



The impact of the ICPD and the Post2015 process in the agenda of youth rights.

**Regional Articulation of Organizations of
Latin America and the Caribbean Civil Society
towards Cairo+20**

**Task Force:
Alejandro Blancas Alvarado
Nayeli Yoval Segura**

**Coordination:
Secretariat of the Regional Articulation of Organizations of
Latin America and Caribbean Civil Society towards Cairo +20**

Design and layout: www.glyphosxp.com

Document finished on September, 2014

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction
2. In context
3. Young people as stakeholders and youth as an agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean: approaches, key moments and challenges in consolidating an agenda.
 - 3.1 Youth and young people
 - Traditional Approaches on Youth
 - A new view to understand young people: The social construction of youth.
 - 3.2 Young people as stakeholders and young people as an agenda.
 - Youth organizations that influence the United Nations processes.
 - From the Latin American Youth Forum to the Latin American and Caribbean Alliance Towards Cairo +20.
 - The LAC Youths Alliance towards Cairo+20
 - 3.3 The path of the Youth agenda within the United Nations.
 - Historical review in Youth issues within the General Assembly
 - A rights protection framework as a pending debt.
4. Tensions and paradoxes of cooperation and policies in youth: the United Nations System and the Latin American scenario.
5. The operational review process of the Action Program of the International Conference on Population and Development: An articulation experience of Youths and the feminist movement towards a generational agenda for equality.
 - 5.1 The operational review process of the AP-ICPD
 - From Montevideo to Montevideo. The joint agenda
6. Achievements and challenges of the young people in Latin America and the Caribbean within the operational review process of the AP-ICPD and the Post2015 agenda.
 - 6.1 ICPD and Young People
 - Global Youth Forum.
 - World Youth Forum Declaration in Bali
 - First Regional Conference on Population and Development of Latin America and the Caribbean.
 - Montevideo Consensus: Youth Priorities
 - AP-ICPD achievements and challenges beyond 2014.
 - 6.2 Post2015 and young people
 - The participation of civil society
 - Open Working Group
7. SDGs: The Post2015 agenda and financing with a generational equality perspective for development
8. Some conclusions
9. Appendixes
10. Bibliography

1. Introduction.

This document has been created in the setting of the Regional Articulation of Latin America and the Caribbean towards Cairo plus 20, which is an initiative that, since 2012, has gathered several women, young people, indigenous people, LGBTTTQI afrodescendants networks and organizations in our region that are committed with the International Conference on Population and Development of El CAIRO (ICPD).

This document is part of a series of documents that have been created as impact supplies in the setting of the Operational Review Process of the Action Plan for the International Conference on Population and Development (AP-ICPD). Its goal is contributing to the political and technical analysis of the impact, the achievements and challenges of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014 and of what the construction of the Post2015 agenda has meant for the rights of young people.

With that purpose, we will revisit the context in which it was created and we will also review the concept of youth-young people as a movement in the region. What is its background? Can it be considered a movement? Has the consolidation of a youth agenda been achieved in the region?

In the following section we will talk about the operational review process of the AP-ICPD and about the opportunity that it meant for the youth movement in terms of visibility and articulation with the feminist movement, in order to review the main achievements and challenges that both agendas, Cairo and Development, have left for young people.

Lastly, we will address the Post-2015 Agenda to try to identify if this process means an opportunity to improve the conditions of young people and we will also address the subject of financing and the role it plays for the development concept. What types of strategies are being contemplated to achieve development? What is the approach of these strategies? Are the financial conditions actually being created in order to guarantee a sustainable development in the new agenda? Are those financial conditions contributing to the type of development that we are looking for? Surely all these questions do not have just one single answer, but there will be elements that can contribute to the debate on young people and the development agenda.

It is important to reiterate that this is just a contribution in order to have elements that allow measuring the subject of youth and the construction of its agenda more clearly to achieve social acknowledgement, which can be achieved by acknowledging rights.

2. In context

In 2015 there will be more than 160 million young people with ages 15-29 in Latin America and the Caribbean, the most unequal region of the world, where 48% of Quintil¹ I and II families have no access to social assistance, public services, to face the 30% of quintil IV and V². This is a great paradox, because the region has a substantially large young population, which is a situation known as a “demographic bonus.” This means that the majority of the population is in financially active age, with working, money saving and investing capabilities. However, this position that could be considered as a privilege is finite and is expected to end in 2020 and it has not really represented a real chance to at least decrease the inequities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Another important fact in this setting is that the region has faced the worldwide financial crisis in relatively better conditions than in other historical periods and other regions of the world. Despite this, the reduction of poverty and social equity is still a political and ethical challenge that is clearly a challenge that is linked to the development and the full exercise of human rights.

In that sense, 2014 is a key year for human rights, the signing of the el Cairo Action Program will have its 20th anniversary and it is the year that comes immediately before the culmination of the Millennium Development Goals, within the current global setting. In just one more year, several United Nations governments will sign a new commitment with development in general, which is the Post2015 Agenda.

For both situations, (both the AP-ICPD review process and the review process to build the Post2015 Agenda) several intergovernmental spaces have been created, which in turn have created key tools to continue travelling down the path that will lead to the full development of young people, although they have also clearly stated that the governments continue to question the intrinsic relationship between human rights and development, particularly when dealing with women’s rights.

Among the most prominent tools that allow making progress in the full exercise of human rights for people we have the Declaration of Bali, (which derives from the Global Youth Forum) at a global level and the Montevideo Consensus at the regional level, which is a document approved by the official representatives of 38 member countries and associates of the United

¹ A quintil is used mainly to define the socio-economical sectors such as the family income per capita. Each quintil represents 20% of the population and the first quintil is the one that has the lowest incomes.

² <http://www.eclac.org/publicaciones/xml/5/48455/PanoramaSocial2012Docl-Rev.pdf>

Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (CEPAL, by its acronym in Spanish), which include a series of priority commitments identified in the regional agenda to follow up the El Cairo Action Program after 2014. Both of them will be further discussed below.

This is a key moment to try and move forward but, above all, it is a moment to ask the governments and ourselves: what have we done right and wrong with the commitments signed 20 years ago in El Cairo?, why has there been no progress to fulfill these commitments?, not to mention the special concern about the possibility that some governments still question human rights.

3. Young people as stakeholders and youth as an agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean: approaches, key moments and challenges to consolidate an agenda.

3.1 Youth and young people

Youth as a concept has a very broad theoretical and historical background. Through history, societies have built notions and concepts that define people and place them in specific social places. These locations imply a differentiated access to the decision-making process, autonomy and the possibility of development.

In this sense youth has been understood and explained from different points of view that imply specific discourses and practices that are produced and reproduced by various institutions such as the State, the church, family, the media, the academia and others. The conceptions revolving around this section of the population are reflected upon the way in which the needs, problems and expectations of each generation of young people is conceptualized and interpreted.

Hence, we will make a brief synthesis of some of the main traditional outlooks on youth that have existed and that continue to prevail over time in international, regional and national institutional settings.

➤ Traditional approaches on youth³

Some approaches on youth are inserted in various institutional discourses:

- a) *Youth as a stage in the psycho-biological development stage*: This perspective has had a great impact in the social archetype; this vision is characterized by looking at

³ Alpízar, Lydia y Bernal, Marina. (2002). "La Construcción Social de las Juventudes". México. Elige, Red de Jóvenes por los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos A. C.

adolescence and youth as a moment of risk, crisis or danger. Its reference is strictly biologicist. For instance, Stanley Hall and Ana Freud defined youth as a universal phenomenon characterized by a series of physical and psychological changes, rebellious phenomena and a differentiation from the original family. Aberasturi (1985) claims that adolescence is a period of contradictions that is confusing, ambivalent and painful, characterized by frictions with the family and the social environment. This view was strongly influenced by psychoanalysis, development psychology (Lidz, 1973) and sociological studies of a functionalist nature. They mostly pick up the positivist view of human development, focusing on hormone and physiological changes of the person in what they define as «adolescence.»

- b) *Youth as a key moment for social integration*: This defines youth as a stage in which young people must receive an education and acquire all the values and abilities needed for a productive future adult life. This view postpones key aspects such as political participation and the acknowledgement of specific needs of young people and the idea of social moratorium is conjugated. An author that can be taken as a reference in this view is Erik Erikson (1951) who, although takes up elements from the previous perspective, emphasizes the importance of adolescence as a learning space and as a development and integration potential. He develops the notion of “moratorium” as a distinctive sign of this stage of life and the description of the emotional and social learning processes of youth identity. Towards 1990, Morch critiques the classical theory of Erikson. For this author, youth as a modern concept is directly related with the existence of specific «activity structures» in which the individuals must be placed. These structures (school, work, leisure, etc) are socially organized to answer the development needs of societal individuation.

- c) *Youth as a socio-demographic datum*: It defines youth as a group of persons that coincide in a rank of age defined by sections that in some cases can be arbitrary or that in other cases respond to population control or productive insertion interests. This view tends to standardize the interests, needs and conditions of young people, which are identified mainly as a statistical datum and recently as a key factor of the already mentioned “demographic bonus.” Some studies that have explored the topic from this perspective are “Youth Employment” (Zepeda, 1993) and “Fertility in Adolescents” (Wolti, 1989). An important aspect in these investigations is that they originate from the availability of the data which, in the case of women, are still scarce in many countries and the ones that are available are clearly gender biased. For instance, there is clear data about mortality in young men, but for young women that data is not as precise if we consider that deaths due to malpractice abortions (which are very common in underprivileged young women) are under-registered. Studies about migration not expressed from a gender point of view have also been produced; hence it would appear to be that migration is a basically masculine phenomenon. Only until recent years have

these types of studies arrived to the conclusion that there is a significant presence of young women in the migrating population and that this has different social and economic impacts, both in their communities and in their lives. This perspective is perhaps the one that in some cases causes these types of studies to move beyond a socio-demographic view and into a view that tries to provide a context for the studied phenomena, taking into account other (context) dimensions that go beyond the data itself.

- d) *Youth as an agent of change*: This perspective is strongly influenced by historical materialism. These types of studies have a very idealistic view of youth, identifying this group as «agents» and engines of the revolution, highlighting and acknowledging its contributions in significant social change processes (the French May, the student movement in the United States, the Cuban revolution, the pacifist movement, etc.) According to Bonder (1999) in the sixties «youth decidedly established itself in the center of the debate about conformism/rebelliousness, consumerism and crime and once again, the groups of young people were characterized as potential sources of trouble, disorder and social chaos» and at the same time, theories that tried to explain/control/prescribe solutions to this phenomena were formulated. The sixties (French May), were undoubtedly a college and youth phenomenon that, for the first time, identified young people as the protagonists of a revolutionary cultural and social change. From being skeptics and conformists (Schelsky, early seventies), young people transformed, in just a few years, into activists, rebels and questioners of the dominant culture. Researches in this era are clearly political in nature.

To illustrate this, Bonder quotes Clarke (1975) who states that «youth transforms into the metaphor of how the crisis is dealt with in society, into the indicator of the status of the nations, of the cycle of economic highs and lows, of the changes in values of sexuality, morality, family, relationships among classes and occupational structures. » Hence, using this as a starting point, youth is expected to provide «solutions for the problems of the nation, since young people are considered to have the key of the future for the country. »

- e) *Youth as a development problem*: It defines youth as a development problem due to the high impact of unemployment, leisure, and use of illegal drugs and the high rate of teenage pregnancies (Ferraroti, 1981). These studies tend to focus more on «macro» problems of the socio-economic development of the countries (unemployment, fertility rates and population growth, educational level, etc.) and in many cases take up the socio-demographic view, but they go beyond the purely statistical studies. They focus mainly in the development of proposals to «socially integrate» the population of young people, proposing basis for the development of public policies addressed to this sector. For instance, Touraine states that the insertion of young people in social development

should be considered as a more humane political proposal as an important investment (Touraine in Rovirosa, 1988.)

- f) *Youth and generations*: It identifies the population of young people in significant historical events (fashion, political or financial conditions) in a specific era. Youth is defined as a generational group that can be compared with other generations of young people in other eras. The concept of generation has been used to build some stereotypes about the young people of a certain era. For instance, the «lost generation» (Rosas, 1993), the «generation X» (nineties), the «skeptical generation» (late nineties) and the «net generation» (early XXI century.)

Just like in the socio-demographic perspective, this one tends to homogenize youth, identifying common traits in all persons who belong to the young generation of that moment. The concept of «generation X», developed by an United States author, created a whole series of characterizations in the early nineties, which spread to the youth of various countries who, obviously, lived in very different contexts and conditions from the young people who inspired the book of that same name that narrates the reality of a section of young people in the United States: «Generation X» (Coupland, 1993).

➤ **A new view to understand young people: the social construction of youth.**

Since the late nineties, the “traditional” perspectives on youth have been read in a historical and critical way, recovering the experience of other populations that face other alienation and exclusion conditions such as: women, afrodescendant persons and indigenous populations, among others.

Some of the studies performed from this perspective have been developed from anthropology and sociology, where contributions from Park, Trasher and Mead (who, since the 20s, broke the tradition of regarding youth as something universal, rather defining it as something more similar to a cultural category), among others, have been taken up. Out of these disciplines, some of the most important contributions to the demystification of the existing prejudices about the various sociological and psychological theories that de-medicalized and demystified youth have been made, placing it in its historical and cultural context. The socio-cultural studies highlight the diversity of forms of the expression of youthful things (youthful cultures), and emphasize the diversity of youthful things (youthful identities.)

Furthermore, studies in Europe, the United States and Latin America have been made to emphasize the two particular dimensions of youthful things: on one hand, the youthful identity or identities as the result of a socio-cultural process; and on the other, youthful cultures as the diverse expressions of the population that identifies itself as young people.

Assuming that youth is being permanently built and re-built historically, each society defines «youth» with their cultural, social, political and economic parameters; thus, there is no single definition. Therefore, the traditional perspectives on youth can be transformed, deconstructed and reconstructed, directing them towards the acknowledgement of a full citizenship that simply means acknowledging this group of the population as a political and legal group.

3.2 Young people as stakeholders and youth as an agenda.

In spite of the challenges that must be overcome in the new global scenario in order to consolidate youth rights, the transformations that have been achieved throughout these years in the regional and the international settings are undeniable. But we cannot analyze these transformations without identifying the influence that the various generations of young people and their organizations have had during these years in their fight for the acknowledgement of their rights and, mainly, in the consolidation of a political subject that has surfaced articulately for more than 20 years in these scenarios: youth.

The youth movement in Latin America is an idea that is gaining strength and permanently poses questions from different perspectives by means of the youth organizations themselves, the academia and social movements. Whether it exists or not, will be hard to define. What we do know is that the idea of a social movement has some basic elements: articulation, consideration and joint action in subjects and agendas that have been more or less agreed upon.

Although right now we do not claim to confirm or deny the existence of a social youth movement, we can emphasize that, in the various historical situations that integrate the so-called “path for the acknowledgement of the youth condition” and consequently the acknowledgement of its specificity as a full social stakeholder on behalf of society, youth organizations have played a decisive role and there is a myriad of experiences of articulation and action in common demands, at least in the last 25 years.

