

The Voice of Youth in Economic Policymaking: How to Advocate for the Right Reforms



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- Founded in 1983, an affiliate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce & the National Endowment for Democracy (NED)
- Active in over 51 emerging markets
- Mission: Strengthen democracy around the globe through private enterprise and market-oriented reform





CIPE's Strategy to Youth Programming

Empower and engage youth as the political and business leaders of tomorrow

1. Educate youth on entrepreneurship, business management, **civic leadership**
2. Provide youth with **necessary skills**
3. **Equip civil society to engage young people in policymaking process**
4. Provide opportunities for youth to share ideas about reform



Why fund youth advocacy programs

Advocacy: a group effort focused on building support for issues or addressing concerns in an open and transparent manner

- Youth should partake in advocacy, but often lack institutional avenues and/or capacity to voice their opinions
- CIPE supports advocacy programs to prepare youth to become self-dependent and take initiative

How to engage private sector

- Cooperate with private sector organizations (chambers of commerce, business associations, economic think tanks)
 - Such orgs can facilitate stakeholder dialogue with private sector and youth
 - Develop policy recommendations on youth and economy based on needs

Pakistan: Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry

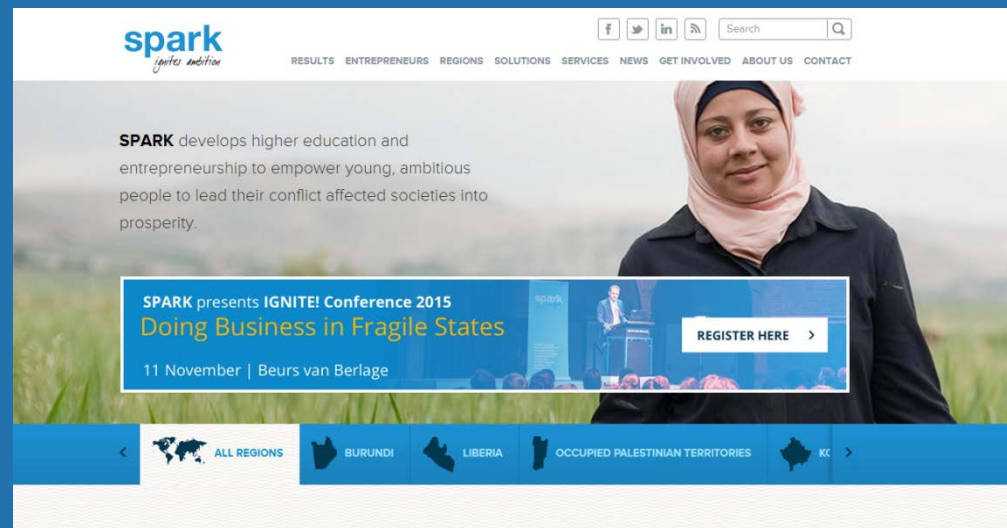
- National Youth Policy

Serbia: Serbian Association of Managers

- Partnership with Ministry of Youth and Sports
- Dialogue between youth and private sector; internship fair

U.S.: ChamberLINKS/Think Tank LINKS

- cross-cultural leadership development program for young professionals from developing nations; partner with U.S.-based chambers, associations, think tanks



- Dutch NGO, since 1994
- Entrepreneurship development for stability
- In 14 fragile and conflict affected regions
- Youth, women and marginalised groups
- Network of local governments and partners

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME

Burundi, South Sudan, Palestine, 2012 - 2015



YEP overall objective:

To create an enabling environment in order for youth in fragile states to improve and advocate for their socioeconomic position



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You could also say:

- Youth needs to be able:
 - to participate
 - to find work
 - to start a business
 - to improve their own socioeconomic position
- **YEP is about making this (more) possible**



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Focus on



- Civic participation, **POLITICAL** engagement
- **ECONOMIC** empowerment
- Improving **CONDITIONS** for job creation
- **INVOLVEMENT** youth in civil society and politics in order to **advocate for** and improve their socioeconomic position
- Notice: this is NOT a job creation programme!



