

Meaningful Youth Engagement in Research – Experiences from the MENA Region



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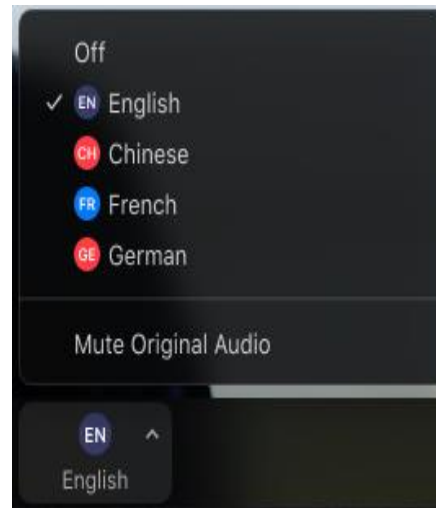
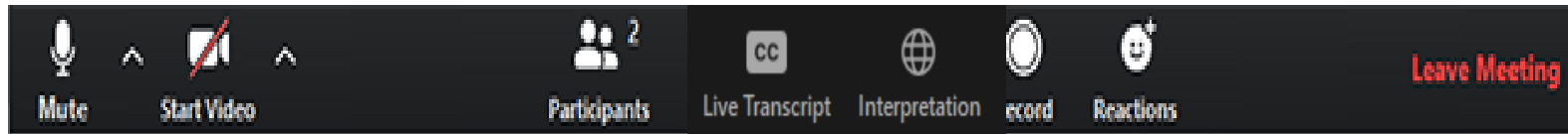
Welcome!

As we wait for people to join, we invite you to introduce yourself in the chat.

Please share your:

1. Name
2. Occupation
3. Country of origin
4. Why you joined today's meeting

Instructions for Zoom Use!



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AGENDA

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER
4:00-4:10	Introduction to the Webinar	Haitham Abdallah
4:10-4:20	Youth-led Participatory Action Research	Mohammad Yassin
4:20-4:40	Youth-led research Experience from Yemen	Ola Al-Aghbary
4:40-4:55	Q&A	Hanan Muharam
4:55-5:00	Closing	Hanan & Haitham



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Who is on the call today?



Ola Al-Aghbary
Co-founder and CEO
Sheba Youth Foundation for
Development and Peace
Guest Speaker



Mohammed Yassein
Youth Development and
Participatory Research Lead
Collective Routes
Guest Speaker



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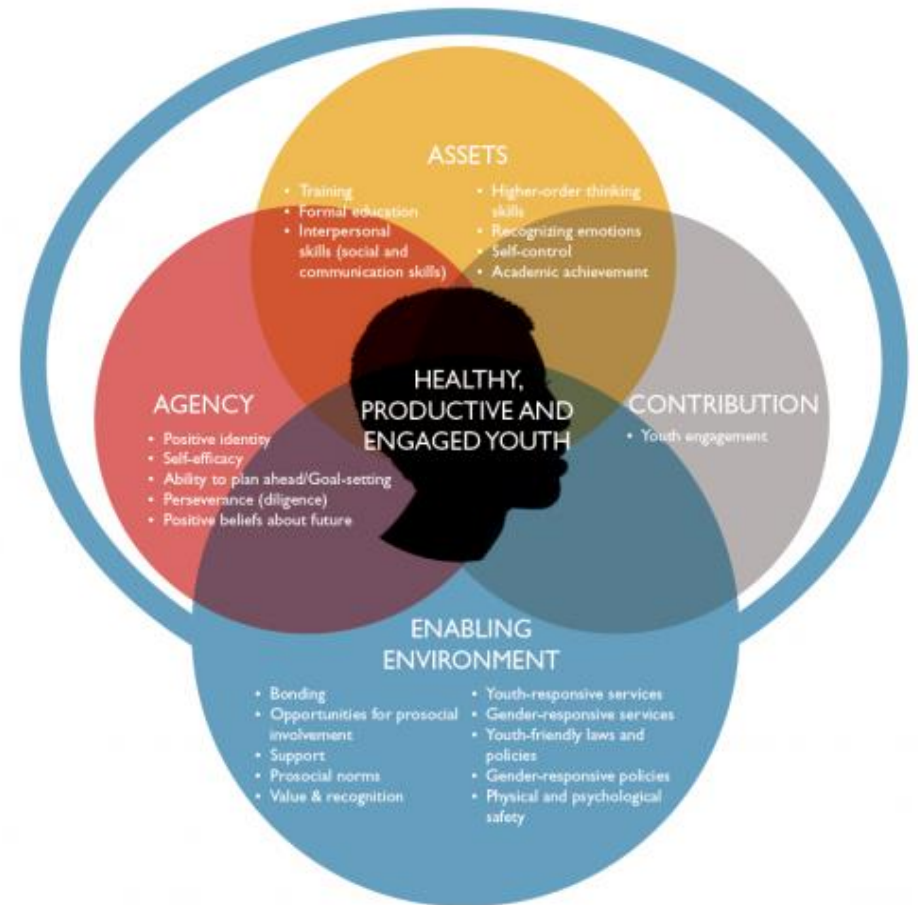
What are our objectives for today?

