



Stone Soup Leadership Institute SustainWDN Components Overview

1. Mission

The Sustainable Workforce Development Network is an online ecosystem that builds bridges between young people, educators and blue-green companies;
Individualizes pathways for youth to develop STEM careers and jobs;
Customizes workforce development opportunities by region;
Works as an economic planning tool to transition to sustainable economy.

2. Goals

- Bridging the gap between **youth, educators and blue-green companies** through workforce development opportunities to create pathways for youth
- Training **educators and career counselors** as facilitators to use SustainWDN (see: SustainWDN Facilitator Overview) in order to help youth, navigate the resources and pathways

3. Overview

The different components of SustainWDN should all work together to help youth get from their initial starting points to fulfilling their professional dreams. This is mainly through connecting them with the resources, training and workforce development programs (as provided by organizations) and relevant skills (provided by businesses).

As a way for us to learn more about the youth, youth must take the Youth survey (and can choose to browse through the explore page which gives more context about the blue/green economy and different jobs available).

Once the results from this survey are available, youth are matched with top suited jobs and how ready they are in terms of achieving it. This is all noted in the profile page (one that is most relevant to our SustainWDN facilitators) which includes their Dream Map (one that they can create and edit), a place to upload their bios, headshots, resumes and a 5-year plan. They are also able to track progress in how close they are to achieving their professional dream.

The Institute is training SustainWDN facilitators to work with youth delegates in order to best complement the pathways. This includes using the Institute's year-long program, curriculum and navigating SustainWDN to help find the best personalized resources: online courses, mentors, etc. This means that the profile page is also a way for the facilitators to track youth progress in the year-long program.

4. Components

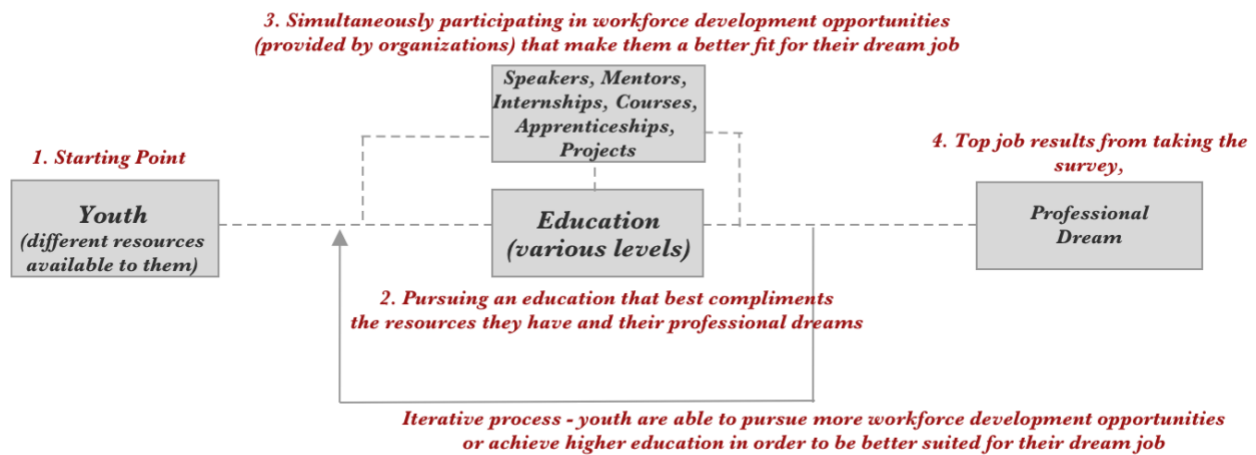
- **Profile** -- Most relevant to the SustainWDN Facilitator

- Components:
 - Dream Map
 - A way for youth to be creative with their dreams and keep track of it (can be edited, so it is also a way for youth to see their progress)
 - Assessments & Worksheets (In line with the Institute's Year Long Program)
 - Performance Metrics
 - College Prep Worksheet
 - Professional Development Worksheet
 - 5 Year Plan Worksheet
 - Bio/Headshot
 - Track Progress
 - Two types of progress to be tracked:
 - Progress with the Institute's annual program
 - Progress with working towards professional dream
 - 5 Year Plan

- Explore
 - An introduction to the blue/green economy and the different career options

- SustainWDM Survey: Youth, Organization or Blue-Green Company
 - Matching System
 - **For Youth:** Based on results from both the survey + explore component, youth will be matched with top results and jobs
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 - **Businesses:** Are able to take the survey to provide information as to what skills are missing/what kind of employees they are seeking and what kind of jobs are available
 - **Organization:** Provide information about what kind of programs they offer and what support and resources they can give

- Pathway see chart
 - Each youth will get personalized pathways based on data from the survey
 - A generic pathway (based on the resources the youth has) would look like this:



(^ pathways chart broken down by its components)

- **Personalized Pathways**

- In the case of Evelin who scored the importance of having a blue/green job as very high on the survey it would look something like this:
 - with limited resources, her starting point is slightly different given that she is already at CCRI
 - Her professional dream is to work as a baker, and given her high score on the survey her professional dream would be working with sustainable/organic food.
 - Since joining the Institute's year long program, she has become involved in project-based learning, community service and professional development opportunities. Most significantly, she was able to start internships/apprenticeships with local RI bakers This is happening simultaneously with her education.
 - Once this stage is done, she may choose to go back in the loop to gain more experience through more education/workforce development opportunities focused on sustainable food and agriculture in order to best supplement her dream.

- **Resources**

- Based on the survey results and the pathways, resources are personalized for each person
 - This means offering specific online courses, matching up with mentors, and offering workforce development opportunities that are specific to the youth
 - In the case of Evelin, this would mean matching her with resources from organizations (online courses, mentors, etc) based on the data from the organizational survey + opportunities posted by organizations to best aid her on her pathway journey.

5. Facilitators Overview

Summary

The main role of the SustainWDM facilitators is to work with the youth to best utilize SustainWDM.

- They will be trained to work with the youth and through this, build mastery in both the content and real-world application of *Stone Soup for the World: Life-Changing Stories of Everyday Heroes*.
- Using the Institute's year-long program, they will work closely with youth to navigate resources, make best use of SustainWDN in order to efficiently help youth achieve their dreams
 - This includes:
 - Helping to update progress
 - Helping youth to best come up with a 5-year plan that complements their pathways
 - Navigating resources
 - Helping with mentor matching and choosing the best workforce development opportunities

Components and the Facilitator's Role

- **Profile**

The Facilitator will be trained to work with the Youth in order to help host sessions where the youth update their Dream Maps, Worksheets, Bios/Headshots etc. This will also be a place for the Facilitator to update and record individual progress (through keeping track of weekly Youth Voices), ensuring that the 5 Year Plan is feasible, and that youth are regularly working towards their professional dreams.

- **Explore**

Based on the data on each individual (updated and uploaded in the profile page), the facilitator can then work with youth that are unsure of where to look for blue/green jobs, to utilize the Explore component in order to streamline the process and help find explore areas that fit with the youth's interests.

- **Pathways**

Facilitator will utilize information about individualized pathways during each weekly meeting to help update action steps and track progress.

- **Resources**

Through the Institute's Job Shadow Day and Mentor program, and through the information on SustainWDN, the facilitator is able to help match youth to Blue-Green Mentors. Since they work weekly with youth delegates, they are also able to help personalize resources to cater to each individual's interests - this means helping them select online courses and other workforce development opportunities from SustainWDN.