



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



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Beyond 2015 - Facilitating Youth Civic Engagement

UNESCO's Support to Youth Empowerment to realize the Future We Want for All

Educating for a sustainable future

The transition towards a sustainable development path and a green economy requires that we educate and train the human resources and prepare society at large for a sustainable future. This requires new skill sets, complete revisions of job qualifications and corresponding learning objectives of educational programmes at all levels. A full integration of Education for Sustainable Development needs to be advocated, and youth should be the main target group and stakeholder in this process. This involves both curricular and didactic review and overhaul of programmes. Via youth the process should then be further expanded towards a comprehensive approach on "Educating for a sustainable future", which entails an all-inclusive educational approach in life-long learning at all levels.

General Objective:

The overall goal of this programme is to contribute to youth empowerment and engagement of young women and men in their communities through support to opportunities for youth leadership and youth led-initiatives.

Background

Youth are considered key actors and partners in UNESCO's mission to contribute to the building of peace, the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and intercultural dialogue. As such, youth play a key role in both the design and the implementation of the emerging Post-2015 Agenda on "realizing the future we want for all". UNESCO believes that participatory and strategic involvement of young women and men in outreach, volunteerism and bureaucracy can bridge the gap between the formal institutions and youth, including vulnerable, disadvantaged and marginalized groups, filling a critical gap of unmet needs.

Youth and the UN Post-2015 Development Agenda



This project has strong linkages with Post 2015 Development Agenda, ensuring that youth can express the "future they want" and making their voices heard. It is very important that youth are being considered as a partner for development in Indonesia. Our support to the Post 2015 Development Agenda will be twofold: UNESCO will ensure that the needs and concerns of the Indonesian youth are reflected in the draft document that will be submitted to the General Assembly in the year 2014. Our work will continue once the final

document is adopted through supporting the active involvement of Indonesian young men and women in the implementation of the Post 2015 Development Agenda.

Capacity building in key skills such as leadership, governance, communication, planning and advocacy



UNESCO will provide capacity-building for young women and men, members of grass-roots youth organizations on youth-led advocacy, leadership and community engagement. Activities will explore the great varieties of ways in which youth can contribute to their communities through active participation. A particular focus will be given to the participation of vulnerable and marginalized youth groups, youth living in rural areas, youth living with disabilities and youth from disadvantaged regions. By building skills we also refer to the concept of lifelong education in its

broadest sense, seeking human development at both personal and professional levels, providing knowledge that will help youth build their character as individuals and as active members of their societies, in other words: prepare them to access the expanding labor market and for the challenges of adulthood.

Youth Voices -To enhance the interaction between youth and democratic institutions



UNESCO will support young women and men to reach out to democratic institutions and elected officials through the provision of effective channels of communication that will enable them to raise their voices and be listened to by policy-makers and decision-makers. UNESCO will also promote policy dialogue initiatives among government, academia, youth and development partners to translate research into policy options. In sum, UNESCO will provide spaces where Indonesian youth can express themselves, a way to speak out, a channel to influence decisions that affect them as human beings and as members of society.

Youth engagement in building a culture of peace



More than 300 ethnic groups coexist in the biggest archipelago in the world that is Indonesia. Unity in Diversity is the country's motto, a statement that is full of challenges when it comes to practice. Inter-ethnic, religious, national identity and political tensions eventually derive in violent riots and fights in some regions of the country. In this complex context, UNESCO aims to promote a Culture of Peace by finding ways to change individual and collective attitudes, values, and behaviours permanently to ensure the non-violent resolution to all types of conflict. We believe that there is no culture of peace without democracy, participation, equality, human rights, cultural diversity, tolerance, dialogue, solidarity and social justice. Therefore, those are the issues and subjects that need to be addressed through visits of young people to key democratic institutions and development of youth exchanges between youth groups from different backgrounds and origin.

Social Media in support of Youth Participation



With more than 43 million users, Indonesia is the second largest Facebook user and the third biggest Tweeter user in the world. Social media influences many aspects of peoples' lives in Indonesia, and its influence on government policy is growing. Issues such as corruption, human rights, justice, social equity, and good governance have been trending topics of heated debates on social media, including personal blogs, citizen journalism accounts and other kind of websites. UNESCO aims to open the floor for discussion on the role of social media as a channel for youth participation, with the belief that social media can serve the Indonesian youth to shape the development agenda of their country.

For more information. Please contact

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