

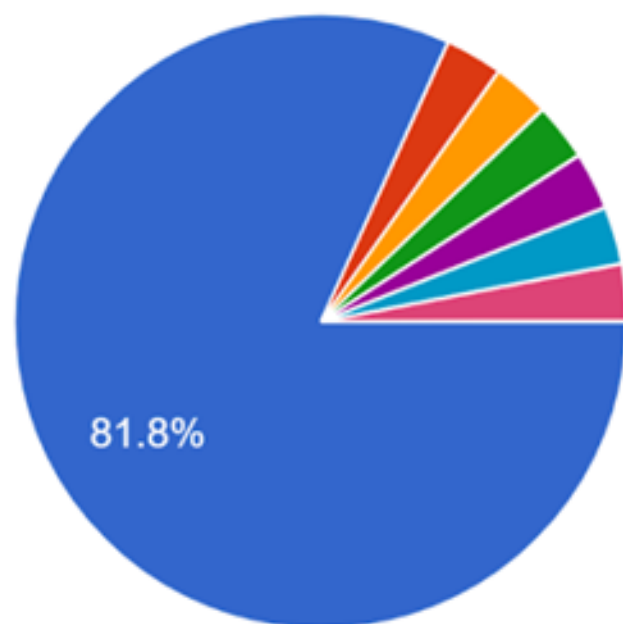
Towards a better understanding of the impact of Covid-19 on the youth sector

Results of the online survey

James O'Donovan & Manfred Zentner

Please indicate whether the lockdown was:

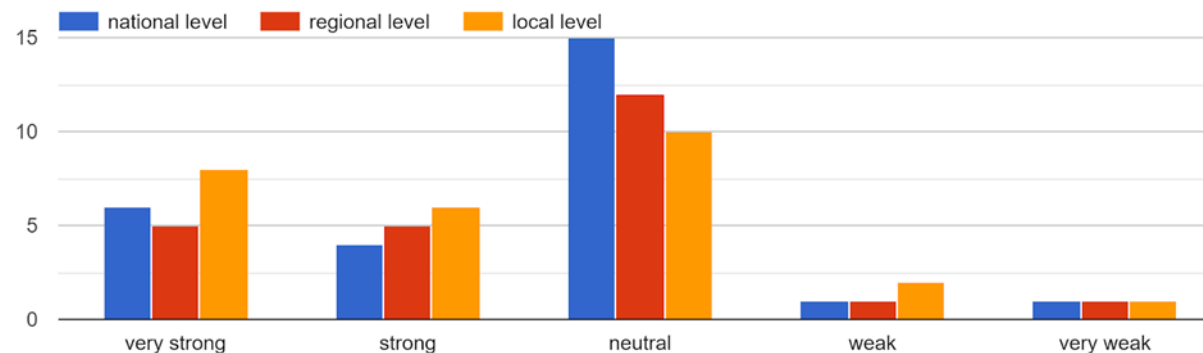
33 responses



- national
- regional / local
- Can't really answer these questions as there was no lockdown.
- National and general Mid-March to End of April; End of April to End of June: S...
- with complete isolation for some villages in case more cases were confirmed
- initially national, now local but with ma...
- National lockdown from mid-March to...

Impact of COVID-19, the lockdown and other measures on public funding for the youth sector, including the voluntary youth sector

- In general, state funding for the youth sector appears to have remained relatively consistent during the lockdown.
- There is also evidence of funding being cut, particularly at local level, or redirected, delayed cancelled or postponed.
- There are concerns that a long period of social distancing over the coming year(s) may lead to greater financial pressure on the youth sector.

