



Call for Participants

Deadline 30th June 2014

High Level Youth Policy Dialogue on Sustainable Development Goals

Theme: "Prioritizing an Investment in Youth Development in the Post-2015 era"

19th-21st August 2014, Nairobi, Kenya

BACKGROUND

The High Level Youth Policy Dialogue on SDGs to be held in July 2014 in Nairobi, Kenya is an African youth event, open to international youth, with an aim of gathering and strengthening political commitment for governments to support prioritizing investment in youth development in the post-2015 era. The meeting will cultivate on the recommendations made by young people and create political goodwill for African countries to champion the youth agenda at the intergovernmental negotiations (September 2014-September 2015).

The policy dialogue is a platform for young people to lobby their government at the highest decision making level to recognize the Post-2015 Agenda as a perfect opportunity to target inclusive and sustainable growth that devotes more attention to higher standards and to outcomes that improve the quality of young people's lives. The new framework must put young people at the core of the targets and indicators aimed at poverty reduction, enhanced access to clean water and modern energy, quality education, urban development, decent jobs, sexual and reproductive health, healthcare and improved agricultural technologies.

OBJECTIVES:

- a. To galvanize governments to make political commitments towards supporting young people's demands and aspirations for a better future in the post-2015 era.
- b. To provide an inclusive platform for young people to engage in a dialogue with decision makers including head of states and ministers to share ideas, experiences and innovative approaches for effectively contributing to the designing of SDGs and their implementation.
- c. To facilitate effective partnerships with young organizations, the Governments and UN Agencies in designing and implementation the SDGs.
- d. To engage African countries and organizations including CSOs that will act as youth champions to push for the youth agenda in the SDGs intergovernmental process.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

1. The meeting will offer concrete policy-relevant and development-oriented recommendations in relation to increased Youth leadership and participation for inclusive growth and achievement of sustainable development goals.
2. The meeting will secure political leadership commitment towards ensuring the needs and values of young people are included and met in the post-2015 era.

Dialogue Format:

The format of the youth meeting should be interactive and conducive to certain debates being able to be televised for virtual delegates (eg. in the breakout sessions). The high level youth meeting runs for 3 days and incorporates:

- **Plenary sessions**, including opening, closing and thematic sessions.
- **Breakout sessions**, organized on specific issues relating to the youth meeting theme.
- **Cultural evenings**, sponsored by partners
- **A "media hub"**, run by young journalists (in cooperation with News Agencies) who will report daily on the meeting. The media center would ideally host media groups covering the youth meeting and would provide a space for interviews, press conferences etc. The media center would also provide a space for young participants themselves to update directly on the proceedings of the youth meeting through blogs, online uploads etc.

- **Building the capacities of youth:** The meeting will aim to capacity-build the youth delegates, so they can acquire or strengthen personal skills and competencies, particularly advocacy, lobbying and become knowledgeable on the post-2015 and SDGs process to enable their effective and meaningful participation.

PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

This meeting course will focus on **youth workers/activist, Diaspora youth involved in decision making process and Post 2015 agenda through civil society organizations or Governments.**

Participants should fulfill the following criteria:

- Being actively involved in a youth organisation (local, national, regional, international) as volunteers, trainers and/or youth workers. Each organization can nominate upto to **2 applicants- a male and a female;**
- Aged between 18-35 years old;
- Being involved in an organisation, project or initiative that aims at the participation of young people in Post 2015 agenda process/decision and policy making.
- Be committed to attend the **full duration of the meeting**
- Be a **key multiplier** playing an active role within her/his youth organization, at national or regional level, and plan to continue this work in the near future;

How to apply

All applicants fulfilling the criteria and interested to participate should send the enclosed application form to dialogue@oayouth.org by **30th June 2014**. : Please complete the Application Form in English. The document file must be saved in Microsoft Word format with filename **“LAST NAME_First Name_Country Name.docx”** (in this format). You can download the application form in the conference site: <http://youthsdagenda.oayouth.org/>

The application form should be sent together with a **letter of recommendation** from the sending organisation, clearly stating the applicant’s engagement and relevant competency in the Post-2015 Agenda process and the possibility of follow-up regarding the main aims of the meeting. An organization can nominate a maximum of two applicants, a male and a female.

You should receive a confirmation of reception of your application within one week. If you don't receive it, please inform us.

The selection will be carried out by the **Youth Steering Committee** and the pedagogical team. The selection will seek regional, organisational and gender balance. The **final results will be announced until 14th July 2014.**

In the need for further clarifications, don't hesitate to contact us through the same email address.

Working Languages

The different sessions of the meeting **will be in English**. Candidates must be fluent in English or French and are requested to indicate their language level in the application form.

Logistics

The organizers will do their best to fully cover the travel costs of all the selected African participants and accommodation and meals will be assured by the organizers for the entire duration of the meeting. International participants are responsible of their own travel, accommodation and meals costs for the duration of the meeting. Selected participants will receive an invitation to participate from the organizers in which the logistics of participation will be outlined.

Organizations which are able to cover the participation costs, fully or partially, of their nominees are requested to state so in the application form and they will be given higher consideration in the selection.