



YOUTH AND LIVELIHOODS  
**PUBLICATION**

**CATALOGUE**  
**2007-2018**

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PUBLICATION CATALOGUE

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# Introduction

Seen in absolute numbers, there have never been as many young people as today. Almost half of the world's population is under the age of 24, and a majority of these youth live in developing countries.<sup>1</sup> The urban youth is a demographic that faces specific challenges and is in many cases vulnerable to unemployment, disease, drug addiction, violence and suicides. Yet the demographic is often overlooked in policy making and urban planning.

The Youth and Livelihood Unit in the UN-Habitat works for better inclusion of youth in urban policies and planning. The Unit strives to support initiatives that empower youth and that assist governments in opening up new venues for participation in decision making and policy implementation at a local level.

The present catalogue features key publications from the Youth and Livelihood Unit from 2007 to 2018.

The publications from the Youth and Livelihood Unit can be reached following this link: <https://issuu.com/unhabitatyouthunit>



<sup>1</sup> By 2025, 89 per cent of the youth population is projected to live in developing countries.

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



It is my pleasure to present the UN-Habitat's Youth and Livelihoods Unit Publications Catalogue for the years 2007 – 2018. The catalogue highlights key focus areas of UN-Habitat on youth, showcasing research and evidence based practices adopted for building resilience and empowering young people in urban areas globally. The catalogue reflects the expertise of UN-Habitat Youth within its mandate as the focal point for youth in UN-Habitat. The publications underpin the models developed by UN-Habitat that advance the goal of “leaving no one behind” and creating the environment for the greater inclusion and participation of young people in sustainable urbanization and decision-making processes.

Urbanization is the engine that propels the world towards prosperity in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and youth are the engineers. Youth are society's most essential and dynamic human resource. There are more people under the age of 25 today

than ever, totaling over three billion or almost half of the total global population; 1.8 billion of that total are between the age of 12 and 24. Globally youth live, by and large, in cities and towns; the cities of the developing world account for over 90 per cent of the world's urban growth and youth account for a large percentage of those inhabitants. It is estimated that as many as 60 per cent of all urban dwellers will be under the age of 18 by 2030. This demographic imperative means we cannot wait to engage youth, we must engage them in decision-making in our towns and cities to assure their perspectives and creativity are fully taken into account.

I would like to thank our partners for the support in our youth research programme over the last decade. I would especially like to thank the Government of Norway for its belief in the promise of youth, not only as leaders of tomorrow but leaders of today.

**Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif**  
Under-Secretary-General and  
Executive Director, UN-Habitat

## 2007 PUBLICATIONS



Published 2007  
Language: **English**

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### Youth Entrepreneurship and Employment

This publication contains Five Principles of Youth Led Development with a major focus on creating youth employment that aligns to a legal framework that can be replicated globally. Youth employment is described as vital for better living standards and a sense of self-worth. Unresolved unemployment makes young people vulnerable to social exclusion and turn to crime. Those who enter the workforce with limited job prospects, underdeveloped skills and inadequate education are most at risk for long term unemployment, intermittent spells of unemployment, and low-wage employment throughout their working lives.



Published 2007  
Language: **English**

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### Youth Entrepreneurship, Youth Empowerment

Entrepreneurship is a useful way to promote self-employment among the youth only if we enable young people's access to infrastructure, seed money, mentoring and other services that can be used to set up micro enterprises. According to the ILO, more than 1 billion new jobs must be created to reduce unemployment. Without a concerted effort, a new generation will grow up feeling it has no stake in society. Conversely, we in the UN system passionately believe that by harnessing the potential of youth, the world can benefit enormously from a new wave of participation and intellectual creativity and help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and Youth 2030 agenda..

## 2009 PUBLICATIONS



Published 2009  
26 pages  
Language: **English**  
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### State of the One Stop Report

This evaluation report was contracted by UN-Habitat to give a clear snapshot of the state of the One Stop at the end of 2008. The report is done within the framework of UN-Habitat Strategy for Youth Engagement and the Medium Term Strategic Implementation Plan (MTSIP). The evaluation analyzes both qualitatively and quantitatively how well the One Stop Centers perform in the areas of improving livelihoods for youth in the informal settlements, strengthening local governments' abilities to engage youth in policy making, and contributing to sustainable urbanization.



Published 2009  
Language: **English**  
[Download](#)

### Space for Change

This research project centres around the topics of participatory planning and community development. It specifically investigates and illustrates the contributions of youth through their participation in initiatives that contribute to the improvement of the communities in which they live. According to the United Nations Human Settlements and Cities statistics, the global population has quadrupled since 1950 and cities of the developing world account for over ninety percent of the world's urban growth. The measures also highlight that the world is also more youthful. Even as decreasing birth rates and longer life spans are influencing an overall trend toward population ageing, in absolute numbers, there are more people under the age of 25 today than ever, nearly 3 billion or half of the total global population (UN-Habitat 2007).

## 2010 PUBLICATIONS



Published: 2010  
HS/148/10E.  
32 Pages  
Language: **English**  
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### **Mapping Urban Youth-Led Development, Opportunities Fund for Urban Youth-Led Development**

This report contains the results of an inventory, or mapping, of youth-led initiatives undertaken during the inception phase of the Opportunities Fund. The inventory was conducted to identify and assess existing organizations and initiatives that would enhance the effectiveness of the fund.



Published: 2010  
326 Pages  
Language: **English**  
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### **Ideas to action: Best Practices in Youth-led development**

This report represents the findings of two parallel surveys: a survey on Youth and Harmonious urbanization and one on Youth-led development. These studies, undertaken by the Nottawasaga Institute and the Community alliance, were done to inform the Youth Dialogue Session at the 4th World Urban Forum in Nanjing, China (November 2008) on the role of youth and youth-led projects and programs in regards to the main WUF IV theme of Harmonious Urbanization. In addition, this research informed the development and implementation of the opportunities Fund for the Urban Youth-Led Development which was officially launched in WUF IV.

