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WHY DO WE TARGET YOUTH WORKERS?

TARGET GROUP

- Youth workers
- Young people interested
- Emerging youth leaders

This group is key because youth workers are on the frontline of empowering young people, facilitating their participation in community processes and fostering their personal and professional development.

TIME: 3 HOURS

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVE

- **General Objective: To strengthen participants' capacities** to understand and address the unique challenges facing young people today, through the implementation of youth work strategies based on international frameworks (such as those of the UN and the EU), and the promotion of youth activism as a tool for social change. This programme seeks to empower youth workers to become effective facilitators, advocates for inclusive policies and promoters of youth leadership in their communities.
- **To provide a comprehensive understanding** of the challenges faced by young people. Facilitate a space for reflection for participants to understand how these challenges vary according to the social, economic and cultural context, and how they differentially affect different groups of young people.
- **To familiarise participants** with international youth frameworks. Introduce and explore international frameworks and strategies such as the EU Youth Strategy and the UN Youth Agenda 2030, which guide policies and programmes to support youth development.

To promote active participation and youth leadership. To enable participants to develop skills and strategies that foster youth leadership and participation in decision-making processes at both community and institutional levels.





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MATERIALS NEEDED

- Laptop or computer with presentation software
- Projector and screen or large monitor for displaying slides.
- Flipchart paper and markers
- Whiteboard with markers or chalk.
- Sticky notes and pens for participants
- Handouts for group work for participants (**Annex II**)

RESOURCES

- R1 - UN Youth Strategy <https://www.un.org/youthenvoy/youth-un/>
- R2 - EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027 https://europa.eu/youth/strategy_en
- R3-World Youth Report(UN)
<https://www.un.org/development/desa/youth/world-youth-report.html>
- R4 - Youth Work Essentials (Council of Europe)
<https://www.coe.int/en/web/youth-portfolio/youth-work-essentials>
- R5 - Fridays for Future - Youth Climate Movement
<https://fridaysforfuture.org/>
- R6 - Youth4Peace - UN Youth, Peace and Security Agenda
<https://www.youth4peace.info/>

STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR FACILITATOR/TRAINER

A.BACKGROUND INFORMATION (60 MINUTES)

Introduction and Objectives (5 minutes)

- **Description:** General presentation of the workshop, its objectives, and the importance of focusing on youth work.
- **Objective:** To contextualize youth work and explain why it is essential to target youth workers.

Background and Context (40 minutes)

- **Description:**

-Why Youth Work (10 minutes):

Explanation of the importance of young people as key actors in society: they represent a significant proportion of the population, they are agents of change and their involvement is crucial for sustainable development and peace.





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A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION (60 MINUTES)

-Problems and Challenges Facing Young People (20 minutes):

Present the main issues affecting young people globally: youth unemployment, quality education, mental health, rights, access to opportunities and political participation.

Explore relevant statistics and data that highlight the magnitude of these issues.

-UN and EU Youth Frameworks (10 minutes):

Explain UN and EU frameworks, policies and programmes targeting young people (such as the EU Youth Strategy, UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development).

- **Objective:** To provide a solid context on the importance of working with young people and the global frameworks that support it.

Youth Activism (15 minutes)

- **Description:**

-Presentation on Youth Activism:

Explain how young people have historically been important actors in social and political movements, and how youth activism can be a powerful tool for change.

Note: Facilitator/Trainer can benefit from the Annex I – Youth Program presentation and other resources given above for background information section and preparation.





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B.GROUP WORK (60 MINUTES)

Group Dynamic: Exploring Problems and Solutions (30 minutes)

- **Description:**

- Preparation (5 minutes):**

Divide participants into small groups and assign each group a specific problem facing youth (e.g. unemployment, mental health, lack of educational opportunities).

- Group Discussion (10 minutes):**

Each group discusses the factors contributing to their assigned problem, how it affects young people and what solutions could be implemented by youth workers and organisations.

- Presentation of Results (15 minutes):**

Each group presents their findings and solutions to the rest of the class.

- **Objective:** To encourage critical reflection on the problems faced by young people and to promote collaborative work to identify solutions.

-**Case Study (15 minutes):** Present a case study of a youth-led movement or initiative (such as Fridays for Future or Black Lives Matter).

See Annex 2 for the details and explanations

- Group Reflection (15 minutes):**

Open discussion on how young people can be empowered and supported to lead change in their communities.

- **Objective:** To inspire participants to promote and support youth activism as a means for positive social change.





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C. REINFORCEMENT SESSION: KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE (30 MINUTES)	<p>Personal and Collective Action Plan (30 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Description: <p>-Action Plan Development (20 minutes): Each participant develops a personal or collective action plan on how they will support or promote youth work and youth activism in their organisations or communities.</p> <p>-Plan Sharing (10 minutes): Space for some participants to share their plans and receive feedback from the group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Objective: To motivate participants to commit to concrete actions to improve youth work and promote youth activism. <p>See Annex 3 for the details and explanations.</p>
D. CLOSING AND REMARKS (30 MINUTES)	<p>Evaluation and Closing (30 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Description:• Feedback Survey (20 minutes): Collect feedback from participants on the content and usefulness of the workshop.• Concluding Discussion (10 minutes): Group reflection on key learnings and next steps.• Objective: To evaluate the impact of the training and plan follow-up actions. <p>See Annex 4 for the details and explanations</p>

Annexes

Annex 1. Youth program presentation

Annex 2. Case Study Activity: Youth-Led Movement or Initiative

Annex 3. Personal and Collective Action Plan

Annex 4. Youth Work Program Feedback Survey

