



CYPI

THE CARIBBEAN YOUTH POLICY INSTITUTE



A Proposal to Establish The Caribbean Youth Policy Institute | CYPI

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THE CARIBBEAN YOUTH POLICY INSTITUTE

The Caribbean Youth Policy Institute

The Caribbean Youth Policy Institute (CYPI) is being established by Caribbean youth policy experts to support the growth and development of young people in the Caribbean by strengthening the quality of National Youth Policies (NYPs) and increasing the availability of experience youth policy experts, thereby offering our skills, resources and services to organizations that serve Caribbean Youth. We will aim to partner with community organizations, schools, colleges, policymakers, funders, international agencies, national governments, youth councils and other agencies to conduct research, facilitate training exchanges, develop NYPs and to lobby for a regional youth policy that encourages and enables young people to transition successfully into Caribbean adulthood.

Making a Difference in the Lives of Caribbean Youth

The Caribbean Youth Policy Institute (CYPI) supports the development and advancement of Caribbean youth by promoting the development and implementation of new NYPs and strengthening the quality of existing NYPs in Caribbean countries by increasing the availability of resources and youth policy experts that will enable an environment of regional cooperation aimed at improving the quality of life for Caribbean youth. This will be achieved by developing and implementing NYPs that are inclusive and participatory.

Who Are We?



The Caribbean Youth Policy Institute (CYPI) was established pursuant to a Letter of Intent signed on October 31st, 2014 by Caribbean youth policy experts from The Bahamas, Barbados, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad & Tobago who were selected to attend the First Global Forum on Youth Policies (GFYP), October 28 – 30, 2014, convened by the

United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, UNDP, UNESCO, and the Council of Europe and hosted by the Ministry of Youth and Sports in the Republic of Azerbaijan with technical support from the team at www.youthpolicy.org. At a time when there is a global call to renew the commitment to the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY), Caribbean youth policy experts at the GFYP agreed to establish the CYPI as their realistic follow-up activity with shared responsibilities to improve youth policies globally. The CYPI is the Caribbean youth policy experts' response and pledge to help fulfil the Baku Commitments on Youth Policies.

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What Will We Do?

The Caribbean Youth Policy Institute (CYPI) will help Caribbean countries, youth organizations, and youth service providers adopt effective researched-based outcomes and best practices to advance youth development in the region. Our partners will include Government ministries, international and regional agencies, policy makers, NGOs, Civic society, the corporate community, institutions, colleges, schools, and youth organizations. The CYPI will provide technical assistance, youth policy reviews, conduct research, develop policies, share information and resources, and monitor and evaluate NYPs in the Caribbean region, all in an effort to strengthen the quality and effectiveness of NYPs in addressing the challenges facing Caribbean Youth.



Our Motto

"Strengthening Youth Policies through Participation, Inclusion and Persistence"

Our Mission

The CYPI aims to provide the necessary assistance to countries in the Caribbean region with the formulation and development of their respective youth policies. Moreover, the status of youth policies in the region is of high priority to the CYPI and it is our mission to ensure that Caribbean NYPs are rights-based, inclusive, participatory, gender-responsive, comprehensive, knowledge-based & evidenced informed, fully resourced and accountable.

Our Vision



Our highest value as an institution is the belief that once empowered, Caribbean youth will become key agents for regional development and integration. As a membership, it is our service to the Caribbean community, of which we belong, that will drive an improving socio-demographic for Caribbean youth. We believe that youth policies will mandate a youth voice at every level of national and regional governance of the Caribbean and a voice in deciding their own futures. The CYPI's vision is to offer a strength-based, research supported, and sustainable approach to youth development in the region that will be shaped through national youth policies and a Caribbean Regional Youth Policy.