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2 target groups

Youth

- 18 – 35
- Inclusive



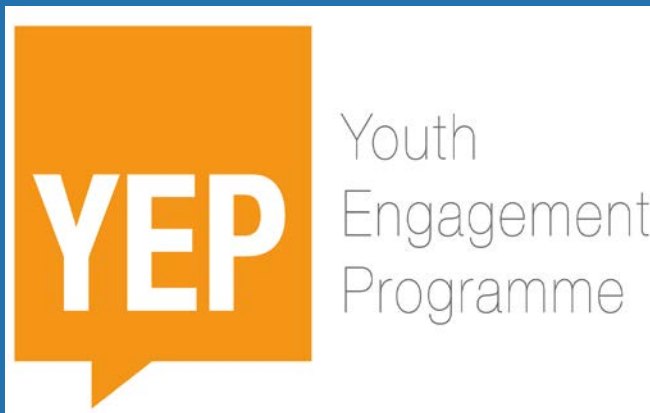
Stakeholders

- Civil society
- Private sector
- Political parties
- Unions



Strategies YEP

1. Capacity building
2. Participation
3. Multi sector / party dialogue



Result indicators 2015 / STRATEGY 2

- Advocacy plans (15)
- Government policies adopted (6)
- Policy proposals (9)
- Youth in decision- making positions (30)
- Political party programmes influenced (30)
- Joint public policy-statements (21)
- Inter-party youth meetings and events (42)

Result indicators 2015 / STRATEGY 3

- Socioeconomic issues tabled at multi-party dialogue events (42)
- Policy statements adopted at multi-party dialogue events (21)
- Public-private partnerships launched (21)
- Youth leaders involved (56)



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Results (so far)

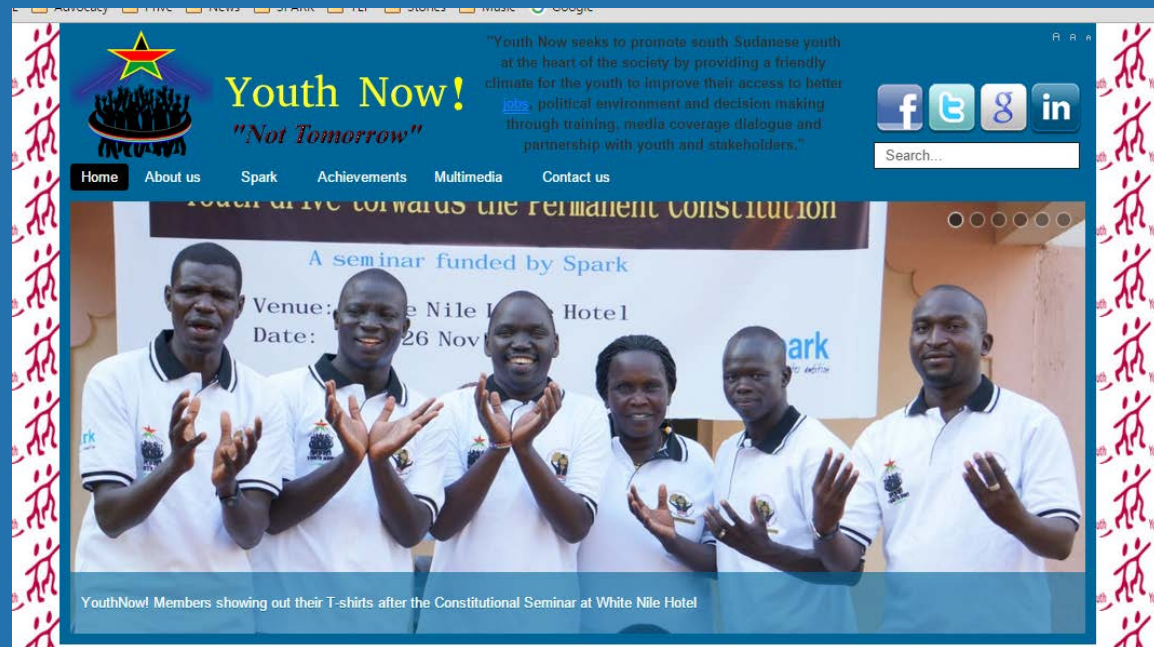
- Youth on candidate lists for political parties (Burundi)
- Public agreements by government, unions, universities (Burundi)
- National Constitutional Review (South Sudan)
- Liaison Office / internships (Bu, SS)
- Youth Commission in parliament (Palestine)
- National anti-nepotism campaign (Palestine)



