

# 15 UN PRIORITIES FOR YOUTH HANDOUT

(Taken from: *World Program of Action for Youth, UN, 2007 and World Youth Report 2003, the Global Situation of Young People, UN Source: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/library.htm>)*

## Introduction

In 1995, the world youth population - defined by the United Nations as the age cohort 15-24 - is estimated to be 1.03 billion, or 18 per cent of the total world population. The majority of the world youth population (84 per cent in 1995) lives in developing countries. This figure is projected to increase to 89 per cent by 2025.

Within the United Nations System, and in all its statistics and indicators, young people are identified as those between the ages of 15 and 24. It is assumed that youth, as a phase of life, takes place within these boundaries. Young people are grouped together to form a sort of statistical entity, which makes it possible to produce comparative data. These boundaries are not static, however.

Apart from the statistical definition of the term "youth" mentioned above, the meaning of the term "youth" varies in different societies around the world. Definitions of youth have changed continuously in response to fluctuating political, economic and socio-cultural circumstances.

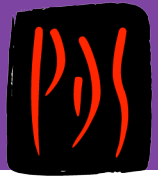
Young people in industrialized countries comprise a relatively smaller proportion of the total population because of generally lower birth rates and longer life expectancy.

Young people in all countries are both a major human resource for development and key agents for social change, economic development and technological innovation.

## The *World Program of Action for Youth (WPAY)*

- The United Nations has long recognized that the imagination, ideals and energies of young people are vital for the continuing development of the societies in which they live. The
- Member States of the UN acknowledged this in 1965 when they endorsed the *Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples*.
- Two decades later, the UN General Assembly observed 1985 as the *International Youth Year: Participation, Development and Peace*. It drew international attention to the important role young people play in the world, and, in particular, their potential contribution to development.
- In 1995, on the tenth anniversary of *International Youth Year*, the United Nations strengthened its commitment to young people by directing the international community's response to the challenges to youth into the next millennium. It did this by adopting an international strategy — the *World Program of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond*.

The *World Program of Action for Youth (WPAY)* provides a policy framework and practical guidelines for national action and international support to improve the situation of young people. It contains proposals for action, aiming at fostering conditions and mechanisms to promote improved well-being and livelihood among young people. The WPAY focuses in particular on measures to strengthen national capacities in the field of youth and to increase the quality and quantity of opportunities available to young people for full, effective and constructive participation in society.



In its original form, the World Program of Action for Youth outlined 10 priority areas to be addressed; however, at the ten year review of the implementation of the World Program of Action for Youth, Member States agreed to the addition of five additional issue areas (11-15). These were expanded upon in a Supplement, which was adopted in 2007. Together these fifteen issue areas and their related plans of action are what are understood to comprise the World Program of Action for Youth that guide policy and action in the area of youth development.

## Priority Areas

1. Education
2. Employment
3. Hunger and poverty
4. Health
5. Environment
6. Drug abuse
7. Juvenile delinquency
8. Leisure-time activities
9. Girls and young women
10. Full and effective participation of youth in the life of society and in decision-making
11. Globalization
12. Information and Communication Technology
13. HIV/AIDS
14. Armed Conflict
15. Intergenerational Issues

## Education

Three main concerns regarding current systems of education were expressed:

- Inability of many parents in developing countries to send their children to schools because of local economic and social conditions.
- The paucity of educational opportunities for girls and young women, migrants, refugees, displaced persons, street children, indigenous youth minorities, young people in rural areas and young people with disabilities.
- The quality of education, its relevance to employment and its usefulness in assisting young people in the transition to full adulthood, active citizenship and productive and gainful employment.

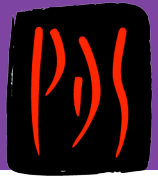
## Proposals for action

- a) *Improving the level of basic education, skill training and literacy among youth*
- b) *Cultural heritage and contemporary patterns of society*
- c) *Promoting mutual respect and understanding and the ideals of peace, solidarity and tolerance among youth*
- d) *Vocational and professional training*
- e) *Promoting human rights education*
- f) *Training for enterprise programs*
- g) *Infrastructure for training youth workers and youth leaders*

## Employment

Unemployment and underemployment among youth is a problem everywhere. It is, indeed, part of the larger struggle to create employment opportunities for all citizens. The problem has worsened in recent years because of the global recession which has affected developing countries the most seriously. The difficulty of finding suitable employment is compounded by a host of other problems confronting young people, including illiteracy and insufficient training, and is worsened by periods of world economic slow-down and by overall changing economic trends.

