

# Youth Economic Empowerment - Experiences from the MENA Region



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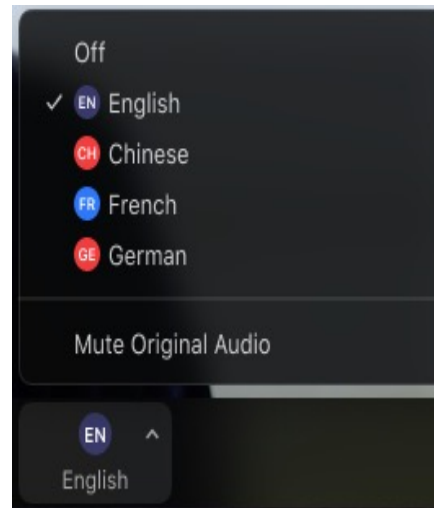
# Welcome!

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
3:00-3:15	Introduction to the Webinar	Haitham Abdallah
3:15-3:30	The different approaches of Youth Economic Empowerment	Dr. Amro Kamel
3:30-3:50	Q&A	Hanan Muharram
3:50-3:55	Survey	Hanan Muharram
4:55-5:00	Closing	Haitham Abdallah



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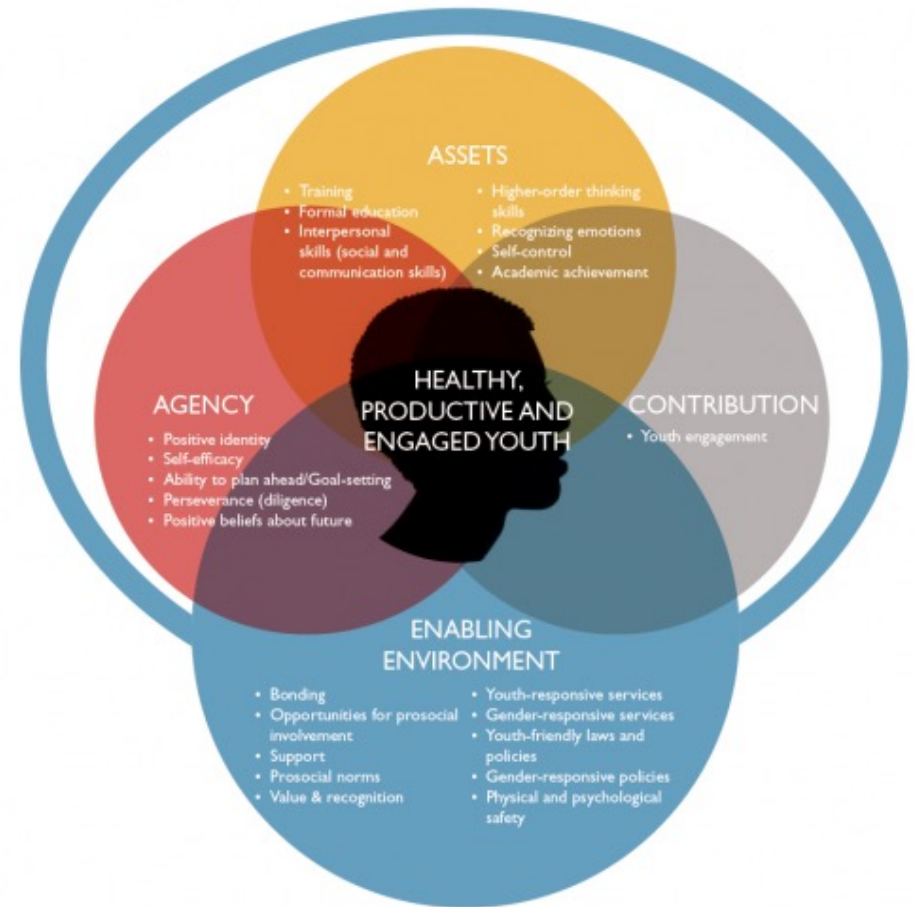
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# What are our objectives for today?

- Learn about Youth Economic Engagement methods/approaches
- Learn from Experience from the MENA Region
- Survey

# 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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# Who is on the call today?



**Dr. Amr Kamel**

Global advisor on economic  
innovation and social  
entrepreneurship  
ActionAid Denmark  
Guest Speaker



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# The DIFFERENT APPROACHES OF YOUTH ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT



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## YOUTH IN NUMBERS

- There are 1.2 billion youth ages 15-24 in the world today – the largest youth population in human history.
- 85% of unemployed youth live in low and middle-income countries.
- 1/3 (500 million) of today's youth are not in employment, education or training.
- 1/4 of young people in the world cannot find work paying more than \$1.25 per day.
- 3/4 of young workers are engaged in informal employment and at risk of exploitative and hazardous work.



