

**World Youth Conference's Launch of the Guiding Principles on Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding**  
**Sri Lanka, 8 May 2014**

**Guiding Principles on Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding** were officially launched on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in New York alongside the UN General Assembly Thematic Debate on Ensuring Stable and Peaceful Societies. These principles were launched in order to provide guidance to governments, UN entities, donors, national and international NGOs, and civil societies on meaningful youth engagement and participation, especially in conflict or transition settings. A simultaneous launch of the **Guiding Principles on Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding** was held in Sri Lanka by Search for Common Ground in collaboration with UNOY, UN Habitat, and PBSO as a



*Youth presenting at event*

**side event to the World Youth Conference** on the evening of May 8th, 2014. This launch of the Guiding Principles in Sri Lanka is part of a Search for Common Ground global initiative to launch the Principles in over 15 countries, while convening key stakeholders and local partners to collaboratively and openly discuss and contextualize the Guiding Principles on Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding.



*Key note speaker Marisa Fernando, from SFCG, speaking at The World Youth Conference's launch of the Guiding Principles on Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding*

During the Guiding Principles launch in Sri Lanka, participants interactively discussed how the Guiding Principles could be implemented and how they could help shape a more accountable community of practice toward young people in the context of Sri Lanka. Doug Ragan, the head of UN-Habitat, presented on the Guiding Principle development process and emphasized the UN's desire for young people's opinions on the utilization of the Principles for their next development phase. Ravi Karkara, the visionary behind the overarching World Youth Conference from UN-HABITAT, Matilda Flemming, from The United Network on Young Peacebuilders (UNOY), and Search for Common Ground's (SFCG) Marisa Fernando were also key note speakers.



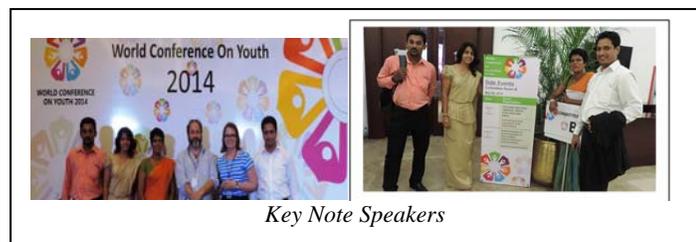
*Three of the key note speakers from left to right: Doug Ragan (UN-HABITAT), Matilda Flemming (UNOY), Ravi Karkara (UN-HABITAT)*



*Matilda Flemming, from UNOY, speaking at launch in Sri Lanka*



*The audience at the launch event, as they engage in interactive discussions on contextualizing the Principles*



*Key Note Speakers*

— **END VIOLENT CONFLICT** —