



Call for Contributions to the United Nations World Youth Report 2013 Youth Migration and Development

Background: Youth Migration and Development

Over the past few decades, political, economic, social and demographic changes in many parts of the world have stimulated migration of people to cities within and across countries. Recent evidence suggests that the gradual process of environmental deterioration is likely to increase the flows of both internal and cross-border human migration over the next decades.¹

According to a recent UN report, young people represent a major proportion of those migrating annually. In many cases, the age range 18 to 29 accounts for between 36 per cent and 57 per cent of international migrants.² The report argues that young people are the “most mobile among people of all ages” who migrate for various reasons, including employment, education, family formation and reunification as well as conflict and persecution.

While considerable attention is given to the issue of migration and its potential economic and social impacts on origin, transit and destination countries, to date very little attention has been given to understanding the livelihood struggles and opportunities that migration presents for migrants themselves, and in particular, young migrants. Young people and youth-led organizations working on migration issues have on various occasions requested a UN study on the situation of youth migration.

To this end, the 2013 World Youth Report (WYR) is purposed to fill this gap by offering a multidimensional account of the life experiences of young migrants and young people affected by migration.

How exactly can you contribute?

As part of the process leading to the development of the UN World Youth Report 2013, the UN Focal Point on Youth will organize a number of interactive activities, among them, an online survey, an e-consultation, a Google+ Hangout with young people and experts. The aim of these is to give young migrants and other youth affected by migration the space to share their experiences on migration. These interactive activities commenced on 23 January and will run until 22 February 2013. To contribute your ideas and personal experiences:

- [Join the weekly e-consultations](#): To solicit youth perspectives on migration, a 4 week (from 23 January – 22 February 2013) consultative process with young migrants and other young people affected by migration. Visit the weekly e-discussion page and share your comments on various issues.³
- Submit a “[Migration Story](#)”: Are you a young migrant/immigrant or a returnee? Are you a documented or undocumented young migrant? We would like you to share your personal written story with us.

¹ Migration, Climate Change and the Environment. Policy brief. IOM, March 2009.

² UN (United Nations). 2011. “International Migration in a Globalizing World: The Role of Youth”. Technical Paper No. 2011/1. New York: Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

³ Please note that the commenting system used for the weekly discussions is very user-friendly. It is easy to log in and contribute using your existing accounts such as Gmail or Twitter.

- Fill out the [Survey](#): We have created two questionnaires for: 1) Young migrants and return migrants to capture their experiences through the various stages of migration and 2) Organizations that have an initiative that aims at enhancing the positive impact of youth migration while mitigating associated risks.
- Contribute an [artistic piece](#): To bring additional meaning to the findings of the e-consultation and survey, we would like to invite young people to contribute paintings, animations and photographs to the Report.

Having young people participate directly through various activities will help us to ensure that the World Youth Report is based on the perspectives of those young people who continue to form a significant part of international migrants but have had limited opportunities to share their views on migration, its opportunities and challenges. To learn more about how to participate please visit:

http://www.unworldyouthreport.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=83&Itemid=181

Where will this happen?

The UN World Youth Report web platform – www.unworldyouthreport.org - has been established by the United Nations Focal Point on Youth to enable young people to contribute their personal stories and perspectives on how migration affects them, either as migrants, return migrants or young people left behind by migrant parents.

Who can participate?

- Young people including representatives of youth-led organizations who are aged between 15 to 35 years
- Young migrants and other young people affected by migration (i.e. including sons and daughters of migrants, young people left behind by migrant parents in countries of origin, return migrants, etc.)
- Organizations who work with or for young migrants or young people who are affected by migration. We encourage organizations that can engage young people and migrants who have no or little access to the internet to collaborate with us in ensuring the full inclusion of these young people in this process.

Support us:

We invite youth-led organizations, youth representatives, UN agencies and multilateral organizations, to create awareness and support the participation of young people in the various activities for the 2013 UN World Youth Report. Interested organizations and youth representatives can support us through the following ways:

- Administer the survey or weekly consultations offline and collect stories, poems, cartoons and paintings from young people who have difficulty in accessing the internet. Share their contributions with us via email at youth@un.org .
- Feature news about the World Youth Report's consultative process and activities in your newsletters, website, networks and social media platforms. We have created a badge and an e-flyer for this purpose.

Related links and contact:

- For further information, please email the UN Focal Point on Youth at: youth@un.org with the subject line: UN World Youth Report 2013
- Follow us:
 - Facebook/UNyouthyear
 - twitter/UN4Youth #youthmigration
 - www.unworldyouthreport.org