

YOUTHBANK
INTERNATIONAL

Welcome to Your YouthBank Journey

YOUTHBANK INTERNATIONAL

Real Lives. Real Money. Real Change.

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PLEASE NOTE: YOUTHBANK INTERNATIONAL DOES NOT GIVE GRANTS.

BY SIGNING THE LICENCE AGREEMENT WITH YOUTHBANK INTERNATIONAL YOUR ORGANISATION
WILL HAVE ACCESS TO ALL THE SERVICES AS LISTED IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES.

Introduction

Welcome to what we would like to believe is the first step towards our partnership!

In the following pages you will be able to find specifics and details of how YouthBank model works and the ecosystem around it. Use the following pages as recommendations and guidance for your journey with YouthBank.

By now you know that YouthBanks are funds run by young people that address issues that matter to them with the intention of improving their communities.

But, how does this look like in practice?

A group of young people form a YouthBank.

teambuilding,
creative thinking,
critical thinking

This team of young people (YouthBank) is guided through the process during which they learn about themselves, each other, and their community.

The team recognizes and defines what the biggest issue in their community is.

social
entrepreneurship,
problem solving,
setting the funding
priorities

fundraising, social
entrepreneurship,
idea development,
financial literacy,
money management,
critical thinking,
creative thinking
problem solving

With different activities, the team raises funds to make sure they can financially support potential solutions to the issue they defined.

They open Applications and invite other young people from their community to present their solutions.

creative thinking,
critical thinking,
digital literacy

financial literacy,
money management,
decision making,
critical thinking,
problem solving

The YouthBank team goes through each Application and decides which team of young people will be implementing their solution and getting the money for it. The YouthBank team manages the money and gives grants.

In the end, this YouthBank team measures the impact they had on the community and celebrate.

creative thinking,
critical thinking





The youthBank model is disruptive.

Asking young people to define problems and issues in their community they see, is disruptive.

Putting the decision making power in the hands of young people, is disruptive.

Challenging young people and supporting them on their journey to become active citizens is disruptive.

The youthBank model is challenging.

Bringing the change is always challenging.

Shifting the power is always challenging.

But we promise, it is worth it!

If you are ready to change your organisation, lives of young individuals, your community and beyond, use this document as a guide with all the explanations and recommendations from our side. Everything you need to start is in the next following pages.

Real Lives. Real Money. Real Change.



What you need

If you have experience of managing or leading projects, you know that your organisation will need some resources.

Here is what you need:

The team

People from your organisation who work with young people and would be dedicated to this project. YouthBank International provides the training for the team

The time

Training your team by the YouthBank International can be done in under 30 days. However, bringing the model to young people from your community will take more time, depending on the capacity of your team and number of YouthBanks you wish to set up.

The money

You will need the money for:

- The money for the salary of your team members (YouthBank practitioner and/or coordinator)
- The money for the local youth fund (or planned activities to raise the fund)
- The money for the YouthBank International training and Licence fee



The team



Like in every company, organisation or enterprise, team is one of the key elements necessary to make things happen. Whether it was the funder, CEO or youth worker who came across the YouthBank model and became interested, YouthBank International provides training of the YouthBank model to individuals who are working directly with young people.

PRACTITIONER

- Role description* An individual authorized by the host organization or partner organization to effectively facilitate the YouthBank process with young people.
- Responsibilities* To transfer the knowledge and methodologies brought by YBI to young people from YouthBanks; to be present on additional trainings brought by YBI; to provide the YBI with relevant data and requested surveys.

