

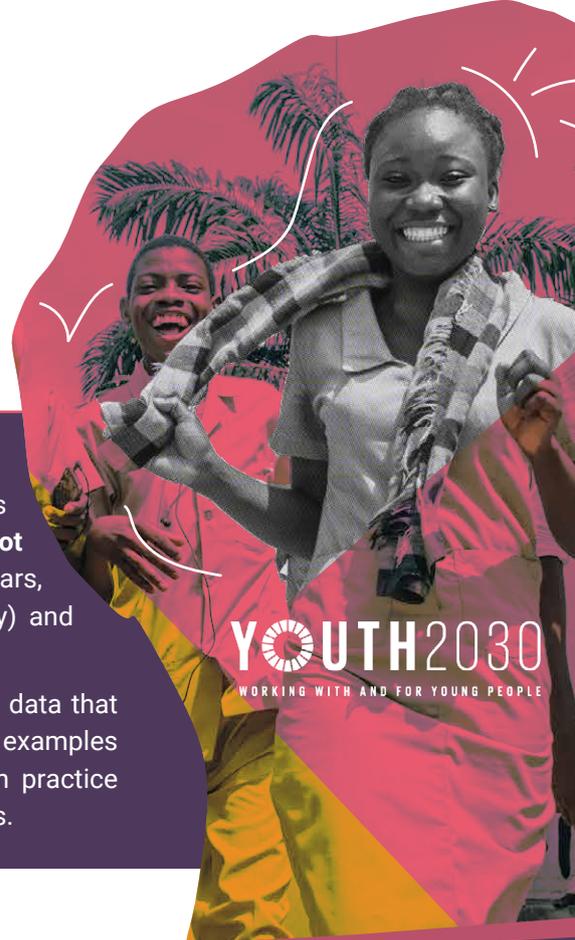
# What works to amplify the rights and voices of youth?

Meta-synthesis of lessons learned from youth evaluations (2015-2020) to support the implementation of the United Nations Youth Strategy

**Brief** | [Read the full report at unfpa.org/evaluation](https://unfpa.org/evaluation)

The [United Nations Youth Strategy 2030](#) is a system-wide framework for how the United Nations should programme **for, with, and alongside youth**. This meta-synthesis captures lessons learned on **what works and what does not work** with regards to United Nations youth programming in the last five years, specifically on priority one (youth engagement, participation and advocacy) and priority four (youth and human rights).

A total of **151 evaluation reports** were selected for review and the resulting data that was extracted was then synthesized to surface common lessons. Illustrative examples were also extracted to help demonstrate how each lesson was applied in practice across the different United Nations agencies, operating contexts, and cultures.



## Lessons learned

### Enabling key actors

1. Interventions that deliver human rights education to young people are more successful if they also promote youth human rights among duty bearers.
2. United Nations programmes that partner with key community actors are more sustainable, creating an enabling environment that promotes and protects the rights of young people.

### Accountability

3. Accountability and recourse mechanisms are critical to support the implementation of laws, policies and regulations in favour of youth rights.
4. Engaging youth in data collection and knowledge generation supports accountability and can contribute to youth empowerment.

### Engaging youth in multiple capacities

5. Working with youth in multiple capacities, as beneficiaries, advisors, partners and leaders, empowers young people by allowing them to engage in more transformative activities.
6. Engaging youth as strategic or implementing partners, who are adequately resourced and compensated for their efforts, can support youth movement building and result in sustained youth participation outcomes.

### Representation and inclusion

7. Youth consultations that are targeted and have built-in feedback loops allow for more meaningful and diverse participation of youth, including those from marginalized and vulnerable groups.
8. Targeted strategies and partnerships with local youth networks and organizations can enhance the inclusion of hard-to-reach youth.