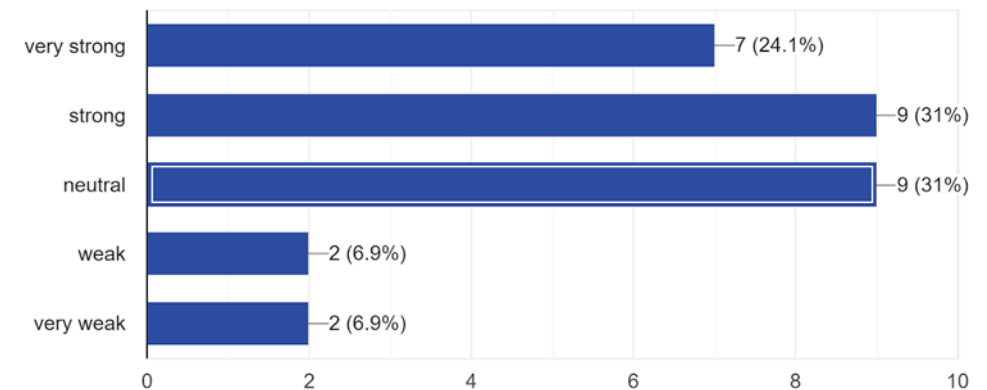


Impact of COVID-19 and the lockdown on the employment and conditions of professional/paid youth workers

- Over 85% of countries, ranked the impact on youth workers as very strong, strong or neutral.
- In many countries youth workers, to varying degrees, experienced reduced working hours, changes in working conditions, adoption of new practices - digitilization - and in some instances, uncertain employment.
- In some instances, youth workers had no experience with providing youth work online or did not have adequate IT training, resources or supports

What has been the impact of COVID-19 and the lockdown on the employment and conditions of professional/paid youth workers?

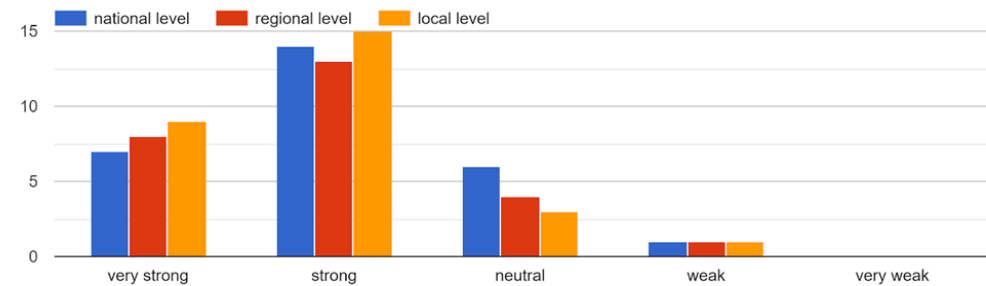
29 responses



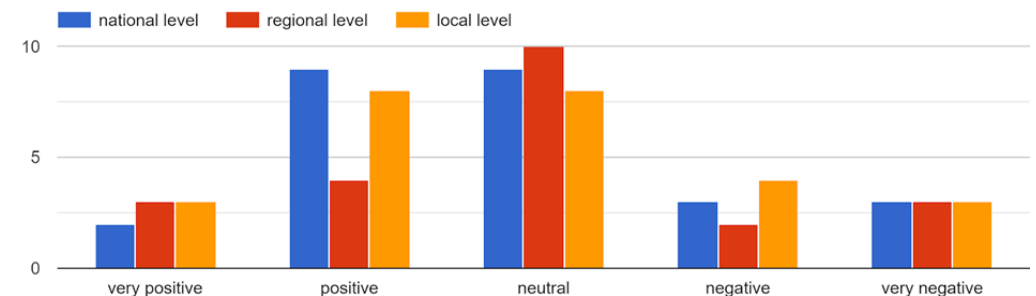
Impact of COVID-19 [...] on and response of state operated programmes, youth work services and other supports for young people

- The requirements of social distancing during the lockdown severely impacted on youth sector programmes and activities and also reflected the importance of the physical environment and face-to-face contact in the sector.
- While online and digitalized approaches were adopted, there was a lack of capacity, resources and training in some countries as well as an urban/rural divide in some instances.

