The United Nations Programme on Youth
Youth, according to UN definition, are people between 15 and 24 years of age.

However, each region might have their own specific definition of youth.
Young people between the ages of 15-24 represent approximately 18% of the global population, nearly 1.2 billion people.
Youth in numbers:

87% of youth live in developing countries

62% of youth live in Asia

17% of youth live in Africa
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.
Investing in youth:

- Will yield long-standing returns for national and global development.
- Is an investment in human capital.
- Will prevent many future problems such as school drop-outs, juvenile delinquency, and etc.
We are here to assist youth, Member States, and the international community in their efforts to empower young people.
The United Nations Programme on Youth is the only part of the United Nations Secretariat with the explicit mandate to address youth issues.

**Who are we?**

- • Advocacy
- • Promoting national youth policies
- • Strengthening youth participation

**What do we do?**

- • World Programme of Action for Youth
- • Analytical reports & publications
- • Informing international policy processes
- • Outreach (Facebook and Twitter)
- • Youth delegates
- • Inter-agency Coordination

**How do we do it?**
Youth Delegates:

Become a Youth Delegate to the United Nations!
Youth Delegates:

- Youth delegates are part of a country's official delegation and are appointed by the national Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

- In many countries, youth delegates are initially selected by key national youth organizations or a National Youth Council and are then confirmed by the government ministry responsible for youth issues.

Youth are not merely passive beneficiaries but effective agents of change who often lead by example and employ innovative solutions to complex problems.

Creativity, dedication, enthusiasm, compassion, energy, technological savvy, resourceful, capable...
Participation of young people is vital in implementing the international development agenda including the World Programme of Action for Youth and the Millennium Development Goals.
World Programme of Action for Youth

What is the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY)?

- Commitment by the international community to promote youth development and address challenges in a holistic manner
- Guide for the development of national youth policies
- Adopted in 1995
WPAY recognizes 15 priority areas:

- Education
- Employment
- Hunger and Poverty
- Health
- Environment
- Drug and Substance Abuse
- Juvenile Justice
- Leisure
- Girls and Young Women
- Participation
- Globalization
- HIV/AIDS
- Armed Conflict
- ICT
- Intergenerational Issues

A fact sheet on each of these areas can be found on our website: http://social.un.org/youthyear/links.html
The United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development works to increase the effectiveness of the UN’s work in youth development by:

Strengthening collaboration and exchange among all UN entities working on youth.
UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development:
Publications:

- World Youth Reports
- World Programme of Action for Youth
- Youth Participation in Development
- Guide to Youth Delegates to the United Nations
- Growing Together: Youth and the Work of the United Nations
- Activities Kit
- Youth Flash

For more publications please visit our website at:
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.

For more information and how you can participate visit:
http://social.un.org/youthyear
Once you have started your initiatives, please let us know about the outcomes.

Also feel free to contact us if you need guidance and information throughout your journey.

E-mail: youth@un.org

Good Luck!
Video