Partnering with Young People as Change Makers for Children’s Rights
BACKGROUND

In 2016, UNICEF and partners launched a Participatory Action Research (PAR), a systematic adolescent and youth engagement project in Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

This project aims to generate evidence, empowering young people to lead community-based research and to support them in becoming change makers and advocates on issues of concern to them.

The focus of this project is on the aspirations of young people, on the barriers and opportunities they perceive and seek for themselves across key areas in their lives.

The Research, the capacity development of young people as advocates and the support for national and regional youth advisory mechanisms are important steps towards providing young people with platforms to amplify their voices.

By actively including UN partners, Young People, NGO partners, this work promotes institutional capacity building to support, guide and mentor young people as change makers, leaders and advocates for children’s rights.
REACHING THE MOST VULNERABLE YOUNG PEOPLE

121 Young Researchers (14 - 24 years old)
who conducted research among over 1,000 peers

- 53% in Syria
- 47% in Lebanon
- 9% live in Jordan

60% out of school, of whom 67% are Syrian

- 40% in school
- 24% working
- 53% of whom, 1% are Iraqi, 15% Jordanian, 27% Lebanese, 17% Palestinian, and 40% Syrian

The Three Phases of the Project

Capacity Building and Research Implementation
- 121 young researchers;
- Capacity development of Partners to mentor and support young people;
- Data collection from more than 1,000 young people in 3 countries.

Country and Regional Findings - Action and Advocacy Plans
- National Workshops where young researchers conduct data analysis and prepare action and advocacy plans;
- Regional Workshop where young researchers present country and regional findings and advocate for action.

Young People as Change Makers and Advocates
- Expand the pool of young researchers and advocates and the scope of the research;
- Support youth in implementing civic engagement action plans;
- Support country and regional level youth advisory groups to influence programming;
- Partner with young people in programme development, implementation and monitoring.

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

August 2016 - January 2017
March - April 2017
May 2017 onwards

YOUNG RESEARCHERS

ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTH AS PARTNERS IN PROGRAMMING AND ADVOCACY
This is a multi donor, multi partner initiative. The conceptualization, technical support for the capacity development across countries and advocacy at the regional level was made possible with the generous donation of the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian crisis.