



UNIVERSITY of
RWANDA



CALL FOR HOMEGROWN SOLUTIONS TO ACHIEVE THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

1. Background

In September 2015, world leaders adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which included the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and tackle climate change by 2030. Since then, countries have embarked on a process of developing strategies and plans to implement SDGs at the national and regional levels. This process should be open and inclusive, engaging national and local government representatives, civil society, businesses, and representatives from academia and science.

Since its launch in 2014, the Great Lakes SDSN has been encouraging its members to get engaged in developing **Home Grown Solutions (HGSs)** to address national and regional sustainable development challenges. In our context, HGS are defined as trademark initiatives developed based on local opportunities, cultural values and history to fast track their development.

HGSs already exist within and across the great lakes region. While focus has been on shared values, ideals, knowledge, innovations and ideas to tackle development challenges affecting the region, the recent outbreak of COVID-19 and its implied negative effects will necessitate countries to take proper actions to curb new likely challenges.

In a particular way, the COVID-19 pandemic presents a real opportunity for Higher learning institutions and their partners to work together and use their existing knowledge and expertise better in finding home grown solutions to the crisis and its aftermath social-economic consequences.

2. About 2020 Call for Summer HGSs Forum

2020 Summer Home Grown Solutions (HGSs) is part of this year's ongoing planned activities related to the role of the Universities and Higher Learning Institutions in the implementation of SDGs. The SDSN Great Lakes is launching this call among its member universities and/or those interested in becoming members of the SDSN. This year's HGSs forum targets to bring together University students, researchers and experts from the industry to showcase possible home grown solutions that can curb the effects of COVID-19 on local communities while advancing and accelerating the sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'L' shape.



UNIVERSITY of
RWANDA



The HGS must address a well-defined local problem preferably a problem emanating from COVID-19, be demonstrable, scalable, and have the potential for a transformative impact on sustainable development.

3. Benefits

Pre-selected projects will be fine-tuned virtually and also get facilitated to attend and present their initiatives in front of the panel in Kigali-Rwanda. Successful HGSs will be developed into presentable and publishable stories/papers and the winning Project will be announced during the Closing Ceremony of the 2020 Summer Home Grown Solution Forum.

In addition to the financial awards in front of a high-level audience during the most exciting Closing Ceremony, the winners of the selected HGS will be mentored to publish their work in accredited journals and it shall also be publicized widely on the websites of the SDSN and University of Rwanda, newsletter, and all social media channels both in the run-up to and after the event.

4. Process

4.1. Preparing and submit your Initiative

To prepare and submit your local initiative, one must be a student, faculty member, partner and/or expert from the Industry partnering with the Universities and Higher Learning Institutions that cooperates with the SDSN Great Lakes hosted at the University of Rwanda-College of Business and Economics. Eligible individuals/institutions who wish to submit their HGS should read carefully the proposal guidance document here attached. The final document including its supporting documents (budget, reports etc) should be emailed in one file to greatlakes@unsdsn.org.

4.2. Presentations of the HGS

An independent panel appointed by the SDSN Great Lakes will review all submitted HGSs. Successful projects will be facilitated to attend the Closing Ceremony of HGS forum early in September 2020 in Kigali-Rwanda where they will make their presentations and the winning Home Grown Solution will be announced and awarded.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'X' or 'A' shape.

4.3. Timeline

Activity/Date	July	August	Sept
Launch of the Call	07		
Nomination of the Selection Committee	13		
Deadline for Receiving HGS		14	
Selection		17	
Feedback on Selected HGS		25	
Presentation of HGS			7
Awarding Ceremony			8

5. General Inquiries:

Salomon Nshimiyimana, Network Manager
Email: greatlakes@unsdsn.org

Kigali, on 07th July 2020



Dr. Faustin Gasheja
Acting Principal, UR-CBE and Chair of the SDSN Great Lakes