



UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM-WIDE
ACTION PLAN ON

YOUTH

Report



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United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Youth



ACRONYMS



AID	Africa Industrialization Day	SAFAIDS	Regional Policy Dialogue on Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and HIV Services for Key Populations in East and Southern Africa
APN+	Asia-Pacific Network	SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
APYouthNet	Asia Pacific Youth Network	SRHR	Sexual Reproductive Health Rights
ART	Antiretroviral Therapy	SWAP	System-wide Action Plan
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations	TWG	Thematic Working Group
AUC	African Union Commission	UN	United Nations
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women	UN DESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States	UN HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlement Programme
CSE	Comprehensive Sexuality Education	UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
CSO	Civil Society Organization	UNDG	United Nations Development Group
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
EECA	Eastern Europe and Central Asia	UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme
ESA	Eastern and Southern African	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
ESC	Education for Sustainable Consumption	UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia	UNGEI	United Nations Girls Education Initiative
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Rights and Emergency Relief Organization
GEFI	Global Education First Initiative	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
IANYD	Inter-agency Network on Youth Development	UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
ICMYO	International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organizations	UNIP SIL	United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development	UNJP	United Nations Joint Programme
ICT	Information and Communications Technology	UNODC	United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons	UNON	United Nations Office at Nairobi
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development	UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
ILO	International Labour Organization	UNPSBO	United Nations Peace Building Office
IOM	International Organization for Migration	UNRCPD	United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific
ITU	International Telecommunication Union	UNV	United Nations Volunteers
MSM	Men Who Have Sex with Men	UNWTO	United Nations World Tourism Organization
NLAC	National Legal Aid Council	WHO	World Health Organization
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	WPAY	World Programme of Action for Youth
OSYC	One Stop Youth Centres	YAG	Youth Advocacy Group
PACDE	Global Programme on Anti-Corruption for Development Effectiveness	YEN	Youth Employment Network
PACDE	UNDP Global Programme on Anti-Corruption for Development Effectiveness	YUNGA	Youth and United Nations Global Alliance
SADC	Southern African Development Community		

I. INTRODUCTION



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Member States of the United Nations have called for a more coherent, comprehensive and integrated approach by the UN system to youth development in the framework of the World Programme of Action for Youth¹ through, inter alia, the Inter-agency Network on Youth Development (IANYD).² These calls have been made in several resolutions of the General Assembly as well as in the Outcome Document of the 2011 High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Youth.³ Further indicating the importance of increased coordination on youth issues across the UN system, in January 2012 the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon, outlined his Five-year Action Agenda, which identified working with and for women and young people as a key priority in a set of generational imperatives to be addressed by the United Nations in the coming five years. Within this context the Secretary-General outlined a number of concrete

actions to be undertaken so as to better “address the needs of the largest generation of young people the world has ever known”. These actions included: the development and implementation of a UN System-wide Action Plan on Youth (Youth-SWAP), the creation of a youth volunteer programme under the umbrella of the UN Volunteers, and the appointment of an Envoy on Youth to the Secretary-General.

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), in its role as permanent co-chair of the UN Inter-agency Network on Youth Development, was requested to take the lead in developing and overseeing the implementation of the Youth-SWAP. This report herein provides an update of that process and of the implementation of the Youth-SWAP during its first year at national, regional, and international levels.

¹ United Nations (2007). World Programme of Action for Youth. Available from: http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/documents/wpay_text_final.pdf

² http://unyouthswap.org/inter_agency_network_on_youth_development

³ Outcome document of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Youth:

Dialogue and Mutual Understanding A/RES/65/312. Available from:

<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N11/432/09/PDF/N1143209.pdf?OpenElement>

II. WHAT IS THE YOUTH-SWAP?



UN Photo/Sophia Paris

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The main aim of the Youth-SWAP is to enhance the coherence and synergy of United Nations' system-wide activities in key areas related to youth development. The Youth-SWAP is, in essence, a blueprint that identifies the major priorities of the United Nations system related to youth.

The Youth-SWAP targets all young people, that is, adolescents (aged 10-19 years) and youth (aged 15-24 years). In certain contexts and areas (e.g. political inclusion, employment and entrepreneurship), the definition of youth is even more flexible, and can be stretched beyond 25 years of age.

Enshrined within the larger framework of the World Programme of Action for Youth,⁴ the Youth-SWAP builds on the specific mandates, expertise and capacities

of individual United Nations entities, pooling the strengths of the whole United Nations system and promoting joint programmatic work.

The Youth-SWAP identifies five thematic areas in which to advance cooperation and collaboration: employment and entrepreneurship; protection of rights and civic engagement; political inclusion; education, including comprehensive sexuality education; and health. Each of these five thematic areas leverages the potential of the work of the United Nations in other related areas of youth development, such as sustainable development, climate change, culture, peacebuilding and gender-equality.

To ensure efficiency and rapidity, the Youth-SWAP relies on information and communications technology (ICTs) as an enabling tool for implementation.

⁴ See more: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/documents/wpay2010.pdf>

III. THE NEED FOR A YOUTH-SWAP



UN Photo/Evan Schneider

In recent years youth-led protests and demonstrations across the world have highlighted the need to address youth development issues head on. Youth are increasingly demanding more just, equitable, and progressive opportunities and solutions in their societies. Although young people are increasingly becoming powerful agents of change, staggering rates of global youth unemployment and underemployment continue to cripple young men and women's talent and drive. In 2013 the youth labour force participation rate was at 47.4 per cent,⁵ indicating that fewer than half of youth, aged 15-24, were actively participating in the labour market. Approximately 74.5 million young people, or 13.1 per cent of youth, were unemployed in 2013, roughly 700,000 more than the year before.⁶

In response to these unprecedented developments, and to the concerns of young people, Member States have repeatedly called for the intensified efforts of the UN system towards youth development. Hearing these calls, in 2012 the Secretary-General identified working with and for women and young people as a priority of his Five-year Action Agenda.⁷

Under this priority, and responding to Member States' requests to enhance inter-agency arrangements on youth policies and programmes, the Secretary-General called for the development of a System-wide Action Plan on Youth, or Youth-SWAP. The Secretary-General also appointed Ahmad Alhendawi as the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth and announced the development of a youth volunteering modality under the auspices of the United Nations Volunteers Programme.

⁵ International Labour Organization (2014). Global Employment Trends for Youth 2014: Risk of a jobless recovery? Geneva.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ For further information see <http://www.un.org/sg/priorities/>

IV. DEVELOPING, IMPLEMENTING AND REPORTING THE YOUTH-SWAP

Development

Since its establishment the Inter-agency Network on Youth Development (IANYD) has proven itself to be a successful partnership contributing to increased inter-agency coordination in the important field of youth development. In 2012, the IANYD was tasked with the development of the Youth-SWAP, which was subsequently endorsed by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination in April 2013.

In developing the Youth-SWAP, the IANYD established thematic Youth-SWAP sub-working groups to fully flesh out and define the goals and outcomes contained under each of its thematic areas, namely: employment and entrepreneurship; protection of rights and civic engagement; political inclusion; education, including comprehensive sexuality education; and health. The sub-working groups have continued to be instrumental in providing inputs and technical guidance⁸ on these areas in its implementation.

To ensure young people's active involvement in the development of the Youth-SWAP, a consultative and preparatory process was carried out from July to August 2012. A global survey was conducted by the IANYD so as to obtain inputs to the Youth-SWAP framework, to which over 13,500 respondents from 186 countries participated. The results of the survey identified young people's development priorities and confirmed many of the approaches adopted by the UN system to

promote youth development. The survey results served as a basis for the Youth-SWAP sub-working groups to develop the Youth-SWAP framework.

The full text of the Youth-SWAP can be found in Annex 1 of this report. The Youth-SWAP includes one overarching goal for each of its thematic areas. Under the overarching goal, there is a list of outcomes to ensure their fulfilment. All activities related to outcomes contained in the Youth-SWAP differ by region and country and reflect local challenges.

Implementation

The achievement of outcomes contained in the Youth-SWAP is dependent on the efforts of the IANYD at the global level as well as at the regional and country level where the majority of activities contained in the Youth-SWAP take place. Within the Youth-SWAP, joint programmatic work through regional and country networks is prioritized, whereas each entity is free to work individually to advance youth development in the context of its own mandate, and the mandate of the Youth-SWAP.

At the global level, thematic sub-working groups have been established to effectively develop and track the outcomes identified under each of the thematic areas of the Youth-SWAP. Each of these sub-working groups is linked to a thematic area and

⁸ The Youth-SWAP thematic sub-working groups of the Inter-agency Network on Youth Development developed a guidance note to accompany the Youth-SWAP, which provides guidance on implementation at various levels. Additional guidance tools are being developed for thematic areas and country and regional implementation.



chaired by two entities. The employment and entrepreneurship sub-working group is led by the ILO; protection of rights, civic engagement and political inclusion is led by UNDP and UN-Habitat; education, including comprehensive sexuality education, is led by UNESCO, UNFPA and the health sub-working group is led by UNICEF and WHO. The co-chairs of each of these thematic sub-working groups convened regular meetings and prepared progress reports which are the basis for this report.

Similarly, efforts are underway at the regional level to implement the Youth-SWAP. For example, ESCWA is a member of both the global IANYD, as well as the regional Inter-Agency Technical Task Team for Young People. ESCWA has been coordinating closely on youth-related activities with members of the Inter-Agency Technical Task Team for Young People, working to ensure their collaboration on all its youth activities as well as contributing to their respective activities at the regional level as appropriate. To enhance the impact of the United Nations youth development work in the Asia-Pacific Region, ESCAP, as Chair of the Regional Coordination Mechanism, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Group Asia-Pacific, jointly established the RCM/UNDG Asia-Pacific Thematic Working Group on Youth. This group developed a terms of reference and a work plan to strategically guide its work on youth. It also connected two complementary perspectives: the UNDG's country-level support and the Regional Coordination Mechanism focus on regional policy coherence. Based on the Youth-SWAP, the Latin America and Caribbean Interagency Group developed a regional implementation plan in 2013, which defined the priorities

for the Latin America and Caribbean region, based on the needs and realities of the countries, and in the capabilities of the agencies involved.

Reporting

With the development of the Youth-SWAP, the IANYD and its participating entities⁹ committed to conducting an assessment of system-wide activities and achievements on a regular basis so as to ensure that lessons are learned for later stages of implementation and that potential weaknesses are addressed in a timely manner.

The first report of the Youth-SWAP provides an overview of major highlights of efforts by United Nations entities, individually and jointly, in promoting the goals of the Youth-SWAP and addresses important lessons learned while giving an outlook for the way ahead.

Given the strong emphasis of the Youth-SWAP on regional and national implementation, the report not only showcases examples of global cooperation but highlights examples of cooperation in regional and national inter-agency initiatives. This report therefore represents a consolidated effort at all levels and is strongly based on inputs received by the network's entities, reflecting the strong commitment of all IANYD members towards the successful implementation of the Youth-SWAP.

⁹ http://unyouthswap.org/inter_agency_network_on_youth_development

V. PARTNERING WITH YOUTH



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The continued engagement of young people will be crucial throughout the whole process of planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating the Youth-SWAP. The Youth-SWAP envisions three levels of youth participation, namely: informing and consulting youth about the Youth-SWAP; encouraging their inclusive and meaningful participation in its implementation; and engaging youth as partners and in the monitoring and reporting of the Youth-SWAP. Additionally, in order to provide

young people with the opportunity to hold the United Nations system accountable for the implementation of commitments in the Youth-SWAP, youth organizations are encouraged to track all progress independently, for example through shadow reports. To ensure that progress under the Youth-SWAP is communicated to youth and civil society stakeholders a website has been developed to provide details on the main aims, implementation and reporting of the Youth-SWAP www.unyouthswap.org

VI. PROGRESS UNDER YOUTH-SWAP THEMATIC AREAS



Photo / UN Information Centres

Within the context of its five thematic areas, the Youth-SWAP aims at promoting joint programmatic work on youth development and identifies ways in which activities undertaken by individual entities can complement each other.

The following chapter provides a brief introduction to the key challenges under each thematic area of the Youth-SWAP, the overarching goal identified under each area as a means to overcoming such challenges, and thereafter, reports on key achievements.

In doing so it presents both inter-agency initiatives and projects implemented by individual entities in the framework of the Youth-SWAP, highlighting initiatives implemented on a global, regional and national level. The list of projects and activities highlighted is not exhaustive, but rather aims at spotlighting some of the most innovative and collaborative initiatives implemented.



1. EMPLOYMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP



Youth unemployment is not only a problem in developing countries: young people all around the world face the challenges of unemployment and underemployment. The global youth unemployment rate was at 13.1 per cent in 2013, meaning that 74.5 million young people are out of work.¹⁰ Also, youth are more likely to be engaged in informal employment compared to older workers¹¹ and transitions to decent work are slow and difficult. Furthermore, youth often face special difficulties and hindrances when establishing or developing their own businesses. For example, access to finance is often lacking: due to their perceived high lending risk and lack of collateral, young people often cannot access the credit needed.

To address the above sketched global challenge of unemployment as well as underemployment that young people are facing around the globe, the overall goal of the Youth-SWAP in this thematic area is to:

ENSURE GREATER OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH TO SECURE DECENT WORK AND INCOME OVER THE LIFE-CYCLE, CONTRIBUTING TO A VIRTUOUS CIRCLE OF POVERTY REDUCTION, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION.

Achievements have been made on a global, regional and national level, contributing to the following commitments identified in the Youth-SWAP:

- Enhance national capacity to develop gender-sensitive strategies for decent work for youth.
- Support the improvement and enforcement of rights at work for youth and implement employment and skills development programmes to ease the transition of disadvantaged youth to decent work.
- Support institutional reforms for an enabling environment conducive to youth entrepreneurship, including access to markets, finance and other resources.
- Strengthen mechanisms for promoting youth entrepreneurship, in particular for young women.

GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

Joint United Nations programmes on youth employment and migration

The United Nations System has targeted the global unemployment crisis and has undertaken a range of initiatives to tackle the challenge. An inter-agency collaboration is underway for the implementation of joint United Nations programmes on youth employment and migration in 15 countries. Sponsored by Spain's Achievement Fund for the Millennium Development Goals, these programmes supported interventions to accelerate productive employment and decent work opportunities for young people at national and local levels. These programmes have spanned countries in Africa, Asia, South-East Europe and Latin America and with

a total allocation of US\$ 71.8 million. The implementation of these programmes involved 14 United Nations entities (FAO, ILO, IOM, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN Women, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNODC, UNOPS, WHO and UNWTO) and over 1,000 national and local institutions. The partners at national and local levels included ministries in charge of labour and employment, youth and sport, health, economy and planning, enterprise development, agriculture, education and science; municipalities and national statistical institutes; employers and workers' organizations; public employment services; and civil society organizations.

These joint programmes on youth employment and migration were further connected through a Knowledge Management Facility. Under the ILO's coordination, the facility promoted South-South collaboration on youth employment and cross-country sharing of experience, information, data and tools. This facility was instrumental in identifying and documenting successful practices relating to the design, monitoring and evaluation of youth employment and migration programmes. The Facility has built a body of evidence to support policy dialogue and programme development on youth employment and migration issues. It used a range of knowledge-sharing tools (e.g. face-to-face workshops, an e-helpdesk, virtual forums and online discussions) to enable national teams who implemented the joint programmes to interact and exchange information on the technical areas covered by their programmes.

¹⁰ International Labour Organization (2014). Global Employment Trends for Youth 2014: Risk of a jobless recovery? Geneva
¹¹ Ibid.



UN World Youth Report

On 14th February 2014 UN DESA launched its flagship UN World Youth Report on Youth and Migration. The World Youth Report is an interactive online report, written with the input of young people and youth organizations worldwide in close cooperation with UN entities such as, inter alia, the ILO and IOM. The report highlights some of the concerns, challenges and successes experienced by young migrants based on their own lives and told in their own voices.¹² In drafting the report, UN DESA carried out an extensive 4 week consultation and online survey aimed at young people, to ensure their views and experiences were adequately reflected throughout the report.

Joint review of country strategies

To promote decent work for youth living in rural areas the ILO and FAO expanded their existing collaboration and jointly reviewed strategies from five countries of different regions to ascertain the extent to which they targeted employment of young people and distilled lessons for future policy development and programme implementation.

REGIONAL PROGRESS

Africa

To find targeted solutions to youth unemployment, the Youth Employment Network (YEN) - a partnership among the ILO,

¹² The online report can be accessed on: www.unworldyouthreport.org



UN DESA and the World Bank - in collaboration with UNIDO and UN-Habitat supported the implementation of the Youth-to-Youth Fund in East and West Africa. The Youth-to-Youth Fund is a competitive grant and capacity building scheme that enables youth-led non-profit organizations to pilot and replicate innovative projects that create employment for young people by helping them set up micro-enterprises in niche markets. Since 2008, the Youth-to-Youth Fund has served over 500 youth-led organizations with direct grants or training and has reached out to over 3,000 youth. Evaluations of the projects indicate that 8 out of ten young beneficiaries are successfully placed in self-employment or employment. Additional evidence indicates that nearly 75 per cent of the jobs created by the Fund are still there one year after project ending. The World Bank recognized the Y2Y Fund as one of the 30 most important and innovative global models that support micro-entrepreneurship.

In West Africa, the YEN in conjunction with UNIDO implemented the Youth-to-Youth Fund in Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, and Sierra Leone. In East Africa, YEN has partnered with UN-Habitat to deliver joint trainings for the grantees of the Youth-to-Youth Fund and the UN-Habitat Urban Youth Fund. In 2013, with support from the Canadian International Development Agency and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, YEN launched the Youth-to-Youth Fund in Morocco and Togo.

To reduce youth unemployment and poverty in Central Africa by building young graduates' capacities to search for

employment, the Sub-Regional Office for Central Africa of UNECA established an electronic (e)-employment project using the internet and other ICT facilities in urban Congo in Brazzaville, Pointe Noire. UNECA also developed a knowledge platform to share its work and best practices on social policies including youth issues. Young people and policy makers used the platform to facilitate the sharing of good practices at individual and country level on issues of youth employment. The platform enhanced peer learning, information sharing and knowledge creation among ten countries including Uganda, Kenya, Zambia, Egypt, the Gambia, Ghana, Mauritius, Nigeria, Ethiopia and Zimbabwe on how their countries were addressing youth unemployment issues.

Raising awareness on the issue of youth unemployment and underemployment in Africa, the Africa Industrialization Day 2013 has been celebrated with the entire support of the United Nations, under the leadership of UNECA and UNIDO, in cooperation with the African Union Commission and was celebrated in all UNIDO field offices in Africa as well as in Brussels, Vienna and New York. Addressing the challenge of widespread unemployment – particularly among youth- the Africa Industrialization Day 2013 was organized under the heading Job Creation and Entrepreneurship Development: a means to accelerate industrialization in Africa, highlighting the crucial role of job creation and entrepreneurship in eradicating poverty.

¹³ Toolkit available at: <http://www.escwa.un.org/divisions/otherdetails.asp?id=1637>



Arab States

ESCWA has developed a technical toolkit¹³ for national youth policy reform, designed to support Arab countries responses to the established and emerging youth issues and priorities in the region, including decent work for youth. The toolkit followed the framework of the World Programme of Action for Youth, and was developed in a participatory manner with representatives of several Arab countries taking part in the development and piloting of the tools. The toolkit includes a reference manual for national youth policy, a step-by-step guide that suggests a number of actions and mechanisms in the process of developing and implementing national youth policies.

To discuss lessons learned from national policies addressing the issue of youth unemployment, ESCWA held a regional workshop for UN experts from ILO, UNESCO, UNFPA, and ESCWA as well as senior policy makers from the region. The workshop (Beirut, 6-7 November 2013) enabled the exchange of views on relevant policy frameworks and their impact, leading into a number of conclusions and policy recommendations.

Asia Pacific

Youth employment and entrepreneurship is a key challenge across the Asia Pacific and UN entities are working hard to contribute to solutions. The ILO participated in the ASEAN

Forum on Youth Employment in Semarang, Indonesia in May 2013 as well as the ASEAN Youth Forum in Brunei also in May 2013, which led to the ASEAN leader's formal commitment for youth in the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on Youth Entrepreneurship and Employment.¹⁴ The ILO and UNESCO jointly organized a symposium on the issue of Youth Employment and Lifelong Learning in the Republic of Korea. This collaboration was further extended during the same month when over 500 participants from the Asia-Pacific region took part in the Community Learning Centres Conference in Bangkok. To advance Technical and Vocational Education and Training for Youth Employability and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, UNESCO's International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training with the participation of the ILO organized an event in Seoul, Republic of Korea in September 2013.

The Commonwealth-Asia Alliance of Young Entrepreneurs summit was organized on the margin of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Colombo in November 2013 with the participation of the ILO. It serves as a platform to the upcoming G20 Young Entrepreneurs Alliance Summit in Sydney in July 2014.

To facilitate sharing of youth employment information, resources and news, the ILO established the Asia-Pacific Youth Employment Network platform. The platform furthermore serves to enhance interaction between young



people and governments, employers and workers and since its creation in 2008 it has grown to more than 900 members and welcomes thousands of visitors each month. The platform features monthly talk shows featuring guests of different backgrounds – including the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, Mr. Ahmad Alhendawi in August 2013.

Furthermore the efforts on the United Nations in the Asia Pacific Region have focused on enhancing the capacities of governments to address the pressing issue of youth unemployment. One example in this regard is the cooperation of the ILO, UNICEF, IOM and UNFPA providing assistance to the Government of the Philippines in drafting its Youth Employment and Migration National Action Plan in 2013.

Another example is the collaboration between UNFPA, the ILO and Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population Development in an event in Sri Lanka in October 2013 to provide recommendations on youth employment to young parliamentarians in preparation of the International Parliamentarians' Conference on the Implementation of the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action, to be held in April 2014 in Sweden.

¹⁴ See more at: http://www.asean.org/images/archive/23rdASEANSummit/2.%20bsb%20declaration%20on%20youth%20entrepreneurship%20and%20employment_final.pdf



COUNTRY SPOTLIGHTS

Africa

Zambia | One Stop Youth Centres

To promote youth empowerment, the ILO, UNICEF and UN-Habitat in collaboration with the Commonwealth Youth Programme and the Government of the Republic of Zambia hosted an international conference to plan for the formation of the One Stop Youth Centre in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region. The conference promoting regional collaboration for youth empowerment focused on the model of One Stop Youth Centres, an integrated approach to youth-led development developed by UN-Habitat. One Stop Youth Centres reflect local needs while considering the resources and opportunities available. The key focus of the strategy is empowerment for improved livelihood opportunities and civic engagement. The One Stop Youth Centres are based on a set of principles - labelled the Kampala Principles - that include providing a neutral space for young people, especially from marginalized urban communities, to interact with one another and with youth serving agencies. At the end of the conference, an action plan to develop a SADC One Stop Youth Centre to be based in Livingstone Zambia was developed with specific roles identified for the different UN entities.

Related to SWAP Outcome 4.3 on entrepreneurship: Information on entrepreneurial opportunities for young people made available through in-person and online services.

Zambia | National youth policy

In the context of the interagency process supporting the review of the national youth policy, the ILO led the work on employment and entrepreneurship, where a thorough review of the youth labour market, the policies, institutions and programmes led to the adoption of a national action plan for youth employment. This action plan was launched by the President of Zambia during the youth week celebration in March 2014. After the launch, the UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth in Zambia will provide support to the government institutions in the implementation of the national youth policy. Work under the Zambia Youth-SWAP also includes the ILO/UNICEF joint training programmes for youth using the ILO's GET Ahead manual. Since the GET Ahead programmes have a financial education component, the ILO and UNICEF represent the UN System in the Country's Child and Youth Finance programmes of the National Financial Sector Development Programme.

Related to SWAP Outcome 1.2 on employment: Multi-pronged youth employment strategies implemented through gender-sensitive national policies and time-bound action plans.

Kenya | Leveraging government tendering processes

UN Women, the WFP, the ILO and UNON are working in Kenya to create awareness among women and youth entrepreneurs on opportunities in the government tendering process. Sensitization of supplies practitioners on their role in the implementation of the preference and reservations regulations of 2011, and raising awareness among financial institutions about the need for innovative financial products



that are women and youth-friendly, enable women entrepreneurs to participate effectively in the state market. The interventions seek to enhance the productivity and competitiveness of women and young entrepreneurs, allowing them to benefit from sustainable market opportunities.

Related to SWAP Measure 4.2 on entrepreneurship: Innovative approaches to entrepreneurship expanded, with a view to increasing job opportunities for young women and men.

