



CHILD PROTECTION, ADOLESCENTS & YOUTH
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How do we Define Adolescence and Youth?



Children: under 18

Adolescents: 10 to 19

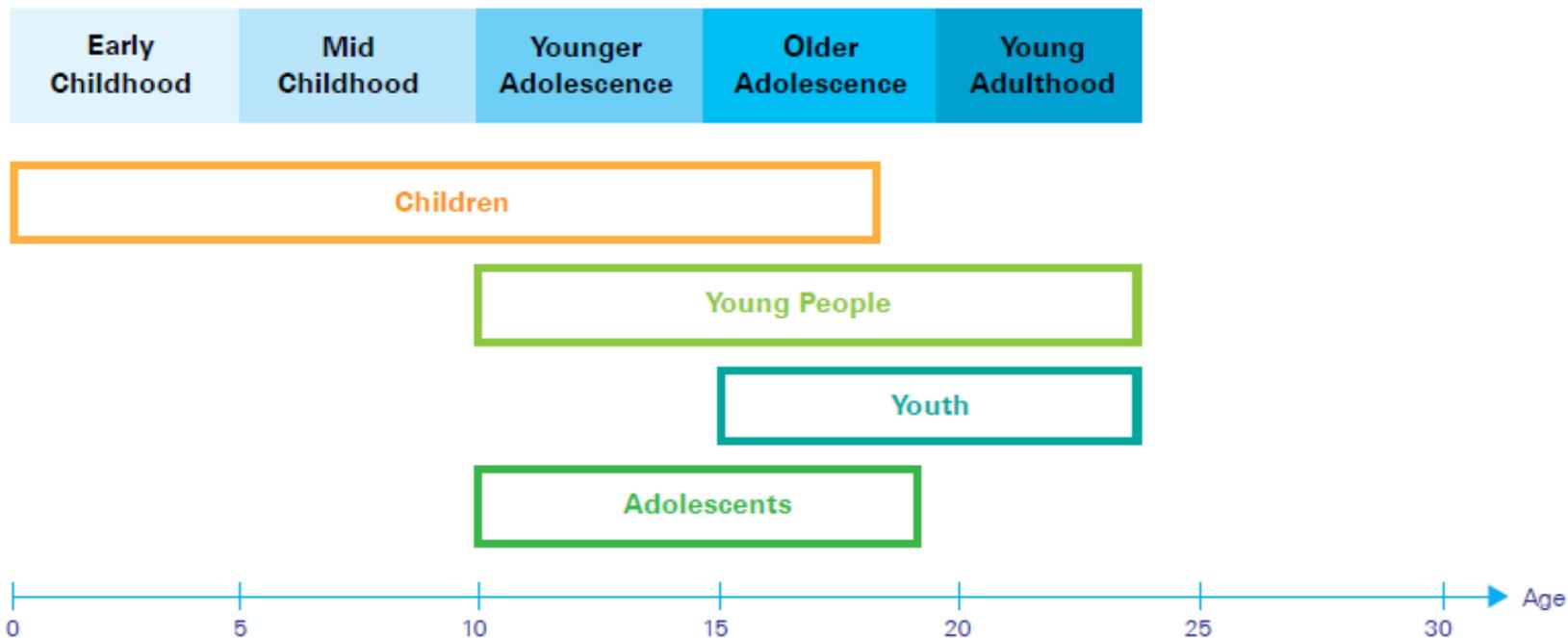
Youth: 15 to 24

Young people: 10 to 24

A **transition phase** between childhood and adulthood – but perceptions and definitions vary depending on local realities, culture and beliefs.

In Jordan, the MoY defines youth as anyone between 12-30.

Phases of Childhood, Adolescence and Youth



Why Focus on Adolescents and Youth?



- As children up to the age of 18, most adolescents are protected under the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Yet, their vulnerabilities and needs often remain unaddressed.
- Of the 7.6 billion people in the world today, 1.8 billion are adolescents and youth between the ages of 10-24 years, and that number is expected to rise. In the Middle East and North Africa region, young people are the fastest growing segment, where some 60% of the population is under 25 years old.
- With 35.8% of the population below 15, and youth (aged 12-30) accounting for more than one-third of the population, Jordan is a youthful country and will remain so in the years to come. Young Jordanians face multiple and interconnected challenges which require a comprehensive approach to youth challenges. (OECD Youth Well Being Policy Review)