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*Courtesy of Save The Children*

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## FINGER ON THE PULSE

We also know that access to employment is just one piece of the puzzle. Girls and boys often face barriers because of their **age, gender** and **other vulnerability factors**, where they are not able to access **education** or **resources** to earn money or control the money they make. Girls especially can be excluded and referred to unpaid care and domestic work, which obstructs their economic potential.

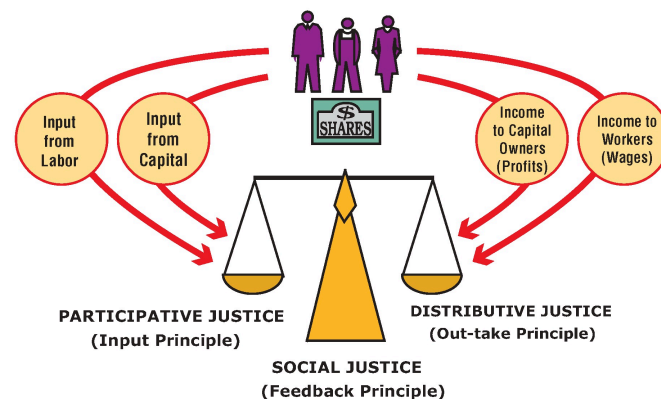


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## ECONOMIC JUSTICE/RIGHTS

Participatory justice and Distribution justice which is translated into access to and control over economic resources, with financial inclusion for women, marginalized and refugees. Economic rights include the human right to work, the right to an adequate standard of living, including food, clothing, and housing.

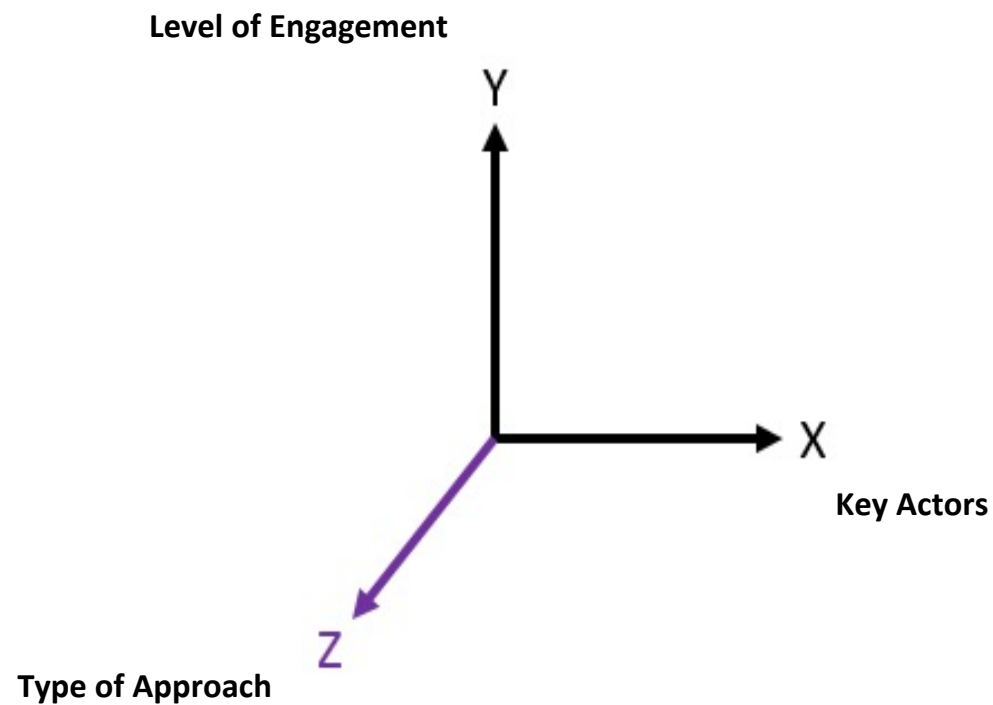


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## ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

