

Young Minds, Global Goals: The Global Peace Hub's Next Horizon

September 2023



Vision



Our vision is that everyone all over the world identify and acknowledge the power of youth to positively influence their societies.

Boundary partners



Our Boundary partners are the participants of the network. They are young peacebuilders between ages 15 and 32, a majority from local levels of society, committed to positively influencing their societies, and connected to an organisation that is committed to the same.

Why?



Our belief is that uniting youth in an organised way is a requirement for efficient policy-making, as this will lead to greater global-level cohesion among youth, increasing their ability to positively influence peace-promoting processes, which is a prerequisite for efficient policy-making.

How?



To accomplish this requires commitment from FUF and from our boundary partners (hereafter the participants), a strong digital infrastructure, strategic partnerships, and stable funding.

The Global Peace Hub Story

To our potential funders, supporters and partners;

The Swedish Development Forum, FUF, started the digital network the Global Peace Hub (GPH) in April 2021.

Lining up with UN Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace, and Security (YPS) and Agenda 2030, we believe that global challenges call for global solutions and that youth inclusion in decision-making processes is a prerequisite for sustainable and peaceful societies.

We believe that uniting youth in enriching ways will lead to greater global-level cohesion among youth, increasing their ability to positively influence their societies. Together with youth, we acknowledge the need to strengthen their own brand, allowing them to represent themselves as a positive force for change.

In forming the GPH, we have been striving for diversity; a space accessible to youth of different socioeconomic backgrounds, cultures, gender identities, countries, and levels of society. The diversity of our participants has been

our comparative advantage, along with our global approach to working with the YPS-agenda, our ambition to reach youth at local levels, and our expectation that participants are network co-creators and leaders. At FUF, we do our best to continue expansion in this direction, because indeed, what is a youth network if not formed by, and subsequently made relevant to, youth.

It is all about the long-term

Our vision is that everyone all over the world identifies and acknowledges the power of youth to positively influence a trajectory towards peaceful, democratic, and sustainable societies. There are so many engaged and resourceful candidates all over the world, wanting to contribute to a story like this. It is an ambitious vision, but there really is no other way to go about it.

At FUF and in the GPH, we want to combine our vision with action, and we welcome anyone who wishes to be a part of that process.

“

Vision without action is just a dream, action without vision just passes the time, and vision with action can change the world.

- Nelson Mandela

”

The GPH today

Fast-forward from 2021 to today; We have developed a solid structure ready for implementation. We have a private, digital platform for communication, we have gone through two rounds of recruitment, we have had several meetings, workshops, and one-on-ones with our culturally and professionally diverse group of 50 global citizens from 35 countries. This has been achieved even though we have had limited funding, issues with network connectivity, and a (naturally) fluctuating commitment from our youth volunteers.

Many of our participants express that the GPH is a personal, enriching, and safe network. A hub to foster intercultural dialogue, deep dive into topics of personal interest, and a place to safely network.

Already, participants report that they have gained new perspectives and knowledge of new opportunities, and we have only built the structure.

“ I thought peace building was something only for older people, but being part of the GPH has opened my understanding of my role as a young person. Now I know that I can and must be a part of the change that I want to see in my community, and in the world at large. “
-GPH-participant

Where we are headed

The world is changing at a fast pace. To many of us, our planet's development looks grimmer by the day. Yet what we see in the network is steadfast youth from all over world, committed to contributing to positive change. Our planet's unprecedented technological development creates new opportunities that we want to expand with and use to our advantage; enabling young people to come together and mobilise, despite obstacles such as limited funding, visa restrictions, pandemics, or political conflict.

Overall, we want to foster a culture of empowerment, self-leadership, humility, and intercultural understanding.

The GPH must be built organically – and different measures will be needed at different times. Now, we are looking to expand and scale up our network, the way we always meant for it to grow. This requires stable funding, a knowledge-intensive steering group to support the participant-led network, solid digital and communications infrastructures, and partnerships with research institutes and other actors of strategic importance.

This is the Global Peace Hub story. This story reflects the hopes and desires of our valued participants. A story like ours contributes to mobilisation, which is key for change. A story like ours recognises youth not only as the future of tomorrow, but as actors to be reckoned with today.

Strategies



Assumptions

- Participants are willing to spend voluntary time on network activities.
- The network is able to reach participants at local levels of society.
- Participants have access to a somewhat stable network connection and a technical device.
- Interacting on the digital platform feels safe and without unnecessary risk.

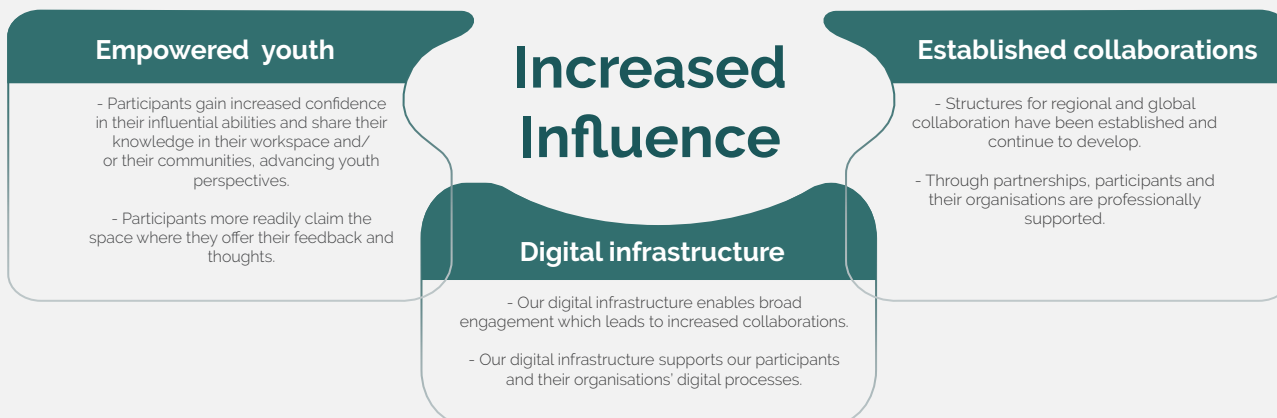
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Short-term outcomes



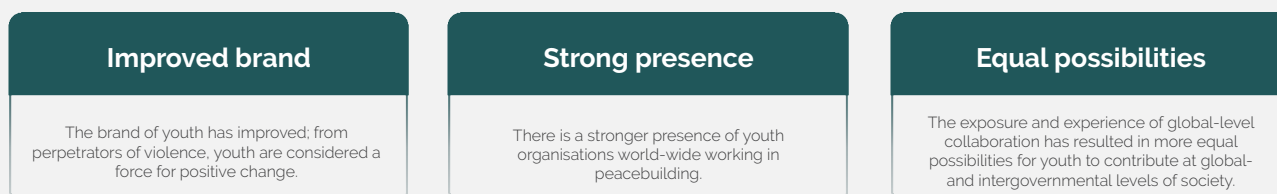
So that

Intermediate outcomes



So that

Long-term outcomes



Impact

Youth are considered essential to effective policy making and peacebuilding at all levels of society; they actively participate in and influence formal and informal processes of decision-making - at local, national, regional and international levels.

Engage with us

We believe that the best partnerships begin with open dialogue. If our cause resonates with you, we invite you to visit or simply pick up the phone. Alternatively, a message from you would be equally cherished. Your involvement could be the catalyst for significant change.

Stockholm, September 2023



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Building the GPH-structure has been executed with funding from the FBA's support to civil society for peace and security. Please visit www.fba.se/stod for more information. The Swedish Development Forum is responsible for the content.