Rwanda | Nine UN entities promote youth employment

To connect young people to role models, resources, skills, entrepreneurship, employment and internship opportunities, the youth employment initiative YouthConnekt in Rwanda uses Google Hangout technology in combination with other social media channels and SMS. The platform has a practical, results-oriented format, including interactive, multi-stakeholder panel discussions, partnership announcements, as well as opportunities for participants to showcase their innovative ideas and projects to potential partners. The project was developed under the umbrella of the One UN and is built on the cooperation of nine UN entities (UNDP, ILO, UNIDO, UN-Habitat, UN Women, UNOHCHR, ITC, and UNESCO), the Ministry of Youth and ICT as well as local and international private sector companies including Motorola, Cisco and KPMG.¹⁵

Related to SWAP Outcome 4.2 on entrepreneurship: Innovative approaches to entrepreneurship expanded, with a view to increasing job opportunities for young women and men.

¹⁵ A video about the project can be accessed online.
Available from: <https://vimeo.com/85409532>



Nigeria | Youth Employment in Agriculture Programme

To develop large-scale investment plans focused on creating decent rural work opportunities for young women and men, FAO has been working with various governments. In Nigeria, FAO provided technical support to develop an investment plan for the National Youth Employment in Agriculture Programme (YEAP), which will be implemented in parallel with Nigeria's ongoing Agricultural Transformation Agenda. The YEAP in Nigeria will serve as an overall framework for all development partners and UN agencies in the country to collate their work to maximize their impact in tackling youth unemployment.

Related to SWAP Outcome 2.3. Member States assisted in developing comprehensive and evidence-based employment and livelihoods programmes targeting disadvantaged youth and 1.3. Young people and their organizations engaged in the development of national youth employment strategies

Tanzania and Malawi | Public private partnership for rural youth employment

Establishing partnerships among governments, private sector / producers' organizations and involving youth in the process, is key for youth inclusion in national and regional initiatives. The FAO, has introduced a private and public partnership model for rural youth employment in Tanzania and Malawi which has become a win-win model for all institutions and actors involved. Junior Farmer Field and Life Schools (JFFLS) graduates reported an improvement of at least 60 percent in economic returns while also showing more positive perception

of agriculture and consequently seize opportunities for potential employment and business ventures in the sector. Furthermore, each graduate re-trained an average of 20 other rural youth in his/her district, with an important spill-over effect. All activities have been undertaken in strong collaboration with the ILO country offices and the model is presently being institutionalized in the two countries.

Related to SWAP Outcome 2.3. Member States assisted in developing comprehensive and evidence-based employment and livelihoods programmes targeting disadvantaged youth

Americas

Mexico | Youth employment policy

To promote youth employment and inclusion of the most vulnerable groups, a Youth Employment Policy 2011-2020 with a gender equality perspective has been drafted within the framework of the MDG Joint Programme on Youth, Employment and Migration. The initiative was jointly developed by UN Women, ILO, UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF. The policy is currently being implemented by the Mexican Vice-Ministry of Labour, emphasizing the inclusion of the most vulnerable youth groups through labour technical training and job placement strategies. Additional assistance will be provided to ensure the gender impact of this policy and its sustainability.

Related to SWAP Outcome 1.2 on employment: Multi-pronged youth employment strategies implemented through gender-sensitive national policies and time-bound action plans



Honduras | Supporting youth migrants

To contribute to the promotion of rural employment and support youth migrants in Honduras UNDP, FAO, ILO, IOM, UNICEF, UNFPA and UNODC joined forces to implement the Joint Programme on Human Development for Youth: Overcoming the Challenges of Migration through Employment. The programme contributed to generating decent employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for vulnerable youth, thus discouraging irregular migration of young people. The programme led by the Ministry of Labour strengthens youths' employability; promoting entrepreneurship through the creation of micro enterprises, promotion of business alliances and environmentally sustainable criteria, and reinforcing a sense of belonging and national identity.

Related to SWAP Outcome 1.2 on employment: Multi-pronged youth employment strategies implemented through gender-sensitive national policies and time-bound action plans

Paraguay | Empowering girls and young women and indigenous workers

To strengthen the skills and economic empowerment of rural youth who attend the agricultural school from the Mbaracayu Natural Reserve in Paraguay, UN Women developed a pilot project in Paraguay. The project developed a training model which integrates entrepreneurship and a gender perspective in the agricultural curriculum that the school offers. The initiative reaches 120 young rural and indigenous workers from rural communities near the Reserve. The mainstreaming of



gender in the curriculum aims to contribute to the economic empowerment of young women. The initiative is carried out through the Mbaracayu Educational Centre, located in the Natural Reserve of Mbaracayu.

Related to SWAP Outcome 2.1 on employment: Mechanisms for monitoring and sharing information on rights at work for youth strengthened.

Arab States

Yemen | Youth employment for sustained livelihoods

In 2013, to enhance job creation during the transition process of Yemen, a UNDP-led project implemented in cooperation with the ILO supported the government of Yemen through the development of a youth economic empowerment project and a national action plan on youth employment. Within the first months of the pilot, the project provided 32,120 work days to disadvantaged youth. The project is based on a quick intervention through cash for work schemes that allow young participants to earn a living and save part of their salary in a bank account. The first phase is followed by the provision of support for the establishment of micro-business through the investment of the savings, further financial support and technical assistance in skills training, preparation of a business plan and access to business development services. This approach was embedded as a component of the national action plan for youth employment that was formulated with the technical support of the ILO and the UNDP.

Related to SWAP Outcome 1.2 on employment: Multi-pronged youth employment strategies implemented through gender-sensitive national policies and time-bound

action plans as well as SWAP Outcome 2.3 on employment: Countries assisted in developing comprehensive and evidence-based employment and livelihoods programmes targeting disadvantaged youth.

Europe and Central Asia

Macedonia | Tackling the youth employment challenge

In 2013, the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia developed a national youth employment strategy and piloted innovative programmes with the support of the ILO and UNDP. The strategy was formulated and adopted by the Government through a national action plan for youth employment that was supported by the ILO. This support consisted of a youth labour market review and analysis of effectiveness of policies institutions and programmes for youth employment. Technical assistance was furthermore provided to the Government and the National Statistical Office for the design and implementation of a countrywide school-to-work transition survey. The survey identifies baseline data to assess the progress made in the implementation of the Plan. The ILO and the UNDP provided support in strengthening national capacities to monitor performance and assess the impact of youth employment interventions. Furthermore, UNDP engaged in the development of a tool for mapping job and training opportunities for young people, including through youth entrepreneurship initiatives.

Related to SWAP Outcome 1.2 on employment: Multi-pronged youth employment strategies implemented through gender-sensitive national policies and time-bound



action plans and SWAP Outcome 4.2 on Entrepreneurship: Innovative approaches to entrepreneurship expanded, with a view to increasing job opportunities for young women and men.

Armenia | Supporting young entrepreneurs

UNIDO promotes a business environment conducive for youth-led businesses and the sound development of the local private sector in Armenia by supporting youth-led enterprise creation and expansion through non-financial and financial services (entrepreneurship training, technical assistance, coaching and counselling, and a revolving youth business fund). The project supports youth start-up entrepreneurs aged 18 to 35 years with realistic business ideas, or with state registration up to three years and especially focuses on young women. The UNIDO-led project started in 2013 with the financial support of the Government of Austria, and is implemented in close collaboration with the Armenian counterpart institutions. The project aims to demonstrate that youth are credit worthy and capable of turning loans into profitable businesses thus contributing to the much needed systemic change, where both public and private sector render more and better financial and non-financial support to youth-led enterprise creation and expansion.

Related to SWAP Outcome 3.2 on increased financial inclusion of youth as well as 4.1 on methodology and tools to promote youth entrepreneurship



2. PROTECTION OF RIGHTS AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



Participation is a fundamental right. It is one of the guiding principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that has been reiterated in many other Conventions and Declarations. Through civic engagement, young people are empowered to play a vital role in their own development as well as in that of their communities, helping them to learn essential life-skills, develop knowledge on human rights and citizenship, and to promote positive civic action. To effectively participate, young people must be given the proper tools, such as education about, and access to, their civil rights.¹⁶

To ensure the protection and promotion of rights and enhance civic engagement of young people, the Youth-SWAP aims to:

ENSURE THE INHERENT RIGHTS OF YOUTH ARE RECOGNIZED AND UPHELD TO ENABLE YOUNG PEOPLE'S ENGAGEMENT IN ALL ASPECTS OF THEIR DEVELOPMENT.

In 2013 the IANYD and its member entities achieved notable results in the thematic area of protection of rights and civic engagement by contributing to the implementation of the following measures on a global, regional and national level:

- Support countries to take action towards safeguarding and promoting the human rights of youth

- Promote young people's effective inclusive civic engagement at local, national, regional and global levels

GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

Creation of a youth volunteer modality

In response to the Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Youth, the United Nations Youth Volunteer modality was developed. As part of the modality, UNV has already mobilized more than 1,000 international and national UN Volunteers under the age of 29. Of these, more than 60 per cent were female and 70 per cent were from developing countries. Furthermore, 119 young women and men from Spain and Japan worked as university volunteers, and 167 fully-funded UN Youth Volunteers from Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Korea, and Switzerland have been placed in UNDP, IOM, UN Women, UNICEF, UNRCPD, UNIP SIL, OHCHR, UNFPA, UNAIDS, UNIDO, UN-Habitat, UNDOC, IFAD and UNEP.

The fully-funded UN Youth Volunteers have been supporting fifteen United Nations Resident Coordinator's Offices to ensure the inclusion of youth voices in the post-2015 debates and consultations. Some have also been deployed in UNDP country offices to undertake advocacy work at the field level in countries that have been identified as potential pilot countries for the youth programme, and the

remainders have been fielded with UN agencies to support the implementation of their programmes and projects in different countries. An additional group of 117 fully-funded UN Youth Volunteers are expected to be deployed in the first quarter of 2014. Furthermore, UNV, in collaboration with other United Nations entities such as UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA, developed regional-level initiatives, including the regional UNV project, Arab Youth Volunteering for a Better Future, which was initiated in Egypt, Yemen, Jordan, Tunisia and Morocco with funding from the Government of Germany and UNV's Special Voluntary Fund in 2013. The project harnesses the power of volunteerism, self-help and solidarity to address poverty and unemployment among Arab youth and to build their social capital.

To support national policies, legislation, statutory frameworks and budgets that enable and strengthen youth volunteerism, UNV has closely cooperated with governments, civil society, youth groups and the UN system (UNDP, One UN, and UNFPA) in several countries. Projects range from support to drafting national policies on volunteerism and the establishment of government bodies to promote volunteering (Mali, Mozambique, Rwanda and Vietnam), to youth volunteering programmes targeting young graduates (Indonesia, Lesotho and Peru), or programmes focused on youth employability and non-formal education (Bosnia and Herzegovina). In 2013, more than 41,500 youth benefited from these projects.

¹⁶ UN DESA. Society and Decision Making. Factsheet. 2011. Available from: <http://undesadspd.org/Youth/WorldProgrammeofActionforYouth/Participation/SocietyandDecisionMakingFactsheet.aspx>



Open Meeting of the Inter-agency Network on Youth Development with young people

The United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development hosted an Open Meeting with youth-led organizations, networks and movements on 18-20 September at the United Nations in New York. The meeting brought together representatives of the 40 member entities of the Network and over 100 youth-led organizations, networks and movements. The aim was to identify ways in which the Inter-agency Network on Youth Development could better work with and for young people, present the rationale for and components of the UN System-wide Action Plan on Youth, to find innovative ways to partner with young people in its implementation, and to discuss options to strengthen institutional mechanisms for meaningful youth participation in the United Nations system and contribution to the implementation and monitoring of UN-led activities on youth. The main outcome of the meeting was an agreement between youth-led organizations and the Inter-agency Network on Youth Development on structured ways for partnerships, collaboration and participation. Additional outcomes include recommendations for strengthening communication and guidelines to address the realities of marginalized young people, particularly youth with disabilities and indigenous young people, in programmes to implement the UN System-wide Action Plan on Youth.¹⁷

¹⁷ Report of the Open Meeting with Youth Organizations. Available from: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/documents/youth/ianyd/meeting-report-nov2013.pdf>

Guiding principles on young people's participation in peacebuilding

Youth participation in peacebuilding is an area that remains underexplored and insufficiently prioritized. To remedy this gap, the IANYD Sub-Working Group on Youth Participation in Peacebuilding has led to the development of the Guiding Principles on Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding, which were officially launched on April 24th 2014.¹⁸ Over 1,000 people contributed to the development of these Guiding Principles. The process was led by the UN Peacebuilding Support Office and Search for Common Ground, as co-chairs of a dedicated working group on these issues. This sub-working group is part of the UN Inter-agency Network on Youth Development, and includes UN entities, non-governmental organizations, donors, academics and youth-led organizations. To enable participatory, inclusive and inter-generational peacebuilding strategies and programmes that systematically promote participation of young people, the principles offer guidance to peacebuilding actors including governments, United Nations entities, funds and programmes, national and international non-governmental organizations, civil society actors and donors. Operational guidance to support youth participation in peacebuilding programming will be developed during the second year of the Youth-SWAP, including sector-specific good practices, lessons learned and how-to notes.

