

# EXPO 2020 DUBAI'S DECLARATION FOR PEOPLE AND PLANET

MARCH 29, 2022

## Dear People and Planet,

From October 2021 to March 2022, Dubai and the United Arab Emirates brought 200 nations and organisations together to chart a course forward for a cleaner, safer and healthier future for all. The UAE Cabinet adopted the Programme for People and Planet on April 14, 2021. Designed in harness with 192 nations, the programme catalysed global action and impact and ensured that everyone, from government and business to individuals had a seat at the table. With new forms of partnership at its heart, it prioritised youth, women and underrepresented voices and, indeed, more than 14,000 change makers came from all over the world and were joined by more than 27 million online viewers. We started a movement, the momentum of which will shape our shared future for decades to come.

The world identified the 10 most urgent priorities of our time around which we convened more than 220 events. These 10 Theme Weeks are captured below.

## CLIMATE & BIODIVERSITY

### How do we work together to better manage climate change and protect biodiversity?

The natural world is threatened by the onset of man-made climate change. While we recognise the urgency of our situation, we commit to channelling our collective ability towards crafting policy and influencing behaviour. We must reverse damage to our environment by investing in concerted, collaborative and scalable biodiversity conservation and regeneration efforts. All of us must exercise our right and responsibility to advance climate action for the benefit of future generations.

## SPACE

### How do we safely and productively explore new frontiers?

At Expo 2020 Dubai, nations and organisations identified significant opportunities for collaboration in space exploration, prioritising advances that will help to positively impact life on Earth. The youth of today - the leaders of tomorrow - heard how we need to reframe space as the new frontier for international collaboration and diplomacy. Both space-faring and non-space-faring countries can harness space data and technology for sustainable and inclusive development here on Earth, addressing key challenges such as climate change, food security and deforestation. We must develop the space sector as an inclusive, equitable and aspirational nexus of opportunities, at both individual and institutional scale.

## URBAN & RURAL DEVELOPMENT

### How do we live and grow in harmony with our planet?

We built a city; a blueprint for smart, sustainable, human-centric cities of the future. Moving from building over nature to building with it, from habitats that divide and fragment communities to ones that connect and empower them, we are enabling mobility both within and between urban and rural environments. Our future will inevitably bring us in ever-closer proximity to one another. It is up to us to ensure that this transition prioritises equal access to services, including for People of Determination, essential for a dignified life. We must respect the value of local knowledge and facilitate greater community participation in the planning, design and governance of urban and rural spaces.

## TOLERANCE & INCLUSIVITY

### **How do we foster a greater common understanding for more tolerant and inclusive societies?**

As the most inclusive World Expo in history, our mission was to adopt a fact-based worldview and address common misconceptions so we may know one another better. With easier access to information for all through technological progress, it is our responsibility to use information and knowledge wisely and ensure inclusion efforts are informed by a wide range of perspectives and experiences, engaging all members of society including People of Determination, women and girls, youth and indigenous communities. We must develop and implement new economic models which prioritise people over profit, and are built on values of compassion and common humanity.

## KNOWLEDGE & LEARNING

### **How do we harness and challenge our knowledge today, to prepare for the future?**

The information and innovation revolution provides the opportunity to make knowledge and learning more accessible than ever before, bridging connectivity gaps for women and girls and marginalised communities. We need to advance play-based, experiential and practical learning methodologies to encourage the development of social and emotional skills. It is more important than ever to foster critical thinking, nurture social and emotional intelligence, and preserve the knowledge and heritage of our past to secure a more prosperous future. We must recognise education as a basic human right and acknowledge its value as a cornerstone of a just and peaceful world.

## TRAVEL & CONNECTIVITY

### **How do we balance the impact of digital expansion with our physical reality?**

As a consequence of the global health and travel situation, Travel & Connectivity Week pivoted to a predominantly virtual experience, demonstrating our need for a digital environment that reflects and meets the interests and needs of our physical reality. We must acknowledge digital connectivity as a fundamental human right that underpins our ability to achieve a dignified life for all. We need to recalibrate physical travel to operate within planetary boundaries, making care for people and planet central to our exploration of the world. We must harness the power of data and technology to identify which communities are being left behind, to turbo-charge our efforts in closing the digital divide and bringing the world online.