The situation of girls and young women, as well as of young people with disabilities, refugee youth, displaced persons, street children, indigenous youth, migrant youth and minorities warrants urgent attention, bearing in mind the prohibition of forced labor and child labor.



## Proposals for action

- a) *Opportunities for self-employment*
- b) *Employment opportunities for specific groups of young people*
- c) *Voluntary community services involving youth*
- d) *Needs created by technological changes*

## Hunger and poverty

Over one billion people in the world today live in unacceptable conditions of poverty, mostly in developing countries, particularly in rural areas of low-income countries in Asia and the Pacific, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and the least developed countries.

Poverty has various manifestations; hunger and malnutrition; ill health; limited or lack of access to education and other basic services; increased morbidity and mortality from illness; homelessness and inadequate housing; unsafe environments; and social discrimination and exclusion; it is also characterized by a lack of participation in decision making and in civil and socio-cultural life. Poverty is inseparably linked to lack of access to or loss of control over resources, including land, skills, knowledge, capital and social connections. Without those resources, people have limited access to institutions, markets, employment and public services. Young people are particularly affected by this situation.

## Proposals for action

- a) *Making farming more rewarding and life in agricultural areas more attractive*
- b) *Skill-training for income-generation by young people*
- c) *Land grants for young people*
- d) *Cooperation between urban and rural youth in food production and distribution*

## Health

Young people in some parts of the world suffer from poor health as a result of societal conditions, including such factors as customary attitudes and harmful traditional practices and, in some cases, as a result of their own actions. Poor health is often caused by an unhealthy environment, by missing support systems in everyday life for health promoting patterns of behavior, by lack of information and by inadequate or inappropriate health services. Problems include the lack of a safe and sanitary living environment, malnutrition, the risk of infectious, parasitic and water-borne diseases, the growing consumption of tobacco, alcohol and drugs, unwarranted risk-taking and destructive activity, resulting in unintentional injuries.

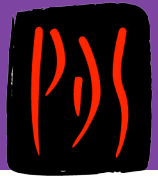
The reproductive health needs of adolescents have been largely ignored. In many countries, there is a lack of information and services available to adolescents to help them understand their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, and to protect them from unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS.

## Proposals for action

- a) *Provision of basic health services*
- b) *Development of health education*
- c) *Promotion of health services, including sexual and reproductive health and development of relevant education programs in those fields*
- d) *HIV infection and AIDS among young people*
- e) *Promotion of good sanitation and hygiene practices*
- f) *Prevention of disease and illness among youth resulting from poor health practices*
- g) *Elimination of sexual abuse of young people*
- h) *Combating malnutrition among young people*

## Environment

The deterioration of the natural environment is one of the principal concerns of young people world wide as it has direct implications for their well-being both now and in the future. The natural environment must be maintained and preserved for both present and future generations. The causes of environmental degradation must be addressed. The



environmentally friendly use of natural resources and environmentally sustainable economic growth will improve human life.

Sustainable development has become a key element in the programs of youth organizations throughout the world.

### Proposals for action

- a) *Integration of environmental education and training into education and training Programs*
- b) *Facilitating the international dissemination of information on environmental issues to,*
- c) *and the use of environmentally sound technologies by, youth*
- d) *Strengthening participation of youth in the protection, preservation and improvement of the environment*
- e) *Enhancing the role of the media as a tool for widespread dissemination of*
- f) *environmental issues to youth*

### Drug abuse

The vulnerability of young people to drug abuse has in recent years become a major concern. The consequences of widespread drug abuse and trafficking, particularly for young men and women, are all too apparent. Violence, particularly street violence, often results from drug abuse and illicit drug networks.

Abuse of prescription drugs, self-medication with tranquilizers, sleeping-pills and stimulants can also create serious problems, particularly in countries and regions where distribution controls are weak and habit-forming drugs are purchased abroad or diverted from licit channels of distribution. In this context, the vulnerability of young people raises a particular problem and specific measures are therefore needed.