➤ Youth organizations

In the case of Latin America, we can name various youth organization and articulation experiences that have somehow have had an influence in the United Nations and international processes from the regional perspective. In this universe of youth participation and organizations, the experiences are many and very different. However, regarding the regional impact in the United Nations, it occurs mainly by means of different types of youth organizations:

1. **International youth organizations:** these organizations are large global structures that were consolidated in specific historical situations and that respond to an endless

amount of ideological foundations. Almost all of them were founded more than 70 years ago and act from a very well structured and even bureaucratic internal logic. They have great influence capabilities in the global environment, especially in the United Nations and in the European Union. Some examples of these organizations are: the International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY), the International Federation of Liberal Youth (IFRY), the World Organization of the Scout Movement, the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, the Red Cross Youth and the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA.)

2. **Regional youth networks and organizations:** these types of organizations can be classified according to their difficulty to endure, their limited access to resources, the specificity of the agendas they pursue and their autonomy. There are few youth networks that have existed for more than 10 years. Some of the ones that have endured are linked to the subjects of sexual and reproductive rights. They were created in the late 90s in a moment when both participation and politics were very intense in the global setting. Some examples of these organizations are: the Latin American and Caribbean Youth Network for Sexual and Reproductive Rights (RedLac), the Youth Coalition and Global Youth Action Network (GYAN).
3. **The youth movements:** Rather than directly influencing the regional and international youth agendas, they do so indirectly. This happens because once they become noticeable and they gain media relevance, they help putting the youth subject in the public agenda, although these experiences do little or nothing to defend it, since their approach is structural. Usually, these participation experiences are relevant, broad and have well defined objectives and few government or institutional links. However, experiences such as *Indignados en España* and Occupy Wall Street are examples of strong articulations at a global level in specific agendas that are not defended in the United Nations environment or even at the government level.

- **From the Latin American Youth Forum to the Latin American and Caribbean Alliance Towards Cairo+20.**

Other experiences implemented in Latin America that greatly influence the United Nations were the ones that derived from the European participation model: national youth councils and platforms.

This formal negotiation, agreement and dialogue model between government agencies and national and global youth organizations would require legal affiliation and election basis and political representation. It would also require an implied acknowledgement on behalf of national governments and the regional cooperation mechanisms, as well as a solid financing source.

This model grouped together two types of organizations:

- 1) International Youth Organizations with presence in the region; partisans, unionists, the ones devoted to voluntary work, social assistance and student organizations.
- 2) Organizations in national youth councils and platform models which, considering the political reality of the region, had little recognition and correlation with their governments and, therefore, had little influence and political action. Most of those experiences were supported by the international cooperation or by their own militants.

The Latin American youth Forum (FLAJ, by its acronym in Spanish) was the first platform constituted for the regional and global dialogue in youth issues in Latin America since 1988 that combined these two participation modes in the region with the participation of more than 25 organizations from all schools of thought. In 2008, the weakening and erosion of this model was evident. Since the late 90s, new networks and organizations had surfaced in the region along the margins of this platform, new organizations were carrying agendas with new topics, a new organization and new articulation and financing modalities. Therefore, the Ibero-American Youth Organization (OIJ, by its acronym in Spanish), the Latin American Youth Forum (FLAJ, by its acronym in Spanish) and the Spain Youth Council (CJE, by its acronym in Spanish) summoned a re-articulation process between traditional youth organizations and new regional networks and organizations in Latin America and the Iberian Peninsula (Spain and Portugal). Thus, integrating the Ibero-American Youth Space (EIJ, by its acronym in Spanish) whose main objective would be to support the implementation of the Ibero-American Convention of Youth Rights (CIDJ, by its acronym in Spanish) and acting jointly in the new regional setting that was being assembled.

With the setting of the second International Year of Youth and after a broad participation in the Ibero-American environment, EIJ was able to organize a participation and impact process in the World Youth Conference held in Guanajuato, Mexico, in August, 2010. However, in 2012, the volatility of youth organizations, the weakening of the Ibero-American agenda, the financing difficulties and a global youth agenda in broad transformation hindered the support of a continental articulation process. Currently, the Latin American Forum and the Ibero-American Space have initiated an evaluation process that will culminate with the transformation of the model that has been followed in these last years and the integration of a new process that will take the conclusions of this process as its basis.

- **The LAC Youth Alliance towards Cairo+20**

The *Alliance* was integrated in December, 2011, as a work group integrated by youth networks, organizations and leaders of the Latin American and the Caribbean region that were interested in the full implementation of the El Cairo Action Program and the various international commitments that guarantee the protection of human rights of young people. During those three years of work, the Alliance managed to fill the space that both FLAJ and EIJ had not been able to maintain. In a short period of time, this process allowed consolidating a political youth articulation benchmark in the youth agenda, especially as a reference for the ICPD. The challenges of the youth networks and platforms make this process seem like a novel organization model, mainly due to the fact that it included the agendas of various identities and strengthened the participation of the various types of youths by means of multiple strategies that had the sole purpose of making an impact. The key for the success of the Alliance is that it had a common goal, the review of the AP-ICPD.

3.3 The path of the Youth agenda within the United Nations.

Since the first youth reference within the United Nations resolutions in 1960 (54 years ago), one can see some of the evolutions and also the stalemates of the fight for the acknowledgement of the rights of young people. In this long road, we can identify four main stages:

- a) A first moment is the reflection of what the feminist movement has held as a fundamental in the acknowledgement and the vindication of women's rights: "that which is not spoken does not exist." In 1960, the first references to youth are registered within the United Nations Resolutions. These references were very far from acknowledging young people as legal subjects, there was a predominance of tutelage conceptions focused on education and orientation and regarding youth as a "future value" in the Cold War context, where the various youth movements were made visible in the U.S., Europe and Latin America and where the ideals of peace and harmony had to be strengthened after two World Wars and who better than young people to claim them?
- b) A second stage is marked by the United Nations declaration of 1985 as the International Year of Youth. This fact inspired various international, regional and national initiatives that allowed visualizing the problems and aspirations of that generation. This year also opened the door to the idea of deeming this section of the population worthy of the attention of the world's governments and the possibility that this would transform into a worldwide consensus to defend its rights. Latin America greets this International Year of Youth amidst the so called "lost decade", which is the product of financial crisis and the manifestations of the prevailing inequity in the region. Some European countries promote the first global and regional dialogues with presence in the United Nations, various governments and youth

organizations about more urgent problems and more pressing needs for this generation. At the same time, news players appear: cooperation agencies, who display a strong investment in this agenda in Latin America and the world.

- c) A next stage occurs in the 90s, the so called “decade of summits and conferences in the United Nations.” The topics of children, women, earth and social development gather a large portion of the world’s thoughts. However, youth does not gather enough strength to transform itself into a specific agenda. Despite this, in 1994 and 1996 both the Action Program for the International Conference on Population and Development (AP-ICPD) and the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) are approved until the year 2000 and subsequent years. For the first time, these programs propose a different view regarding tutelage and orientation, which had predominated in previous documents. Both programs move forward with a clear public policy orientation in the national environment. Likewise, both documents acknowledge the importance of the participation of young people in designing and following-up policies addressed to youth for the first time, as well as the need to increase the quality and the amount of the opportunities for young people. But in Latin America, the scenario is different. By the mid 90s, this debate became deeper, and it focused on transformation of the youth environment and the acknowledgement of the various types of youths in all their diversity as legal subjects and full citizens. This is the moment in which the idea of succinctness and specification of their rights is brought up in the regional legal setting: “the Iberoamerican Charter of Youth Rights” promoted by the Ibero-American Youth Organization (OIJ, by its acronym in Spanish.)
- d) From August 2010 to August 2011 the United Nations declares the second “International Year of Youth”; this is the second call for this topic at a global level. This fact was clearly influenced by various events that transpired in the Latin American region; the declaration of 2008 as the Ibero-American Year of Youth on behalf of the Heads of State and Government of Ibero-America one year earlier; the celebration of the XVIII Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government with the subject “Youth and Development”; the enactment date of the Ibero-American Convention on Youth Rights (CIDJ, by its acronym in Spanish) – March, 2008-; the proposal of the Mexican government to hold a World Youth Conference and the commitment of the Regional Population Office of the United Nations in the agenda and in the support of all those initiatives. These were only some of the facts that undoubtedly influenced the idea of a second declaration of the International Year of Youth, all of this within the context of the so-called “great recession” or the crisis of the developed countries, which is a crisis that shows, once again, the depletion of the current economic model, in addition to a context of youth protests in various points of the planet. Some examples of the most broadcasted protests by the media are: the student protests in Chile, Colombia and México, Occupy Wall Street, the *Indignados en España* protest and the Arab Spring.

➤ **Historical review of youth issues within the General Assembly**

Below, we will review the main resolutions of the General Assembly of the United Nations that show the historical account of almost 54 years in the acknowledgement of youth as a legal subject and as a full social and political stakeholder.

Document	Resolution / Year	Main contents
Measures meant to promote the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding amongst the various peoples in young people.	United Nations General Assembly. December 18, 1960. <u>1572 (XV)</u>	For the first time the youth subject is discussed in a resolution, due to the aftermath of war.
Projects of Conventions and Recommendations about Marriage Consent, the Minimum Age to Marry and Marriage Registration.	United Nations General Assembly. December 18, 1961. <u>1680 (XVI)</u>	Examining the priority of the convention project and dedicating the sessions needed to conclude it.
Convention on the consent for marriage, minimum age to marry and marriage registration.	United Nations General Assembly. November 07, 1962. <u>1763 (XVII)</u>	The free will to marry and the minimum age to be married.
Measures meant to promote the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding amongst the various peoples in young people.	United Nations General Assembly. December 19, 1962. <u>1842 (XVII)</u>	The decision to prioritize this subject and dedicating its eighteenth period of sessions.
Declaration that promotes the ideals of peace, mutual respect	United Nations General Assembly. December 07, 1965.	Education and an orientation to live in peace under the respect to equality and non discrimination.

Document	Resolution / Year	Main contents
and understanding amongst the various peoples in young people.	<u>2037 (XX)</u>	
Youth and addiction-forming drugs.	United Nations General Assembly. December 20, 1971. <u>2859 (XXVI)</u>	Emphasis on the incorrect use of drugs as an especially serious threat for the world's youth. It urged all States to provide ample support to the United Nations Fund to regulate the incorrect use of drugs; especially it urges to make young people interested in activities meant to regulate the incorrect use of drugs.
Communication methods with young people and International Youth Organizations.	United Nations General Assembly. December 18, 1972. <u>3022 (XXVII)</u>	Approval of the recommendation of the General Secretary about the summoning of a Special Advisor Group on Youth to provide assistance in regards of the activities that the United Nations should undertake in order to fulfill the needs and aspirations of young people.
Application of the Declaration that promotes the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding amongst the various peoples in young people.	United Nations General Assembly. December 18, 1972. <u>3023 (XXVII)</u>	The Member States are asked to provide more attention to the application of the Declaration. States, government and non-government international organizations acknowledged by ECOSOC are urged to apply measures to promote the respect of all peoples, regardless of race, nationality, sex or religion among young people; to promote the appreciation for human values and the consecration of the ideals of peace, freedom and progress by means of human rights.
Youth-related policies and programs.	United Nations General Assembly. December 16, 1976. <u>A/RES/31/129</u>	The decision to include the subject: "Youth related policies and programs" in their thirty second period is taken.
Youth's role.	United Nations General Assembly. December 16, 1976.	Acknowledgement of the important role of youth and its participation to consolidate the future.

Document	Resolution / Year	Main contents
	<u>A/RES/31/130</u>	The General Secretary is asked to gather the most recent information about the current role and participation of youth.
Youth in the contemporary world.	United Nations General Assembly. December 16, 1977. <u>A/RES/32/134</u>	The Member States are invited to give their opinion about the proclamation of an International Year of Youth.
Means of Communications with youth and International Youth Organizations.	United Nations General Assembly. December 16, 1977. <u>A/RES/32/135</u>	The directives to improve the means of communication between the United Nations and Youth and youth organizations.
International Year of Youth.	United Nations General Assembly November 03, 1978. <u>A/RES/33/7</u>	The proclamation of an International Year of Youth.
International Year of Youth: Participation, Development, Peace	United Nations General Assembly <i>December 17, 1979</i> <u>A/RES/34/151</u>	Establishing 1985 as the "International Year of Youth; Participation, Development, Peace." Establishing an Advisory Committee for the International Year of Youth.
Youth-related policies and programs	United Nations General Assembly <i>January the 1st, 1980</i> <u>A/RES/34/163</u>	The project of directives to improve the means of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations.
Convention to Eliminate all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW).	United Nations General Assembly. December 18, 1979. Resolution <u>A/RES/34/180</u> Enacted in 1981	Deals with the female school dropout rate and the organization of programs for girls and women who have prematurely dropped out of school.

Document	Resolution / Year	Main contents
International Year of Youth: Participation, Development and Peace.	United Nations General Assembly. November 18, 1985. <u>A/RES/40/14</u>	This declaration acknowledges the deep importance of the direct participation of youth in the task of shaping the future of mankind and as an excellent opportunity to emphasize the situation and the needs of young people.
Efforts and measures to ensure that young people exercise and enjoy their Human Rights, Particularly the Right to Education and Work.	United Nations General Assembly November 18, 1985. <u>A/RES/40/15</u>	Urges the States to make an effort in the measures meant to promote human rights and their enjoyment, especially for young people to exercise their right to education and work. Invites to execute policies and programs in the youth sphere.
Youth opportunities.	United Nations General Assembly November 18, 1985 <u>A/RES/40/16</u>	Urges the Member States to pay more attention to the programs to fight illiteracy. Invites Member States to study taking measures so that a greater number of young people can conclude their higher learning studies. Urges the States to dedicate, as much as possible, more resources to decrease the disparity between the offer and demand of educational and professional opportunities.
Minimum Rules of the United Nations for the Administration of Juvenile Justice. (Beijing Rules)	United Nations General Assembly. November 28, 1985. <u>A/RES/40/33</u>	This document deals with juvenile justice. It is important to emphasize the wording in point 1.2, which reflects the idea of childhood and youth that prevailed at that time: 1.2 Member States will make an effort to create conditions that guarantee a significant life for the minor within the community, during the period of life in which the minor is more prone to a “deviant behavior”, and also to guarantee a personal development process and an education that is as exempt as possible from crime and delinquency.