## GLOBAL GOALS

### **What do we need to do together today for a better world in 2030?**

Expo 2020 Dubai brought the Global Goals to life as 'The World's To-do List', providing a unique global stage to inform, inspire and act on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. By leveraging relatable, empathetic storytelling, we injected fresh momentum into the Decade of Action, mobilising governments, businesses and the general public and collecting over 75,000 individual commitments towards a better future for people and the planet by 2030. We must build creative and purposeful partnerships to catalyse sustainable growth, inclusive of all stakeholders along the value chain. For optimal impact, these collaborations must be holistic and address the interdependencies of the SDGs.

## HEALTH & WELLNESS

### **How do we create a healthier and happier world?**

Held in the midst of a global pandemic, Expo 2020 Dubai was the first international mega event to welcome millions of visitors from around the world. We did so prioritising safety and wellbeing for all, as well as considering how to prepare for the next pandemic, while ensuring the sanctity of physical and mental health. We must acknowledge the reconciliation of human, animal and planetary health as core to building resilience to future pandemics while enhancing the health and wellness of all life on Earth. We need to invest in, and value frontline workers, recognising their immense sacrifice in shepherding us through the pandemic and other crises. We must ensure that the highest quality healthcare is accessible to all, driven by deeper inter-sectoral collaboration and the equitable distribution of digital technology.

## **FOOD, AGRICULTURE & LIVELIHOODS**

### **How do we sustainably grow food to meet future demand?**

From farm to plate, the food value chain is an integral part of society, providing income and livelihoods for billions. Yet, the way in which we cultivate our food is a significant contributor to climate change through deforestation, land degradation, pollution and food waste. Expo provided a platform for showcasing gastronomic traditions from across cultures, continents and generations, and highlighted the pivotal role of good food in powering economies and communities and in protecting our planet. We must enshrine good food for all as a basic human right and build a global food system considerate of the needs of all actors across the value chain. We need to grant agency, recognition and fair remuneration to smallholder farmers who, while feeding the world, are some of the poorest workers on the planet. We must enable environmentally and socially conscious consumption through responsible food and nutrition choices.

## **WATER**

### **How do we protect our most precious resource today, for tomorrow?**

Water is the foundation of all life on Earth, fuelling our growth and connecting communities the world over. Yet, we do not understand its true value, leading to mismanagement and inequitable access and distribution of this common good. We must reimagine our relationship with water, from one of extraction to one of responsibility, valuing it for the vitality it brings to our cultures and communities. As responsible stewards, we need to raise awareness among government, business and individuals that water is the critical resource for a well-nourished, climate-safe and peaceful planet. We must forge robust and binding international frameworks and collaborations to build a sustainable blue economy that avoids the exploitation of our oceans and waterways. We need to find innovative business and finance models to attract the private investment required to ensure access to water for all.

### **Dear People and Planet,**

We began this journey with the purpose of building a movement of a lifetime. We now stand ready to entrust this mission to the millions who came, who saw and who are inspired to care for your future. This is our contribution and commitment to you.

Yours,  
Expo 2020 Dubai  
Programme for People and Planet



# THEMATIC ILLUSTRATIONS

Expo 2020 Dubai asked illustrators from around the world to interpret the themes of the Programme for People and Planet. The resulting illustrations represent a diversity of perspectives and artistic expressions, truly reflective of our World Exposition.

