

YOUTH'S RIGHTS, WELLBEING & RESOURCEFULNESS IN EMERGENCIES

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT & ENGAGEMENT FOR COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & DEVELOPMENT

UNFPA's Humanitarian Response in Central Sulawesi



KEY INTERVENTIONS:

- Responding to youth needs & vulnerabilities
- Youth Friendly Spaces (YFS) to foster empowerment & engagement
- Youth concrete contributions at community & provincial development

Responding to youth needs & vulnerabilities

Youth is part of the most vulnerable groups in emergency settings. Humanitarian response that protects youth rights & gender equality; listens to their voices & ideas would not only address their needs & vulnerabilities; but also foster youth potentials & engagement to contribute to community's resilience. UNFPA helped establish the Adolescent & Youth Working Group (AYWG), consisting local administration & various NGOs/INGOs, working on youth, rights & reproductive health. Sharing of information on youth access to assistance & opportunities to collaborate in programme initiatives were done at the AYWG forum & through its WhatsApp group. The forum is also used to discuss ideas to respond to prevalent youth issues in Central Sulawesi communities, including child & forced marriages. For programme sustainability, rights & gender-sensitive youth programmes have been planned & conducted with local administration & active involvement of the trained youth. Advocacy efforts have been done to ensure continuation of youth programmes with sufficient allocation from local (village) budget.

UNFPA partners with the Government of Indonesia & key stakeholders at the national & subnational level, namely: -

- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Women's Empowerment & Child Protection-MOWECP
- Central Sulawesi Administration
- PKBI/IPPA
- Yayasan Kerti Praja
- Central Sulawesi Chapter of The Indonesian Midwives Association (IBI) - Pulih Foundation
- Yayasan Kerti Praja and various other local & international organizations, members of the Adolescents & Youth Working Group.

Locations of the 8 Women Friendly Spaces:

- **Palu City:** Petobo, Gawalise, Balaroa
- **Donggala district:** Loli Pesua, Wombo Kalonggo
- **Sigi district:** Beka, Bangga, Sibalaya Selatan

Youth Friendly Spaces (YFS) to foster empowerment and engagement

At the 8 YFS, run by trained youth facilitators & peer educators, disaster-affected youth can access humanitarian info & services in the forms of basic needs, awareness sessions on rights, equality & reproductive health (RH) & empowerment activities. Culturally-sensitive hygiene kits were developed for girls (also with their involvement) & distributed at the YFS, WFS & PKBI/IPPA. The 3 UNFPA - supported community - based facilities: the YFS, the 12 Women Friendly Spaces & the 15 ReproHealth Tents/Clinics are integrated, so the trained peer educators & counselors at the YFS, when conducting psychosocial support & peer support, can facilitate youth access to RH Clinics/Tents & those who experienced GBV to WFS for proper assistance & multisectoral support, when needed. The integration is aimed for better support provision & referral assistance.

To strengthen the YFS activities, around 100 peer educators & community mobilizers were recruited, trained & assigned to provide peer support & facilitate referral. Eight Youth Forums (1 at each YFS-level) & a provincial-level Youth Forum were established & active with feedback/reporting mechanism to the Community Engagement Working Group (CEWG). Around 1,100 youth volunteers were trained. Empowerment trainings on programme design, result-based management, on data collection, research & assessment, writing-song writing- video documentary skills & advocacy technique were provided to members of the Youth Forums & YFS. The trained youth have been actively engaged as youth representatives in community activities & advocacy to voice youth ideas & potentials for youth friendly decision making in community & development.



The provincial secretary has acknowledged the concrete role & contributions of the Youth Forums & the YFS activities; and stressed the need for its continuation & expanded activities in post rehabilitation & reconstruction phase. Advocacy discussions with leaders at the community, district & provincial level were conducted, aiming for the integration of Youth forum into the village structure & budget for programme sustainability.

With UNFPA support & initiative, the provincial-level youth network, which groups at least 50 youth organizations, promoting RH, rights, empowerment; & marginalized youth groups, was established to leverage youth activism. Youth action plan was developed & adopted into provincial & district level planning; & was highlighted at the national youth programme discussion. The youth volunteers & local healthworkers were trained on Adolescent RH. Partnership with local Youth-Friendly Health Centers (PKPR) in the YFS sites has been established to facilitate youth access to healthservice that is free from stigma & discrimination, to increase service utilization & to improve collaborations for future adolescent RH initiatives: info & service provision for improved youth RH wellbeing.

Concrete youth contributions at community, provincial development

The trained Youth Forum members & at the YFS have been engaged in youth-oriented activities: identification of youth vulnerabilities, mapping of youth issues & potentials in the IDPs camps; 2 focus group discussions on youth experience after the disaster, youth-specific hygiene kit development & the multisectoral workshop to gather stakeholders' ideas & initiatives for improved adolescent & youth wellbeing in emergencies; & advocacy activities to ensure youth friendly IDPs camp management & rehab-recon policies & programmes. The trained youth with skills & talents in writing, video making & songwriting have developed youth video documentaries & a mini album of youth songs. The results of advocacy efforts by the Youth Forum members & the Peer Educators among others: the relocation of the YFS to the semi temporary posts at the temporary shelters complexes & the issuance of 2 local village decisions on: the integrated youth health service post (posyandu remaja) & on the integration of Youth Forum into the village structure. A draft Governatorial decree on Adolescent & Youth Working Group (AYWG) is currently being formulated. For the planned youth programme in 2020, talks have been started to explore funding possibility from the village fund & the Health Operational Fund (BOK).