Document	Resolution / Year	Main contents
Activities and measures to achieve that the states ensure the enjoyment of human rights for young people under conditions of peace, particularly the right to education and work.	United Nations General Assembly. <i>November 30, 1987.</i> <u>A/RES/42/52</u>	Urges Member States to formulate and apply effective measures to ensure that young people can exercise their right to education and work.
Opportunities for young people.	United Nations General Assembly. <i>November 30, 1987</i> <u>A/RES/42/53</u>	Urges to promote and preserve and increase work opportunities, if possible, emphasizing equal opportunities for girls and young women.
Application of the directives to plan new measures and adopting adequate complementary measures in the youth sphere.	United Nations General Assembly. <i>November 30, 1987.</i> <u>A/RES/42/54</u>	Urges Member States to pay more attention to the promotion of employment by means of applying programmatic measures in all economic sectors.
Youth matters.	United Nations General Assembly <i>December 8, 1988.</i> <u>A/RES/43/94</u>	Invites governments to regularly include young people in the national delegations sent to the General Assembly.
Evaluation of the application of the Declaration that promotes the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding amongst the various peoples in young people.	United Nations General Assembly <i>December 8, 1988.</i> <u>A/RES/43/136</u>	Invites the States to adopt efficient measures to comply with its legislation, in the teaching, education, culture and peace environments.
Policies and programs	United Nations	Underlines the importance of the freedom of

Document	Resolution / Year	Main contents
that affect young people.	General Assembly <i>December 8, 1989.</i> <u>A/RES/44/59</u>	association for young people and youth organizations. It emphasizes that guaranteeing education and employment is a laudable objective for all States.
Policies and programs that affect young people.	United Nations General Assembly <i>December 14, 1990.</i> <u>A/RES/45/103</u>	Invites Member States to study the possibility of preparing an action plan for young people.
United Nations Directives to Prevent Juvenile Delinquency.	United Nations General Assembly <i>December 14, 1990.</i> <u>A/RES/45/112</u>	Refers to the prevention of juvenile delinquency by means of socially useful activities and at the same time adopting a more humane orientation towards society and life.
Policies and programs that affect young people.	United Nations General Assembly <i>March 15, 1993.</i> <u>A/RES/47/85</u>	It asks the General Secretary to continue to promote and supervise the inclusion of youth-related projects and activities in the programs of the specialized organs and organisms of the United Nations through the Center of Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, especially the ones related to issues such as communication, health, malnutrition, poverty, housing, culture, employment for young people, illiteracy, juvenile delinquency, education, recreational activities, wrong use of drugs and the environment;
International Year of Youth.	United Nations General Assembly <i>February 7, 1995</i> <u>A/RES/49/152</u>	Requests the Social Development Commission to thoroughly examine and prioritize the worldwide action program project for young people up to the year 2000. Urges the General Secretary to pay special attention to the execution of the world wide action program project up to the year 2000.
Policies and programs affecting young people.	United Nations General Assembly <i>February 7, 1995.</i> <u>A/RES/49/154</u>	Considers the celebration of the Youth Forum of the United Nation system, which emphasized the importance of the role of non-government youth organizations for the contribution they make to the policy of the United Nations.

Document	Resolution / Year	Main contents
		<p>Urges the Member States to offer young people the possibility to receive a broad education, including matters regarding human rights, environmental and intercultural affairs, with the purpose of promoting mutual understanding and tolerance.</p> <p>Encourages Member States that have not yet formulated a national youth policy based on a national analytical evaluation of the situation and the needs of young people to do so.</p> <p>Asks the General Secretary to formulate recommendations about the need of specific programs aimed to promote school attendance by various channels, particularly by means of free education and, when applicable, free food in schools.</p>
International Conference on Population and Development and its Action Program.	United Nations General Assembly. March 17, 1993. <u>A/RES/47/176</u> to March 16, 1994. <u>A/RES/48/186</u>	Recommends the countries to create an integrated approach on the special needs of girls and young people regarding nutrition, general and reproductive health, education and social needs. It also recommends that young people should participate actively in the planning, execution and evaluation of the development activities that impact directly in their daily lives.
World Action Program for Young People up to the year 2000 and subsequent years	United Nations General Assembly March 13, 1996 <u>A/RES/50/81</u>	The program acknowledges that young people of all countries are an important human resource for development and are fundamental agents for social change, economic development and technological innovation. It proposes guidelines to improve the situation of young people at a global level.
Policies and programs that affect youth	United Nations General Assembly January 30, 1998 <u>52/83</u>	<p>Urges all Member States to do everything in their power to apply the World Action Program;</p> <p>It gladly welcomes the initiative of the Portuguese Government to be the host of the World Minister</p>

Document	Resolution / Year	Main contents
		Conference in charge of Youth, which will be held in August 8-12, 1998.
Education for everyone	United Nations Assembly January 30, 1998. <u>52/84</u>	Calls upon all governments to double their efforts in order to achieve their own education objectives of education for everyone, setting specific goals and timetables for such a purpose including, as far as possible, education objectives and programs specifically aimed to fight illiteracy in girls and women, working closely together with their communities, associations, the media and development organizations to achieve such objectives
Lisbon declaration on youth policies and programs approved in the World Conference of Ministers responsible for youth, held in Lisbon.	United Nations General Assembly September 14, 1998. <u>A/53/378</u>	<p>This declaration acknowledges young people as a positive force in society and a force that has an enormous potential to make contributions to the development and progress of the human race. Governments commit to: develop policies, allow and encourage participation, facilitate access to legislative and regulatory organs for young people, promote voluntary work, among others.</p> <p>The Braga Action Plan is also approved in this resolution, which is the result of the Third World Youth Forum and is part of a joint effort among youth NGOs, the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations. The main objective of the Braga Action Plan is to promote the empowerment of youth for their participation in Human Development. It considers youth participation as a pre-requisite of development and requires the international community, the private sector and the governments to work together with all young people in this topic.</p>
Policies and programs affecting youth.	United Nations General Assembly January 20, 2000.	It takes up the recommendation made in the World Conference about making August the 12 th the International Day of Youth and recommends

Document	Resolution / Year	Main contents
	<u>A/RES/54/120</u>	organizing public information activities at all levels to support that day, with the purpose of promoting knowledge about the Action Program, especially amongst young people.
Social development, including matters related to the social situation around the world and young people, aging, disabled people and family.	United Nations General Assembly May 28, 2000 <u>A/RES/54/262</u>	Paying more attention to measures to increase support among generations, considering the needs of both the elderly and young people.
Policies and programs affecting youth.	United Nations General Assembly December 19, 2001. <u>A/RES/56/117</u>	<p>Acknowledges the full and effective participation of young people and their organizations in the local, national, regional and international settings to promote and apply the World Action Program and the evaluation of the progress made and the obstacles found in its application.</p> <p>It confirms the decision expressed by the Heads of State and Government in the Millennium Declaration about creating and applying strategies that provide young people around the world with the real possibility of finding a decent and productive job and, in that context, gladly embraces the initiative of the General Secretary to create an employment network for young people and invites the General Secretary to continue with those initiatives;</p> <p>It notices, deeply concerned, that currently approximately half of the new HIV infections happen in young people with ages ranging from 15 to 24 years and that in each country at least 6.500 young people get infected.</p>
Employment promotion for young	United Nations General Assembly	It takes note of the work of the High Level Group of the Youth Employment Network created by the

Document	Resolution / Year	Main contents
people.	December 18, 2002 <u>A/RES/57/165</u>	<p>General Secretary and the recommendations that such group has made for policies.</p> <p>It encourages Member States to prepare studies and national action plans for youth employment, with the participation of youth organizations and young people considering, among other things, the commitments that have been undertaken.</p> <p>It invites, within the context of the Youth Employment Network, the International Labor Organization to help to perform studies and create action plans to promote employment for young people, in collaboration with the Secretariat, the World Bank and other specialized organisms.</p>
Policies and programs affecting youth.	United Nations General Assembly December 22, 2003 <u>A/RES/58/133</u>	<p>It takes note of the reports of the General Secretary about World Youth 2003 and the promotion of employment for young people.</p> <p>It confirms the ten priority spheres mentioned in the World Action Program for Young People in the year 2000 and subsequent years.</p>
Youth-related policies and programs: tenth anniversary of the World Action Program for Young People up to the year 2000 and subsequent years.	United Nations General Assembly December 20, 2004 <u>A/RES/59/148</u>	<p>It decides to summon, in its sixteenth period of sessions, two plenary sessions of the General Assembly dedicated to evaluate the progress made in the application of the World Action Program for Young People up to the year 2000 and subsequent years, that will be celebrated during the general debate of the Third Commission regarding the subject of the program, entitled: "Social development, including topics related to the world, young people, aging, disabled persons and family.</p>
Youth-related policies and programs.	United Nations General Assembly October 27, 2005. <u>A/RES/60/2</u>	<p>It takes note of the three groups of topics presented in the report of the General Secretary entitled "Report on World Youth 2005," which are: youth in the world economy, youth in civil society and youth</p>

Document	Resolution / Year	Main contents
		and its wellbeing.
Youth-related policies and programs: Youth in world economy – Promotion of the participation of young people in the social and economic development.	United Nations General Assembly December 18, 2007. <u>A/RES/62/126</u>	It emphasizes the importance of a fair globalization and reminds everyone that in the 2005 World Summit, it was agreed that the objectives of a fulfilling and productive employment for everyone, particularly women and young people, would be a fundamental goal for national and international policies and for the national development strategies, including the poverty reduction strategies, as part of the effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.
Youth-related policies and programs.	United Nations General Assembly December 18, 2009. <u>A/RES/64/130</u>	<p>Gladly embraces the fifth World Youth Congress, which will be held from July 31 to August 13, 2010 in Istanbul (Turkey.)</p> <p>Gladly welcomes the initiative of the Mexican Government to hold a World Youth Conference in Mexico City from August 24-27, 2010, which will focus on the topic of youth and development in the context of the Millennium Development Goals. The Guanajuato Declaration⁴ resulted from this, and it acknowledges that young people are key stakeholders for the development of countries and that they significantly contribute to their families, communities and society and, therefore, they are relevant stakeholders and strategic allies for achieving development.</p> <p>Takes note and values the General Secretary's report entitled: "Execution of the Youth World Action Program: progress and limitations regarding the wellbeing of young people and their role in civil society."⁵</p>

⁴ http://www.csa-csi.org/files/declaracion_guanajuato_esp.pdf

⁵ A/64/61-E/2009/3.

Document	Resolution / Year	Main contents
		<p>Confirms the Commitment Declaration in the fight against HIV/AIDS and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS.</p> <p>Acknowledges the importance of reinforcing the intergenerational alliances and the solidarity amongst generations.</p>
Proclamation of 2010 as the International Year of Youth: dialogue and mutual understanding.	<p>United Nations General Assembly December 18, 2009 <u>A/RES/64/134</u></p>	Decides to proclaim the year that starts on August 12, 2010, as the International Year of Youth: dialogue and mutual understanding.
Organization of the high level meeting on Youth.	<p>United Nations General Assembly March 15, 2011. <u>A/RES/65/267</u></p>	Decides that the world conference on Youth will adopt the form of a high level meeting in the General Assembly. It will be held on July 25 and 26, 2011 in the United Nations Headquarters in New York and will be financed with the existing resources and voluntary contributions and that its general subject will be: "Youth: dialogue and mutual understanding";
Final document of the General Assembly High Level Meeting on Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding.	<p>United Nations General Assembly July 26, 2011. <u>A/RES/65/312</u></p>	Approval of the final document of the General Assembly High Level Meeting on Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding.
Youth related policies and programs.	<p>United Nations General Assembly December 19, 2011. <u>A/RES/66/121</u></p>	<p>Acknowledges that young people in all countries are an important human resource to achieve development and are fundamental agents in social change, economic development and technological innovation and states that investing in development and education of young people is crucial for a sustainable social and economic development;</p> <p>Confirms the strengthening of the international cooperation on youth, even by means of the fulfillment of all the commitments related to official</p>

Document	Resolution / Year	Main contents
		<p>development assistance.</p> <p>Acknowledges that the employment of young people and their employment opportunities contribute to social stability, cohesion and inclusion and that the States have an important role to satisfy the demands of young people in this sense.</p> <p>Urges Member States to solve the problems of girls and young women, as well as the gender stereotypes that perpetuate discrimination against girls and young women and their roles.</p> <p>Acknowledges the effects that the financial and economic crisis has had in the quality of life and the health of young people and, in that sense, encourages the promotion of education and knowledge about health amongst young people, by means such as empirically based education and information strategies and programs in and outside of schools and public awareness campaigns, as well as increasing youth access to affordable health services that are safe and effective, with special emphasis on nutrition, including sexual and reproductive health and measures to prevent STDs, particularly HIV and AIDS.</p> <p>Urges Member States to, among other things, face the social effects that the crisis has caused, increasing their efforts to improve the quality of education and promoting universal access to it, particularly for young women, non educated, disabled, indigenous, rural and migrant young people that live with HIV and AIDS, without any type of discrimination.</p>
Youth-related policies and programs.	United Nations General Assembly December 18, 2013 <u>A/RES/68/130</u>	Urges Member States to face the high unemployment, sub-employment and vulnerable employment rates in the non-structured sector for young people by creating and applying local and

Document	Resolution / Year	Main contents
		<p>national youth employment policies with well defined and integrated objectives to promote the creation of job positions in an inclusive way.</p> <p>Reiterates that the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition, especially in the way in which it affects children and young people, is fundamental to accelerate progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals for 2015.</p> <p>Invites Member States to strengthen or establish, in collaboration with young people and youth-lead organizations, programs and policies to face all forms of violence, including gender-based violence, human trafficking, bullying and cyber-bullying.</p>

Source: Original work

➤ A rights protection network as a pending debt.

The international community still has an historical debt with the world's youth. The largest generation of young people that mankind has had does not have an universal treaty that specifically protects their individual and collective rights –like the one in the Children's Rights Convention for people below 18 years of age- or an international framework that acknowledges them as legal subjects.

The absence of this protection framework creates tensions in matters as delicate as: their relationships with family, the state, institutions, education, health, the identity building process, exercising sexuality, access to goods and services, social protection, cultural identity and, of course, political participation, simply because they are young.

There are very important experiences such as: *the African Youth Charter*⁶ (Banjul, Gambia 2006) which deals with the rights of young people with ages ranging 15 to 24, the Ibero-American Convention on Rights of Youth (CIDJ, by its acronym in Spanish)⁷ (Badajoz, Spain, 2005) which specifies the rights of people with ages ranging 15 and 24, the *European Youth Pact*⁸ (Brussels,

⁶ <http://africa.unfpa.org/public/pid/9998>

⁷ [http://www.unicef.org/lac/CIDJpdf\(3\).pdf](http://www.unicef.org/lac/CIDJpdf(3).pdf)

⁸ http://jovenes.ccoonavarra.org/publicaciones/informes/pacto_europeo_Juventud.pdf

Belgium, 2005) and, more recently, *the Bali Declaration*⁹ (Bali, Indonesia 2012). Even more recently, in Latin America and the Caribbean: *The Bahia Charter*¹⁰ (Salvador de Bahía, Brazil 2010), the “Positioning Document of the global NGOs meeting. World Youth Conference 2010. Keep your promises”¹¹ (Guanajuato, Mexico, 2010) and the “Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development”¹² (Montevideo, Uruguay 2013).

Furthermore, the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights (OHCHR) in July, 2013, recommended: in the short and mid terms, the rights of young people will be included in the work of organs specialized in treaties organs and special procedures, as well as in the mechanism of the Universal Periodic Review. This could also be beneficial to request reports or in-depth studies about the situation of human rights, the gaps for young people in the existing framework and directives to help the states to apply the approach of human rights in youth policies.

