

The Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

Humanity The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, born of a desire to bring assistance without discrimination to the wounded on the battle-field, endeavours, in its international and national capacity, to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found. Its purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being. It promotes mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and lasting peace amongst all peoples.

Impartiality It makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. It endeavours to relieve the suffering of individuals, being guided solely by their needs, and to give priority to the most urgent cases of distress.

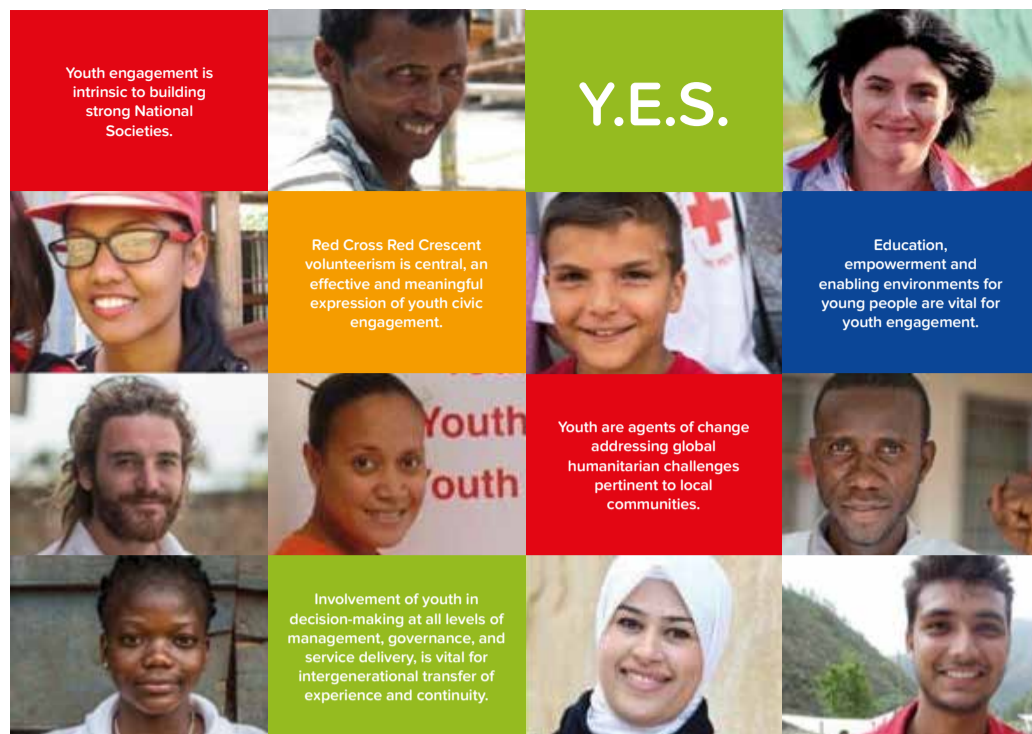
Neutrality In order to enjoy the confidence of all, the Movement may not take sides in hostilities or engage at any time in controversies of a political, racial, religious or ideological nature.

Independence The Movement is independent. The National Societies, while auxiliaries in the humanitarian services of their governments and subject to the laws of their respective countries, must always maintain their autonomy so that they may be able at all times to act in accordance with the principles of the Movement.

Voluntary service It is a voluntary relief movement not prompted in any manner by desire for gain.

Unity There can be only one Red Cross or Red Crescent Society in any one country. It must be open to all. It must carry on its humanitarian work throughout its territory.


Universality The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in which all societies have equal status and share equal responsibilities and duties in helping each other, is worldwide.




RCRC Youth Engagement study report 2015

www.ifrc.org
Saving lives, changing minds.



 International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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YOUTH
ENGAGEMENT
FOR A BETTER
WORLD



IFRC YOUTH
ENGAGEMENT
STRATEGY
(IFRC Y.E.S.)



