

# F1.3: How Youth Decolonise the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

## **ABOUT THE SESSION:**

Over the past decade, the Oaktree Foundation has seen a large increase in young Australians working towards the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in order to decolonise, disrupt, disrupt, and dream within systems that often forget voices of young people.

In light of this trend, Oaktree is extremely excited to present a panel discussion that features three young leaders who have disrupted systems of power and become agents for change in their respective fields. From the likes of the United Nations to local civil society organisations, our panellists have influenced global and local agendas, advocated for the rights of young people, and have held the value of decolonisation close to their hearts. You'll have the opportunity to hear from:

- Angelica Ojinnaka, Australia's Former Youth Representative to the United Nations, who is a fierce advocate for youth mental health, gender justice, and meaningful youth participation in decision-making processes;
- Jahin Tanvir, who is the CEO of the Australian School of Entrepreneurship and was named on the 40 under 40 Most Influential Asian-Australians for 2022 at the age of 21-years-old. Jahin's commitment to advocating for young people has seen him represent Australia and UN and WHO Conferences, and has allowed him to empower young people in decision-making forums all around the world; and
- Ava Rego, who is Oaktree's Business Development Manager and is also working as a Partnership Coordinator at the International Women's Development Agency. Ava brings a depth of experience in advocating for the decolonisation of development and how young people can be involved in dismantling structural inequality within development.

Our panellists will highlight how Australia's youth often fight against the status quo to create change and advance the SDGs. In doing so, our panellists will:

- Share practical methods for engaging young people in decision-making and consulting them at local, regional, and global levels;
- Share tangible solutions as to how delegates can choose to adopt practices of decolonisation within their professional work environments from the perspective of young people; and
- Offer a new perspective on how young people can work within systems and their structures to influence change.

Throughout this session, delegates will have the opportunity to engage in a Q&A discussion that will be moderated online, which will allow for the audience to submit their questions anonymously and as the conversation progresses. This session aims to leave attendees with the impression that young people come with vigorous innovation, through transforming systems from the grassroots to global stages - and that they should be listened to, heard, and consulted at every stage of development.