



**REPORT ON
YOUTH & YOUNG WATER PROFESSIONALS PLATFORM OF
SOUTH ASIA BASELINE SURVEY**



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Submitted to:

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Colombo, Sri Lanka**

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Executive Summary:

Water is the primary natural resource to sustain life of human, animals, plants and all other activities. Under the present climate change scenario, severe stress is observed particularly on water & natural resources. This scenario poses a great responsibility on all of us and especially on youths for managing the water resources for sustainability and self-reliance. In this context, the youths are considered as most vibrant and dynamic segment of the country's population who can play a greater role in sustainable water management.

Global Water Partnership (GWP), in both the Youth Strategy 2015 and the new GWP Strategy 2020-2025 has identified the importance of youth and their unique capabilities that can support the process of water resources decision-making. Across the GWP South Asian Region and through the Country Water Partnerships (CWPs) there have been many small-diverse projects to engage youth in different aspects of water management. Although these activities have been ongoing for years, they are small-scale and ad-hoc in nature with minimal sustainability and impact without having a unified approach. However, it can be concluded that if these activities are properly organized and coordinated among the six countries within the region, they could lay a stronger foundation to build a cohesive and vibrant youth platform that can boost their interest in water resources management. The Global Water Partnership South Asia (GWP-SAS) has also recognized the vitality of having a regional youth platform. The platform would facilitate youth interaction beyond their country of origin, extended to South Asia level and beyond. Through this platform, youth would be encouraged to engage actively with various stakeholders to become pioneer for sharing of information, data and outputs to be widely accessible for youth networks as well as the society. The youth would be encouraged to discuss ideas, issues and solutions related to sustainable water management and would also be supported to continue to use their creativity, knowledge, innovation, technology, and potential to find solutions and drive changes to build resilience to disasters caused by water scarcity and climate change.

GWP-SAS, a network linked through six Country Water Partnerships comprising *Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka*, with nearly more than 400 partners across the region, has identified the vitality of having a regional youth platform. The platform would facilitate youth interaction at the South Asia level and beyond. Through the platform, youth are encouraged to engage actively with various stakeholders for deliberating on the ideas, issues, and solutions related to sustainable water management. The suggested platform seeks a diverse group with various educational backgrounds, talents, ethnicity, and age. With this background, the GWP South Asia has started discussing the idea of forming a Youth and Young Professional Platform of South Asia (YYPP) with youth, educational institutes and its CWPs. They all have welcomed the initiative and showed their interest and willingness to move forward with the concept.

Background of the Country (India):

India is the most populous country and it has more than 50% of its population below the age of 25 and more than 65% below the age of 35. In 2019, about 26.62 percent of the Indian population fell into the 0-14 year category, 67 percent into the 15-64 age group and 6.38 percent were over 65 years of age. Youth being enthusiastic, vibrant, innovative and dynamic in nature is the most important section of the population. Youth shows strong passion, motivation and will power which also make

them the most valuable human resource for fostering economic, cultural and political development of a nation. A country's ability and potential for growth is determined by the size of its youth population. The National Youth Policy (NYP-2014) launched in February 2014 proposes a holistic 'vision' for the youth of India, which is "To empower youth of the country to achieve their full potential, and through them enable India to find its rightful place in the community of nations". The NYP-2014 has defined 'youth' as persons in the age-group of 15-29 years. Government of India has formulated the National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship in 2015 to provide an umbrella framework to all skilling activities being carried out within the country, and to align these to common standards and link skilling with demand Centre's. India has the relative advantage at present over other countries in terms of distribution of youth population. As per India's Census, the total youth population increased from 168 million in 1971 to 422 million in 2011. India is seen to remain younger longer than China and Indonesia, the two major countries other than India which determine the demographic features of Asia.

Objectives of the Baseline Survey:

The main objective for formation of 'Youth & Young Water Professionals Platform of South Asia' is to formalize a cohesive youth platform/program in the region for empowering, strengthening, and enhancing the GWP water youth country ambassadors, NGO networks, and professionals in the countries. The platform will also contribute to building capacities, knowledge and innovations in higher education by addressing Integrated Water Resources Management and the programmatic areas of GWP.

Survey methodology:

India Water Partnership (IWP) carried out a desk research and document analysis and accordingly developed a baseline survey questionnaire in Google form. The questionnaire was circulated to its potential members/individuals and the various organizations that are working with the youth and also connected with them through call or mail. This report is based on 17 filled-in questionnaires received from different organizations/individuals. The Baseline survey has identified the youth status in India, which will be fed into a Regional Baseline Report on youth engagement status in the GWP-South Asia region.

Survey results

The survey focuses on the role of the youth as mandated in the GWP youth policy and their engagement in other developmental works. This youth survey also identified the areas where role of youth and youth organizations are compulsory. The responses received are summarized below supported with tables and graphs.

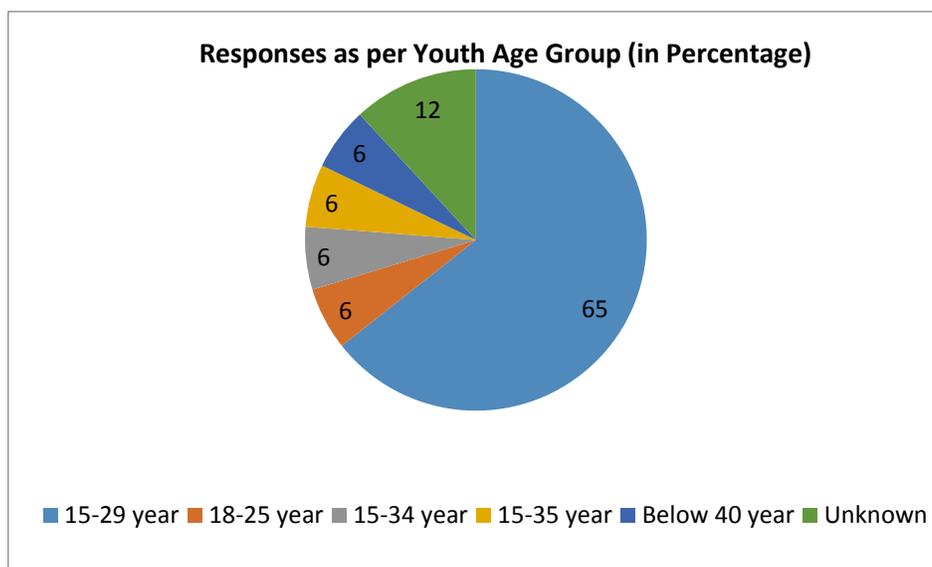
Sample Size

Total No. of Respondents	Percentage
17	-
Male	52.9%
Female	47.1%
Age Group	
15-25	29.4%
26-35	41.2%
35 and above	29.4%
Occupation	
Employed	35.3%
Unemployed	5%
Students	58.8%

Representation of Youth sample as per category and age:

From the above table it can be seen that **52.9%** respondents were male and **47.1%** were female including the students (**58.8%**), employed (**35.3%**) and Unemployed (**5%**). The respondents were from different age groups like age group of 15-25 (**29.4%**), 26-35 (**41.2%**) and 35 and above **29.4%**.