## 2011 PUBLICATIONS



### Evaluation of the UN-Habitat Youth Programme & Urban Youth Fund

This evaluation of the UN-HABITAT Youth Programme was mandated by UN-HABITAT Governing Council resolution 21/6 which, among other things, requested the Executive Director to establish the Opportunities Fund for Urban Youth-led Development, and undertake an evaluation of the operation of the special fund and to submit a report thereon to the Governing Council at its twenty-third session in April 2011. Resolution 22/4 of April 2009 reiterated this request. The evaluation was conducted by external consultants Dr. Miller and Professor Van Vliet between October 2010 and February 2011.

Published: 2011  
Language: **English**  
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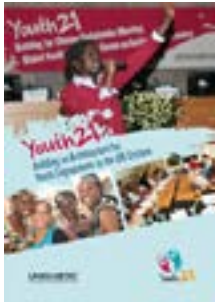
### Youth and Prosperity of Cities: Summary report

The African Urban Youth Assembly held in Abuja, Nigeria in July 2011, provided youth, youth groups, and development practitioners engaged in social, political and economic dimensions of youth work and urban development the opportunity to discuss and exchange experiences on the role and contribution of young people in the prosperity of cities. Participants shared best practices from their initiatives as well as government policies promoting youth empowerment in a number of areas related to economy, environment and equity.

Published: 2011  
Language: **English**  
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The theme selected for African Urban Youth Assembly was "Youth and Prosperity of Cities". This is a summary report from the assembly.





Published: 2011  
Language: **English**  
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## **Youth 21: Building an Architecture for Youth Engagement in the UN System**

This report explores how youth have been historically engaged within the UN System. The report highlights both the challenges and the successes of youth's engagement, and building on these, proposes three possible models of engagement, and a tentative conclusion on the best way forward for the UN system and the member states.

The report recommends three possible models of youth engagement in the UN system including; the Scaling up the UN Youth Program to an Institutional level 23; Appointment of a Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Youth 24 and the establishment of a UN Permanent Forum on Youth, Youth Platform Assembly, and Special Representative on Youth on Indigenous Issues.



Published: 2011  
Language: **English**  
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## **Young Entrepreneurs in Africa**

Action on youth employment needs to be integrated as a central platform for achieving MDG 1 on poverty reduction. Youth employment poverty reduction strategies should especially focus on young women, indigenous populations, and rural youth as those most marginalized within the current economic system. Addressing the needs of young women and rural youth will also help to achieve MDG 3 and address pressures and problems arising from mass rural to urban migration. Many microfinance programs for instance have targeted investment to young women with great success.



Published: 2011  
Language: **English**

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## **Youth Empowerment Programme (Yep) Moonbeam Youth Training Centre**

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A major cause of youth unemployment and inaccessibility to entrepreneurship opportunity is lack of empowerment through appropriate training. Youth possess enormous potential and are the society's most important asset and source of energy and innovation. They can make meaningful (Y in slums' contributions to the well-being of societies and, therefore, it is essential to address youth unemployment concerns in a holistic manner Youth empowerment and participation for effective transformation in society is being realized through the Youth Empowerment Programme (YEP) launched by the Executive Director of UN-Habitat, Mrs. Anna Tibajuka in June 2008. The goal of the Youth Empowerment Programme is to improve the livelihood of youths living and working in slums and informal settlements. It has an overarching aim to ensure provision of skills training and capacity building to young people in urban slums and informal settlements.

## 2012 PUBLICATIONS



### Young People, Participation and Sustainable Development in an Urbanizing World

This working paper reviews current academic and policy oriented research on the interface between young people's participation and sustainable urban development. The study also examines the lives, capacities, and agencies of urban youth in the developing world and identifies significant gaps for research. In particular, it focuses on the political economy of youth focused development in an increasingly urban world. By 'political-economy' we mean the processes that shape the material conditions of young people's lives in ways that reflect the workings of social, economic, and political power. At the heart of the political economic analysis is the role of structural forces that not only result in young people's disenfranchisement, but also explain the perpetuation of their marginal position in society.

The analysis reveals a significant disconnect between, on the one hand, policy-oriented concerns of youth participation (often seen as participatory approaches in research and practice) and, on the other, the lived experiences of young people. The review also reveals that rapid urbanization poses as many challenges to youth as it offers opportunities. Although many young people are competent, knowledgeable, and creative, deep socio-economic transformations have profound consequences for their participation and life chances within cities.

Year: 2012  
ISBN: 978-92-1-132476-1  
HS/061/12E  
104 Pages  
Languages: **English**

[Download](#)



### Youth Development in Mena Cities Report

The report examines the opportunities and challenges of youth population growth in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. This population growth is mirrored globally, where by 2030, it is estimated that 60% of the world population will live in cities and that 60% of these urban residents will be under the age of 18. MENA region has the youngest population in the world. It is within this context that MENA governments at all levels must grapple with how to deal with what has been described as a demographic "youth bulge". "Youth Bulge" is defined as a high proportions of 15-29 year olds relative to the adult population. This report recommends the development of proactive policies to improve youth employability, creation of adequate employment opportunities for youth, increased engagement of girls and women in programmes, and construction of accessible urban youth spaces.

Year: 2012  
HS/007/12  
Languages: **English and Arabic**

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Published: 2012  
25 Pages  
Language: **English**  
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## The Nairobi Declaration - Youth 21

The Nairobi Declaration is an outcome document of Youth 21 Building for Change Stakeholder Meeting & Global Youth Leadership Forum on Inclusive Governance meeting that took place in Nairobi in March 2012. The Declaration was adopted by the wide range of participants coming from governments, youth and youth-led organizations, UN and media.

Youth 21 identified a wide range of opportunities and reflected on the challenges arising out of the current global development context. The declaration includes a series of specific recommendations to the UN system, UN Member States and other key Stakeholders.



Published: 2012  
Language: **English**  
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## Youth 21 Process Report

The beginning of the Youth 21 initiative was the Report on building the Architecture for Youth Engagement within the United Nations (UN) published in 2011. For over 75 years the international community has discussed about the need to engage young people at decision-making processes in a global level. The Youth 21 Report tried to dig into all those previous discussions and to take a step further and explore how youth can be better engaged at the international level and painted some scenarios on the way forward.