## CLIMATE & BIODIVERSITY



ARTIST: TONI DEMURO - ITALY



SPACE



ARTIST: RODRIGO CORDEIRO - BRAZIL



## URBAN & RURAL DEVELOPMENT



ARTIST: ERIN DWI AZMI - INDONESIA

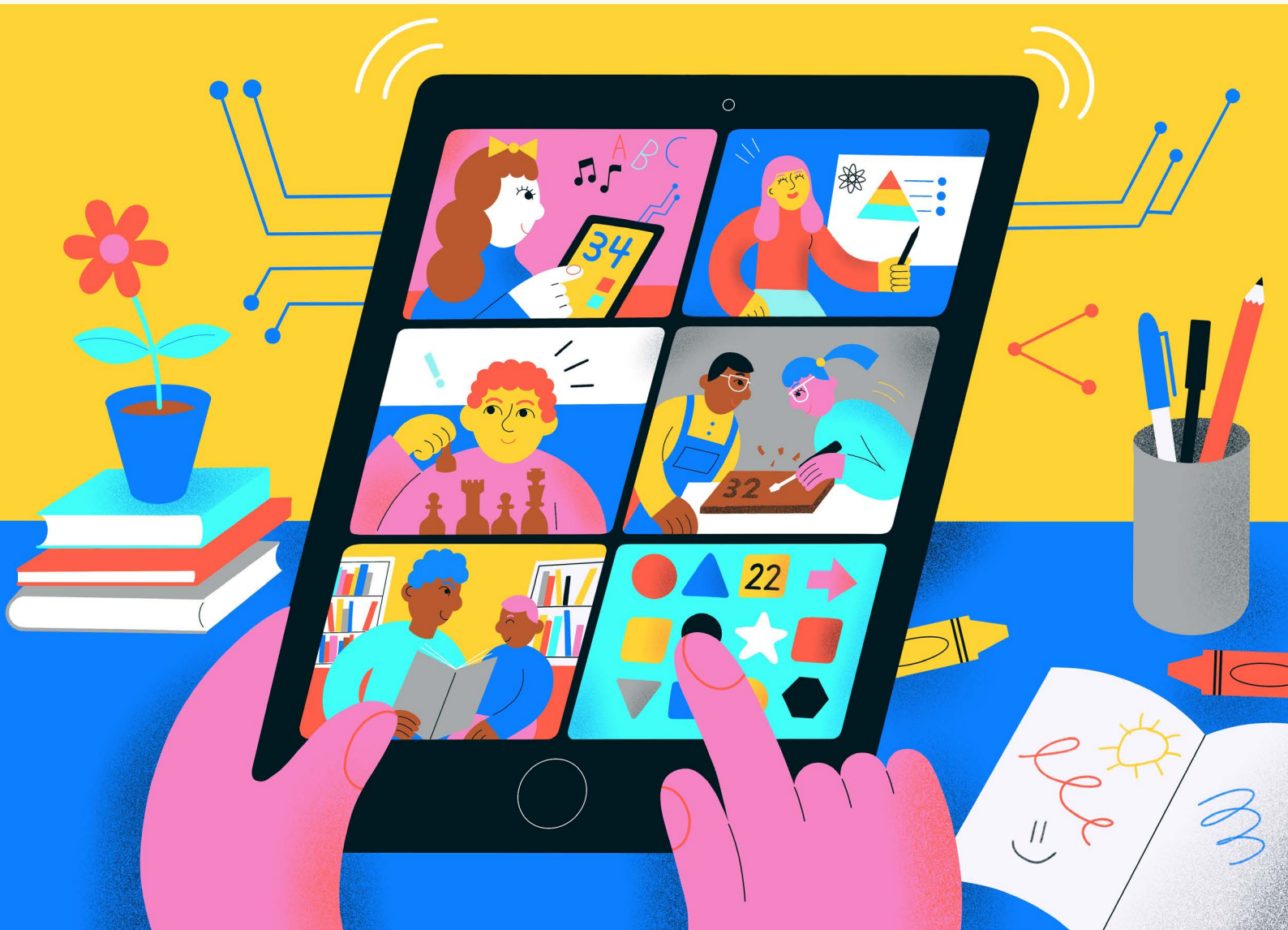
# TOLERANCE & INCLUSIVITY



ARTIST: JOSE ELGUETA - CHILE



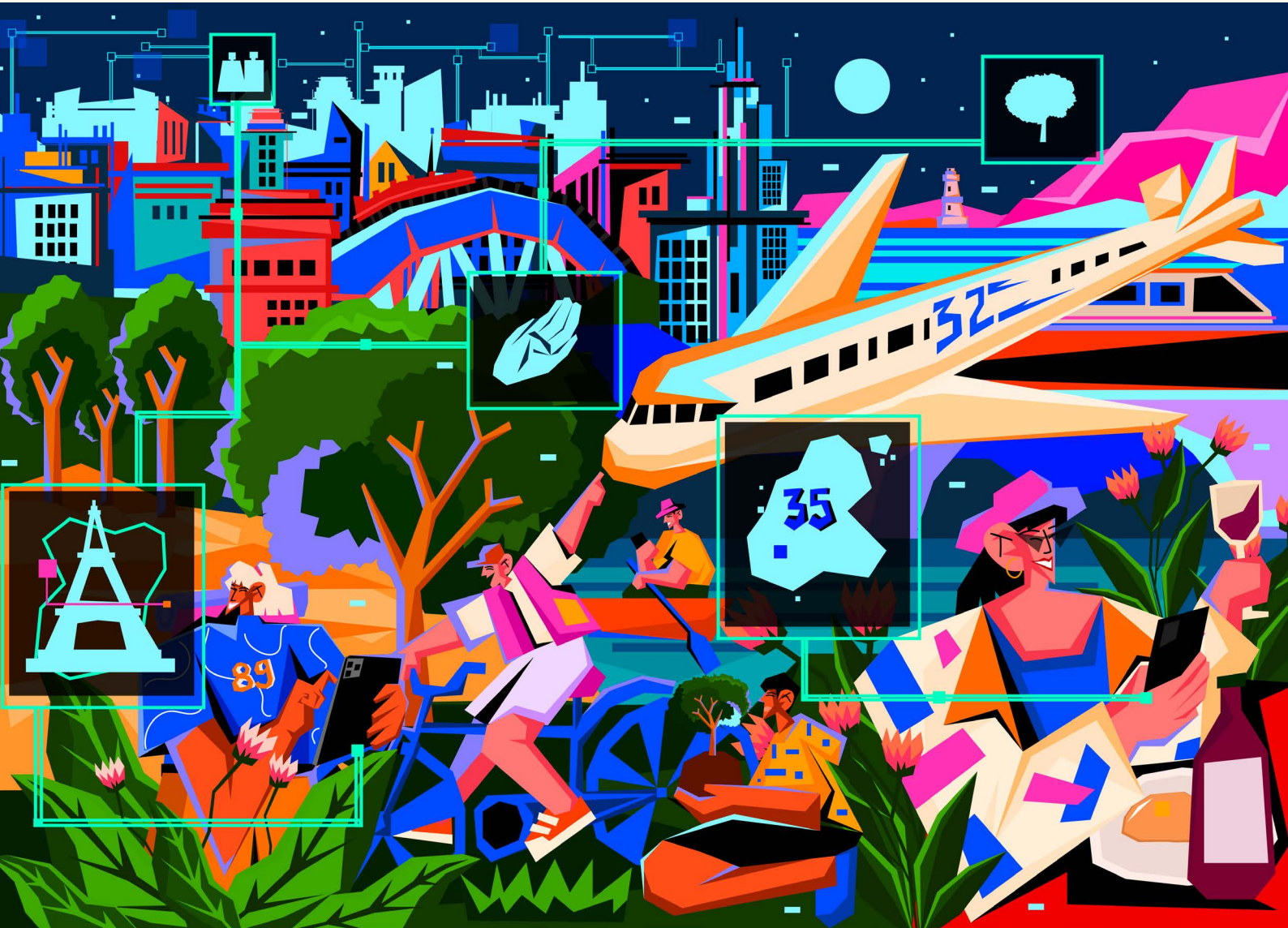
# KNOWLEDGE & LEARNING



ARTIST: EMILY ELDRIDGE – UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



# TRAVEL & CONNECTIVITY



ARTIST: ERIN DWI AZMI - INDONESIA



# GLOBAL GOALS



ARTIST: RUSSELL ABRAHAMS/YAY ABE – SOUTH AFRICA



## HEALTH & WELLNESS



ARTIST: TENGWAN QUEK/SOMEWAN - SINGAPORE

# FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND LIVELIHOODS



ARTIST: EMILY ELDRIDGE – UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



WATER



ARTIST: TONI DEMURO - ITALY



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