Adolescents and Youth in Humanitarian Contexts

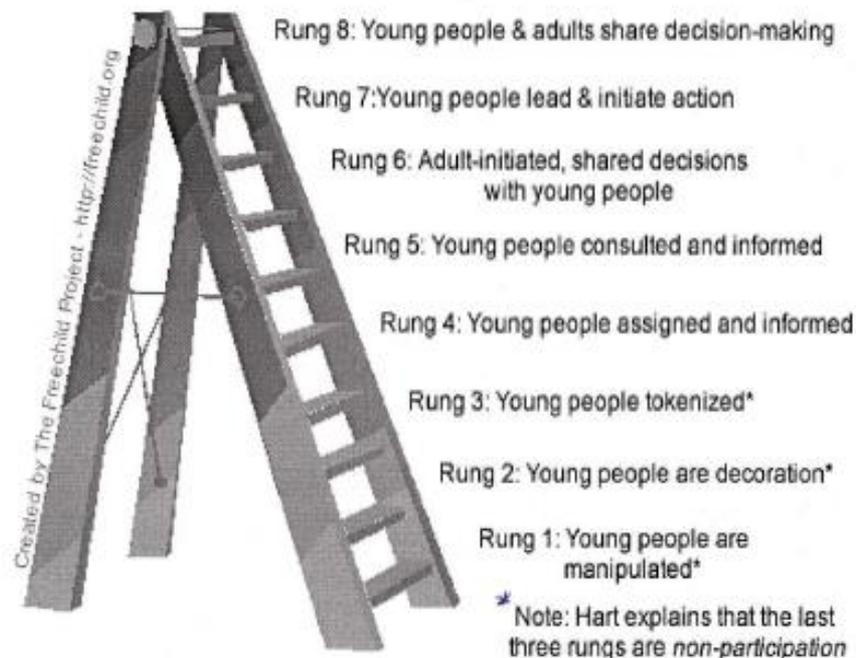


- Coordinated investments in **adolescent health, wellbeing and education** provide high economic and social returns. Expanding education and skills, and providing **livelihood opportunities** to older adolescents and young people as well as economic support to families of adolescents, can break the intergenerational cycle of poverty, particularly in conflict and post-conflict situations.
- In every humanitarian emergency, young people step up and apply their many **powerful assets to the response**: skills; motivation; ingenuity; energy; creativity; their strong sense of justice, fairness and equality; an aptitude for technology; and a capacity for peer mobilisation.

Video of Yanal from Zaatari

Participation

Roger Hart's Ladder of Young People's Participation



Adapted from Hart, R. (1992). *Children's Participation from Tokenism to Citizenship*.
Florence: UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre.

Compact for Young People in Humanitarian Action



Compact Guidelines

- The Inter-agency Guidelines for Working *with* and *for* Young People in Humanitarian Settings contribute to the commitment made under Compact Core Action 1 “Promote and increase age- and gender-responsive and inclusive programmes that contribute to the protection, health and development of young women, young men, girls and boys within humanitarian settings”.
- These guidelines are not just about ‘mainstreaming’ their needs, but about reinforcing the contributions they make to humanitarian programming, improving responses.



Youth, Peace and Security



- Through the unanimous adoption of UN resolution 2250 (2015), which defined youth as persons aged 18 through 29, the Council also urged Member States to consider setting up mechanisms that would enable young people to participate meaningfully in peace processes and dispute resolution.
- Considered the first of its kind on youth, peace and security, the Resolution followed efforts by His Royal Highness (HRH) Crown Prince Hussein bin Abdullah of Jordan, and the Global Forum on Youth Peace and Security that took place in Amman under his patronage in August 2015
- Five Pillars of the UN 2250 YPS Resolution:
- **Participation, Protection, Prevention, Partnerships, Disengagement and reintegration**

UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2250 (2015)

ON YOUTH, PEACE AND SECURITY

“ Today’s generation of youth is **THE LARGEST** the world has ever known, and... young people often form the majority of the population of **COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY ARMED CONFLICT** ”

“ Disruption of youth’s access to **EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES** has a dramatic impact on durable peace and reconciliation ”



“ Youth should actively be engaged in shaping lasting **PEACE** and contributing to **JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION** ”

“ A large youth population presents **A UNIQUE DEMOGRAPHIC** dividend that can contribute to lasting peace and economic prosperity if **INCLUSIVE POLICIES** are in place ”

Youth, Peace and Security in Jordan



- In response to UNSCR 2250 Jordan created a National 2250 YPS Coalition, chaired by UNFPA and the Crown Prince Foundation, under the patronage of the MOY.
- The coalition membership entails two forms of members. The first is a non-voting membership for organizations, and the second is a voting membership for youth.



Links between CP, the Compact and YPS

Child protection is connected to Protection under the Compact and to Youth, Peace and Security, and working with adolescents in many ways, including:

- Investing in young people at an early age in terms of prevention activities, and meaningful engagement in programme development, awareness, and capacity building activities helps protect adolescents and empower them and their communities.
- Involving adolescents in identifying and responding to concerns in the community helps build their own and their community's awareness.
- Adolescents who are not exposed to violence but empowered through engaging in preventative activities are more likely to thrive and develop into well balanced and resilient adults.

Good Practices



Examples of good practices shared by:

- Mercy Corps
- War Child UK
- UNICEF

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every pregnancy is wanted
every childbirth is safe and
every young person's
potential is fulfilled



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