¹⁸ The Guiding Principles on Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding. Available from: https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Guiding-Principles_EN.pdf



Expert Group Meeting on Youth, Development and Rights

In November 2013 UN DESA held an Expert Group Meeting on Youth, Development and Rights, bringing together UN Entities, Member States, academics, youth representatives and other stakeholders to discuss how to overcome barriers facing young people in exercising their full set of rights to participation in civic, political and economic life. The Report of the meeting is being used to inform the work of UN DESA and its partners.¹⁹

The Major Group for Children and Youth

The Major Group for Children and Youth is the organizing structure that facilitates the inputs of young people and youth organizations to intergovernmental processes related to sustainable development convened under the United Nations. Empowered through follow-up to the UN Conference on Environment and Development (1992) and subsequent implementation of Agenda 21, the Major Group engages with the Rio Conventions through the UNFCCC Youth Constituency and the UNEP TUNZA Advisory Council, as well as with the Commission on Sustainable Development for all of its twenty sessions before it was replaced by the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. Additionally the Major Group facilitates engagement in the processes on post-2015 planning and the sustainable

¹⁹ Full Report of the EGM available from: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/egms/docs/2013/YouthDevelopmentRights/EGMReportYouthandRights.pdf>



development goals, sustainable consumption and production, disaster risk reduction, and small island developing states.

The Major Group for Children and Youth welcomes membership from individuals, and youth organisations that are led by young people, under 30 years of age, and focuses a substantial amount of energy on internal governance and leadership across the various international processes on sustainable development. To facilitate its multiple work streams, an elected board of organizing partners coordinate teams of deputies who lead open online discussion fora, task forces and working groups that address a range of different themes related to international development and stakeholder governance. The coordinating structure is also guided by such commonly agreed principles such as equality, participation, collaborative learning, human-centred development.

In the context of post-2015 development planning, the major group has lent its facilitating structure to young people and youth organizations wishing to engage with UN development processes in general, thus adapting the more elaborated Agenda 21 interface of “major groups” to the traditional modalities for civil society participation afforded by consultative status of NGOs with the Economic and Social Council.

Open working group on sustainable development goals

The open working group on sustainable development goals was one of the main outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference (June 2012), launching a process to develop a set of goals and targets that address the three dimensions of sustainable development and integrate coherently into a post-2015 development agenda. A 30-member open working group (OWG) of the General Assembly was thus established in January 2013 by decision 67/555 (see A/67/L.48/rev.1), co-chaired by Hungary and Kenya, and relied on an innovative constituency-based system of representation that was new to limited membership bodies of the General Assembly. Ergo, most of the seats in the OWG have been shared by several countries.

Similarly, the OWG seized the opportunity to adopt an inclusive and open posture toward stakeholder involvement, and welcomed the full, active and integrated participation of representatives from the nine major groups identified in Agenda 21, as well as those from a broader panel of civil society constituencies that had not historically engaged with the sustainable development process convened under the United Nations. As one of those sectors prioritized for engagement by the OWG, children and youth presented strong participation at each of the (soon to be) 14 meetings of the OWG, both in numbers of representatives and in the quality of their presentations to the group. Youth representatives took the lead in coordinating stakeholders for the 4th



meeting of the OWG, held in June 2013, which focused on employment and decent work for all, social protection, youth, education, culture, health, and population dynamics. Young people and representatives of youth organizations also had prominent leadership roles in dozens of autonomous steering committees that successfully compiled and streamlined the contributions of major groups and other stakeholders to the OWG process.

REGIONAL PROGRESS

Asia Pacific

Around 120 youth with diverse forms of disabilities from ten Asian countries competed on a wide range of computer-based ICT skills at the Global IT Challenge for Youth with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific that took place in Bangkok from 9 to 11 October 2013. This event – co-organized by ESCAP, the Ministry of Health and Welfare of the Republic of Korea, LG and the Korean Society for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities – aimed to strengthen IT capacities of youth with disabilities to enhance their equal access to information and communication services, as well as improve the quality of their lives and engender full participation in society. Also part of the event was an IT Policy Seminar, which provided an opportunity for IT policymakers and experts from the same countries to share national experiences in building accessible ICT infrastructure and systems and reducing the digital divide for persons with disabilities, with particular attention to youth.



Africa

The African Development and African Governance Pre-forums on youth provided policy makers and youth with a broader understanding of the importance of the nexus between youth, natural resources and governance. The recommendations on how to mainstream youth issues in natural resources development and governance processes were adopted by Member States and will guide ECA's future work and Member States in addressing the social dimensions especially gender and youth in natural resources development and governance processes in Africa.

COUNTRY SPOTLIGHTS

Africa

Zambia | Review of national youth policy

The Zambian Ministry of Youth and Sport revised its National Youth policy with the joint support of UNESCO, ILO, UNICEF, UNFPA and the UN Country Team in Zambia. The policy review process applied a participatory and inclusive methodological approach building on, and feeding into national and development priorities. The two-year process engaged concerned stakeholders, from government to civil society, multilateral donors and agencies, academia, as well as young women and men. Youth engagement and participation was enabled from the design of the policy review process throughout its implementation and finalization: the National Youth Development Council, as well as representatives of

youth NGOs and association were directly involved in all stages of the process, and extensive consultations were conducted with young women and men in all provinces of Zambia. The new National Policy on Youth is accompanied by a detailed Action Plan identifying key actions and related responsibilities among all stakeholders engaged in the process and concerned by the implementation of the policy.

Related to SWAP Outcome 6.2 on Civic Engagement: Capacities of stakeholders (e.g. policy makers, academia, civil society organizations, media and private sector) strengthened to establish inclusive policies and mechanisms that support civic engagement of young people.

Arab States

Jordan | Volunteerism to improve women's rights

UN Women, UNV and Zenid have partnered to advocate for the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in Jordan. The Empowering Youth to Advocate for Women's Human Rights through Volunteerism project empowers youth-led civil society to influence policy and legislation in accordance with CEDAW, creating public awareness and reducing misconceptions about women's rights, and encouraging volunteer action for women's rights. Young women and men volunteers are taking part in capacity-building workshops, which empower them to become leaders and active agents in society by enhancing their knowledge, skills and opportunities. The project has conducted community needs assessment of women's human rights violations in three targeted regions; it is developing a toolkit for advocacy and plans to establish

a core team of volunteers who will further advocacy and awareness raising within their communities.

Related to SWAP Outcome 5.3 on Protection of Rights: Access to information on, for and by young people on rights improved.

Asia Pacific

Thailand | Youth against corruption

To provide a collaborative platform from which youth could mobilize and implement a public education campaign against corruption In Thailand, in 2013, a partnership among the UNDP Global Programme on Anti-Corruption for Development Effectiveness (PACDE), UNODC, the Anti-Corruption Organization of Thailand, the National Anti-Corruption Commission, and TRUE Coffee was formed. The Thai youth anti-corruption network comprising more than 4,000 Thai university students from more than 90 universities was established under this project. A public education campaign was undertaken to instill social change that was recognized by the World Economic Forum as a Creative for Good best practice. The campaign was recognized as youth-conceived and youth-driven. Important lessons learned during the campaign were to depoliticize corruption issues and focus more on moral values and civic responsibilities, while also going beyond advocacy to develop and generate tried and tested products and approaches. Partnerships were established with universities and the private sector, and the sustainability of the initiative will be supported by the establishment of anti-corruption and integrity education centres in universities.



Related to SWAP Outcome 5.1 on Protection of Rights: Implementation of existing Human Rights Instruments to strengthen the rights of youth increased.

Americas

Brazil | Promoting civic engagement among youth

To provide a space for public debate at the international level on global human rights' main achievements and challenges, the Secretariat for Human Rights of the Brazilian Presidency organized the World Human Rights Forum held in Brasilia from 10 to 13 December 2013, in collaboration with civil society, government agencies and international organizations, including UN agencies. The International Workshop on Youth and Adolescent Participation was held parallel to this Forum and was hosted by the Brazilian National Youth Secretary and the Youth Coordination Office of the Federal District in partnership with UNICEF and UNFPA offices in Brazil. In total, 120 young people aged from 15 to 29 attended the International Workshop, all of whom are engaged in civic participation initiatives. UN-Habitat, as a joint sponsor, held a working session on Youth and Adolescent's Rights to the City, highlighting the process of youth participation and engagement through youth-led action research on land projects.

Related to SWAP Outcome 5.1 on Protection of Rights: Implementation of existing Human Rights Instruments to strengthen the rights of youth increased.

Europe and Central Asia

Georgia | Women for equality, peace, and development in Georgia

Under the UN Joint Programme to Enhance Gender Equality in Georgia and the UNiTE to End Violence against Women, UN Women, along with UNDP and UNFPA, has brought together over 250 boys and young men and sports figures to challenge discriminatory attitudes and adopt zero tolerance towards violence against women and girls. UN Women's project Women for Equality, Peace, and Development in Georgia benefits young Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) as well as women and men affected by the conflict through facilitating their engagement in self-help groups and community-based organizations. The self-help groups are empowering young men and women and have established local newspapers, libraries, resource centres for training and information sharing, rehabilitated social infrastructure and advocated with local governments for the support of the most excluded and vulnerable in their communities.

Related to SWAP Outcome 6.1: Global and regional partnerships for decent work for youth established across the UN System to place employment of young people in both rural and urban areas at the centre of the development agenda.

Moldova | Promoting legal empowerment of vulnerable youth

The youth empowerment and democratic governance component of the project Support to Justice Sector Reform in Moldova, implemented by UNDP in partnership with UN Women and OHCHR, supported the empowerment of young women and men from vulnerable groups to use the legal aid system to seek remedies in the national justice system. The project undertook a number of innovative approaches on empowering both the service providers (legal aid providers including the National Legal Aid Council, University Legal Clinics, and human rights, partner NGOs) and the service beneficiaries (representatives of vulnerable young people). Activities included training for youth NGOs to develop comprehensive human rights advocacy campaigns; monitoring of legal aid in vulnerable youth cases; small grants awarded to youth NGOs aimed at mobilizing vulnerable youth around key issues such as access to justice and social protection; design, development and integration of a module for collection of disaggregated data into the National Legal Aid Council's software for legal aid management; and training for specialized legal aid lawyers associated with NGOs on rights of people with disabilities.

Related to SWAP Outcome 5.1 on Protection of Rights: Political implementation of existing Human Rights Instruments to strengthen the rights of youth increased.



3. POLITICAL INCLUSION



The capacity for progress of our societies is based, among other elements, on their capacity to consult with youth, listen to them and incorporate their contribution and responsibility today as well as in the building and designing of the future. Youth have a right to participate and they have proven that they can be drivers of positive change. While youth are increasingly and constructively engaging in society, through different forms and practices, contributing to community building and development, they are not adequately represented in formal political institutions and processes such as Parliaments, political parties, elections, and public administrations. For example, the average age of parliamentarians globally is 53, only 1.65 per cent of parliamentarians around the world are in their 20s and 11.87 per cent are in their 30s.²⁰

To enhance the political inclusion of young people, the Youth-SWAP aims to:

ENSURE THE PROGRESSIVE, SUBSTANTIVE INCLUSION OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN POLITICAL AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES AT LOCAL, NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS

In 2013 the IANYD and its member entities achieved notable results in the thematic area of political inclusion by contributing to the implementation of the following measures on a global, regional and national level:

- Young people’s participation in inclusive political processes and democratic practices supported
- Young people’s inclusion in decision making and in all levels of development processes supported

GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

UN Youth Delegate Programme

Throughout 2013 and 2014, UN DESA continued to support the participation of young people as official delegates of their Member States’ delegation to the General Assembly and the functional Commissions of the Economic and Social Council. At the 68th Session of the General Assembly, some 32 young people participated as Youth Delegates, variously inputting to negotiation proceedings on the development of a youth resolution, organizing side events, and preparing and reading statements on behalf of their Member State delegations during the third committee.

