

UN ENTITY SNAPSHOT SERIES

Development Coordination Office (DCO)

Organizational mandate on youth The Development Coordination Office (DCO) serves as the secretariat for the UN Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG): 34 agencies, funds and programmes working on development at the regional and global levels.

Highlights of actions FOR youth and WITH youth:

- 1. COVID-19 response and recovery**

In October 2020, as a part of the global Resident Coordinator Webinar series on COVID-19 and to provide Resident Coordinators and UNCTs with the latest available information on COVID-19 and its intergenerational impact, DCO hosted a webinar on the impact of COVID-19 on youth and older persons.
- 2. Programmes, projects, initiatives and innovations**

 - Working with peace and development advisers to support youth peacebuilding dialogues to address social unrest (UNCT Thailand).
 - Accelerated programming to improve youth employability and develop alternative solutions to school closure in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic (UNCT Lebanon).
 - Partnerships established with young people as agents for change and sourcing their solutions for the SDGs (UNCT Uganda).
- 3. Advocacy and communication**

In February 2020, DCO hosted a joint webinar, led by the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth and Generation Unlimited, directed towards the fast-track countries of Youth2030 and Generation Unlimited.
- 4. Knowledge management, including repositories/ platforms**

 - The new UNCT website developed by DCO includes a customizable "Take action" section which details for the public the available options for partnerships with the UN on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including opportunities for internships and different mechanisms for engaging youth at country level.
 - The Cooperation Framework Companion package and companion piece on guiding principles, endorsed by the UNSDG principals in May 2020, places a strong emphasis on broad stakeholder consultation and meaningful participation (including youth as one of the groups most left behind) in the design and implementation of a new generation of common country analyses (CCAs) and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs). The finalized PDF version, online manuals and the new UNSDCF online course include specific references to young people's participation in all milestones in CCA/UNSDCF processes.
- 5. Youth focus**

Building on the list of thematic funds reported to the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) secretariat by UNSDG entities in 2020, DCO will continue to highlight specific opportunities to access thematic funds to support youth work with Resident Coordinators and UNCTs.
- 6. Leadership, organizational culture, coordination and capacities for action FOR youth and WITH youth**

Internal capacity for youth programming

 - DCO has worked closely with the Youth2030 Joint Working Group to provide inputs on the programmatic aspects of facilitating the establishment of youth focal points in Resident Coordinators Offices or UNCTs to operationalize Youth2030 at the country level.

Coordination: intra-agency and inter-agency

 - DCO closely collaborated with the Youth2030 Joint Working Group and the Task Team on the Youth2030 Scorecard. It also provided feedback and advice to the work of the Task Team on the Youth2030 Toolkit and Task Team on multi-stakeholder initiatives mapping.

Leadership, organizational culture for meaningful youth engagement

 - The promotion of youth advisory boards at the country level is evident in the UNSDCF guidelines, which encourage the establishment of thematic technical advisory groups (including youth, based on the country context) as part of the governance and management structures at the country level for the implementation of the Cooperation Framework.
 - Targeting youth, including people with disabilities, in the most remote areas for CCA consultations (Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan).