

ANNUAL IMPACT REVIEW 2016

REPORT

August 2017

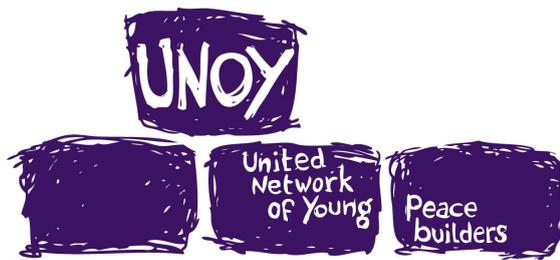


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Summary

The Annual Impact Review is an annual survey of the member organisations of UNOY Peacebuilders. Its purpose is to gather information about the network's functioning and members activities and is an important opportunity for the network to learn in order to continue improving its own work. Key findings of the Annual Impact Review 2016 include:

- ★ The network reached 1,916,275 young people globally in 2016
- ★ One of the key strengths of our members is the ability to mobilise other youth as well as their communities more broadly. The commitment of their staff is another important strength.
- ★ Activities carried out by member organisations in 2016 focused on peace education, civic action and community building and gender equality, among other topics.
- ★ 63% of our members engage in advocacy activities at the local level
- ★ Member organisations' work is carried out by young volunteers: 85% of member organisations' staff are under 35 92% of member organisations' staff are unpaid.
- ★ Member organisations find it challenging to acquire funding. On average, only 29% of members' grant applications were successful in 2016.
- ★ A key challenge for young peacebuilders across the world is the exclusion of youth from decision-making processes and security issues.
- ★ Other challenges faced by member organisations vary significantly depending on where they are based. Unsurprisingly there are major differences based between organisations based in conflict-affected settings and member organisations in more peaceful locations.

Important points of learning for the different structures of the network on the basis of the Annual Impact Review 2016 include:

- ★ Most of our members feel a sense of community through their participation in the network. The most common form of communication within the network is through the members Facebook group
- ★ The International Secretariat is asked to be more communicative with member organisations. Members would also like more training opportunities provided by the secretariat as well as increased support for their fundraising efforts.
- ★ International Steering Group representatives are requested to more actively communicate with member organisations about their role and work for the network.

We appreciate all of our members and thank them for being part of the network and for taking the time to let us know of their work in the peacebuilding field.

Introduction

United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY Peacebuilders) is a global network strengthening sustainable youth-driven peacebuilding. Composed of 80 youth organisations in 50 countries, we are all united around the vision of a world free from violence in which young people play an active role in contributing to peace. UNOY Peacebuilders member organisations work in very different contexts and hence, it is crucial for the International Secretariat (IS), based in The Hague, to stay in touch with the network and know how the members are performing.

The Annual Impact Review (AIR) is the main tool used to monitor and evaluate the performance of UNOY Peacebuilders. The AIR, formulated on an annual basis, consists of both an AIR Questionnaire and a Report. The Questionnaire, addressed to all UNOY Peacebuilders member organisations, gathers a variety of information from general demographics and financial statistics to information about members' strengths, needs, activities, members' expectations from being part of the network and what they can contribute to fellow member organisations located all over the world. The AIR Report is then compiled by the IS based on the answers to the AIR Questionnaire.

Thanks to the AIR, the IS and International Steering Group (ISG) are provided with a comprehensive understanding of the needs and expectations of member organisations. It enables the IS to be informed of what members are doing on the ground within their communities.

Filling in the AIR Questionnaire is a requirement for remaining a member of the network, and members who do not fill the questionnaire risk being disaffiliated. The 2016 Questionnaire was sent out in May 2017 and 60 out of 80 member organisations completed it. We thank all members that filled in the AIR Questionnaire for their willingness to tell us of their work and aspirations and for contributing to the development of the network.

Section 1 Network Statistics

1.1. Staff and Volunteers

UNOY Peacebuilders is a network of youth peace organisations from around the world. the vast majority of our member organisations are themselves youthled.¹ As can be seen in Table 1, 78% of paid staff and 92% of unpaid staff (volunteers) working for our member organisations are youth between the age of 18 and 35. This means that an average of 85% of the staff of UNOY's member organizations are under the age of 35.

Although youth leadership is a requirement for membership in the network, some member organisations do have non-youth in leadership positions. This becomes clear when examining the ages of each organisation's contact persons. Out of 120 contact persons nominated by the member organisations (two per organisation), 22 are over the age of 35.

Table 1: Average number and age of staff working in member organizations per region

	Average number of paid staff	Average number of unpaid staff	% of paid staff under 35	% of unpaid staff under 35
Africa	5	43	86	77
Europe	8	39	78	99
MENA	15	8	80	88
Asia	9	92	94	98
Americas	2	11 ²	50	100
Total average	8	39	78	92

¹ One of the challenges when addressing youth is the age range that defines the term 'youth'; several interpretations are adopted by different entities. UNOY Peacebuilders does not impose one global definition of "youth". However, for the purpose of the AIR, and without prejudice to other age bracket definitions, UNOY Peacebuilders considers everyone under 35 years old youth.

² The number presented in the table in the column of unpaid staff, does not include Argentine Youth Organization for the United Nations (OAJNU), which has 650 volunteers. This number therefore only counts the unpaid staff of Brigada de Voluntarios Bolivarianos del Peru (BVBP), as BVBP and OAJNU were the organisations in the Americas out of our three members in the region to respond to the AIR.

Our member organisations are mostly driven by unpaid staff or volunteers, who make up 83% of the people working for member organisations. It is fascinating to see that so many young people across the world are passionate about matters pertaining to peace and peacebuilding. This shows the dedication and willingness of the youth to be involved in matters that are inherent in their community and in peacebuilding work in general without any remuneration.

However, this can also make it more difficult for these organisations to make long term plans and implementation strategies with the expectation that the work will be carried out by volunteers

1.2. Financial Statistics

Regional discrepancies in the availability of funding and operating costs of member organisations are revealed in the annual expenses of each organization. Member organisations in MENA and Europe have significantly larger annual budgets, demonstrated by their higher average expenses compared to member organisations in Africa and the Americas.

The average annual expenses of member organisations in Asia has drastically decreased from over 183,000 US Dollars in 2015 to barely 65,000 USD in 2016. However, the annual expense of Asia in 2014 was also around 50,000 USD. The spike in 2015 can be explained by the annual budget of Sri Lanka Unites which was 972,109 US Dollars. Sri Lanka Unites did not fill in the AIR Questionnaire for both 2014 and 2016. The change in the average annual budget for the region has probably been high in 2015 because of it.

Member organisations in the Middle East and North Africa region have the highest average annual budget, which has also been the case in the past years. Out of our 3 member organisations in the region, both Etijah - Youth and Development consultancy Institute, Egypt and Arab Educational Institute, Yemen have a high yearly budget compared to our members across the other regions.

Arab Educational Institute has an average annual budget of 291,328 US Dollars between 2014-2016. Where as, Etijah has an average annual budget of 175,000 US Dollars for the years 2014 and 2016.

This could reasonably be due to the unfortunate ongoing conflict with in these states drawing the attention of funding agencies and international organisations working in the area of peace and post conflict peacebuilding operations.

It is the wish of UNOY that the appropriate attention is given to peacebuilding work far before a conflict arises in a country or a region in order to prevent the unnecessary loss of lives and the overall destruction that follows.

Member organisations in Africa have the lowest average annual expense with an average of around 39,000 USD from 2014- 2016.

Table 2: Annual budgets of member organizations in 2016

	Average expenses in 2016 (USD)	Average expenses in 2015 (USD)	Average expenses in 2014 (USD)
Africa	38,424	40,875	39,010
Europe	151,803	200,580	221,083
MENA	186,152	160,833	283,198
Asia	64,617	183,790	52,281
Americas	53,000	53,333	31,096
Total average	51,520	119,966	100,183

Fundraising is a major concern for our member organisations. Table 3 below shows the overwhelming challenge of our members to secure grants.

In 2016, an average of 29% of our members’ grant applications were successful. This could be because donors may have difficulties understanding the nature and value of youth-led peacebuilding efforts or a lack of appropriate funding programs designed specifically to support youth building peace and preventing violence.

This is an area where members within the network with an experience of writing proposals for funding and any other helpful tips could advise others. Member organisations from Europe and MENA are the regions with the highest percentage of successful grants with Africa having the lowest which corresponds with the latter’s low annual budget.

Table 3: Average percentage of successful grant applications

	Average % in 2016	Average % in 2015
Africa	15	22
Europe	47	42

MENA	35	57
Asia	20	43
Americas	30	12
Total average	29	36

1.3. Reach

When analysing how many young people (aged 18-35) have been reached in 2016 by UNOY's member organizations, it is necessary to make a distinction between direct and indirect reach. Direct reach refers to the number of young people directly involved with the projects (for instance, training participants). Indirect reach is the number of all beneficiaries that have interacted with UNOY member organizations' projects in the wider community (social-media, newsletters, posters, flyers, etc.).

Having an approximate number of the young people reached by UNOY member organisations provides us with an idea of the footprint of the peacebuilding work carried out. Table 4 shows the number of young people reached directly or indirectly by our member organizations throughout 2016.

It must be noted that some members gave an approximation by stating for example that they have reached around 500-1000 youth directly. For the purposes of data analysis, the minimum number was taken into consideration in such cases.

Table 4: Number of young people (aged 18-35) reached by member organizations throughout 2016

	Direct Reach (total)	Indirect Reach (total)
Africa	50,290	201,913
Europe	19,374	459,902
MENA	5650	550,500
Asia	13,542	606,524
Americas	7,650	930
Total	96,506	1,819,769

There is a drastic decrease of youth reached both directly and indirectly within the African continent. This has made a significant change in the total number of youth reached directly within the member organisations over the network. This is mainly related to some organisations who did not fill the AIR this year. The other reason is while writing the report, some member organisations were asked via email to explain the methods they used to reach such a large number of youth directly and indirectly. A member organisation in this region was not included as a result.

On the other hand, there is a large increase in the number of youth reached indirectly in Asia. According to the 2015 AIR Report, there were around 73,000 youth reached indirectly and that number has gone to over 606,000 this year.³

Few member organisations have had a tremendous increase in their outreach and they were able to explain why. Afghans for Progressive Thinking stated that they have impacted over half a million youth through their media programs. Where as, Jagriti Child and Youth Concern Nepal, with 12,300 youth reached indirectly, has described that they had worked with various media outlets which helped them disseminate their National Girls Summit throughout Nepal.

The MENA region has also shown a massive increase in the indirect reach of the youth. From 5000 youth indirectly reached in 2015 to over 500,000 in 2016. The most significant difference is that Youth Without Borders Organisation for Development, Yemen has managed to address half a million youth indirectly through awareness raising campaigns which were then disseminated via social media and also through humanitarian relief activities.

It is very promising to see all this changes within a year. The use of social media to disseminate awareness raising campaigns is a great tool of communication that should be used extensively by all of our members.

In 2016 a total of 1,916,275 young people have been reached by our member organizations across the world.

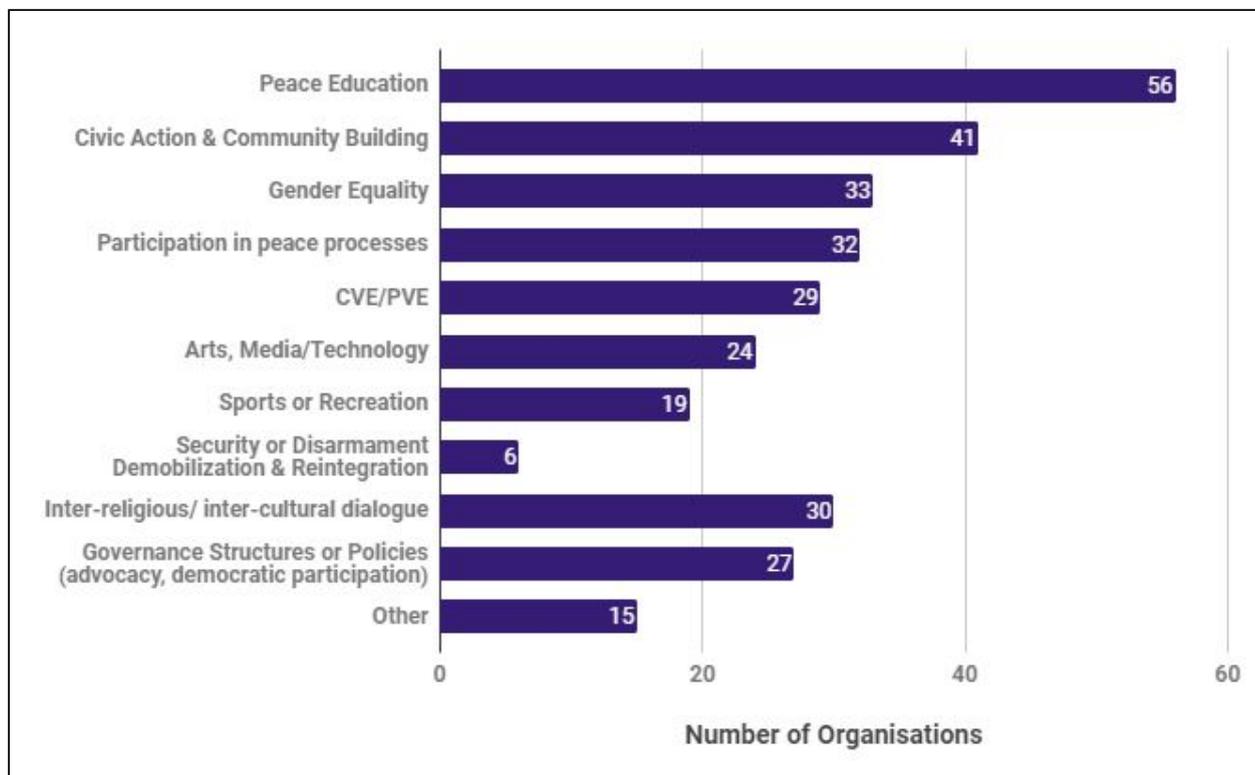
1.4. Activities and themes

Thematic areas

Youth participation in peacebuilding takes various forms. As such, UNOY Peacebuilders' member organisations have tackled diversified issues in order to build peace. Graph 1 illustrates the different peacebuilding related themes that UNOY Peacebuilders' member organizations' activities addressed in 2016.

³ The number is less than 20,000 in 2014

Graph 1: Peacebuilding related thematic areas of member organisations



As in previous years, **peace education** was the thematic area pursued by the largest number of member 93 %, or 56, of the members which responded to the AIR addressed peace education in their activities in 2016. Other popular thematic areas are activities related to civic action and community building, as well as gender equality.

65% of our African members and 60% of Asian members focused on gender equality in 2016 whereas only 26% of European members worked on this topic. This illustrates that youth peacebuilding organisations focus on issues which they feel are pressing and relevant in their community, and this can vary significantly between global regions.

Furthermore, 30% of our Asian members worked on Civic Action and Community Building compared to 73% of both our African and European members. Again, the distinct focus highlights the different situations and regional needs which require different thematic focuses.

Half of our african and Asian members (50%) have focused on the issue of Countering/Preventing Violent Extremism whereas 37% of European member organisations have done so.

