



ARMENIA

Law on Youth Policy

Shaping Youth Policy in Practice

Armenian Delegation



Vision for change

Background:

Creating legitimate foundation on state policy in the field of youth affairs. Regulating and facilitating youth related projects interventions and multi-layered cooperation. Ensure tailor-made resource allocation.

Aim of the work:

Regulate and facilitate emerged relations and interconnections among various actors during the implementation of youth policy.

The end result envisaged:

Adopted youth policy law underpinned by high level of consolidation and endorsement.

Any adjustments or changes to the vision on the way:

Law on youth versus youth policy law.

Strategies and approaches

Where did you start?

Existence of the Youth Policy Concept and developed Youth Policy Strategy.

Who did you engage?

1. Youth
2. Informal
3. Youth initiatives
4. State agencies and ministries
5. CSOs
6. Experts
7. International institutions

Planned actions

Step by step actions planned have been implemented:

1. Desk comparative review of youth laws from other contexts
2. International study visits
3. Formation of a working group to draft the law
4. Mapping of the resources (human, finances, infrastructure)
5. Drafting of the law
6. Participatory and high level representative discussions on the draft of the law
7. Sending for comment and feedback within state cross-sectorial institutions
8. Compiling of the recommendation and incorporating into the draft law document
9. Initiating public discussions on the document on the national level

The team and stakeholders

Involved actors:

“Shaping youth policy” programme Armenian delegation, working groups, youth groups, initiatives, civil society organizations, international actors, public/state institutions.

Team competence: expertise in youth field, research and analysis, data collection, youth work, policy and legislation development.

External support: study visits, experts involvement and brainstorming sessions, discussions.

Policy actors: standing committee on SECDYS of National Assembly, cross sectorial and transversal state ministries/agencies.

Results achieved

How far the change was possible to be implemented?

The draft of youth policy law was developed.

Where are you now?

Participatory discussions in all 10 regions with stakeholders:

Youth

Youth NGOs

Local authorities

Youth non formal groups

Student councils

Connection to wider youth policy goals and developments

How the work is linked to the other youth policy related processes in your country?

Comparative analysis of other state policies to identify youth related areas incorporation, straightening, avoiding overlaps.

How these achievements have supported other changes and developments?

To streamline youth activities and interventions in other areas

Sensitization of state and non-state actors on the importance of having youth policy as well as integration of the later one in two other activities

Highlights and things to celebrate

- Participatory youth law development process
- Acknowledgment from the side of the state the importance of having law
- The willingness of the state to have Youth policy law
- High consolidation and readiness of civil societies actors to contribute to the process
- Huge interest from different public sectors

Challenges and solutions

Issues, difficulties, compromises along the way:

- Resource allocation for creating alignment within cross-sectorial state institutions on developing and having Youth policy law
- Other priorities on the state- amidst challenging and issue to develop the law
- Geopolitical situation in the region

Lessons learnt

Lessons and further recommendations for people in the similar processes

Importance of participatory processes

Cross-sectoral cooperation

Evidence-based approach

Reviewing international experience

Evaluation of the Shaping Youth Policy Capacity Building Project

What has worked for delegation?

Working group structure: Mixture of ministry, parliament and ngo representatives.

Constructive and collaborative approach

What could have been better?

Midterm residential meeting

What would you recommend for possible future editions of SYP capacity building projects?

To participate and don't miss the opportunity

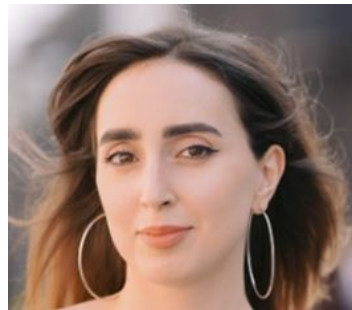
Most memorable things for each member

Zara



Fruitful
Collaboration

Anna



Breaking the
stereotypes

Artur



Harmonized
process,
better results

Armenuhi



Create
professional
team

Marta



Youth is
priority

What's coming next?

Next steps

- Elaborating the package of the law and submitting to the national assembly, holding discussions
- Public discussion, parliamentary hearing.

Sharing the results

- Approval by the government, adoption by the Parliament

Starting any new processes

- Development of the youth policy