

MISSION RESPONSIBLE

Establishing **Quality Standards** for **Youth Work** across the **World**

Preliminary Research

September – November 2016

Country: INDIA

1. How do you define youth work based on your experience?

Youth work is a process of empowering youth through building their perspective and supporting them to achieve their full potential and contribute to the development process of nation through influencing the democratic governance process. Also it aims at supporting the youth to find out or create rightful place in the nations.

2. Is there an official definition for youth work in your country?

NO

3. Is youth work an officially recognised profession in your country?

NO

There are no specific professionals like youth worker. However the development professionals are engaged in youth related to work as part of the development work. A separate ministry named "Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports" has been established by Government of India which deal with education, employment and skill building, entrepreneurship, health & healthy life styles, sports, promotion of social values, community engagement, participation in politics & governance, youth engagement, inclusion, social justice of youth. The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports has been bifurcated in two departments namely Department of Youth Affairs and Department of Sports. The Department of Youth Affairs has one subordinate office namely, The National Service Scheme (NSS) and two autonomous organisations viz; Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) and Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development.

There is no profession code for youth worker in the tax system. Also there is no special education for youth workers.

4. What is the "job description" of a youth worker? What do they do?

There is no specific designation as youth worker however people work on youth issue have the following job description:

- # Mobilisation youth.
- # Providing training to youth.
- # Facilitating youth for skill building.
- # Linking the youth with different schemes and programmes of the Government.
- # Proving counselling support related to education.
- # Perspective building on secular values, nationalism, cultural values.

- # Mobilising youth for voluntary service during disaster.
- # Mobilising for effective participation in the democratic governance process.
- # Formation of youth club and leadership building.
- # Mobilising youth for voluntary blood donation.

5. How can one become a youth worker? Is there special training or education for youth workers in your country/ region/ local community and who provides it?

There is no specific course for the youth worker. People engaged in development sector having professional degree in social sciences, social work and equivalent subject are usually found as youth worker. Social Work as two years post graduation course includes a special paper youth and community development. Government of India under the autonomous institution Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD) provides the above degree. However the course has not been recognised as exclusive course for youth worker. Also RGNIYD provided inter disciplinary doctoral programme on youth studies. RGNIYD organises training programmes for trainers keeping in view of the need of youth on various themes. Also the institute offers post graduate diploma in youth development.

Under the National Service Schemes of Government of India, a teacher in the school / college / university is designated as Programme Officer and provided with training to coordinate various activities with youth.

Other than this the Civil Society Organisations provide project based training to the staff for coordinating the youth work.

6. Who works with youth, except teachers, in your country/ region/ local community?

The Civil Society Organisation and religious institutions work with the youth at various levels.

7. What do youth workers offer to young people through their work?

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- # Linking the youth with different schemes and programmes of the Government.
- # Providing counselling support related to education.
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8. Is there a difference between a youth worker and a volunteer working with youngsters in your organisation/ community/ country/ region?

YES

Youth Worker possesses the knowledge and understanding about youth issues, and its scenario its various level. Policy understanding is vital for youth worker to address the issues related to youth. Also

strategising youth work requires deeper understanding of youth worker on issues, and local, regional and national context, policy asks, governance structure and advocacy process.

9. Does your organisation cooperate with other youth organisations currently?

YES BUT NO SPECIFIC NUMBERS

- With how many from your country? Please, give a number: ?
- With how many from your local community? Please, give a number: ?
- With how many internationally? Please, give a number: ?

10. Please, explain the background and the national, regional and local needs that make youth work important/necessary in your country/ region/ local community?

- # Education
- # Training
- # Nutrition
- # Health
- # Civic Protection
- # Cultural protection
- # Harmony & peace
- # Deepening of secular values
- # Building identity of the marginalised community

11. Is there a strategy for youth in your country?

Brief Report:

In India, 27.5% of the population comprises of youth in the age-group of 15-29 years. The Department has introduced National Youth Policy-2014 (NYP-2014), with the vision to *"To empower youth of the country to achieve their full potential, and through them enable India to find its rightful place in the community of nations."* The Department implements various Schemes for development of personality and leadership qualities of the youth and for involving them in voluntary community service and nation-building activities. NYKS (Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan) is one of the largest youth organisations in the world, with about 8 million youth enrolled through 2.77 lakh youth clubs. NSS (National Service Scheme) has 3.3 million student volunteers on its rolls. RGNIYD (Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development) is a premier institution for training and research on youth issues. Major initiatives and achievements under various Schemes of the Department *in the current financial year* are as follows:

- 1. Environment Conservation:** This is a major area of focus for NYKS activities. NYKS has undertaken an ambitious programme for plantation of saplings all over the country through members of youth clubs/mahila mandals. In all, 42.24 lakh saplings have been planted by NYKS volunteers.
- 2. Blood Donation:** NYKS volunteers have been in the forefront of organizing blood donation camps and donating blood. NYKS volunteers have donated 26,656 units of blood in blood donation camps organized in various parts of the country.
- 3. Skill Development:** Skill Development is a priority area for NYKS. NYKS has organized 1,161 Skill Up gradation Training Programmes for women youth members of youth clubs in which

21,177 women were enrolled for undergoing Skill Up gradation Training in various need-based vocational skills. NYKS also sponsored 34,303 youth for undergoing Skill Development Training through various Vocational Training Providers.

4. **Youth Leadership and Community Development:** NYKS has organized 407 Training Programmes on 'Youth Leadership and Community Development', with the objective of enhancing capacity of young people to take leadership to help others to live a meaningful life and contribute towards nation building. In all, 16,666 youth club members have participated in these Programmes.
5. **Awareness building:** NYKS organized 451 Theme-based Awareness and Education Programmes with the objective of creating awareness among youth about the importance of health & family welfare, sanitation, environment conservation and other issues of social concern. In all, 44,940 youth club members participated in these Programmes.

Strategy of the Government:

- # Education
- # Employment and skill building
- # Entrepreneurship
- # Health & healthy life styles
- # Sports
- # Promotion of social values
- # Community engagement
- # Participation in politics & governance
- # Youth engagement
- # Inclusion
- # Social justice of youth.