## Urban Youth and Sport for Development

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The potential of sport as a tool for development is being harnessed by a range of organizations across the world. The United Nations has argued that “well-designed sport-based initiatives are practical and cost-effective tools to achieve objectives in development and peace”. However, they also note that “the potential of sport as a tool for development and peace has yet to be fully realized”. This has been among the major driving forces for United Nations agencies to encourage and support governments in the adoption and implementation of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group’s policy recommendations. This study assesses the different organizations’ work in the field of sport for development and the role of the large-scale international youth football tournaments. It concludes that sport is a potentially powerful tool, in particular because it can be used to mobilize local organizations and engage key target groups

Year: 2012

Languages: **English**

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## 2013 PUBLICATIONS



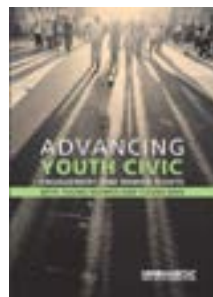
Published: 2013  
Language: **English**

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### UN-Habitat One Stop Youth Center Model

The One Stop Youth Centre is a partnership between UN-Habitat and local governments. The model aims to provide a neutral space for young people, especially from marginalised urban communities, where they can interact with one another and with youth-serving agencies. The model recognizes that youth engagement and empowerment through training and capacity development is pertinent to addressing the challenges faced by young people such as employability. The centres therefore provide skills training that contribute towards building a pool of skilled and employable young labour force.

Since 2006 UN-Habitat has been facilitating the establishment of “One Stop Youth Centres” (OSYCs) in cities across Africa. OSYCs are managed in a manner that enables young people to constructively explore their own potential, where mentorship and information, training and counselling can be easily accessed.



Published:2013  
HS/040/13E  
ISBN: 978-92-1-132574-4  
Language: **English**

[Download](#)

### Advancing Youth Civic Engagement and Human Rights with Young Women and Young Men

This report examines the progress made at the regional level in promoting youth rights and demonstrates that youth citizenship and engagement in governance is more than political engagement. It is as much about dealing with limited access to economic resources and socio-political assets. This begins with engaging youth as equal partners, recognizing their rights to participate in decision-making processes and to productively use their knowledge, perspectives, and experience. This report seeks to outline how youth are taking these leadership roles, and to explore how we can support youth to become active and responsible citizens now and in the future.



Published: 2013  
Language: **English**  
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## Youth Empowerment for Urban Development “Mainstreaming Youth in UN-Habitat Programmes”

The approach of UN-Habitat’s Youth Empowerment Programme is to explore and demonstrate how youth-led initiatives can make a significant and unique contribution to accelerating the drive towards sustainable urbanization and achievement of the MDGs. This involves nurturing youth-led initiatives through: raising understanding by youth groups of critical urban issues affecting their lives, their future, and their rights; facilitating these groups to formulate their own action plans; and ensuring space and support for them to carry their plans forward to successful results.

Building on the success and lessons learned from its focus on urban youth over the past years, UN-Habitat has developed a strategy to ensure a focus on urban youth empowerment across the entire spectrum of the Agency’s programmes. The strategy sees a rights-based approach as fundamental to empowerment, with knowledge building as a primary ingredient.



Published: 2013  
Language: **English**  
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## Habitat and GLTN Youth-Led Action Research on Land Commencement Workshop

Persistent tenure insecurity and high levels of informal settlements are found throughout the developing world. Inequalities and discrimination are inherent to conventional land systems, with youth rarely recognized as equal stakeholders. The rights to over 70% of land remain unregistered worldwide, and less than 2% of registered land has been registered under a woman’s name – suggesting that female youth face even greater exclusion from land issues. The land challenge is central to the broader youth dynamics of migration, employment, livelihoods and belonging. The more than 1.8 billion youth living worldwide represent not only a land challenge, but an untapped potential in moving the tenure security agenda forward. Recognizing this, the Global Land Tool Network partnered with UN-Habitat to develop youth responsive land tools through the Youth-led Action Research on Land program. The Workshop for the Youth-led Action Research on Land project was carried out with the aim of building on the five existing project plans and strengthening the participating youth organizations capacity for research. Participants were provided training in action research, an overview of existing GLTN land tools and existing research on youth and land, and peer review and dialogue across all projects and country contexts.

## 2014 PUBLICATIONS



Published: 2014  
24 Pages  
Language: **English**  
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### The Right to Participate

This publication was made in partnership with The Norwegian Children and Youth Council (LNU).

Democratic youth organizations want to take responsibility and be part of the solution to the challenges facing our common future. This joint report pinpoints some of the principles that must be present in order for youth participation to be real and meaningful. These principles stem from the work done by LNU and UN-Habitat, as well as by academic researchers. We believe that these basic principles can be applied on every level and in different parts of the globe. Our wish is that this report can inspire civil society, countries and the UN and multi-lateral agencies to integrate these principles in their work.



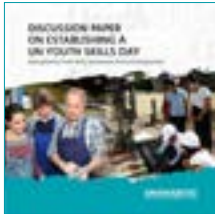
Published: 2014  
20 Pages  
Language: **English**  
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### Using Minecraft for Youth Participation in Urban Design and Governance

The purpose of this paper is to outline UN-Habitat's approach to using information and communication technology (ICT) as an enabler to encourage youth participation in urban design and governance.

UN-Habitat believes that ICT can be a catalyst to improve governance in towns and cities and help increase levels of participation, efficiency and accountability in public urban policies, provided that the tools are appropriately used, accessible, inclusive and affordable. Research shows that ICT use by youth can have a direct impact on increasing civic engagement, giving them avenues through which to become informed, shape opinions, get organized, collaborate and take action. UN-Habitat's experiences of using the video game Mine craft as a community participation tool for public space design confirms this view and shows that providing youth with ICT tools can promote improved civic engagement.





