feasibility, positioning it as a powerful youth-driven effort to combat global hunger.

TECHNOLOGY/INNOVATION





AI for Social Goods

Preserving Endangered Languages with Chatbots



The "LinguaViva: Latin Learning Chatbot" project successfully developed a functional AI-powered chatbot prototype, designed to facilitate the learning of endangered languages, specifically Latin, through engaging daily scenarios. The team, consisting of a Linguistic/Content Lead, AI/Technical Lead, and Design/User Experience Lead, meticulously researched Latin grammar, vocabulary, and cultural context, creating a comprehensive database and engaging learning scenarios. The Al/Technical Lead then implemented these elements into a functional chatbot, leveraging NLP capabilities and training the model to handle user interactions effectively. Finally, the Design/User Experience Lead crafted a user-friendly interface and conducted user testing, refining the chatbot for optimal usability. The project culminated in a compelling presentation and demonstration video, showcasing the chatbot's potential as an innovative tool for language preservation and education.

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