



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

# YOUTH GLOBAL PROGRAMME for SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT & PEACE

## YOUTH-GPS | 2016-2020

UNDP's first **Youth Global Programme for Sustainable Development and Peace – Youth-GPS (2016-2020)**, is a 5-year global programmatic offer on youth empowerment, designed to sharpen the organization's response to the challenges young people face worldwide, boost the implementation of UNDP's Youth Strategy 2014-2017, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security.

Young people still face a serious array of development challenges, and their needs and aspirations are regularly overlooked. They are often victims of multiple and interlocked forms of discrimination and face significant barriers to full participation in public life – having adverse impacts on the economy, politics, peace and development at large. How this cohort of young people is supported and engaged will significantly determine the prospects of sustainable development and peace in the coming years.

Youth-GPS is a systematic response to the concerns young people have expressed in global, regional and national fora and the growing demand at all levels for cutting-edge and strategic support in youth programming in all development contexts.



YOUTH EMPOWERMENT IS BOTH A  
HUMAN RIGHTS IMPERATIVE AND A  
SMART INVESTMENT IN SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

## 📍 MULTI-DIMENSIONAL APPROACH

Based on UNDP's careful context analysis, **Youth-GPS' multi-dimensional approach** will focus on four interdependent thematic areas of work where UNDP has developed an expertise:

- **Civic engagement & political participation**
- **Peacebuilding & resilience-building**
- **Economic empowerment**
- **Youth as partners in the 2030 Agenda implementation and monitoring**

Youth empowerment and participation are most needed in those areas where the development challenges for young people and their communities are pressing, where young people's marginalization and exclusion have had detrimental repercussions for human rights and development, and where youth empowerment would make a significant contribution to development and peace more broadly.

## 📍 MULTI-LEVEL RESPONSE

UNDP's **Youth-GPS** offers a **multi-level response** to the needs of young people and their communities in each thematic area of work by supplying rigorous and cutting-edge guidance and tools, improving coordination systems on the ground, knowledge and experience sharing, encouraging innovative partnerships, piloting new solutions and scaling up successful initiatives, including those led by young people themselves.

**Youth-GPS** will harness UNDP's presence in nearly 170 countries and territories, its regional reach, knowledge and policy capacities by leveraging its strengths at each level:

- **Country level:** offering national and local partners the tools, policy and technical support needed to effectively tackle the specific and contextualized development challenges facing youth. It will also provide targeted seed funding for innovative and catalytic projects.
- **Regional level:** gathering cross-country experiences and designing programmatic responses informed by cutting-edge developments at the global level adapted to regional conditions.
- **Global level:** consolidating UNDP's thought leadership on youth and development, analysing country and cross-regional experiences, providing cutting-edge policy support, and strengthening UNDP's internal monitoring, reporting and accountability on youth. Advocacy efforts, partnership building and knowledge exchanges will also be further strengthened.
- **Gender dimension:** mainstreaming gender equality throughout all programmatic levels, and including a standalone area of intervention supporting young women's empowerment.

### Further Information:

🌐 [www.undp.org/youth](http://www.undp.org/youth)   @youth@undp.org  
🐦 [www.twitter.com/UNDP4Youth](https://twitter.com/UNDP4Youth)   #YouthGPS

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## 📍 TYPES OF SUPPORT

Through **Youth-GPS**, UNDP will engage in these four distinct but inter-related multi-level interventions to scale up its successful actions on youth empowerment, expand its work to fill current gaps at all levels and build on its successes, by offering:

- **Technical, policy & programming support**
- **Financial support / seed funding**
- **Inclusive partnerships, coalitions & networks**
- **Knowledge generation & exchange**
- **Advocacy, research & data**
- **Capacity development**
- **Youth & gender mainstreaming**

## 📍 PARTNERSHIPS TO DELIVER

Long-term change and sustainable progress need solid and broad coalitions of relevant stakeholders. Building on UNDP's well-established convening role, **Youth-GPS** will initiate new – and enhance existing – networks and partnerships at every level to advance the youth, development and peace agendas. Partners include UN entities, member states, youth organizations and networks, parliaments, political parties, local governments, media, academia, think tanks, civil society organizations and other groups. **Youth-GPS** will invest in expanding this ecosystem of solid partnerships, alliances and networks around youth issues at global, regional, national and local levels, to provide the support and coordinated action that can amplify the impact of young people and youth organizations.