Youth Delegates were again present during the Commission for Social Development in February 2014. UN DESA worked in providing support to Youth Delegates through regular communications, the organization of briefings, and support in the organization of side events.

Leadership training for girls and young women

UN Women in partnership with the World YWCA and UNFPA convened the Africa Young Women Leaders Forum

and High Level Inter-Generational Dialogue at the margins of the African Union Summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 2013. The initiative focused on mainstreaming the voices of young women in policy dialogue at the level of the African Union. Therefore, the Forum brought together 42 young women from over 20 countries across Africa who were trained in leadership skills, participated in high-level meetings, including the African Union Summit, and met with Heads of States, the Chair of the African Union Commission and other prominent figures in development. In line with the theme of the AU Summit 2013, young women developed recommendations focused on unleashing the potential of young women in Africa during the one-day forum, The Role of Young Women in Advancing the Developments and Rights in Africa - Leading the African Renaissance. As a result the Young Women’s Statement served as an advocacy and policy influencing tool and an increased commitment on the urgency of action around young women and girls.

Strengthening youth participation through Youth 21

Youth 21 is an initiative established by UN-Habitat supported by youth organizations such as ICMYO and European Youth Forum, Governments including Brazil and Norway, United Nations entities, including UNFPA and UNDP, that provides a set of recommendations to reform and strengthen youth participation in decision-making processes for the 21st Century and to strengthen financing youth development. It is linked to Article 21 in Agenda 21, which calls on governments to strengthen youth participation in sustainable development,

²⁰ IPU. Global Parliamentary Report. The Changing Nature of Parliamentary Representation. 2012. Available from: <http://www.ipu.org/pdf/publications/gpr2012-full-e.pdf>



and the Habitat Agenda, which identifies youth as an important stakeholder in sustainable urban development. Some of the key recommendations have been achieved whilst others remain a work in progress.

Global partnership for youth in the post-2015 agenda

In February 2013, several UN entities including the Office of the Secretary General's Envoy on Youth, ILO, ITU, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNPBSO and UNV joined forces to develop an online crowdsourcing platform for youth and youth-led organizations to consolidate contributions on youth priorities and possible targets/target areas for the post-2015 agenda. The platform builds on existing frameworks such as the World Programme of Action for Youth related to young people, to develop a set of concrete proposals for inclusion in the post-2015 development agenda. The platform expands on findings from the MyWorld2015 survey and the UNDG post-2015 consultations, and provides not only a space for individuals but leverages a worldwide network of youth organizations and civil society actors to act as 'innovation labs/hubs' by convening workshops, building grassroots consensus with young people and bringing those findings online to inform discussions on the platform.

Involving youth in climate change policy

To support meaningful engagement of young people in climate action at the international level, 15 United Nations and

intergovernmental entities, youth focused non-governmental organizations and the international youth climate movement have come together in the United Nations Joint Framework Initiative on Children, Youth and Climate Change. The Joint Framework Initiative fostered effective youth engagement in the negotiation process under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) through the joint development and implementation of activities, such as interactions with decision-makers; briefings on the negotiations, opportunities for engagement in official meetings and the preparation of official documents; fundraising for the participation of representatives from youth networks in developing countries; facilitation of virtual participation at UNFCCC conferences; and the provision of physical and virtual space for showcasing climate action by young people. The work of the Joint Framework Initiative is characterized by its open and inclusive approach, working with young people as equal partners on jointly developed activities.

Leveraging ICTs for youth participation

In September 2013, a number of UN agencies including ITU, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UNV, WHO and the Office of the Secretary General's Envoy on Youth, contributed to the BYND2015 Global Youth Summit²¹ on Youth and ICT hosted by the Government of Costa Rica in San José. BYND2015 was a platform for young people to lend their voices and influence decision-making at the United Nations on the post-2015 development agenda.

²¹ For more, please see: <http://www.itu.int/en/bynd2015/Pages/default.aspx>



The Summit connected young people to international policy-making processes and created a better understanding of the role and function of the United Nations. A number of onsite and online participants had an active hand in shaping the BYND2015 declaration which identifies the five key topics in social technology presented by President Laura Chinchilla of Costa Rica to the 68th session of the UN General Assembly, where it was recognized as an official document of the General Assembly. Through its participative approach the BYND2015 summit contributed to the Youth-SWAP goal to include young people in political and decision-making processes while at the same time being conducive to other focus areas of the Youth-SWAP - such as education, employment or health - by giving youth the chance to voice their demands for the post 2015 development agenda.

REGIONAL PROGRESS

Arab States

Through a regional workshop on Youth in the Post 2015 Development Agenda in the Arab Region from 13 to 14 December 2013 in Tunisia, ESCWA facilitated the participation of a number of youth opinion leaders, policy makers and experts in an open dialogue on priorities, opportunities and challenges for the Arab region's youth in the post-2015 agenda. Their views were incorporated into the workshop's recommendations for action at the national and regional levels. ESCWA supported the Governments of Tunisia and Yemen for the development of their national youth



policies and programmes of action. As these two countries are in transition, ESCWA assisted in the development of a draft vision document for a national youth policy in Tunisia, and a proposal for a National Youth Development Agenda for Yemen, based on consultative and participatory processes with key stakeholders at the national level. Furthermore, ESCWA supported two joint national capacity-building workshops on the implementation and monitoring of national youth strategies in Palestine and Iraq, in partnership with UNFPA/Palestine and UNFPA/Iraq respectively. Both workshops led to increased capacity of policy makers on national youth policy issues, contributing to a number of measures within the Youth-SWAP relating to national youth policy.

Asia Pacific

The 8th Meeting of Commonwealth Youth Ministers was held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea in April 2013. The meeting's theme Young People at the Centre of Sustainable Development, brought in ministers and their delegations from the 54 Commonwealth countries. The participants of the meeting called for more inclusive youth representation and reaffirmed the establishment of the Commonwealth Youth Council as well as drafting a set of recommendations for youth ministers. The meeting was attended by the UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth as well as by the ILO-Bangkok Regional Programme on Youth Employment and by the Pacific representations of UNFPA and UNICEF. To commemorate the 2013 International Youth Day, the Asia-Pacific Thematic Working Group on Youth worked to raise

awareness on policies that provide opportunities for youth to build their capacity and contribute to development by producing of a montage of photos to form a video around youth migration and development.

COUNTRY SPOTLIGHTS

Africa

Tunisia | Supporting civic education for democratic transition

To assist national partners in adapting and advancing the citizenship education pedagogy in order to foster young women and men's participation in school and local public life, the Citizenship Education Task Force in Tunisia (OHCHR, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, and UNICEF) developed a joint UN project in 2012-2013. The project was implemented in collaboration with the Arab Institute of Human Rights, the Ministry of Education and the Tunisian National Commission for UNESCO and achieved three key results:

1. A national Strategy for Citizenship and Human Rights Education within the schooling system was developed and promoted. The design process was based on empiric research and evaluations of pilot intervention; it was participatory and involved a large panel of civil society actors, national institutions as well as international counterparts such as experts and donors. The validation of the Strategy is expected for mid-2014.

2. Seven new models of Citizenship and Human Rights Clubs were set up and evaluated in seven schools located in disadvantaged regions, as identified by the Ministry of Education. The new school clubs offer innovative participation mechanisms since they allow young people to undertake concrete civic projects in cooperation with local NGOs, thus influencing the management of the school environment. The thematic projects initiated within each club address various aspirations of local youth and critical needs dealing with fundamental human rights such as gender-based violence, drugs, migrations and stigma, among others.
3. Based on the experience of the schools' clubs, a Citizenship Skills Matrix was designed and validated with the clubs members themselves in a December 2013 workshop. This constituted major progress toward a reformed pedagogical approach of human rights education in Tunisia, in the context of the political transition phase. The Citizenship Skills Matrix was crafted jointly with the Ministry of Education and the UN system in Tunisia and built on international citizenship education frameworks.

Related to SWAP Outcome 6.1.on Civic Engagement: Capacities of young people-led organizations and networks enhanced to support civic engagement and participation of young people as well as 7.2. on Political Inclusion: Young people's leadership skills and capacities promoted to participate actively in democratic practices, including in local, national and global processes.



Americas

Uruguay | Encouraging political participation among girls and young women

In Uruguay, where both women and youth are under-represented in parliament, UN Women, together with UNDP and UNFPA, conducted a unique tutorial programme targeted at young women between the ages of 18 and 30, to equip them with skills for running for political office and decision-making. The programme allowed participants to extend their formal and informal political networks, gain communications and debating skills, and enhance their understanding of the ground rules of politics. Furthermore, they attempted to bring home to the parties the conviction that, by involving women, parties and politics stand to gain.

Related to SWAP Outcome 7.3 on Political Inclusion: Young women's participation and presence in political office and decision-making at local, national, regional and global levels promoted.



Europe and Central Asia

Uzbekistan | Promoting social innovation and volunteerism

Under the Social Innovation and Volunteerism in Uzbekistan project, UNDP and UNV collaborated toward piloting social innovation tools for youth engagement, civic engagement and increased community-based volunteerism. Social innovation and volunteerism have proven to be strategic entry points for engagement with partners on youth and development when youth empowerment as a project end in itself may be a sensitive area. The project successfully partnered with Kelajak Ovazi, the largest youth NGO in Uzbekistan, and the Ministry of Higher and Specialized Education, and Centre for Political Studies in the co-organization of a national debate tournament. The project also established a comprehensive UN resource for youth in the National Library of Uzbekistan, co-organized with the Legislative Chamber of the Uzbekistan Parliament, a six-month online contest among youth entitled Parliamentarism Connoisseur. As a result of the innovative approaches undertaken by the project, civic engagement skills were enhanced, the demand for volunteer services increased, and youth networks strengthened between the global North and South.

Related to SWAP Outcome 7.3 on Civic Engagement: Capacities of young people-led organizations and networks enhanced to support civic engagement and participation of young people.



4. EDUCATION, INCLUDING COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION



Education is central to development and to ensuring sustainable livelihoods for young people around the world. Education can become a catalyst for eradicating poverty and hunger as well as in combating gender-based violence, promoting gender equality and sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth. However, data shows that much remains to be done to ensure access to education to all young women and men: for example, 10.6 per cent of youth globally are non-literate.²²

Efforts to enhance youth education have to take into consideration the need for comprehensive sexuality education that emphasizes a holistic approach to human development and sexuality. Evidence has shown that comprehensive sexuality education can provide young people with the knowledge, skills and efficacy to make informed decisions about their sexuality and lifestyle.²³ Education has been identified as a priority area in multiple internationally agreed development goals.

To tackle the described challenges in the area of education, including comprehensive sexuality education, the Youth-SWAP aspires to:

ENSURE THAT YOUNG PEOPLE, ON AN INCLUSIVE, EQUITABLE, UNIVERSAL BASIS ARE ACTIVELY LEARNING IN FORMAL OR NON-FORMAL EDUCATION SYSTEMS, AND ARE RECEIVING QUALITY EDUCATION ON

²² UNESCO (2013). UIS Fact Sheet: Adult and Youth Literacy. Available from: <http://www.uis.unesco.org/literacy/Documents/fs26-2013-literacy-en.pdf>

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH.