What has been the impact of COVID-19, the lockdown and other measures on state operated programmes, youth work services and other supports for young people at



How effectively did state operated programmes, youth work services and other supports for young people, respond to the lockdown at



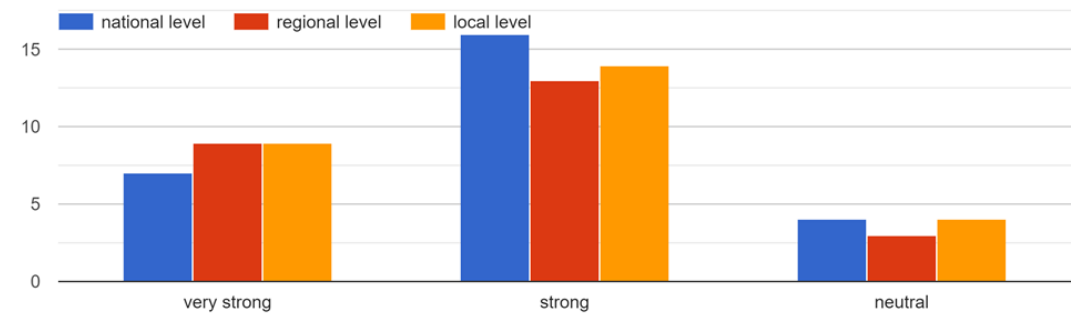
Impact of COVID-19 [...] on and response of the NGO sector

1. Operative lockdown
2. Financial
3. Alternatives
4. New activities

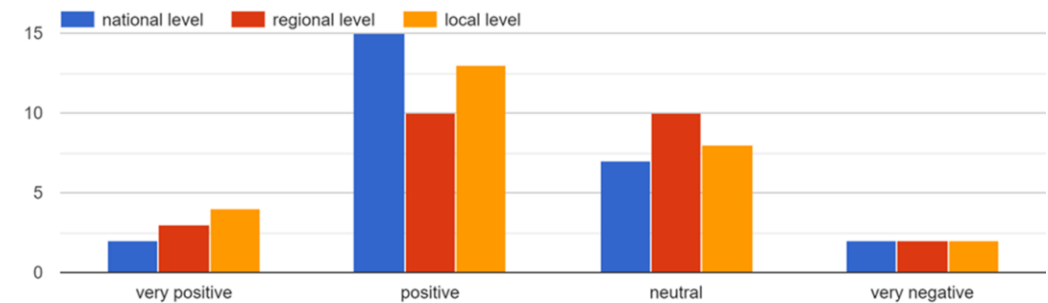
And the response:

1. Diversion to online activities
2. Information
3. Health support activities

What has been the impact of COVID-19, the lockdown and other measures on NGO sector programmes, youth work services and other supports for young people at

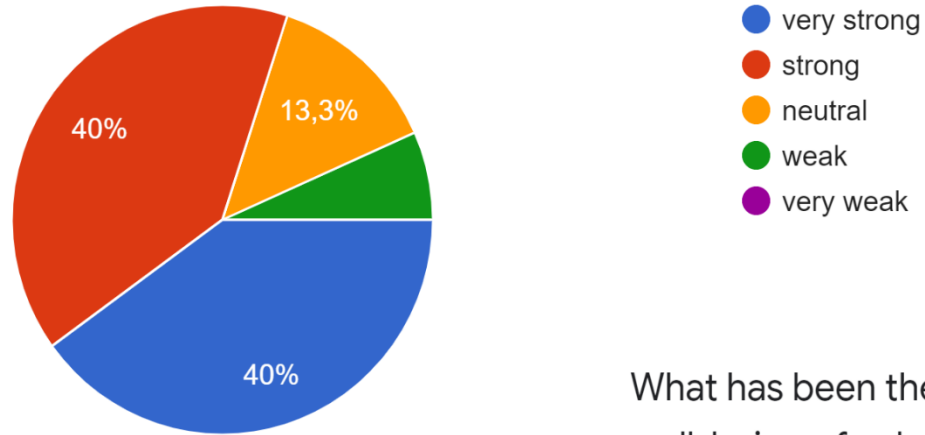


How effectively did NGO sector programmes, youth work services and other supports for young people, respond to the lockdown at



