

Location: WBG Headquarters, Washington, DC
Date: (Tuesday) October 7, 2014
Time: 8:30am-6:00pm
Theme: The Need for Open & Responsive Governments

Context and rationale

Youth¹ is the largest demographic in the world. In order to end poverty and boost shared prosperity by 2030, helping them reach their potential is instrumental. Investing in youth, building their capacity and empowering them to be productive citizens is imperative as 50 percent of the world's population is 25 years or younger and young people are shaping the present and the future. Already, youth are putting their talents to use in the field of development to drive real change – both at home and abroad. Driven by this desire to create meaningful change, youth are at the center of creating innovative solutions to help solve the world's complex development challenges.

We believe the World Bank Group (WBG) can be doing more to support youth's role in development, convene young people to share ideas and foster solutions that are fit-for-purpose across technical practices. Already, the WBG connects with youth through social media and knowledge services to inform, engage, work with and inspire youth in more than 100 different countries. Youth can contribute to our collective knowledge and engage in achieving sustainable solutions, as well as act as change agents.

Established in 2013, the Youth Summit serves as a platform for conversation and action to make the WBG more relevant to youth and youth more relevant to the WBG. The Youth Summit Organizing Committee (YSOC) is part of the WBG Youth Network, which is composed of the Junior Professional Associates Organizing Committee (JPAOC) and Youth-to-Youth (Y2Y). The YSOC is responsible for organizing and managing the Youth Summit. The YSOC is composed of younger WBG employees.

The inaugural Youth Summit was launched in October 2013 and emphasized youth entrepreneurship; revitalizing a new chapter of WBG involvement and engagement with a dynamic generation of young entrepreneurs, activists, development professionals and others interested in global youth-related issues. Key outcomes included: (i) convening over seven hundred people (in Washington D.C. and virtually through live streaming and video-connection to eleven WBG country offices) and; (ii) providing an

¹ The WBG and the United Nations statistically define “youth” as those aged 15-24, broadly covering the ages between which a person may leave compulsory education and the age at which he/she finds his/her first employment. However, these institutions also recognize the limitations of this statistical definition, and consider the term “youth” to be a more fluid concept which varies in different societies around the world, and changes continuously in response to fluctuating political, economic and sociocultural circumstances. *Source: [The United Nation's World Programme of Action for Youth](#).*

opportunity for youth teams around the world to submit solutions to challenges faced by international organizations such as the WBG, Athgo International and the International Labor Organization.

Building on the accomplishments from last fall and responding to the overwhelmingly positive feedback received after the event, the YSOC has decided to host the Youth Summit on an annual basis. The YSOC believes that young people's rights and development priorities are central to the global development agenda and must be valued if the WBG and the international community want to meet the WBG's goals of eradicating poverty by 2030, boosting shared prosperity, and ensuring the sustainability of these gains.

The YSOC crowd-sourced the theme for the Youth Summit 2014 by using the World Bank's social media channels to survey global youth on their top priorities for a better world, based on the United Nations *My World 2015 Survey*. Survey responses from 120 countries revealed that the issue of 'promoting more open and responsive governments' was the highest priority for youth interested in attending the Youth Summit 2014.

Thus, the theme of the Youth Summit 2014 is **The Need for Open and Responsive Governments**.

Increased government openness is crucial to earning back the trust of young people. Perceptions of corruption, inefficiencies and bad management have resulted in a lack of trust in governments. With increasing inequality, unemployment and lack of sustainable solutions, this perception is especially true amongst youth who feel their voices are often overlooked, disregarded or shut out of government decision-making processes.² As those who have the most to lose by inheriting corrupt systems and non-open governments, young people have the incentive to create and seize the necessary tools to become actively engaged in government decision-making, which could result in greater transparency, accountability and better opportunities in their future. Around the world youth are standing up against corruption, demanding open governments, honest decision-making and active engagement. According to the 2012 *Global Opening Government Survey*, 80 percent of youth (aged 18-25) in Mongolia, 82 percent in Indonesia and 83 percent in Mexico, stated they want their governments to be more open.

With this in mind, the Youth Summit 2014 aims to convene young civil society and NGO leaders, students, government officials, technical experts and practitioners to focus on how we, "the youth," can contribute to open and responsive governments. The sub-themes of the Summit will focus specifically on transparency, accountability and collaboration, measures understood to control corruption and promote open and responsive governments.

Summit Format

To achieve this goal, the Summit will design high-level plenary discussions moderated by WBG and UN experts as well as smaller and more targeted workshops. There will be two primary types of workshops, technical workshops on topics such as open data and access to information, as well as organizational workshops such as grassroots lobbying and effective communication. These workshops are aimed to both strengthen technical knowledge of young people with good practices and provide a learning space to enhance individual and organizational capacities.

² According to a Gallup World poll, the average confidence in national governments in OECD countries stood at 40 percent in 2012, down from 45 percent in 2007.

The YSOC believes that the customary method of panels and presentations is rather outdated, and less engaging for youth. We envisage the Summit to be engaging and innovative in leveraging the experience and expertise of participants, speakers and workshop facilitators in an interactive setting. In this context, this year's Summit will crowd-source workshop session proposals in an open and participatory process whereby people from around the world working on governance, anti-corruption, or the links between their field of expertise are welcome to submit a proposal.

