**Factsheet: Kiribati**

**Last update: 21 April 2014**

### Definition of Youth

The national youth policy of Kiribati refers to young people as those within the age group of 15 to 29 years but recognises a number of additional definitions, both legal and societal.

### CANDIDACY AGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Lower House</th>
<th>Upper House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td>Inter-Parliamentary Union</td>
<td>Inter-Parliamentary Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partially appointed or by other means</td>
<td></td>
<td>Unicameral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union

### Marriageable Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Opposite Sex</th>
<th>Same Sex</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WITHOUT PARENTAL CONSENT</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WITH PARENTAL CONSENT</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Homosexual acts Reg. Source: UNDS, ILGA

### Voting Age

18

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union

### Majority Age

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No data.

### Criminal Responsibility

10

Minimum Age

From 10-14 years old, the state must prove criminal capacity. A child below 10 cannot be held legally responsible for their actions.

Source: Penal Code of Kiribati (1977)

### Situation of Young People

#### Youth Development Index

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Source: Commonwealth Youth Programme

#### Literacy Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Both sexes (15-24) %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>66.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>73.36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: UNESCO

#### Net Enrolment Rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Both sexes %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male (15-24)</td>
<td>69.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female (15-24)</td>
<td>66.36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: UNESCO

#### Prevalence of HIV

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Source: World Bank

#### Tobacco Use

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

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Source: WHO

### Policy & Legislation

The national youth policy summarises the key legislative and policy frameworks forming part of the rationale for the policy:

The Constitution of the Republic of Kiribati (1980) is the supreme law of the country and guarantees in Chapter II, the respect of “the fundamental rights and freedoms of the individual”. These rights but also responsibilities apply to everybody including young people.


### Is there a national youth policy?

**YES**

Kiribati has a new national youth policy for 2011-2015, and a draft action plan to implement it.

### GDP per Capita

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>USD 1650.71</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year: 2013</td>
<td>0.629</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: World Bank, UNDP

### Youth Unemployment

Share of labour force aged 15-24 available and seeking employment:

No Data

Source: United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs - Population Division

### Budget & Spending

What is the budget allocated to the governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth and/or youth programming?
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**AUS 69,556**

**USD 63,678**

The Kiribati Budget 2013 details specific expenditure on Youth Development under the breakdown of the Ministry of Internal and Social Affairs (MISA) budget. Please note that the Kiribati Dollar is pegged to the Australian dollar at a 1:1 ratio. The Kiribati Budget 2013 details the full expenditure of the Ministry for Education as AUS 19,584,421. According to the World Bank, Kiribati spent 11.6% of its GDP on education provision in 2002 but does not calculate what this translates to in terms of percentage of government expenditure.

Is there a governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth?

**YES**

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

**YES**

The Youth Unit within the Ministry of Internal and Social Affairs (MISA) is responsible for youth affairs and activities and is staffed by one Senior Youth Development Officer and two Youth Officers. Between 2007-2010, the Ministry for Education, Youth and Sport was responsible for youth affairs. The national youth policy details that the “Youth Unit within MISA is responsible for coordinating, monitoring and overseeing implementation of the National Youth Policy and its accompanying Plan of Action.”

YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

The Kiribati National Youth Council (KNYC) is an umbrella organisation for youth organisations in Kiribati. Its mission statement is “more visibility, commitment and impact for the young people in Kiribati”. The national youth policy specifically mentions the KNYC as a stakeholder in the performance report section covering policy implementation: “MISA is responsible for sharing annual reports with youth stakeholders and young people themselves through the National Youth Council.”

BUDGET & SPENDING

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Total expenditure on education as a percentage of government spending and GDP

No Data

Source: World Bank

PUBLICATIONS AND REVIEWS

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