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The First Global Forum on Youth Policies

Call for Participants

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 27th AUGUST 2014 (*application will close at 23.59 CET*)

Where: Baku, Azerbaijan

When: 28th to 30th October, 2014

How to apply: www.youthpolicyforum.org/apply

Costs: Covered by the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Azerbaijan

Contact: applications@youthpolicyforum.org

We have the pleasure to announce that the **First Global Forum on Youth Policies**, co-convened by the Office of the United Nations Secretary General's Envoy on Youth, UNDP, UNESCO and the Council of Europe will take place in Baku, Azerbaijan from 28-30 October 2014, with thanks to the generosity of our host, the Ministry of Youth and Sport of the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan, in the framework of Azerbaijan's Chairmanship of the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers.

The Forum will be supported by youthpolicy.org, an organisation that generates and consolidates knowledge and information on youth policies across the policy cycle, ranging from analysis and policy formulation to implementation and evaluation.

WHAT IS THE FIRST GLOBAL FORUM ON YOUTH POLICY?

The 2014 Global Forum on Youth Policies is the first of its kind and will bring together policymakers, civil society organisations, experts, academia, youth advocates, parliamentarians and UN agencies. It will provide those present with a multi-stakeholder opportunity to assess the state of youth policy, in particular 20 years after the adoption of the World Programme of Action for Youth (1995).

With 150 countries currently implementing national youth policies, the co-organisers of the Forum aim to provide a platform for identifying and producing a set of guiding principles and a renewed commitment to effective youth policies at national, regional and global levels. The Forum will provide an opportunity to all stakeholders involved in youth policy development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation to develop a global overview of the status of youth policies and to build an international community of experts who can support youth policy development. It will also offer a unique platform for countries to showcase good practices and lessons learned, as well as to share challenges and gaps. Through the forum the co-conveners aim to inspire a broad-based, yet in-depth dialogue that will help build partnerships and synergies for action across different disciplines.

This First Global Forum on Youth Policies will be the basis for providing United Nations member states and other stakeholders with a unique opportunity to engage in a meaningful dialogue which will yield concrete suggestions for specific follow-up action and the way forward for effective youth policies.

It is expected that the Forum will bring together an estimated 700 participants including representatives of governments, the youth community, civil society, international development partners, academia and research institutions, donors, the private sector, and more. Within this overall context, and complementary to youth policy practitioners nominated by the Forum co-conveners and participating governments, 200 youth policy practitioners will be selected based on this open call.

ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION

What are the eligibility criteria?

Eligible candidates for these 200 'open spots' include:

- Youth policy practitioners;
- Youth activists and members of youth movements working on youth policy;
- Representatives/experts of youth-led organizations, civil society organizations, and networks working on youth policy;
- Research experts from institutes, universities and think tanks with a focus on youth policy;
- Development experts from organizations, agencies and institutions in the youth sector;
- Programming experts from donors active in supporting policy change in the youth field.

Applicants should:

- Preferably be aged 18-35;
- Be able to communicate professionally in English;
- Be experienced in formulation, implementation and/or monitoring of youth policy at the national, regional or global level.

Applications from Azerbaijan will be considered in the same manner as applications from other countries.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants should complete the [Application Form](#) in its entirety.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: 27th August 2014 (application will close at 23.59 CET). Any application received after this time will not be considered.

The selection of participants will take into consideration the following criteria:

- **Interest:** The applicant is highly motivated to attend and will substantively contribute to the Forum;
- **Exposure:** The applicant has shown past experience of minimum 2 years related to youth policy formulation, implementation and/or research;
- **Impact:** The applicant and his/her organization have the capacity to disseminate the results of the Forum back to the youth community;
- **Gender and geographical** balance;

Young people from **underrepresented and marginalised groups** and youth policy practitioners working with underrepresented and marginalised groups (such as young people with disabilities, indigenous youth, youth from rural communities/young farmers, young people from conflict affected areas, marginalized ethnic and cultural groups, young people from low social and economic backgrounds, migrants and refugees, young people not in education, employment and training) **are encouraged to apply.**

All applicants will be notified by September 15, 2014. Successful applicants will be asked to confirm their participation by September 20.

Selected participants will be provided with roundtrip air or ground transport ticket: city of departure - Baku - city of return. Accommodation and meals during the days of the Forum will also be provided. Participants will be requested not to book individually with hotels in Baku. All expenses are covered by the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Azerbaijan and UNDP Azerbaijan. Accommodation and meals before or after the Forum are the responsibility of the participant. Each participant will receive a free visa upon arrival in Baku airport.

All information about the Forum is available on the website: www.youthpolicyforum.org.

If you experience any technical difficulties with the application or have questions about the application process, please contact us at applications@youthpolicyforum.org.