

United Nations Development Programme

Regional Bureau for Arab States
Initiation Plan

Project Title: Youth Engagement and Empowerment

Expected Regional Programme Outcome(s):

Outcome 1: Accelerate structural transformation of productive capacities in a sustainable and inclusive manner

Outcome 2: Strengthen institutions to promote inclusive participation, prevent conflict and build peaceful societies

Expected RPD Output(s):

Regional platforms for policy dialogue enabled to support civic engagement, constitution-making, electoral and parliamentary processes and institutions to promote inclusion, transparency and accountability (RBAS Regional Programme Document, Output 2.2.2)

Initiation Plan Start/End Dates: July 1, 2020/December 31, 2021

Implementing Partner: UNDP

Programme Period: July 1, 2020 - Dec 31, 2021

Atlas Project Number: 00128569

Atlas Output ID: 00122529

Total resources required USD **1,438,043**

Total allocated resources: USD **1,438,043**

- Regular/TRAC USD 1,009,140
- Other:
 - AYC USD 228,903
 - UNSCAR USD 100,000
 - Regional Electoral Support USD 100,000

Unfunded budget: _____

In-kind Contributions _____

Brief Description

Since 2015, the UNDP-Regional Bureau for Arab States has increasingly invested in youth programming to strengthen the organization's approach to supporting, enabling, engaging and empowering young people to lead the change they want to see in their near future. Opportunities, challenges, gaps and lessons learned have been observed and assessed paving the way for the development of a more holistic Youth Project. This initiation plan is for the development of the Youth Engagement and Empowerment Regional Project, which will aim to build on the successes of the previous years' achievements but aim to build an approach that lends itself to more impact and support to young people in the Arab Region.

The outputs sought are:

Output 1: Youth and partner networks expanded and mechanisms institutionalized to create an environment for acceleration of youth innovation and SDGs.

Output 2: Youth Empowerment and Engagement Project developed with identified partners and funding.

Output 3: Youth leaders' capacity strengthened, and their knowledge enhanced.

To transition from YLP to the new YEPP, 2020 will operate in two parallel tracks: the first is to continue YLP programming and test new approaches where relevant so that both momentum is not lost as YEPP is developed and new elements are tested and if successful, used in the YEPP. The second track is to develop the YEPP in consultation with all stakeholders, and this will include the larger vision, detailed project document, and the foundational tools needed to enable the project's success.

Approved by (UNDP): Paola Pagliani, Regional Programme Coordinator, RBAS

Date: _____ Signature: _____ 

Cleared by (UNDP): Abusabeeb Elsadig, Results and Resource Management Specialist, RBAS

Date: _____ Signature: _____ 

I. PURPOSE AND EXPECTED OUTPUT

Over the last five years, the Regional Bureau for Arab States has increasingly invested in youth programming to strengthen the organization's approach to supporting, enabling, engaging and empowering young people to lead the change they want to see in their near future as change makers. The Youth Leadership Programme (YLP) the activity for which this project is building from, was first started under the regional project Mosharaka. There was a dedicated output for YLP and in 2019 the project was closed, and YLP was made a separate component.

Opportunities, challenges, gaps and lessons learned have been observed and assessed paving the way for the development of a more holistic Youth Programme. This initiation phase is for the development of the bureau's Youth Engagement and Empowerment Regional Project (YEPP), which will aim to build on the successes of the previous years' achievements, but aim to build an approach that lends itself to more impact and support to young people in the Arab Region.

There are three notable results from 2015 – 2019 that will further be built on to develop a more holistic project:

1. Increased youth trained and youth serving organizations participating as partners (hence increased momentum) and as a result youth and partner networks expanded;
2. Developed training manuals to support consistent training of Design Thinking; and
3. Enhanced National, Regional and Global YLP's engagement inclusive of the development of a new partnership with the Arab Youth Center funding 11 youth positions in UNDP COs and Hub which have supported increased capacity to youth programming