In this first year of the implementation of the Youth-SWAP, the IANYD and its members have implemented several initiatives on a global, regional and national level, contributing to the commitments laid down in the Youth-SWAP:

- Strengthen the capacity of countries to develop high quality inclusive education, learning and training policies and programmes for young people
- Influence the global agenda in inclusive, gender sensitive and quality education for young people
- Support efforts to provide young people with evidence-based comprehensive sexuality education

GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

Youth advocacy to ensure the right to education for all children and young people

The global agenda for advancing inclusive, gender-sensitive and quality education for young people has made remarkable progress. In September 2013, UNESCO celebrated the one-year anniversary of the Global Education First Initiative launched by the UN Secretary-General, that places education at the centre of the social, political and development agenda. The anniversary provided many opportunities for UNESCO and the international community to move the historic

²³ UNESCO (2009). International Technical Guidance on Sexuality Education. Available from: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001832/183281e.pdf>

initiative forward. UNESCO hosted a High-level Roundtable on Learning for All, supporting better coordination among actors involved in the delivery of basic education. As part of this initiative, 18 young education advocates from across the world were brought together to form the Youth Advocacy Group (YAG). The YAG led the UN Youth Takeover of the UN General Assembly on July 12th, with hundreds of youth representatives gathered from all over the world to support Malala Yousafzai, the now-famous Pakistani schoolgirl who stood up to the Taliban and defended her right to an education in her effort of defending the right to education for all children and young people. Leading up to Malala Day,²⁴ the YAG helped produce The Youth Resolution: The Education We Want. To address the challenge of millions of children and youth out of school and facing skills and unemployment challenges, UNESCO and UNICEF have, since December 2012, co-led the Thematic Consultation on Education in the post-2015 Development Agenda, resulting in recommended priorities and thematic areas of focus. In addition, the 8th UNESCO Youth Forum was organized in Paris in October 2013, adopted ten strategic recommendations for future youth action and selected 15 Action Projects to receive the Youth Forum label, which are to be put into action by young people from across the world. During the Forum, participants were introduced to the System-wide Action Plan on Youth.

To provide young people with an advocacy toolkit on education, A World at School, The Global Education First Initiative, Plan, UNGEI and UNICEF partnered

²⁴ On July 12, 2013 the global community came together to celebrate Malala Day, highlighting the leading role that youth can play in enabling all children to get an education.



and developed, The Education We Want – An Advocacy Toolkit. This toolkit provides young people passionate about education with tools to facilitate consultations with other youth in their countries, regions, and globally; provides strategic advice on the education priorities of young people; promotes the priorities and voices of young people in the advocacy messages and activities of GEFI; and mobilizes young people and governments to make pledges in support of education and hold them accountable to their commitments. To provide guidance, resources and supplies to reach, engage and promote the rights of adolescents before, during and after emergencies UNICEF has developed an Adolescent Kit as part of its Adolescent Development and Participation section.

Non-formal education to promote social and environmental transformation

To challenge gender stereotypes and discrimination and prevent violence against women and girls, UN Women in partnership with the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts launched a global non-formal education programme, Voices against Violence. The programme provides young people with tools and expertise to understand the root causes of violence in their communities, to educate and involve their peers and communities to prevent such violence, and to learn about where to access support if violence is experienced. The curriculum includes a handbook for peer educators that will help them deliver age-appropriate sessions, as well as age-appropriate non-formal educational activities. It was tested in

20 countries in Africa, Asia Pacific, Arab States, Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean regions prior to the launch. In 2013, UNEP developed the Greening Universities Toolkit: Transforming Universities into green and sustainable campuses – a toolkit for implementers, which inspires, encourages and supports universities to develop and implement their own transformative strategies for establishing green, resource-efficient and low carbon campuses. Similarly, FAO coordinates the Youth and United Nations Global Alliance (YUNGA). Recognizing youth as important agents of change, YUNGA works towards youth empowerment through non-formal youth education. YUNGA partners jointly produce Challenge Badge curricula aimed at young people between 5 and 20 years of age on different topics of social and environmental importance. Young people are educated about the issue in question, following a learning-by-doing approach and given ideas and strategies with which to undertake related projects in their communities, at the national or international level.

Furthermore, the United Nations Joint Framework Initiative on Children, Youth and Climate Change, in collaboration with many youth-led organizations, published Youth in Action on Climate Change: Inspirations from around the World, which is designed as a tool and source of inspiration for developing and carrying out projects and campaigns to increase awareness of the causes and impacts of climate change, promote sustainable lifestyles and advance green low-carbon development.



Promoting sexuality and reproductive health education

In 2012, in collaboration with the Global Network of People Living with HIV (PLHIV), UNESCO published Positive Learning: meeting the needs of young people living with HIV in the education sector. The responsiveness of countries to the needs of PLHIV in the education system was also improved through the development of the Adolescent Prevention and Treatment Literacy Toolkit, produced by UNESCO in collaboration with SAfAIDS.

In 2013, UNFPA supported 102 countries in the design and implementation of comprehensive age-appropriate sexuality education programmes. In addition, the number of experts trained through UNFPA support to provide technical assistance on design, implementation, and evaluation of comprehensive sexuality education programmes increased significantly, reaching 528 in 2013. These results are a demonstration of the important momentum reached on advancing policies and curricula on comprehensive sexuality education, which needs to be sustained and built upon in coming years.

UNESCO contributed to increasing youth knowledge and leadership in China, Jamaica, the Russian Federation and Zimbabwe through the Virtual Classroom project, which uses innovative, youth-friendly, locally-relevant ICT platforms to improve youth access to HIV and health information. Through a partnership with China's largest search engine Baidu, 198



million people now have access to online information on sexual health, and in Zimbabwe, over 10,000 students in six universities are receiving facts and motivational messages on HIV and health through an interactive SMS system built in partnership with a local NGO.

UNESCO also addressed homophobic and transphobic bullying as a form of gender-based violence that is widespread in educational institutions and that has very negative educational consequences on its young victims and threatens their right to education. Following-up on the organization in 2011 of the UN's first-ever international consultation to address homophobic bullying in educational institutions, UNESCO published its eighth booklet in the Good Policy and Practice in HIV and Health Education series, titled Education Sector Responses to Homophobic Bullying. Numerous country-level activities have already been undertaken, and through support from the Netherlands, a multi-regional project has just been launched to expand the evidence base on this emerging issue.

REGIONAL PROGRESS

Asia Pacific

At the Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, held in Bangkok from 16 to 20 September 2013, ESCAP, UNESCO and UNFPA co-organized a side event entitled What's the Law Got to Do with It? The event addressed the range of legal and policy issues that shape young people's access to sexual

and reproductive health (SRH) and HIV information and services in the Asia-Pacific region. Developed and delivered in partnership with young people, participants present at the event were challenged to consider the legal and policy context of countries in the region, and what steps countries needed to take to further promote adolescents' and young people's access to SRH and HIV services. The session drew on the first-ever joint United Nations review of the issue entitled Young People and the Law in Asia and the Pacific: A review of laws and policies affecting young people's access to sexual and reproductive health and HIV services.

UN agencies have continued their close collaboration with UNGEI including on the occasion of the International Day of the Girl in October 2013. UNESCO, UNFPA and UNICEF are developing survey tools for national reviews of implementation of sexuality education in selected countries in the region, for roll out commencing in 2014.

UNESCO and UNICEF East Asia and the Pacific regional offices, in collaboration with TreatAsia supported the Asia-Pacific Network (APN+) to undertake research on the needs of adolescents living with HIV. The report, Lost in Transitions: Current issues faced by adolescents living with HIV in Asia Pacific, captures the experiences of adolescents perinatally infected with HIV as they disclose their status, deal with life-long antiretroviral treatment, move from paediatric to adult health care services and navigate sexuality and relationships. Significant focus has also been placed on supporting youth-led and youth-serving networks for key populations.

UNESCO contributed to strengthening the institutional capacity of Asia Pacific regional Young Key Populations networks through support to strategic planning, fundraising, monitoring and evaluation. In all, an estimated US\$ 775,000 was mobilized by regional Networks of Young Key Populations through technical support from UNESCO. The leadership capacity of over 100 Networks of Young Key Populations was strengthened to engage in national AIDS responses in over ten countries (Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Fiji, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand) through the NewGEN Asia short course.

Africa

In the context of the United Nations campaign Young People Today, Time to Act Now, aiming at improving the lives of young people in Eastern and Southern Africa with sexuality education and health services, UNESCO, in partnership UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO secured young people's engagement in the Ministerial Commitment on comprehensive sexuality education and sexual and reproductive health services for adolescents and young people in Eastern and Southern African (ESA) at a number of levels, ensuring that the lived experiences of young people in this region have been an integral part of all advocacy efforts and discussions with ministries. Young people were represented on the High Level Advisory Group, participated actively in regional consultation meetings where data and evidence was validated, and were key participants in country information meetings and the commitment process. Young





people will continue to be part of accountability mechanism and in grassroots mobilization on sexuality education and access to health services.

Eastern Europe and Central Asia

In Eastern Europe and Central Asia, specific emphasis has been given to the use of internet, social media, peer-to-peer communication and broadcasting to improve access to HIV, health and harm reduction information for young people, with a specific focus on young key populations. Over 50 youth organizations in the region participated in a joint project ONLINE-Prevention initiated by the UNAIDS Secretariat and UNESCO. Organizations providing services to MSM [men who have sex with men], sex workers and other key populations in EECA countries benefitted from capacity development and opportunities to use web-based technologies to deliver information, referral and counselling services to key populations.

COUNTRY SPOTLIGHTS

Africa

Uganda | Promoting girls' education

As part of a UN Joint Programme on Gender Equality in Uganda, a five-year programme that brings together participating UN agencies, including UN Women and UNICEF, the Government of Uganda and civil society partners, that are working in ten districts to increase

girls' participation, completion and achievement rates in primary education. Through Girls Education Movement, an implementing partner, clubs have been established in schools in the ten districts to encourage girls to return to school. The program also engages youth volunteers under UNV to contribute to programme development and implementation.

Related to SWAP Outcome 9.2 on Education: Measures undertaken to support the implementation of inclusive, age appropriate, and gender sensitive educational and learning opportunities focused on marginalized populations of young people.

South Africa | Addressing comprehensive sexuality education

In South Africa UNAIDS, UNFPA and UNICEF provided support to national partners for the development of the Integrated School Health Programme which aims to reach 12 million pupils in a phased in approach. The programme offers a comprehensive package of health services for learners which includes a comprehensive sexuality education package to ensure quality and accessible adolescent and youth-friendly services for learners, eye sight, hearing and oral hygiene, immunization (for foundation and intermediate phases), prevention of drug and alcohol use and abuse, and referrals to youth targeted psychosocial services for learners. UNICEF invested in capacity development of over 300 school health teams to improve service coverage and quality for integrated school health programme.

Related to SWAP Outcome 11.2 on Comprehensive Sexuality Education: Capacities improved of relevant stakeholders to implement Comprehensive Sexuality Education for young people both in and out of school using the International Technical Guidance on Sexuality Education.

Lesotho | Building stakeholder capacity for comprehensive sexuality education

With support from UNESCO, UNFPA and UNICEF, the Ministry of Education and Training in Lesotho revised the Life-skills Education Curriculum for Primary and Secondary schools to incorporate comprehensive sexuality education. Teachers' Guides and Learners' Books have been finalized for piloting in 2014. Principals and district education officers have been sensitized on Life skills-based Sexuality Education. A common tool for reporting extracurricular HIV prevention activities in schools has been developed. Furthermore, through collaborative support from UNFPA, UNICEF and the WHO, a National Comprehensive Adolescent health Standards has been developed.

Related to SWAP Outcome 11.2 on Comprehensive Sexuality Education: Capacities improved of relevant stakeholders to implement comprehensive sexuality education for young people both in and out of school using the International Technical Guidance on Sexuality Education.

Arab States

Egypt | Social media to promote sexual and reproductive health education

The use of social media has proven successful in raising sexual reproductive health and gender-related issues awareness of young people in Egypt. Use of social media has made it possible to attract greater numbers of diverse young people to participate in UNFPA supported events and become a source of information for their peers through different channels. The Y-PEER Egypt page on Facebook saw a 500





per cent increase in the number of fans, with some posts seen by more than 80,000 young people.

Related to SWAP Outcome 11.1 on Comprehensive Sexuality Education: Gaps addressed in the model of delivery, content, quality and coverage of gender-sensitive and age-appropriate sexuality education curricula for in and out of school young people, with particular attention to marginalized and key populations of young people using the International Technical Guidance on Sexuality Education as a benchmark.

Asia Pacific

Indonesia | Education for sustainable consumption

Since 2012, UNEP, in close cooperation with key partners such as UNESCO and national governments, has been working with national partners in Indonesia to develop national recommendations and guidelines on Education for Sustainable Consumption (ESC). These guidelines support the development of necessary policy instruments and a national ESC implementation strategy, which defines the necessary steps to cement ESC in curricula, identifies the main actors of ESC implementation and encourages training and awareness-raising at national and local levels. This project was developed as a contribution to the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014) and is also being implemented in Chile and Tanzania.

Related to SWAP Outcome 9.1 on Education: Initiatives implemented to enhance national education policies, programmes and curricula in formal and non-formal education with the aim of improving the quality and relevance of the content, technologies, and teaching and learning processes.

