



Call for Workshop Proposals

World Bank Youth Summit 2014

Background on the Youth Summit

Young people's rights and development priorities are central to the global development agenda and must be valued if the World Bank Group (WBG) and the international community want to meet the WBG and other organizations' goals of eradicating poverty by 2030, boosting shared prosperity, and ensuring the sustainability of these gains.

Established in 2013, the Youth Summit serves as a platform for conversation and action to make the WBG, and the international community, more relevant to youth and youth more relevant to the WBG. The Youth Summit Organizing Committee (YSOC) is comprised of younger WBG employees and supported by WBG senior management. The first Youth Summit was held in October 2013 and emphasized youth entrepreneurship, revitalizing a new chapter of WBG involvement and engagement with a dynamic generation of young entrepreneurs, activists, development professionals and others interested in global youth-related issues¹. It convened over seven hundred people and provided an opportunity for youth teams around the world to submit solutions to challenges faced by international organizations. Building on the accomplishments from last fall and responding to the overwhelmingly positive feedback received after the event, the Youth Summit Organizing Committee decided to host the Summit on an annual basis.

¹ The WBG and the United Nations statistically define "youth" as those aged 15-24, broadly covering the ages between which a person may leave compulsory education and the age at which he/she finds his/her first employment. However, these institutions also recognize the limitations of this statistical definition, and consider the term "youth" to be a more fluid concept which varies in different societies around the world, and changes continuously in response to fluctuating political, economic and sociocultural circumstances. *Source:* [The United Nation's World Programme of Action for Youth](#).

Goals for Youth Summit 2014

The Youth Summit 2014 aims to convene young civil society and NGO leaders, students, government officials, technical experts and practitioners to focus on how we, “the youth,” can contribute to open and responsive governments.

The Youth Summit 2014 will be held on Tuesday, October 7 at World Bank Group headquarters in Washington DC.

Theme

The theme of the Youth Summit 2014 is **The Need for Open and Responsive Governments**. The sub-themes are transparency, accountability, and collaboration.

Increased government openness is crucial to earning back the trust of young people. Perceptions of corruption, inefficiencies and bad management have resulted in a lack of trust in governments. With increasing inequality, unemployment and lack of sustainable solutions, this perception is especially true amongst youth who feel their voices are often overlooked, disregarded or shut out of government decision-making processes.²

Around the world youth are standing up against corruption, demanding open governments, transparent decision-making and active engagement. Young people have the incentive to create and seize the necessary tools to become actively engaged in government decision-making, which could result in greater transparency, accountability and better opportunities for their future.

Workshop Objectives

Breakout workshops at the Youth Summit 2014 will build capacity for youth working on good governance. Workshops will provide new skills and knowledge on how young people can work with government towards greater transparency, strengthening accountability and ensuring mechanisms for feedback are in place.

Workshop Format

Workshops will be 1 hour 15 minutes in duration. Workshops will focus on building either technical or applied skills³. Workshops should fit within one of the following sub-themes:

² According to a Gallup World poll, the average confidence in national governments in OECD countries stood at 40 percent in 2012, down from 45 percent in 2007.

³ Applied, or soft, skills are those that are more social than technical. These include, for example, communication or lobbying skills, decision-making, problem-solving, collaboration, and leadership.

- I. Transparency
- II. Accountability
- III. Collaboration

These workshops aim to both strengthen technical knowledge of young people with good practices and provide a learning space to enhance individual and organizational capacities. As only so much information can be shared in 75 minutes, it is expected that workshops will provide participants with resources to pursue after the Youth Summit.

Proposals from a range of topics are welcome, including but not limited to open data and open budgets, online tools and new technologies, advocacy and citizen participation, and anti-bribery mechanisms. **Workshop sessions are envisioned to be dynamic and innovative in leveraging the experience and expertise of participants, speakers and workshop facilitators in an interactive setting.** For example, will audience members be working on computers as you show them a database? Will participants engage with each other or the facilitator?

Please note that the language of the Youth Summit will be English.

Audience

Audience members will consist of young people serving in good governance or anti-corruption organizations, governments, parliaments, trade associations, civil society, as well as WBG and UN young staff members, and representatives from other regional banks and international organizations. Additionally, there are plans for the event to be live streaming to youth from around the world.

Who can submit a workshop proposal?

Any organization working on topics related to governance, anti-corruption, accountability, transparency, citizen/youth participation, youth advocacy, or a related field is welcome to submit a proposal.

How to submit

Please submit the workshop proposal form by **August 15, 2014.**

Selection of proposals

Proposals will be evaluated by the Youth Summit Organizing Committee on the following criteria:

- Relevance to the Youth Summit 2014 sub-themes: i) transparency, ii) accountability, iii) collaboration
- Innovative or dynamic format and methods
- Building either technical or applied skills and/or providing resources to participants

Selected organizations will be notified no later than September 1, 2014. In the event that two proposals are similar and/or complimentary, the Youth Summit Organizing Committee may suggest that those organizations coordinate and deliver a workshop jointly. Unfortunately, due to the grassroots nature of this initiative we are unable, at this time, to provide financial support towards travel and accommodation.