Published: 2014  
Language: **English**  
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## Discussion Paper on Establishing a UN Youth Skills Day

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This document views the challenges facing young men and women globally, it is incumbent upon us to create a globally skilled youth labour force, a labour force which is able to access local, national and international labor markets, and one that can keep pace with the latest trends and developments. We

must give the highest priority to the development of a well skilled global youth citizenry. We also recognize that a large percentage of young men and women globally are living in cities. There are more people under the age of 25 today than ever, totaling nearly three billion or almost half of the total global population. These youth live, by and large, in cities and towns; the cities of the developing world account for over 90% of the world's urban growth and youth account for a large percentage of those inhabitants. It is estimated that as many as 60% of all urban dwellers will be under the age of 18 by 2030.

## 2015 PUBLICATIONS



Published: 2015  
60 Pages  
Language: **English**  
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### **Advancing economic citizenship for children and youth in sub-Saharan Africa**

The objective of this publication is to inspire and guide policy-makers and practitioners globally to develop new and expand existing initiatives that integrate financial inclusion and education for children and youth. Such inclusion of formal financial services will promote youth development; contribute to the rise of young, empowered economic citizens that can sustain a livelihood for themselves while supporting the well-being of those in their community.



Published: 2015  
Language: **English**  
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### **Innovation, Technology and Youth**

Within this document lies a set of frameworks supporting innovation at scale where governments and industry can play a role. While innovation is nurtured by challenge, some challenges consume too much of us. We must recognize the human condition and act responsibly in our calls for solutions by offering rational support and solutions that take into account each and every individual's humanity, dignity, and challenges. This is not to say that youth faced with the ultimate challenges cannot generate solutions. In fact, some of the most remarkable solutions I have seen have come from just those people—the people you would least assume could achieve these solutions due to the many social and economic barriers they face. This resiliency is both inspiring, as well as it is a call to action for the global community to support youth innovation.

It is this dynamic: a drive for a better life, inhibition in breaking past the status quo, and resilience in their nature that make young people such a premier partner in sustainable development.

This is their world and what we do today is what they will inherit tomorrow.



Published: 2015  
Language: **English**  
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## Youth at the Heart of Sustainable Development In Asia and the Pacific

This report looks into the year 2015 that presented a pivotal juncture for youth in Asia and the Pacific in marking the point at which Millennium Development Goals make way for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).<sup>1</sup> 2015 also marked the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY),<sup>2</sup> which provides “a policy framework and practical guidelines for national action and international support to improve the situation of young people.”

Th reference in this book is made in regard to the importance of attending to the needs, and rights, of youth in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, alongside the centrality of engaging youth in implementation of the transformative agenda. The associated 17 SDGs encompass a host of issues affecting youth across the region: poverty, health and well-being, education, labour market participation, protection and management of the natural environment, and peace and security. In Asia and the Pacific, as globally, the engagement and actions of youth, in all their diversity, will be critical to the achievement of the SDGs. Accordingly, understanding, engaging and investing in youth are critical to a peaceful and prosperous future for the region’s people and planet.

Asia and the Pacific is home to 60 per cent of the global population aged 15 to 24 years. Across this geographically, politically, socially, culturally and economically expansive region, youth are a very diverse group. While some youth live in rural and urban areas with

limited education and employment opportunities, others are leading their lives in areas with world class education and labour market facilities. From ethnic and linguistic differences to the practising of all of the world’s main religions, the region’s heterogeneity provides challenges in terms of tailor-made interventions, yet also opportunities with regard to a wealth of experience to share and choose from.

Accordingly, the diversity of youth issues is both explicit and implicit in the implementation of the “5Ps” of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. This report seeks to contextualize challenges related to youth development and proposes recommendations from a broader perspective.

To promote overarching policy direction in order to support youth development in Asia and the Pacific, the following actions are proposed:

- Prepare for future demographic implications
- Enhance institutional capacity and engender good governance
- Promote social dialogue and political commitment
- Strengthen the evidence base for more effective policymaking

The report also endeavours to promote understanding of and action on youth issues as they feature in the categories of people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnerships.



## Crosscutting Issues Progress Report 2015

UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan (2014-2019) reaffirms climate change as one of four cross-cutting issues for the Agency. All four Cross-Cutting issues are to be "mainstreamed throughout the seven focus areas, ensuring that all policies, knowledge management tools and operational activities address these issues in their design and implementation". At the same time the Strategic Plan indicates that climate change is also to be addressed through "Issue-specific projects that will seek to fill identified gaps in the field and will be located in the most appropriate focus area". Climate change as a substantive topic falls primarily within Sub-programme 2, Urban Planning and Design, with an Expected Accomplishment as follows:

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Language: **English**

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## 2016 PUBLICATIONS



Published: 2016  
Language: **English**  
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### **Refugee Youth: Good Practices in Urban Resettlement Contexts**

In current trends, the International System is facing a global refugee crisis. Being in an uncertain world, full of fear and experiencing the trauma of loss is the reality young refugees' face. The question, how can this situation be transformed?

This study focuses on the best practices that can be used in the resettlement of young refugees in foreign lands. Varying from Language, gender, mental health, housing, employment, Art to sports; this paper reviews the current state of knowledge concerning good practices in welcoming refugee youth in the hope that host countries systems will employ informed and considered approaches in supporting refugee youth resettlement.

It is crucial for the refugee youth to live in a resilient, safe and inclusive environment as they have massive potential in contributing to the economic and social development of urban centres.



Published: 2016  
Language: **English**  
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### **Capacity Building in Support of Young Refugees in Cities**

Since the outbreak of the public protests in March 2011, the crisis in Syria has created one of the gravest humanitarian tragedies. The atrocities of the Assad regime and radical extremist factions

like the Islamic State (IS) have left 7 million Syrians internally displaced and approximately 4.8 million seeking refuge in neighboring countries in the region. Turkey is the largest host country offering safe haven to over 2.7 million refugees from Syria. With no current opportunity for a safe and sustainable return to the Syrian Arab Republic after five years of conflict, many Syrian refugees have moved further afield from the camps and their surroundings to larger cities, mainly to the metropolitans in pursuit of better, safer, and more dignified living conditions.