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Our Goals & Objectives

Goals	Objective
1. To ensure that each Caribbean nation has a current, functioning and meaningful national youth policy.	A. That 80% of Caribbean nation will have access to the capacity and expertise necessary to formulate an effective and current youth policy by the year 2016.
2. To enhance the capacity for youth policy formulation and implementation in the Caribbean.	B. That 100% of Caribbean youth policies formulated from 2015 onward are developed and implemented with the needs of youth in mind.
3. To promote the economic and financial participation of Caribbean governments in youth policy development and implementation.	C. That through the development of a Caribbean Youth Responsive Budgeting System by 2016, 60% of Caribbean governments and youth stakeholders will be better equipped to advocate and monitor increased resource allocation from the national budget towards youth.
4. To implement a Caribbean youth policy review and awareness campaign in collaboration with national youth councils and youth organizations to ensure that youth of the region are aware and informed about their national youth policies.	D. That at least 65% of Caribbean youth are aware of the benefits of a youth policy and the existence of a youth policy in their country within the next 3 years.
5. To provide relevant and accessible information on the extent of issues impacting Caribbean youth.	E. That the CYPI educate and increase awareness amongst 60% of Caribbean youth stakeholders by utilizing the media as a tool of information and education over the next 3 years.

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<p>6. To contribute fact-based analysis and commentary to Caribbean youth policies implementation and developmental processes.</p>	<p>F. That 70% of researchers, policymakers and government officials will have access to the annual Caribbean Youth Policy Journal and Policy Papers by 2018.</p>
<p>7. To build on international benchmarks and standards that identifies common denominators and mechanisms to involve youth in the development, implementation and monitoring of youth policies.</p>	<p>G. That by 2015 the CYPI achieve strategic alignment with 80% of regional and international bodies that actively support the full implementation of the Baku Commitments on Youth Policies.</p>
<p>8. To assess the impact of youth policies on broad-based economic and social empowerment of Caribbean youth</p>	<p>H. That by the year 2018, there will be a 50% increase in the development of programmes and initiatives that are spawned by the development of youth policies across the Caribbean.</p>



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Our Strategies

The CYPI will:

- Build inclusive and participatory relationships with governments, regional agencies, international bodies, policymakers, colleges and schools, community organizations, youth service providers, individuals and with youth themselves as equal partners in this process of youth policy development.
- Focus efforts and resources in Caribbean countries with highest need of youth policy development and implementation.
- Continue building the skills, experiences, capacity and qualifications of members of the CYPI so that they are able to effectively help strengthen their practice and integrate their experiences with theory, field work, and research.
- Lobby for the creation, adoption and implementation of a Caribbean Regional Youth Policy that will guide NYPs and regional youth initiatives like the Caribbean Regional Youth Council (CRYC), the Caribbean Youth Development Action Plan (CYDAP), the Caribbean Youth Think Thank (CYTT), and others.
- Serve as a non-profit, non-violent, and nominally non-partisan watchdog agency for youth development initiatives within the region thereby facilitating youth policy development through direct actions, negotiations, and media relations.
- Create an active membership of government ministries, government officials, agencies, parliamentarians, youth experts, researchers, institutes, universities, colleges, think-tanks, programming experts, regional and international organizations and youth workers, by reaching across all youth sectors in the Caribbean.
- Apply multiple research, monitoring and evaluation strategies that will include:
 - *Narrative components through reports, publications, and statements*
 - *Strengthening national youth policies*
 - *Reassessing existing monitoring and evaluation capacities*
 - *Support for a Caribbean Regional Youth Policy*
 - *Partnership Development and Support*
 - *Creation of results framework*

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- *Legislative framework and institutional support*
- *Caribbean Youth Development Indicators (with baselines, indicative targets and other key areas to monitor)*
- *Monitoring and evaluation events with data collection methods*
- *Risks Assessments and SWOT analysis*
- *Data collection and application for program improvement*
- *Program planning and development*
- *Expected Results (Outcomes & Outputs based)*
- *Creation and dissemination of tools and materials*
- *Structured country visits by monitoring teams (Time or Scheduled and Frequency)*
- *Staff training, organizational and leadership development*
- *International reporting with partners like Youthpolicy.org, UNDP, etc.*

Our Structure



The CYPI is a private, self-governing, not-for-profit, non-governmental organization acting of its own volition on behalf of Caribbean youth. It will take the form of a registered corporation led by a Regional Board of Directors, an administrative structure, bylaws, a vision statement, headquarters, and a means of attracting and sourcing funding. Our charter will determine our size, scope, mission, structure, affiliations, projects and means of

governance, including but not limited to the following:

- *Advisory Committee* - comprised of international and regional youth policy experts and youth development experts;
- *Regional Board Of Directors* - serving a term of 3 years and led by a Chairmanship that will be on a country rotation each term;
- *Executive Committee* - appointed by the Regional Board of Directors and serving a term of 3 years;
- *Project Coordinators* - appointed by the Executive Committee;
- *Sub-Committees* - appointed by the Board of Directors

The Secretariat/Office of the CYPI will be based in a host country to be determined by the Regional Board of Directors and may also be subject to rotation as the need arises.