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Challenges

- Fragile and conflict affected regions
 - Political environment
 - Inclusiveness
 - Media
 - Trust
 - Transparency
 - Flexibility
-



Hania Bitar PYALARA



See Translation



برمو برنامج منارات - وكالة وطن للأنباء
برمو برنامج...



The Voice of Youth in Economic Policy Making

How to advocate for the right reforms?

Presentation by: Hania Bitar
PYALARA



الجمعية الفلسطينية لطبقة الاصلاح والتغيير دور الشباب
Palestinian Youth Association For Leadership And Rights Activation

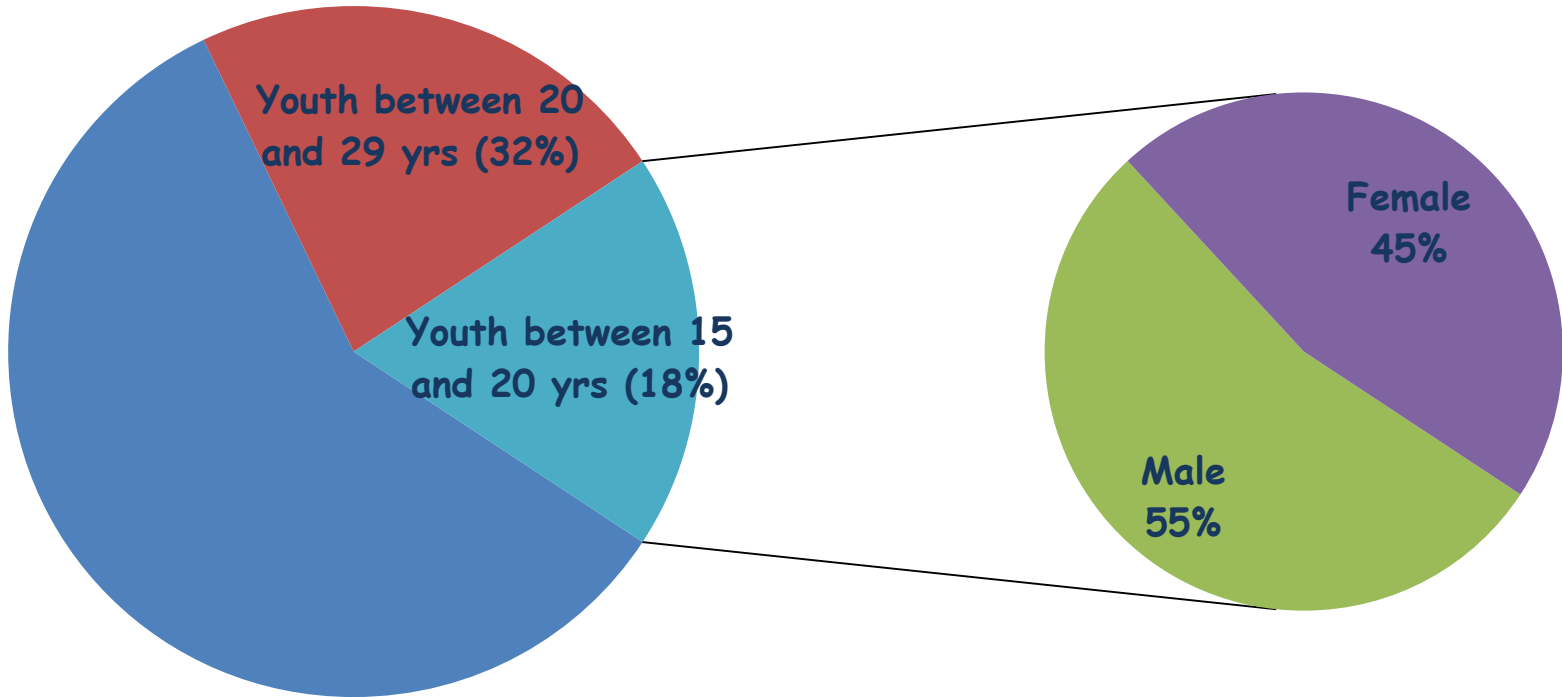
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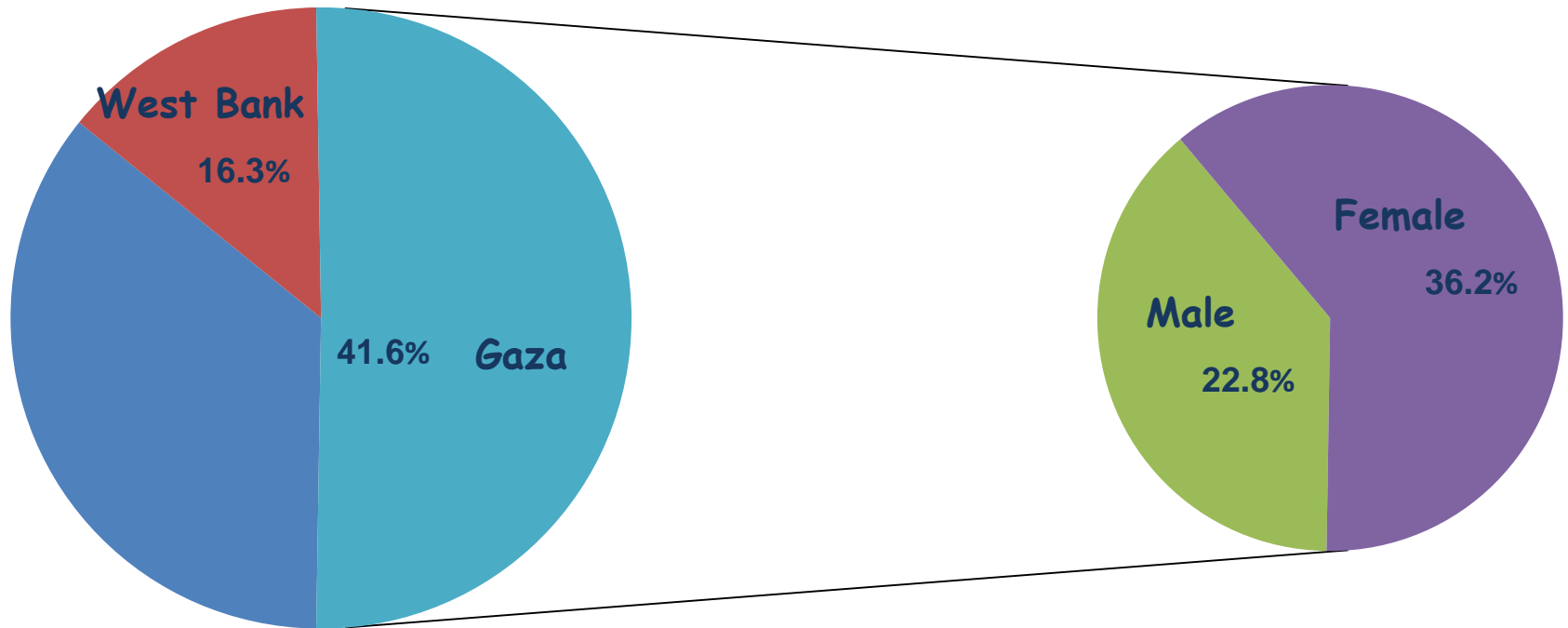
www.pyalara.org www.youthpal.org