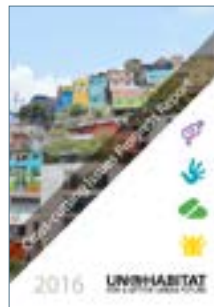


Published: 2016  
HS/028/17E  
34 Pages  
Language: **English**  
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### **Strengthening Policy for Young Women in the Changing World of Work, Case Study: Kampala Municipality, Uganda**

This is a research publication sponsored by UK-AID to Plan International UK. UN-Habitat played a key advisory role on policy at municipal level, to the innovation hub, which aimed to challenge social norms and practices that keep girls and young women in positions of powerlessness in the World of Work (WoW). This resonates to the Commission on the Status of Women 61, 2017: Women's Economic Empowerment in the Changing World of Work. The research aims to elaborate the need for an enabling policy environment and/or enforce legislation that enhances gender equality for girls and young women in the WoW.

The publication appreciates that local governments are the key vehicles for formulating interventions, and a key partner in the implementation of a Local Economic Development (LED) strategy. In this regard, the local government is discussed to work hand in hand with other stakeholders in contextualizing gender gaps and addressing gender imbalances. This is relevant in addressing social and cultural practices that keep young women in positions of powerlessness in the WoW.



Published: 2016  
Language: **English**  
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### **Crosscutting Issues Progress Report 2016**

At UN-Habitat there are four cross-cutting issues: climate change, gender equality, human rights and youth. These cross-cutting issues define the purpose of our outcomes as an Agency and we view safeguarding our environment and populations as the path of our progress at UN-Habitat.



Published: 2016  
Language: **English**  
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## Engaging Youth In Our Global Future

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This youth-led programme enabled UNA-Canada to consult youth from across the country, including Vancouver, Edmonton, Toronto, Montreal, and Ottawa. Canadian youth voiced similar concerns about international assistance across the country, and this is mirrored in this report. At the same time, each community visited demonstrated its unique concerns and innovative solutions to current problems faced by population in developing countries which displayed the diversity in Canadian youth and their own societal experiences.

A significant realization through the consultation process was that Canadian youth are genuinely concerned with their counterparts in developing countries. Canadian youth feel privileged to live in a society that celebrates and prides itself in its inclusivity and multicultural values. This privilege has empowered Canadian youth to take on global responsibility for those youth in developing countries that have limits on their potential. Thus, this report is created with the purpose to place the voice of Canadian civil society and youth at the centre of international development assistance and the policy process.

## 2017 PUBLICATIONS



Published: 2017  
Language: **English**  
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### The Berlin Agenda on Urban Youth

This “declaration” recognizes the transformative agency of the young people in cities and sustainable human settlements, although they often remain vulnerable to urban decision-making and changes in urban political, environmental and economic orientations that do not integrate the needs of youth. Ensuring that young people are engaged in all stages of urban decision-making is essential for the successful implementation of the New Urban Agenda. Young people can realize their full potential in collectively creating inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements when equipped with the necessary skills, capacities and resources. Intergenerational responsibility and dialogue foster a sense of ownership that unlocks young people’s ability to actively shape their urban environment.



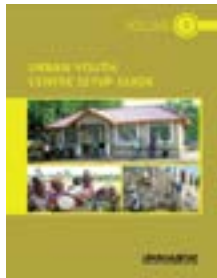
Published: 2017  
Language: **English**  
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### Youth Law and Legislative Frameworks Affecting Urban Youth

This paper will examine youth law and legislative framework affecting urban youth at the international, regional, national and local levels. Section 2 will establish the definition of who comprises youth demographic. Section 3 will set out the statistics on youth. Section 4 will provide a backdrop of the issues affecting the urban youth. Section 5 will provide an overview of the legislative framework, containing the legal instruments at the international and regional levels and soft-law instruments, including the Sustainable Development Goals under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as part of the global normative framework



## URBAN YOUTH CENTRE S SERIES



### **Urban Youth Centre Setup Guide** (One Stop Centre Training Materials - Volume 1)

Planning is half the job. Starting a center is a huge task. Here is practical advice and important information to remember in the process.

This manual exists as one of a growing library of materials produced by UN-Habitat for use by local authorities and other partners, and in Urban Youth Centers, to develop and improve on such centers.

Published: 2011  
HS/060/11E  
53 Pages  
Series Title: Urban Youth  
Centre Training Manuals  
Language: **English**

[Download](#)



### **Information Work and Youth** (One Stop Centre Training Materials - Volume 2)

This manual is about the core principles and procedures for the starting up, delivery, and monitoring of One Stop Youth Information Resource Services. Using the guidelines within this manual will enable service users (and potential users) to be the central focus of service delivery. The purpose of the working manual, therefore, is to act as a point of reference for good practice, providing a framework for assessing the quality of services and the means of quality assurance for young people, information service managers and funding bodies.

Published: 2011  
HS/059/11E  
73 Pages  
Series Title: Urban Youth  
Centre Training Manuals  
Language: **English**

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## Community Mapping Guide (One Stop Centre Training Materials - Volume 3)

This manual is written for people wanting to engage youth in community-based planning. It provides planners, youth workers, and volunteers with all of the tools they will need to train youth and initiate asset mapping projects.

Published: 2011  
HS/056/11E  
44 Pages  
Series Title: Urban Youth  
Centre Training Manuals  
Language: **English**

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## Entrepreneurship Programming for Urban Youth Centres (One Stop Centre Training Materials - Volume 4)

The purpose of this Guide is to provide Urban Youth Centers, and municipalities in the process of setting up such Centers, with the following:

- Context information about Urban Youth Centers and issues of youth-led development and under-employment in the urban setting, laying the groundwork for the Center to implement its own Entrepreneurship Programme.
- Practical advice for Center Staff and Trainers on youth-led development, youth entrepreneurship programmes, and effective training methods.
- Step-by-step instructions on how to effectively set up roll out and then sustain an Entrepreneurship Programme at an Urban Youth Center.
- Helpful tools, templates and tips for getting started, running your programme, tracking, monitoring and reporting.