### Proposals for action

- a) *Participation of youth organizations and youth in demand reduction programs for young people*
- b) *Training medical and paramedical students in the rational use of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances*
- c) *Treatment and rehabilitation of young people who are drug abusers or drug-dependent and young alcoholics and tobacco users*
- d) *Care for young drug abusers and drug-dependent suspects and offenders in the criminal justice and prison system*

### Juvenile delinquency

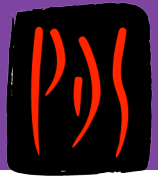
Juvenile crime and delinquency are serious problems all over the world. Their intensity and gravity depend mostly on the social, economic and cultural conditions in each country. There is evidence, however, of an apparent world-wide increase in juvenile criminality combined with economic recession, especially in marginal sectors of urban centers. In many cases, youth offenders are "street children" who have been exposed to violence in their immediate social environment, either as observers or as victims. Their basic education, when they have it, is poor; their primary socialization from the family is too often inadequate; and their socio-economic environment is shaped by poverty and destitution.

Rather than relying solely on the criminal justice system, approaches to the prevention of violence and crime should thus include measures to support equality and justice, to combat poverty and to reduce hopelessness among young people.

### Proposals for action

- a) *Priority to preventive measures*
- b) *Prevention of violence*
- c) *Rehabilitation services and programs*

### Leisure-time activities



The importance of leisure-time activities in the psychological, cognitive and physical development of young people is recognized in all societies. Leisure-time activities include games, sports, cultural events, entertainment and community service. Appropriate leisure programs for youth are elements of any measure aimed at fighting social ills such as drug abuse, juvenile delinquency and other deviant behavior. While leisure programs can contribute greatly to the development of the physical, intellectual and emotional potential of young people, they should be designed with due care and concern so that they are not used as a means for excluding youth from participating in other aspects of social life or for indoctrinating them. Leisure-time activity programs should be made freely available to young people.

### **Proposals for action**

- a) *Leisure-time activities as an integral part of youth policies and programs*
- b) *Leisure-time activities as elements of educational programs*
- c) *Leisure-time activities in urban planning and rural development*
- d) *Leisure-time activities and the media*

## **Girls and young women**

One of the most important tasks of youth policy is to improve the situation of girls and young women. Governments therefore should implement their obligations under international human rights instruments as well as implementing the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women, the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Vienna Declaration and Program of Action of the World Conference on Human Rights and other programs of relevant United Nations conferences. Girls are often treated as inferior and are socialized to put themselves last, thus undermining their self-esteem. Discrimination and neglect in childhood can initiate a lifelong downward spiral of deprivation and exclusion from the social mainstream. Negative cultural attitudes and practices as well as gender-biased educational processes including curricula, educational materials and practices, teachers' attitudes and classroom interaction, reinforce existing gender inequalities.

### **Proposals for action**

- a) *Discrimination*
- b) *Education*
- c) *Health*
- d) *Employment*
- e) *Violence*

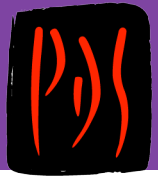
## **Full and effective participation of youth in the life of society and in decision-making**

The capacity for progress of our societies is based, among other elements, on their capacity to incorporate the contribution and responsibility of youth in the building and designing of the future. In addition to their intellectual contribution and their ability to mobilize support, they bring unique perspectives that need to be taken into account.

Any efforts and proposed actions in the other priority areas considered in this program are, in a certain way, conditioned by enabling the economic, social and political participation of youth, as a matter of critical importance.

### **Proposals for action**

- a) *Improving access to information in order to enable young people to make better use of their opportunities to participate in decision-making;*
- b) *Developing and/or strengthening opportunities for young people to learn their rights and responsibilities, promoting their social, political, developmental and environmental participation, removing obstacles that affect their full contribution to society and respecting, inter alia, freedom of association;*
- c) *Encouraging and promoting youth associations through financial, educational and technical support and promotion of their activities;*



- d) *Taking into account the contribution of youth in designing, implementing and evaluating national policies and plans affecting their concerns;*
- e) *Encouraging increased national, regional and international cooperation and exchange between youth organizations;*
- f) *Inviting Governments to strengthen the involvement of young people in international forums, inter alia, by considering the inclusion of youth representatives in their national delegations to the General Assembly*

## Globalization

Globalization has opened new opportunities for sustained economic growth and the development of the world economy. Globalization has also permitted countries to share experiences and to learn from one another's achievements and difficulties and has promoted a cross-fertilization of ideas, cultural values and aspirations. Globalization has thus helped to connect youth not only to the rest of the world, but also with each other.