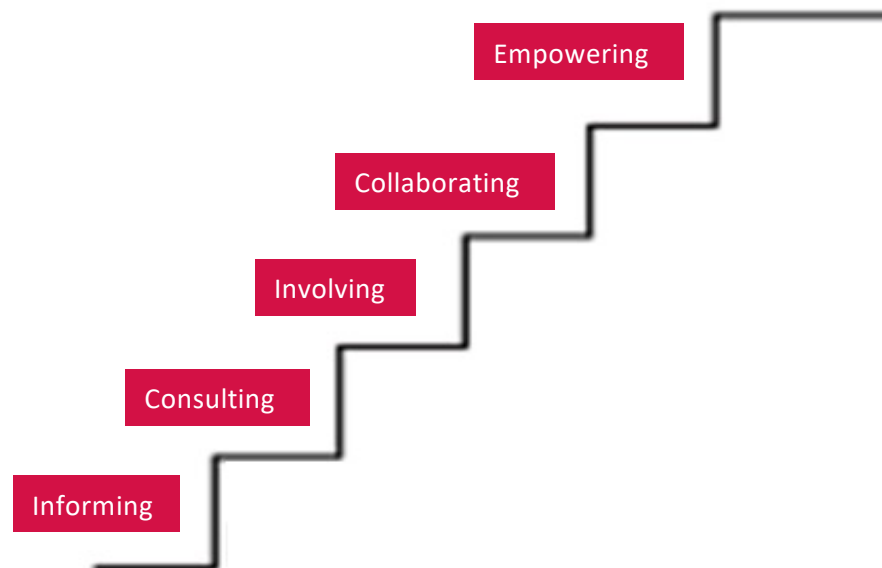
### LEVEL OF ENGAGEMENT Vs. KEY ACTORS Vs. TYPE OF APPROACH



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## LEVEL OF ENGAGEMENT



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## TYPE OF APPROACHES

### ADAPTIVE APPROACH

Both adaptive and transformation refer to processes of change, but the motivation and approach differs. Adaptive generally involves a change of something in response to something else. For example, cash for work where cash is paid for youth against work accomplished this is an adaptive response to unemployment.

### TRANSFORMATIVE APPROACH

Transformative, in contrast, involves a change from something into something that is physically or qualitatively different. For example, a change in employment policy that allows equal pay is a transformative approach to pay gap.

## KEY ACTORS

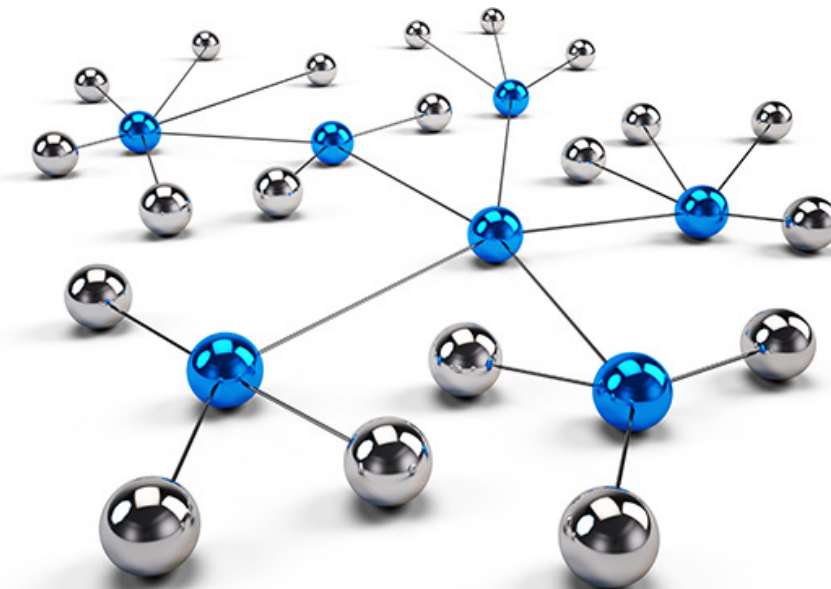
Development Sector

Government

Private Sector

Education Bodies

Financial Sector



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## EXAMPLES FOR ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT INTERVENTION FROM KEY ACTORS

### Government

Employment policies  
Tax relief policies

### Private Sector

Job creation  
Direct investment  
On job Training  
Job matching

### Education System

Economic Education  
Vocational education

### Financial Sector

Financial inclusion  
access to loans, grants,  
equity, credit cards,  
insurance products

### Development Sector

MSMEs development and growth

Job matching  
Networking

Social Entrepreneurship/ Entrepreneurship

Cash for work  
Grants  
Capacity development  
Vocational training



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# EXAMPLE FOR ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT FROM DEVELOPMENT SECTOR



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# PROGRAMME BACKGROUND

- Marginalized youth (especially women) have weak social and economic networks from which they can build a client base and little knowledge related to market access and business practices
- Social entrepreneurship is considered as an effective response to economic and social struggles in the MENA region
- Thus, this intervention focused on training and mentoring youth in social entrepreneurship practices and key principles that should build up their active social and economic role in their communities.