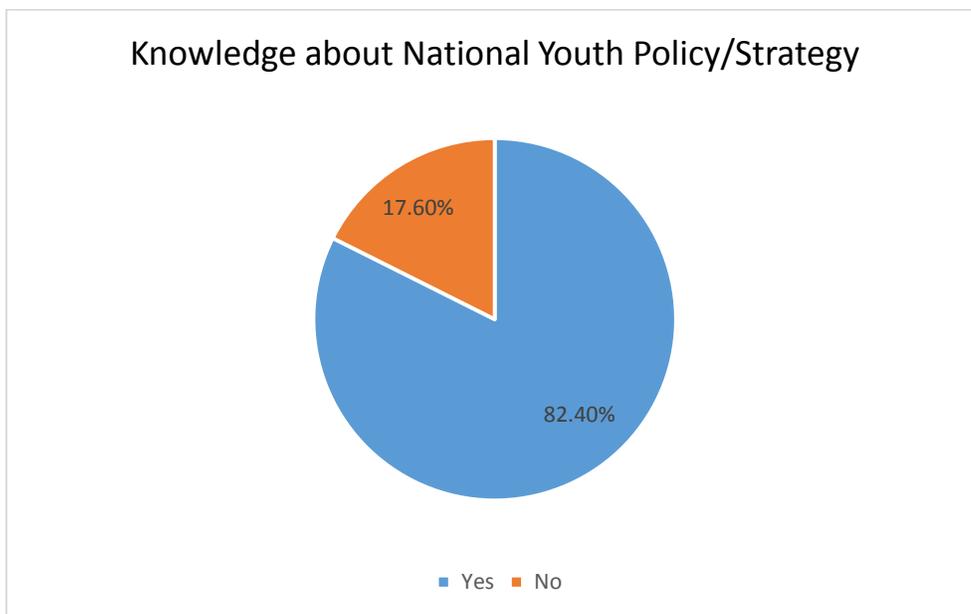
Knowledge about Youth Age in India



As per the survey questionnaire, who is considered as “Youth” in India, **65 %** respondents have considered 15-29 year age group, **6%** considered 18-25 years, **6%** considered 15-34 years, **6%** considered 15-35 years and other **6%** considered below 40 years.

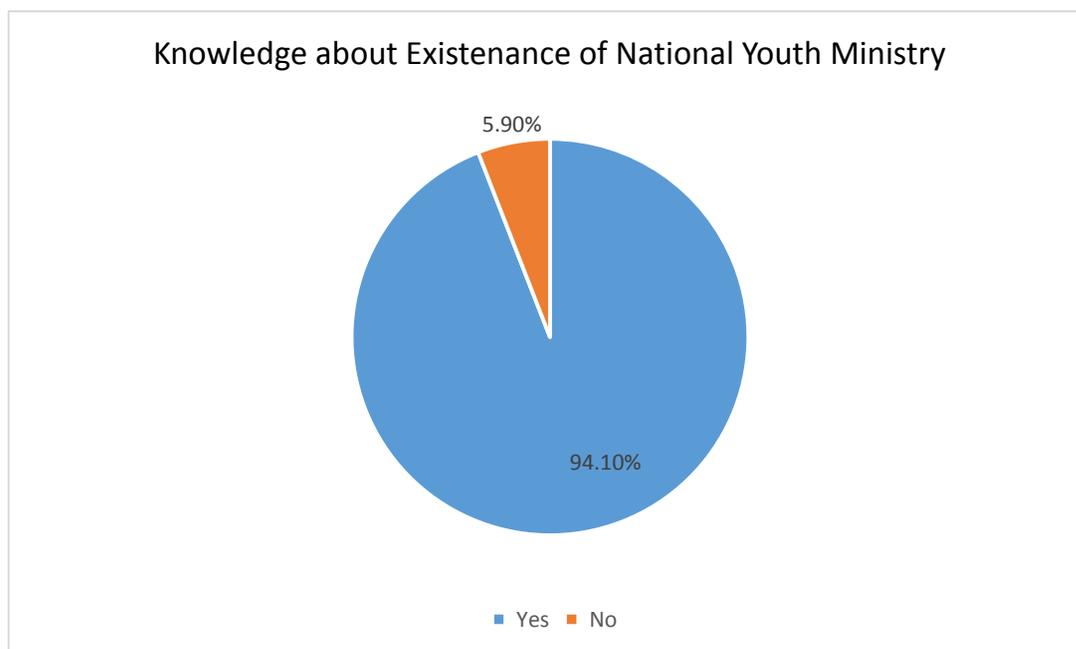
12% respondents considered that although no age group can be defined as the youth, but according to them, if a person irrespective of any gender wants to do something new or creative then he/she will be considered as youth.

Knowledge about Country Youth Policy/Strategy



On the question about knowledge of respondents about existence of National Youth Policy/Strategy, around **82%** respondent said that they were aware that India has a Youth Policy whereas around **18%** stated that they were not aware about the National Youth Policy or Strategy.

Knowledge about Existence of Youth Ministry



More than **94%** respondents were aware that India has an exclusive Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, whereas **6%** were not aware of the same.

- **List of active youth entities/organizations in our country/area and their roles Name, State, Contact details including website, Focus Sector/s, Partners (including a listed local and international organization), Role of the partner organizations**

1. **Centre for Youth (C4Y)** - Focus: Centre for Youth is a self-sustaining and not-for-profit organization working for the welfare of the rural and urban youth. C4Y facilitate the participation and civic engagement of youth at all levels of governance by providing them sustainable avenues and the right platforms to further their growth and encouraging their participation for social and financial inclusion. State: Delhi, Contact: +91 98180 44577 Website: <http://www.c4yindia.org>
2. **Vishwa Yuvak Kendra** - <http://www.vykonline.org/> Focus: Vishwa Yuvak Kendra presently envisages to strengthen and involve itself in the following fields of activity:-
 - Assisting small voluntary organizations by way of providing conceptual forums, technical training and information support, especially to those groups working in remote areas.
 - Involving youth in voluntary action in a sustained manner.
 - Initiating development education so that middle class citizens can contribute and participate in voluntary development work more effectively.
 - Producing a bi-annual development journal.
 - Setting up an NGO advocacy and outreach centre so as to provide support to the smaller and more vulnerable voluntary organizations.
 - Initiating community-based development projects carrying out action research in rural and urban areas.
 - Promoting regional cooperation and exchanges between people of the South Asian countries.
3. **SPIC MACAY-** (Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth) is a non-political, nationwide, voluntary movement founded in 1977 by *Dr. Kiran Seth*, Professor-Emeritus at IIT-Delhi who was awarded the 'Padma Shri' for his contribution to the arts in 2009. Focus: It seeks to inspire youth through experiencing the mysticism embodied in the rich and heterogeneous cultural tapestry of Indian and World Heritage, with a hope that the beauty, grace, values, and wisdom embodied in these arts will influence their way of life and thinking and inspire one to become a better human being. <https://spicmacay.org/>
4. **Youth Alliance** – The Youth Alliance aims to nurture empathic leaders who apply their head, heart and hands to understand and serve the world making it more equitable, cooperative and sustainable. <https://www.youthallianceofindia.org/>;

