



INTERNATIONAL
YEAR OF
YOUTH
AUGUST 2010-2011
OUR YEAR OUR VOICE

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF YOUTH: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding

BACKGROUND



"Youth should be given a chance to take an active part in the decision-making of local, national and global levels."

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

BACKGROUND



- In an effort to harness the energy, imagination and initiative of the world's youth in overcoming the challenges facing humankind, from enhancing peace to boosting economic development, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed an International Year of Youth **12 August 2010 – 11 August 2011** in its **resolution 64/134** (December 2009).

- The resolution calls upon

**Governments,
UN system,
Civil society,
Individuals and communities**

worldwide to support activities at local and international levels to mark the occasion.

YOUTH IN NUMBERS



Young people between the ages of 15-24 represent approximately
18% of the global population,
nearly 1.2 billion people.

YOUTH IN NUMBERS



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87% of youth live in developing countries

- **62% of youth live in Asia**
- **17% of youth live in Africa**

WHY YOUTH?



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Many youth remain marginalized from social and economic opportunities with limited access to essential resources.

Nearly 45 percent of all youth globally, aged 15-24, are living on less than 2 dollars a day. This equates to almost 515 million young people.

WHY YOUTH NOW?



As members of societies, youth deserve full access to:

- Education
- Adequate healthcare
- Employment
- Financial services
- Participation in public life

Recognition of their unique perspectives and contributions must be taken into account in order for youth to fully realize their potential and for governments to fulfill human rights obligations and democratic principles.



PARTICIPATE



Actor Ewan McGregor, UNICEF
Ambassador supports the IYY
- video -

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i9mkfsx8FyM&list=PL155D05D4E30E423D>

PARTICIPATE



Our Year. Our Voice.

The official IYY slogan evolved following a call for suggestions on the IYY Facebook page.



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- Local Level
- National Level
- Global Level



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Organize and implement activities for the International Year of Youth

- Check on the [Activities Kit: A Guide to celebrating the International Year of Youth!](#)
- The purpose of this Kit is to provide youth with **practical** guidance and **concrete examples** to organize and implement activities throughout the Year and beyond.



ACTIVITIES KIT:
A GUIDE TO CELEBRATING
THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF YOUTH

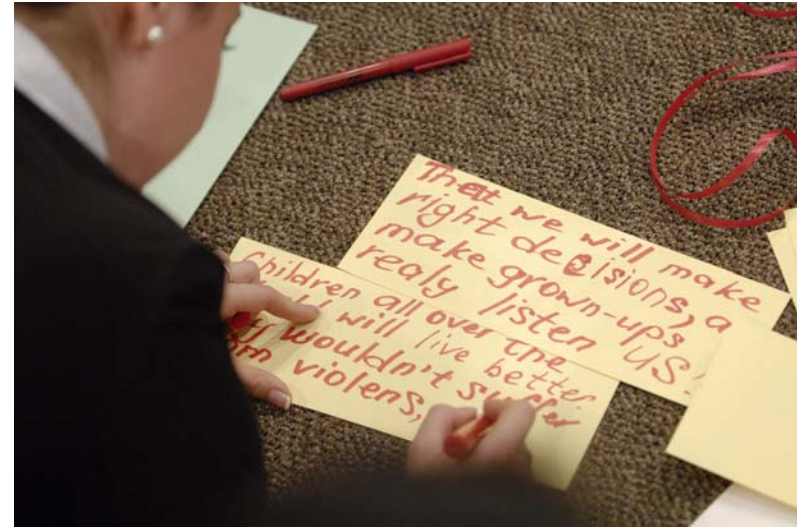
PARTICIPATE - LOCAL LEVEL



Low-cost Ideas Suggested by Young People:



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- **Debates and workshops** to discuss young people's contributions to global issues.
- **Round table discussions** among adults and young people to promote intergenerational understanding.
- **Youth forum** to exchange ideas and discuss cultural backgrounds in order to help young people accept others and popularize a culture of non-violence.

PARTICIPATE - LOCAL LEVEL



Low-cost Ideas Suggested by Young People:

- Approach local authorities to have **one day dedicated to youth**, where youth can benefit from a discount on local museums, libraries, transportations, and cinemas.
- Create an **“info point”** about youth-related issues in the center of town/village, at high schools, or at university centers.
- **Invite** distinguished individuals from the private sector, government, sport, or science to inspire youth to make positive changes in their communities.



PARTICIPATE - LOCAL LEVEL



Low-cost Ideas Suggested by Young People:

- Organize livelihood skills training for youth.
- Organize a cycle rally, youth march, or an exhibition of talents by young people in the domains of culture, arts and music, to raise awareness on youth-related issues.
- Write to the Ministers of Youth to inform them about the challenges young people face in their daily lives and to suggest solutions. A list of Ministers of Youth can be found at www.un.org/youth.



Bus Stand in Delhi



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PARTICIPATE – NATIONAL LEVEL



National Committees

- The International Years are customarily celebrated at the national level, steered by a National Committee. We encourage governments to form National Committee in partnership with civil society and UN system organizations within the country.
- To find out more about what a National Committee is and how the composition might look like, please read our [guidelines](#).
- Once a National Committee is formed in your country, please inform the UN Programme on Youth of the contact person and plans for the year so that we can add your activities and/or events to the calendar. (Fax +1-212-963-0111) or email youth@un.org



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PARTICIPATE - GLOBAL LEVEL



Register events on the Online calendar of events for IYY

- UNPY is hosting a calendar on its website to promote youth-led and youth-focused activities in commemoration of the Year
- If you are holding an event in celebration of the International Year of Youth (IYY), you can register it on the calendar of events and also check out what is going with other youth throughout the world at <http://social.un.org/absolutewc/> .



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PARTICIPATE - GLOBAL LEVEL



Join us on Facebook and Twitter NOW!

- We've created a Facebook page and Twitter to promote IYY activities. We are excited that social sites like Facebook and Twitter are offering us new opportunities for young people to interact and connect.



• www.facebook.com/UNyouthyear



• www.twitter.com/UNyouth

PARTICIPATE - GLOBAL LEVEL



Join the monthly consultation on Facebook

- Participate in the monthly public consultation on Facebook at www.facebook.com/UNyouthyear
- Past consultation topics included:
 - Slogan for the International Year of Youth (nearly 500 slogans were suggested).
 - What can you(th) do to celebrate the International Year of Youth: Low-Cost Ideas for Activities.
 - What are the ways to make youth participation and representation effective in your community?
 - What are the ways to get public attention for IYY and effectively engage the media and other stakeholders?



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THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

ANY QUESTIONS?

**E-mail us at
youth@un.org**



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QUESTIONS FOR YOU



Now it's **YOUR** turn, create a discussion with your friends!

For example...

Questions on the IYY theme:

What is your interpretation of the theme: dialogue and mutual understanding?

What do you think it means to youth in different parts of the world or different cultures or backgrounds?

What can be done to increase dialogue and understanding? By UN? Government? Youth?

QUESTIONS FOR YOU



Questions on Youth Issues

What is the biggest problem faced by youth in your community ?

What solution would you offer ?

What could YOU do to help resolve it ?