At the same time, the rapid processes of change and adjustment of globalization have been accompanied by intensified poverty, unemployment and social disintegration. Threats to human well-being, such as environmental risks, have also been globalized. Some countries have successfully adapted to the changes and benefited from globalization, but many others, especially least developed countries, have remained marginalized in the globalized world economy. The benefits are very unevenly shared, while the costs are unevenly distributed. Globalization should be fully inclusive and equitable. There is a strong need for appropriate policies and measures at the national and international levels to help countries to respond effectively to the challenges of globalization and the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

Many young people, especially in developing countries, remain marginalized from the global economy and lack the capabilities to access the opportunities that globalization offers. Many are restricted by inadequate education, limited skills, unemployment and poverty or are outside the reach of basic information and communication and the goods and services that have become available with globalization.

### Proposals for action

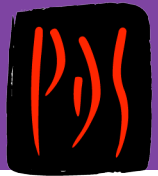
- a) *Managing the effects of globalization on youth*
- b) *Promoting youth employment and skills development in the context of Globalization*
- c) *Establishing ways of monitoring systems to track the effects of globalization on Youth*

## Information and communications technology

Information and communications technology (ICT) and infrastructures are growing in importance as a part of everyday business and interaction. This process can be enhanced by removing barriers to universal, ubiquitous, equitable and affordable access to information, which hinder the bridging of the digital divide, particularly those that impede the full achievement of the economic, social and cultural development of countries and the welfare of their people, especially youth, in particular in developing countries. ICT has enormous potential to expand access to quality education, to boost literacy and universal primary education and to facilitate the learning process itself, thus laying the groundwork for the establishment of a fully inclusive and development-oriented information society and knowledge economy that respects cultural and linguistic diversity.

### Proposals for action

- a) *Making information and communications technology available to all youth*
- b) *Providing training to facilitate use of information and communications technology*
- c) *Protecting youth from the harmful aspects of information and communications technology*
- d) *Promoting the use of information and communications technology by persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups*
- e) *Empowering young people as key contributors to building an inclusive information society*



## HIV/AIDS

The HIV/AIDS epidemic is increasingly a problem of youth, especially in parts of the developing world. Governments have noted with grave concern the fact that new HIV infections are heavily concentrated among youth and that there is a lack of information available to help youth to understand their sexuality, including their sexual and reproductive health, in order to increase their ability to protect themselves from HIV infection and sexually transmitted diseases and to prevent unwanted pregnancies.

Young people, especially young women in Africa, face especially high risks of HIV infection. Young people and women are particularly vulnerable to infection owing to their lack of economic and social power and their lack of the capability to decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality in order to increase their ability to protect themselves from HIV infections. They often lack the tools and information required to avoid infection and cope with AIDS.

### Proposals for action

- a) *Raising awareness about HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment for youth*
- b) *Supporting universal HIV/AIDS education, taking gender inequalities into account*
- c) *Legislation and legal instruments to protect vulnerable youth*

## Armed conflict

Development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing. The scale of the violence perpetrated against civilians, including youth, in the past couple of decades is extremely worrisome. Armed conflicts have resulted in killings, the massive displacement of people, including youth, and the destruction of communities, which has impacted negatively on their development.

### Proposals for action

- a) *Protecting youth under age 18 from direct involvement in armed conflict*
- b) *Providing for the reintegration of youth ex-combatants and protection of noncombatants*
- c) *Promoting active involvement of youth in maintaining peace and security*

## Intergenerational issues

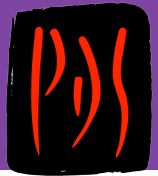
Many aspects of the demographic transition, global economic development and globalization have influenced opportunities for the intergenerational exchange of knowledge, ideas and resources. The increase in lifespan implies that many adults may be able to share knowledge and resources with younger generations over a longer period of time. In recent times, greater longevity has resulted in situations where many older people live for longer periods in some form of dependency on younger generations. On the other hand, trends in globalization and development have resulted in situations where many young people are cut off from their families.

