



CONCEPT NOTE SESSION 5

Global, Regional and other Processes

ECOSOC Youth Forum 2015

**3 February 2015
Conference Room 4
United Nations Headquarters, New York**

1. Background to topic

In the past number of years much work has been carried out at the national, regional and global levels to solicit youth input to Post-2015 development processes. Some of the initiatives have gone beyond the Post-2015 development processes and contributed towards the advancement of the global youth agenda in general. Both online and offline, young people have been engaged in contributing their views, opinions and expertise to a number of fora, as well as carrying out their own initiatives and campaigns to advocate for a representative, inclusive and youth friendly agenda.

2. Session objectives

The Forum will hear from the participants of a variety of national, regional and global processes, events and initiatives which have filtered into and are of relevance to the Post-2015 deliberations and discussions. It will also highlight the events that have sought to contribute to placing the youth at the center of the global development agenda. The light will be shed upon the key messages and outputs of such processes, events and processes from the perspective of the Forum's own discussions, as well as consider recommendations arising from them on how to further strengthen the youth focus and participation as we move into the elaboration and implementation of the SDGs and post 2015 development agenda.

The session will also feature a special address of Ms. Edeltraud Glettler, Vice-Minister of the Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection on youth employment policies in Austria



ECOSOC Youth Forum



3. Key events that will be highlighted

The session will highlight following key events that elevated youth voices in the global development agenda in the year 2015 and beyond:

First Global Forum on Youth Policies (Baku, October 28-30, 2014)

The First Global Forum on Youth Policies, co-convened by the Office of the United Nation's Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, UNDP, UNESCO and Council of Europe and hosted by the Government of Azerbaijan, brought together over 700 participants, including policy makers, academia, researchers, youth advocates and UN representatives. In terms of governmental participation it was the largest UN hosted youth-focused event since the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth in Lisbon in 1998: 115 governments, including over 50 Ministers or Deputy Ministers, joined delegates from 165 countries for the biggest conference exclusively on youth policies ever held. The Forum resulted in the launch of the Baku Commitment to Youth Policies, which captures common understanding of key principles will guide youth policies, as well as concrete follow-up actions, including the Global Initiative on Youth Policies, both of which is expected to have impacts on advancing global youth agenda.

First IPU Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians

The First IPU Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians brought together young members of parliaments, youth leaders from other walks of life and experts from across the world in a bid to "take democracy to task". The Conference focused on youth participation in politics. Although young people have been at the forefront of many recent mass movements for democracy and respect for freedoms and socio-economic rights, studies and surveys show that they are increasingly disillusioned with conventional politics. This poses a challenge to democracy in many parts of the world.

Hope XXL – Liemers List

HOPE XXL wants to ensure that all world citizens can achieve a life they can grade as 'good'. Therefore it is developing a new vision on the future, shared by young people worldwide, captured in the so-called Liemers List. Thousands of young people have worked together to draft the Liemers List: a manifesto stating their ideas on issues ranging from sustainability and conflict prevention to international cooperation and human rights.





Hope XXL will have concluded the process for drafting the Liemers List following numerous consultations by the end of the January 2015 and the ECOSOC Youth Forum provides and an excellent platform for them to share the results.

Meeting of the Ibero-American Youth under the 24th Summit of the Heads of Ibero-American States and Governments

Governments from the Ibero-American region recently and unanimously approved (December 2014), a 3 year-regional programme on youth participation and empowerment. The programme was co-designed by the Ibero-American Organization of Youth, the Ibero-American General Secretariat and UNDP, with emphasis on youth policy dialogues, youth training and seed funding for social innovation. Other commitments included a program of academic mobility, corporations' commitments to increase labor practices opportunities and the Ibero-American Youth Card, which will give to its users benefits in transportation, culture or education.

2014 World Bank Group Youth Summit

On October 7, 2014 the World Bank Group hosted its second annual Youth Summit, in partnership with the Office of the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth. The event focused on increased youth engagement in issues relating to government transparency, accountability, and collaborative governance. The one day summit explored how youth can contribute to the current policy discussions as well as provide tools to equip young leaders to help foster open and responsive governments in their community.

4. Questions for the audience

- How different global, regional and other processes have contributed to elevating youth voices?
- How can youth issues be mainstreamed in other global, regional and other processes happening around post-2015 development agenda and its implementation?

5. Suggested reading materials and links to the highlighted events

Fist Global Forum on Youth Policies

<http://www.youthpolicyforum.org/>

Baku Commitment to Youth Policies

<http://youthpolicyforum.org/documents/commitment.pdf>



ECOSOC Youth Forum



Hope XXL- Liemer's List Program

<http://www.hope-xxl.com/en/>

First IPU Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians

<http://www.ipu.org/splz-e/youngMP14.htm>

Summary of the Meeting of the Ibero-American Youth under the 24th Summit of the Heads of Ibero-American States and Governments (in Spanish)

<http://www.injuve.gob.sv/en/1485-conclusiones-del-encuentro-iberoamericano-de-juventud.html>

2014 World Bank Group Youth Summit

<http://live.worldbank.org/wbg-youth-summit-2014>



ECOSOC Youth Forum