

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

2022



INTERGENERATIONAL
SOLIDARITY

Youth Day: Intergenerational solidarity — Creating a world for all ages



TO achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the world needs to leverage the full potential of all generations.

Solidarity across generations is key for sustainable development. We must collaborate to foster successful and equitable intergenerational relations and partnerships to ensure “no one is left behind”.

While intergenerational solidarity and concern for future generations is being called for in tackling global issues — with the UN secretary-general recently putting forward new recommendations on renewed intergenerational solidarity, including in Our Common Agenda — many challenges remain.

The Global Report on Ageism launched by the United Nations in March 2021 highlights the many data gaps that exist with regards to ageism against youth.

Despite this lack of research, young people continue to report age-related barriers in various spheres of their lives such as employment, political participation, health and justice.

On an individual level, these age-related obstacles can deeply impact wellbeing and livelihoods not only during the youth years, but also in adulthood.

On a societal level, ageism prevents us from thinking and designing policies and social services that adopt a life-course approach and are fair for all ages.

In this context, the objective of this year’s International Youth Day theme, *Intergenerational solidarity: Creating a World for All Ages*, is to amplify the message that action is needed across all generations to achieve the SDGs and leave no one behind.

The 2022 International Youth Day also raises awareness on certain barriers to intergenerational solidarity, notably ageism, which impacts young and old persons, while having detrimental effects on society as a whole.

With the world’s population expected to increase by two billion people in the next 30 years, just producing a larger volume of healthier food more sustainably will not ensure human and planetary wellbeing.

Older women face discrimination, bias, and marginalisation, as recognised by the General Recommendation Number 27 of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women.

This discrimination, bias, and marginalisation is only further compounded for older women with disabilities.

They are systematically overlooked and underrepresented in development policies, programmes, initiatives, legislation, as well as humanitarian efforts.

Moreover, gender inequality, ageism, and ableism are further exacerbated by other forms of discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, caste, religion, migration status, among other factors.

Now is the time to address the interlinking challenges of gender inequality, poverty reduction, social inclusion, health care, biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation.

Youth have been, and will continue to be a part of the conversations and action to restore the planet and integrating biodiversity in the transformation of food systems, and therefore will also remain closely engaged in the implementation work of the Action Coalitions that were launched during the Generation Equality Forum.

On International Youth Day, join us in uplifting the voices of youth and celebrating their leadership.

— United Nations Women

GALZ PRESS STATEMENT

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

International Youth Day is a day of awareness, recognising youth across the globe and empowering the youth to make meaningful contributions to their communities and nations. The 2022 theme, “Intergenerational Solidarity, creating a world for all ages”, recognises that the world needs to leverage the full potential of all, particularly the youth to build a better Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwean youth are facing a plethora of challenges that include; unemployment, identity crisis, substance and drug abuse that affects the health and well-being of youth in Zimbabwe. GALZ recognises challenges being faced by youth that identifies as LGBTIQ+ (Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Queer) which include; stigma and discrimination within communities and denial of access to employment and socio-economic empowerment opportunities. LGBTIQ+ youth have not realised their full potential on account of their real or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity and expression. These collective obstacles have led to an increase in reported cases of suicide, violence, HIV, alcohol and substance abuse among LGBTIQ+ youth.

The 2022 theme highlights the urgency with which action is required to ensure opportunities are availed to youth to associate, be represented and participate in political, social, and economic spheres of life in line with the 2030 Agenda “Leave no one behind” which is the central and transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals.

GALZ notes the development and implementation of the Zimbabwe National Youth Policy, the provision of the Youth bank and the creation of the Youth Quota in the Parliament of Zimbabwe. We encourage duty bearers to meaningfully engage youth so that they may actively participate in these and other initiatives. Government must work on impediments that hinder intergenerational solidarity.

GALZ encourages the Government of Zimbabwe and various stakeholders to implement an inclusive and robust legal and policy framework to protect youth from harmful cultural practices, exploitation and all forms of abuse. GALZ calls for the inclusion of LGBTIQ+ youth in the development agenda, guided by the “Leaving no one behind” mantra.

Intergenerational solidarity fosters a world that is inclusive of all persons and all ages.

GALZ is a membership-based association of LGBTI people in Zimbabwe that provides legal assistance, medical referrals, information resources, safe spaces as well as counselling and psychosocial support services to LGBTI persons and their families, colleagues and friends. GALZ can be reached on 0772 210 836, via email at info@galz.co, or through the website www.galz.org

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

AUGUST 12



Each generation, must out of relative obscurity, choose its mission fulfil it or betray it. It is our duty as youths of today to make it a mission to deliver a world that creates a healthy environment for all youthful activities.

Emmanuel Devine Nyakudya
TB Champion & SRHR Activist



There seems to be a widespread denial of the potential harm that sexual diseases pose and it is very important that we as advocates of a healthy youthful generation intensify our calls to fully equip the general population with the sufficient knowledge to better address the disease as we are many years behind in fighting these deadly diseases.