Individual and family choices, geographical mobility and the pressures of contemporary life can keep people apart, yet the great majority of people in all cultures maintain close relations with their families throughout their lives. These relationships work in both directions, with older persons often providing significant contributions financially, emotionally and in respect of the education and care of grandchildren and other kin, thereby making a crucial contribution to the stability of the family unit.

The weakening of intergenerational connections in the context of ageing societies implies that various needs of youth, children and older persons, which may have been supported through intricate and complex familial relationships, are increasingly not being met and are instead becoming the responsibility of the State or the private sector.

### Proposals for action

- a) *Strengthening families*
- b) *Empowering young women*
- c) *Strengthening intergenerational solidarity*



## **Facts and figures describing situation in the UN priority areas**

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### Education:

- Access to basic education has improved, but youth need a higher-quality education, including greater access to tertiary education, to succeed in the global economy.
- More young people are completing basic education, making this the best-educated generation of youth ever.
- As far as adult literacy is concerned, it is currently estimated that some 21 per cent of the world's population aged 15 years and over are illiterate.
- High educational qualifications do not necessarily guarantee decent employment;
- Increasingly, it is not just those with little education and training who are left behind, but also educated youth, whose knowledge, skills and attitudes may not be compatible with the needs of the global economy.

### Employment:

- Economic growth is not always accompanied by growth in employment
- According to estimates of the International Labor Organization, more than one hundred million new jobs would have to be created within the next twenty years in order to provide suitable employment for the growing number of young people in the economically active populations of developing countries
- Unemployment and underemployment among youth constitute a global problem.
- All over the world, young people are finding it increasingly difficult to break into the labor market.
- Youth make up 25 per cent of the global working-age population but account for 43.7 per cent of the unemployed, which means that almost every other jobless person in the world is between the ages of 15 and 24.

### Hunger and poverty:

- Poverty is inseparably linked to a lack of access to, or the loss of control over, resources, including land, skills, knowledge, capital and social connections.
- Without those resources, individuals and their families have limited access to institutions, markets, employment and public services.

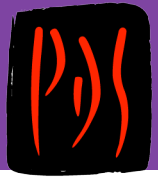
### Health:

- The period between the ages of 15 and 24 is typically one of the healthiest in the life course of an individual.
- However, young people in both developed and developing countries are currently facing a number of serious health risks that can derail their transition to healthy, productive adulthood.
- In developing countries, and in many of the economies in transition, HIV/AIDS represents perhaps the greatest risk. Around the world, the reproductive health needs of adolescents have been largely ignored.
- In many countries, regardless of the level of development or well-being, there is a lack of information and services to protect youth from unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS.
- Young people around the world are also exposed to other health threats that can seriously affect their welfare. Many are associated with contemporary lifestyles; for example, poor nutritional practices are contributing to the growing incidence of obesity and related diseases among youth.
- The prevalence of tobacco, alcohol and drug use and the high rates of morbidity and mortality associated with accidents and violence among youth are also a source of grave concern.
- Bad habits and poor hygiene, persistent behavioral risks, poor basic sanitation, and new and emerging diseases are contributing to a deadly mix that is changing the classic picture of healthy youth.
- Papua New Guinea's traditions provide fertile ground for (...) reproductive health education. Sex was never a taboo subject. Neither was it shameful.

### Environment:

- While every segment of society is responsible for maintaining the environmental integrity of the community, young people have a special interest in maintaining a healthy environment because they will be the ones to inherit it.





- Environmental education has an important role to play in the promotion of environmental awareness
- Environmentalist groups put a lot of their resources into education projects, providing course materials for teachers and producing publications targeted at children and youth.
- Much of the environmentally relevant information young people receive comes not from formal education but from the media. In principle, environmental education and the media could join in a larger process of social learning, though the fact that the media are generally driven by concerns that are not educative can get in the way of such a synthesis.

#### Drug abuse:

- The international community places particular emphasis on reducing the demand for and supply of illegal drugs and preventing abuse. Supply reduction includes combating international illicit drug trafficking.
- Drug abuse prevention initiatives range from discouraging people from taking drugs, thus preventing involuntary addiction, to helping those who are abusing drugs to stop doing so.
- Drug abuse is a chronic relapsing condition.
- Drug control strategies at the national and international levels consistently emphasize initiatives aimed at reducing drug abuse among young people. This is reflected in the resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and in the demand reduction programs of the United Nations International Drug Control Program.