- Learn about Youth-Led Participatory Action Research
- Learn from Experience from Yemen Youth-Led research in a conflict sitting
- Best Practices and lessons learned

Please Post any question you have on ongoing bases at the chat

YOUTH Engagement and in PYD Approach

- PYD programs recognize youth's inherent rights and result in youth who have **assets**, the ability to leverage those assets (**agency**), and the ability to **contribute** to positive change for themselves and their communities, surrounded by an **enabling environment** that supports them
- <http://www.youthpower.org/positive-youth-development>



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Participatory Action Research (PAR)



Mohammed Yassein



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PAR can be understood as the overlap of three concepts that combines their characteristics:

Research

- Research questions
- Research methodology
- Analyzing results
- Publishing results

Participation

- Involving all impacted parties
- Active roles and contributions
- Shared decision making (Democratic)
- Collective ownership

Action

- Working to solve problems
- Implementing the plan
- Producing what can be useful
- Evaluation of what happened



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Participatory Action Research

A research and learning approach that enables individuals to find effective solutions to the problems they face in their daily lives

«Participation» is the basic addition of this approach and distinguishes it from other research approaches (participation of everyone affected by the issue)

PAR provides a better understanding of issues / problems and how to use this understanding in changing practices

This kind of research represents a turning point in research methodologies from: 'I ask .. and you answer' to 'We explore together'

This approach requires continuous analytical thinking from all participants during all stages of the research / discovery process



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How is PAR different from the tradition research methodol ogy?

STAGES of RESEARCH	Traditional Research	Participatory Research	Participatory Action Research
Identification of Research Problem or Question	Researcher	Community	Joint
Development of Approach/Method	Researcher	Community with Researcher Assistance	Joint
Entering the Community	Researcher	Researcher Invited by Community	Negotiation Process
Gathering the Data	Researcher	Community Members	Joint – Division of Labour
Analysis of Data	Researcher	Community Members with help of Researcher	Joint
Dissemination/ Follow-up	Researcher	Primarily for learning and action in the community	For Community Empowerment and for outside use/ publication
Exiting the Community	Researcher	Transfer of skills	Negotiated Process



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What are the expected results of applying PAR within development projects?



Empower participants' voice and affirm their ownership of the project: It promotes ownership of the project participants and generates mutual trust and understanding, helping to meet the real needs of the participants.



Enhancing learning through action: Participatory action research (PAR) provides a framework and structured process for questioning, research, reflection and learning at work, which can contribute to the improvement and further development of existing practices. In addition, participants acquire skills, knowledge, self-confidence and access to information to ensure their empowerment and capacity-building.



Community Participation and Accountability: It contributes to providing a mechanism to enhance the effective and concrete participation of members of society, and on the other



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Youth-led Research-Experience from Yemen



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Why do we implement such project in Yemen?

- The importance of implementing PAR projects , for donors, government and youth themselves
- How to enhance the transition of youth engagement from activities based to research based to help policy maker in change making
- Provide evidence based data in youth development sector.
- How to help youth to enhance change like advocacy with evidences?

PAR CARE Project.

- Project description
- Target
- Location



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Opportunities

- Youth with skills on research and it is one of the best experiences they have
- Help youth to have critical thinking, why , how we need to do the change
- Ability to conduct policy briefs with evidence

Challenges

- Online training due to covid; youth at the beginning felt that they couldn't do it then after 3rd day they felt more comfortable
- Lack of capacity in PAR
- Difficult to conduct interviews and data collection with some beneficiaries

Lessons learned and Recommendations

- Better to do it in person training to be more interactive
- Enhance youth to work more on PAR
- More funding for this kind of research activities
- More training on PAR
- Awareness on the importance of conducting such research for policy makers

Q&A



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Closing

- Please complete the poll shared in the chat to help us schedule our next COP meeting!

THANK YOU!

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