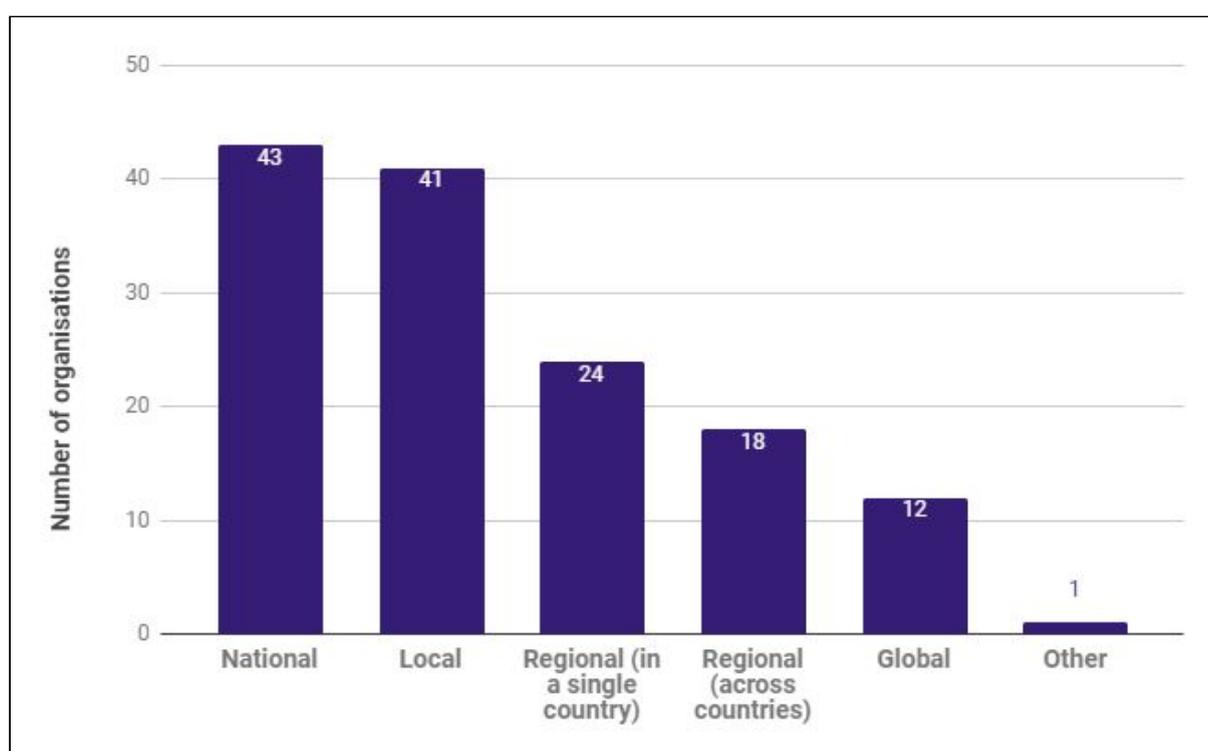
Other peacebuilding related themes which some members have addressed include: lobbying for the implementation of UNSC Resolution 2250; working on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); advocating for children’s rights; promoting infrastructure

for education; social inclusion and entrepreneurship for the youth; human rights; and advocating for UNSCR 1325.

Main scope of members' work

UNOY member organizations work at many different levels, ranging from the local to the global. Most of our members work primarily at the national and local level: with 44 of the member organisations responding to the AIR indicating that they work at the national level (74%) and 42 of them working at the local level (70%).

Graph 2: Number of member organizations working at different levels in 2016



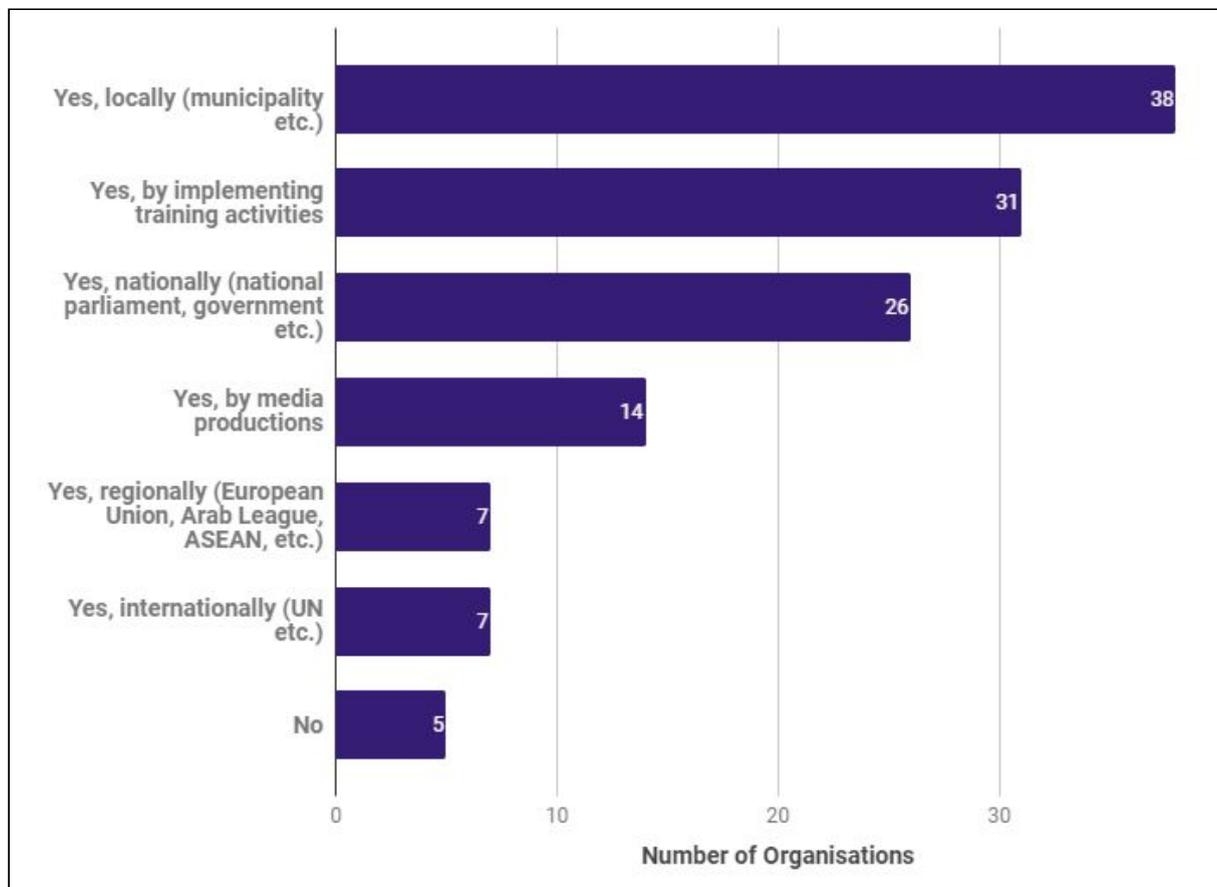
Main scope of advocacy activities

An essential part of peacebuilding is advocacy. Besides advocating at the grassroots level, our member organisations also engage in advocacy at the national, regional and international level. As it can be seen from Graph 3, member organisations focus mainly on advocating for the youth at the local and national level and slightly at the regional and international level.

Implementing training activities is the second most common form of advocacy used by member organisations. These training activities are mainly geared towards educating

the youth (with youth as a target audience of youth-led advocacy) but they also focus on influencing other members of the society. This is especially a useful tool as it can be used to change the mindsets of people with an authority to bring a change in a given community. Only 5 of our member organisations responded that they do not engage in advocacy activities.

Graph 3: Number of member organizations engaging in advocacy activities at different levels throughout 2016



Section 2 Achievements, strengths and needs

2.1. Members' biggest achievements in 2016

UNOY Peacebuilders' goal is to create a world where young people have the opportunity and skills to contribute to peace. The network's member organisations undertook a wide variety of actions to work towards this goal in 2016. Through the Annual Impact Review questionnaire, they told us about some of their main achievements in 2016. What follows is an overview of some of the achievements reported. This section is not intended to contain as a complete list of activities and achievements of member organisations in 2016, but rather a series of highlights as reported by respondents to the AIR 2016.

Africa

A number of our African members participated in the various phases of local and/or national elections, especially in violence prevention activities. It is encouraging to see the youth contribute to democratically held elections and increase the civic duties of their community.

Two of our African member organisations told us that they have been recognised for their work within the peacebuilding field. Centre for Community Regeneration and Development, Cameroon won the UNESCO-Japan Prize on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), 2016 which honours outstanding projects by individuals, institutions and organizations related to ESD. Whereas Community Development Trust in Zimbabwe received an award for being the best peacebuilding advocacy NGO within its region in Zimbabwe. The acknowledgment of the work of these organisations at the national and international level strengthens all of our member organisations to continue on the work that they are doing and encourages them to strive for more.

After the unanimous adoption of the UNSC Resolution 2250 in 2015, there is a need to introduce the Resolution beginning from its existence to its content and what this means for the youth on the ground. Nigeria Youth 4 Peace Initiative was able to launch a national campaign for UNSCR 2250 in Nigeria which brought together various stakeholders including: the youth, United Nations agencies, professional bodies, and religious organizations. In addition, Youth for Peace Building and Development in Africa gave training on contextualizing the UNSCR 2250 to 10 community youth organisations.



