



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
Orientation Workshop on Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)
UNFPA Pakistan

Application Deadline

10th April, 2011

Workshop Dates

18^h and 19th April, 2011

The PRSP approach initiated by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank over a decade ago, aims to produce a comprehensive, nationally owned strategy for poverty reduction.

One of the core principles underlying the PRSP approach is that the process should include the broad based participation of civil society organizations. Increasingly participatory approaches are encouraged in all aspects of PRSP processes, including poverty diagnostics, policy formulation and reform, budgeting and public expenditures management, as well as monitoring and evaluation. It is also increasingly understood that within the range of stakeholder groups to be engaged, special efforts must be made to secure the participation of vulnerable groups such as young people, in order to incorporate their perspective into the design and implementation of the strategy.

The lack of progress in addressing experiences of young people in poverty into majority of existing national development policies indicates a need for better use of available data and continued advocacy. A number of arguments can be articulated in order to enhance coverage on the issues faced by the youth, to be incorporated into the PRSPs:

1. The need to implement existing commitment
2. Young people deserve their fair share in the population
3. Young people are central to achieving the MDGs
4. The macro-economic case for investing in young people by making social investments in adolescents' health, education and employment
5. The micro-economic case for investing in young people
6. Young people in poverty are socially vulnerable during their transition to adulthood
7. Capitalizing on the demographic transition
8. Youth bulge and increase potential of social conflict

The first PRSP in Pakistan was prepared in 2003, and youth was one of the target audiences in the strategy. But it is imperative to mention that at the implementation level no need based youth programming was given due attention. Addressing the diversity of young people in Pakistan is yet challenging task for the government agencies working for young people. With 165 million people, Pakistan today is the sixth most population country in the world and is undergoing dramatic demographic transition. According to the recent projections population of Pakistan in 2010 is estimated to be 177,276,594 and the active age of youth falling between the age of 15-29 years contributed to 30.1% of this total population.

In the current scenario, stakeholders of youth programs should be engaged to initiate a policy dialogue on the PRSP implementation process, for this four essential steps should be kept in consideration:

- 1- Identify the processes in place to develop poverty strategy paper
- 2- Identify the stakeholders and decision makers in the PRS process

- 3- Tailor advocacy messages and supporting evidence to strategic audience
 - 4- Determine an effective communication strategy
- However to reach to this stage it is important to orientate youth groups, civil society organizations to review the PRSP and propose recommendations for youth development.

In the light of above discussion it is important to prepare an advocacy agenda, ensuring youth issues are rightly addressed and implemented through PRSP. For this daunting task an orientation workshop is being planned to familiarize relevant stakeholders with the PRSP of Pakistan and draw attention of policy makers towards poverty issues faced by young people, given that youth development a priority in the national development plans and goals.

Objectives of the workshop:

- Capacity development of Civil Society Organizations and youth led organizations on PRSP processes
 - 1- Familiarize with PRSP and its importance for youth development in Pakistan
 - 2- Define the characteristics of poverty diagnostics (Who? What? & Where?)
 - 3- Learn about youth responsive budgeting with focus on essential components of PRSPs
 - 4- Youth participation in the implementation of PRSP
- Implementation challenges of PRSP after 18th amendment
- Review of current PRSP in the changing scenario of poverty dynamics
- Looking ahead to the challenges of PRSP formulation and implementation post 18th amendment
- Launch of E-Course on Youth & the PRSPs in collaboration with Youth Dividend

How to Apply:

- 10 Nominations of young people (age 18-25) from youth organizations/networks across Pakistan are invited.
- 10 from Govt. departments and ministries (Grade17-19)
- 15 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and INGOs personnel working at managerial level on policy advocacy.

Requirements:

Basic English language skills (written and oral)
Interest and dedication to development issues

Self-nominations will not be accepted. The deadline to submit nominations is 10th of April 2011.

A copy of CV along with a short letter of intent explaining interest in the workshop is required along with the nominations. Successful participants will be notified by the 13th of April, 2011. Kindly send your application to Ms. Sadia Atta Mehmood, National Programme Officer at mehmood@unfpa.org

For any further details regarding the course please contact Ms. Hira Hafeez ur Rehman, Coordinator, Youth Advisory Panel, UNFPA, at hirahur@gmail.com

Workshop Cost:

UNFPA will bear the cost of selected participants.

About the UNFPA:

UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, is an international development agency that promotes the right of every woman, man and youth to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity.