Specific achievements since 2015 have shaped up the development of this new phase. Largest achievement from YLP was the momentum created over the last five years. Between 2015 - 2019, 21,000 youth have been trained and about 80 partnerships with youth serving organizations have been established. The momentum has grown in both youth participation and partnerships with youth-serving organizations. In 2019, 45 YSOs received capacity building and offered youth training. On the outreach, social media following also jumped in 2019, Cumulative (total): 15,454 (Facebook), 2082 (twitter), three times the amount from the previous year, indicating the increasing interest. Also, one important partnership was established, with the Arab Youth Center in Abu Dhabi September 2019 leading to the funding of 11 youth positions at both the regional team and country-level youth teams in 2020 to increase capacity to youth programming for UNDP. Finally, another notable achievement in 2019 was the development of a Design Thinking Guidelines that provided the basis for partners to use, which has been quality assured, to train both the youth-serving organization and youth. Several of the activities under YLP require foremost a systematic quality-controlled approach aimed at a larger scope that is impact oriented.

These interventions over the years have been activities based, and now there is a need for a holistic approach that ensures quality control, consistency in our programme offer and clear monitoring and evaluation tools for sustained impact. Country Offices and the regional context with all its varying typologies in which they work call on greater youth programming and the need for regional leadership to pave the standards and path for improved support to county level youth programming. Therefore, this initiation phase is vital to transforming the gains achieved over the last 5 years into a project that sustains momentum for youth programming and increases regional support for better programming. The outputs sought are:

Output 1: Youth and partner networks expanded and mechanisms institutionalized to create an environment for acceleration of youth innovation and SDGs.

Output 2: Youth Empowerment and Engagement Project developed with identified partners and funding.

Output 3: Youth leaders' capacity strengthened, and their knowledge enhanced.

To transition from YLP to the new YEPP, 2020 will operate in two parallel tracks: the first is to continue YLP programming and test new approaches where relevant so that both momentum is not lost as YEPP is developed and new elements are tested and if successful, used in the YEPP. The second track is to develop the YEPP in

1 Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria, Somalia, Morocco, Tunisia, Jordan, and the Regional Hub, Amman.

consultation with all stakeholders, and this will include the larger vision, detailed project document, and the foundational tools needed to enable the project's success.

II. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

This initiation phase will require a UNDP Team inclusive of a Project Manager, and a consistent team of UNVs and Consultants. Two UNVs will be assigned to this team with knowledge and expertise in youth programming, and a young person from the region, recruited as part of the partnership with the Arab Youth Center, will also be assigned. Several consultants will be required to help develop various aspects of the new project and support activities.

III. MONITORING

The work plan will be monitored by the indicators against the set targets. Monitoring will happen at two levels, by the team through the implementation of the activities outlined to achieve the outputs, and with the Country Offices participating in youth programming (that receive regional support). The UNDP team will hold monthly calls with appointed Youth Focal Points in 16 Country Offices², and bi-weekly calls with youth appointed delegates in each of the offices in order to receive updates and follow-up on the activities listed in the required National Action Plans and their implementation. National Action Plans is a document with the listed activities and timeline agreed with the participating Country Offices for implementation of youth activities supported by RBAS. Also, CO will submit to UNDP Team a quarterly report on achievements and challenges.

² Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, The State of Palestine, Syria, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Tunisia, and Yemen.

IV. WORK PLAN

Period: July 2020-Dec 2021

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	Project	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	TIMEFRAME						RESPONSIBLE PARTY					
			July 2020-Dec 2021							Source of Funds	Budget Description	Amount (estimate)	Amount (estimate)	Amount (estimate)
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6				In USD	In USD	In USD
												2020 (6 months)	2021 (18 months)	
Output 1: Youth and partner networks expanded and mechanisms institutionalized to create an environment for acceleration of youth innovation and SDGs	1.1 Map key strategic partners at the regional and country levels	X	X	X				UNDP	TRAC	Consultancy	8,967	2,562	11,529	
	1.2 Design and create mentorship programme (building off of 2019's proposal)	X	X	X				UNDP	TRAC	Consultancy	8,967	2,562	11,529	