4. Tensions and paradoxes of the cooperation and policies in youth: United Nations System and the Latin American scenario.

Talking about youth policies in regards of the construction of the Post2015 agenda means that there is a new regional and global context that must be considered for the youth topic. New government, multilateral and cooperation stakeholders have included this subject in their priorities, something has happened during these years. There are currently institutional conditions that previous generations had aspired to and that never before had been achieved. Until recent years, the only reference on the matter was the Ibero-American Youth Organization (OIJ, by its acronym in Spanish)¹³ with more of 20 years of history. Currently various United Nations agencies have included the youth topic in their country’s priorities and at a regional level, emphasizing the role of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) who is one of the main interested parties in the youth subject in the last 15 years in the region. Every agency has designated a person in charge of the subject and from that they have created the United Nations Inter-Agency Youth System, which acts at a national, regional and global level and, along with the designation of the Youth Special Envoy in January, 2013 on behalf of the United Nations General Secretary, represent a very different scenario than the one that existed a few years ago.

⁹ http://icpdbeyond2014.org/uploads/browser/files/1334148s_spanish.pdf

¹⁰ www.unfpa.org.br/Arquivos/carta_bahia.pdf

¹¹ <http://www.unifem.org.br/sites/800/824/00000599.pdf>

¹² http://www.cepal.org/celade/noticias/documentosdetrabajo/8/50708/2013-595-consenso_montevideo_pyd.pdf

¹³ http://www.oij.org/es_ES

In spite of this progress, the youth approaches where the current debates revolving around the definition of the new Post2015 development agenda, are solely centered in two fundamental premises;

- 1) *Youth as a socio-demographic datum*, which only refers to the existence of the largest generation of young people in history and therefore the possibility of improving the living conditions from a good insertion/productive formation and
- 2) *Youth as a development problem*, despite the number of years this has existed, this perspective still coexists in the decision of stakeholders to include or deal with the youth agenda.

In the regional environment, practically all countries have a youth government organism. Furthermore, more than 17 countries have signed the Ibero-American Convention on Youth Rights (CIDJ, by its acronym in Spanish) and six Latin American countries have ratified this document. Inter-government organisms have continued to assign their resources to strengthen and consolidate national youth organisms for more than 20 years.

But experience dictates that a long tradition of investigating and implementing youth programs is not enough if they do not have the right approach or if they do not consider the role of young people as a major one. At the same time, the weakness of the youth organisms must be fought, and this can only be achieved by being creative and interested in the agenda, one key is not isolating youth from the great national and global problems, but rather articulating it into their debates and the creation of proposals. There is practically no subject within the national and regional agenda that does not directly or indirectly impact the current generations. Therefore, the articulating role of national youth organisms is a key factor to work effectively.

Experiences as the one in Brazil show us that it is not necessary to have great a history and experience in public youth policies, the important thing is to face the subject from a creative standpoint, with responsibility and with a high political priority. In this matter and in the context of defining the new development agenda, it is important to ask ourselves if continuing to promote the acknowledgement of the youth agenda as an advisable strategy for the current economic model is essential.

Profiting from the demographic bonus is not the only argument to prioritize the youth agenda; it is also a matter of social justice. The new development agenda will have the challenge (like its predecessor did) of effectively impacting national public policies. In that sense, rather than talking about goals that are completely focused on young people, the objective is agreeing on subjects and improving situations that have a positive impact in the lives of all mankind, paying a little more attention on the groups that have not been acknowledged due to the narrow-mindedness of the international community and the dominant culture.

Latin America is living a different moment, not just because of its place in the international environment, but also because of all the experiences brought about in all those decades. We have the opportunity of improving the lives of millions of people, including young people. We have made progress discursively and politically in the acknowledgement of sectors that, up until some years ago, were completely invisible. With all those difficulties, these social movements have been able to build alliances that have created stances and approaches like in no other region. The Montevideo Consensus is an example that combines the previous statement and a first step in the way to consolidate an equality agenda in the region, an equality that also includes the generational matter.

5. The operational review process of the Action Program of the International Conference on Population and Development: An articulation experience of Youths and the feminist movement towards a generational agenda.

5.1 The operational review process of the AP-ICPD

In 1994 on September 5-13, in El Cairo, 179 States participated in the creation of an Action Program on Population and Development that would be implemented during the following 20 years. A whole generation was born and raised in those twenty years and their anniversary will be in 2014. The Program broke patterns because, beyond looking at demographic issues to talk about development, it was able to look at people, it managed to identify that, in order to think about *sustainable development*, it was necessary to think about satisfying needs and acknowledging rights, especially for women and young people. It proposed 15 principles that encompass freedom, dignity, and the need for a healthy and productive life, development as a right, equality and equity between genders, the eradication of poverty, quality of life and humane wellbeing, i.e., it focused on people.

Shortly after the 20 year period proposed for the fulfillment of the Program in 1994 had elapsed, on December 22, 2010, the United Nations General Assembly made a resolution (A/RES/65/234) in which it underlined that the AP-ICPD was to officially conclude in 2014, its goals and objectives would still be in force and due to the fact that it was still possible that many governments would not meet all the goals and objectives in this period of time, it was important that the governments would renew the commitment, on the highest political level, of achieving the Program's goals and objectives and extending key measures in order to continue with their execution beyond 2014. For this purpose, in this same resolution the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is urged to, jointly with the Member States and in cooperation with the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, institutions and experts, carry out an operational analysis of the execution of the Action Program based on a top-quality database and on an analysis of the status of both the population and their

development. All of this under the assumption that the Program would be utterly complied with and that its agreements would not be renegotiated.

A fundamental part of that resolution is the need for the effective participation of the relevant civil society agents, particularly NGOs, in the extraordinary session period, as well as in its preparation, and for their corresponding contributions.

Within that setting, the participation of civil society has played an important role in all phases of the operational review process, most importantly:

- Regional Meetings and Regional Enquiries: Montevideo (Uruguay) May 9-10, 2012 where nearly 90 civil society networks and organizations adopted the Montevideo Commitment¹⁴ and Ocho Ríos (Jamaica) in April 12-13, 2012 which had almost 50 participants of approximately 20 countries agreed the Ocho Ríos Declaration and created the “Caribbean Coalition on Population and Development.”¹⁵
- World Survey on the fulfillment of the Action Program of the International Conference on Population and Development and its follow-up after 2014¹⁶
- Meeting of the Commission on Population and Development, Quito, Ecuador 2012¹⁷. This was a key meeting. Mainly because the Special Committee of ECLAC on Population and Development of Latin America and the Caribbean became the Regional Conference on Population and Development of Latin America and the Caribbean and for Civil Society because that is where the configuration of a Regional Articulation towards Cairo+20 was defined, and where it was agreed that, with the purpose of facilitating the work and the communication in the Articulation, a Secretariat integrated by networks that had the largest representation in the region. This Secretariat was elected by a consensus and its members were: LAC Youth Alliance towards Cairo+20, the Feminist Articulation Marcosur, the Caribbean Coalition on Population and Development, the Continental Link of Indigenous Women, the Latin American and Caribbean Women’s Health Network (LACWHN) and the Afro-Latin American, Afro-Caribbean and Diaspora Women’s Network.
- Thematic Forums

¹⁴ http://icpdbeyond2014.org/uploads/browser/files/compromiso_de_montevideo

¹⁵ <http://icpdbeyond2014.org/about/view/11-the-role-of-civil-society#sthash.vSfaMFTc.dpuf>

¹⁶ <http://icpdbeyond2014.org/about/view/2-global-survey>

¹⁷ <http://www.cepal.org/celade/noticias/paginas/9/46069/CEPD-Acuerdos-final.pdf>

- Global Youth Forum, celebrated on December 3-6, 2012 in Bali, Indonesia, the result of which was the Bali Declaration¹⁸ and in which a considerable participation of young people was achieved.
 - International Conference on Human Rights, The Hague, Holland, July 7-10, 2013.
 - Meeting of Experts on Women's Health: Rights, empowerment and social deciding factors, Mexico City, September 30 to October 03, 2013.
- First Regional Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean on Population and Development, which was held in August 12-15, 2013, in Montevideo Uruguay, where the participation of more than 100 young people was achieved. The result of the Conference was the Montevideo Consensus.
 - 47th Session of the Population and Development Commission. It was held on the United Nations Headquarters on April 7-11, 2014. The special subject of the period of sessions was "Evaluation of the execution status of the Action Program of the International Conference on Population and Development." And, with a strong Civil Society attendance, including young people, a resolution entitled "Evaluation of the execution status of the Action Program of the International Conference on Population and Development", in which the Evaluation of the execution status of the Action Program of the International Conference on Population and Development was confirmed along with the key actions to continue to execute it were fully integrated with the world efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development and that the demographic dynamics was very important for a continued development and it urged all governments to develop, reinforce and apply effective strategies aimed at eradicating poverty and promote an inclusive growth and a sustainable development that could solve the needs of children, teenagers and young people [...]
 - Extraordinary Period of Sessions of the General Assembly about the follow-up to the AP-ICPD beyond 2014. In its resolution [A/RES/65/234](#) about the follow-up on the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014, the General Assembly decided to summon an extraordinary period of sessions with the purpose of evaluating the application status of the Action Program of the International Conference on Population and Development and to renew the political support to the actions needed for the full compliance of its goals and objectives, which will be executed by means of the supplies generated during the operational review process, mainly from the Report of the General Secretary: "Recurring subjects and key elements detected during the period of sessions of the Population and Development Commission"¹⁹

¹⁸ http://www.Juventudesmascairo.org/pdfs/declaracion_bali_18July.pdf

¹⁹ <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N14/456/31/PDF/N1445631.pdf?OpenElement>

➤ **From Montevideo to Montevideo. The joint agenda**

An initial phase of the operational review process of the AP-ICPD was the regional enquiry meetings, which were key spaces before the world survey on the fulfillment of the AP-ICPD started being promoted in all governments. These meetings would allow showing the stance of Civil Society and its concerns about the review process. In our region there were two meetings: one with the Hispanic Latin America and the Caribbean, and another one with the English-speaking and French-speaking Caribbean. The first one, held in Montevideo, Uruguay on May 9-10, 2012, was the Regional Enquiry of the Civil Society Organization in the Hispanic Latin America and the Caribbean. This meeting not only marked the start of the review process, but was also a milestone in regards of the linking of civil society in Latin America and the Caribbean, especially between the feminist movement and youth networks and organizations.

This meeting clearly defined the role that the feminist and youth organizations would have during the whole review process of the AP-ICPD (at least in this region.) Indubitably, this meeting was characterized by the a tense environment, caused by the establishment of a participation fee of 25% for young people –which was a proposal that was supported by the United Nations Population Fund and youth organizations- and in turn caused tensions between feminist and youth organizations, who questioned the role that young people could play in such a complex process and that was originated 20 years ago, in addition to including the resource dispute caused by the imposition of said fee into the debate. The meeting was held amidst this tension. Although this was not the first time that young people and feminists coincided in a work space, it was the first time that it happened in this fashion. In other words, 25% of the participants were young people and they would arrive by means of a fee and they were also part of the Youth Alliance.

It is important to mention that this meeting was a very important milestone. Undoubtedly, the ways in which young people arrive to participation spaces, the role they play and what it all implies in regards of resources can be elements for debate, especially considering the context of the limited effective participation spaces and the few resources available in this region to follow-up and consolidate true impact processes, but it is also important to mention that there is no real dispute, the actual disputes are outside the movements, at least outside the feminist and youth movements. The young people, who participated in this meeting and throughout the process, are mainly feminists or have clear links to women organizations and feminist leaders, who have also glimpsed at the importance of inter-generational work. These disputes go against the fundamentalisms that still prevail in the region. What's true is that, in that first Montevideo, no one could see that beyond the presence of young people in these spaces, this review process offered a chance to strengthen the fight that, for almost 20 years, the women in the region had been fighting and that needs to be strengthened.

The next meeting was the Regional Enquiry "Fulfilling the Future that we want in Latin America and the Caribbean, towards a Post-2015 development agenda"²⁰ (in Guadalajara, Mexico, 2013) held by the United Nations Program for Development (PNUD), the Mexican Government and the High Level Panel for the Post2015 Agenda. This enquiry had the participation of more than 200 organizations from 24 countries in the region, in which, of course, there were women and young women. It was the first key space where the Regional Articulation framework towards Cairo+20 was dealt with, with what was called the Concertation Group, whose original name was *Groups with Greater Vulnerability* in which there were women and young women. The dynamics of the Enquiry favored the joint work that was done from the coincidence of "table or vulnerability condition" on the "*Declaration of Women and Young Women of Guadalajara. There is no possibility of development without human rights*"²¹ which showed that, in addition to the coincidences in demands and perspectives, there was a coincidence in the fight.

In the next meeting in Montevideo, only a year and a half after the first Montevideo, in the First Meeting of the Regional Conference on Population and Development of Latin America and the Caribbean, which was held on August 12-15, 2013 in Uruguay's capital, it was a different story. The Regional Articulation of Latin America and the Caribbean towards Cairo+20, made clear that young people and the feminist movement could work together to make progress in making human rights a reality, especially sexual and reproductive rights for women and young people. The most tangible proof of that was the Montevideo Consensus.

Another good articulation and joint work meeting was the 47th Session of the Population and Development Commission, in which the status of the implementation of the AP-ICPD was evaluated (New York, 2014), despite the adverse scenario in the negotiation of the resolution, and a good work dynamic was achieved.

In general terms, the operational review process of the AP-ICPD has been a good excuse to start an important inter-generational work experience in the fight to achieve equality and turning the full exercise of human rights into a reality, both of which are essential conditions to achieve any type of development and a better world with happy and fulfilled persons. The experience of the Regional Articulation towards Cairo+20 and its Secretariat has allowed creating joint routes, strengthening coincidences and, above all, strengthening both movements. The great key to this experience was the Cairo agenda. This was the common agenda that was needed in order to reconcile differences and establishing joint paths in the fight for the acknowledgment of human rights.

²⁰ <http://participacionsocial.sre.gob.mx/post2015gdl.php>

²¹ http://www.Juventudesmascairo.org/documentos/declaracion_Guadalajara.pdf

6. Achievements and challenges of the young people in Latin America and the Caribbean within the operational review process of the AP-ICPD and the Post2015 agenda.

Just like we have witnessed throughout this review, during both the AP-ICPD review process and the Post2015 Agenda construction process, young people have been present. We must question the role, the participation methods and how effective they have been, or how much of a presence has there been in these spaces; we even need to question how deep and effective are the commitments and actions that have been obtained from both processes. However, despite all of this, the subject has been undeniably present and the priorities and paths that must be followed have somehow been outlined.

Below, we will analyze the most relevant instruments that have been created by these processes:

6.1 ICPD and Young People

➤ The Global Youth Forum.

It took place in Bali, Indonesia on December 3-6, 2012²², with the attendance of approximately 650 delegates of governments, civil society organizations, youth leaders and United Nations representatives, in addition to approximately 2,500 virtual participants. The forum was held from work and debate groups on: health, education, employment, rights of young people and participation. The result was the Declaration of the Bali World Youth Forum.

