

International Alliance of Grassroots Youth Organisations

The Global Platform for Grassroots Youth
Entities to Engage in the UN



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Background

This document elaborates the scope and institutional arrangements as related to grassroots/local youth entities convened within the UN MGCY and the UN.

It provides a dedicated space for the young people from grassroots/local entities to engage in processes and avenues across the pillars and organs of the UN.

It draws on provisions in several UN resolutions and documents, primarily [Agenda 21](#), [Johannesburg Plan of Implementation](#), [UNGA Resolution 66/288](#), [UNGA Resolution 66/288](#) (Rio+20 Outcome – The Future We Want), [UNGA Resolution 67/290](#) (High Level Political Forum), [UNGA Resolution 70/1](#) (Agenda 2030) and the inter-governmentally agreed [political declaration of the 2019 HLPF- A/HLPF/2019/L.1](#).

1. Objective/Purpose

The objective and purpose *International Alliance of Grassroots Youth Organisations* (IAGYO) of Coordinate and facilitate meaningful engagement of grassroots/local youth entities in the UN

2. Membership

The membership IAGYO is facilitated through an open process either through an online or in-person sign up. All members of the *platform* are members of the UN MGCY, and vice versa for those that identify as being a grassroots/local entity. It is open to all formal and informal youth led and serving entities that identify their scope of work as *grassroots/local*.

2.1. Criteria/Requirements for Membership

All members of the *platform/caucus* must, first and foremost fulfill the following requirement:

- Agree with the principles of the UN Charter.
- Agree with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- Agree to adhere to the *platform/caucus's* collective principles of *solidarity, justice, equity, universality, inclusion, human rights, and the integrity of the planet*.
- Agree to adhere to the Process and Procedures of the UNMGCY.

3. Areas of Work

3.1. Advocacy

Facilitate the collective participation of grassroots/local youth entities in official, formal and informal avenues of policy design, implementation, monitoring, follow-up, and review at all levels, as per their respective modalities, and advocate for the meaningful participation of young people within these.

3.2. Capacity

Facilitate capacity building activities for grassroots/local youth entities to enhance their understanding, knowledge, and skills in relation to linking grassroots/local work to national, regional and global avenues, meaningful engagement, and the UN system.

3.3. Action

Provide a platform that encourages members to lead, join, showcase and share innovative and effective actions and programmatic work aimed at addressing policy and practise from the perspective of grassroots/local youth entities.

3.4. Knowledge

Provide a platform for dialogue to create an evidence base for best practices on faith based approaches. This includes the assessment of existing knowledge, the generation of new knowledge, the identification of emerging issues and effective use and dissemination of knowledge. It should include inputs from formal, informal, traditional and indigenous knowledge streams.

4. Engagement Avenues¹

Recognising its cross-cutting nature, the platform seeks to engage its members in the different UN processes/avenues as per their respective modalities (through the relevant youth constituencies). The platform may, through consultation with the coordination team also engage externally (as per the respective modalities) in avenues in the UN relevant to *youth policy and development* and/or those specifically related/relevant to grassroots/local entities.

5. Organisational and Coordination Structure

5.1. Liaisons

- Orgs/entities, identified by the membership of the platform.

5.2. Regional Focal Points (2-3 per region)

Role is to facilitate increased regional and national engagement of the platform in relevant processes as per their respective modalities. These could be Orgs/entities (Regional grassroots/local youth entities).

- Asia Pacific
- Latin America and Caribbean
- Africa,
- Europe and North America
- Western Asia, Middle East and North Africa.

5.3. Thematic Focal Points²

The platform may identify thematic focal points corresponding to different processes/avenues in coordination with the respective youth constituency. In addition, it may identify internal focal points relevant to its work.

The thematic focal points may include the following:

- Peace and Security
- Resilience and Humanitarian Affairs
- Sustainable Development
 - Social Issues
 - Environmental Issues
 - Economic Issues
- Human Rights

5.4. Platform Coordination

- The 'grass roots/local coordination team' includes all the above positions.

¹ More details in the annex

² These may be individual or organisational mandates

6. Methods of Work

6.1. Facilitation

The activities of the *platform* are coordinated and facilitated by the grass roots/local coordination team.

The *platform liaisons* with support from the UNMGCY secretariat are the primary focal points to relevant partners . In addition, the regional and thematic focal points are the leads/Primar to the respective UN partners in coordination with respective formal thematic and regional constituencies.

6.2. Meeting

The *platform* uses monthly online meetings (with in-person options when relevant). In addition its primary annual meeting corresponds with the ECOSOC Youth Forum or HLPF. The thematic and regional focal points also convene regularly with the respective formal thematic and regional constituencies to support delivery of their work and participate in the annual meeting aligned with their respective topic or process - eg UNEA, UNFCCC COP, GPDRR etc .

6.3. Substantive Positions

In the context of the formal substantive engagement in the UN, the positions of the Platform are aligned with the substantive positions of the existing youth constituencies.

Where no such positions exist, it will arrive at positions based on the process highlighted in the *Processes and Procedures in coordination with the appropriate structures in the UN MGCY*.

6.4. Decision Making

- All decision making seeks to follow a consensus process.
- More detailed decision making processes can be seen in the *UN MGCY Processes and Procedures Document*.

Annex

Outline of deliverables

Can be made more detailed with specific numbers and details of avenues and partners

Action		
Activity	Avenue and Timeline (Specific to Health and Wellbeing)	Avenue and Timeline (Additional UN and Beyond)
Contribute/Report to various Youth Action on Sustainable Development, Peace and Security, Resilience and Humanitarian Affairs, Human Rights (range of topics) Showcases from the perspective of grassroots youth entities	Annual Meetings of Respective Thematic and Regional Constituencies	UN SDG Partnerships-Voluntary Commitments Platform UN InterFaith Networks HLPF Paragraph 89 Deliberations (HLPF) Nexus Avenues (UN IANYD Linked Avenues)
Interim report and showcase	Interim Meetings of Respective Thematic and Regional Constituencies	
Ongoing Blogs and social media showcase	Social media platforms of members	

Knowledge		
Activity	Avenue and Timeline (Specific to Migration)	Avenue and Timeline (Additional UN and Beyond)
Youth led/intergenerational publication on topics relevant to grassroots work including on emerging issues and relevant current affairs	Annual Meetings of Respective Thematic and Regional Constituencies	GSDR (Global Sustainable Development) Process UN IANYD UNGA High Level Week Other Relevant Knowledge related avenues in the UN and beyond
Interim publication	Interim Meetings of Respective Thematic and Regional Constituencies	
Ongoing Blogs and social media showcase	Social media platforms of members	

Capacity Building		
Activity	Avenue and Timeline (Specific to Migration)	Avenue and Timeline (Additional UN and Beyond)
In Person Multi Module Capacity Building Session for children and youth	Annual Meetings of Respective Thematic and Regional Constituencies	HLPF UNGA High Level Week and committees Specifically Organised regional/sub regional/national workshops
	Interim Meetings of Respective Thematic and Regional Constituencies	
	Other Relevant Meetings	
Online Capacity Building		

Advocacy		
Activity	Avenue	Timeline
Coordinating Substantive Positions and Alignments	Respective Engagement Avenues of Members	Ongoing

