

YOUTH ROUNDTABLE

Wednesday, 31 March 2021, 13:30-15:00 Beirut time, Online

Background and objective

Arab Youth are an integral part of the region's social fabric and play leading roles in its social and political transformations. However, their participation in the public realm and in decision making processes remains deficient and marginal and has been exacerbated by physical distancing and lockdown measures resulting from the pandemic. Avenues of participation have been suspended, social interaction reduced and progress in political engagement stymied.

At 26.1 per cent, the region's youth unemployment rate is among the highest in the world (more than double the world average of 12.6 %) and is expected to increase significantly due to, inter alia, COVID-19 pandemic.

The pandemic has highlighted challenges faced by youth in access to services, including health services, and in their lack of access to social protection schemes.

The Youth Roundtable will:

- Provide a platform for youth to deliberate on their challenges and priorities in the current context of the pandemic and in three selected themes: 1) Participation, Civic Engagement, and Peacebuilding; 2) Wellbeing and Access to Health Services; and 3) Skilling and Learning to Earning;
- Present their experiences as they work to address these challenges;
- Propose entry-points to integrate the empowerment of youth and their involvement in recovery plans.

Moderator

Mr. Hatim Aznag, Regional Focal Point of the MENA Region at the UN Major Group on Children and Youth, Morocco

Speakers

- **Mr. Wissem Sghaeir**, Political Activist and Expert on Youth and Youth movements, National Youth Observatory, Tunisia
- **Ms. Yara Abu El Wafa**, Healthcare Technical Advisor, Mott MacDonald, and Co-Founder of Health 2.0, Egypt
- **Mr. Saddam Sayyallah**, Founder and Executive Director, I Learn, Jordan

Join us!

TO REGISTER, PLEASE [click here](#).

The Roundtable will be organized over Zoom. Connection details will be provided to registered participants. Deliberations will be in Arabic with interpretation to/from English and French.



United Nations Population Fund



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