

Discussion Brief
Global Workshop on Youth and Peacebuilding Guidance
4-5 June

Scope of the Guidance Note

- The overall nature and status of the document: guidance, practice note, policy or programme orientation:
 - “Guidance” can imply a requirement with which organizations must comply, and can require a more cumbersome clearance process.
 - Practice or programme note offer more flexibility, without a formal authority being exercised over the stakeholder organizations.
 - In discussions with the SWG, there is a convergence that we should pursue a building block approach: begin conservatively with a less ambitious, but quality model, focus the thematic areas, and build up on this.
- The subject group: define “youth” and which “youth”
 - Definition of youth
 - Include adolescents or not or to what degree
 - Focus on at-risk youth and to what degree
 - Address young women and young men
- The extent to which the document should give attention to strategic issues:
 - Rationale and importance of the issue
 - Key messages on evidence
 - Status of existing guidance
 - Comparative role of the SWG’s institutional stakeholders
- The setting of contextual parameters for “peacebuilding”:
 - Post-conflict contexts or all conflict-affected contexts, including latent (early prevention).
- The target audience:
 - Donors (the priority?)
 - International organizations
 - Governments
 - Community based organizations and NGOs

Priority Thematic Areas

- Scope of the “systems” and traditional sectors to be addressed:
 - *Systems*: national youth-related policies (youth policies, youth-related education policies, employment strategies, etc.), community building
 - *Traditional sectors*: governance (political processes, national policies, participation), security sector reform and DDR, social services (particularly education—formal and non-formal), peacebuilding, youth work and development.
 - Technology, social media, and traditional mechanisms
 - There is convergence in the SWG that we are looking at a blend of the two, perhaps with the guidelines structured according to systems, with related sectors included.
 - We need to articulate how the systems and sectors interlink and where can we prioritize.
 - We need to address gender issues in a cross-cutting manner.
- The level of the interventions:
 - National, subnational, community, as well as the emphasis on state/government and civil society.

- There is convergence in the SWG that all levels should be addressed.

Process for Developing the Guidelines

- Need to define the role of the SWG in the development and vetting of the guidelines:
 - Role of the SWG Co-Chairs
 - Role of the broader SWG
- Use of technology to facilitate remote input
- Additional capacity that may be required:
 - Experts from stakeholder organizations
 - Experts/consultants
 - Academics
- Need to secure commitments by stakeholder organizations to either (a) comment and contribute to drafts or (b) take an editorial role for a designated section.

Organization of Working Groups for Workshop Sessions 2 & 3

Based upon the above, working groups will be formed for the following sectors and thematic areas:

- Governance (youth-related policies at all levels, youth participation, civic engagement, political processes)
- Youth work and development
- Security sector reform and DDR
- Economy, livelihoods and employment
- Social services (including education, health and SRH)
- Gender
- Technology and media
- Traditional mechanisms
- Community building

Note that the Guiding Principles on Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding cut across the working groups and can provide useful guidance to working group discussions.

Each working group will aim at providing as much scope and direction to the drafters of the guidelines. Specifically, each working group will address the following questions:

- What are the key issues relating to youth and peacebuilding that the guidelines should address?
- What are the theories of change (programme strategies) that have the most measurable results in terms of positive change in conflict dynamics?
- What are the gaps in guidance, if any, for this sector that the guidelines should address?
- What are the principal data and measurement issues that the guidelines should address?
- What are the relevant youth leadership and participation issues?

Lastly, each working group will address each question as it relates to the individual, community and societal or national levels.