5. **Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA)** is a non-profit development organization committed to enabling vulnerable groups to access their rights. YUVA encourages the formation of people's collectives that engage in the discourse on development, thereby ensuring self-determined and sustained collective action in communities. <https://yuvaindia.org/>;
6. **Society for Promotion of Youth and Masses (SPYM)** - SPYM is working very efficiently from 1985 and has grown to many other places of India and its rehabilitation program is helping many people. In the last three years, the SPYM has launched a special initiative in India to **reform and rehabilitate juveniles** in conflict with law and with a dependency on narcotics. Over **350 juveniles** have been treated and rehabilitated under this scheme. <http://www.spym.org/>
7. **Youth for Heritage Foundation, New Delhi, India**- In 2009, the idea of promoting heritage was sparked within the founder of Youth for Heritage Foundation. It took him five years to establish a nation-wide movement to spread the love for heritage. In 2014, the club got registered in the form of **Youth for Heritage Foundation** and began activities on a much larger scale. <http://www.youthforheritage.org/> Focus- Youth capacity building.
8. **World Organization of Students and Youth (WOSY)** is an international youth body that strives to help humankind in its search for happiness and fulfillment. WOSY is a non-profit, non-political body of the youth, which works through many associate and affiliate organizations of students and youth. World Organization of Students and Youth, the first international student and youth body with India as headquarters, was launched in Delhi on 29th Oct. 1985, <https://wosy.org/>
9. **Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan**- Nehru Yuva Kendra's were established in the year 1972 with the objective of providing rural youth avenues to take part in the process of nation building as well providing opportunities for the development of their personality and skills. <https://nyks.nic.in/>
10. **SBI, Youth for India**- The fellowship provides a framework for India's best minds to join hands with rural communities, empathize with their struggles and connect with their aspirations. <https://youthforindia.org/>
11. **Indian Youth Climate Network National**; HQ: Delhi Ashish Pahwa, Jt. Secretary (+91 9599547095); website: iycn.in Climate action, Environmental protection Accredited by UNFCCC Empowering the youth for a socially just climate action.
12. **Integrated Mountain Initiative Indian Himalayan Region (IHR)** Mr. Golan (+919717691266) Website: <https://mountaininitiative.in/> Sustainability and resilience of IHR community and ecosystems Empowering IHR Youths.

13. **Jhatkaa-** Focus area-campaigns. The unique value that Jhatkaa.org brings is the effective use of digital communication to engage and mobilize citizens at scale. Our focus is on movement building, using digital tools that make it easier for citizens to engage in democracy and hold decision-makers (both corporate and government) accountable to our vision. <https://jhatkaa.org>
14. **Model United Nations-** Model UN is a popular activity for those interested in learning more about how the UN operates. Hundreds of thousands of students worldwide take part every year at all educational levels. Many of today's leaders in law, government, business and the arts including at the UN itself – participated in Model UN as student. <https://in.one.un.org/muns/>
15. **UN Affairs Leadership-** work for human rights, education and women empowerment. <https://www.un.org/sg/en/global-leadership/home>
16. **National Service Scheme (NSS)** The National Service Scheme (NSS) is a Central Sector Scheme of Government of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports. It provides opportunity to the student youth of 11th & 12th Class of schools at +2 Board level and student youth of Technical Institution, Graduate & Post Graduate at colleges and University level of India to take part in various government led community service activities & programmes. The sole aim of the NSS is to provide hands on experience to young students in delivering community service <https://nss.gov.in/>
17. **Student Mobilization Initiative for Learning through Exposure (SMILE)**, run by IGSSS, 28, Lodi Road Inst Area, New Delhi – 110003- Student's Mobilization Initiative for Learning through Exposure (SMILE) is envisioned as a learning and leadership journey for young people <https://yas.nic.in/>,
18. **AROH Foundation-** Aroh focuses on skill development of youth and women leading to job or self-employment. <https://www.aroh.in/>
19. **Youth Reach India-** Youthreach creates opportunities for individuals and organisations to contribute their time, energy, skills, materials and financial resources in response to critical community needs. <http://www.youthreachindia.org/>
20. **International Commission on Irrigation & Drainage (ICID)**, Understanding the importance of youth, all major international organizations started investing for a better tomorrow. ICID has started the young professionals' forum in 2016 and involved in capacity development activities. For more information, please visit http://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/105
21. **Youth Hostel Association of India (YHAI), Pan India-** YHAI mission is to enable and promote travel, tourism, adventure spirit, national integration and Education & Health by providing hostels of good standards to millions of youth of limited means during their travel at affordable rates on a sustainable basis and by organizing adventure and educational events and to develop understanding among youth about social & development issues. <https://www.yhaindia.org/>

22. **Nehru Yuva Kendra Kanyakumari,, Tamil Nadu**- Nehru Yuva Kendras were established in the year 1972 with the objective of providing rural youth avenues to take part in the process of nation building as well providing opportunities for the development of their personality and skills. <https://nyks.nic.in/>
23. **Rajiv Gandhi Institute for Youth and Development (RGIYND)**, Sri Perum Pudhur, Tiruvallur District, Tamil Nadu- The RGNID serves as a youth observatory and depository in the country thereby embarking on youth surveillance on youth-related issues. It has a wide network with various organizations working for the welfare and development of young people and serves as a mentor. <http://www.rgnid.gov.in/>
24. **Youth Development Programme, DHAN Foundation, Madurai, Tamil Nadu**
Sivanandan, Programme Leader- <http://www.dhan.org/>
25. **North East Youth Foundation Non-state(NGO)** Director: Ranjan K Baruah
Email:bkranjan@gmail.com, Mobile:8473943734, <http://www.neyouthfoundation.org>
Governance, climate change, peace and conflict and education
26. **National Youth Council of India**- Work to bring together nationwide spread youth and Youth organizations and movements to foster cooperation, dialogue, network and collaboration for youth empowerment and development. <https://youthcouncilofindia.org>
27. **Indian Youth Club** - Indian Youth Club is a Non-Profit making, Non-Government, Voluntary organization based in India & working for the youth empowerment. “Indian Youth Club” is a platform provides the young generation to put forth their views to bring Positive Change in the Society so as to make it a better place for Living. www.indianyouthclub.org
28. **All Assam Students Union (Assam, India)** - All Assam Students' Union or AASU is a students' organization in Assam, India. It is best known for leading the six-year Assam Movement against illegal immigrants from Bangladesh. <http://www.aasu.co.in/>
29. **National Students Union of India (NSUI)** - The mission of the NSUI is “To empower the student community to create responsible citizens and leaders based on the values of democracy, secularism, liberty, quality & equality”. <http://nsui.in/>
30. **Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (India)** - The RGNID serves as a youth observatory and depository in the country thereby embarking on youth surveillance on youth-related issues. It has a wide network with various organizations working for the welfare and development of young people and serves as a mentor. <http://www.rgnid.gov.in/>

31. **ECO CLUB, TERI-SAS:** Aim to create awareness related to environmental sustainability, social. ecoclub@terisas.ac.in
32. **All India Youth Federation, New Delhi:** The All India youth Federation founded on 3 May, 1959 in Delhi in a conference which brought together leaders and activists of several youth organizations from different states, regions and cities of the country became the pioneer left-wing youth movement of post-independent India. The AIYF aims to advance the dreams and aspiration of a brighter future for our country and the people. It propagate the ideas of socialism. <http://aiyf.in/>
33. **Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP),Maharashtra:** promote "right perspective towards the need of holistic and sustainable development" in students <http://www.abvp.org/>
34. **Campus Front of India: New Delhi:** encouraging student activism and empowering campuses by leading students to take up social issues. Also initiated green campus campaign <http://campusfrontofindia.org/>
35. **Gopali Youth Welfare Society: West Bengal:** aims to improve the living standards of people in Gopali village. Run by students of IIT Kharagpur. Promotes free education, social awareness campaigns and vocational training.
36. **Young India Foundation: New Delhi:** works on youth rights and their representation by recruiting and training young candidates for local level positions. It provides consultation and advocates for youth rights in India <http://youngindia.foundation/> ,Focus: non-profit, non-partisan organization recruiting young candidates in India and supporting them to stand for elections, starting with the Panchayat and Municipality level. The foundation aims to empower India's young by helping people between the ages of 21 to 25 run for local-level positions as well as raise awareness on youth rights within India, State: Delhi, Contact: contact@youngindiafoundation.org, Website: <https://youngindia.foundation>
37. **Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan** Focus: It is largest and unique grassroots level youth organization in the world, which integrates power of the youth based on the principle of voluntarism, self-help and community participation. State: Delhi Contact: 91-11-23442800 Website: <https://www.nyks.nic.in>
38. **The Youth Parliament**, <http://www.theypfoundation.org/>, Youth leadership to advance rights of young women, girls and other marginalized youth. Focus: The Youth Parliament Program is an initiative by Swatantrata which creates a platform for the Youth to speak up and make an impact on the change agenda for the country. To take on the policymakers and highlight the need for new thinking that will take the country forward. The Youth Parliament Program will be a debate between the best debaters and policymakers and opinion-makers. State: Hyderabad, Telangana Contact: +91 9248660273, Website: <https://yppindia.in>

39. **Youth United- Education, Health, Public & Legal Advocacy or Animal Welfare.** Working for the betterment of society through the continuing efforts of the youth and other individuals of the Nation, Focus: Youth United brings together individuals and technology to work on public welfare projects in the fields of Education, Health, Animal Welfare and Public & Legal Advocacy. State: Bengaluru, Karnataka, Contact: +91 7892041772, Website: <https://youthunited>.
40. **Bharat Scout and Guides-** The Bharat Scouts & Guides Provide young people with value-based, attractive and challenging youth programme, through competent leaders, effective communication, optimum use of technology and efficient management. <http://www.bsgindia.org/>
41. **Bharatiya Janta Yuva Morcha.** To give greater representation to the youth of the country and ensure that young people can have greater access and empower the youth, the youth wing of the BJP party was created as the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM), which formally serves as the youth wing of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). <http://www.bjym.org/>
42. **Campus Front of India-** Campus Front of India is neo-social student's movement, which aims to empower the campuses by developing a new generation of activities. Campus Front of India will be in the forefront in leading the students to take-up social issues, strive for the oppressed sections of the society and empower the campuses to mark a new dawn in the history of students activism. <http://www.campusfrontofindia.org/>
43. **Indian Youth Congress-** IYC regularly highlights the issues of the youth and launches agitations against the Government to draw the attention towards it. It keeps an eye on all the anti-people policies of the Government and takes sincere effort to take it to the masses. It employs all modes of protest to spotlight its messages. IYC conveys its protest through Candle March, poster, graffiti and Social Media. <https://iyc.in/>
- **Regional/global youth organizations active in the country**

The following regional/global organizations are active in India:

1. Brainwiz - www.brainwiz.online
2. AIESEC - <https://aiesec.org/>
3. World organization of students and youth, Contact: 011-64723066
secretariat@wosy.org, wosyconference@gmail.com
4. Fridays for Future India (<https://www.fridaysforfutureindia.com>
5. <https://www.youthkiwaaz.com/2013/06/how-ngos-are-a-respite-when-the-government-falters-20-indian-ngos-that-are-doing-some-exceptional-work/>
6. United Nations Youth Associations (UNYAs), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), ICID-<https://www.un.org/development/desa/youth/what-we-do/what-can-you-do/unya.html>

7. YHAI, Nehru Yuva Kendra are the national youth organizations- <https://www.yhaindia.org/>
8. Indian Youth Climate Network- <http://www.iycn.in>
9. Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad- abvpkendra@gmail.com, www.abvp.org
10. Pravah- <https://pravah.org/>
11. Nirmaan Youth Parliament
12. Iskcon Youth Forum- <https://iyfdelhi.com/>
13. Indian Youth Congress- <https://iyc.in/>
14. Malankara Catholic Youth Movement: Trivandrum <http://www.mcym.in/>
15. Young Mizo Association: <http://www.centralyma.org.in/>
16. Assam Bangali Yuvo Chatra Sangha
17. Mithila Student Union: New Delhi <http://mithilastudentunion.com/>
18. All Assam Students' Union: Assam
19. South Asia Regional Youth Network
<https://www.tigweb.org/misc/click.html?OrgID=46927>
20. Marwari Yuva Manch: New Delhi <http://www.aimym.com/>
21. Kerala Catholic Youth Movement <http://keralacatholicyouthmovement.com/>
22. International Youth Fellowship <https://www.iyf.org>
23. Climate Action Network International <http://www.iycn.in>
24. Global Youth India- Our mission is to give young people exposure to careers in international organizations, put young minds in tune with the realities and ideals of a global outlook and make the young voices heard at places where it really matters and can definitely make a difference.
<https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://in.linkedin.com/company/global-youth-india&ved=2ahUKEwi16sC1jPXtAhV07XMBHRokCbUQFjACegQIBhAB&usg=AOvVaw3Ww0Tot3YWbxwt9fETUfTN&cshid=1609310838748>

- **Entities and actors which are not currently involved, but should be involved in the development and review of policies/laws and the building of capacity of youth.**

The sample respondents provided the following suggestions:-

1. National Service Scheme - Which is directly involved with School students and youths for various social and development works <https://nss.gov.in/>
2. Bharat Scouts and Guides is the national Scouting and Guiding association of India.- <http://scout.ind.in/>
3. Parents should be important part of the any development and review of policy.
4. Every sector who are working for youth and with youth.
5. Popular entities should be involved as they are the role models for majority of the youth population.
6. Honestly, every sector or agency seem to be passively engaged in youth affairs. However, their engagements rarely involve the youth.

