









Youth, Peace and Security: A Programming Handbook

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Youth, Peace and Security

A Programming Handbook



Contents

Lists of figures, tables and boxes i Executive summary vi Overview of contents vi Preface x Acknowledgements x Abbreviations x	vi ii X ii
Introduction	1
The importance of youth in peace and security	
Chapter 1 – Youth Participatory Approaches1	5
Understanding meaningful participation	
Chapter 2 - Planning and Conducting a Youth-sensitive Conflict Analysis. 25	5
Understanding what a youth-sensitive conflict analysis is	29
Chapter 3 – YPS Strategic Priorities and Theories of Change 45	5
Understanding youth-responsive strategic priorities	17 19 50 52
Appendix - Suggested further reading and resources on ToCs6	5

Chapter 4 – YPS Outcome Statements and Indicators of Change	69
The building blocks of youth-responsive project design	67
Scales of YPS programmes	69
Key actions and questions for formulating outcome statements	71
Youth-specific considerations	72
Are we making a positive contribution to peacebuilding? The role of outcome indicators	72
Step-by-step guide to identifying youth-relevant outcomes and indicators	73
Appendix – Further reading on indicators	76
Chapter 5 – Monitoring YPS Project Implementation and Impact	
Introduction	77
Youth-responsive outcome monitoring	78
Appendix – Three-tiered project monitoring	82
Chapter 6 - YPS Knowledge-based Evaluation	83
Introduction	83
Different approaches to youth and evaluation	84
Step-by-step guide to designing and conducting a youth-sensitive evaluation	84
Appendix 1 – Further reading	90
Appendix 2 – Evolutionary approaches to project learning and adaptation	91
Chapter 7 - YPS Entry Points	93
PILLAR ONE - Participation	94
PILLAR TWO - Protection, justice and human rights	100
PILLAR THREE - Prevention	105
PILLAR FOUR - Partnerships	112
PILLAR FIVE – Disengagement and reintegration	116

Note: This handbook uses the terms "youth" and "young people" interchangeably.









Lists of figures, tables and boxes

Figures		
FIGURE 1:	Milestones for youth, peace and security	6
FIGURE 2:	Youth sensitivity and youth inclusivity	11
FIGURE 3:	The three-lens approach to youth participation	16
FIGURE 4:	Example of common components of a conflict analysis	26
FIGURE 5:	The four Rs	55
FIGURE 6:	The Institute for Economics and Peace's eight Pillars of Positive Peace	69
FIGURE 7:	Graduated scale of YPS programming	70
FIGURE 8:	Outcome versus output diagnostic	71
FIGURE 9:	Innovative ways in which young people can lead or participate in outcome or	
	situation monitoring	80
FIGURE 10:	Three approaches to youth-responsive evaluations	85
Tables		
TABLE 1:	Linkages to processes and frameworks	14
TABLE 2:	Assessment questions to plan for meaningful youth engagement	
TABLE 3:	Examples of questions to consider when collecting and analysing data	
111111111111111111111111111111111111111	for a context analysis	36
TABLE 4:	Key questions to consider in factor analysis	
TABLE 5:	Examples of youth-specific consideration in regard to conflict dynamics	
TABLE 6:	Questions to consider when carrying out a youth-sensitive stakeholder	
	mapping and analysis	40
TABLE 7:	Key questions to consider in peace opportunities analysis	42
TABLE 8:	Theories of change versus logic models	49
TABLE 9:	Unpacking assumptions	50
TABLE 10:	Theories of change on political inclusion	57
	Theories of change on economic empowerment	
TABLE 12:	Theories of change on education	63
	Theories of change on gender equality	
TABLE 14:	Youth-sensitive assessment questions	89
TABLE 15:	Three approaches to real-time project assessment	91

Boxes Defining "youth"1 BOX 1: **BOX 2:** The five pillars of Security Council Resolution 22504 The Sustaining Peace Agenda5 **BOX 3: BOX 4:** Lessons learned from the women, peace and security agenda.......9 **BOX 5:** Guiding Principles on Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding......10 **BOX 6:** Minimum requirements of YPS programming......13 BOX 7: **BOX 8: BOX 9:** Helpful suggestions when drafting ToRs......32 **BOX 10: BOX 11: BOX 12: BOX 13:** Strategic priorities serve three key functions in peacebuilding48 **BOX 14: BOX 15:** BOX 16: BOX 17: Common traps or pitfalls of YPS outcomes.......70 **BOX 18:** BOX 19: **BOX 20: BOX 21:**









Executive summary

Youth, Peace and Security: A Programming Handbook, developed by the United Nations with the generous support of the Folke Bernadotte Academy – the Swedish Agency for Peace, Security and Development – seeks to contribute to the operational readiness and capacity of United Nations practitioners to implement the youth, peace and security (YPS) agenda.

For the United Nations, the development of the handbook was led by the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Programme and the Peacebuilding Support Office in the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, in consultation with a task force including various United Nations entities represented at global, regional and country levels, as well as Folke Bernadotte Academy partners.

The handbook is intended to be used by country, regional and global teams in the United Nations system, but it can also provide insights and guidance to field practitioners beyond the United Nations, including other international or regional organizations, national counterparts, youth-led and youth-focused organizations, movements and networks, and peacebuilding organizations.

The programming handbook builds on recent evidence and increasing momentum to prioritize vouth-inclusive and vouth-sensitive

Participation in Peacebuilding¹ and expands on the promising practices and limitations that the subsequent Practice Note on Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding² identifies. The findings and recommendations from The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security³ also serve as a basis to guide youth-led and youth-focused peacebuilding programming. In addition, the handbook builds on a review of existing guidelines⁴ and lessons learned from previous youth-focused peacebuilding efforts, both by the United Nations system and by partner organizations. The objective of the handbook is therefore to complement existing guidance by filling the gaps and responding

- United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development, Working Group on Youth and Peacebuilding (2014). Guiding Principles on Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding. New York. Available at https://www. youth4peace.info/system/files/2016-10/Guiding%20 Principles%20on%20Young%20People's%20 Participation%20in%20Peacebuilding_1.pdf.
- 2 United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development, Working Group on Youth and Peacebuilding (2016). Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding: A Practice Note. New York. Available at https://www. youth4peace.info/system/files/2016-10/PRACTICE%20 NOTE%20-%20Young%20People%27s%20Participation%20 in%20Peacebuilding%20%282016%29.pdf.
- 3 United Nations Population Fund and United Nations

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