Europe and Central Asia

Cross - Regional | Supporting sexual and reproductive health education

UNESCO and UNFPA collaborated to increase evidence of current sexual reproductive health education in eight countries in Eastern Europe (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Kosovo, Macedonia, Serbia, Turkmenistan, Turkey) and enhanced teachers' capacities to deliver SRH education in three countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan). These efforts were complemented by the first comprehensive assessment of policies and practices related to school-based health and sexuality education in ten countries in the Commonwealth of Independent States (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan). An implementation strategy was developed for regional SRH education standards.

Related to SWAP Outcome 11.2 on Comprehensive Sexuality Education: Capacities improved of relevant stakeholders to implement Comprehensive Sexuality Education for young people both in and out of school using the International Technical Guidance on Sexuality.





5. HEALTH

The United Nations call for a physical and social environment that promotes good health, offers protection from disease and addiction and is free from all types of violence. More than 1.8 million young people aged 15 to 24 die each year, mostly due to preventable causes. A much greater number of young people suffer from illnesses that hinder their ability to grow and develop to their full potential. Health issues affecting young people include early pregnancy and childbirth, HIV/AIDS, malnutrition, mental health issues, tobacco use and harmful use of alcohol, violence and injuries.

Responding to the health-related challenges young people face globally, the Youth-SWAP directs at:

ENSURING THAT YOUNG PEOPLE, ON AN INCLUSIVE, EQUITABLE AND UNIVERSAL BASIS, ENJOY THE HIGHEST ATTAINABLE STANDARD OF PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH.

In order to contribute to this goal the members of the IANYD have both jointly and individually implemented initiatives on a global, regional and national level contributing to meet the commitments set in the Youth-SWAP:

- Support countries to develop and enforce gender-sensitive laws and policies that promote and protect the health of all young people.

- Support countries' efforts to improve the capacity of health systems to universal coverage of gender-sensitive and age appropriate health services to young people.

GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

Guidelines for adolescents living with HIV

HIV remains a key health concern of adolescents as it is now the second most important cause of death among adolescents globally. WHO, UNAIDS, UNESCO, UNFPA, and UNICEF have developed guidelines on HIV testing and counselling for adolescents, and care for adolescents living with HIV. Recommendations were based on systematic reviews, and on expert and community consultations and the guidelines were released on World AIDS Day 2013. An interactive web-based tool is being developed to assist in the implementation of the guidelines and can be accessed at <http://apps.who.int/adolescent/hiv-testing-treatment/>.

PACT for social transformation

To assist the youth sector in the HIV/AIDS response to work effectively to generate greater results on the ground, PACT for Social Transformation (PACT) is a collaboration across 25 youth-led and youth-serving organizations, supported by UNAIDS. The PACT creates solidarity across youth organizations to work strategically in HIV response towards ensuring health, well-being and human rights of all young

people. It represents a fundamental departure from tokenistic youth engagement to on-going strategic collaboration with youth-led civil society in the AIDS response, shifting the approach from youth participation to youth collaboration. The PACT collaboration launched ACT2015!, A two-year global social action initiative to support young people to effectively advocate for a post-2015 development agenda that recognizes sexual and reproductive health and rights and ensures HIV remains a priority in the post-2015 development framework. The PACT is also collaborating with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria to develop a youth tool which will provide practical guidance to youth activists in their own countries on how they can get involved in country dialogue processes.

Addressing the needs of key populations such as youth who inject drugs

To better understand the challenges and preferences of young people who inject drugs in accessing harm-reduction services and support, the UNAIDS Secretariat in collaboration with Youth RISE, the only global youth harm-reduction network, designed an innovative approach to youth-led action research. The 19 community consultations, organized by Youth Rise members in 14 countries, generated critical strategic information on key challenges faced by young people who inject drugs. The report will inform the technical briefs and will also be published as a stand-alone report in 2014. A generic tool will also be developed to document the



participatory, decentralized approach to support agencies to systematically incorporate the perspectives and insights of some of the most marginalized young people in global policy development such as youth who inject drugs. Additionally, the UNAIDS co-sponsors under the leadership of WHO, are currently developing a series of technical briefs on these young key populations which will be released in July 2014.

Social Inclusion of Youth with Mental Health

In 2013 UN DESA prepared a report on the Social Inclusion of Youth with Mental Health Conditions aimed at drawing on available research to raise awareness of youth mental-health conditions among relevant stakeholders. The report aims at starting a global conversation regarding strategies for addressing the challenges faced by young people, with the overarching goal of fostering their economic and social integration. Specifically, the objectives of the report are to: disseminate information on the needs of youth with mental-health conditions; raise awareness of the cultural and contextual dimensions related to the mental-health conditions of youth; identify the critical skills to be developed among youth with mental-health conditions to overcome challenges to their self-development and social integration; increase understanding of support systems and raise awareness of access issues relating to youth with mental-health conditions; and summarize research and provide case studies of effective programmes and approaches for preventing and addressing youth mental-health conditions.

Further to the release of the report, UN DESA announced that the focus of International Youth Day 2014 would be on the topic of Youth and Mental Health.

REGIONAL PROGRESS

Asia Pacific

UNESCO, UNFPA and UNICEF developed a comprehensive course for policymakers and programmers on programming for adolescents Understanding and Advancing Adolescent Health Participation and Wellbeing in the Asia-Pacific Region. Due to the high demand for the course in the region, this was implemented for the fourth time with 45 participants from 12 countries, with country teams comprising government, CSO and UN counterparts examining the evidence base on comprehensive adolescent programming and work on developing strategies for the effective and appropriate engagement of adolescents in all phases of the programming and policy process.



COUNTRY SPOTLIGHTS

Africa

Ethiopia | Capacity building

UNFPA supported Ethiopia which addressed capacity strengthening of health facilities providing youth-friendly services by training health service providers and availing of a sexual and reproductive health kit that includes family planning, voluntary counselling and testing kits and condoms. A total of 42,691 young people and adolescents received direct access to information and services on sexual and reproductive health and a total of 5.5 million male condoms were distributed to facilities, youth-friendly centres and universities.

Related to SWAP Outcome 12.3 on Health: All young people have opportunities to engage as advocates for their right to health.

Related to SWAP Outcome 13.2 on Health: The capacity of the health sector and other sectors' workforce to address the health concerns of all young people has been improved.



Rwanda | Supporting the development in education and health of communities, families and vulnerable adolescents and youth

In Rwanda, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women and WHO, working with a national civil society partner, rolled out the Supporting the Development in Education and Health of Communities, Families and Vulnerable Adolescents and Youth programme in 2013. The programme aims to promote education for girls, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds, and to redesign and integrate the Family Package programme in national HIV and health care programmes with a focus on youth peer education. It is working to improve access and utilization of HIV prevention, SRH information and services among 10-24 year olds in-and-out-of-schools, as well as improve access to quality family planning and ART services.

Related to SWAP Outcome 13.2.3: Age and sex specific information on epidemiology, health-related behaviours, social determinants, access to and use of services is collected, analysed, disseminated and used, as well as 13.3.4: The capacity of the health sector and other sectors' workforce to address the health concerns of all young people has been improved.

South Asia

India | Supporting adolescent health

To address the critical health concerns of adolescents in India, the Indian Ministry of Health and Family Welfare developed a comprehensive Adolescent Health Strategy with the support of the UNFPA. This strategy will provide health, information and services to fulfil the needs of adolescents, including girls and marginalized groups, a 243 million strong, yet very vulnerable cohort. The approach proposed in the strategy is based on a continuum of care for adolescent health and development needs, including the provision of information, commodities and services at the community level, with mapped out referral linkages through the three-tier public health system.

Related to SWAP Outcome 12.2 on Health: Gender sensitive laws and multi sectorial public policies to protect all young people from risk factors for negative health outcomes developed and/or enforced

Caribbean and Latin America

Grenada and Guyana | Advocacy for HIV prevention

To ensure young women are skilled in engaging in advocacy towards HIV prevention efforts in the Caribbean, UN Women has supported capacity building and leadership training for young women. With the Caribbean Coalition on Women, Girls and AIDS, UN Women led Internet Skills Building Workshops for young persons on gender-responsive, rights-based social communications and media strategies in Grenada and Guyana. Training workshops in both countries consisted of female and male participants who were chosen by the country partner based on their leadership potential and their exposure to young development and/or HIV-related work. A website was developed specifically for their input where the training tool will be uploaded along with other relevant resources, and will also be used as a youth forum.

Related to SWAP Outcome 12.3 on Health: All young people have opportunities to engage as advocates for their right to health.



VII. CHALLENGES, LESSONS LEARNED AND MOVING FORWARD

Since its endorsement by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination in April 2013, the Youth-SWAP has proven to be a helpful framework to coordinate the work of the different UN entities engaged in the field of youth development, as well as to increase synergies and encourage joint reporting of the United Nations' work on a global, regional and national level.

As an institutional device to improve coherence across the United Nations system, the Youth-SWAP is the strategic bedrock upon which work on youth issues at the United Nations rests. While still in the early stages of its implementation, the System-wide Action Plan on Youth has continuing currency and relevance for addressing the needs of the largest youth cohort the world has known, and for the systematic execution of youth-related policies and programmes within the United Nations system.

As the examples and highlights throughout the Report in all five thematic areas of the Youth-SWAP show, much has been achieved in the first year since the plan was approved. In the first year of implementation of the Youth-SWAP, the IANYD mainly focused on efforts towards strengthening the complementarity of ongoing initiatives and intensifying existing collaborations in the different focus areas of the Youth-SWAP. For the coming years it is intended to work further towards joint programming and implementation. This process may be better facilitated if the Youth-SWAP is increasingly referenced and reflected in the strategic documents and policies of the individual UN entities, as it would strengthen the organizations' commitment towards, and ensure the availability of resources needed to implement, the Youth-SWAP.

The Guidance for implementing the Youth-SWAP notes, "The Youth-SWAP is a living document that needs to be adjusted to changing realities". In its current incarnation, the Youth-SWAP commitments capture the diverse mandates on youth-related issues from various United Nations agencies and reflect the evolving priorities related to youth development. There is no doubt that the Youth-SWAP will evolve in the future in order to deftly respond to issues of youth development. In the ultimate analysis, however, it is systematic inter-agency coordination and United Nations coherence at all levels that will be the tipping point in realising the goals of the Youth-SWAP.

Youth priorities have to be systematically mainstreamed in the work plans of each United Nations agency and joint programmes have to be developed to accelerate progress towards the goals of the Youth-SWAP. Since the Youth-SWAP was endorsed, several UN entities have developed and approved new youth strategies, according to their mandates and in line with this UN-wide framework, including UNDP, UNESCO and UNV.²⁵

To leverage the momentum generated in the first year of the Youth-SWAP process, and to build upon the results of this process in the current year, greater collaboration and coordination is needed to relate programmes and initiatives to Youth-SWAP implementation. A major area of focus is enhancing Youth-SWAP implementation at the regional and country level. To achieve these target goals, greater institutional support, financial and human resources are required to carry out Youth-SWAP related activities.

²⁵ www.undp.org/youth

ANNEX 1.

UN SYSTEM-WIDE ACTION PLAN ON YOUTH

The United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Youth, as set out below, contains five thematic areas, each with a correlating ‘Overall Goal’. These are: employment and entrepreneurship; protection of rights and civic engagement; political inclusion; education, including comprehensive sexuality education; and health. Under each goal are a set of ‘Primary Outcomes’ and ‘Secondary Outcomes’. Entities responsible for implementing and reporting on the goals and outcomes are listed respectively.

Overall goals

Employment and entrepreneurship:

Ensure greater opportunities for youth to secure decent work and income over the life-cycle, contributing to a virtuous circle of poverty reduction, sustainable development and social inclusion

Protection of rights and civic engagement:

Ensure the inherent rights of youth are recognized and upheld to enable young people’s engagement in all aspects of their development

Political inclusion:

Ensure the progressive, substantive inclusion of young people in political and decision-making processes at local, national, regional and international levels

Education, including comprehensive sexuality education:

Ensure that young people, on an inclusive, equitable and universal basis, are actively learning in formal or non-formal education systems, and are receiving quality education on sexual and reproductive health

Health:

Ensure that young people, on an inclusive, equitable and universal basis, enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.

