

# Scope of Work: Handbook of Youth Engagement

## Purpose of Initiative

The initiative seeks to identify up to 40 case studies of successful and positive – both formal and informal - youth engagement on issues including, but not limited to, democracy support, post-conflict reconciliation, fighting corruption, protecting human rights, countering polarization, increasing participation in democratic processes, and protecting the environment. Additionally, the contributing partners will identify replicable enabling factors, such as key policies, supporting institutions, funding mechanisms, existing civil society ecosystem, etc., that facilitated these success stories. The Handbook will comprise a list of good practice offered for consideration and further localization to governments, international development organizations, youth organizations, and other relevant stakeholders to enable more youth leadership and participation in promoting democracy, achieving peace, prosperity and sustainable development.

## 1. Design

Handbook table of contents:

- Introduction and Forewords
- Case Studies (up to 40)
- Recommendations with enabling factors (TBC - if commonalities were found across more case studies) and lessons learned
- Acknowledgements
- Register
- Presentation of the Youth Participation Cohort

## 2. Content, Reporting and Analyses

The contributing youth organizations or initiatives, or organization with youth specific programming shall serve as the primary source of information on their efforts. When presenting the success stories they would **seek to identify concrete examples that can be leveraged and replicated in other countries.**

**The success story shall be presented in a case study format depicting a concrete initiative that was successful in empowering young people to contribute to good governance, sustainable development and the promotion of Democracy and Human Rights .**

Each Case Study should consist of 2-3 pages (to be delivered by the contributing organizations):

1. cover **photo**
2. an **abstract** focused on impact of the particular initiative (case study) - 1 paragraph
3. **set of enabling factors** identified in the aftermath of the initiative as key for achieving the impact - focused in bullet points, max 1/2 page
4. **text describing the initiative itself** (see below) – max. 1 page
5. info **about the implementing organization/movement** and contact details – max. 1/2 page

## What should the text describing the initiative include?

### Introduction (1-2 paragraphs)

The text describing the each Case Study shall start with addressing two underlying questions:

- Why is this topic relevant? Importance of this issue for the local society demonstrated by statistical data or comparative analyses.
- What motivated the organization or the informal movement to address the issue in the way described in the success story? What approach did they take and why?

### Case description (2-4 paragraphs)

This part shall describe the initiative and its impact.

### Analyses (up to 6 paragraphs)

If applicable, the analytical part may cover some of the following guiding questions. Only relevant questions shall be reflected in the case study.

1. POLICIES: How did national, local, and supranational government policies and legislation support or hinder youth engagement efforts?
  - i. Were there specific pieces of legislation or policies that facilitated or undermined youth engagement? Please provide concrete examples of legislation.
  - ii. How did elected officials/politicians react to the organization's efforts? Encouraged/Discouraged?
  - iii. Did the youth engagement take place within a political party structure? How did that help/hinder efforts?

2. INSTITUTIONS/Stakeholders: How did local public and/or civil society organizations and/or international development organizations support youth engagement?
  - i. Were local or international institutions more supportive of the organization? How did their support translate into concrete help for your initiative?
  - ii. How was contact made between the supporting organization and the youth organization?
  - iii. Did involvement from civil society or international actors prompt any backlash against the youth organization?
  - iv. Did the public institutions support or hinder your initiatives. What concrete tools did they use and which were the most effective in supporting/hindering your effort.
3. CIVIC ENVIRONMENT:
  - i. How did local and national civic organizations support the organization?
  - ii. How did the existing civic ecosystem influenced organization's ability to implement its activities?
4. OUTREACH & EXTERNAL RELATIONS:
  - i. How did the organization conduct outreach and push their message to the public?
  - ii. What angle/narrative of your initiative resonated with the audience the most? What was the main value people saw in your initiative that made them share your story?
  - iii. What tools were most effective for reaching and growing their audience?
  - iv. Did the organization have fair access to traditional forms of media such as mainstream television channels? How did you leverage the access or compensate for the lack of access?
5. RESOURCES:
  - i. Were potential sources of assets – financial resources, volunteers, know-how, in-kind donations - known and accessible?
  - ii. What type of donors and/or financial mechanisms was/were the most approachable?
  - iii. What angle/narrative of your initiative resonated with the donors the most? What was the main value they saw in your initiative that made them contribute to your organization?
  - iv. How much of the organization's time and effort was spent on acquiring funding, HR and in-kind donations?
  - v. Has access to resources acted as a "barrier to entry" to democratic processes for young people?
6. POLARIZATION:
  - i. How did partisan politics influence the public perception of the organization?
  - ii. What role did ethnicity, language, religion or other identity groups play in the formation and efforts of the organization?

- iii. What tools and approaches did the organization use to make the initiative inclusive for various identity groups to counter potential polarization effects of the initiative?
- iv. Did your initiative increase or decrease the perception gap between generations and why? How did the organization connect their message and goals with older generations? Were older generations accepting of increased youth engagement?

### **Case Study topic may include:**

Case studies of impactful youth engagement may include but are not be limited to:

- Advancing youth engagement in public life and participation in the democratic process
- Advancing respect for human rights, diversity and inclusion
- Advancing rule of law and transparency
- Conflict prevention / post-conflict reconciliation and bridging political, generational, religious, cultural and ethnic spectra
- Countering polarization and finding the common ground
- In/formal education and in/formal civic engagement
- Developing neighbor and international relations
- Countering hoaxes and foreign malign influence, advancing access to information
- Developing entrepreneurship and start-up ecosystem
- Fighting brain-drain
- Driving rural and regional development
- Advancing environmental protection
- Providing humanitarian relief

## **3. Timeline and Activities**

**November - December 2022:** Project outline and methodology, outreach to contributing organizations from the Cohort, Contributing partners drafting their case studies

**January 2022:** Communication between the editorial team and the contributing partners, finalization of the case studies

**February 2023:** Graphic design, forewords and finalization of the Handbook