#### Juvenile delinquency:

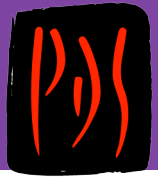
- Youth from poor urban settings should have access to specific educational, employment and leisure programs, particularly during long school holidays.
- Young people who drop out of school or come from broken families should benefit from specific social programs that help them build self-esteem and confidence conducive to responsible adulthood.
- To prevent violence and crime, the development of social organization, particularly through youth organizations and community involvement, should be fostered by a supportive social policy and within a legal framework.
- The human rights of young people who are imprisoned should be protected and principles of penal majority according to penal laws should be given great attention.

#### Leisure-time activities:

- The out-of-school hours constitute a period during which bad things can and do happen, including drinking, smoking, unprotected sexual activity, delinquency and violence.
- In the United States, for example, new policy commitments to after-school programs were spurred largely by reports that juvenile crime rates spiked during the hours directly after school.
- There are certainly reasons to be concerned about young people's leisure time, and to view the development of positive leisure opportunities as part of a solution to youth problems.

#### Girls and young women:

- In most regions, unemployment is higher and wages are lower among young women than among young men.
- The educational choices made by (or for) girls and young women often limit their access to certain types of employment and cause wage differentials to become entrenched.
- The fall-off in women's participation at the very top end of the education system can be attributed to several factors. One is institutionalized discrimination, which results both from young women's lesser access to and success in academic "protégé networks" that are still dominated by older men, and from the structuring of academic qualification ladders and research careers.
- It is now frequently argued that in most of the developed world women are no longer educationally disadvantaged and that, in fact, quite the reverse is true: by and large, they outpace and outperform their male peers as far as participation and achievement are concerned; it is young men who are more likely to drop out or fail to complete their courses; and it is young, poorly qualified men who are at the greatest risk of unemployment and social marginalization.



### Full and effective participation of youth in the life of society and in decision-making:

- Youth organizations are important forums for developing skills necessary for effective participation in society, promoting tolerance and increased cooperation and exchanges between youth organizations.
- Youth participation is more than just political engagement. It includes the empowerment of young people through capacity-building and increased access to human development opportunities.
- Because young people constitute a relatively large share of the population, especially in developing countries, the failure to ensure that young people—and the families in which they are raised—have access to resources and opportunities for health, education, employment, leisure, poverty reduction, and the development of girls and young women will derail future national and global development.

### Globalization:

- Many young people, especially in developing countries, remain marginalized from the global economy and lack the capabilities to access the opportunities that globalization offers.
- Many young people are restricted by inadequate education, limited skills, unemployment and poverty or are outside the reach of basic information and communication and the goods and services that have become available with globalization.

### Information and Communication Technology:

- Youth have a particular interest and ability with regard to modern technology.
- ICT can empower youth by providing them with the opportunity to overcome the barriers of distance and socio-economic disadvantage.
- Through the Internet, for example, young people can have access to information on a range of issues that directly affect them, including health, education and employment.

### HIV/AIDS:

- In 2006, women and girls made up 57 per cent of all people infected with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa, where a striking 76 per cent of young people (aged 15 to 24) living with HIV is female.

### Armed Conflict:

- Youth are often among the main victims of armed conflict.
- Children and youth are killed or maimed, made orphans, abducted, taken hostage, forcibly displaced, deprived of education and health care and left with deep emotional scars and trauma.
- Children illegally recruited as child soldiers are often forced to commit serious abuses.
- Armed conflict destroys the safe environment provided by a house, a family, adequate nutrition, education and employment.
- During conflict, health risks increase among youth, especially young women.
- Young women and girls face additional risks, in particular those of sexual violence and exploitation.
- During conflict, young men and women who are forced to take on “adult” roles miss out on opportunities for personal or professional development. When conflict ends, many of the young people who must make the transition to adulthood while dealing with the traumas of war are at the same time required to adapt quickly to their new roles, often as parents and caretakers of the victims of war.

### Intergenerational Issues:

- In many developing countries and countries with economies in transition, it is the ageing population that is dominant in rural areas owing to the exodus of young adults. Older persons may be left behind without the traditional support of families and even without adequate financial resources.
- While older persons lose opportunities to receive support from younger members of families, younger persons also lose opportunities to benefit from the knowledge and guidance of older members of their families.
- At the family and community levels, intergenerational ties can be valuable for everyone.