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2015 – 2018 Activities Agenda

Through a combination of activities/events/projects, the CYPI proposes to lead groundbreaking analysis, reviews, monitoring and evaluation on the status of Youth Policies within the Caribbean. It is our hope that our research, communication strategies and technical assistance would inform youth advocates, policymakers and stakeholders about the untapped potential youth policy can offer to our region. Our activities are aimed at reframing the conversation around youth policy in the Caribbean context and advancing a new paradigm for improving the environment for youth policy to become effective instruments of youth development for Caribbean youth.

For the 2015 – 2018 Activities Agenda, we seek to provide:

- *Timely and targeted briefs, reports and research on youth policies in the Caribbean;*
- *Strategic communications and media advocacy;*
- *Technical assistance and consultations to policy makers and implementing partners;*
- *Training;*
- *Building allies with regional and international agencies in the field of youth development work; and*
- *Rapid response to emergency youth issues, opportunities and threats to reform.*

2015 Agenda

- Launching our CYPI website
- Legal Incorporation/Registration Fees/ Bank Accounts
- Appointment/Election of all Officers of the CYPI
- Attending/Participating in the Caribbean Youth Development Conference in Jamaica in September 2015
- Country Visit – Haiti or Jamaica

2016 Agenda

- Hosting a Caribbean Forum on Youth Policies in Grenada 2015/2016
- Facilitating exchange with the African Network for Youth Policy Experts
- Implementing a Membership Fee structure as a supplemental means of funding
- Country Visit # 2 and publish report from 1st Country Visit
- Biennial General Meeting for Board Members/Officers/Membership

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2017 Agenda

- Producing a documentary film on Status of Caribbean Youth Policies
- Country Visit # 3 and publish report from Country visit #2