Evelyn Mungwaru
TB Champion



We often hear about stepping outside ourselves but rarely about stepping outside our generation. The ecological crisis shows the urgency of a solidarity which embraces time and space. A greater sense of intergenerational solidarity is needed. To achieve sustainable Development goals, the world needs leverage, the full potential of all generations, solidarity across generations is key for sustainable development.

Rumbidzaishe Angela Mushonga
SRHR advocate



The International Youth Day to me as a young person means that we as young people we are being celebrated and also we have been recognized. We are being given the opportunity to air out and amplify our voices, thoughts, initiatives and actions. Also we have a mandate to bring change to our nations and communities, the youths are legends of tomorrow

HAPPY INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY
Adonai Tadiwanashe Kanzara
Midlands State University (MSU) student



The youth today are the link to our country's yesterday and its tomorrow. We must learn from the history of generations before, to avoid their mistakes and to better their success. We must dream, innovate and lay the foundation for the success of future generations. In all that though, we must remember to also live for today. Success is the goal, failure is not.

Nigel T Muzongombi
Harare Polytechnic Peer Educators Association President
Mugota national Ambassador



International Youth Day is a day where we can reflect on the challenges that we face on a daily basis as young people. The "mjolo pandemic" has triggered many suicides and murder cases. This shows how crucial Mental Health is in the lives of the young people. Many young people are making extreme decisions as they are not getting the assistance they need. There is need for more safe spaces where Mental Health issues are discussed and addressed.

Mitchel Munashe
SRHR Advocate



We have a problem of underutilization of human capital. Multiple youth graduates swamp in one place and drive one entrepreneurs dream. As youths there is need to prove ourselves, we need to prove that we are available, innovative, proactive and dependable. Spaces created for us are not enough, we need vertical and horizontal inclusion as stakeholders for development.

Alfa Bothwell Gwatidzo



This day is a reminder of my responsibility as a young person, I am to contribute positively to my community, country, and global community. Being recognized means i'm a stakeholder and I'm equally liable for everything that happens to me socially, politically and economically.

Christopher Fundirwa



"Youth is humanity in the making. If something is in the works, the more attention you pay to it, the better the product will be."

Bertha Katsonga

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY AUGUST 12



Students And Youth Working on reproductive Health Action Team (SAYWHAT) joins the rest of the world in commemorating the International Youth Day. Since the turn of the new millennium, every year the world celebrates the youths on the 12th of August.

This year the commemoration is running under the theme, "Intergenerational solidarity: Creating a World for All Ages." This is a call for a collective voice across all generations to come together and see to it that the United Nations (UN) promulgated Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are met by 2030. Satisfying all the SDGs in the 21st century will ensure co-existence between all age groups of human kind and all its surrounding ecosystems. There is need of a collective solidarity to confront the climate change fires, emerging health problems, food shortages, and water supply among other key lifesaving determinants.

Solidarity refers to unity and agreement of individuals, groups, communities and societies who share common interests and visions. Zimbabwean youths across socio-economic and political divide need to come together and persuade the government and development partners to provide their health needs. Parents and guardians should also join the call and implore the government to take into account the youths' social and economic needs as denominators of their health needs.

In the past two years, cases of teenage pregnancy and child marriages have been reported at an alarming rate. The twin scourges also have a direct impact on the spread of HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) as well as child bearing complications which at times have led to the loss of young lives. This ultimately impacts on the girl child as she cannot fully realise her potential under such circumstances. In some cases, older people have been found to be the culprits of child pregnancies which brings into question the intergenerational solidarity.

Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV) has been growing exponentially. In Zimbabwe, a week hardly goes by without cases of sexual related violence involving the youths. Some youths have lost lives through either suicide or after being murdered by their partners. Reading these cases in the press should alarm every concerned person to rise and take part in raising awareness against sexual gender-based violence.

While the 2022 census, figures show that over 70 percent of the total population is formed by the youths, defeating deeply rooted and complex economic challenges faced in the country requires intergenerational effort to come up with techno-entrepreneurial innovations and skills. This is fundamental for all and sundry to meaningfully contribute to economic and social development of the country. The government should on a massive scale, introduce techno-entrepreneurial spaces to absorb thousands of graduates churned out of various colleges dotted across the country. The technological innovation hubs

recently planted at higher learning institutions across Zimbabwe, should answer to the education 5.0 questions.

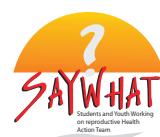
Alongside the introduction of the innovation hubs at tertiary institutions, community based and less technical scientific hubs should also be introduced to attract non-college going youths so that no one is left behind in contributing to the economic development. This will also go a long way in bailing out the youths from drug and substance abuse carnival, commercial sex work, among other health damaging behaviours.