COORDINATOR

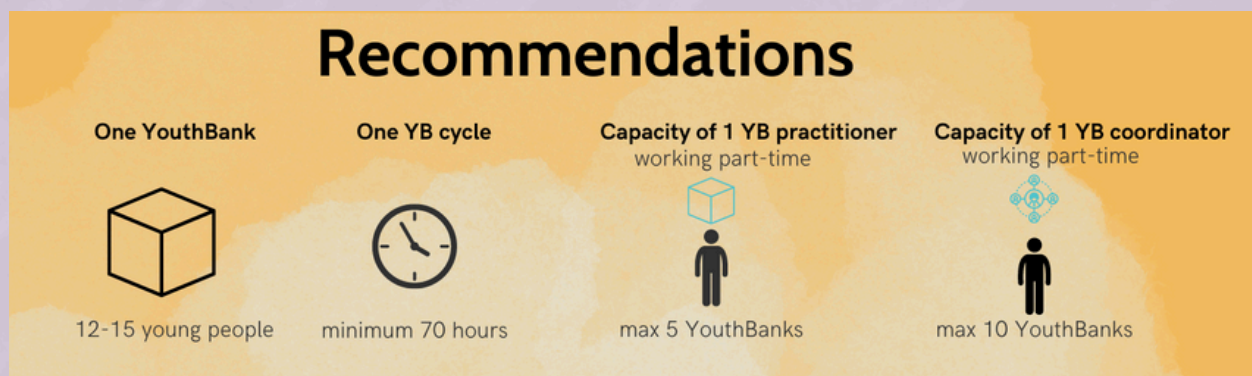
- Role description* An individual who is coordinating the YouthBanks. Coordinator can, but does not have to be practitioner.
- Responsibilities* To coordinate and facilitate existing YouthBanks; to be assigned as the contact person between YBI and the organisation.

Struggle with Capacity?



If your organisation wishes to set up YouthBanks but you think you don't have the capacity necessary, we recommend you think of the few things.

To have a YouthBank practitioner trained, your organisation can engage volunteers and/or freelance consultants. In some YouthBanks, organisations have young people as YouthBank practitioners who are volunteering, and freelance consultants as YouthBank coordinators. It is up to you to think and explore what would work for your organisation.

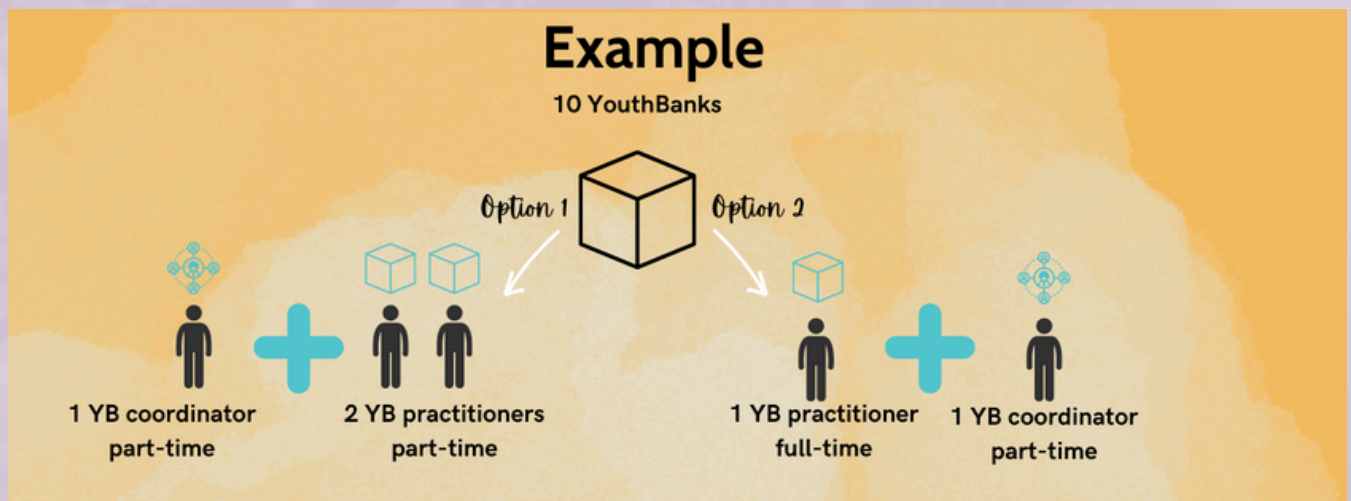


Our recommendation is that one YouthBank consists of up to 15 young people.

One cycle is usually 1 year, however the dynamic of each cycle depends on each organisation. It takes approx. between 70 - 100 hours of work with young people, for one cycle to finish. Each organisation decides on the dynamics, some organisations meet with young people 3x1 hour weekly, others daily and some meet monthly.

Based on our experience, 1 YouthBank practitioner can train up to 5 YouthBanks while working part time, which means 1 YouthBank practitioner can train up to 10 YouthBanks while working full time.

One YouthBank coordinator can coordinate up to 10 YouthBanks while working part time, or up to 20 YouthBanks while working full time.



