



UN Major Group for

UN Major Group for
Children and Youth
the space for children and youth in the United Nations

Children
& Youth

What is UN MGCY?

The official and self-organised space for children and youth in certain intergovernmental and allied process at the United Nations

Vision of UN MGCY

Children and youth are planning, designing, implementing, monitoring, reviewing and evaluating sustainable development policies.

What gives us the mandate?

- 1) Agenda 21**
- 2) UN General Assembly Resolutions (such as 2013's A/Res/67/290)**
- 3) Agreements with UN bodies and conferences**

Organising Partners (OPs)

Eligible Organisations mandated to co-ordinate the activities of the UN Major group for Children and Youth (UN MGCY). One permanent (legal entity and board) and 5 elected eligible organisations collectively make up the OPs.

Mandated Tasks

- Facilitation, Governance and Outreach;
- Co-ordination and liaison with the UN system and other stakeholders;
- Oversee the UN MGCY External Working Groups (EWG) and Internal Working Groups (IWG), and intervene in case needed.

Election

- The OPs are elected by the the UN MGCY participants, through online voting (Votes are weighted between individuals and organisations, as 50 - 50%);
- Each elected organisation have a two years mandate;
- The criteria for eligible organisations includes; non profit, youth or child led.

Assembly

The body that decides the activities of the UN MGCY. The Assembly happens through regular calls convened by OPs, with invitations through the mail lists. Open for all individual and organisational members of the UN MGCY with equal weightage.

Mandated Tasks

- Receive reports from the OPs and the WGs on their activities and any policy or statements that have been developed on behalf of the UN MGCY;
- Co-ordinate any policy and decide on issues where there may be overlap or conflict between WG;
- Ratify changes to the individuals representing each organisation as OPs, DOPs or Facilitators by a simple majority;
- Establish new or close old Working Groups (WG).

Board & Legal Entity (Children and Youth International, CYI)

Children and Youth International is the board and the legal entity of the UN MGCY. All MGCY participants are members of Children and Youth International.

Mandated Tasks

- Operates the Finance Working Group;
- Convenes the Elections IWG.

Selection / Election

- The board members of CYI are elected in a staggered manner at the annual UN MGCY General Assembly (Votes are distributed as 50 - 50 %.)
- All named/lead people of OP organisations are on the board ex officio.
- CYI takes up a permanent, non-elected OP place to ensure continuity for the MGCY in the UN. There is no named OP for Children and Youth International.

Internal Working Groups (IWGs)

Current IWGs and mandated tasks

- Children: Co-ordinating policy in the interests of children and engaging children in UN processes;
- Communications and Media: Maintaining our websites, external presence, and media work;
- Renewal and Outreach: Improving internal processes and increasing the accessibility of UN MGCY's work to new/potential members;
- Elections: Co-ordinating the elections and selections of the UN MGCY;
- Finance: Co-ordinating the finance of the UN MGCY and advise on fundraising.

Co-ordination and Participation

- Each IWG is co-ordinated by facilitators, open for any eligible organisation or individual to apply. Elected through an election process co-ordinated by the Election IWG;
- All MGCY members may participate in any IWG, with the exception of Finance, whose members are elected at the Annual Assembly.

External Working Groups (EWGs)

Operate day-to-day functions of the UN MGCY, linked to respectively mandated UN process

Mandated Tasks

- Co-ordinates the development and delivering of the UN MGCY's policy positions and contribution to the relevant UN process;
- Liaise with respective UN agencies together with the OPs.

Current EWGs

Post-2015 and Sustainable Development Policy; Sustainable Development Governance and Participation; Sustainable Consumption & Production; Disaster Risk Reduction; Small Island Developing States; Sustainable Urban Development and Housing; Finance for Sustainable Development; World Humanitarian Summit.

Coordination & Participation

- EWG are co-ordinated by two Deputy Organising Partners (DOPs), elected through an election process co-ordinated by the Election IWG;
- EWG is open for any participant of the UN MGCY to participate in.



Who are Members?

- 1. Any individual 30 years old or under who signs up to the MGCY online or in person.**
- 2. Any organisation, network, committee, group or other association of individuals that signs up to the MGCY online or in person and that fulfills either of the following requirements:**
 - a. Representative of the interests of children and/or youth, and has a policymaking body controlled by people 30 years old or under; or***
 - b. Works with children and/or youth but doesn't have a policymaking body controlled by individuals 30 years old or under.***


External Working Groups




More Information



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