YOUTH  
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# SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP INTERVENTION

- The social entrepreneurship programme focused on supporting youth groups in marginalized areas in Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia in establishing youth-led social enterprises that challenge and solve critical issues in their communities.
- The program supported youth groups in economic analysis of their context and gave them an opportunity to dig deep in the root causes of pressing issues.
- The program also supported each youth group by assigning professional mentors (a social entrepreneur, and/or a professional in the industry of the social enterprise) to help them on the ground when they launch their start-ups.



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# PROGRAMME PHASES

## Training

- Capacity development on business skills and knowledge.

## Funding

- For those who are eligible as per their business model pitch.

## After Funding Support

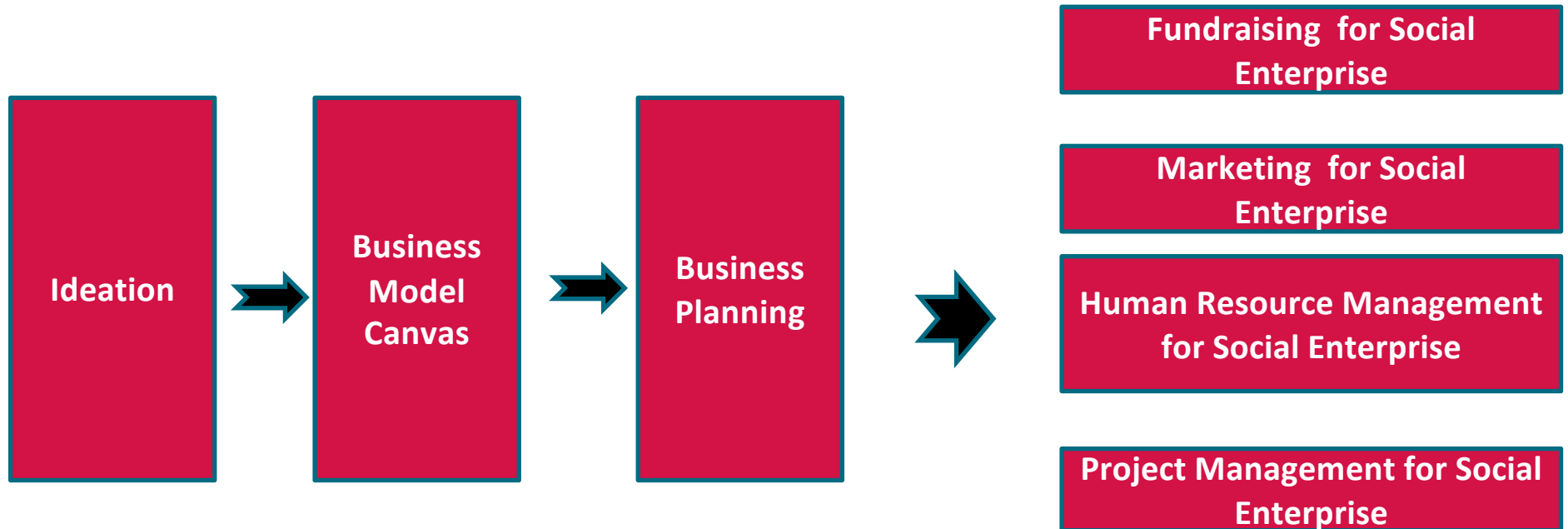
- Mentorship.
- Second round of granting.
- Business development
- Support training.
- Linkages.
- Networking events.



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# EDUCATIONAL FRAMEWORK



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## KEY OUTCOMES

- Enhanced the skills of marginalized youth who successfully identified, designed and implemented small entrepreneur initiatives that have a social impact and can solve community challenges.
- 100 youth from marginalized areas in Jordan, Tunisia and Lebanon have been supported to identify, design and implement social enterprises that respond to a pressing need and serves as a common good to their communities.
- 4 partner organization in both Jordan and Lebanon have developed their capacities on social entrepreneurship and have applied the knowledge to support their network of young social entrepreneurs.



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# EXAMPLES OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP INITIATIVES

- Community library
- Theater Production
- Organic composite (fertilizers)
- Women-led greenhouse production
- Furniture upcycling
- Street workout
- Women gymnastics



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# Q&A



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# Closing

- Please complete the poll shared in the chat to help us schedule our next COP meeting!
- [MENA Youth CoP Survey](#)



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# THANK YOU!

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