Palestinian Youth



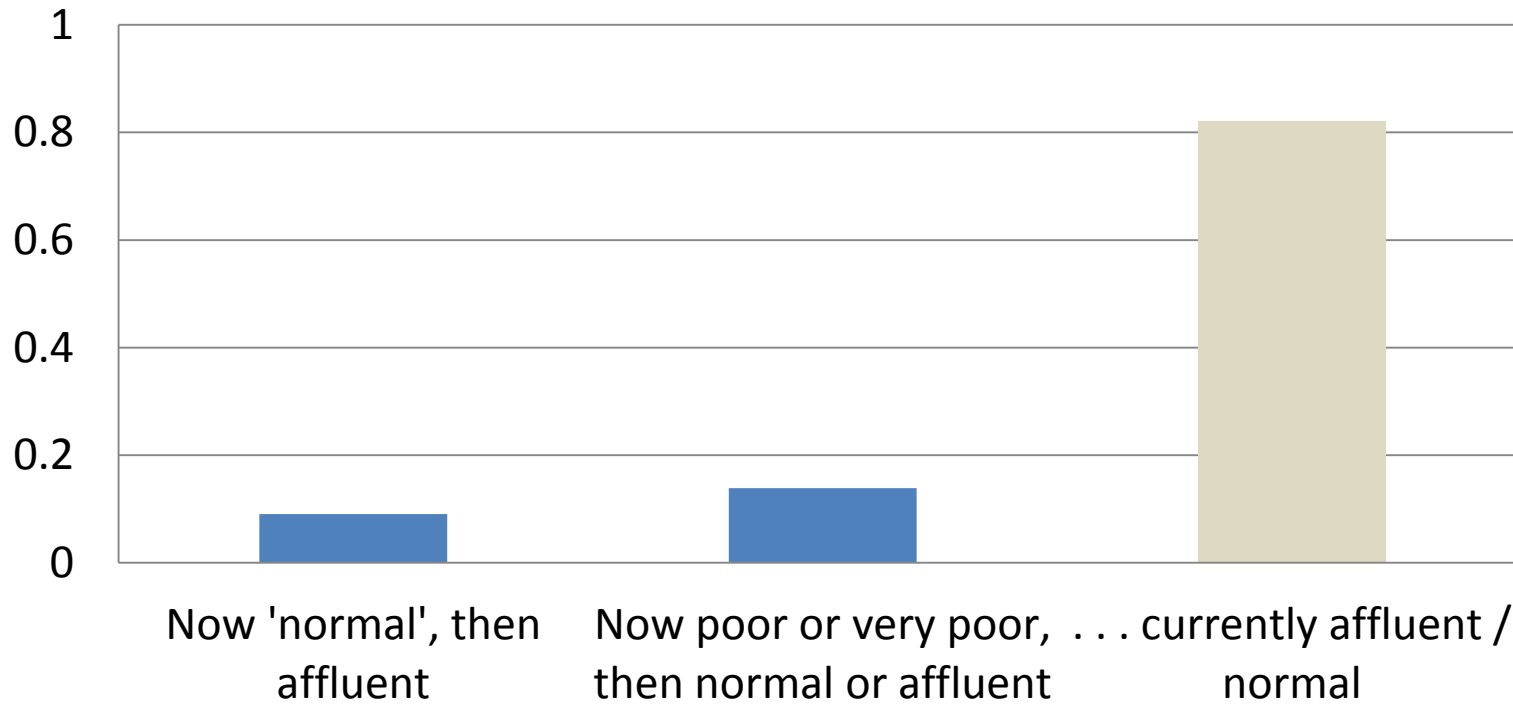
Population in Palestine 4.6 million

Youth Unemployment



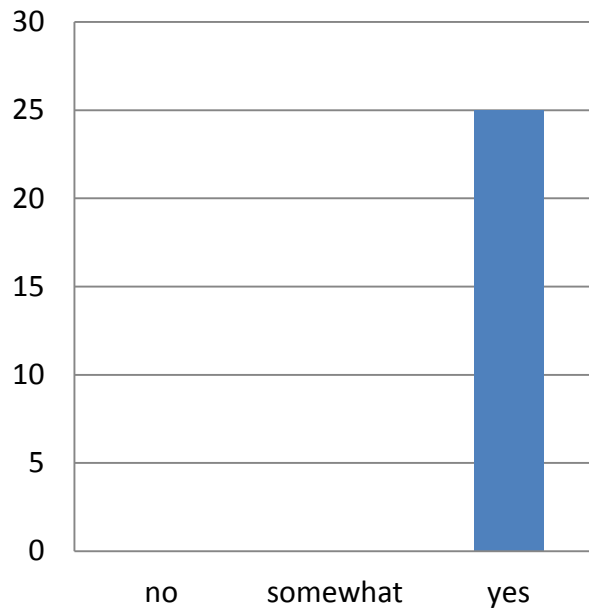
Optimism

Will you be richer in 5 years time?