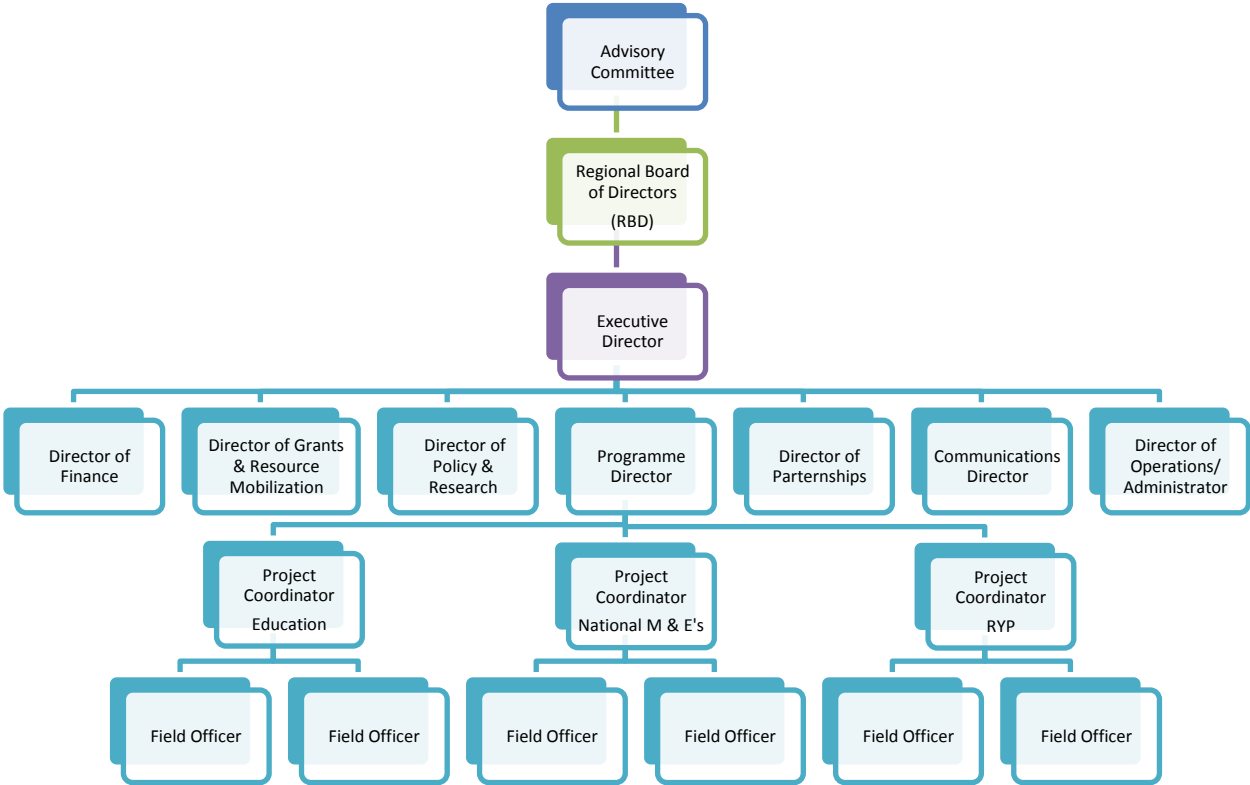
2018 Agenda

- Publishing a Status of Caribbean Youth Policies Report
- Attending/Participating in the 2nd Global Forum on Youth Policies (TBD)
- Country Visit # 4 and publish report from Country visit #3
- Biennial General Meeting for Board Members/Officers/Membership



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Organizational Chart



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Appendix 1 – Baku Letter of Intent

LETTER OF INTENT

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

FOR STRENGTHENING REGIONAL COLLABORATION BETWEEN CARIBBEAN YOUTH EXPERTS OF THE
FIRST GLOBAL FORUM ON YOUTH POLICIES IN BAKU, AZERBAIJAN

REPRESENTING

THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

AND

BARBADOS

AND

THE REPUBLIC OF HAITI

AND

JAMAICA

AND

SAINT LUCIA

AND

SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

AND

THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN YOUTH POLICY INSTITUTE (CYPI)

The Caribbean Experts of the First Global Forum on Youth Policies (GFYP) held in Baku, Azerbaijan on October 28th - 30th, 2014 convened by the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, UNDP, UNESCO, and the Council of Europe and hosted by the Ministry of Youth and Sports in the Republic of Azerbaijan with technical support from the team at youthpolicy.org (hereinafter referred to as the signatories):

Noting with great satisfaction that regional cooperation is desired to support the growth and development of young people in the Caribbean by strengthening the impact of Youth Policies;

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Considering that our countries are increasingly aware of the need for legal and policy frameworks that respond adequately to the needs, aspirations and demands of Caribbean youth:

Considering that advances and commitments have been made in the region through the CARICOM Eye on Youth Report, the establishment of the Caribbean Regional Youth Council, the Caribbean Youth Think Tank and the adoption of the Caribbean Youth Development Plan of Action (CYDAP):

Considering that the status of youth policy development for the Caribbean sub-region saw that only 50% (7) of the total number of Caribbean sub-region's (14) countries as having a youth policy in full or as a draft, that 21% (3) of them were revised or developed, that 14 % (2) had no youth policy at all and that 14% (2) were determined to have a status of unclear or U\unknown pursuant to the Status of Youth Policies Report 2014 published by www.youthpolicy.org. Publishing press:

Considering that in a globalized community, sustainable youth development must be a prerequisite for long-term youth development, national development and regional development and that responsible practices are vitally important to the overall development of Caribbean youth:

Considering that our respective skills, experiences, knowledge, capacities, qualifications and expertise would best be served through collaboration between our respective Caribbean countries to renew the commitment of the World Programme of Action for Youth to meaningful and measurable based results:

Being convinced that our roles as Caribbean Experts at the First Global Forum on Youth Policies placed on us a duty and has empowered us to develop a set of realistic and action-based follow-up activities and outcomes with shared responsibilities to improve the quality and effectiveness of youth policies for Caribbean youth through the establishment of the Caribbean Youth Policy Institute;

Noting the importance of mutual cooperation for exchange of knowledge and information in the areas of youth development and youth policy, corporate social responsibility to youth, good governance, including regional regulations for youth, professions and service providers for youth, responsible best practices, common denominators, legislative and institutional frameworks, government disclosure and reporting on youth issues, etc., is of relevance to many youth stakeholders including Government ministries, international and regional agencies, policy makers, Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Civic society, the corporate community, institutions, colleges, schools, and youth organizations, and policy actors.