PRIMARY OUTCOME

SECONDARY OUTCOME

LEAD/SUPPORTING ENTRIES

EMPLOYMENT

1. ENHANCE NATIONAL CAPACITY TO DEVELOP GENDER-SENSITIVE STRATEGIES FOR DECENT WORK FOR YOUTH

1.1. Global and regional partnerships for decent work for youth established across the UN system to place employment of young people in both rural and urban areas at the centre of the development agenda

LEAD: ILO

SUPPORTING:

DESA, ECA, ECLAC, ESCAP, ESCWA, FAO, IFAD, UNDP, UNESCO, UN-HABITAT, UNIDO, UNRWA, UNV

1.2. Multi-pronged youth employment strategies implemented through gender-sensitive national policies and time-bound action plans

LEAD: ILO

SUPPORTING:

ECA, FAO, IFAD, UNDP, UNESCO, UN-HABITAT, UNIDO, UNV, UN Women, UNWTO

1.3. Young people and their organizations engaged in the development of national youth employment strategies

LEAD: ILO

SUPPORTING:

FAO, IFAD, OSGEY, UN-HABITAT, UNV

2. SUPPORT THE IMPROVEMENT AND ENFORCEMENT OF RIGHTS AT WORK FOR YOUTH AND IMPLEMENT EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES TO EASE THE TRANSITION OF DISADVANTAGED YOUTH TO DECENT WORK²⁶

2.1. Mechanisms for monitoring and sharing information on rights at work for youth strengthened

LEAD: ILO

SUPPORTING:

FAO, IFAD, OHCHR, OSGEY, UN-HABITAT

2.2. Strategies implemented to increase employability and ease the transitions to decent work for disadvantaged youth

LEAD: ILO, UNESCO

SUPPORTING:

OSGEY, UNDP, UN-HABITAT, IFAD

2.3. Countries assisted in developing comprehensive and evidence-based employment and livelihoods programmes targeting disadvantaged youth

LEAD: FAO, ILO, UN-HABITAT, UNDP

SUPPORTING:

ECA, IFAD, OSGEY, UNDP, UNIDO, UN Women

²⁶ The terms “disadvantaged”, “marginalized” and “vulnerable” are used throughout the System-wide Action Plan on Youth. These are loose terms encompassing many different individuals and groups and precise definitions vary by UN entity.

PRIMARY OUTCOME

SECONDARY OUTCOME

LEAD/SUPPORTING ENTRIES

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

3. SUPPORT INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS FOR AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT CONDUCIVE TO YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP, INCLUDING ACCESS TO MARKETS, FINANCE AND OTHER RESOURCES

3.1. Capacity of institutions to support young entrepreneurs strengthened

LEAD: UNDP

SUPPORTING:

IFAD, ILO, OSGEY, UN-HABITAT, UNCDF, UNESCO, UNIDO, WIPO

3.2. Increased financial inclusion of youth living in rural and urban areas

LEAD: UNCDF, UN-HABITAT

SUPPORTING:

IFAD, ILO, OSGEY, UNDP, UNESCO, UNIDO, UN Women, WIPO

3.3. Increased access to assets and services by young entrepreneurs in rural and urban areas

LEAD: UNIDO, IFAD

SUPPORTING:

ILO, FAO, OSGEY, UN-HABITAT, UN Women, WIPO

4. STRENGTHEN MECHANISMS FOR PROMOTING YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP, IN PARTICULAR FOR YOUNG WOMEN

4.1. Methodology and tools to promote youth entrepreneurship, particularly for young women, used by UN entities

LEAD: ILO

SUPPORTING:

IFAD, OSGEY, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UN-HABITAT, UNIDO, UNV, UN Women, WIPO,

4.2. Innovative approaches to entrepreneurship expanded, with a view to increasing job opportunities for young women and men

LEAD: ILO

SUPPORTING:

IFAD, ILO, ITU, OSGEY, UNCDF, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UN-HABITAT, UNICEF, UNIDO, UN Women, WIPO

4.3. Information on entrepreneurial opportunities for young people made available through in-person and online services

LEAD: UN-HABITAT, UNIDO

SUPPORTING:

ITU, OSGEY, UNEP, UNESCO, UNIDO, WIPO

PRIMARY OUTCOME

SECONDARY OUTCOME

LEAD/SUPPORTING ENTRIES

PROTECTION OF RIGHTS

5. COUNTRIES SUPPORTED TO TAKE ACTION TOWARDS SAFEGUARDING AND PROMOTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF YOUTH

5.1. Implementation of existing Human Rights instruments to strengthen the rights of youth increased

LEAD: OHCHR, UN-HABITAT, OHCHR, UN-HABITAT

SUPPORTING:

DESA, OSGEY, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women

5.2. Potential gaps in existing human rights instruments applicable to youth identified

LEAD: OHCHR, UN-HABITAT

SUPPORTING:

DESA, OSGEY, UNESCO, UNFPA, ILO

5.3. Access to information on, for and by young people on rights improved

LEAD: UN-HABITAT

SUPPORTING:

DESA, ILO, ITU, OHCHR, OSGEY, UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, UN Women

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CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

6. YOUNG PEOPLE'S EFFECTIVE INCLUSIVE CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AT LOCAL, NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL LEVELS PROMOTED

6.1. Capacities of young people-led organizations and networks enhanced to support civic engagement and participation of young people

LEAD: FAO, UN-HABITAT, UNV

SUPPORTING:

DESA, OSGEY, PBSO, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNWTO

6.2. Capacities of stakeholders (e.g. policy makers, academia, civil society organizations, media and private sector) strengthened to establish inclusive policies and mechanisms that support civic engagement of young people

LEAD: UNESCO, UN-HABITAT

SUPPORTING:

CBD, DESA, FAO, ITU, OHCHR, OSGEY, PBSO, UNDP, UNEP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNV

PRIMARY OUTCOME

SECONDARY OUTCOME

LEAD/SUPPORTING ENTRIES

6.3. Internal capacity enhanced of the UN system to provide policy and technical support on the inclusive civic engagement of young people

LEAD: UNESCO, UN-HABITAT

SUPPORTING:

DESA, FAO, OSGEY, PBSO, UNDP, UNEP, UNFCCC, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC

POLITICAL INCLUSION

7. YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION IN INCLUSIVE POLITICAL PROCESSES AND DEMOCRATIC PRACTICES SUPPORTED

7.1. Enabling environment promoted for young people's participation in electoral and parliamentary processes, public administration and local governance including in peacebuilding environments at local, subnational and national levels

LEAD: UNDP, UNESCO

SUPPORTING:

OSGEY, PBSO, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, UN Women

7.2. Young people's leadership skills and capacities promoted to participate actively in democratic practices, including in local, national and global processes

LEAD: UNDP, UNESCO, UN-HABITAT,

SUPPORTING:

ITU, OSGEY, UNAIDS, UNFPA, UN Women

7.3. Young women's participation and presence in political office and decision-making at local, national, regional and global levels promoted

LEAD: UNDP, UN Women, UN-HABITAT

SUPPORTING:

OSGEY, UNAIDS, UNESCO, UNFPA

8. YOUNG PEOPLE'S INCLUSION IN DECISION MAKING AND IN ALL LEVELS OF DEVELOPMENT PROCESSES SUPPORTED

8.1. Young people and young people-led organizations effectively participate in United Nations governance and decision-making processes

LEAD: DESA,

UNDP, UNESCO, UN-Habitat

SUPPORTING:

CBD, DPI, OSGEY, UNAIDS, UNEP, UNFCCC, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UN Women

PRIMARY OUTCOME

SECONDARY OUTCOME

LEAD/SUPPORTING ENTRIES

8.2. Young people and young people-led organizations are able to participate in all stages of achieving durable solutions for humanitarian and peacebuilding initiatives

LEAD: PBSO, UNFPA

SUPPORTING:

OSGEY, UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, UN Women

EDUCATION

9. STRENGTHEN THE CAPACITY OF COUNTRIES TO DEVELOP HIGH QUALITY INCLUSIVE EDUCATION, LEARNING AND TRAINING POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

9.1. Initiatives implemented to enhance national education policies, programmes and curricula in formal and non-formal education with the aim of improving the quality and relevance of the content, technologies, and teaching and learning processes

LEAD: UNESCO, UNICEF

SUPPORTING:

FAO, OSGEY, UNEP, UNFCCC, UNFPA, UN Women

9.2. Measures undertaken to support the implementation of inclusive, age-appropriate, and gender sensitive educational and learning opportunities focused on marginalized populations of young people

LEAD: UNFPA, UNICEF

SUPPORTING:

OSGEY, UNESCO, WHO

9.3. Initiatives linking education and training with the world of work and enabling workplace learning supported as an element of education and training systems

LEAD: ILO, UNESCO, UNEP

SUPPORTING:

OSGEY, UNIDO, UNV

10. INFLUENCING THE GLOBAL AGENDA IN INCLUSIVE, GENDER SENSITIVE AND QUALITY EDUCATION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

10.1. Measures and mechanisms established for dissemination of good practices and knowledge sharing to inform education and training policies and programmes for young people

LEAD: UNESCO

SUPPORTING:

FAO, ILO, OSGEY, UNICEF

COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION

11. SUPPORT EFFORTS TO PROVIDE YOUNG PEOPLE WITH EVIDENCE-BASED COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION

11.1. Gaps addressed in the model of delivery, content, quality and coverage of gender-sensitive and age-appropriate sexuality education curricula for in and out of school young people, with particular attention to marginalized and key populations²⁷ of young people using the International Technical Guidance on Sexuality Education as a benchmark

LEAD: UNESCO, UNFPA

SUPPORTING:

OSGEY, UNAIDS, UNICEF, WHO

11.2. Capacities improved of relevant stakeholders to implement Comprehensive Sexuality Education for young people both in and out of school using the International Technical Guidance on Sexuality Education

LEAD: UNESCO, UNFPA

SUPPORTING:

FAO, OSGEY, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO

11.3. Advocacy undertaken for national investment in evidence-informed age and gender-appropriate policies that promote access to quality and effective sexual and reproductive health information

LEAD: UNESCO, UNFPA

SUPPORTING:

FAO, OSGEY, UNAIDS, UNICEF, WHO

²⁷ Key populations, or key populations at higher risk, are groups of people who are more likely to be exposed to HIV or to transmit it and whose engagement is critical to a successful HIV response. In all countries, key populations include people living with HIV. In most settings, men who have sex with men, transgender people, people who inject drugs and sex workers and their clients are at higher risk of exposure to HIV than other groups. However, each country should define the specific populations that are key to their epidemic and response based on the epidemiological and social context.

PRIMARY OUTCOME

SECONDARY OUTCOME

LEAD/SUPPORTING ENTRIES

HEALTH

12. COUNTRIES SUPPORTED TO DEVELOP AND ENFORCE GENDER-SENSITIVE LAWS AND POLICIES THAT PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE HEALTH OF ALL YOUNG PEOPLE

12.1. Gender-sensitive laws and policies that fulfill the rights of all young people to autonomous decision making in matters of health, with special attention to sexual and reproductive health revised or established

LEAD: UNFPA, WHO

SUPPORTING:

OSGEY, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UN Women

12.2. Gender-sensitive laws and multi-sectoral public policies to protect all young people from risk factors for negative health outcomes developed and/or enforced

LEAD: UNFPA, WHO

SUPPORTING:

DESA, ILO, OSGEY, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNICEF, UN Women

12.3. All young people have opportunities to engage as advocates for their right to health

LEAD: UNFPA

SUPPORTING:

OSGEY, UNAIDS, UNESCO, UNICEF, WHO, WIPO

13. COUNTRIES' EFFORTS SUPPORTED TO IMPROVE THE CAPACITY OF HEALTH SYSTEMS²⁸ TO UNIVERSAL COVERAGE OF GENDER-SENSITIVE AND AGE- APPROPRIATE HEALTH SERVICES TO YOUNG PEOPLE

13.1. Age and sex specific information on epidemiology, health-related behaviours, social determinants, access to and use of services is collected, analyzed, disseminated and used

LEAD: UNICEF, WHO

SUPPORTING:

DESA, OSGEY, UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNHCR

13.2. The capacity of the health sector and other sectors' workforce to address the health concerns of all young people has been improved

LEAD: UNFPA, WHO

SUPPORTING:

OSGEY, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC

²⁸ A health system includes all the activities whose primary purpose is to promote, restore or maintain health. In this definition, community actions and services – if their primary purpose is health – are part of health systems. Beyond the boundaries of this definition are those activities whose primary purpose is something other than health (education, for example) even if these activities have a secondary, health-enhancing benefit.