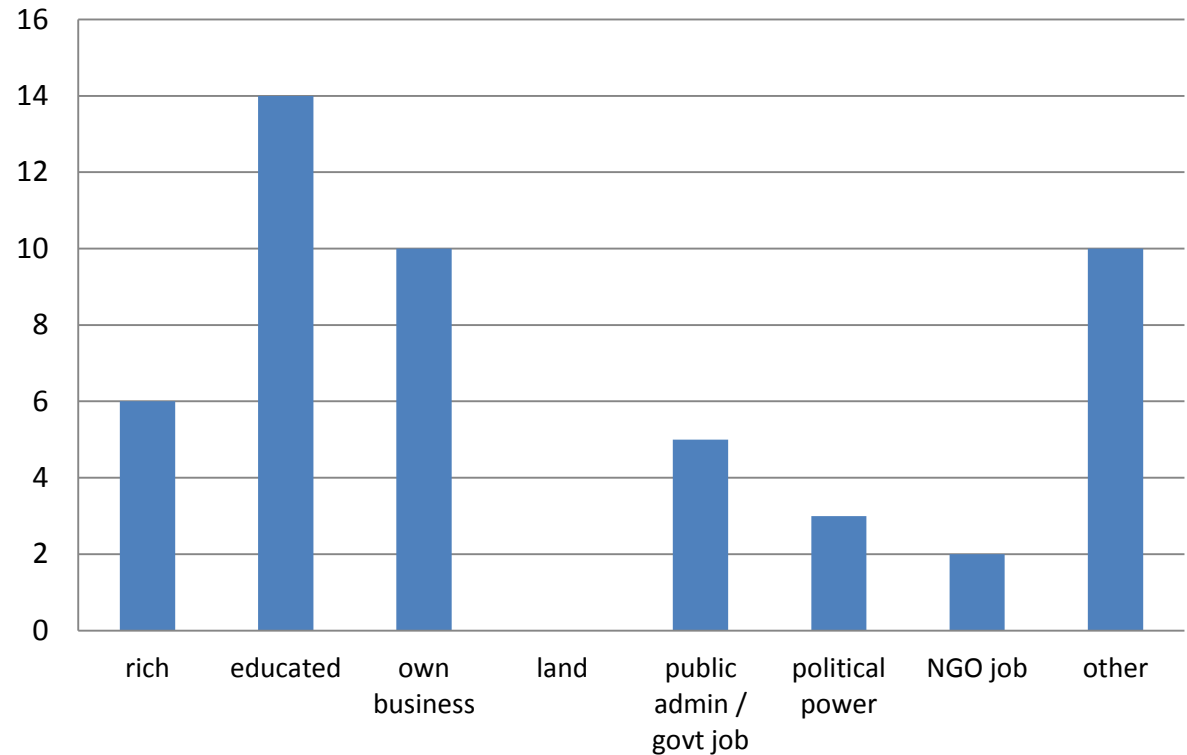


Optimism 2

Are you going to be successful?



How will you be successful?



**YOUNG PALESTINIANS FIND
MORE BEAUTY IN DEATH
THAN IN LIFE**

