



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **SustainUS Sends First Delegation to U.N. Commission on the Status of Women**

For the first time, SustainUS will send a youth delegation to the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women. SustainUS is a national volunteer-based youth organization that empowers young people to create a more sustainable world through involvement in international summits and grassroots activities. The delegates will travel to New York City on March 1 to represent SustainUS and U.S. youth at the fifty-fourth U.N. Commission on the Status of Women.

The Commission is dedicated to promoting gender equality by identifying challenges and establishing standards for the social, economic, political, and civil rights of women. This year, the Commission will convene for a fifteen-year review of the implementation Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Member states and non-government representatives, including the SustainUS delegation, will share and evaluate experiences, lessons, and best practices, as well as identify key goals for further advancement of women.

"Gender equality is a fundamental cornerstone of sustainable development," says delegate Julia De Santis. "Women's rights are incredibly interconnected to other environmental and social issues, and we are excited to engage policymakers and contribute meaningful youth voices to this conference." "I look forward to sharing my experiences at the U.N. with others back home and discussing different ways of promoting women's empowerment in our own communities," adds Matt Maiorana.

Delegates were invited to join the delegation after a competitive selection process managed by the SustainUS Agents of Change program. The Agents of Change program provides U.S. youth the opportunity to participate in several U.N. conferences, including the Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Commission on Sustainable Development, and the Commission on Social Development.

More information about the delegation, including Agent of Change profiles and contact information, can be found on at <http://www.sustainus.org/agents>. Find regular updates on SustainUS and the Commission via blog at <http://www.itsgettinghotinhere.org> and via Twitter at <http://twitter.com/sustainusagents>.

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SustainUS is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization of young people advancing sustainable development and youth empowerment in the United States. Through proactive education and advocacy at the policy-making and grassroots levels, SustainUS is building a future in which all people recognize the inherent equality and interdependence of social, economic, and environmental sustainability.