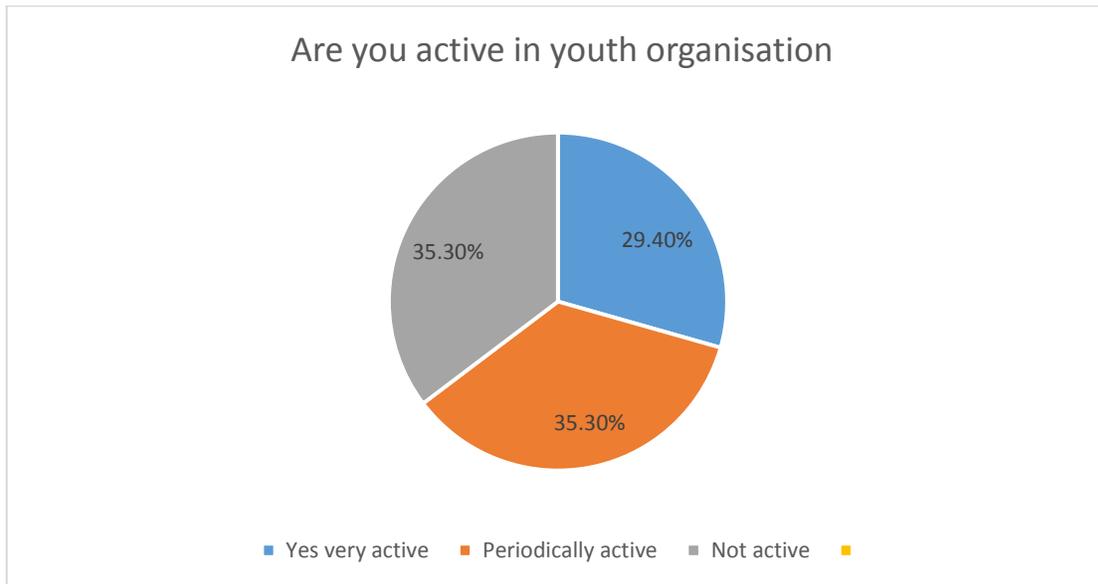
7. Youth groups, students, CSOs. Government forms committees on such policy formulation, but generally the Government does not involve these groups proactively.
8. Youth should be involved in policy matters and developmental activities to understand their needs. If we compare with other countries, our youth involvement is very limited and our Government is not investing on international platform.
9. Policies are framed by bureaucrats and experts most of whom are long past being youths and hence have different moral and cultural lense than the youth.
10. Youth from economically poor sections should have more voice. Trans-genders and other sexual groups, including women should have greater participation.
11. Local youth associations can be included for effective policy making.
12. Central Government Ministries viz. Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Ministry of Jal Shakti, National Disaster Management Authority, Ministry of Rural Development, etc.
13. Though the entities and actors are involved, but the benefits are not reaching to the youth as it should. State and local departments need to work in synergies with local organizations to empower youth. For example, civil society organizations or the private sector may want to engage in policy making, but they are not or only rarely consulted by the government.
14. Lawmakers and youth, both should be actively involved not just in developing youth policies but also on implementation side as well.

- **Services currently needed by youth but are not provided**

- Employment and skill development
- Grants and spaces for pilot demonstration.
- Training, Skill Development for job readiness, Field Exposure and Technological Enhancements
- Education, Employment, Skill development, Opportunities in every sectors
- Most important services for youth are the educational and job opportunities.
- India provides range of services to the youth, however there is no long term engagement of the youth.
- Counselling on career, studies, sports, etc. These are available sporadically, often provided by private parties and CSOs.
- Proper Vocational Skill Training and Livelihood and counseling towards mental health
- Capacity development, Availability of latest technologies, Proper grooming, international exposure.
- Value based education, effective career counseling, matching of skills with employment.
- Exposure to youth related schemes and programs support for activities through funding, facilitation, scholarships in various areas of activities such as rural empowerment and development; nature conservation; environment protection; disaster management; climate change adaptation; sustainable development;
- Skills are needed to youth of each sector. Also, they need exposure to the real world and consultancy to handle the stress and choose right path.
- Employment opportunities.

- Career guidance, safe and non-judgmental spaces (including doctors) for sexual expressions, guaranteed and adequate employment as commensurate with skills, adequate job opportunities, freedom to speech.
- Cohesive portal for employment opportunities, internship/fellowship with government organizations/institutions

Status of Respondents' Participation in the Youth Organization



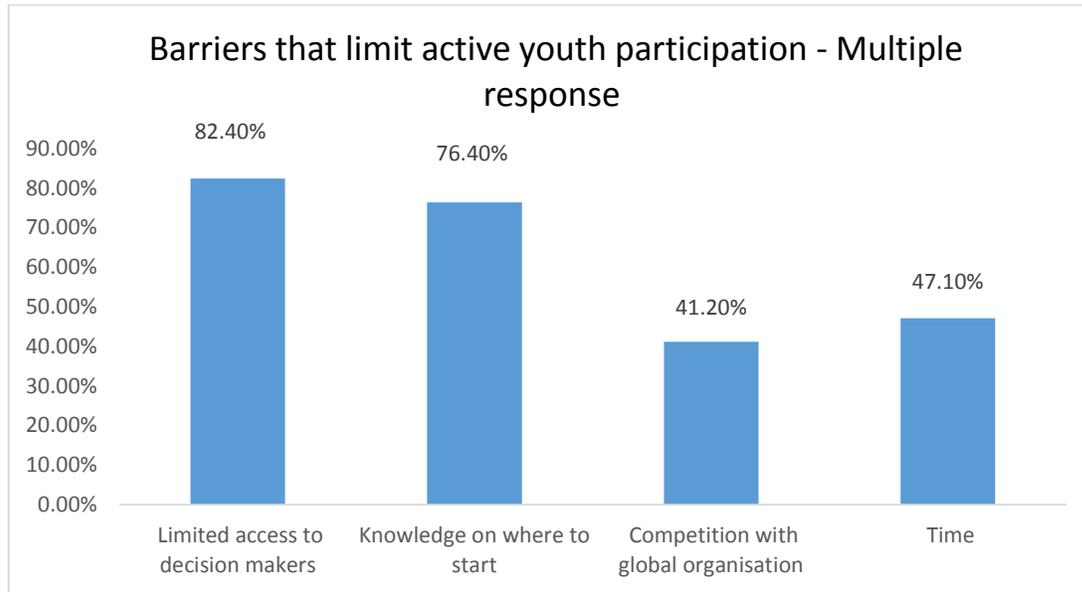
On the question, are you active in youth organization, **29.40%** respondents said that they are very active, **35.30%** respondents said, they are periodically active and **35.30%** respondents also said they are not active in any youth organization.