Published: 2011  
HS/057/11E  
47 Pages  
Series Title: Urban Youth  
Centre Training Manuals  
Language: **English**

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Published: 2011  
HS/058/11E  
Series Title: Urban Youth  
Centre Training Manuals  
44 Pages  
Language: **English**  
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## Program Planning and Evaluation in Urban Youth Centres, Volume 5. Urban Youth Centre Training Manuals

This Manual was developed through a participatory process which involved staff and volunteers of four East African cities with Urban Youth Center programmes in place.

This is the fifth volume in a series of training manuals developed by UN-Habitat in partnership with several international NGOs. The titles in this set of guidebooks are intended for use in Urban Youth Centers, offering resources for development partners and practitioners grappling with the issues of youth in urban spaces today. Each of the manuals builds on and interfaces with the other volumes in the series, and together the series offers a flexible and locally-adaptable roadmap to ensure that youth can be effectively engaged and empowered to make positive changes in their own lives and in their communities.

This volume guides the readers in programme planning and evaluation.

## STATE OF THE URBAN YOUTH SERIES



Published: 2013  
Language: **English**  
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### State of the Urban Youth Report

Young people suffer disproportionately from low-quality employment with poor prospects – ‘dead-end’ jobs. They are more likely than adults to be among the working poor, i.e. low-paid employment. About 152 million young workers (more than a quarter) live in poor households (with per capita expenditure below USD1.25 a day)<sup>1</sup>. Young people account for 24 per cent of the world’s total working poor, compared with 18 per cent of all global employment.



### The State of Urban Youth Report 2011/2012

The analysis in this first ever Youth Report combines the latest policy and academic research with the opinions voiced by well-selected local focus groups in five representative cities. This cross-regional survey of five cities where a gaping “urban divide” urgently needs bridging also scrutinizes the determinants of youth opportunity and inequality. Consistent with the “rights-based” approach, the survey reflects young people’s perceptions of the extent to which the “right to the city” is effective in its four dimensions – political, economic, social and cultural – in their respective environments.

The Report finds that predetermined circumstances like gender, parents’ education and location influence inequality of opportunity among young people, and that good-quality education is a major factor of equality. Another major finding is that higher school enrolment ratios boost economic growth some 15 years down the road, although improved literacy rates do not always result in proportional job opportunities for all. This Report recommends enhanced awareness of youth issues among policymakers at all levels of government, so that policies espouse the multidimensional nature of youth opportunity. Special emphasis must be laid on good-quality education, particularly for young females.

Published: 2010  
ISBN: 978-92-1-132010-7  
HS/106/10E  
86 Pages

Language: **English**

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### The State of Urban Youth India 2013 “Employment, Livelihoods and Skills”

The report produced by IRIS Knowledge Foundation, Mumbai a member of the UN-Habitat Global Urban Youth Research Network, is a first attempt to pull together data and knowledge base on and of youth in urban India. With a number of commissioned chapters from well-known scholars, the Report examined youth employment and livelihood opportunities in urban India.

The findings from this report suggest that educational and training systems must be better aligned with the current and future needs of young people. The findings amply demonstrate that youth can not only discern developmental issues but may even be capable of suggesting innovative solutions to deep problems of development and growth. Of paramount importance is access to education and opportunities for acquiring skills. Young people are also quite clear about what makes a city safe and secure for the pursuit of occupations and livelihoods and what kind of an urban space they need to achieve prosperity in the context of sustainable urban development.

Published: 2013  
Language: **English**

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## Cities of Youth, Cities of Prosperity

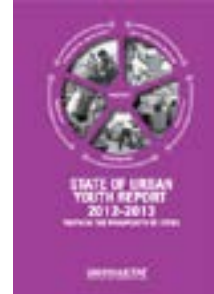
Youth are key to the prosperity of cities in the developing world, yet many barriers prevent them from fulfilling this role—most notably access to education, vocational training, and employment. It is crucial that governments and institutions assist youth to overcome these barriers by facilitating equitable access to education and employment. This report analyzes those factors that increase the ability of youth to secure employment.

“Cities of Youth: Cities of Prosperity” is a background report for the State of the Urban Youth Report (SUYP) 2011/2012—Prosperous Cities.

Published 2013.  
ISBN: 978-92-1-132562-1  
HS/025/13E.  
80 pages.

Language: **English**

[Download](#)



## The State of Urban Youth Report: Youth in the Prosperity of Cities 2012/2013

This Report builds on the 2010/11 edition, “Leveling the Playing Field –Inequality of Youth Opportunity” and its insights into the state of urban youth. Much like the findings of the previous report, this one provides further evidence of the fundamental importance of job oriented education to the development of urban youth. The report recommends a better match between skills and labour markets through vocational training and with the participation of the private sector. ‘Soft’ skills matter more in service-oriented economies, young people in informal settlements need entrepreneurial abilities, and capacities must be better geared to knowledge-intensive business services.

This report makes heard the voices of young people in four cities of Accra, Bangalore, Cairo, and São Paulo in the developing world. It puts forth their perceptions and opinions regarding their quality of life and their access to resources, including education, medical care, urban services, employment, and municipal institutions

Published: 2014  
ISBN Series: 978-92-1-133400-5  
ISBN: 978-92-1-132504-1  
HS/089/12E  
Language: **English**  
[Download](#)



Published: 2016  
28 Pages  
Language: **English**  
[Download](#)

### **Global State of Urban Youth Report 2015 / 2016:** Urban Equity and Youth Development (Summary Report)

This publication is a summary report of the Global State of Urban Youth Report 2015/2016, highlighting on the importance of urban equity and youth development which influences the prosperity of cities.

Closely following the previous edition, State of Urban Youth (2012/2013), this publication combines a strong background research involving a city-level survey of young people's perspectives on the determinants of inequality and the factors contributing to exclusion of urban dividends.

Inequality negatively affects the growth and development of urban areas; hence, it's important to equally distribute opportunities to help create a prosperous city.

