

- Topic [A Comparative Analysis on National Youth Policies.](#)
Exploring a study on youth political participation around the globe, focusing on successful youth policies initiated by governments in highest scoring countries in the [Global Youth Development Index.](#)
- Speakers [Alicja Lelwic Ojeda](#) and [Lukmon Akintola](#), political participation advisors and researchers
- Key Takeaways [Background:](#)
- Need to understand how young people are meaningfully involved in political processes, focusing on the examples of successful contributions of young people to build on the strategies for young people to shape public affairs and introduce recommendations on the gaps.
 - Discussion on the engagement of young people in public affairs and the barriers for young people participation, including traditional and non-conventional dimensions of youth participation.

[Barriers to youth participation :](#)

adult-centric institutions, unfavourable political context, political repression, lack of quality civic education, policy implementation challenges (insufficient resources to implement youth policies, capacity building of staff or lack of political incentives)

[Government successful attitudes](#)

1. Creating a space for cooperation of different stakeholders, to enable the interconnectedness between youth actors, and allow an integrated approach instead of isolated youth initiatives. (the cases of Costa Rica and Australia)
2. Leveraging new technologies and social media to improve contact with youth initiatives, accessibility and engagement in political issues (the case of Morocco)
3. Trusting youth abilities to drive solutions, to encourage significant contribution by treating them as valuable agents in developing or implementing policies, by opening political positions and providing financial support to youth initiatives (the cases of Malta and the Philippines)
4. Innovating to count on youth as peace agents, and taking youth engagement as a strategy for promoting peace and security (the cases of Liberia, Nepal, Solomon Island)
5. Building capacities of young people through experiential learning, by supporting youth led organisations that are provide the chance for young

people to try out governance structures and project implementation, expanding their understanding about social inequalities and the diversity of approaches (the cases of Liberia and Nepal)

Highlighted Initiatives

Examples of CSOs activities mainstreaming disability and empowering youth

- The [Federation of Liberian Youth \(FLY\)](#): a statutory body mandated and recognised by the government to advance the voices and concerns of the Liberian youth, that drove Civic Voters' Education (CVE) ahead of the country's presidential election in October 2023.
- The [President's Young Professionals programme \(PYPP\)](#): an initiative of the Liberian government that trains and mentors young Liberian university graduates in the country
- [Philippine's Youth Development](#): a guiding framework for youth development programmes and policies (2017-2022), which includes Youth in Action (Yo-Act) Programme to encourage youth to join training and civic activities & lists specific legislative changes
- [Sangguniang Kabataan \(SK\)](#): local youth councils established in the Philippines in 1991 for people between 15 and 24 years old, provided with 10% of the barangay budget to implement local youth programmes & access to training and capacity development programmes
- [Constitutional affirmative action in Kenya's 2010 Constitution](#) was an important legislative framework for integrating youth into politics (quotas for youth representation in elective positions and 12 parliamentary seats for representatives to represent special interests, including youth and persons with disabilities).
- #NoNotAgain campaign on Twitter ahead of the 2022 Nepali parliamentary elections to advocate for young people to vote out ageing politicians.
- [Solomon Islands' Youth@Work programme](#): created in 2012, to support youth-led initiatives which led to the Young Women's Parliamentary Group.
- Australia's [Youth Advisory Group \(YAG\)](#), a platform to contribute and influence policy processes, and the [Youth Steering Committee](#), a selection of elected youth work on designing new youth engagement models, advise the Ministry of Youth.