Indicators which motivates to join Youth organization



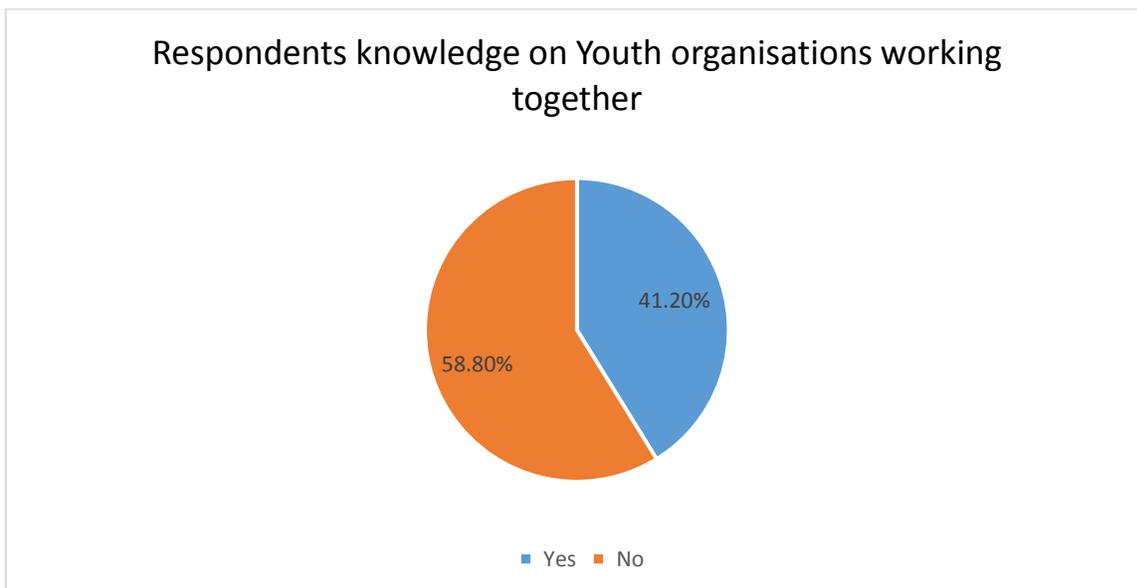
With regard to what motivates you to join the youth organization, the respondents have the multiple opinions but most of them (**93.80%**) agreed that they desire to join youth organization to make a difference from the others, followed by **81.30%** reported to gain knowledge, experience and skills, **50%** each said for socializing and visibility & networking respectively.

Barriers to limit the active youth Participation



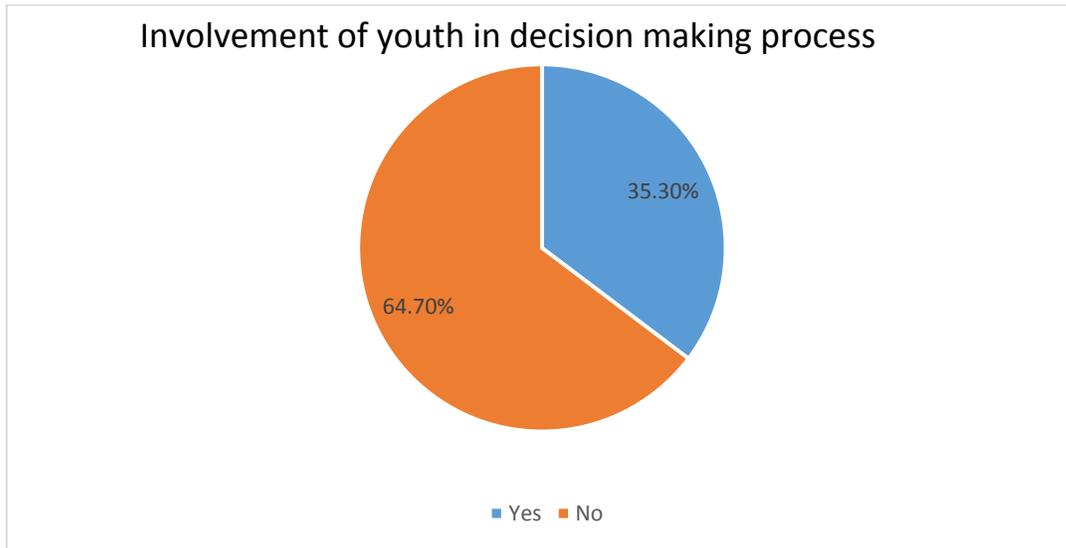
On the question that what are the barriers that limit active youth participation; most of the respondents (**82.40%**) said that limited access to decision makers is a barrier to limit the active youth participation, followed by **76.40%** said that they have no knowledge about where to start.

Knowledge on Youth organizations work together or not



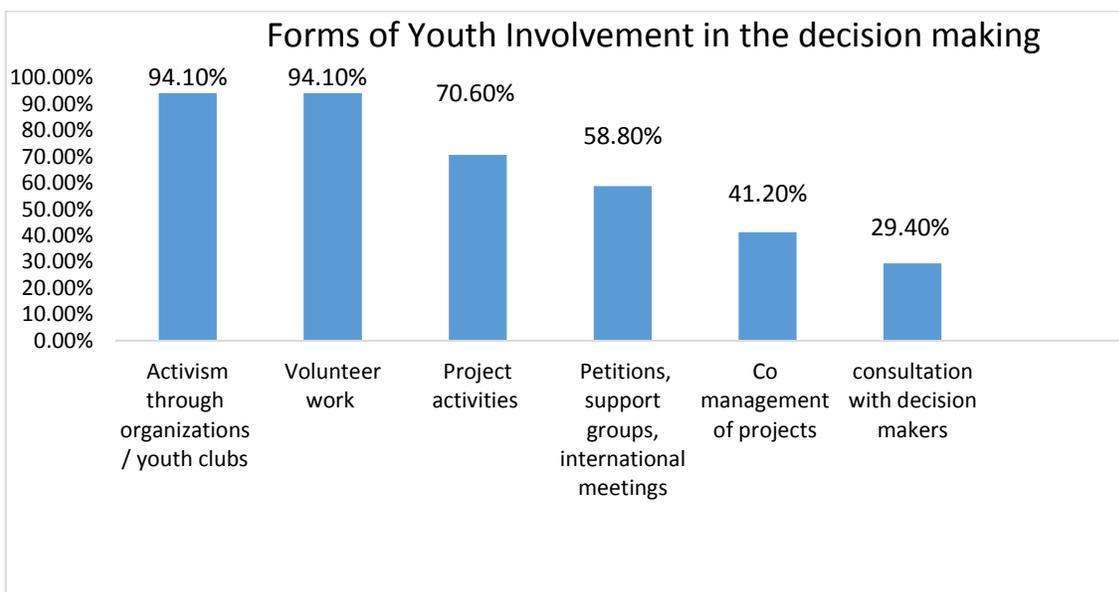
Regarding their knowledge on youth organizations working together or not; **58.5%** responded in affirmative and **41.20%** responded in negative but suggested that it would be better, if all the youth organizations should work together on a common platform and share their ideas with each other.

Involvement of youth in the decision making process



The survey analysis indicates that **64.70%** respondents said that “**Yes**” they are involved in decision making process whereas **35.30%** responded as “**No**” and suggested that involvement of youth should be compulsory in all decision making processes.