Members of Local Youth Corner Cameroon with the Minister of Youth Affairs and Civic Education and Representative of the Commonwealth Department at the Ministry of external Relations

Some of our members worked on gender violence, gender equality and Youth Empowerment and Leadership Initiative. For instance, YELI-Burundi run two advocacy campaigns on Sustainable Development Goal 5 (which aims to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls).

Creating ties at the regional level with regional organizations and other fellow peacebuilding initiatives is essential in order to bring a meaningful change that goes beyond a certain country. In this regard, Action Des Jeunes Pour Le Developpement Communautaire Et La Paix (ADECOP) participated in the Development Workshop for the African Union Youth Peacebuilding Initiative (AU-YPI) held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in November 2016. We wish to see more of this type of regional collaboration.

Asia

In a similar way to our members in Africa, our members in Asia have had UNSCR 2250 in their agenda through its advocacy.

Generation Peace Youth Network, Philippines during its celebration of its 10th year anniversary in 2016 presented a paper titled "Three Decades of Peace Education in the Philippines" on the experiences of its network in strengthening peace education among

the youth in the Philippines. It also launched a 5 year-strategy in strengthening the youth peace movement focusing on building the capacities of the youth in peacebuilding and advocacy and on peace and human rights.

One of the major setbacks of youth driven peacebuilding is the lack of data and research of the current work of peacebuilding organisations. We congratulate Generation Peace Youth Network for being able to write a paper on its experiences. Furthermore, due to lack of funding and lack of permanent staff, some member organisations do not have the resources to plan long-term actions. The drafting of a 5 year strategy by Generation Peace Youth Network is to be admired and inspires other member organisations to follow suit.



The team at Sri Lanka Unites

Several of our Asian members have successfully hosted events for the youth by the youth. Youth for Peace International-India hosted the Global Sustainability Summit 2016 And YUVSATTA held a Global Youth Peace Fest-GYPF 2016 for the 11th year.

Afghans for Progressive Thinking arranged an event where a total number of 5,309 youth from 25 universities participated and hosted radio programs and tv shows where over one million people listened and viewed. Similarly, Jagriti Child and Youth Concern-Nepal held a national youth assembly on the constructive and positive roles of youth in socio-economic and political situation in Nepal. It also completed a program named School Education Support (SES) along with other NGOs to provide school education support to 1500 students of a district in Nepal.

Europe

There has been an influx of refugees to many European countries in 2016. Statistically speaking, a large number of these refugees are young people as they are strong and brave enough to start the dangerous journey and survive it. There are also thousands of unaccompanied minors among them. It is an undertaking of youth peacebuilding

organisations to have their ears to the ground and focus on issues that are most relevant to their communities.

Accordingly, a number of our member organisations in Europe worked on different projects addressing refugees: Service Civil International (SCI, Belgium) started “the campaign Building Bridges, deepening its work for refugees and migrants”; whereas Tumult (Belgium) was active in “a project in collaboration with other youth organisations organising leisure time activities in asylum centres”.

Five European member organisations - the European Intercultural Forum (Germany), Service Civil International (Belgium), Peace, Action, Training and Research Institute of Romania, Fundacio Catalunya Voluntaria (Spain), and Centro Internazionale Per La Promozione Dell’educazione E Lo Sviluppo (Italy) - with the support of the International Secretariat of UNOY have published two publications aiming at competence and capacity development of youth peace organisations, CSOs and individuals working for peace titled: “The Learning Curve - A Guide to Evaluation for Youth Organisations”. One of the shortcomings of member organisations is the lack of evaluation of their work over a certain period of time. The Secretariat hopes that the publication with a guide to evaluation would be a stepping stone for member organisations to begin evaluating their work.



At the European Training of Advocates

Several other members have been active on projects on different topics. Our member Peace Dialogue (Armenia) initiated 15 local and regional initiatives and 15 national events related to human rights in 10 cities in the South Caucasus, Russian Federation and Ukraine with over 700 participants.

Peace Action, Training and Research Institute of Romania engaged in different peace operation projects in support of peace actors in Syria, Libya, Egypt, Caucasus, Ukraine; delivered training programmes on conflict transformation, nonviolence, for various governmental and non-governmental organisations. It also started a large project on preventing violent extremism and radicalisation. A project on critical topics, including media literacy, critical and cognitive thinking, and conflict sensitivity was promoted by Fundació Catalunya Voluntària (Spain).

Other achievements reported by European member organisations in 2016 include the launching of Peace programme - "Young Diplomats for Peace and Dialogue in Ukraine and Georgia" by Academy for Peace and Development (Georgia); Service Civil International (SCI) together with partner organizations creating 800 voluntary projects, sending and receiving 5000 volunteers; whereas Horizons: Global Youth for Justice and Equality (The Netherlands) organising a Study trip to Palestine; SCAF contributing to Belarus' final destruction of its stockpiles of anti personnel landmines.

Americas

From our three members located in the Americas region, two of them filled the AIR. (OAJNU) Argentina told us that it was for the first time able to be part of the presidential debate in Argentina in collaboration with other organisations. It seems that several of our members (including in Africa) have actively engaged through one way or another in the election process of their respective countries.

Brigada de Voluntarios Bolivarianos del Peru's most significant accomplishment in 2016 was the expansion of volunteer programs at the national and international level and also the active participation in networks of youth organizations.

MENA

One of our member organization Etijah (Egypt) has expanded 100 employment and 50 self-employment opportunities supporting the new generation of civil society and business leaders. Expanding the workforce of a peacebuilding organisation is indeed a great news.

The Arab Educational Institute (AEI), in Palestine, was engaged in training youth, women, teachers and students in the fields of nonviolence, citizenship, peacebuilding, communication, women and youth empowerment.

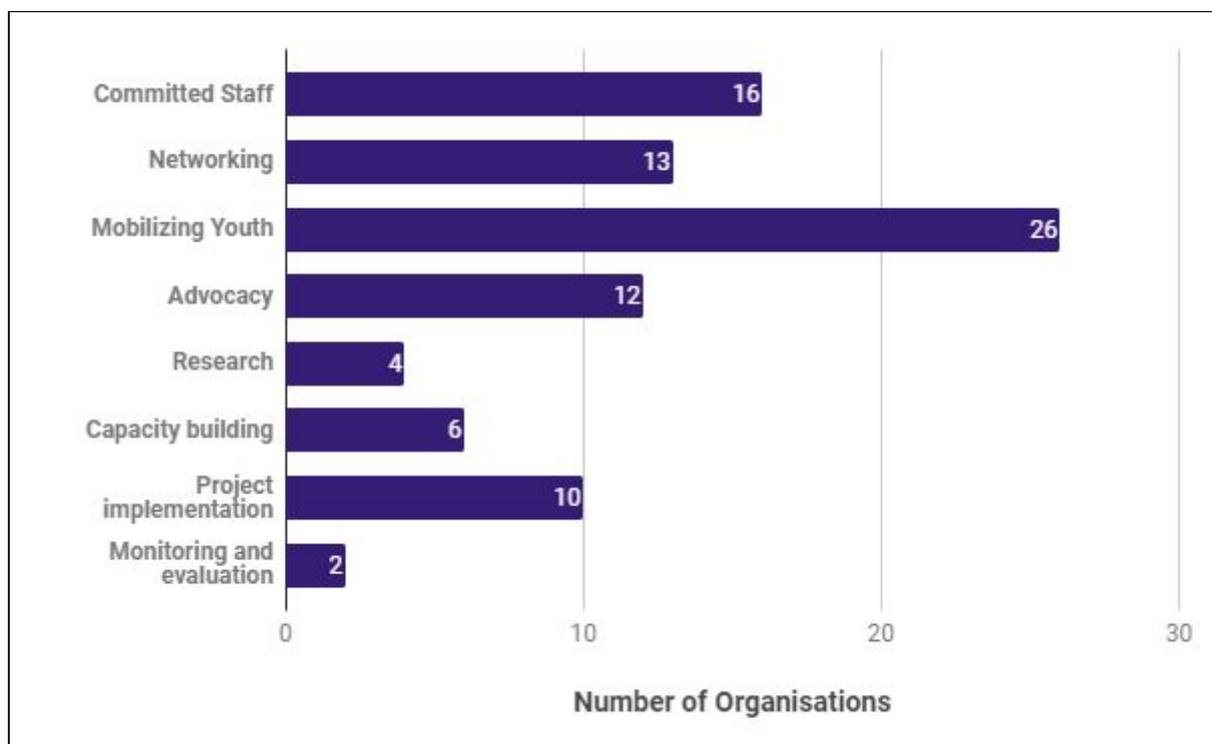
Whereas Youth without Borders Organization for Development, operates under very difficult conditions in the on-going violence of the war in Yemen. Nevertheless, they have been very active implementing a project on "Youth Peace Agents" in 2016.