- **Bali World Youth Forum Declaration²³**

This declaration is integrated by five priority subjects from which some recommendations aimed at achieving better conditions to exercise human rights for young people arose.

“The Bali Declaration has broadened the fields of discussion in the ICPD process beyond 2014. It shows the capability of youth movements to structure a comprehensive and progressive political agenda for the future; it shows that youth movements have a political agenda that questions the global development model and it proposes the possibility and the capability to build consensus and global actions to build the world we strive for”²⁴

²² <http://www.icpdyouth.org/>

²³ http://icpdbeyond2014.org/uploads/browser/files/1334148s_spanish.pdf

²⁴ Presentation of the publication of the Bali Declaration in Spanish (2013) Latin American and Caribbean Youth Alliance towards Cairo+20

Priority subject	Recommendations
Staying healthy.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Guaranteeing accountability, transparency and the applications of all recommendations, with special attention on young lesbians, gays, bisexuals, trans, queer and intersexuals (LGBTQI), men who maintain sexual relationships with other men, drug users, refugees, rural populations, young people who do not attend school, sex workers, indigenous populations, afrodescendant populations, migrants, young people in emergency or conflict situations, the empowerment of young women and teenage girls, disabled persons and people with HIV/AIDS. 1.2. Gathering, analyzing, using and spreading information about the health of young people on reliable, qualitative and quantitative newspapers, oriented to obtaining products and results and breaking the information down according to age (10 to 24), gender, sex and other factors. 1.3. Investing in developing the capabilities of young people and guaranteeing the existence of supervision and evaluation mechanisms managed by young people to design, plan and apply national policies and programs. 1.4. Creating favorable environments that work to guarantee that young people have access to comprehensive and affordable health services. 1.5. Guaranteeing the significant participation of young people in the allocation of health resources. 1.6. Addressing the problem of traditionally damaging practices (forced circumcision, genital mutilation, forced and premature marriage, gender based violence and violence against women.) 1.7. Establishing associations to create awareness in young people and teenagers about their right to stay healthy by means of academic and non academic education. 1.8. Providing education on health that is free of discrimination or prejudice, based in facts, age-appropriate and gender oriented, that includes a comprehensive education on sexuality. 1.9. Providing, supervising and evaluating the universal access to a basic set of sanitary services for all young people. 1.10. Providing all young people with sexual and reproductive health services that include legal, risk-free abortion, maternity care, contraception, HIV prevention and STD care, treatment and counseling. 1.11. Guaranteeing that all health care providers have been previously trained and have professional development on health issues specific for young people and render such services to teenagers and young people. 1.12. Eliminating legal, normative and regulatory obstacles that hinder the fruitful participation and empowerment of young people. 1.13. Supporting the sexual and reproductive rights of young people and ensuring access to risk-free, legal abortion. 1.14. Applying financially sustainable legal policies and frameworks that protect

Priority subject	Recommendations
	<p>promote and enable the reproductive and sexual rights of all young people, regardless of their sexual orientation.</p> <p>1.15. Institutionalizing mechanisms for youth leadership, especially for alienated young people (mentioned above.)</p>
Comprehensive education.	<p>2.1 Guaranteeing access to free, comprehensive and quality education at all levels in a safe and participative environment.</p> <p>2.2 The Governments must adopt a fact-based educational approach, particularly for girls.</p> <p>2.3 The Governments must offer special, fair and egalitarian educational programs, especially for disabled young persons.</p> <p>2.4 Acknowledging that students have different learning needs that demand the application of adequate educational styles for each circumstance.</p> <p>2.5 Promulgating, applying and enforcing laws that allow education to be provided in an environment that is free of violence, harassment and discrimination.</p> <p>2.6 Developing and applying effective systems to periodically create and review education programs (with the active participation of teenagers and young people)</p> <p>2.7 Initiating sustainable, transformative, gender-oriented and supervised educational programs by means of establishing indicators related to gender issues and systems and infrastructures for a quality education.</p> <p>2.8 Assigning sufficient funds to achieve universal access for a comprehensive education.</p> <p>2.9 Applying policies that facilitate investing in the education of the private sector associates, the international community and other interested parties.</p> <p>2.10 Young people must participate in the establishment of supervision and evaluation processes, with the purpose of improving and maintaining a quality and coherent education.</p> <p>2.11 Establishing associations to raise awareness in young people and teenagers about their right to stay healthy by means of academic and non-academic education.</p> <p>2.12 Offering health education free of discrimination or prejudice, based on rights, age-oriented and with a gender perspective that includes a comprehensive sexual education.</p> <p>2.13 Guaranteeing that young people have access to a comprehensive sexual education in academic and non-academic contexts, by means of removing obstacles and assigning budgets.</p>
Families, youth rights, wellbeing and sexuality.	<p>3.1 Promulgating policies and assigning funds to ensure priority to policies and programs that are related to health and sexual and reproductive rights.</p> <p>3.2 Transparency in matters related to the application of health policies and programs and reproductive rights.</p>

Priority subject	Recommendations
	<p>3.3 Financing and creating, in a balanced collaboration of young people and the providers of sanitary services, policies, laws and programs that acknowledge, promote and protect the reproductive rights of young people.</p> <p>3.4 Guaranteeing an environment free of all traditional harmful practices and psychological, physical or sexual violence, including gender-based violence, violence against women, harassment at home, school, work and the community, sexual coercion and female genital mutilation.</p> <p>3.5 Acknowledging the autonomy of young people in regards of their bodies, pleasures and desires.</p> <p>3.6 Ensuring that the international laws, regulations and policies eliminate all obstacles and barriers such as the notification and consent requirements from parents and husbands and the minimum age to consent receiving sexual and reproductive services.</p> <p>3.7 Revoking laws and regulations that enable violence or discrimination against young people, such as laws that restrict same-sex marriage and penalize LGBTQI young people with or without HIV/AIDS.</p> <p>3.8 Promoting and applying laws, policies and programs that eradicate harmful practices such as premature and forced marriages, rape, sexual and gender based violence, female genital mutilation, honor killing and all other forms of violence.</p> <p>3.9 Legalizing abortion and creating policies and programs that guarantee access to risk-free, legal abortion for young women.</p> <p>3.10 Guaranteeing that all young people, including LGBTQI, can have equal access to a full set of sexual and reproductive health services.</p> <p>3.11 Having access to confidential and affordable services, including a full set of modern contraceptive methods.</p> <p>3.12 Acknowledging the evolution of the concept of family, adapting all legal, normative and programmatic frameworks so that they encompass all types of families.</p>
Right to a decent employment.	<p>4.1 Guaranteeing the right to a decent job by means of the application of effective policies and programs that create stable, safe, non-discriminatory and decently remunerated employments, in addition to development opportunities in their professional careers.</p> <p>4.2 Guaranteeing that the rights of young people are respected in their work spaces, including the rights to a fair recruitment and to organize unions and becoming a part of those unions.</p> <p>4.3 Investing in the development of the capabilities of young people and in the establishment of a favorable environment so they can participate in a significant way in all stages of the decision making process and the application of employment policies and programs.</p> <p>4.4 Prioritizing the creation of work positions and training for the staff by means of increasing investment, also in the private sector, in programs that promote</p>

Priority subject	Recommendations
	<p>corporate initiatives and training for young people through education (at work).</p> <p>4.5 Guaranteeing equitable and egalitarian access to decent employment, without discrimination and full respect to diversity.</p> <p>4.6 Creating favorable environments that offer opportunities for young people and diverse job positions in which their needs and abilities are acknowledged and valued.</p> <p>4.7 Guaranteeing safety in the workspace and protection against violence for all persons.</p> <p>4.8 Supporting the leadership of young women in the workforce, which will contribute to a sustainable development.</p> <p>4.9 Supporting alienated groups and protecting them, strictly complying with the agreements reached in conventions, accords and the regulations of the International Labor Organization, particularly in the matters related to domestic work.</p> <p>4.10 Implementing gender-oriented national youth employment policies, based on rights.</p> <p>4.11 Guaranteeing the legal acknowledgement of undocumented workers, including migrants. Legalizing sexual work and eliminating discrimination based on mandatory medical check-ups, particularly mandatory HIV and pregnancy tests.</p>
Fruitful leadership and participation of young people.	<p>5.1 Acknowledging that the participation of young people is a previous requirement for sustainable development.</p> <p>5.2 Investing in the development of the capabilities of young people and in establishing a favorable environment for them to participate in all stages of the decision making process and the application of policies and programs.</p> <p>5.3 Guaranteeing and supervising equality in the access to a fruitful participation in local, national and international decision-making forums, by means of applying effective gender-oriented policies and resource assignment.</p> <p>5.4 Guaranteeing the fruitful participation of young people for assigning resources in the local and national spheres, as well as establishing policies.</p> <p>5.5 Developing supervision and evaluation mechanisms for the existing youth-related recommendations.</p> <p>5.6 Self-accountability in the organizations in the decision-making spaces</p> <p>5.7 Reinforcing, financing and empowering organizations by means of developing the capabilities of young people so they can participate and exercise leadership in a sustainable way.</p> <p>5.8 Investing in the promotion of the use of technology and all communication channels.</p> <p>5.9 Facilitating access to education, information, and financing programs and the development of the capabilities of young people.</p> <p>5.10 Young people must demonstrate unity, transparency, accountability and</p>

Priority subject	Recommendations
	<p>responsibility in their initiatives.</p> <p>5.11 Young people must select their representatives in the national youth councils and youth parliaments.</p> <p>5.12 Undertaking political reforms to include young people in the creation and application of policies.</p> <p>5.13 Guaranteeing the fruitful participation of young people in all stages of the creation, application, supervision and evaluation of policies and programs.</p> <p>5.14 The United Nations must designate a special youth consultant as soon as possible and they must hire more young people and urge Member States to include young persons in their delegations.</p> <p>5.15 National governments must designate an independent youth minister and they must establish an adequate age limit for the position. They must also establish youth parliaments, define a political participation fee for young people and financially and institutionally support youth policies.</p> <p>5.16 Guaranteeing that the political representation of young people is proportional to their numbers.</p> <p>5.17 Local administrations must establish youth councils and provide support for them, as well as allowing the participation of those councils in the decision-making spaces of the governments.</p> <p>5.18 Establishing new and effective channels for social and political participation for civil society and youth organizations.</p>

Source: Original work

➤ **First Regional Conference on Population and Development of Latin America and the Caribbean.**

In 2012, by means of resolution 670 (XXXIV) the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) decided that its Special Committee on Population and Development should turn into the Regional Conference on Population and Development for Latin America and the Caribbean, restraining all other provisions expressed in Agreement 1 adopted by the Special Committee in their meeting held in Quito on July 4-6, 2012.

The First Regional Conference was held in Montevideo, Uruguay, on August 12-15, 2013. It included eight panels on priority subjects in the regional agenda on population and development: (a) Rights, needs and demands of children, teenagers and young people; (b) Aging, social protection and socio-economic challenges; (c) Gender equality; (d) Gaps in the universal access to sexual and reproductive health services; (e) International migration and the protection of rights for all migrants; (f) Territorial inequality, space mobility and environmental vulnerability; (g) Indigenous peoples: pluri-culturalism and rights and (h) Afrodescendants: rights and fight against racial discrimination. Additionally, it will focus on dealing with the

frameworks for the full integration of the population and its dynamics in the sustainable development with equality and focusing on rights, by means of high level round tables.

This first Conference gathered 38 countries, 24 organisms and 260 NGOs, which meant the participation of more than 800 persons, making it one of the inter-government meetings with the largest participation. The result was one of the more advanced documents for the progress of human rights, the Montevideo Consensus, which is the guideline for the regional path that must be followed beyond 2014. For the rights of young people, the Consensus recovers important actions, as shown below.

It is important to mention that, within the Regional Conference setting, the Forum: #JuventudesLAC “Construyendo un mundo de Igualdad y Derechos” (#LACYouths “Building a world of Equality and Rights”) was held. This forum was summoned by the Latin American and Caribbean Youth Alliance towards Cairo+20 jointly with the regional Office of the United Nations Population Fund and was attended by more than 100 young people of 22 countries in the region. The #JuventudesLAC Forum was a space that allowed including the debates initiated about youth priorities in a virtual conference since June, 2013, with the purpose of defining the final positioning of young people. The result was the “Youth Declaration: Building a world of Equality and Rights”²⁵. The Declaration was read on the first work day of the Conference.²⁶

- **Montevideo Consensus: Youth Priorities**

As mentioned before, the Montevideo Consensus is the guideline of the regional path that must be followed for the AP-ICPD beyond 2014. In the youth topic, it is very important because of the relevance it provides in key subjects such as sexual and reproductive rights.

Below, we analyze the contents related to young people in the Montevideo Consensus:

Priority Measure	Approach on Youth	Impacted topics
Preface.	Acknowledgement of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Convention on Children Rights and its optional protocols. • Resolution 2012/1 of the 45th period of sessions of the United Nations Population and Development Commission (April, 2012). • The Bali Declaration of the World Youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Protection of Human Rights for teenagers and young people. ✓ Health education, decent employment, rights, sexuality and social participation.

²⁵ <http://Juventudesmascairo.org/index.php/alianza/14-sample-data-articles/187-declaracion-de-Juventudes-montevideo-construyendo-un-mundo-de-igualdad-y-derechos.html>

²⁶ <http://youtu.be/bvUL8wHLInY?list=UUNc7BNQkzr1icJC2uprem5Q>

Priority Measure	Approach on Youth	Impacted topics
	<p>Forum (December 2012).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The declaration of the International Afrodescendants Youth Forum. • The important contribution of youth organizations. 	
Rights, needs, responsibilities and demands of children, teenagers and young people.	<p><i>The acknowledgement of teenagers and young people as individuals with rights and as development stakeholders.</i></p> <p>7. Guaranteeing opportunities to have a life free of poverty and violence, the protection and exercise of human rights, access to health, education and social protection;</p> <p>8. Guaranteeing effective participation mechanisms for teenagers and young people in public debate, as decision makers and in all stages of the policies and programs</p> <p>9. Investing in youth, by means of specific public policies and differentiating access conditions, especially in public, universal, secular, intercultural, non-discriminating, free and quality education.</p> <p>10. Investing in work and employment policies and special education programs that strengthen collective capabilities and initiatives and enable the conciliation between studies and corporate activity, without compromising work and guaranteeing equal opportunities and ways of being treated;</p> <p>11. Ensuring the effective implementation of comprehensive sexual education programs.</p> <p>12. Implementing comprehensive, timely, quality, friendly and gender-oriented sexual and reproductive health programs.</p> <p>13. Strengthening policies and programs to avoid pregnant teenagers and young mothers dropping out of school;</p> <p>14. Prioritizing pregnancy prevention in adolescence and eliminating unsafe abortions.</p> <p>15. Designing intersectorial strategies aimed at helping women to prevent subsequent pregnancies in adolescence.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A life free of poverty and violence. ✓ Access to health, education and social protection. ✓ Participation. ✓ Investment. ✓ Sexual and reproductive health. ✓ School dropout in pregnant teenagers or teenage mothers. ✓ Teenage pregnancy prevention. ✓ Disaggregated statistical information.

