



Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development
Engaging Parliamentarians Pursuing Development

Young People A Priority – Linking Regional to National Action Plans

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Need for parliamentary advocacy at country level

Young People:

Recognizing the potential of harnessing the demographic dividend through comprehensive youth policies that include **young people's meaningful participation** at all levels of governance, accountability and policy-making;



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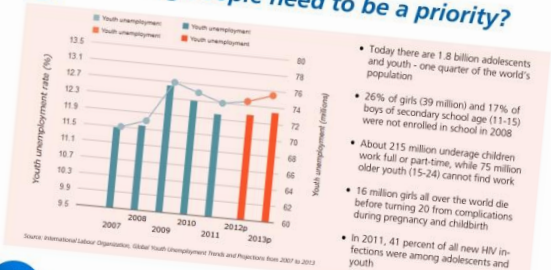
Young people must be a priority

The Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) believes in our region's Young People and we want you to support our priorities for this year's Asia and Pacific Population Conference.

Help young people realise full potential – invest in health, education, employment, sexual and reproductive health and give opportunities for real civic engagement.

UN Photo/Evan Schneider

Why Young People need to be a priority?



AFPPD recommends these priority actions

- Ensuring young people's access to comprehensive sexuality education in and out of school, providing young people with the knowledge, skills and means to make informed decisions about their sexuality and sexual and reproductive health
- Ensure young people's universal access to sexual and reproductive health information and services free of stigma and discrimination, with the adoption and implementation of national policies for adolescent girls and young women
- Promote compulsory primary and secondary education, as well as relevant technical and vocational work and livelihood opportunities, so that young people gain relevant necessary skills for employment or young people through effective policies and programmes





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Benefits of linking into regional plan

- Policy Agenda
- Advocacy Plan
- Strengthening Parliamentary Group

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Help young people realise full potential – invest in health, education, employment, sexual and reproductive health and give opportunities for real civic engagement.

Why Young People need to be a priority?

- Today there are 1.8 billion adolescents and youth - one quarter of the world's population
- 26% of girls (39 million) and 17% of boys of secondary school age (11-15) were not enrolled in school in 2008
- About 215 million underage children work full or part-time, while 75 million older youth (15-24) cannot find work
- 16 million girls all over the world die before turning 20 from complications during pregnancy and childbirth
- In 2011, 41 percent of all new HIV infections were among adolescents and youth

AFPPD recommends these priority actions

- Ensuring young people's access to comprehensive sexuality education in and out of school, providing young people with the knowledge, skills and means to make informed decisions about their sexuality and sexual and reproductive health
- Ensure young people's universal access to sexual and reproductive health information and services free of stigma and discrimination, including through the adoption and implementation of national policies
- Ensure food and nutrition security for adolescent girls and young women
- Increase coverage and quality of compulsory primary and secondary education, as well as relevant technical and vocational training and national and international school-to-work programmes, so that young people gain relevant necessary information and skills for decent work and livelihood opportunities
- Ensure the right to decent work for young people through effective policies and programmes

| Year | Youth unemployment rate (%) |
|-------|-----------------------------|
| 2007 | 10.3 |
| 2008 | 11.1 |
| 2009 | 11.5 |
| 2010 | 12.7 |
| 2011 | 12.3 |
| 2012p | 11.5 |
| 2013p | 11.1 |



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More advocacy to make ICPD benefits stronger

- Many Pacific Parliamentarians want to form a dedicated Population and Development Group in their parliaments
- We need to make sure local parliamentarians have a strong voice in regional meetings like this, the Asia Pacific Population Conference and all ICPD reviews
- Work for a joint Pacific advocacy on our shared problems and priorities
- Use our Parliamentary Groups on Population and Development to share our regional successes

Young people must be a priority

The Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) believes that young people have a special role to play in supporting our priorities for the year 2014 and Pacific Population Conference for the year 2014.

Help young people realize their potential – invest in health, education, employment, sexual and reproductive health and gender opportunities for real civic engagement.

Why Young People need to be a priority?

- Today there are 1.8 billion adolescents, and another one-quarter of the world's population.
- 28% of girls (28 million) and 17% of boys (17 million) are out of school aged 11 to 15 years not enrolled school in 2008.
- About 245 million adolescent girls need for education, while 15 million other youth (15-24) cannot find work.
- 16 million girls do not go to school due to lack of 20 basic commodities during pregnancy and childbirth.
- In 2011, 41 percent of all new HIV infections were among adolescents and youth.

AFPPD recommends these priority actions

- Ensure young people access to comprehensive sexuality education in and out of school, providing young people with the knowledge, skills and means to make informed decisions about their sexuality and sexual and reproductive health.
- Ensure young people's universal access to sexual and reproductive health information and services free of stigma and fees.
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- Ensure gender-based and violence security for adolescent girls and young women.
- Increase coverage and quality of compulsory primary and secondary education, as well as relevant technical and vocational training and national and international education programmes, so that young people gain relevant knowledge, skills and attitudes for decent work and livelihood opportunities.
- Ensure the right to decent work for young people through effective policies and programmes.



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Strong country parliamentary groups make for a strong regional voice

