



TERMS OF REFERENCE

SESSION:

Mechanism and access to funding for young people

The Context

One of the successes of the Ouagadougou partnership lies in the work of engaging young people in various processes that concern them.

The attendance of young people at various regional and international meetings has grown, as well as their participation in decision-making. Their capacities have been strengthened in various workshops and support and funding of youth initiatives has grown at national level through funding mechanisms put in place by the technical and financial partners.

The commitments made to young people in the CIPs in the different countries require collaboration with them in order to better achieve the established objectives, for example by financing their various projects.

Although funding opportunities for youth organizations and groups are increasing, it is clear that few youth leadership organizations and associations are able to apply for and earn the necessary grants for their activities in the field.

The panel will seek to answer the following questions: What are the power dynamics in the funding of youth organizations and how can they be changed in their favor? What are the barriers to accessing funding for youth associations or groups? What are the alternatives for removing these barriers? What are the possible solutions that can facilitate the development of appropriate and facilitative mechanisms?

Objectives:

1. To assess the barriers to accessing funding for youth associations or groups
2. To present current reflections and examples of "alternative" mechanisms aimed at removing these barriers
3. To provide solutions to facilitate the development of appropriate and facilitative mechanisms



Format

Moderator	Dzahini Kwakutse Elagbe (<i>President of Youthlead, Togo</i>)
Panelist 1	Janet Holt (<i>William and Flora Hewlett Foundation</i>)
Panelist 2	Anna Seyni Diop (<i>Youth and Development Association, Senegal</i>)
Panelist 3	Ide Baza Abdourahamane, (<i>Secretary General of the Youth Ambassadors Network of Niger</i>)

Equipment

- Screen
- Audio for video sharing
- Flip charts for group discussions
- Markers



Agenda

Presentation of the session and its format (3 minutes)

1. Presentations of existing youth funding mechanisms (3 minutes)

Projection of a PPT slide and sharing of a document providing details of funding (moderator or YA)

2. What are the challenges for accessing funding? (3-4 minutes)

Screening of a short video containing interviews with young people about the challenges they face (Moderator or YA)

3. Presentation of reflections and alternatives aimed at meeting these challenges (20 minutes)

The purpose of this meeting will be to provide input for the work of sequence 4 on the recommendations.

Format: Discussion + 1 slide max. to illustrate the subject.

- **Hewlett Foundation (Janet) (3 minutes)**
⇒ *Based on your experience at Hewlett, what are the elements needed to develop a relationship of trust between youth organizations and donors? How can we change practices - and in particular funding practices for youth organizations to strengthen their actions?*
- **Representative of Youth and Development Association of Senegal on access to the Innovation Fund (3 minutes)**
⇒ *As a youth organization, you have received support from the Innovation Fund that aids youth organizations at the financial, organizational and technical levels from the proposal development phase. Can you tell us about this mechanism? What influence and flexibility does it allow you to have with regard to project construction and management?*
- **JA representative of Niger (3 minutes)**
⇒ *The Niger YA received an Amplify Change grant. Can you tell us about your experience regarding the mechanisms to facilitate access to this fund? What influence and flexibility does it allow you to have with regard to project construction and management?*
- **Questions/Answers with the room (10 minutes)**

4. Group work on recommendations (30 minutes = 20 group work + 10 feedback / conclusions)

How to improve access to youth funding

Working groups will be organized to make 1 or 2 recommendations related to the challenges identified in the video and informed by the reflections of the panel.



One secretary per group will be appointed to the coordination team.

Feedback on recommendations in a plenary discussion.

Before the session

The organization of this session will start before the OPAM, specifically through the collection of "live" testimonials from young people during the pre-meeting period on December 2 concerning the challenges they faced in accessing the funding.

Interviews will be organized and video will be edited on site in Cotonou from December 2 to 3.

See if it is possible to obtain support from the OPCU communication team or Etrilabs as a member of the Think Tank Jeunes for this purpose.

After the session

The different recommendations made by the discussion groups will be collected and summarized for their inclusion in the youth requests and recommendations document at the end of the day.