

## YOUTH



"Our generation has the ability and the responsibility to make our ever-more connected world a more hopeful, stable and peaceful place."  
-- Natalie Portman

Youth - young people aged 15 to 24 -- make up nearly one-third of the world's population. Youth are directly affected by social, economic and political developments around the world. But in many countries, youth are not allowed to be involved in the decisions that shape their societies.

The United Nations General Assembly declared 1985 as International Youth Year to highlight the important role that young people play in our world and their great potential to help make the world a better place.

Ten years later, the United Nations adopted the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, an international strategy designed to address many of the problems youth around the world face, and to help increase their opportunities to participate in the life of their societies. This blueprint for action covers ten important areas: education, employment, hunger, poverty, the environment, drug abuse, juvenile delinquency, leisure-time activities, girls and young women, and the full and effective participation of youth in the life of society and in decision-making.

The United Nations declared August 12 International Youth Day, as an annual opportunity to raise awareness about the important contribution youth make and to highlight the goals of the World Programme of Action.

### Be A Hero For A Better World!

1. Find out more about issues affecting global youth
2. Join a youth service group:  
[betterworldclubs.com](http://betterworldclubs.com)  
[serviceforpeace.org](http://serviceforpeace.org)  
[servenet.org](http://servenet.org)  
[wfuna-youth.org](http://wfuna-youth.org)
3. Volunteer in your community
4. Organize or participate in an event on Youth Day and other 'Culture of Peace Days'
5. Support youth organizations

### Youth Links

- [ChangeMakers.org.uk](http://ChangeMakers.org.uk)
- [DoSomething.org](http://DoSomething.org)
- [Global Youth Action Network \(youthlink.org\)](http://GlobalYouthActionNetwork(youthlink.org))
- [GlobalYouthConnect.org](http://GlobalYouthConnect.org)
- [International Youth Foundation \(iyfnet.org\)](http://InternationalYouthFoundation(iyfnet.org))
- [Oxfam International Youth Partnerships \(iyp.oxfam.org\)](http://OxfamInternationalYouthPartnerships(iyp.oxfam.org))
- [Taking It Global \(takingitglobal.org\)](http://TakingItGlobal(takingitglobal.org))
- [World Federation of UN Associations Youth \(wfuna-youth.org\)](http://WorldFederationofUNAssociationsYouth(wfuna-youth.org))
- [YouthActionInternational.org](http://YouthActionInternational.org)
- [Youth at the United Nations \(un.org/youth\)](http://YouthattheUnitedNations(un.org/youth))

For more information: [www.BetterWorld.net/youth.htm](http://www.BetterWorld.net/youth.htm)

## BetterWorldClubs.com

...every act of compassion makes a difference...every day counts for a better world...