

UNDP YOUTH STRATEGY

Supporting the UNDP Strategic Plan 2014-2017 areas of work, outcomes and engagement principles

Three Outcomes



SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
PATHWAYS

Enhanced economic empowerment of youth

Adapting sustainable development pathways to eradicate extreme poverty and reduce socio-economic inequality and exclusion through building productive capacities of youth and an enabling environment for enhanced youth employment, employability and entrepreneurship.



INCLUSIVE
AND
EFFECTIVE
DEMOCRATIC
GOVERNANCE

Enhanced youth civic engagement and participation

Promoting inclusive and effective engagement and participation of young people and youth organizations in planning and decision-making processes and platforms at local, national, regional and global levels that support sustainable development solutions to poverty, inequality and exclusion.



RESILIENCE

Strengthened resilience building

Strengthened youth engagement in disaster preparedness, crisis response, and resilience building in crisis and/or conflict contexts

Four-pronged Approach

SUPPORT

through capacity development

ENGAGE

through advocacy and mainstreaming

INFLUENCE

through thought leadership

SUSTAIN

through support to national policy

Ten Guiding Principles

- Working by, with and for young people as initiators,** collaborators and target groups, by further integrating youth across UNDP programming and assisting programme countries to create mechanisms that empower, engage and include young people – especially the vulnerable and marginalized.
- Protecting youth human rights** by promoting a human-rights based approach to programming and developing the capacity of young people to claim and exercise their economic, political, social, civil and cultural rights.
- Reflecting the pivotal significance of gender equality and empowerment of young women,** understanding that sustainable human development will not be fully achieved unless women and girls are able to contribute on an equal basis with men and boys to their societies.
- Seeking sustainable human development** through livelihood creation for poor youth and, in all action, being guided by processes that enlarge young people's choices by expanding their capabilities and opportunities in ways that are sustainable from the economic, social and environmental standpoints, benefiting the present without compromising the future.
- Being guided by national ownership and leadership,** including youth leadership, with programme countries making decisions about how best to meet their young people's aspirations and with UNDP helping to develop the policies, leadership skills, partnering abilities and institutional capacities that can sustain results for youth.
- Ensuring youth participation and voice** in pursuit of equitable access for young women and young men to development opportunities, recognizing young people as agents of positive change for their own development, strengthening youth civic engagement and participation in politics and public institutions.
- Encouraging innovation for transformational change,** by investing in the development of new and innovative tools and approaches, and considering throughout, the potential to replicate and scale up successful experiences.
- Advancing South-South and triangular cooperation** to promote the exchange of knowledge, experiences, best practices and other resources that promise development solutions for youth, especially Southern solutions generated by young entrepreneurs.
- Optimizing youth volunteerism for development** to engage young people in tackling development challenges, gaining both skills and strengthening trust and solidarity in society, and creating opportunities for participation.
- Sharing inter-generational knowledge** by supporting the two-way transfer of information and experiences between younger and older generations, strengthening dialogue between traditional community leadership, elders and young people, especially in conflict and post-conflict contexts.

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