Forms of Youth involvement in the decision making



During the survey when it was asked with the respondents that what are the various forms of youth involvement in the decision making **94%** respondents replied for the activism through organizations/ youth clubs and again **94%** replied for volunteer work and **70.6%** replied for the project activities where as **58.8%** replied for the petition support groups, international meetings and **41%** for co management of projects etc. and 29% for the consultation with the decision makers.

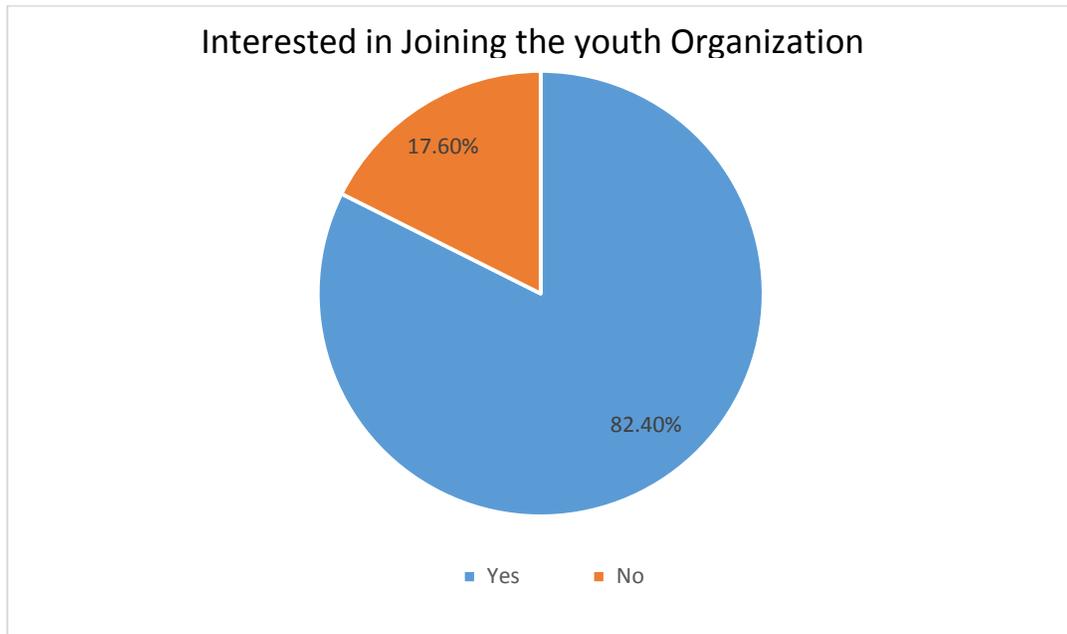
Need of the Regional Youth Platform

During the survey for the regional youth platform **100%** respondents agreed for the need of the regional youth platform.

Purpose of youth organizations:

- Empowering existing youth networks and organizations;
- To exchange experiences for enabling them to be sensitive citizens. In long run it will facilitate youth active participation in decision making;
- Overall development of the youths;
- To involve more and more youth of all kinds and give them the opportunity to do something for the society;
- Working groups dealing with individual SDGs would be a great start.
- Giving opportunity to the youth to participate in state, national and international conferences;
- Skill development;
- Platform for dialogue and advocacy. Exposure programs and volunteering opportunities for youth;
- Motivate, Navigate and Optimize Youth Power;
- To understand the needs of youth and introduce tailor-made initiatives;
- To bring international youth together for a better tomorrow; Youth for peace; Youth as caretakers, etc.;
- Cross learning of best practices;
- Youth inclusion leaving no one behind, especially giving opportunity to the youth from under developed regions, marginalized and vulnerable communities; Capacity building; Mobilize youth opinion on development, environmental and political issues; promote youth participation in these sectors
- To provide platform to active youth leaders and organizations to discuss their experiences. Also, they can link them up with international organizations and authorities, so that they have the exposure that is needed;
- It has a "regional" scope of work, this means that it should be working within a specific regional area;
- To educate youth on policy (national- international) issues. To give them means to address their problems. To find stronger expression of youth needs;
- Promote and bring the ideas of youths on bigger platforms;
- To encourage, motivate and help youth to polish their own life and utilize their capacities to make wonders in society by bringing the change they wish to see in the world; and,
- Gathering different types of youth to increase their ability to understand everyone.

Interested in joining the youth organization

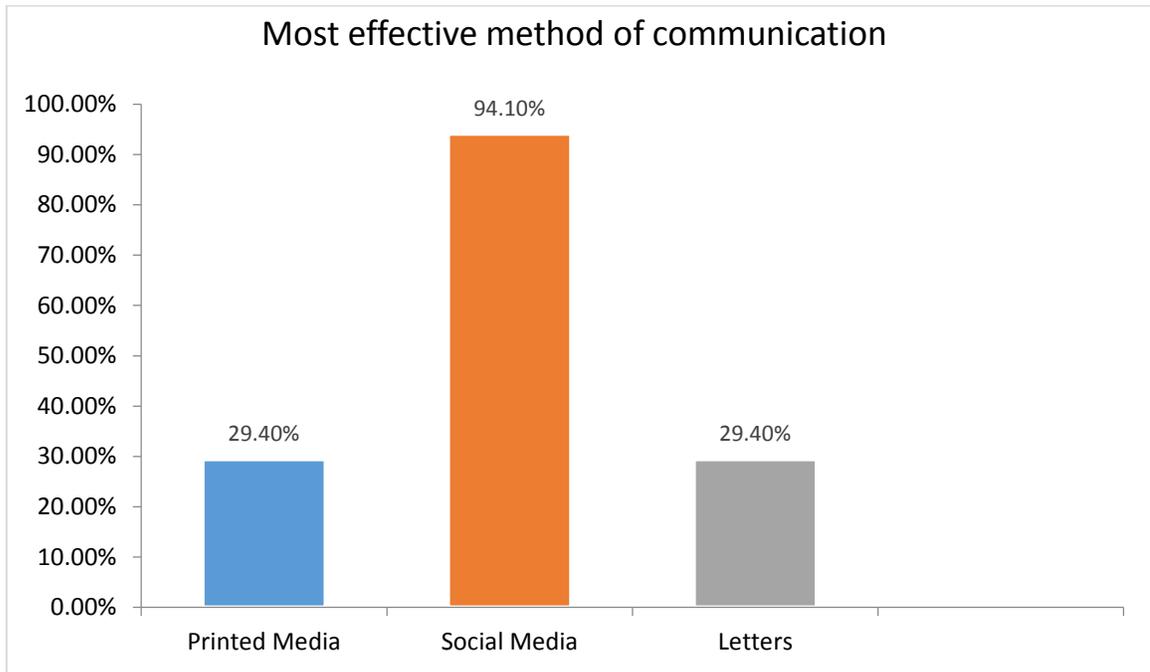


On the question, would you like to join the youth organization, most of the respondents said “Yes” (**82.40%**) whereas only (**17.60%**) said that they are not interested to join .