Priority Measure	Approach on Youth	Impacted topics
	<p>16. Guaranteeing opportunities for a healthy coexistence and a life free of violence.</p> <p>17. Guaranteeing reliable statistical data disaggregated by sex and age.</p>	
Aging, social protection and socioeconomic challenges.	<p>19. Creating and executing public policies, plans and programs —at all political-administrative levels— in order to consider the evolution of the age structure;</p> <p>25. Creating policies aimed at profiting from the unique opportunity offered by the demographic bonus, including, in an articulate manner, the investment in education, health and the creation of decent employment based on intergenerational solidarity;</p> <p>26. Adapting health policies to the challenges of the varied and changing epidemiological profile that comes with age and the epidemiological transition... These policies must consider having gender, age, and region, ethnical and socioeconomic specificities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Importance of the demographic bonus. ✓ Age structure. ✓ Epidemiological profile and population dynamics.
Universal access to sexual and reproductive health services.	<p>35. Reviewing the legislation, regulations and practices that restrict access to sexual and reproductive health, including rendering friendly comprehensive services in the case of teenagers and young people.</p> <p>37. Guaranteeing universal access to quality sexual and reproductive health services, taking the specific needs of teenagers and young women into consideration.</p> <p>42. Urging States to modify public laws, regulations, strategies and policies on the voluntary interruption of pregnancy to safeguard the life and health of women and teenagers.</p> <p>46. Guaranteeing a sufficient amount of financial, human and technological resources to provide universal access to sexual and reproductive health for everyone, including teenagers and young people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Access to comprehensive, friendly and quality sexual and reproductive health services. ✓ Laws and regulations on the legal interruption of pregnancy. ✓ Financial, human and technological resources.
Gender equality.	<p>50. Fulfilling the commitment of promoting and ensuring the application of the gender</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Gender perspective. ✓ Intersections of

Priority Measure	Approach on Youth	Impacted topics
	<p>perspective and its intersection with race, ethnic groups, age, social status and disability in all public policies, specially economic and cultural ones and the articulation between the State's branches and social stakeholders, women's, indigenous and youth organizations to guarantee gender equality.</p> <p>59. Increasing the access of men, including teenagers and young men, to information, counseling and sexual and reproductive health services and promoting the egalitarian participation of men in healthcare work.</p> <p>60. Developing and strengthening plans and programs aimed at reducing disparities in the representation and performance of children and young people in the educational system, specially referring to the English-speaking Caribbean.</p>	<p>race, ethnic group, age and social status.</p> <p>✓ Egalitarian participation of men.</p> <p>✓ Educational gender disparities in the English-speaking Caribbean.</p>
International migration and the protection of human rights for all migrants.	<p>72. Decisively protecting human rights, avoiding all forms of migration criminalization, guaranteeing access to basic social, educational and health services, including sexual and reproductive health services, when applicable, for all migrants, regardless of their migration status, paying special attention to the most vulnerable groups such as unaccompanied minors, persons travelling in a irregular situation, women who have suffered violence, human trafficking victims, repatriate women and women who are forced to travel to seek refuge.</p>	<p>✓ Rights portability for minors</p>
Territorial inequality, space mobility and vulnerability.	<p>78. Broadening and enhancing the decentralization, de-concentration and participation planning processes in sub-national and local environments, favoring availability, accessibility and quality of basic services, education and health, including sexual and reproductive health and the prevention of violence against girls, female teenagers and women.</p>	<p>✓ Access to basic education and health services, including sexual and reproductive health.</p> <p>✓ Violence against girls and teenagers.</p>

Priority Measure	Approach on Youth	Impacted topics
Indigenous peoples: interculturalism and rights	89. Adopting the measures necessary, jointly with indigenous peoples, to guarantee that indigenous teenagers and youths have the full protection and guarantees against all forms of violence and discrimination and taking measures to ensure the restitution of rights	✓ Protection of guarantees for indigenous teenagers and youths
Afrodescendants: rights and fight against racism and racial discrimination.	93. Addressing gender, race, ethnic and generational inequalities, considering the intersections of these dimensions in the discrimination situations suffered by women and, specially, by afrodescendant young women; 95. Guaranteeing exercising the right to health of afrodescendant persons, specially sexual and reproductive health of girls and female teenagers. 98. Creating reliable, timely, gender-oriented knowledge and information disaggregated by sex, age, socioeconomic condition and other variables, for afrodescendant populations.	✓ Inequalities. ✓ Right to health for afrodescendant girls and teenagers. ✓ Disaggregated statistical information.
Frameworks for initiating the future regional agenda on population and development.	103. Ensuring the sufficient financial and human resources to develop reliable, timely, quality, gender-oriented integrated information systems disaggregated by territory, gender, age, race, ethnical group and socioeconomic condition in order to make decisions and create, follow-up and evaluate development programs and policies;	✓ Gender-oriented and disaggregated information systems.
Follow-up recommendations	110. Continue to prioritize the following gender-oriented subjects within the setting of the existing relationships between population and development: deciding factors and consequences of the demographic tendencies, socio-demographic inequalities, child and maternal mortality, sexual and reproductive health, young people, aging and elderly persons, indigenous peoples and afrodescendant populations of Latin America and the Caribbean, international and national migration, sources of socio-demographic information (population census and vital statistics) and the creation of human	✓ Demographic tendencies and its relationship with population and development. ✓ Strengthening the cooperation for the investment in youth.

Priority Measure	Approach on Youth	Impacted topics
	<p>resources in demography and population and development;</p> <p>122. Requesting the United Nations Population Fund to strengthen its cooperation with the governments of the region in their commitment to strengthen investments in youth and particularly to increase the articulation efforts of the actions related to access to quality education, including comprehensive sexual education, gender equality, decent employment for young people and their access to quality health services, including sexual and reproductive health, in collaboration with other cooperation organisms and the United Nation system;</p>	

➤ **AP-ICPD achievements and challenges beyond 2014.**

Undoubtedly, one of the most important achievements of the AP-ICPD process has been the acknowledgement that the young people in the region has reached in key spaces, as key stakeholders, at least at a regional level, as well as the dialogue and joint work possibility alongside the feminist movement from the creation of a comprehensive agenda. Likewise, as seen in the review made on the instruments that arose from some key spaces, there are important impact tools. Also, the youth subject has been strengthened as a priority in the agenda. Now, the challenge is to sustain an effective and substantial participation, continue to renew leaderships with enough capabilities and abilities not just to sustain the goals achieved, but also to turn the commitments into a reality that is not just regulatory, but also tangible, especially at a national level.

6.2 Post2015 and Youth

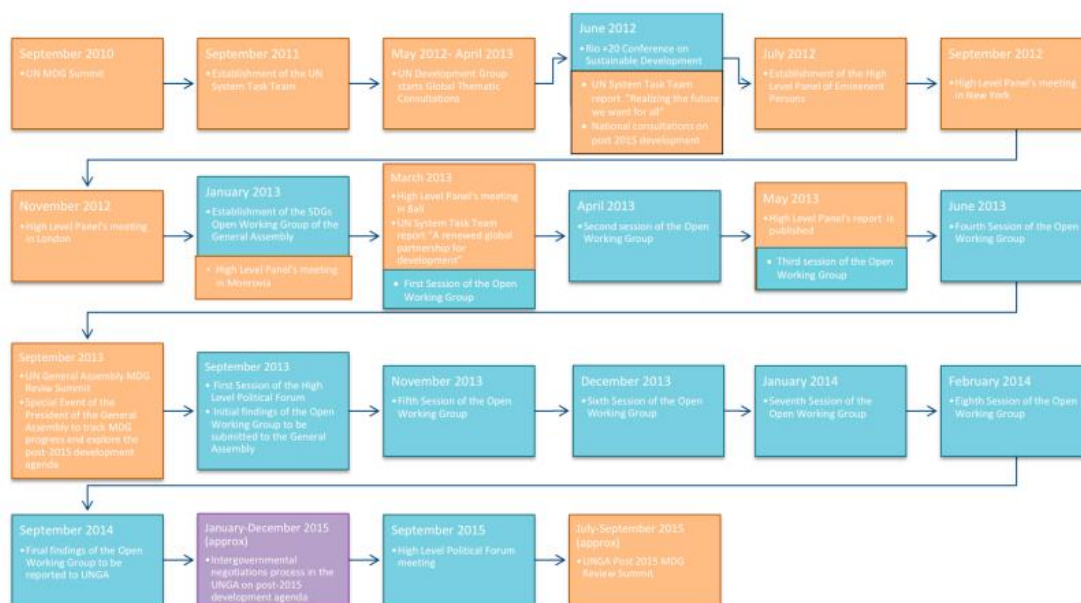
2015 is the year of the Post-2015 development agenda. The process is composed by two routes:

1. The inter-government process lead by the member states
2. The discussions lead by the General Secretary of the United Nations about what must replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), supported by global enquiries with multiple interested parties.

In September, 2014, these two routes will converge in a sole inter-governmental process to work in a single framework of global objectives. For now, these two routes continue to work separately (efforts are made to ensure mutual coordination and support.)

Trio Policy - <http://www.triopolicy.com/>

POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA AND SDGs PROCESSES TIMELINE



➤ Civil society participation

In this complex process, the participation of civil society is expected and the main mechanism for such a purpose are the Major Groups, which arose from the *Tierra en Río* summit (1992) which lead to the creation of *Agenda 21*, also known as the plan for sustainable development, which declares that public participation is fundamental to achieve sustainable development and from that, nine groups are created, which represent nine sectors of civil society and that act as the main channels through which the organizations can participate. One of those nine groups is the Major Group of Children and Youth²⁷ (MGCY: Major Group Children and Youth)

MGCY is composed of young people and organizations and has achieved an active participation in all the spaces of the inter-governmental level of the Agenda, achieving important positions

²⁷ <http://childrenyouth.org>

that are reflected in the various documents created by the process. For our region, the participation in this group has been limited by the complexity of the process, the difficulty implied by interacting in global spaces and even due to basic matters such as language or simply due to the lack of financial and time conditions that would allow following-up on the process.

An important initiative so that young people are able to make contributions to the process of discussing the Post-2015 agenda at a global level is the Global Partnership for Youth in the Post-2015 Agenda²⁸ (GPY2015), fostered by the General Secretary jointly with the Special Youth Envoy. It was created to help develop a specific language that works as a supply for the negotiations of the Agenda, by means of an interactive platform, where the United Nations Agencies, young people and civil society created goal proposals and indicators for youth development beyond 2015. The results of this initiative are two pages with high level messages, with objectives and indicators that can be used by key stakeholders in the negotiation process of the agenda, in addition to the document that will register the full contributions obtained from the platform called Croud sourcing. It is important to mention that the platform has based the discussion of priorities in five topics: education, employment and entrepreneurship, health, good governance, peace and stability. The results of this platform focused mainly in two spaces:

- The high level meeting on “Contributions of women, young people, and civil society on the Post-2015 Development Agenda” New York,²⁹
- ECOSOC Youth Forum *#Youth2015 Realizing the Future They Want*. New York, June 4-6³⁰

At a regional level, there has only been one large space (in terms of the contribution route for the negotiation process) in which the young people of Latin America and the Caribbean have been able to discuss the priorities of the Post-2015 Agenda on Youth. The Special Youth Envoy of the General Secretary of the United Nations, Ahmed Alhendawie proposed, in GYP2015, to the regional directors of several agencies of the United Nations, the creation of a regional forum in 2014 as a dialogue and consultation mechanism with all the sectors interested in youth and the relevant youth stakeholders, understood as an important step in the route to take the results of this enquiry to the global enquiry process on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. The Regional Youth Forum of Latin America and the Caribbean 2014³¹, was held on May 12-14, 2014 in Quito, Ecuador, and was attended by approximately 130 young persons who had discussions about five topics: employment and work, health, education, youth participation and violence. 49 recommendations arose from the forum that were considered as a supply for the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Youth Forum, held on June, 2014.

²⁸ <https://crowdsourcing.itu.int>

²⁹ <http://www.un.org/en/ga/president/68/settingthestage/2wycs.shtml>

³⁰ <http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/youth2014/>

³¹ <https://www.facebook.com/ForoJuventudes2014>

The ECOSOC Forum was held as a mechanism to *carry the voice* of young people to the High Level meeting of the Economic Council (July 2014) in which the subject of the Annual Ministerial review «Addressing the challenges to fulfill the Millennium Development Goals in 2015 and to sustain the development achievements in the future” has been the clearest mechanism of a *broad* incorporation of the priorities of Youth in the global process of the Post 2015 Agenda.

As a conclusion of the ECOSOC Forum we have the “Global youth calling. Prioritizing Young People in the Post-2015 Development Agenda³²” which is based on the five topic priorities voted in My World 2015³³ and that was built from the results of the Crowdsourcing platform of GPY105, from the meetings and topic regional and global Post-2015 forums (including the recommendations of the Forum in Quito), from the enquiries of the Development Group of the National United Nations and the Colombo Declaration on Youth³⁴ that resulted from the Global Youth Conference³⁵ (Sri Lanka 2014).

