

The World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond (WPAY)

...was adopted by General Assembly Resolution 50/81 in 1995. It serves to strengthen national capacities to foster conditions and mechanisms to promote improved well-being and livelihood among young people. Furthermore, it serves to increase the quality and quantity of opportunities available to young people for effective and constructive participation in society. It is the blueprint for the development of national youth policies in relation to the following ten priority areas of concern:

- Education
- Employment
- Hunger and poverty
- Health
- Environment
- Drug Abuse
- juvenile delinquency
- Leisure-time Activities
- special needs of girls and young women
- the effective participation of youth in decision-making

**Evolution of
Youth Involvement
1995 - 2005 - 2007**

New WPAY Priority Areas

On the occasion of the ten-year review of the WPAY in 2005, the General Assembly decided in its Resolution 60/2 to add the following priority as a supplement to the Programme. Elaborated and recommended from the Commission for Social Development they should be adopted in October 2007:

- globalization
- Information- and Communication technologies
- HIV/AIDS
- youth in armed conflicts
- intergenerational issues

Youth Delegates Needed - 2007

When implementing the five new priority areas, the input of Youth Delegates will be crucial. Member states should follow the invitation to send Youth Delegates repeatedly expressed in General Assembly Resolutions and do so at the Commission for Social Development in February 2007 and at the General Assembly 2007. Youth Delegates, as they are experts in youth issues, can give the best input to make the WPAY and its five new priority areas a strong and influential resolution on how to improve the living conditions of youth worldwide. Only then, young people can participate actively in their societies and contribute to the development of their nations and the world

Youth Development Indicators Necessary

General Assembly Resolution 60/2 requests the establishment of a set of indicators to measure the development and progress of the World Programme of Action for Youth. The indicators should:

- Measure youth development
- Compare progress in and between countries
- Identify areas that need increased action
- Advocate for youth: develop policy and encourage collection of youth related data
- Explore the possibility to develop a Youth Development Index

The need to have ways to measure the progress of WPAY implementation is indisputable.

With a definite set of indicators, Governments and other stakeholders can monitor the development of young people's living conditions. The draft of indicators presented by UNDESA's Expert Group Meeting is based on statistics already available; and these are far from satisfying.

To improve the current inadequacies of information, age-disaggregated data must be provided. Indicators need to take regional differences into consideration, they need to be applicable to national contexts and be sensitive to cultural and social differences.

The General Assembly and the United Nations System must ensure that young people in the world start on an upward trend of development; and this can only be demonstrated by adequate indicators that are set with the greatest possible input from young people.

We call upon all member states to:

- ➔ Provide **data collection tools** required to supervise the development of young people's conditions in all countries
- ➔ Involve young people in the creation and **monitoring of youth development indicators**
- ➔ **Analyze data** consistently and engage young people to take further action.
- ➔ **Ensure resources** needed for young people to develop into active citizens, especially youth from rural and vulnerable backgrounds