Note: It was observed that those who responded “not interested to join”, were from more than 40 years of age.

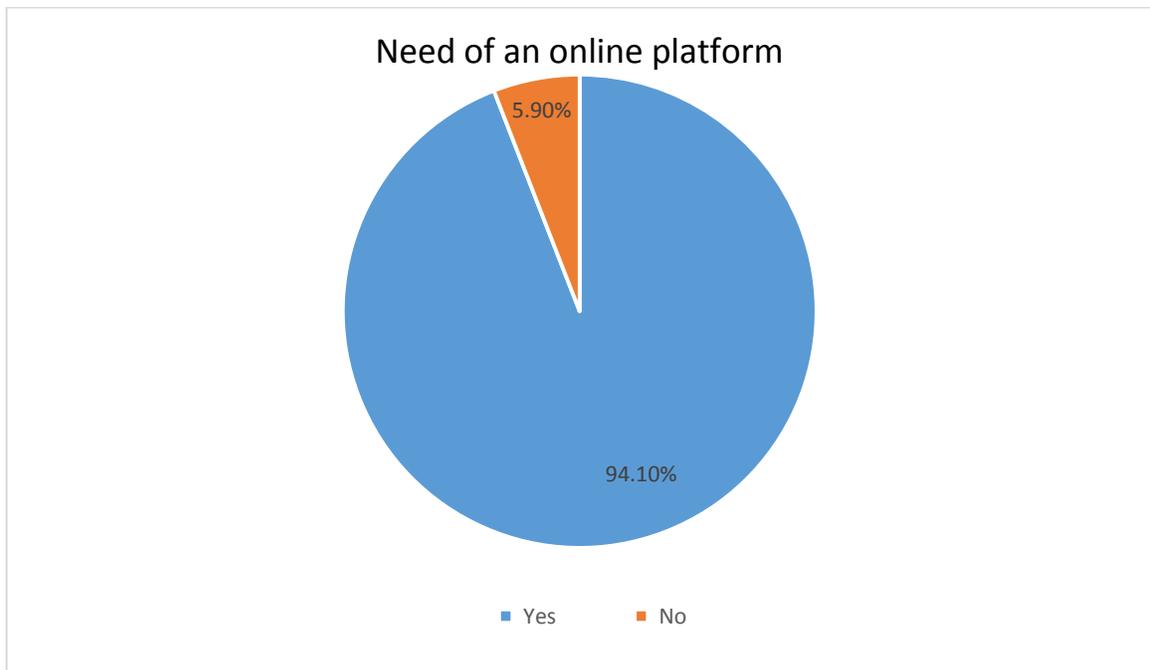
Potential stakeholders that have shown interest in collaborating with youth platform

- India Water Partnership
- Youth Clubs
- Integrated Mountain Initiative
- ICID,
- FAO,
- World Bank
- Interested CSR institutions
- Government Ministries and agencies.
- WWF



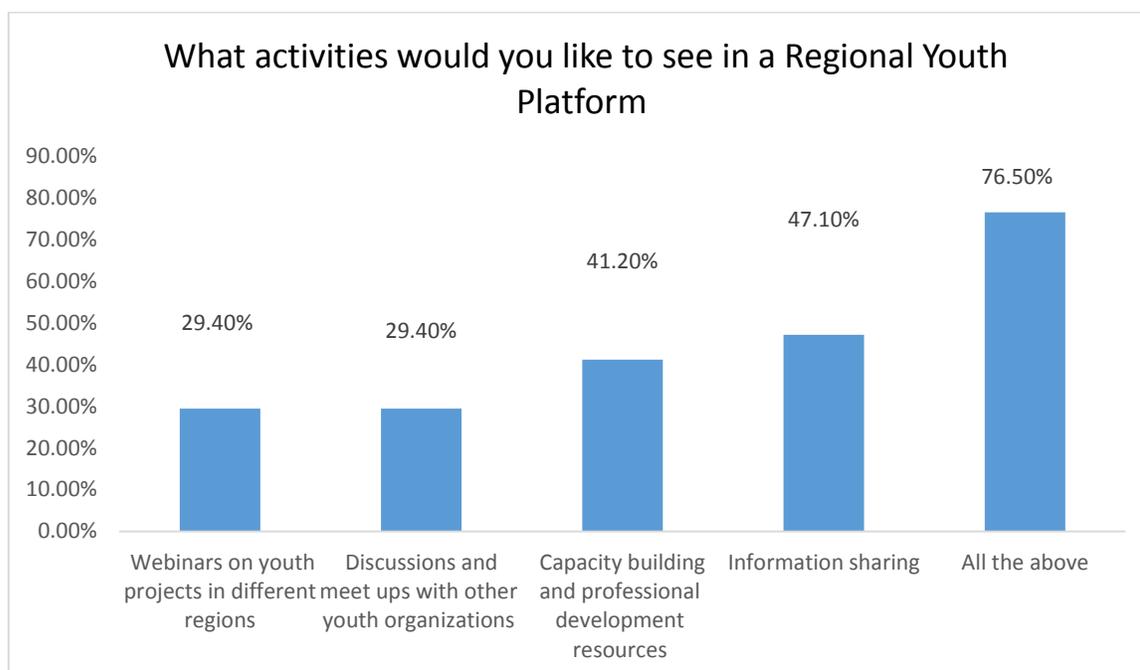
From the survey results, it was observed that social media is the most effective method of communication and **94.10%** people agreed for this.

Need of an online platform



With regard to question on need of an online platform dedicated to youth activities, **94.1%** people agreed and responded as “Yes” whereas **5.90%** disagreed and answered as “No”.

Activities which should be included in the regional Youth platform



On the question what activities would you like to see in the regional youth platform, maximum people responded for all the above (**76.50%**) whereas few respondents also suggested some other activities which are mentioned below:-

- UNESCO has recently launched its own youth network.
- Creating avenues for youth to experience on-ground action
- All the above and additionally Youth camps; visit to various countries and regions to share experience among youth.
- Meet ups with department officials working for youth. Facilitating tie ups with youth organizations working in the same field like women empowerment, environmental issues etc.
- Giving voice to and honing upcoming youth political leaders.

Summary & Conclusion

Youth are considered as a great asset to any nation who are the future leaders and can play an active role in the development process. India has around 50% of population below the age of 25 years which can be considered as youth. The initiative of GWP-South Asia has come in right time to establish a “Youth & Young Water Professionals Platform of South Asia” for development of the region with the support of youth. For the purpose, the Regional Office, GWP-South Asia advised all its Country Water Partnerships (*Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka*) to conduct a base-line survey on the youth status in their respective country.

The overall purpose of this study was to bring all youths and youth organizations who work for the various youth programs on the same platform and collect their valuable inputs and knowledge to develop a regional youth program and share the country perspective on regional level.

The Baseline survey conducted by India Water Partnership has identified the youth status in India, which will be fed into a Regional Baseline Report on youth engagement status in the GWP-South Asia region. From the survey results, it is observed that if given an opportunity, youth are willing to play a pro-active role in Nation's building.