Below, there is brief review of the contents of this *Global calling*:

Topic	Recommendations
Education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guaranteeing universal access to quality elementary and post-elementary education and broadening equitable access to tertiary education; • Ensuring that all young people attain substantial and measurable learning results at all levels, safe, quality and relevant education, adequately trained professors and educational infrastructure; • Ensuring that all young people have access to formal and informal quality education and professional education that can be provided through governments and associations with civil society organizations, the private sector and youth organizations, to provide them with the relevant knowledge and abilities to lead a healthy and productive life, to satisfy the demands of the labor market and promoting global citizenship; • Guaranteeing permanent access to technical education and professional education, ICT, comprehensive education about human sexuality and life preparedness, human rights, peace,

³² http://www.un.org/youthenvoy/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/The_Global_Youth_Call.pdf

³³ <http://vote.myworld2015.org/>

³⁴ <http://wcy2014.com/pdf/annex-colombo-declaration-youth.pdf>

³⁵ <http://wcy2014.com/>

Topic	Recommendations
	<p>sustainability, business skills, global citizenship and education for sustainable development and learning opportunities;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing the assignment of the national budget for education and strengthening the accountability and the response capabilities of national governments.
Employment and entrepreneurship.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing employment rates for young people, with specific measurements for marginalized young people, by means of establishing transition policies from school to work; Guaranteeing a better synergy between the capabilities of young people and the changing needs of the labor market by means of strengthening alliances between governments, social actors, educators and the private sector; Facilitating access to learning opportunities to develop knowledge and skills, including professional, technical and corporate education, for work and life, as well as information about business opportunities, new markets and national/international investor networks. Guaranteeing access to tailored financial assistance for young people and assistance in the phases of previous and subsequent creation; Ensuring equality, including gender equality in the workspace and eliminating the gender salary gap; Guaranteeing global universal access to an adequate social protection, including social protection floors and decent employment and livelihoods for young people in the informal and formal sectors, in accordance with the labor regulations of ILO.
Health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring universal access to affordable, timely, quality and friendly health and information services, for teenagers and young people; Guaranteeing universal access to sexual and reproductive health and HIV services and modern contraceptive methods, emphasizing teenage girls; Guaranteeing early detection, treatment and support to mental health problems among teenagers and young people; Improving the health conditions of teenagers and young people, by means of establishing prevention programs aimed at teenagers and young people, including violence, accidents, injuries and the timely detection and treatment of mental

Topic	Recommendations
	<p>health problems among teenagers and young people;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing investments to promote healthy behaviors and health promotion programs aimed at reducing the risk of non-communicable diseases, tobacco consumption, obesity, violence and the impact of traffic accidents and the reduction of damages for substance abuse, including the use of drugs and alcohol; Acknowledging the social and political determining factors of health and facing all social, economic and political inequalities and exclusion as a way to improve health and wellbeing in teenagers and young people.
Peace and safety.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminating all forms of violence against children and young people, including schools, households, public spaces, detention centers and the internet; Ending all forms of violence and discrimination against girls and young women, including sexual and child violence, forced and premature marriage and harmful practices, human trafficking and other forms of gender based violence; Promoting the participation of young people as a essential condition for safe and protected societies; Guaranteeing that humanitarian and development efforts respond to the needs of young people and protecting their human rights; Ensuring that all young people participate in peace and education in human rights, by means of formal or informal education, and having access to cultural exchange opportunities and volunteer work; Ensuring the equitable distribution of the benefits of development for young people to promote safe, quiet and protected societies.
Governance and participation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening the inclusive participation of young people, especially young women, in the government and in the decision making processes at a local, national, regional and global level; Adequately developing, implementing and financing inter-sectorial policies of young people based on evidence and including participation, follow-up and evaluation in a regular basis, in accordance with the World Programme of Action for Youth;

Topic	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guaranteeing the right to information, association and freedom of speech and opinion for all, including marginalized young people; • Strengthening youth-led movements, networks and organizations and improving their access to the institutions that affect the lives of young people; • Encouraging and supporting young people in youth civic participation and volunteer work for development; guaranteeing, among other things, education and awareness about human rights and development; • Strengthening transparent, effective and responsible institutions at all levels; • Supporting and promoting a greater equitable access to access to understandable, quality information on time, also by means of ICTs to strengthen accountability mechanisms and creating a greater participation of young people in the decision making process. • Ensuring the effective participation of young people in global and national vigilance mechanisms to guarantee accountability for the commitments acquired in the Post-2015 framework,

Source: Original work

It is important to mention that, although true, along the process, there have been other efforts to open discussion and participation about the priorities of youth in the Post-2015 agenda, none of them have had an impact process that allow the results of these spaces to be considered within the negotiations framework of the new development agenda.

• The Open Working Group

As part of the inter-government process, we have the OWG: Open Working Group, which is a group that the countries decided to establish in Río+20 with the purpose of supervising an “including and transparent inter-governmental process” that could propose a set of global objectives for the consideration of the General Assembly before its 68th period of sessions (September, 2014³⁶.)

³⁶ United Nations General Assembly Resolution 66/288. *El futuro que queremos (The future that we want)*, A/RES/66/288 (July 27, 2012, paragraph 248). Available in: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/66/288&Lang=S

The Open Working Group is in charge of developing a proposal for Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) for the 2015-2030 period. It held its most recent meeting on July 14-18 in New York. On July 19, the group unanimously adopted a report (the zero draft) containing 17 SDGs and 169 goals. This document is the result of 12 long months of debate and it will be reviewed on the 69th period of sessions of the General Assembly, which will occur on September 16-29, 2014. Afterwards, the General Secretary will present a summary report on November, with the purpose of making way for the final adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals on September, 2015.

Although the proposal lists economic, social and environmental matters, it is far from being a document that aims at achieving that the countries can commit in a serious way with a development that guarantees equality, human rights and an adequate environment.

In the youth topic, as the following table shows, it is a document with a lot of gaps. It does consider some education and employment elements, but it leaves out fundamental aspects for the development of teenagers and young people such as health, sexual and reproductive rights, violence or social protection systems. This only shows that the lack of coherence between the discourses of the governments about the importance of youth and the importance of profiting from the demographic bonus and the commitments that are established to guarantee conditions that reinforce the fact that, while these actions are being implemented (2015-2030), the largest amount of young people that has ever existed and the demographic changes will imply that the population will be aging and we will hardly have the necessary conditions to ensure a decent quality of life for them.

Analysis of the Open Working Group Proposal on the SDGs and its approach on youth

Objective	Goal	Addressed topic
1. Ending poverty everywhere and in all its forms.	1.2 Reducing, for 2030, at least to a half, the proportion of men, women and children of all ages who live in poverty in all their dimensions, according to national definitions.	• Poverty.
2. Ending hunger, achieving food security and improving nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture.	2.2 Ending all forms of malnutrition in 2030, including the achievement for 2025 and the goals agreed at an international level regarding respect to the delay and weakening of growth in children with less than five years of age and satisfying the nutritional needs of teenage girls, pregnant and lactating women and the elderly.	• Diet.
4. Ensuring an inclusive,	4.1 Ensuring that, for 2030, all children will	• Free, fair and quality

Objective	Goal	Addressed topic
quality and fair education and promote permanent learning opportunities for everyone.	<p>have concluded elementary education and conclude free, fair and quality elementary and secondary education that leads to relevant and efficient learning results.</p> <p>4.4 Increasing, for 2030, in an X% the number of young people and adults that have relevant skills, including technical, professional and working skills, who have a decent employment and an enterprising spirit.</p> <p>4.6 Ensuring that, for 2030, that all young people and adults, male and female, achieve literacy and arithmetic knowledge.</p>	<p>education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical and professional education for work. • Entrepreneurship. • Literacy and arithmetic knowledge.
8. Promoting a sustained economic growth that is inclusive and sustainable, full and productive employment and decent employment for everyone	<p>8.5 Achieving, for 2030, full and productive jobs and decent employment for all women and men, including young people and disabled persons, as well as remuneration equality for jobs with equal value.</p> <p>8.6 Substantially reducing, for 2020, the proportion of unemployed, uneducated or untrained young people.</p> <p>8.b Developing and putting into practice, for 2020, a global strategy for the employment of young people and implementing the ILO's Global Jobs Pact.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decent employment. • Salary equality. • Unemployment. • Global Jobs Pact ILO.
10. Reducing inequality within and between countries.	10.2 Strengthening and promoting, for 2030, social, economic and political inclusion of everyone, regardless of age, gender, disability, race, ethnic group, origin, religion of economic condition or otherwise.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion.
13. Adopting urgent measures to fight climate change and its impact.	13.b Promoting mechanisms to increase effective planning and management capabilities related to climate change in underdeveloped countries, including focusing on women, young people and local or alienated communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change.

Objective	Goal	Addressed topic
17. Strengthening the ways to apply and revitalize the world alliance for sustainable development.	17.18 Increasing, for 2020, the support to develop the capabilities of developing countries, including less advanced countries and the small Insular States, in order to significantly increase the availability of high quality data that is up to date, reliable and broken down by income, gender, age, race, ethnic group, migratory status, disability, geographical location and other relevant characteristics in the national context.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capability strengthening. • Disaggregated high quality data.

Source: Original work

7. SDGs: the Post 2015 agenda and financing with a generational equality perspective for development.

If we talk about the building process for the Post2015 Development and the agenda itself, we cannot ignore the finance topic. In that sense, another relevant inter-governmental process is the ICESDF: Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing³⁷, which was created by means of Resolution 66/288³⁸ on September, 2012 (paragraphs 255 and 256) to evaluate and propose options for effectively financing sustainable development. This committee works in parallel with the Open Working Group and already has the final version of their Report³⁹ with optional proposals for an effective financing strategy that facilitates resource mobilization and its effective use in the achievement of a sustainable development.

The report is integrated by some matters about the procedure and the organization of the committee's work and by three substantial sections, which are the conclusions of the work carried out by the Committee in twelve months. However, as shown below, the look presented in the options given by the Committee are completely separated from the central discussion that would really contribute to improving development financing: the discussion regarding the re-distribution of wealth; and they don't even address the subject from a human rights perspective, a gender perspective or generational standpoint.

³⁷ <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?menu=1558>

³⁸ http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/66/228&Lang=S

³⁹ <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/4588FINAL%20REPORT%20ICESDF.pdf>

Summary of the Report of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financial

Contents	Guidelines
Precepts that guide the strategic focus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guaranteeing national appropriation and leadership in the implementation of national sustainable development strategies, along with a favorable environment. • Adopting effective government policies as the central axis of a financing strategy for sustainable development. • Making use of all financing flows in a comprehensive way. • Harmonizing financial flows with the appropriate uses and needs • Maximizing the impact of international public financing. • Integrating sustainable development criteria in national financing strategies. • Using the synergies between economic, environmental and social dimensions of sustainable development. • Adopting a course of action with multiple interested parties focused on people and with an inclusive approach in order to achieve tangible results in practice. • Guaranteeing transparency and accountability of financing at a national, regional and international level.
Options for an integrated financing strategy for sustainable development.	<p>a) National public financing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting fiscal reform, fiscal compliance and a closer international cooperation. • Ensuring a good financial management and the management of public finance • Internalizing external factors and including environmental sustainability. • Facing inequalities and the imperative of social protection. • Effectively managing public debt.

Contents	Guidelines
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring possible contributions of national banks to development. <p>b) Private national financing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing access to financial services for households and micro-enterprises. • Promoting loans for small and medium enterprises. • Developing financial markets to attract long term investments and improve regulations to balance access and stability. • Strengthening a favorable environment. • Strengthening economic, environmental, social and governance aspects and the sustainability of the financial system. <p>c) International public financing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fulfilling existing commitments • Using all sources of public financing and international instruments. • Using public resources efficiently and effectively. <p>d) Private international financing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Channeling international funds towards long term investment in sustainable development. • Managing the volatility of the risk associated to the short term transborder capital flows. • Facilitating remittance flow and aid to for private development. • Mixed financing. • Strategically evaluating the use of mixed financing and novel associations. • Exploring the possible contributions of Financial Development Institutions to support mixed financing. • Strengthening capabilities development efforts.
Global governance for a sustainable financing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening systemic coherence and

Contents	Guidelines
development.	<p>global economic governance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopting commercial and investment regulations that are fair and favor sustainable development. • Reinforcing global financial stability. • Increasing international fiscal cooperation. • Fighting illegal financial flows. • Strengthening the prevention and solution of the sovereign debt crisis. • Guaranteeing the harmonization of accounting and monitoring systems and an information revolution. • Strengthening the world alliance to facilitate the effective cooperation for sustainable development.

Source: Original work

If, in order to guarantee a development agenda beyond 2015, that should revolve around human rights, social justice, happiness and the fulfillment of each person, beyond a simple equation (that, although simple, we are yet to solve it), eradicating poverty, financing and cooperation –which are fundamental pillars- is not addressed structurally by the subject matter experts, how will we manage to achieve a real transformation of the power relationships? What is the role that we, as social movements or young people, can play? Are the conditions to be able to participate in at least the discussions present? These questions must be answered if we are to grasp a more real scenario of the impact that civil society has had in the Post-2015 Agenda.

Another important debate is about the concept of effectiveness for development, which is not the same as effectiveness for aid and what, from the perspectives of social movements and civil society organizations, is understood as a more inclusive cooperation framework. Just like Anne Schoenstein and Cecilia Alemany state in “The Cooperation for Development beyond the paradigm of aid effectiveness. A women’s rights perspective”⁴⁰, the effectiveness of development, understood in a framework based on rights, promotes the inclusive participation and democratic action around aid and development processes and reflects the values of economic justice, including gender justice and solidarity as global citizens.

⁴⁰ www.awid.org/esl=.../Cooperación_para_Desarrollo_paradigma.pdf

The problem is that the International Cooperation for Development has been a concept based on a specific geopolitical and historical context that does not consider human rights approaches or an inclusive and democratic perspective⁴¹.

The only way to guarantee that cooperation and financing will become a real tool to make progress in human rights, specially for women and young people, first it is to necessarily reconsider the development model and with it, the cooperation model. This discussion must center on the threshold of reproductive work and domestic and care work, only then we can talk about social justice, democracy, equality and rights. The discussion on financing and cooperation cannot be isolated from the challenges implied by fiscal systems and the disproportionate logic of the markets that deepens inequalities and contributes to conditions favorable to violate human rights.

In sum, the integration of the post-2015 agenda must be created from the basis of the principle of capabilities and responsibilities that are common but differentiated when advancing towards a fair and sustainable development. The concerning part of it is that the discussions about the financing agenda and the effective aid for development are being reoriented towards “alliances” between governments, multilateral agencies and large multinational corporations, which weakens the central principles of development effectiveness, including the principle of inclusiveness.

In this sense, the governments have the primary obligation to provide public goods and services and promote the rights of people. A Post-2015 implementation strategy must consider an integral understanding based on rights, with people as holders of rights and governments as holders of obligations, which must be accountable for their obligations regarding the fulfillment of human rights.

8. Some conclusions

- Challenges of the youth movement.

Throughout the document, there are statements that say that the participation of young people in the international processes is a reality, that this participation has not been easy, because it has generated confrontations and alliances with various actors and groups through time. An effort was made to document part of the gains and losses in 54 years regarding this agenda in

⁴¹ VAZQUEZ DIAZ P. S., 2014. “El papel de los actores y agentes No Gubernamentales dentro de la Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo: Las Fundaciones, los Fondos independientes y las personas” (The role of actors and Non Governmental agents within the International Cooperation for Development, independent funds and people”) Master’s degree dissertation. Instituto de Investigaciones Dr. José María Luis Mora (Dr. José María Luis Mora Research Institute). México

the United Nations environment. Finally, the existence of the youth movement is neither confirmed nor denied due to the fact that we believe that it could be the subject matter of another discussion. However, to liven this debate, and as a conclusion, we propose the idea that the youth movements in the region exist and have always existed and that they cannot be analyzed from the same parameters or with the same optics than traditional groups, but they undoubtedly share common elements with other social movements.

Although these institutional participation experiences of youth participation have not been exempt of internal conflicts, political and ideological differences, what's true is that they have also had spaces for meditation, articulation and political action. It is in this political environment where the critiques and questions must be posed. One of these questions refers to the capability that this movement has to guarantee the sustainability of its agenda through time. The high mobility and rotation of youth within its own militancy has come to be assumed as a "natural" one that is given by two important factors:

- a. The transitory nature of the identity of youth, the generational substitutes that happen in agreement or from confrontation or rupture.
- b. The high mobility of youth that is determined from the youth trajectories themselves (school, labor and personal mobility.)

This last factor has influence in both practical and political matters, since the mobility and rotation of leaderships means a loss of historical memory for the continuity of agendas and processes, because the tasks of experience documentation and systematization are difficult. However, other actors could contribute to strengthen this process. Therefore, it is necessary that both the adult organizations that work with youth and the academia that has "youth specialists" and youth organisms assume that role and contribute to play the role of historical memories communicators of these movements, which would strengthen their dynamics and their political action.

