



CONCEPT NOTE SESSION 2

WPAY+20 and the Post-2015 Development Agenda

ECOSOC Youth Forum 2015

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

1. Background to topic

Youth development lies at the heart of overall development. The World Programme of Action for Youth, adopted by the General Assembly in 1995, provides a policy framework and practical guidelines for national action and international support to improve the situation of young people around the world. The WPAY covers fifteen youth priority areas and contains proposals for action in each of these areas (including education, employment, hunger and poverty, health, environment, substance abuse, juvenile justice, leisure-time activities, girls and young women, and the full and effective participation, of youth in the life of society and in decision-making, as well as globalization, information and communication technologies, HIV/AIDS, armed conflict, and intergenerational issues.

2. Session objectives

The Forum will commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY). The WPAY remains highly relevant and inspirational, but implementation lags behind the commitments made. This session will seek to generate new ideas on how to revitalize the commitments of Governments and all other stakeholders by looking at ways to link inclusive, participatory and gender-responsive implementation of the WPAY to the post-2015 development agenda and while highlighting current youth-led processes. A select number of Ministers of Youth, along with youth representatives and other speakers will be invited to present the current state of implementation of the WPAY, highlighting progress made at the national level, as well as identifying the way forward for the years to come and



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participate in discussing efforts to enhance implementation of the WPAY and links to the post-2015 development agenda.

3. Key issues for consideration

The session will consider the achievements and challenges on following aspects of the WPAY+20 and the post-2015 development agenda:

- Progress on overall implementation of the WPAY 20 years down the road with particular focus on:
 - Highlighting national experiences in the implementation of youth policies and transposition of WPAY from global to national level
 - Tracking the progress under 15 priority areas of the WPAY to understand where we stand, while moving ahead
 - Discussing the effectiveness and efficiency of cooperation lines between the United Nations, member states, youth (organizations), media, civil society, private sector and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the WPAY;
 - Reflecting on means of reporting, verification and monitoring of the WPAY implementation
 - Highlighting 20 years of WPAY from the perspectives of youth
- Positioning WPAY in the in the post 2015 development agenda with particular focus on:
 - Exploring ideas for increased commitments to comprehensive, inclusive and gender-sensitive youth policies and participation in the post 2015 development agenda
 - Discussing continued relevance of and renewing political commitment to the implementation of WPAY as a viable instrument for further youth mainstreaming in the post-2015 development agenda

4. Questions for the audience

- How has the adoption of WPAY influenced mainstreaming youth issues at the development agenda national, regional and global levels?
- What are the major achievements and challenges for the youth 20 years down adotion of the WPAY?
- What are the best mechanisms to tie the WPAY and the post-2015 development agenda together?
- Is WPAY still a relevant instrument and how can we make best use of it during the implementation of the post-2015 agenda?





5. Suggested reading materials

World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY)

<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/documents/wpay2010.pdf>

Guide to the implementation of the WPAY

http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/documents/wpay_guide.pdf

Report of the Secretary General on the Implementation of the WPAY

<http://undesadspd.org/Youth/ResourcesandPublications/SGreports.aspx>

Open Working Group proposal for Sustainable Development Goals

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/focussdgs.html>

Web portal for the Millennium Development Goals and beyond

<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/beyond2015-news.shtml>

