

Youth Engagement – Reflective Guide

Questions for YWC Facilitators

The following questions aim to guide facilitators in critically examining and improving their selection processes to foster inclusivity and equal opportunity in youth development programs.

1. Understanding of Engagement vs. Relationship:

- How do you differentiate between building relationships and engaging youth in your program?
- What steps can you take to move beyond superficial interactions to more meaningful engagements?

2. Assessment of Current Engagement Levels:

- Reflect on the current level of youth involvement in planning, decision-making, and execution. Are youths merely present, or are they actively influencing outcomes?
- How do you ensure that youth contributions are taken seriously and acted upon?

3. Strategies to Avoid Tokenism:

- What are common signs of tokenism that you might be overlooking in your program?
- What strategies can be implemented to ensure that youth participation is authentic and impactful rather than symbolic?

4. Implementing Youth Engagement Principles:

- Are there clear guidelines or principles for youth engagement in your organization? If not, how can you develop and implement these?
- How can you train your team to apply these principles consistently in their work with youth?

5. Feedback Mechanisms for Youth:

- What mechanisms are in place for young people to provide feedback on their level of engagement and the authenticity of their participation?
- How can you ensure that this feedback is regularly solicited, heard, and integrated into program improvements?

6. Evaluating Impact of Engagement:

- How do you measure the impact of youth engagement on both the participants and the program?

What adjustments can be made if the desired outcomes of youth engagement are not being met?

References

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