<p><i>Indicator:</i> Level of expansion of youth and partner networks (Number of strategic partners mapped and engaged, platforms expanded, and events executed)</p> <p><i>Baseline data:</i> Low (0;1;2 in 2019)</p> <p><i>Target:</i> Moderate (10;1;3 in 2020)</p>	1.3 Support National Youth Serving Organizations by enabling them to deliver YLP programming virtually	X	X	X	X			UNDP	TRAC	Contractual services	30,000		30,000
	1.4 Develop further an online support-networking, and enabling-actors platform for youth and all partners	X	X	X	X	X	X	UNDP	TRAC	Contractual services	64,233		64,233
	1.5 Supporting youth engagement in COVID-19 response	X	X	X	X			UNDP	TRAC	Contractual services	55,000		55,000
	1.6 Recruit youth development delegates + organize induction and closing ceremonies	X	X	X				UNDP	Arab Youth Center	Contractual services	159,034	68,157	227,191
	1.7 Organize Youth, Peace and Security regional workshop			X				UNDP	UNSCAR	Contractual services Consultancy		80,000 20,000	80,000 20,000

	1.8 Organize Regional Forum (inclusive of SDG 16 event)						X	UNDP	Regional Electoral Support Project	Contractual services		100,000	100,000	
									TRAC			70,000	70000	
	1.9 Build new partnerships with Private Sector, Donor Countries, Alumni-associations, Academic institutions, and policy-makers.			X	X	X	X	UNDP	TRAC	Contractual Services		5,000	5,000	
										Travel		5,000	5,000	
Sub-total Output 1												326,201	353,281	679,482
Sub-total UNDP TRAC only Output 1												167,167	85,124	252,291

Output 2: Youth Empowerment and Engagement Project developed with identified partners and funding <i>Indicators:</i> 2.1 Project document developed 2.2 Number of funding partners engaged through funding agreements <i>Baseline data:</i> 2.1 – A draft Concept Note on YEEP 2019 2.2 - 0	2.1 Consultations with stakeholders to shape vision of new project	X	X	X	X	X	X	UNDP	TRAC	Travel	0	10,000	10,000
	2.2 Develop new branding and communications material		X	X	X			UNDP	TRAC	Consultancy	15,000		15,000
	2.3 Produce comparative analysis and overall theory of change, and project document	X	X	X				UNDP	TRAC	Consultancy	45,360		45,360

<p><i>Targets:</i></p> <p>2.1 –Project document for YEEP Next Generation approved by RBAS</p> <p>2.2 – 1</p>	<p>2.4 Engage in consultations with funding partners on YEEP design and funding</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	UNDP	TRAC	Travel	0	10,000	10,000
<p>Sub-total Output 2 (UNDP TRAC)</p>												<p>60,360</p>	<p>20,000</p>	<p>80,360</p>

<p>Output 3: Youth leaders' capacity strengthened, and their knowledge enhanced</p> <p><i>Indicators:</i></p> <p>3.1 Number of Country Offices supported on youth programming</p> <p>3.2 Level of engagement with and of youth serving organizations</p> <p>3.3 Number of curricula developed to support YEEP</p> <p><i>Baseline data:</i></p> <p>3.1 10</p> <p>3.2 Moderate (2020)</p> <p>3.3 0</p> <p><i>Targets:</i></p> <p>3.1 16</p> <p>3.2 High</p> <p>3.3 3</p>	3.1 Support to country offices on youth programming	X	X	X	X	X	X	UNDP	TRAC	Contractual services	0	5,000	5,000
	3.2 Organize the Launch of YEEP March 2021			X	X			UNDP	TRAC	Contractual services		170,000	170,000
	3.3 Develop curricula for next generation YEEP (including one per track, three tracks, plus translation Arabic and French) + training of trainers on the curricula	X	X	X	X	X	X	UNDP	TRAC	Contractual services	135,000	100,000	235,000
	3.4 Organize UNDP Arab States Youth Futures Fellowship: #NextGenNormals (repurposing during COVID-19)												

Sub-total Output 3 (UNDP TRAC)			151,150	275,000	426,150
Total			537,711	648,281	1,185,992
Total TRAC ONLY			378,677	380,124	758,801
Project Team		TRAC	43000	65,000	108,000
Common & Shared Services			63,878	78,461	142,339
GMS			1198	514	1712
GRAND TOTAL			645,787	792,256	1,438,043
Grand TOTAL TRAC ONLY			485,555	523584.9	1,009,140