## GLOBAL YOUTH-LED SERIES



Published 2012  
40 pages  
Language: **English**

[Download](#)

### **Youth led development:** The Challenges and the promise of Youth Led Development

The Challenges and the promise of Youth Led Development is the first report in the Global Youth Led Development series, and it provides an analysis of both the formal and the informal youth-led initiatives. Based on a multi-year, web based survey that gathered information about more than 600 youth-led initiatives, the report gives unique insight to how grass root youth-led projects emerge, what kind of social or development issues they address and what they need in order to be successful. The report suggests some lessons learned about potential strategies for supporting youth-led community developments, along with the recommendations for continued learning about the best ways to harness the power of youth led initiatives in making a positive difference in their communities.



Published 2012  
Language: **English**

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### **The State of the Field in Youth Led Development:** Through the lens of the UN-Habitat Urban Youth Fund

The State of the Field in Youth Led Development is the second report in the Global Youth-Led Development series. Informed by earlier findings from a web-based survey of the youth-led development initiatives, it analyzes data derived from UN-Habitat Urban Youth fund projects. In contrast to the first report, this report focuses only on registered youth-led groups, drawing an application and monitoring and evaluation data from the youth fund applicants to examine the organizational context, operations and capacity of these groups. The report reveals some key aspects of organizational functioning that deserve more attention and support, and suggest potential leverage points where outside funding or other types of support (training, space, equipment, technical service etc.) might make the most difference in supporting the organizations engaged in youth-led development.



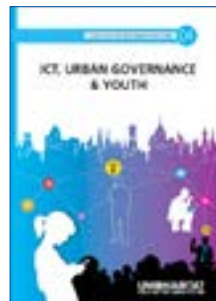
Published: 2012  
56 Pages  
Language: **English**

[Download](#)

## Experiences and Lessons from the Urban Youth Fund Grantees in Africa and Asia

This report is the third volume in the Global Youth-Led Development Series, a collection of themed papers created to expand knowledge in the area of youth-led development.

Informed by in-depth case studies of 13 Urban Youth Fund funded projects, this report analyzes experiences and lessons-learned from these projects. In contrast to the first two reports, it has a more in-depth focus on a few selected projects. The reader is encouraged to read the two first reports to put these findings into a larger context of youth-led development.



Published: 2012  
Language: **English**

[Download](#)

## ICT, Urban Governance and Youth

The ICT, Urban Governance and Youth is the fourth report in the Global Youth led-Development Series. The report aims to develop a conceptual framework to accommodate rapidly changing dynamics in the three areas of urban development: the demographics of the fastest growing segments of the urban population, Youth (ages 15-24); information and communications technology (ICT) and particularly mobile phones; and governance, particularly in the developing world.

With the advanced draft on ICT-enabled governance, the UN-Habitat has laid the groundwork by addressing issues of urbanization and ICT-Based government. This report seeks to add the youth dimension in a way that builds upon the advanced draft and takes into account the special characteristics of young, technologically savvy citizens.





Published 2012  
Language: **English**

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## Lessons and Experiences from the Urban Youth Fund

The Urban Youth Fund – Lessons and experiences is the fifth report in the Global Youth-Led Development series. Informed by the in-depth case studies of 13 youth fund-funded projects, it analyses experiences and lessons learned from these projects. In contrast to the first two reports, it has a more in-depth focus on a few selected projects.

This report presents case stories from 30 Urban Youth Fund grantees from Africa, Asia Pacific and Latin America. The projects include 22 youth-led organisations from Africa, 7 from Asia Pacific and 1 from Latin America.



Published 2014.  
52 pages.  
Language: **English**

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## Youth-Led Economic Empowerment

“Youth-Led Economic Empowerment: Lessons from the Urban Youth Fund” is the sixth report in the Global Youth-Led Development series. This report presents findings on the impacts of the Urban Youth Fund projects on youth-led grant recipients and end-youth beneficiaries, as well as on the communities in which the projects were implemented. In contrast to previous Global Youth-Led Development reports, this report focuses on youth-led entrepreneurship and employment creation projects—projects funded to enhance youth livelihood and economic opportunities—between 2009 and 2012. The report uses evidence from good and promising projects in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean to assess the meaning and power of youth-led economic empowerment through the eyes of the Urban Youth Fund.

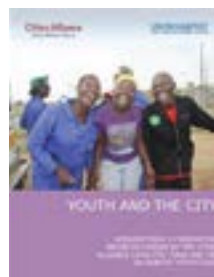
**Stories from the Field:** How to empower youth-led groups

Published 2015.  
6 Pages  
Language: **English**

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**Stories from the Field:** How to empower youth-led groups

This report is the eighth report in the Global Youth-Led Development series. The report highlights the successes and challenges of collaboration between Kounkuey Design Initiative (KDI), an NGO specializing in public space development in Nairobi's Kibera slum, and Usalama Youth Bridge Reform, a group of youth working to expand economic opportunity for Kibera's young people. It explores how the group utilized the UN-Habitat Urban Youth Fund's capacity-building tools to build the skills and knowledge of the collaboration. Their story also illustrates some important lessons learned about the process of youth-led development and how the Urban Youth Fund process and tools might be of use by other groups.



Published: 2016  
18 Pages  
Languages: **English**

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**Youth and the City:** Lessons from the 13 innovative projects funded by the cities alliance catalytic fund and the UN-Habitat Youth Fund

This report is the ninth report of the Global Youth-led Development series. The report an output of a learning and exchange platform held in Johannesburg, South Africa involving youth-led organizations from different countries and regions. Through the projects' case studies and practices presented, the report extracts lessons learnt and provides key recommendations for policy and practice.

Among the key messages within this report is to integrate youth into existing policy platforms and support their participation; as well as looking at youth as problem solvers rather than as the problem itself.

This report looks deeper into whether cities are capable of responding appropriately to ongoing challenges and providing opportunities for youth development.



## Progress & Sustainability in Youth-Led Development

Progress and Sustainability in Youth-Led Development is the seventh report in the Global Youth-Led Development series. This report presents results from several, related studies on youth-led organizations in Africa and the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Asia and the Pacific that received Urban Youth Fund (UYF) grants between 2009 and 2011. It also compares their experience in implementing youth programmes with comparable youth organizations that were not funded by the UYF. Through a baseline study and a follow-up study conducted two years later, it is able to examine the experience of the selected youth-led organizations over multiple years. The report looks at their programmes and how they operate; the challenges they face; the strategies they develop to meet those challenges; their hopes and plans for the future; and the benefits they accomplish for youth, their youth organizations, and the larger community.

