

CALL FOR PAPERS

Reframing the youth bulge: From problem to solution

The ACFID Child Rights Working Group welcomes submissions for papers for their peak event, REFRAMING THE YOUTH BULGE: FROM PROBLEM TO SOLUTION BEING HELD on February 14th 2013, at the Crawford School of Public Policy, The Australia National University, Canberra.

Hosted by the Children's Policy Centre, The Crawford School at The Australian National University and organised by the multi-agency Child Rights Working Group, this conference aims to bring together a range of different professionals within Australia to explore development issues related to youth, in a collaborative environment that emphasises the 'cross-fertilisation' of ideas and solutions.

Often we hear that one of the biggest issues facing international development today is the youth bulge. Nearly 50% of the developing world population is youth and children.¹ There are 1.2 billion 15 to 24 year olds in the world and one billion live in developing countries.² If the sector fails to effectively involve youth in all aspects of development, sustainability becomes impossible. Usually the youth bulge is couched in negative terms, it looms on the horizon as a problem no one quite knows how to deal with.

This conference hopes to reframe this and instead ask what potential the youth bulge presents to further development goals and increase innovation within the sector. In a combination of plenary sessions, displays and parallel workshops, the conference will provide space to explore what specific issues youth face in the context of international development and what solutions can be found to address these. It will also explore the potential youth have to be part of the solutions, not only for their own issues, but for broader development realities as well.

Submission requirements

Submissions will be accepted on a limited range of topics related to youth and development, these are:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Youth Participation: a skills workshop, or lessons learned presentation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social media: protection and participation issues and/or how youth use social media to mobilize for political action
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Youth and humanitarian protection: an exploration of specific issues faced by youth within emergency situations as	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Youth and disability: issues regarding young people disabilities' rights to health, education, sexual

¹ World Bank 2010

² 2005 figures, UN Population Division, World Population Prospects, 2008 Revision

well as consideration of their unique contributions	and reproductive health, livelihoods, participation and employment
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Many of the issues critical to young people impact differently on young men and young women, and in exploring the opportunities it is important to take account issues of gender. We encourage all submissions to involve youth in all aspects. We recognise this is not always appropriate, but will give preference to youth-led submissions of merit. We also encourage a wide-range of professional disciplines to be involved so submissions outside the traditional development sector are welcomed.

There are three categories submission can fall under:

<p>Poster display Designed to be displayed in the break areas, conveys innovation in their field or alerts people to current research. No larger than A1. Space will be provided for these to be displayed but those successful will be responsible for their installation.</p>	<p>Workshop Interactive workshop to discuss relevant issue, build skills or problem shoot. This must be participatory and should limit presentation time in favour of discussion. No longer than 90 minutes, no shorter than 45.</p>	<p>Presentation Lecture style presentation of new research, program review or lessons learned. No longer than 25 minute lecture, with 20 minute question time.</p>
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Submissions should be no longer than 300 words and follow the form laid out below.

All submission should be sent to:

Jackie Robertson
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ChildFund Australia
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Amalia Fawcett
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Submissions should be received no later than 5pm on Friday 11th January.

Successful applicants will be notified by 25th January.

Please note, unfortunately we are not in a position to offer financial assistance for costs associated with attending or presenting at this event.

Submission Form

Name of organisation:	Contact:
Title:	Theme:
Are youth involved? If yes in what way:	<i>Please select one of the following</i> My submission is for a: Poster <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Workshop <input type="checkbox"/>
In no more than 300 words, please describe your intended contribution (continue overleaf if needed):	