Factsheet: Central African Republic

Last update: 28 April 2014

DEFINITION OF YOUTH

The scarce documents on youth in the Central African Republic do not specify an age range for youth.

CANDIDACY AGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MARRIAGEABLE AGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lower House</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td>Inter-Parliamentary Union</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Opposite Sex</th>
<th>Same Sex</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No data for marriageable age with parental consent. No specific legislation for same-sex marriage. Source: UNSD, ILGA

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

0.23
169 out of 170 countries.
Year: 2013
Source: Commonwealth Youth Programme

LITERACY RATES

36.36%
Both sexes (15-24) %
Year: 2015
Source: UNESCO

NET ENROLMENT RATE - Secondary School

13.92%
Both sexes %
Year: 2015
Source: UNESCO

PREVALENCE OF HIV

0.9%
Male (15-24) %
Year: 2013
Source: World Bank

32.40%
Both sexes (15-19) %
Year: 2010
Source: WHO

TOBACCO USE

Consumed any smokeless or smoking tobacco product at least once 30 days prior to the survey.

32.40%
Both sexes (15-19) %
Year: 2010
Source: WHO

POLICY & LEGISLATION

According to the Central African Republic: Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (2009), a National Policy for the Advancement of Central African Youth, has been prepared. The aims of the youth policy are:

1. Citizenship education program for young people;
2. Literacy program and support for social and educational facilities for young people.

According to a Facebook note by the National Youth Council, the National Policy for the Advancement of Central African Youth has strategic objectives to support the socio-economic integration of young people through training, mentoring, education and youth development as an area of strategic intervention. It is part of the Youth Guidance Programme. International documents that could provide further guidance are the African Youth Charter (2006) and African Youth Decade 2009-2018 Plan of Action (2011).

GAP ENROLMENT RATE - Secondary School

8.16%
Both sexes %
Year: 2015
Source: UNESCO

BUDGET & SPENDING

What is the budget allocated to the governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth and/or...
Is there a governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth?

YES

What is the budget allocated to the governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth and/or youth programming?

UNCLEAR

Does the country have a national youth organisation / association (council, platform, body)?

YES

The previous government (2008-2013) of the Central African Republic had a Ministry of Youth and Sports, which also participated in Pan-African Meetings of Youth Ministers. However, according to the Central African Republic: Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (2009) activities in the field of youth are underfunded. The earlier government was replaced by a coup d’état in March 2013. In January 2014, following a UN backed military intervention, the rebel leader, who had declared himself president, resigned. Since, January 2014 the Central African Republic has new interim government, which — according to Jeune Afrique — includes a Ministry of Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture.

The National Youth Council of the Central African Republic aims to promote the growth and development of youth, to mobilize and coordinate the actions of young people and to defend their interests at national and international level. It aims to “promote a national youth policy”, involve youth in decision-making, provide training on “social values and culture of peace” as well as promote “participatory democracy.” It is a member of the Pan-African Union of Youth and the Youth Association of the Economic Community of Central African States (AJEC).

No documentation could be found on youth spending in Central African Republic. According to the World Bank, the Central African Republic spent 12.04% of its government expenditure on education provision in 2010, and 1.25% of its GDP in 2011.

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