



## Public and Civic Participation

- **Young people are not at the center of political decision making even though almost half the world's population is under 30 years old.**[UNDP, 2013, <http://bit.ly/1dd2a2L>]
- **Globally, less than 6% of the parliamentarians are under 35 years old** [UNDP, Fast Facts: Civic Engagement and Participation of Youth in Politics and Public Institutions, 2014, p.1, <http://goo.gl/b5uGWX>]
- **Globally, less than 2 per cent of parliamentarians are under 30 years old.** [SDG indicator 16.7.1; Inter-Parliamentary Union, 2016: Youth participation in national parliaments, 2016, <http://goo.gl/A83XGf>]

GLOBALLY, YOUNG PEOPLE ARE NOT AT THE CENTRE OF POLITICAL DECISION MAKING. ALMOST HALF THE WORLD'S POPULATION IS UNDER 30 YEARS OLD

YET, THE AVERAGE AGE IN PARLIAMENT IS **53** YEARS OLD

ONLY 1.65% OF PARLIAMENTARIANS AROUND THE WORLD ARE IN THEIR 20S, AND FOR ONE THIRD OF COUNTRIES, ELIGIBILITY FOR NATIONAL PARLIAMENT STARTS AT 25 YEARS OLD

2 OUT OF 3 COUNTRIES DO NOT CONSULT YOUNG PEOPLE AS A PART OF THE PROCESS OF PREPARING POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGIES OR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS

**YOUTH ARE UNDERREPRESENTED** IN FORMAL POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS, YET POLITICAL DECISIONS IMPACT THEIR LIVES AND CHOICES.

What are youth doing to advocate for political inclusion on a local, national and international level?

Tell us why it is important to include youth voices in political agendas.

In your community, do young people have access to political decision making?

- **The average age in parliament is 53 years old.** [UNDP, 2013, <http://bit.ly/1dd2a2L>]
- **Only 1.65% of parliamentarians around the world are in their 20's and for a third of countries, eligibility for national parliament starts at 25 years old.** [UNDP, 2013, <http://bit.ly/1dd2a2L>]
- **Voter turnout among 18-25 year olds continues to be lower than other age groups** [UNDP, Fast Facts: Civic Engagement and Participation of Youth in Politics and Public Institutions, 2014, p.1, <http://goo.gl/b5uGWX>]
- **2 out of 3 countries DO NOT consult young people as a part of the process of preparing poverty reduction strategies or national development plans.** [The Global Youth Call "Prioritizing Youth in the Post-2015 Development Agenda," <http://bit.ly/1HeSd9S>]