Despite this, the youth movement has been able to keep an updated agenda, it has been able to provide continuity to the processes that have been generated and it has found the way to recover that historical memory.

- The new, and not so new, forms of youth participation

The subject of youth participation is still at the center of the debate. The discussions have been taken into the effectiveness of that participation and how *genuinely youth-oriented it can be*. Undoubtedly, we are talking about two different aspects. The first one relates to a more structural debate on participation, which clearly questions the quality of the *democracy* in the region and the very concept of citizenship. This situation is expressed in the concept that national and international institutions label on the idea of youth participation.

For now, the lack of confidence in the political representation and institutions is clear, as well as the obsolete institutional participation enquiry mechanisms. Therefore, we need to move to wider, more active and decisive spaces where this participation can happen. Coming into this scenario, implies some elements: the full acknowledgement of the citizenship of young people, the necessary transformation of the participation mechanisms and the creation of public policies, the strengthening of the technical capabilities of youth organizations and the necessary connection of the debates of youth participation and the debates about the quality of democracy in the countries of our region.

The other aspect is the one related to what is *genuinely youth-oriented or not of that participation*; here we have two elements that we must identify: on one hand the matter related to how autonomous the youth organizations are and on the other how adapted are the organizations to adult logic and participation instruments (formal, structured, bureaucratized.)

These criticisms are commonly set forth from an adult-centered and, to some degree, even idealist logic. Undoubtedly, the youth topic forces us to analyze up until what point do we emphasize specificities and for what purposes. Questioning youth autonomy, about how authentic the agendas that they defend are and the actions that they carry out, implies a strong adult-centered charge because any acknowledgement of self-determination is missing and, therefore, the confirmation of the citizenship of young people. One example of this would be to ask ourselves: why don't we question how authentic or autonomous the vindications of indigenous, agricultural, union or women organizations are? De facto, those organizations or movements are considered to make their decisions based on their concerns, needs or interests. However, in the subject of youth, it is common to question if the agendas and actions correspond to those same considerations.

Furthermore, the subject of the various forms of youth participation includes a great many situations, forms and acting spaces. It is necessary to emphasize that the participation and political representation structures for society in general and for Youth in particular is a reality that is lived in the region and the world. In any case, they are there and so far, with all their limitations, they continue to be spaces for deliberation, participation and to make decisions. Just like in other movements, the scope of the agendas offer an action framework that can be institutional or not. But acting or being militant in one or the other should not have to discredit the political actor or his/her agenda, or make him/her older or younger.

- In the new development agenda, women and young people cannot stay behind.

Young people and women cannot be absent in the definition of the new development agenda. This generation of young people and women has the right to contribute and decide in regards of how they imagine the future and how they want to live it. The decisions that will be made

will affect the way in which they live youth for current and the next generation in a positive or a negative way. Likewise, it will condition, more drastically, cooperation and development aid in the regions with the most poverty and where the largest population of young people and women of the planet is concentrated. We have already warned that the biggest problem the world faces is its economic model, which has deepened inequality, exclusion and has conditioned the use of nature to unsustainable consumption patterns for the next years. In this new international order, we can see a still distant drastic change of the current economic model. However, there are still some cracks that can be used and some experiences that have been lived in the region that could be strengthened.

Despite the complexity of participation, it is necessary to act jointly with clear alliances amongst the various youth, women and feminist movements. The experience lived in the operational review process of the AP-ICPD has demonstrated that the feminist movement and youth organizations can move forward together in the fight for the full acknowledgement of human rights, with the hope that another world is possible, a world with more fairness, equality, with people living free and happy, without discrimination, without exclusion.

It is due to this hope that we cannot let the opportunity that this Post-2015 Agenda represents pass. This is the key moment to ask for accountability and demand commitments that can be translated into realities. Another 20 years in which the human rights of young people and women continue to be discussed, negotiated or question cannot elapse. It is not possible to continue with such deep inequities while a few continue to profit from the privileges that the current development model creates.

This is why the next steps have to seek a greater political articulation and a much more strategic use of all spaces. The difficulties are already clear for the youth and women movements. But also, the experiences lived allow designing joint strategies that allow better influencing this crucial stage of the development agenda.

- The premise of Investing in Young People

From some years now, institutions have stopped talking about social expenditure and have talked about social investment. This investment has not equally reached the various population groups. In the historical review made in this document, we can see the difficulties to transform the traditional approaches on youth into national and international institutions. These difficulties are materialized in technical, political and budget obstacles that prevent an efficient response to a youth agenda. From that point of view, it makes sense to talk about investing in youth and from where the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has positioned the subject in the regional and global discussion agenda. The subject can be controversial, but there is one fact that is difficult to question: the investment made in the first decade of the life of people must be sustained, at least during the second decade, in order to achieve a real impact and

improve the conditions for the population in basic aspects, such as health and education. Only in that way will we be able to accelerate breaking the circles of poverty, the fight against inequity and then we can move forward in the fight against discrimination. Another unavoidable fact is the population's aging. During the next years, if we fail to make this generation of young people have better life conditions, how will we face the population's aging? Intergovernmental organisms, youth organisms and other institutions are starting to resume this proposal, adding their agenda and interests.

Going deeper into the need to invest in youth, we must evaluate its quality from the environments, subjects and problems at which it is aimed and prioritized. Likewise, the investment implies economic resources, but not only that. Technical capabilities and political skill is needed to convince the various actors and to articulate the existing resources and policies. One of the main topics is to sustain the investment made in infancy and strengthening the social security mechanisms for when young people stop being young.

Another fundamental aspect is to strengthen the accountability mechanisms on behalf of governments and its institutions because, although progress has been made in the region with the boost to transparency and accountability legislations on behalf of their governments, there is still a lot of work to do. For instance, there are still difficulties to access disaggregated data per gender and age, which complicates the age group and gender analysis of government actions.

An aspect that has not been analyzed too much is the accountability of multi-government organisms, which manage budgets and assign public resources granted by the governments of the region. This institutional sphere has had little progress in regards of the transparency of its resources and the accountability of its actions. For instance, in this aspect it would be appropriate that the Ibero-American Youth Organization (OIJ, by its acronym in Spanish), which has existed for 20 years, would consolidate a transparency and accountability mechanism so that any young person or adult could know what is being done and how the public resources are being invested in the region's youth. Likewise, national youth organisms would have to include, as a part of the strengthening process for youth organizations, the technical and legal handling of transparency tools and access to public information.

Within this context to define the new development agenda, it is important to think about the use that is being given to youth investment in some corporations and economic groups who are interested in influencing the definition of priorities. The reason is very simple: the interest is based upon the need to increase the productivity of this generation as a mechanism that enables overcoming the crisis of the developed countries. Consequently, the focus is becoming investment in labor. Undoubtedly, youth investment must be translated into greater resources aimed at youth employment. However, these investments must be aimed at obtaining a decent employment that can contribute to the development of all persons and not just to create a

productive occupation that will still mainly benefit companies and perpetuate this economic model. The topic of youth investment and the demographic bonus cannot be justified by maintaining the economic model. These are social justice topics that show the costs caused by neglecting fundamental subjects and the exclusion of vast social groups that include women and young people.

- The challenge of an effective participation in the Post-2015 Agenda from the Latin American and Caribbean Youth.

According to the logic of the United Nations, the youth organizations of the region face various challenges in order to be able to influence the definition of the new Post2015 development agenda. To do so, those difficulties need to be acknowledged and strategies that allow overcoming them must be created at a short term. The complexity of the process shown in the creation of the new MDGs is undeniable, in addition to considering that the negotiation process is in an advanced stage and that the participation spaces are more limited each time. Another factor that has hindered this participation is mastering the English language. Despite this, it is possible to design strategies among the youth organizations of the region that enables them to act jointly in this final stage of the process. This participation cannot be isolated and without context, since it implies not only the articulation and the debate with the feminist movement of the region, but also the search for global alliances. Some of the spaces that we think as strategic for the youth agenda within the Post2015 process are:

- The Major Group of Children and Youths (MGCY.) This space is reactivated from the Rio+20 process and it articulated a large part of the youth movements that act in the Post2015 agenda process. Many of the youth organizations in the region are subscribed to this space but the participation in Latin America globally is limited.
- The International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organizations (ICMYO.) As the name says, it is an articulation and coordination space for global youth organizations. Currently, this space articulates its actions within the Post2015 agenda framework with MGCY. However, it maintains a dialogue role with the office of the Special Youth Envoy and with various United Nations agencies. This space is strategic to visualize the concerns of the region and influencing this last stage of the process. Currently, this space is coordinating an impact strategy in the Global Forum of Youth Policies⁴² that will be held in Baku, Azerbaijan, in October of this year.
- The Young Leaders Working Group (YLWG.) This is a space supported by the global office of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA.) It gathers various global youth and

⁴² <http://www.youthpolicyforum.org/>

sexual and reproductive rights organizations. Its action basis is the ICPD agenda, which allows articulating broader subjects such as development, cooperation, women and youth rights. This group has supported the AP-ICPD operational review process at a global level and is currently following up the Post2015 agenda in these topics.

9. Appendixes

I. Some international frameworks on youth

Document	Year	Link
Convention on Children Rights.	1990, United Nations General Assembly.	http://www2.ohchr.org/spanish/law/crc.htm
Action Program of the International Conference on Population and Development (AP-ICPD).	1994, El Cairo, Egypt.	http://www.unfpa.org.mx/publicaciones/PoA_sp.pdf
Global Action Program for Young People until the year 2000 and subsequent years.	1996, United Nations General Assembly.	http://www.un.org/es/comun/docs/?symbol=A/RES/50/81&Lang=S
European Youth Pact.	2005, Brussels, Belgium.	http://jovenes.ccoonavarra.org/publicaciones/informes/pacto_europeo_Juventud.pdf
Ibero-American Convention on Youth Rights	<i>2005, Badajoz, Spain</i>	http://www.unicef.org/lac/CIDJpdf(3).pdf
African Youth Charter.	2006, Banjul, Gambia.	http://africa.unfpa.org/public/pid/9998
Bahia Charter.	2010, Salvador de Bahía, Brazil.	www.unfpa.org.br/Arquivos/carta_bahia.pdf
Guanajuato Declaration.	2010, León, Guanajuato, Mexico.	http://www.csa-csi.org/files/declaracion_guanajuato_esp.pdf

Document	Year	Link
Declaration of the World Youth Forum Bali.	2012, Bali, Indonesia.	http://icpdbeyond2014.org/uploads/browser/files/1334148s_spanish.pdf
Resolution 2012/1 of the 45 th period of sessions of the United Nations Population and Development Commission.	2012, Commission on Population and Development.	http://www.un.org/esa/population/cpd/cpd2012/Agenda%20item%208/Chairs%20Text%20_27April-19h10.pdf
Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development.	2013, Montevideo, Uruguay.	http://www.cepal.org/celade/noticias/documentosdetrabajo/8/50708/2013-595-consenso_montevideo_pyd.pdf

Source: Original work

II. Youth organizations and networks with the greatest impact on the United Nations

Organization/Network	Year of Foundation
International Union of Socialist Youth – IUSY.	1907
Organización Mundial del Movimiento Scout (World Organization of the Scout Movement.)	1907
Asociación Mundial de las Guías Scouts (World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.)	1909
Federación Mundial de la Juventud Democrática (World Federation of Democratic Youth) – FMJD, by its acronym in Spanish.	1945
International Federation of Liberal Youth – IFLRY.	1947
Organización Continental Latinoamericana y Caribeña de Estudiantes (Latin American Continental and Caribbean Student Organization) – OCLAE.	1948
Organización Mundial del Movimiento Scouts en AL y C (World Organization of the Scout Movement in Latin America and the Caribbean.)	1960
Consejo de la Juventud de España (Spain Youth Council) – CJE, by its acronym in Spanish.	1983

Conselho Nacional de Juventude (National Youth Council) – CNJ, by its acronym in Portuguese, Portugal.	1985
Foro Latinoamericano de Juventud (Latin American Youth Forum) – FLAJ.	1988
Pastoral Juvenil del CLAI (Youth Pastoral of the Latin American Council of Churches.)	1988
Movimiento Ecoclubes Internacional (International Eco-clubs Movement.)	1992
Consejo de la Juventud de Nicaragua (Nicaraguan Youth Council.)	1992
Global Youth Action Network – GYAN.	1996
Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights.	1999
Red Latinoamericana y Caribeña de Jóvenes por los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos (Latin American and Caribbean Youth Network for Sexual and Reproductive Rights) – RedLac.	1999
Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS (GYCA).	2004
Conselho Nacional de Juventude Brasil (National Youth Council of Brazil) – CONJUVE, by its acronym in Portuguese.	2005
Red Iberoamericana de Juventud indígena y Afrodescendiente (Ibero American Indigenous and Afrodescendant Youth Network) – REJINA, by its acronym in Spanish.	2007
Espacio Iberoamericano de Juventud (Ibero American Youth Space) – EIJ, by its acronym in Spanish.	2008
Alianza Latinoamericana y Caribeña de Juventudes Rumbo a Cairo+20 (Latin American and Caribbean Youth Alliance Towards Cairo+20.)	2011
Red de Jóvenes Positivos de Latinoamérica y el Caribe (Latin American and Caribbean Network of Positive Youth) - J+	2012
Engajamundo.	2012

Source: Original Work

10. Bibliography

1. **Aberásturi, A. y Knobel, M.** (1985). *“La Adolescencia Normal.”* Mexico: Paidós.
2. **Valenzuela, J.** (1997). *“Culturas Juveniles. Identidades Transitorias”*. Mexico: Joven-es Magazine , IMJ, Cuarta época 1(3).
3. **Feixa, Carles.** (1995). *“El Reloj de Arena.”* Mexico: Causa Joven.
4. **Alpizar, Lydía y Bernal, Marina.** (2003). *“Manual de Capacitación en Derechos Humanos de las Mujeres Jóvenes y la Aplicación de la CEDAW”*. Mexico, REDLAC.
5. **Elige, Red de Jóvenes por los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos A. C.** (2000). *“Nuestra Definición de Juventud.”* Mexico: Serie de Documentos de Reflexión Interna.
6. **Cutter, Amy /Fenn, Ian y Seath, Freya.**(2014). *“Herramientas para la Incidencia: Influir en la Agenda de Desarrollo Post-2015”*. Civicus, Stakeholder. ForumSD2015.
7. **Reyes, Emilia.** (2014). *“El proceso Post-2015: ODM y ODS. Lo importante para una estrategia feminista LAC”*. Mexico: Articulation of Civil Society Organizations of Latin America and the Caribbean.
8. **Ramón, Agustina/Romero, Mariana/Ramos, Silvina y González, Cristina.**(2014). *“Seguimiento de la CIPD en América Latina y el Caribe después de 2014”*. Reference Document. Articulation of Civil Society Organizations of Latin America and the Caribbean.
9. **Celiberti, Lilian y Olea, Cecilia.**(2014). *“Desafíos feministas para la agenda regional y nacional entre Cairo+20 y la Agenda Post2015. El momento es ahora”*. Articulation of Civil Society Organizations of Latin America and the Caribbean.