Have decided as follows:

SECTION 1

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The signatories will establish The Caribbean Youth Policy Institute (CYPi) to support the growth and development of young people in the Caribbean by strengthening the quality of National Youth Policies and increasing the availability of experience by offering our skills, resources and services to organizations that serve Caribbean Youth.

The signatories will strengthen and intensify efforts to develop and effectively implement inclusive and participatory national youth policies within the Caribbean region through collaboration by the establishment of a Regional Working Group on Caribbean Youth Policies (hereinafter referred to as the "Working Group") to oversee the establishment of The Caribbean Youth Policy Institute.

The Working Group is aimed at assisting youth stakeholders from Caribbean countries in learning from the experiences of each other in the areas of youth development and youth policy, including corporate social responsibility to youth, good governance, including regional regulations for youth, professions and service providers for youth, responsible best practices, common denominators, legislative and institutional frameworks, government disclosure and reporting on youth issues, etc.

SECTION 2

The signatories can define, by mutual consent, various areas of cooperation, after considering the suggestions of youth stakeholders in the Caribbean region.

SECTION 3

The Working Group will meet at mutually decided regular intervals and at least twice in a year. The meetings of the Working Group will include the following:

- The establishment of the Caribbean Youth Policy Institute;
- The creation of a Regional Caribbean Youth Policy;
- Monitor and evaluate the process of developing and implementing of youth policies in the region;
- Discuss specific activities and measures to enhance the range and quality of cooperation under this Letter of Intent;
- Propose areas of cooperation;

The Working Group will be Co-chaired by the Caribbean delegates from _____ and _____ who may mutually recommend to the Working Group, the appointment of other officers as are necessary to fulfil the terms under this Letter of Intent.

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Members of the Working Group may include representatives from Governments, Youth Organisations, International Agencies and Regional Agencies, Policy Experts, Institutions and other Youth Stakeholder groups. The Working Group may also set up sub-groups on various subject areas on mutually decided principles.

SECTION 4

The activities of the Working Group will be determined by all signatories upon mutual arrangement. Depending on the arrangements reached, the activities will be undertaken through further dialogue and contacts at Government, Institutional, International and Regional, and business levels. The activities may, inter alia, include the following:

- organising regional consultations and expert talks;
- mutual information and invitation to meetings and conferences dealing with the issues covering this Letter of Intent;
- organising events, workshops, forums, etc., in the framework of cooperation on relevant issues; and
- strengthening and deepening the dialogue with and between youth stakeholders and Caribbean countries regarding youth policies.

Any communications to the press or media regarding the activities of the Working Group shall only be as mutually agreed by signatories.

SECTION 5

Any project or activity in cooperation between signatories will be subject to its own financial resources and mutually decided conditions.

SECTION 6

Any differences relating to the interpretation or implementation of this Letter of Intent will be settled amicably between the Signatories through diplomatic channels and/or arbitration.

SECTION 7

With respect to the cooperation activities established under this Letter of Intent, each signatory will provide, in accordance with national laws and regulations, the best possible conditions for implementation.

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SECTION 8

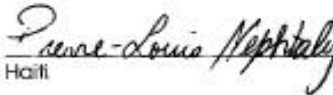
This Letter of Intent does not create any rights or obligations under international law.

This Letter of Intent may be terminated by either signatory at any time.

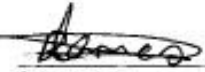
Signed in duplications on the 31st day of October A.D., 2014, in the English Language in Baku, Azerbaijan at the First Global Forum on Youth Policies convened by the United Nations


The Bahamas


Barbados


Haïti


Jamaica


Saint Lucia


Saint Vincent and The Grenadines


Trinidad & Tobago

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Appendix 2 – Signatories Contact List

GFYP YOUTH POLICY EXPERTS	COUNTRY	EMAIL ADDRESS
Tameka Hill	Jamaica	tameka.n.hill@gmail.com
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Observers

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For inquiries about The Caribbean Youth Policy Institute and its missions:

Email: caribbeanyouthpolicy@gmail.com

Or Facebook us:

<https://www.facebook.com/youthpolicycaribbean>