2.2. Members' main strengths

Our member organisations report diverse and multi-dimensional strength. The most common strengths mentioned in the AIR 2016 by our members are: the ability to mobilize the youth and their communities (26 members), having committed staff (reported by 16 of our members), networking (13 members), and advocacy skills (12 members). Other strengths our members acknowledged to have include: project implementation, capacity building, research skills and monitoring and evaluation skills.

Monitoring, evaluation and learning skills was mentioned as a strength by two member organisations. This is slightly different as compared to last year, where none of our members raised MEL skills at all. Although the difference is statistically small, it is nevertheless an encouraging sign that youth organisations are improving their skills to learn from their own work.

Graph 4: Member organizations' main strengths in 2016



2.3. Challenges faced by young peacebuilders & support from the network to members

In their quest to build sustainable peace, young peacebuilders face numerous challenges. Some of the challenges mentioned by member organisations in the AIR 2016 cut across regions and are identifiable by almost all of our members while others are more prevalent in a region or even in a single country. All in all, identifying these challenges is vital for the network in order to map out the issues and even address them whenever possible.

2.3.1 Key challenges faced by young peacebuilders

UNOY's member organizations were asked: ***what are the key challenges facing young people building peace in your community?*** Analysing their answers, this section outlines the main challenges faced by young peacebuilders in each region. This section does not contain an exhaustive overview, but rather a summary of key challenges reported in each region.

Africa

Our African members cited as their main challenge as lack of funding and unemployment. Advocates for Youth and Health Development (Nigeria) stated that "funding remains a challenge as young people want to also make financial gains while volunteering". Members from this region have put these two challenges as their main struggle in AIR 2015 also. These two challenges are interconnected since unemployment in general within a country limits the amount of volunteers devoted to peacebuilding work. This is because social welfare is non-existent in almost all of African countries. This in turn is fueled by the absence of financial resources for peacebuilding work.

Low participation in decision making and the exclusion of the youth by older people from positions of power is a challenge raised by Somaliland Youth Development and Voluntary Organization (SOYDAVO). It further stated that: "the key challenge facing young people building peace in our community is the community's perception towards peace building activities".

Lack of appropriate training and skilled manpower and as a result poor management of peacebuilding organisations are the other important challenges raised by our members. Other challenges raised include: Issue of security; youth radicalism; difficulty in monitoring and evaluating projects and impacts.

Asia

Unlike our African member organisations, funding was not on top of the list for our Asian member organisations. Instead, religious instability was identified as the most significant challenge.

Generation Peace Youth Network (Philippines) stated that “Armed groups are aggressively reorganizing despite ongoing peace process, and capitalizing on the frustrations of youth due to the non-delivery reforms by the government”. Furthermore, certain advocacies overlook the needs of young people affected by conflict, and thus establishing a strong voice to prioritize the vulnerable sector of the youth is a challenge.

Afghans for Progressive Thinking noted that the deterioration of security which can be evidenced by the record high number of civilian casualties in 2016 and overall:

“weak governance that includes existence of widespread corruption and ill-functioning delivery of social services; gross human rights violations; “street courts” to punish women; flight of youth from the country to European countries; and high rates of unemployment among young people” are major problems in the country.

Other challenges raised include: lack of interest of the youth, lack of equal participation of all members of society in governmental structures and also ethnocentric political and social structures; lack of quality training opportunities and the fact that peacebuilding is a very new term and concept in general among the youth.

Europe

In the same manner as last year, the challenges faced by our European members are vast and cover a wide range of topics. Some of these are: the atmosphere of fear, mistrust, and apathy, unemployment and social and cultural integration; lack of youth involvement in decision making and the rise of other anti-peace voices such as nationalism and hate speech.

According to Center for Intercultural Dialogue (Macedonia), inadequate intergenerational exchange reinforces the absence of trust between youths and governments.

Lack of funding has been mentioned as a challenge by few of our European members. The complexity of transforming theoretical rhetoric about peacebuilding into day to day life has also been raised.

Americas

Two of our three member organisations filled the AIR 2016 Questionnaire, both mentioned a lack of resources as their main challenge. Organización Argentina de Jóvenes para las Naciones Unidas (OAJNU), there is a shortcoming when it comes to having a long term plan for peacebuilding efforts due to lack of resources. Brigada de

Voluntarios Bolivarianos del Peru, indicated “the lack of resources to carry out educational activities for Peace, the absence of curriculum in schools that deal with the theme of Peace and inaccessibility of the media in matters pertaining to peace”.

MENA

Our member in this region, Youth without Borders Organization for Development (Yemen), professed that “the armed conflicts and war in Yemen, cause insecurity and lack of safety, poverty and unemployment.

Arab Educational Institute (AEI), Palestine expressed the absence of any horizon for just peace in Palestine In addition to the rise of extremism locally, regionally, and internationally. Etijah (Egypt) recognized the absence of youth in leadership roles within their community.

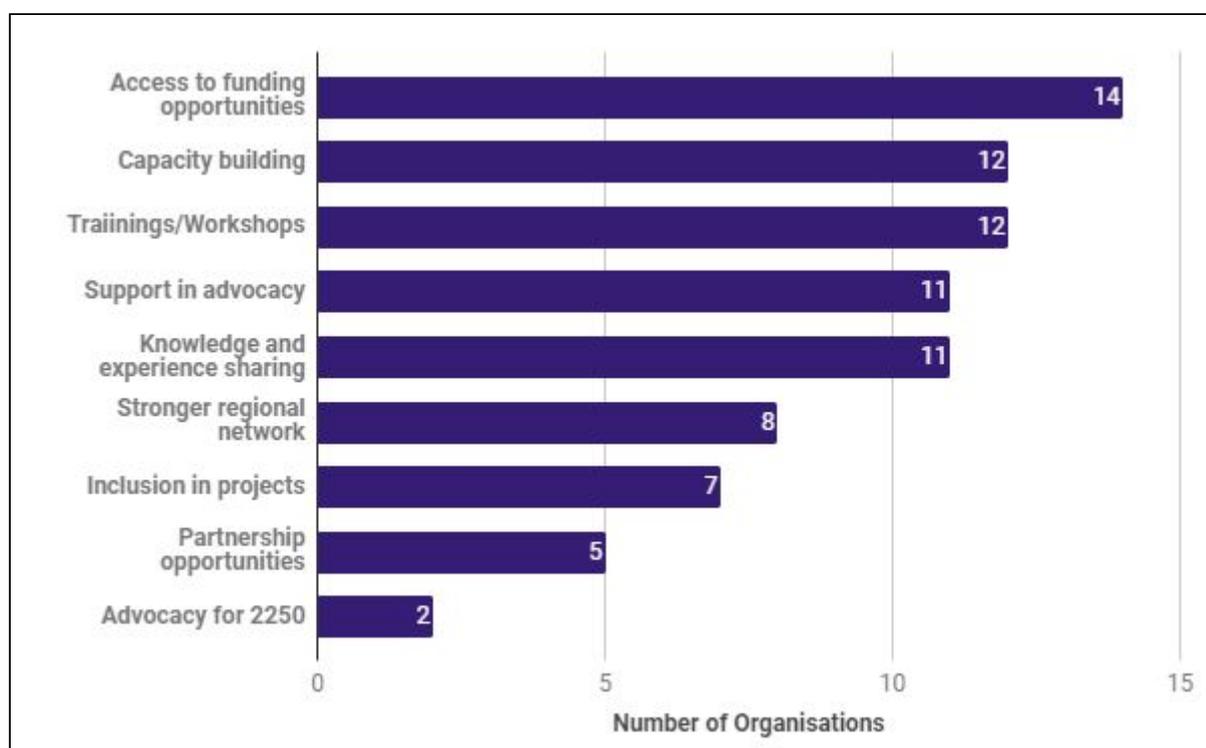
As can be seen from above, each region has distinct needs that are not necessarily shared by the other regions while at the same time some issues cut across regions and affect the youth across the globe. Lack of funding , lack of participation of the youth in leadership roles and security issues/the rise of extremism can be concluded as the main ones in this regard.