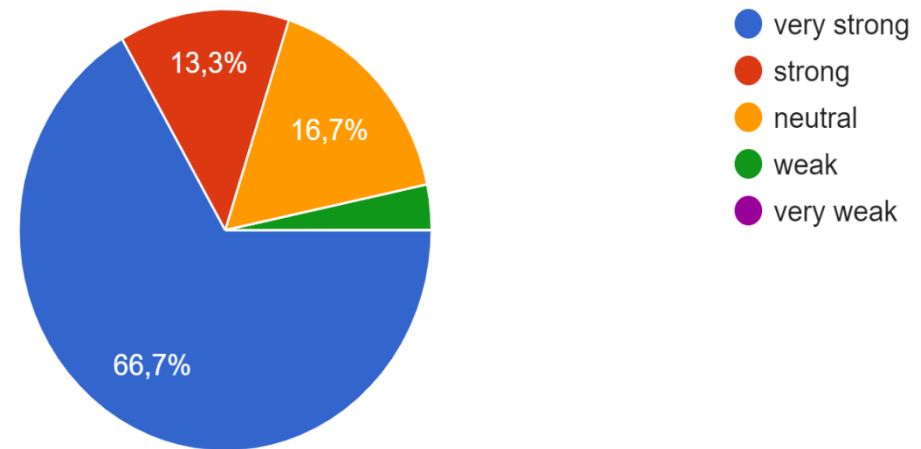
What has been the impact of COVID-19, the lockdown and other measures on the inclusion, participation and well-being of young people and their access to rights and services?

30 Antworten



What has been the impact of COVID-19 and the lockdown on the inclusion, participation and well-being of vulnerable and at risk young people and their access to rights and services?

30 Antworten



Impact on young people

- **Angst and Concern:** The official public communication often focusing on dangers of contacts. Many young people felt responsible for the health of their families, others just felt insecure.
- **Mental health:** The lack of personal meetings. No psychological support offered.
- **Violation of rights of the child:** This topic was mentioned in various aspects, be it increased violence in families, less support from child care organisations, lack of opportunities for participation and more
- **Unemployment:** Youth was hit very hard by the economic impact of the Covid-19 crisis. Youth at risk, often less educated or with migrant background, was affected even stronger
- **Increased social differences:** all mentioned above increased social differences in the times of and after the lockdown.
- **Exception:** Some of those youth that were already before excluded from many opportunities due to certain forms of immobility did feel better starting chances to participate in virtual settings for formal education and informal offers.

Response of young people and youth representative bodies

- **Information:** Representative bodies started awareness raising campaigns, and offering information and guidelines on Covid-19, position papers, direct consulting.
- **Voluntarism:** Many young people offered support to neighbours (caring, shopping, walking the dog, support with online skills, ...). But also solidarity actions among youth were reported – mostly concerning online learning support.
- **Stress reactions:** On the other hand in many countries the effect of the lockdown on the mental health situation was pointed out.
- **Dis(obedience):** It was highlighted that in many countries in general the young people accepted all restrictions and did not show any forms of protests in the first weeks of the lockdown. Protest were rather driven by adults than by youth. The longer the lockdown lasted the more violations of the rules were reported. Especially meeting friends when it was forbidden became an issue.

The most significant short-to-medium term policy challenges facing the youth sector in your country as a result of the pandemic?

- Funding / support structures
- Access to digital tools/ digital competences of youth work
- New ways to reach youth
- Ensure equal opportunities (access to resources, access to rights)
- Mental health
- Participation / involvement
- Economy / Youth unemployment

Most positive and negative features of the impact on and the response of the youth sector

positive

- Development of digital skills in the sector
- Realising that many meetings can be put online
- Cooperation between NGOs and youth centres
- Intergenerational solidarity / voluntarism
- Investment in infrastructure (from school toilets to free computers)
- Distance learning / remote jobs

negative

- Mental health situation
- Closure of facilities – increase of social divide
- Local disadvantages reinforced
- Lack of strategy in the sector
- Bad / tragic communication strategy of the governments
- Blame on young people to endanger elderly / stereotyping of youth not complying with safety measures
- Youth unemployment
- Lack of digital skills and digital resources in the youth field

Thank you for your attention