Today's international forums on economy, politics, climate change and health should see the youths having seats for them to be conscious of the challenges bedevilling the globe also proffer solutions. Climate change has emerged as one of the challenges that require solidarity from all age groups as it threatens everyone.

The International Youth Day should therefore not be just ceremonial. It should translate to life changing pro-youths' policies and strategies. It is high time the youths come together at regional, continental and internationally and make their voice heard. Regional and International bodies should deliberately create spaces for the youths for the intergenerational relationship to fully materialise. The youths should not just be incorporated as tokenism, but they should be listened to and heard. Happy International Youth Day to you all!!

Call Toll-free 577 for psycho-social support, SRHR and Child protection solutions.

Saywhat SAYWHATOrg SAYWHAT



INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY SUPPLEMENT



International Youth Day 2022 celebrates all generations

**Local Works Zimbabwe Youth Program
International Youth Day 2022 Essay Competition**

Introduction and Background

The Youth Empowerment and Transformation Trust (YETT) is calling all young people between the age of 18-35 years with an interest in writing to enter the 2022 International Youth Day essay writing challenge.

The Youth Empowerment and Transformation Trust (YETT) is a youth networking organization committed to the full participation of young people in sustainable development through advocacy and capacity building of youth and youth organizations. YETT is facilitating the design and implementation of the Local Works Zimbabwe Youth Program which seeks to facilitate co-creation of holistic, inclusive, youth-led, and locally driven solutions that address the diverse challenges facing young Zimbabweans in meeting their social and economic needs and aspirations. In November 2021, YETT facilitated youth-led listening sessions which provided a platform for deep, nuanced listening and understanding on key issues of youth concern across all the 10 provinces of Zimbabwe. The listening sessions revealed that.

1. Most Zimbabwean youth do not have the enterprise skills required for one to one to ideate, prototype and grow a successful enterprise.
2. There is limited awareness of youth entrepreneurship development support amongst youth in Zimbabwe. Furthermore, the majority of youth enterprise financing products are disconnected from the lived realities of most Zimbabwean youth.
3. There is low meaningful youth participation in the decision making spaces.
4. Drug and Substance Abuse (DSA) among youths has reached alarming levels and is negatively impacting youth economic development “State of National Disaster”

Considering the above, YETT calls upon youths aged 18-35 to submit an essay explaining what activities you would do in your community to address any one of the four issues highlighted above.

The essay should.

1. Indicate your name, age, contact details and name of your community.
2. State the one problem/challenge/issue from the four highlighted above and show clear examples of how you would address it in your community. Your proposed interventions should show how you would use innovative, tech-based solutions.
3. Essays should not be more than 800 words and written in English.

Applications should be sent via email to localworks.263@gmail.com by close of business ,**26 August 2022**. For more information email ; localworks.263@gmail.com . Lots of cool and exciting prizes to be won.



WHEN given the necessary knowledge and opportunities, youth can be a beneficial force for growth, and United Nations has recognised August 12 to celebrate International Youth Day every year as a day to honour young people and the role they may play in making the world a better place.

However, this year’s International Youth Day is different from the previous years as it intends to emphasise the importance of action across all generations in order to accomplish the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), instead of focusing only on the youths.

Intergenerational Solidarity: Creating a World for All Ages

The theme of the forthcoming International Youth Day 2022 is *Intergenerational Solidarity: Creating a World for All Ages*.

It raises awareness about various impediments to intergenerational solidarity, most notably ageism, which affect both young and elderly people and has a negative influence on society as a whole.

In health, human rights, and development, ageism is a pernicious and frequently neglected problem that affects both older and younger populations globally.

Additionally, ageism frequently collides with other types of prejudice (including racism and sexism) and has an effect on people in ways that limit their ability to realise their full potential and fully contribute to their community.

In this perspective, the goal of this year’s International Youth Day theme is to highlight the importance of action across all generations and leave no one behind, in order to accomplish the SDGs, the 2030 agenda adopted by all United Nations member states in 2015.

United Nations’ Global Report on Ageism

According to the United Nations’ *Global Report on Ageism*, which was released in March 2021, young people continue to report encountering age-related obstacles in a variety of areas of their lives, including work, political involvement, health, and justice.

The world has to utilise the full potential of all generations in order to accomplish the Sustainable Development Goals and generational unity is essential for sustained development.

Webinar on ageism, future generations, and intergenerational equity

In order to officially commemorate International Youth Day in 2022, UN’s Department of Economic and Social Affairs will collaborate with the Major Group on Children and Youth to plan a global webinar.

Participants from all across the world will have the chance to share their perspectives during the webinar on ageism, future generations, and intergenerational equity.

International Youth Day was established when the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth recommended it to the UN General Assembly on December 17, 1999.

Since the day was first observed on August 12, 2000, it has served as a platform for social education.

Engage young people in politics and oversee resource allocation to deal with world issues.

— newsonair