2.3.2. The network's support to the challenges of members

Member organisations were asked how the network can support them in addressing the challenges they mentioned.

Members most frequently said they need help in getting access to funding (14 organisations) followed by assistance in capacity building and being provided with trainings/workshops (12 organisations). Support in advocacy; and knowledge and experience sharing were also requested from our member organisations. The other types of support that members said they were in need of were: stronger regional network; inclusion in joint project development and implementation with other member organisations or with UNOY; partnership opportunities with other stakeholders outside the network and lastly assistance in advocating for UNSC Resolution 2250 was mentioned by 2 organisations.

Graph 5: Member organizations' suggestions on how the network can support them



2.4 Members' main organizational needs

In the same way to the past years, **funding** is the crucial and underlying organisational need of our member organisations.

Funding was cited as the most important organizational need by 31 of our members. Another organizational need for many of our members is **capacity building** (19 members). **Networking** with like minded organisations is the third most mentioned need (16 members). Other organisational needs that were raised include: lack of human resources, training for staff, volunteers or the youth in general; sharing of knowledge and experiences; financial stability in general; support in proposal writing for projects and monitoring and evaluating projects.

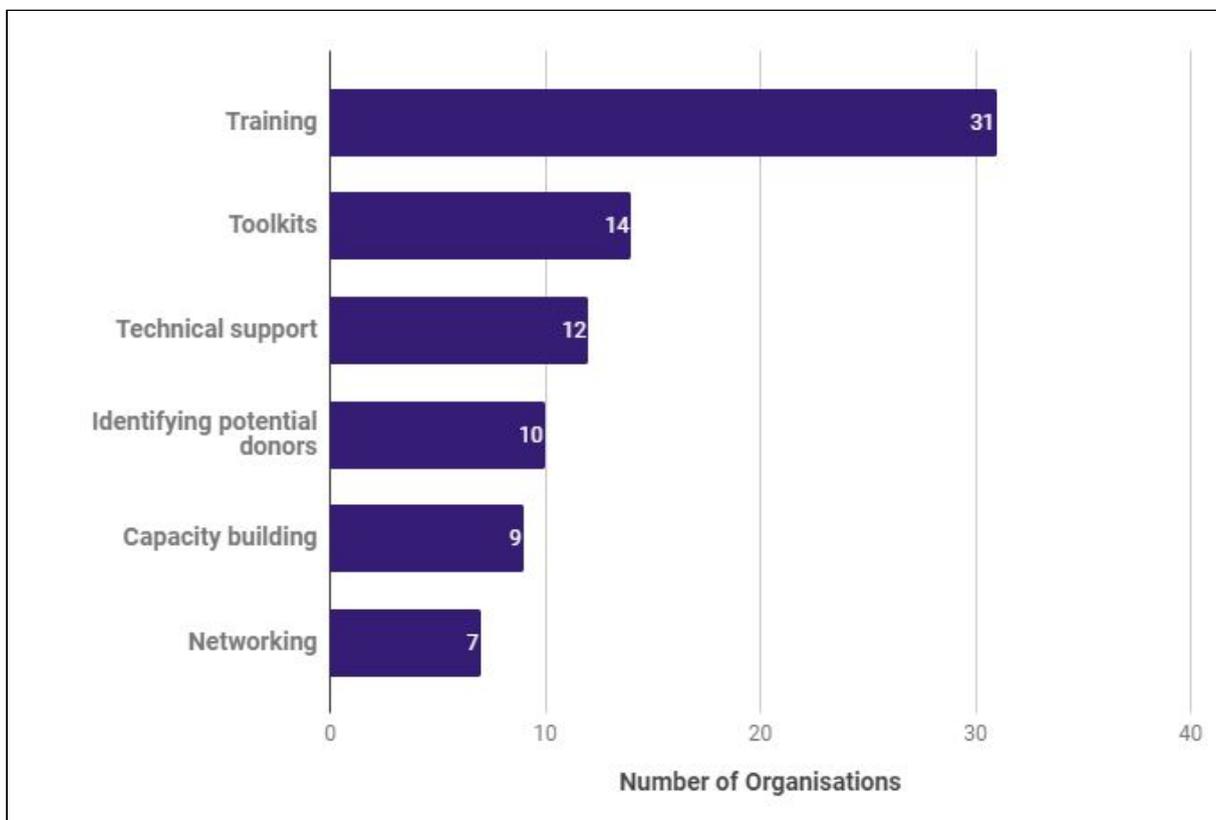
41 of the member organisations, or 68% of respondents, said that UNOY Peacebuilders has helped address some of their needs. 14 (23%) organizations felt that UNOY had not helped them address any of their issues and 5 (8%) acknowledged that in the past they had received help but would be very grateful for more help and collaboration opportunities. Many of the member organizations reported that UNOY was helpful in assisting their needs by networking, providing opportunities for training, sharing

information and best practices from other members and through the toolkits found on UNOY's website.

Members suggested various ways in which the network could help them address their organizational needs. Training is the number one need that members purported to have with 31 members citing it. Members also desire for the network to continue developing toolkits. Hopefully, members have fully utilized the existing toolkits on UNOY's website.

A concrete technical support from the network is in demand among member organisations . Other organisational needs that were mentioned by members include: sharing best practices and experiences among members; and practical collaboration between members of the network.

Graph 6: Member organizations' organisational needs in 2016



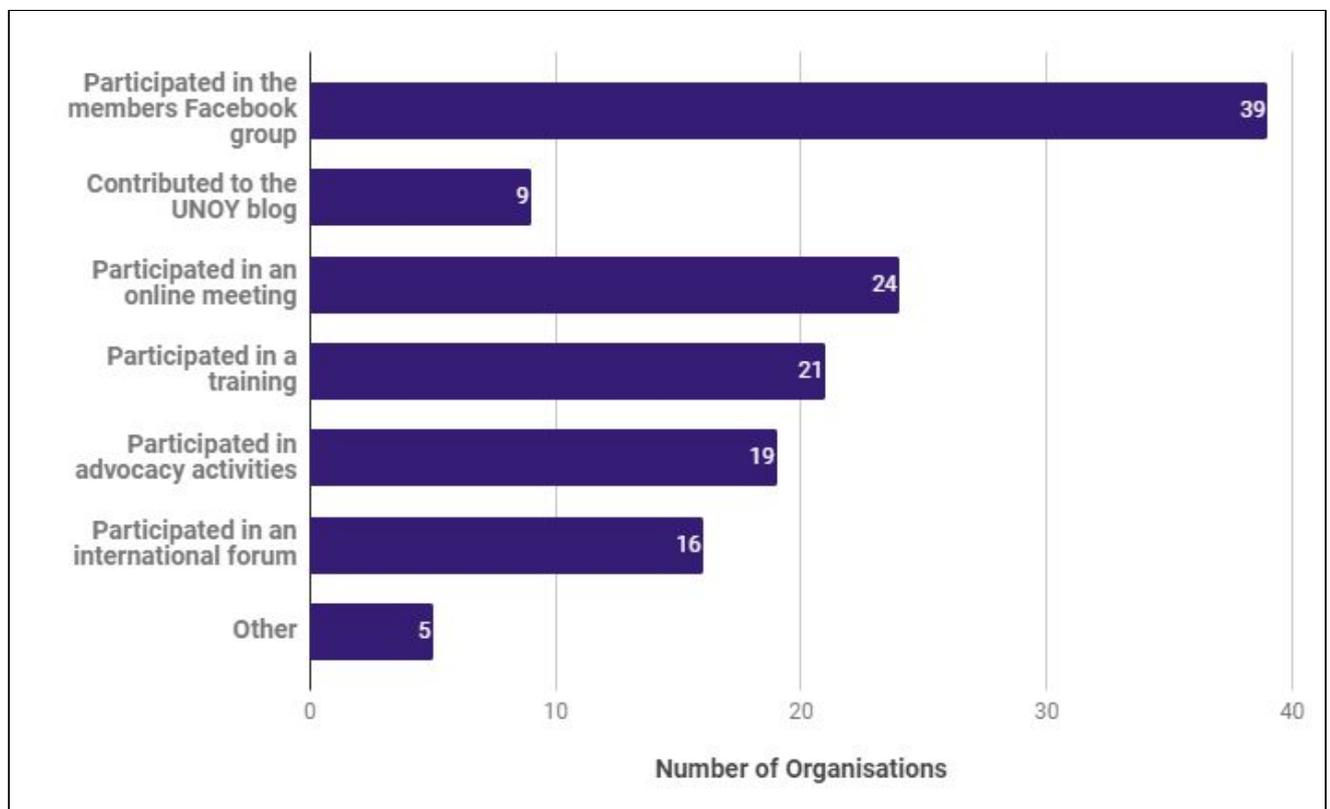
Section 3 Participation in the network

3.1. Collaboration between members

UNOY Peacebuilders is a network of youth peace organisations from around the world. Actively participating in the network is a necessary step for members in order to fully benefit from the membership.

