



CONFERENCE

18TH – 19TH JUNE 2019

BERLIN



EMPOWER YOUTH!

"On Their Own Terms"

UNHCR's Youth Initiative Fund, supporting youth-led protection.



Scan for the full report on "On their Own Terms"

AT A GLANCE

- In 2013, UNHCR published A Global Review: UNHCR's Engagement with Displaced Youth (2013 Global Review)
- In 2014, Youth Initiative Fund (YIF) was launched for the first time and since then has support meaningful engagement with displaced and stateless youth
- Since 2016, the seven Core Actions for Refugee Youth, developed after the Global Refugee Youth Consultations, have provided the strategic directions for the YIF

CORE OBJECTIVES

1. Provide the space and budget for young people to design, implement and monitor community-based protection projects within their communities who are affected by forced displacement and statelessness
2. Work to realign the way UNHCR staff and country offices view and engage with young people
3. Develop a culture of understanding within the humanitarian community that adolescents and youth are rights holders and actors in their own protection

ACHIEVEMENTS SO FAR

In 2018, UNHCR supported 25 youth-led projects in 22 countries. 86,417 beneficiaries reached through their activities; 509 youth age between 15-24, among the total 781 leading participants; 40% of the youth are below 18; 48% are female.

During 2014 - 2018, 118 youth-led projects in 46 countries have been funded; 10 projects funded for more than 2 years; 65% of the projects are co-led by youth from refugees and host communities.

Globally 137 partners have been engaged, including international and

local NGOs, CBOs, government bodies, academic institutions, sports bodies and youth associations.

In 2019, among 119 proposals received, 20 projects have been selected for implementation this year in 18 countries.

LESSONS LEARNT

1. Investing resources in young people's soft skills and social capital (leadership, project management) helps to capitalize their passion and potential for the future of their communities and themselves.
2. Administering the fund centrally with a "call for proposals" is an effective way to engage youth from both refugees and host communities; but could be more efficient and sustainable at the national and local level.
3. Dedicated support is required to generate synergies between youth-targeted engagement programs and other Education, Livelihoods/ Employments programmes.

FURTHER INFO

UNHCR Child Protection and Youth
UNHCR Headquarters
Geneva, Switzerland
Email: hqchipro@unhcr.org

