

Building Models for Developing the Capabilities of Young People



YOUTH AS BENEFICIARIES



YOUTH AS COLLABORATORS



YOUTH AS LEADERS

Background

For ROTA, youth empowerment means enhancing the capabilities of individual youth and youth groups to fully participate in all aspects of society and promoting enabling conditions that can help them take control of their own development and futures.

Youth are almost half the world's 7 billion population (EFA Global Monitoring Report). This "youth bulge" has important social, economic and cultural development implications. It is challenging for some countries to provide education and employment for this growing youth population. Evidence shows that in MENA region and Asia there is substantial unemployment among youth. In these regions, many youth leave school unprepared for the world of work. In some cases there is also a lack of alignment between learning in education systems and the type of employment skills needed for the economy. Many countries are unable to create jobs fast enough to accommodate their ever increasing number of new graduates. At the same time there has been the underfunding of technical and vocational education to help youth gain skills¹.

Our Approach

In addition to a quality education and employment or entrepreneurship opportunities, each individual young person must be seen as an end in him or herself. For ROTA, this means that strengthening **capabilities** is viewed as critical to enabling the holistic development of youth, which includes each young person recognizing her or his own potential. By adopting a **capabilities based approach**, ROTA focuses on youth's opportunities and abilities to generate valuable outcomes for themselves (and by extension their societies), taking into account relevant personal characteristics and external factors.

Our Performance Indicators

ROTA works with youth in three important ways: 1) as beneficiaries of access to quality secondary education, 2) as partners and collaborators, and 3) empowering youth as leaders. We measure our success in these areas based on our achievement against three key performance indicators (KPIs):

1.1	Youth Education	# of school aged children and youth enabled to access quality (secondary) education
2.2	Youth Engagement	# of youth aged 14-30 acquiring knowledge and skills which enable them to be active and productive members of their communities
2.5	Youth Empowerment	# of youth aged 14-30 acquiring vocational/technical skills for better employment opportunities

¹ The UN defines youth as ranging from age 15 to 24 years of age (as cited in Bruneforth & Wallet, 2010).

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Examples of Achievement in ROTA Youth Projects

Improving the Educational Capacities of Youth in Irbid Governorate

Activities reached 416 youth with training courses, a social cohesion toolkit and teacher training package was developed, as well as a training package for summer school teachers.

Educational, Economic and Social Development for Syrian and Lebanese Youth

14 community-based organizations worked on coordinated advocacy activities to improve education standards and social cohesion, training manuals developed, launched leadership and business skills training.

MENA Regional Training for Youth in Humanitarian Action (MYCHA) - Multi-country Project

2017 training provided a unique opportunity for 116 youth from across the MENA region to acquire knowledge and skills in humanitarian action. In 2018, the number of training participants increased to 230.

Supporting Palestinian Employment and Education Development – SPEED Program

Worked with 11 targeted TVET institutions to rehabilitate/update computer labs, and training equipment; reaching 4,245 beneficiaries, including 2,656 (63%) women and 130 teachers.

INSPIRE II: Institutional Support for Participatory, Inclusive and Responsive Education

871 students were helped to successfully reenroll and complete their middle level education under an Accelerated Learning Program; 330 TVET participants reported increased household income generation.

Expanding Educational and Livelihood Resources in Nepal

90% of youth participants reported increased leadership skills, 87% improved speaking in public, and more than 60% are involved in community groups and contribute to family decision-making.

EMPOWER Youth Conference

For over a decade, ROTA has hosted one of the largest, most successful, and well-recognized international youth conferences across the MENA region. More than 4,000 young people have attended this annual event.

127,379
Total Beneficiaries



Youth Education
82,404

Youth enabled to access secondary quality education/learning



Youth Engagement
34,406

Youth acquired required knowledge and skills to actively participate in the sustainable development of their communities and address global issues



Youth Empowerment
10,569

Acquired relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for decent employment and entrepreneurship