65% of our members participated in the network through the members Facebook group making it the most common form of communication. This line of communication was also the most common last year with 71% of members mentioning it as such.

Graph 7: Number of member organisations participating with UNOY Peacebuilders in different ways throughout 2016



Concerning the amount of member organizations that participated in a project or activity organized by the International Secretariat (IS) in 2016, only 36% of our

responding member organisations (22 organisations) participated in at least one activity, including: the European Youth Advocacy Training in Brussels, in the Young Peacebuilders Forum in The Hague, in the Young Peacebuilders in West Africa training in Abuja, and in advocacy missions. This is a significant decrease from last year's participation by our members which was 52%, and a cause for concern for the IS as it plans future activities.

Consequently, 39 of our member organisations stated that they had not been involved in any of the projects or activities at all. This is again a higher number in comparison to 2015 as there were 28 members that stated that.

However, those members that have been involved in an activity organised by the IS indicated that they viewed their participation in these activities very positively.. For instance, Young Peace Brigades, Ghana stated that it was a very good opportunity for a member of our staff to participate in the West Africa Young Peacebuilders Forum and thereby get a first hand training from UNOY. The IS takes this as a call to ensure that more member organisations are able to participate in joint network activities organised by the IS.

In addition to participating in activities or projects organised explicitly as network activities, 17 members (28% of respondents) indicated that they had collaborated with other UNOY members in 2016.

Members from the African region that have collaborated with other UNOY members have done it so locally with members in the same country. This is perhaps due to funding. African Child Peace Initiative for instance said that they had worked with members in Ghana and Nigeria to organize a forum on Violent Extremism, but did not get funding in order to proceed.

A few of the members from Asia have collaborated with at least one member through regional conferences.

Several members from Europe have collaborated with multiple other members of UNOY within Europe. The proximity between these countries and the absence of border control contributes a lot to such collaboration.

Member organisations in the Middle East and North Africa region and in the Americas (two out of three members filled the AIR) did not collaborate with other members in 2016.

Partnerships between individual organisations is highly encouraged within the network so that young peacebuilders strengthen each other in their work. This is especially helpful since many of our member organisations work on a very limited funding with more than half of the staff working on a voluntary basis.

3.2. Use of resources

Member organisations were asked if they had made use of any resources developed by the network or by individual member organizations. Resources in this case include, but are not limited to, manuals, toolkits, videos, etc.

42 member organisations or 70% of correspondents stated that they have made use of the resources from the network. Thus most of our members have at least made use of one resource with several members utilizing several resources developed by the network.

The Toolkit on UN Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security is the most used resource with 11 member organisations or 18% specifically mentioning it.

It is exciting to see how our members have been using the UNSC Resolution 2250 Toolkit. For instance, Nigeria Youth 4 Peace Initiative printed copies of this toolkit and distributed to participants at a national workshop and used it also as a reference material during a seminar.

Member organisations are highly encouraged to utilise the resources found on UNOY website. It will give them an insight into the peacebuilding work being carried out all over the world and they could tap into the knowledge of what's already out there for their own use.

3.3. Supporting the network

Members were asked in what way they could contribute to the network and support each other. Almost all of our members were eager to offer support to the network. In a nutshell, the offers made were:

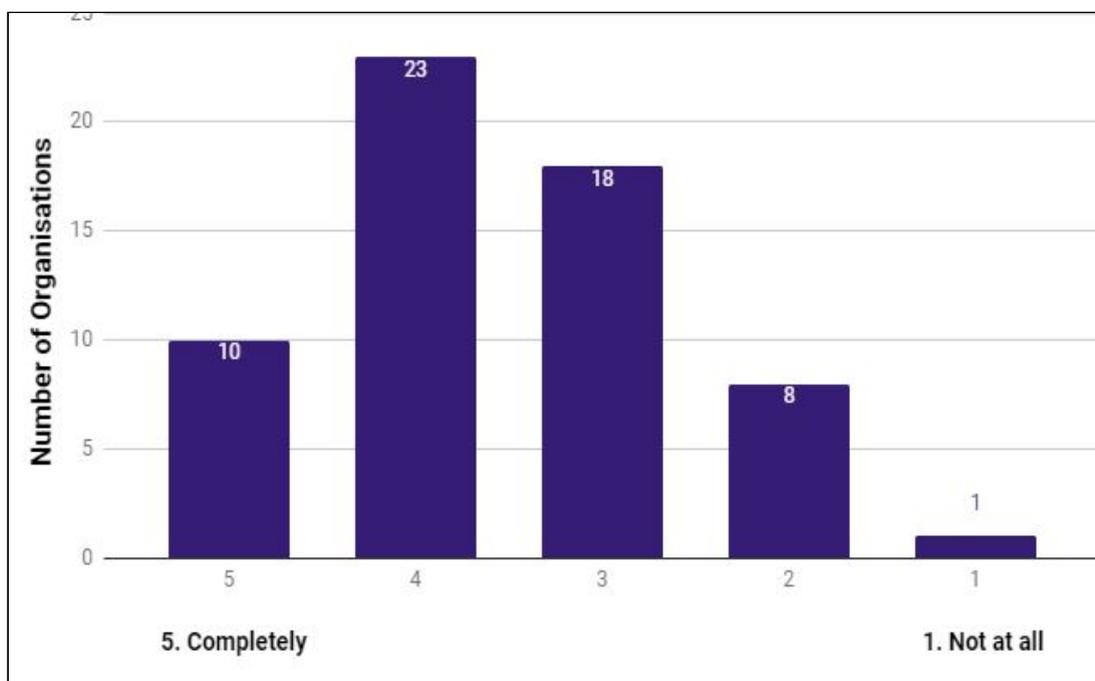
- ★ Providing expertise on peace education, capacity building, advocacy and media campaigns
- ★ Helping in writing project proposals
- ★ Sharing experience on peaceful electoral process
- ★ Providing toolkits on topics related to peace
- ★ Sharing success stories and good practice
- ★ Hosting annual youth forums and trainings
- ★ Hosting and offering volunteers and interns
- ★ Providing expertise on non-formal & intercultural learning
- ★ Providing resources and meeting venues
- ★ Exchanging information and experiences