IFRC
YOUTH
POLICY
(IFRC YP)



IFRC
STRATEGY
2020



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Links for the report:

The data stem from the
**RCRC Youth Engagement
study report
2015**

Introduction

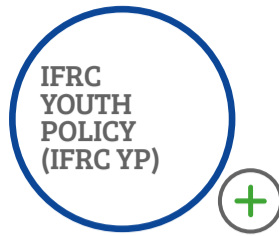
+ Young people represent more than half of the 17 million RCRC volunteer base



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest volunteer-based humanitarian network. With our 190 member National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies worldwide, we are in every community reaching 160.7 million people annually through long-term services and development programmes, as well as 110 million people through disaster response and early recovery programmes. We act before, during and after disasters and health emergencies to meet the needs and improve the lives of vulnerable people. We do so with impartiality as to nationality, race, gender, religious beliefs, class and political opinions. Guided by Strategy 2020—our collective plan of action to tackle the major humanitarian and development challenges of this decade – we are committed to saving lives and changing minds. Our strength lies in our volunteer network, our community based expertise and our independence and neutrality. We work to improve humanitarian standards, as partners in development, and in response to disasters. We persuade decision-makers to act at all times in the interests of vulnerable people. The result: we enable healthy and safe communities, reduce vulnerabilities, strengthen resilience and foster a culture of peace around the world.



recognizes that meaningful youth engagement is central to strengthening NSs

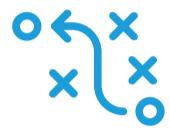


describes the roles of children, adolescents and young adults and their value add in achieving the RCRC mission



provides a strategic framework to facilitate youth's meaningful engagement as today's and tomorrow's leaders and volunteers, and as members of affected communities

where do we stand...



Policy and Strategy

The "Youth-led and NSs-owned" approach to development of youth engagement policies and strategies is critical for success!



74 NSs have a formal youth policy

97 NSs do not have a strategic plan for engaging youth

OF THESE:

+ **97% of NSs** recognise youth as leaders

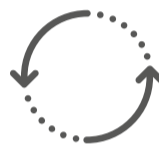
+ **93% of NSs** recognise youth as decision-makers in programmes and services

+ **76% of NSs** recognize youth as beneficiary group with specific vulnerabilities



Structures and Resources for Success

Youth-led governance structures foster organisational continuity and leadership renewal!



69 NSs have a national youth-led governance structure

116 NSs have a youth focal point at national headquarters

69 NSs identify a gap in financial resources for youth engagement



Youth as Leaders

If governance does not pay attention to youth leadership development, who will?



97 NSs have their Governing boards discuss youth matters at least once a year

10% of NSs Governing boards do not discuss youth matters at all

89 NSs have a youth representative in their governance at national level

only in 31 NSs youth elects their representative to the Governing board

75 NSs have national training courses for youth leadership



Youth as Volunteers

We have to better tap on potential of youth in going beyond their role as implementers



88% of NSs involve youth in project implementation

53% of NSs are involved in planning and evaluation

in 56% of NSs youth participate in pilot-testing innovative projects

only 50 NSs have developed specific approaches to recruit youth volunteers from marginalized groups



Youth as members of affected communities

Youth are not passive receivers of aid!



111 NSs perceive youth as passive receivers of aid and a vulnerable target group

only 40 NSs involve youth from affected communities in the evaluation of the projects they participate in

92 NSs train youth who participate in their programmes but mainly in Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian values

78 NSs recruit affected youth for RC/RC voluntary work

142 NSs do not have specific guidelines on how to involve youth of affected communities in RC/RC projects

our way forward

We collectively commit to

↑ Championing the "Youth Engagement for A Better World" Pledge

→ Growing institutional youth development technical expertise

↗ Banking on the Regional RCRC Youth Networks as learning hubs

As individual National Societies, we commit to

Closing the gap between generations and fostering the inter-generational dialogue and partnership

Scaling-up implementation of the youth-related statutory commitments as a "business of everyone"

Pioneering leadership renewal as intrinsic to National Society Development and institutional continuity

Including youth voice in all decision-making structures

Harnessing transformative and unique perspectives, talents, and interests that youth bring

Initiating youth-led processes to develop holistic and cross-cutting youth policy and youth engagement strategies

Investing in youth-led governance structures

Scaling-up participation in the Regional RCRC Youth Networks

Advancing the RCRC youth engagement cycle as a vehicle for wider community engagement