Embedded within the sponsored proposals will be a proposal coordinator charged with ensuring the design, materials and panelists are prepared accordingly. The YSOC will work alongside the proposal coordinators to support the preparations and running of the sessions during the Summit. To ensure each workshop runs smoothly, each conference session will have at least one rapporteur to take notes of the session and keep track of time. After each session, the reports are reviewed and approved by the respective proposal coordinator ensuring in this way that the report is an accurate reflection of the most important discussions and outputs from the workshop.

Concurrent with the one-day Summit, the YSOC will launch a competition inviting youth from around the world to submit proposals on innovative ideas to promote good governance in their communities and/or abroad. At the Summit, competition winners will be invited to share their innovative idea with the wider development community and young professionals attending the Summit and help drive discussion of the active role of youth in promoting more open and responsive governance.

Audience

Tailored audience members consisting of young people serving in anti-corruption or good governance organizations, governments, parliaments, trade associations, civil society, as well as WBG and UN young staff members, and representatives from other regional banks and international organizations are invited to attend. We envision younger staff from organizations to be nominated as part of their professional development. Additionally, we envisage streaming the event live to youth from around the World so they can connect to the event via the World Bank live stream channel.

Partnerships

The Youth Summit 2014 will be launched and implemented by the YSOC with the support of the WBG and the United Nations, specifically in collaboration with the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth. Given the theme of this year's Summit, the YSOC additionally plans on partnering with organizations such as Transparency International, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, International Anti-Corruption Conference, United Nations Development Program, United Nations Foundation as well as organizations from civil society who are also seen as leaders in this technical area.

Timeline

- 1) May-September: The YSOC will identify World Bank staff members and external organizations working on youth and youth in governance and will reach out to these individuals/organizations to identify key areas for collaboration.
- 2) May-October: The YSOC will design, promote and execute a competition asking youth around the world to submit their innovative ideas on how to foster more open and responsive governments. The guidelines for the competition will be hosted online in or around July, and youth between the ages of 18 and 30 will have the opportunity to form groups of up to 5 people and submit solutions to challenge questions posed by the WBG. A formal evaluation committee composed of experts including representatives from the World Bank Group and other partner organizations will select the winning proposals from a pool of finalists, using agreed upon evaluation criteria. Representatives from the

winning teams will be invited to WBG HQ to participate in the Youth Summit event in October. Possible additional awards which may be conferred include mentorship opportunities or seed funding.

- 3) October (Day of the event): The Youth Summit will comprise: 1) a high-level plenary session with a keynote speaker & panel to speak about good governance and how youth can help governments be more open; 2) a discussion with the participants of the Summit on the incentives and opportunities for governments to engage with their youth population ; 3) breakout workshops (both thematic and issue-based) which will equip participants to help their governments be more transparent and listen to citizens' needs and feedback; and 4) the competition winners will be recognized for their achievements.

Expected Outcomes and Results

Building on last year's success, the Youth Summit 2014 will convene youth leaders from around the world to share, discuss and collaborate on leading issues affecting the youth demographic. In this regard we believe the WBG can maintain and further develop its relevancy amongst this generation with its convening power.

Additionally, the Youth Summit will provide youth with the opportunity to showcase the work they are already doing to make governments more open and responsive. This informs future cross pollination of ideas on good governance between the WBG, development agencies and academia with workable solutions and deeper knowledge. Internally, this would support the Governance global practice group in their business area of citizen engagement and government accountability.

Other ideas currently under discussion as possible outputs from the Youth Summit include the following options:

- 1) South South Youth Exchanges (based on the South South Knowledge Exchanges trust fund) whereby youth in low capacity organizations are afforded opportunities to learn skills and knowledge from high capacity organizations working on issues affecting the youth demographic. This does have budget implications and would have to further discuss the possibility as a potential pilot project in FY16 though participants for the pilot could be identified during the Youth Summit 2014.
- 2) A Global Youth Declaration/ Youth Call for Governments to Act with Greater Openness and Transparency whereby the YSOC summarizes the main findings and outputs of each session workshop that takes place in the Summit. The Declaration is as a non-binding document that follows the independent nature of the Summit. The Declaration is not only a reflection of the richness of the discussions that have taken place, but it is also a tribute to the work and contribution by the Youth Summit audience towards more open and responsive governments.

Appendix A: Draft Youth Summit Agenda

8:00 – 9:00	Check-in/ Registration
9:00 – 9:30	Opening Remarks Nicholas Bian, Chair of the Youth Summit Organizing Committee Sri Mulyani Indrawati, Managing Director and COO, World Bank
9:30 – 10:30	Plenary Session: Youth Agents: How Youth can impact and shape the future of good governance (Panelists TBD)
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee Break
10:45 – 12:00	Plenary Session: High Level Panel: The Role of the international organization in promoting and enabling youth, youth ideas, and youth movements in ensuring open and responsive governments Mario Marcel, Director of Governance global practice, World Bank Ahmad Alendawi, Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Youth, UN Senior Director at Transparency International Senior Director at OECD (?)
12:00 – 12:50	Lunch
13:00 – 14:15	Concurrent Workshop Sessions I
14:25 – 15:45	Concurrent Workshop Sessions II
15:45- 16:00	Coffee Break
16:00 – 17:15	Concurrent Workshop Sessions III
17:20 – 18:00	Closing Ceremony Closing remarks (reading of Declaration if applicable) Jim Yong Kim, President, World Bank