Section 4 Evaluating the network

4.1. Assessment of UNOY Peacebuilders

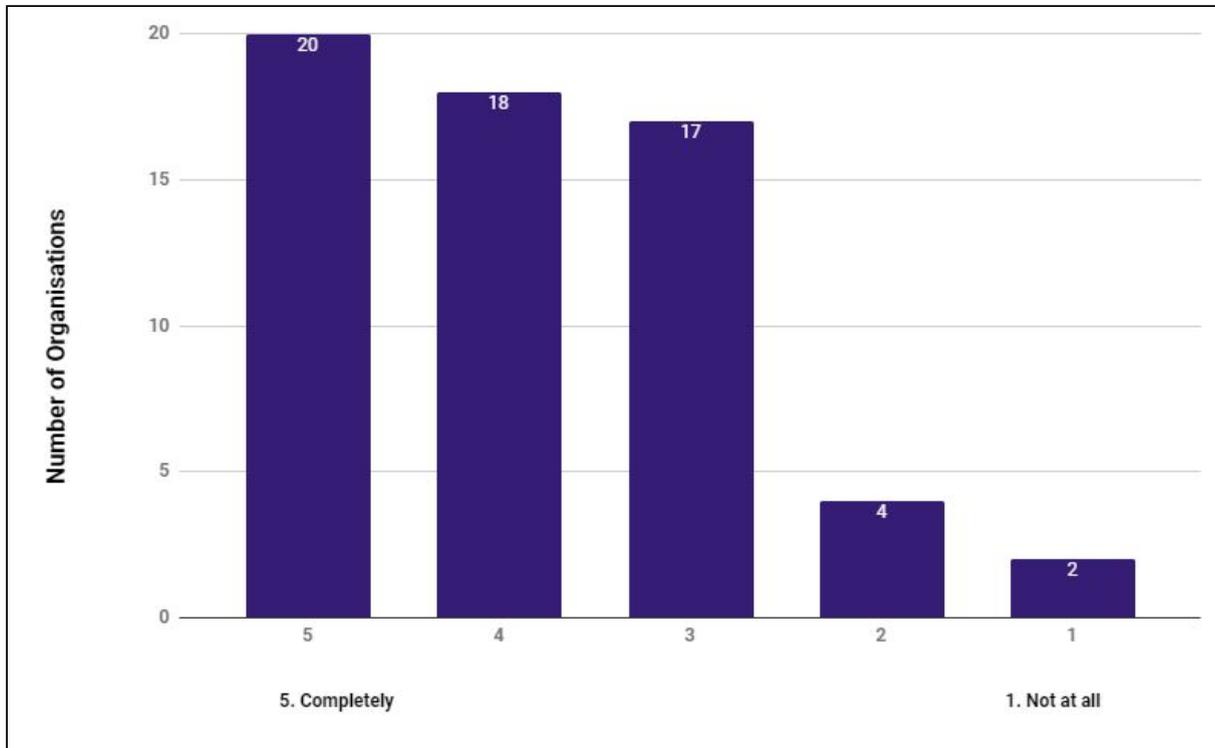
Member organisations were asked if being part of UNOY peacebuilders makes them feel like they are part of a community and a network.

Graph 8: To what extent is UNOY Peacebuilders a community?



Considering scores 5 and 4 as indications that members feel that the UNOY Peacebuilders is a community, 56% of members said that this was the case. Similarly 62% indicated that they feel that UNOY Peacebuilders is a network. We at the International Secretariat will continue strive to make all our members feel that they are a part of a community and that UNOY Peacebuilders is a network they enjoy being part of.

Graph 9: To what extent is UNOY Peacebuilders a network?



4.2. Expectations & Recommendations

International Secretariat (IS)

UNOY members' expectations of the IS could be generally grouped into 6 or 7 categories.

The most common expectation among our members is an **increased communication** from the IS. These members suggested that the IS raise its level of engagement. For example, Messengers of Peace-Liberia Inc stressed that the IS "reach out and connect more with the member organizations to strengthen the network and help build strong relationship with the members". Taking an even stronger stance, Youth for Peace International, India stated that " they expect greater information on what is happening and more access to participation [...] as being part of the network has added no value to their organisation".

The second most common expectation was to be provided with training opportunities and other activities within the network.

Other issues raised by members include:

- Support in raising funds and in capacity building,

- Work on strengthening regional networks, and bringing cooperation among members
- Decentralization of the network
- Encourage the participation of every member
- Develop proposals on behalf of members

However, it must be noted that the last expectation (proposal development) is not within the mandate of the IS.

Only 21% of our members said that their expectations were met by the IS. Few members stated that they had no information about the IS to be able to assess it or that they found assessing it to be difficult. The IS has a lot of work to do in order to meet members' expectations and to take into account their recommendations.

International Steering Group (ISG)

40% of our members stated that there should be better communication between the ISG and the members of the particular region. They encouraged the ISG to attend online meetings with the Secretariat and provide updates to members and thus be more visible in the region that they are representing.

Youth Empowerment and Leadership Initiative (YELI-Burundi) stated that " all ISGs should make sure that they are promoting the work of the network and that of the voice of UNOY member organizations in the region that they are representing and not only that of the interests or positions of their organization of origin.

Members also suggested for ISGs to push member organisations to become active regionally or nationally and to be committed to peacebuilding work.

A few members were not clear about the role of the ISG and that they had no information about its activities.

The network

Generally, organizations' have listed cooperation among members, sharing of knowledge and experiences and communications as what they expect from being part of the network.

Members were also asked what the network can do to be even more awesome. Here are some suggestions provided by our members:

"The network should make more use of the network itself by creating more exchange of practices and by making more use of the members expertise helping each other. More regular meetings (online or offline) would help as well as a more systematic approach to sharing activities and expertise of its members." (European Intercultural Forum, Germany)

"1) keep up being THE youth peacebuilding network ; 2) continue advocacy and make members feel part of the story - even if members sometimes do not engage so actively and pro-actively, reach out to them and pull them; 3) create the joint spaces to meet/share/plan 4) continue to create strong resources that are references and are very useful in members' work 5) communicate, communicate, communicate." (Peace, Action, Training And Research Institute Of Romania)

"Regional face to face meeting should be one of our priorities. Our expectation is to see an increase in joint project development among members of UNOY." (Young Peace Brigades, Ghana)

"More partnership opportunities and joint initiatives among member organisations, more meetings on regional and central levels, and more experience sharing opportunities." (Academy For Peace And Development, Georgia)

"CDTZ proposes or expects UNOY to organize quarterly engagement through virtual meetings whereby all member organizations meet and share and discuss important matters concerning youth and peacebuilding. That could be the best platform where different youth peace organizations can share best approaches and ways in advancing peace-building work." (Community Development Trust in Zimbabwe)

"Focus attention on building the capacity and training of network members on CVE strategies." (Nigeria Youth 4 Peace Initiative)

"Last year one of our expectations was continuing the focus on training offers, and add digital training offers. But we know that an online training is being developed for the moment, so that fulfills this expectation ;-). We had an idea for the members update (newsletter): make sort of TED-talk little movies with inspiring input from members, seems to us a nice way to inform other members of their activities and work. And so to inspire them to get in contact. As said before, seeing advocacy wider than direct lobbying, and include campaigning to a wider public as a tool for advocacy would be something that Tumult can use. A training on this topic would be appreciated. " (Tumult, Belgium)

"The network is already a great one, but what we are missing is a bit more contact with the rest of the member organisations, i.e. we are all working towards similar kinds of goals, and often alone though we have a strong network; if we worked more together we would be able to achieve more." (Horizons: Global Youth for Justice and Equality, The Netherlands)

"We love UNOY - you are doing fantastic work. We would ask what we can do for you?" (Beyond Skin, United Kingdom)

"More involvement, representation, and participation in activities, the help of the UNOY to participate in networking activities related to the topic which are organized by various institutions (UN, EU, other big NGOs, agencies).

Many members mentioned the desire to be equipped with skills to continue working in the peacebuilding field be provided with more capacity strengthening opportunities and fundraising initiatives.

Section 5 | Implementing Resolution 2250

The unanimous adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2250 in 2015 called for the participation and views of youth to be taken into account. After the resolution was passed, it is the responsibility of various stakeholders including UN member states, local communities, non-governmental actors and youth peacebuilding organisations to take on the implementation.

Members were asked how their organisation intends to actively work for the implementation of Resolution 2250 (ex. through advocacy with locals, fundraising...) and if so, they were required to elaborate how.

28 member organisations (46%) stated that they intend to advocate for Resolution 2250 through various means such as: through lobbying to government agencies and other stakeholders, launching awareness campaign; promoting the Resolution in various events; partnering with local organizations through a project.

Whereas 17 member organisations (28%) are already working on the implementation of the resolution through national youth consultations; running campaigns directed towards the youth; creating programmes geared towards translating the resolution into tangible action; having community meetings and campus discussions.

This is a great change compared to last year's AIR, where only around 10 organisations reported that they intend to actively work for the implementation of Resolution 2250 and where some did not even know the existence of the resolution.

11 member organisations (18%) said that they are not intending or do not yet have a plan to work on UNSCR 2250. Some of the reasons given for this were: not knowing how to plan the objective; not having concrete plans; lack of capacity; and not being properly discussed within the organisation.

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