

2017 GLOBAL CITIZEN AWARD - Youth & Innovation



2016 International Seminar, Tanzania

WUSC — From its inception, WUSC has been a leading organization in building a better world by empowering and supporting youth to create innovative solutions to development challenges. Following World War I, WUSC was founded by university students and faculty who saw that they could make a difference in other people's lives by taking collective action. Initially, this included acts of solidarity and raising funds, and has since evolved to focus on building capacity through education and the exchange of knowledge and skills.

In 1948, WUSC launched the first International Seminar*, providing students in Canada and around the world with an opportunity to engage in cross-cultural exchanges of knowledge, culture and skills. Most recently, the International Seminar was held in Tanzania in 2016, where 8 Canadian and 8 Tanzanian students collaborated over five intense weeks to better understand the challenge of food security in Tanzania. Focusing on themes of

youth, women, technology and innovation, participants carried out their research by interviewing farmers, youth farmers, farming organizations, government officials, non-profits, private sector players and other stakeholders. From their research, the students worked collaboratively produced a report reflecting their views on the role of youth and technology in achieving food security. The impact of this unique program lies in its integration of cross-cultural learning and practical skills, giving young leaders a platform to use their creativity to tackle development issues.

Through the International Seminar as well as other youth-focused programs, WUSC continues to be a leading organization in fostering collaborative youth-led research and innovation, and supporting youth with the education, training and opportunities to create innovative solutions to development challenges facing their communities.

**The International Seminar is now managed by Uniterra, a joint initiative of WUSC and CECI).*