



Youth In Power



Building and Sustaining the Next Generation of Drug Policy
and Harm Reduction Activists & How You Can Support



Project conducted by Youth RISE, Students for Sensible Drug Policy International and
Jauna Banga/Young Wave



Project rationale

- Youth-led organisations in the drug policy and harm reduction sector can often suffer from a range of capacity issues. The key issues we had identified were:
 1. Poor Leadership Transitions
 2. Poor Institutional Knowledge/Memory
 3. Lack of Long-Term Strategy.
 - There is often a lack of a clear strategy for non youth organisations to meaningfully engage with young people and youth organisations
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Project Objectives

Strengthen leadership transitions, institutional memory, and long-term strategies in youth-led drug policy and harm reduction organizations through the development and implementation of a youth-work Sustainability Framework, blending best practices from both the youth-work and drug policy/harm reduction sectors.

Strengthen non-youth organisations capacity and understanding to engage with young people and youth-led organisations.

Process



Needs Assessment and Organisational Analysis

Consultation and Best Practices

Framework Development and Implementation

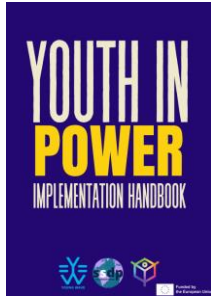
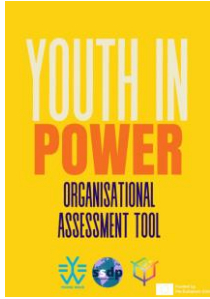
Framework Review & Validation

Report Launch & Findings Dissemination

Youth Drug Policy and Harm Reduction Specific OAT Additions
Community and Stakeholder Engagement
How does the organization collaborate with local communities, educational institutions, and health services in addressing drug-related issues among youth?
What partnerships exist with other organizations or government bodies focused on drug education and prevention?
Programme Development and Outreach
How does the organization incorporate youth perspectives and experiences in program development and drug policy advocacy?
What strategies are employed to engage and educate young people on drug-related issues?
Advocacy and Policy Influence
What measures are in place to ensure youth voices are represented in drug policy discussions and advocacy efforts?
How does the organization track and evaluate its impact on drug policy reforms at local, national, or international levels?
Harm Reduction and Support Services
What harm reduction services does the organization provide or promote, specifically for youth?
How does the organization support youth who have been affected by drug use, either directly or through their communities?
Research and Education
What role does the organization play in conducting or disseminating research on youth drug use and its impacts?
How are educational materials tailored to be youth-friendly and accessible?
Funding and Resource Allocation
How are funds allocated to ensure effective youth engagement and program delivery in the context of drug-related issues?
What strategies are in place for sustainable funding, particularly for youth-oriented initiatives?

Youth Organisational Assessment Tool

Key questions for all organisations to utilise to evaluate and guide work on youth topics and engagement of young people in projects



Outputs

Three outcome documents that can be utilised, adapted, and improved upon by

1. Youth-led organisations in the drug policy/harm reduction sector,
 2. Youth-led organisations who face similar sustainability issues, and
 3. Drug policy/harm reduction organisations that regularly engage with youth-led organisations, to improve cooperation and sustainability across and within organisations across a range of related fields and age groups
- Youth-focused Organisation Assessment Tool
 - Flexible Implementation Handbook Sustainability Framework
 - Results Report
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Outcomes

Youth RISE

- Restructuring of the organisation in line with our Advocacy Strategy
- Development of new organisational strategic plan
- Creation of policies and protocols for human resources and financial management and internal reporting templates
- Continuous development of relationships with key partners and stakeholders

SSDP International

- Strengthened institutional memory - policies, protocols, enhanced fundraising capacity
- Strategic plans and work plans
- Leading concurrent projects
- Strengthened financial infrastructure mechanisms
- Sustainable funding
- Strengthened relationships with key departments - engaged as key experts

Jauna Banga/Young Wave

- YIP project gave the org the space to reflect on how leadership in grassroots youth movements can be sustainably without burning out
 - Captured and extracted lessons from growth and work in Baltics in recent years
 - Documenting processes and setting up tools to carry forward knowledge and intent
 - Reframed and confirmed both short and long term strategic goals
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