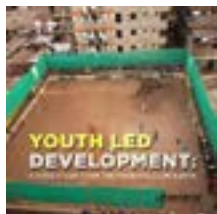
Published 2014

28 pages

Language: **English**

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## PUBLIC SPACE SERIES



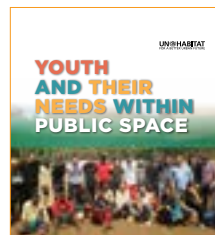
Published: 2015  
20 Pages  
Language: **English**

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### **Youth Led Development: A Case Study from the Mathare Slum**

This publication seeks to illustrate an example of youth-led development, by showcasing how youth have contributed and are contributing to community development in Mlango Kubwa, a ward in the Mathare slums of Nairobi, Kenya.

The publication presents the story and function of the community-based organization Mathare Environmental Conservation Youth Group (MECYG). The focus of the data collection is to map the previous and current functions of MECYG, and show how their work has contributed to development in their community. Primary data was collected through semi-structured interviews with members of the youth group as well as with members of the community. Secondary data was collected from existing research and reports on Mathare and Youth-Led development.



Published: 2015  
20 Pages  
Language: **English**

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### **Youth and Their Needs within Public Space**

This publication is a case study of Mlango Kubwa, which is a neighborhood in the Mathare slums of Nairobi, Kenya. The objective of the publication was to investigate how the public spaces in Mlango Kubwa cover the needs of the youth, what differences were between what needs were being met among young men and women, and what types of public spaces can be introduced to better meet the needs of young women.



Published 2013

Language: **English**

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## **Giving Youth Their Space:** A Case Study of the Kimisagara One Stop Youth Employment and Productive Centre

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The Kimisagara centre supported by UN-Habitat and the Ministry of Sport s and Culture is located in Kigali City has a clear vision: “To empower youth for global opportunities”. The Centre evolved from the We are the Future Center to a One Stop Youth Centre since January 2011 and has since made great strides in providing a free space focused on youth development and empowerment.

It serves the largest target group as youth from a substantive part of the Rwanda population.

Apart from some sporting activities, the activities are gender inclusive, and the space is accessible to all. The centre enjoys government support and its vision complements government policy.

The management is supported by results oriented partners offering a diversity of services and activities.

## HABITAT III REPORTS



Published: 2016  
Language: **English, Spanish, Russian, Arabic**

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### Youth and the New Urban Agenda

Amidst recorded high youth unemployment rates, a global financial crisis and youth-led demonstrations, cities play a key role for realizing the rights of youth. With people between the ages of 15-24 comprising a staggering 1.8 billion globally and urbanization currently one of the key driving forces of human development, this paper seeks to create awareness around the relevance of focusing on youth as an integral part of urban development, and outline the core ideas of what drives UNHabitat's work in this area with focus on the three pronged approach.

In order to create a positive correlation between urbanization and development – addressing the root causes of poverty and inequality - urban regulations and policies need to be reflective of the realities affecting young people. Cities can benefit from new thinking on how a youthful population provides opportunities for local economies to close income gaps and expand revenues for local authorities. Coupled with plans that account for larger youth populations living in and migrating to urban areas, cities can increase their potential for becoming prosperous, equitable and innovative. Ensuring youth have a voice and are recognized as stakeholders in legislative frameworks allows cities to harness the potential inherent in the urban demographic youth bulge.



Published: 2016  
Languages: **English**

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### Indigenous Peoples and the City Declaration

The indigenous peoples were invited to this process of analysis and dialogue in the process of HABITAT III, convened in Otavalo, Ecuador with the principal objective to explore effective means to emphasize the importance of the recognition of indigenous peoples and their communities in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the New Urban Agenda, adopted in Quito, Ecuador, in October 2016.



Published: 2016  
Languages: **English**

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### LGBTI Declaration on Sustainable Urbanization

The LGBTI community members were involved and consulted in the Habitat III process, gathered with the main objective to explore ways of Incorporating an intersectional lens that demonstrates the importance of including the LGBTI people and their communities in the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and wording of the New Urban Agenda that will be adopted in Quito, Ecuador in October, 2016.



Published: 2016  
Languages: **English**

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## Youth DeclarACTION for the New Urban Agenda

The approved document includes not only actions co-created by young people present at the YouTHab Conference, but also the proposals of consultations and position papers written and / or subscribed by youth, that were previously systematized and integrated in the processes of the creation of the DeclarACTION, aiming to guarantee an inclusive and integrated approach to it. This document compiles the inputs from young participants from 15 different countries that attended the YouTHab Conference; in addition, it includes the proposals of consultations and position papers from 20 countries, as well as regional and international youth statements.



Published: 2016  
Language: **English**

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## Quito Engagement Report

The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) was convened in Quito, Ecuador from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> of October, 2016. This conference occurs every 20 years under Resolution 66/207, and builds on the outcomes of the inaugural Habitat I hosted in Vancouver, Canada in 1976, and Habitat II in Istanbul, Turkey in 1996.

Cities, as well as the understanding of what constitutes a “city”, are changing at a rate almost as high as global urbanization itself. Recognizing the need for a revitalization of the core Habitat Agenda goals and the application of a different lens through which we aim to understand and confront associated challenges, the New Urban Agenda (NUA) was adopted in October 2016. Following a series of intergovernmental and inter-stakeholder negotiations and preparatory sessions over a two-year period, Habitat III was convened to formally adopt the NUA and focus on its implementation as an encompassing and guiding framework for sustainable urban and territorial development in the crucial coming decades.

As the first UN global summit to occur since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, it was expected that Habitat III would present an opportunity to focus on the specific challenges facing the management of urban areas, as well as the unique potentials for such urban centers to act as catalysts of sustainable development and the fulfillment of 2030 Agenda. The outcome document was promised to be forward-looking and specifically actionable.

**2007-2018** YOUTH AND LIVELIHOODS  
PUBLICATION CATALOGUE





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