

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Division for Inclusive Social Development

Expert Group Meeting on
“The Role of Families and Family Policy in Supporting Youth Transition”

December 11-12, 2018
Doha, Qatar

Agenda

Day 1

08:30 – 09:00 Registration

09:00 – 09:30 Welcome Remarks

- Executive Director, Doha International Family Institute
- Renata Kaczmarek, Focal Point on the Family, DISD/DESA
- Ignacio Socias, Director of Communication, International Federation for Family Development (IFFD)

09:30-11:00 Panel discussion 1: Youth, Adulthood, and Social Integration

This session will focus on the social, economic and political factors that affect youth transitions.

Guiding questions:

- What are the major social, economic and political factors that are affecting youth and their choices?
- What are the impacts of social integration on youth choices?

Moderator:

Ingrid Schoon, Professor of Human Development and Social Policy, the University of London

Panelists:

- Wei-Jun Jean Yeung, Professor, the National University of Singapore,
- Marge Unt, Head of Institute of International Social Studies, Tallinn University, Estonia
- Filip De Boeck, Professor, Institute for Anthropological Research in Africa (IARA) / Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Leuven, Belgium

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- Carlos Antonio Costa Ribeiro, Institute of Social and Political Studies, Rio de Janeiro State University (UERJ)
 - Nickolas Zill, Research Psychologist, Washington D.C

11:00-11:30

Break

11:30-13:00

Panel discussion 2: Role of Families in Supporting Youth Transitions: Family Networks and Family Expectations and Aspirations

This session will focus on the role of the family in supporting youth transitions and on influencing their decisions, with a focus on family networks and family expectations and aspirations.

Guiding questions:

- What is the role of the family in supporting youth employment outcomes? How effective is the family in supporting youth?
- What other types of support do families provide to youth?
- What are the consequences of the family's influence on youth? Their employment timelines?

Moderator:

Alcinda Maria Honwana, Inter-Regional Adviser on Social Development Policy, DISD/DESA

Panelists:

- Sagrario Segado Sánchez-Cabezudo, Professor, Department of Social Work, National University of Distance Education (UNED), Madrid, Spain
- Nader Kabani, Director of Research, Brookings Doha Center
- Alex Vasquez, Representative to the UN, International Federation for Family Development, United States
- Modupe Adefeso-Olateju, Managing Director, The Education Partnership (TEP) Centre, Nigeria.
- Ashan Perera, Founder and President of Road to Rights, Sri-Lanka

13:00-14:00

Lunch

14:00-15:30

Panel discussion 3: Role of Families in Supporting Youth Transitions: Parenting and Family Structures

This session will also focus on the role of youth in supporting youth transitions and on influencing youth decisions, with a focus on parenting and family structures.

Guiding questions:

- How does parenting influence youth choices and their vocational development, including youth's interests, goals and values related to career planning?
- What are the opportunities of parenting education in supporting youth and youth choices?
- How and why do diverse family structures (e.g. single parent households) influence youth education and employment outcomes?

Moderator:

Ignacio Socias, Director of Communication, International Federation for Family Development (IFFD)

Panelists:

- Ingrid Schoon , Professor of Human Development and Social Policy, the University of London
 - Luay Shabana, Regional Director of United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) – Arab States Regional Office
 - Anis Ben Brik, Director of Family Policy Department, DIFI
 - Rosario Eistenou, Fulltime Senior Professor and Researcher, Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social (CIESAS), Mexico
 - Liudmila Batura, Social Policy Officer, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)
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Day 2

9:00 – 10:30

Panel discussion 1: International Perspectives on Youth Policies

This session will highlight international policies and practices that support youth and their outcomes.

Guiding questions:

- What policies can help engage youth in the policy making process?
- What policies can reinforce the family's role in supporting youth transitions from school to work and address youth employment challenges?
- What family policies might help countries improve youth outcomes?

Moderator:

Renata Kaczmarek, Focal Point on the Family, DISD/DESA

Panelists:

- Mihaela Robila, Professor of Human Development and Family Studies at Queens College, City University of New York
- Yan Ruth Xia, Professor in the Department of Child, Youth, and Family Studies, College of Education and Human Sciences, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Heidi Ullmann, Social Affairs Officer, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (CELADE/ECLAC)
- Naeem Almutawakel, Social Affairs Officer, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

10:30-11:00

Break

11:00-13:00

Panel discussion 2: Youth and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

This session will examine the importance of a healthy transition from youth to adulthood in the achievement of SDGs.

Guiding questions:

- What policies might help countries improve youth outcomes, moving towards the youth-related SDG targets (Target 4.4, 8.5 and 8.6)?
- What are the challenges that youth face in the achievement of youth related SDGs?
- How important is a healthy transition from youth to adulthood in the achievement of SDGs?

Moderator:

Luay Shabana, Regional Director of United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) – Arab States Regional Office

Panelists:

- Alcinda Maria Honwana, Inter-Regional Adviser on Social Development Policy, DISD/DESA
- Nathalie Milbach Bouche, Regional Cluster Team Leader, Inclusive and Sustainable Growth and Development, UNDP Arab States
- Pablo Suarez Robles, Economist, Development Center, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- Juliana Zapata, Consultant, UNICEF, Office of Research – Innocenti
- Hernán Cuervo, Deputy Director – Youth Research Centre, the University of Melbourne, Australia

Show case:

Youth-led NGOs, winners of First UN SDGs Action Award:

- Hatim Aznague, Youth SDG Action Morocco, President of the Sustainable Development's Youth

13:00-14:00

Lunch

14:00-15:30

Panel discussion 3: Policy Discussion and Recommendations

This session will critically discuss the youth related policies suggested. It will also aim to provide recommendations on youth policies.

Moderator:

Nickolas Zill, Research Psychologist, Washington D.C.

Panelists:

- Renata Kaczmarek, Focal Point on the Family, DISD/DESA
- Ignacio Socias, Director of Communication, International Federation for Family Development (IFFD)
- Ingrid Schoon, Professor of Human Development and Social Policy at the University of London
- Alcinda Maria Honwana, Inter-Regional Adviser on Social Development Policy, DISD/DESA
- Luay Shabana, Regional Director of United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) – Arab States Regional Office

15:30-16:00

Closing Remarks