In the example above you can see the capacity necessary for YouthBank practitioner and coordinator if they were having 10 YouthBanks. It is up to your organisation to take into account how many hours of work YouthBank practitioner and/or coordinator could invest in setting up the YouthBanks.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL THE EXAMPLES AND RECOMMENDATIONS PROVIDED HERE ARE BASED ON THE EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE OF THE YOUTHBANK INTERNATIONAL. IT IS UP TO YOUR OWN ORGANISATION TO DECIDE WHAT WORKS BEST FOR YOU.

The time



Depending on practitioners experience time necessary for establishing YouthBanks can vary. However, we do recommend that practitioner devotes around 70 - 100 hours of working with young people (training delivery), for 1 cycle (1 round of grant-making).



Training delivery

The training is being delivered by YouthBank practitioner - the person licensed by YouthBank International.

Training delivery implies guiding young people through each YouthBank cycle and its phases, steps & challenges.

Training preparation

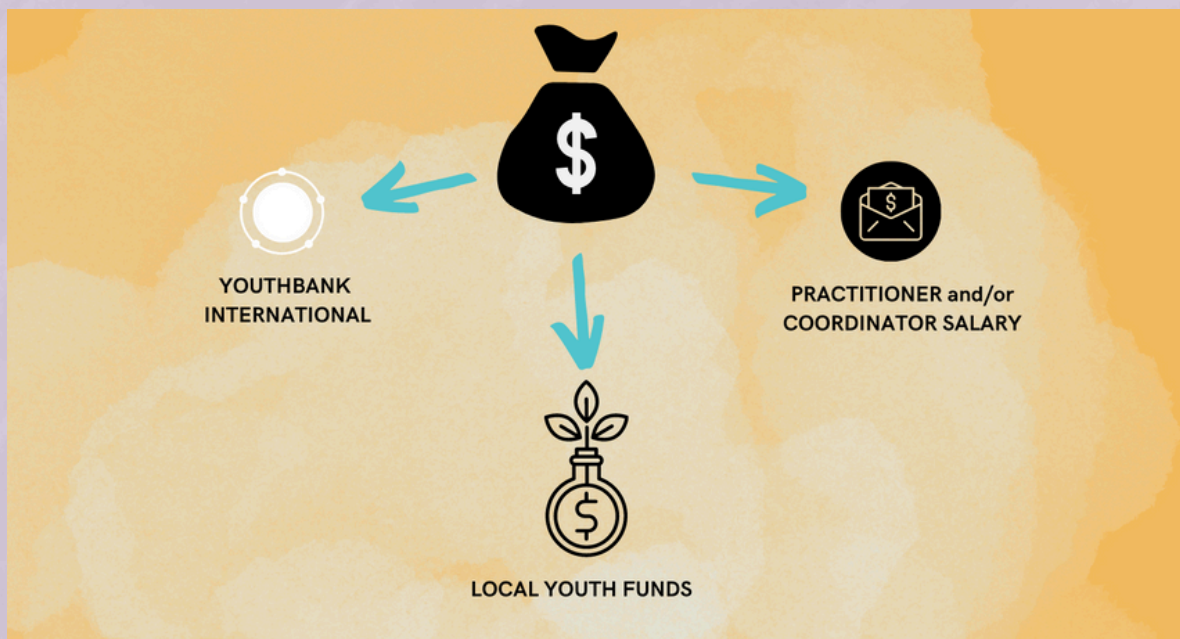
Training preparation is necessary for almost every hour of the training, especially in the beginning while methodology and the concept are new.

Training preparation implies setting the scene (venue preparation), materials for the training and/or workshops, content planning, follow up, etc.

The Money



It is difficult to answer the question many organisations have - How much money we need? YouthBank model has been established in almost 40 countries in the world. Each country is different because of its own cultural, political, as well as financial context. It is for that reason we cannot easily answer the question. However, we can recommend and provide you with examples that you might find useful.



The money your organisation would need while setting up YouthBanks is for the following purposes:

YouthBank practitioner or coordinator salary

Please take into account (1) how many YouthBanks you want to establish, (2) how much time the practitioner and/or coordinator would have to commit and (3) the average market rates in your country.

Local youth fund

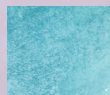
For YouthBanks funding other young people and their solutions.

Please note that the more YouthBanks you establish, the more money local youth funds your organisation will need.

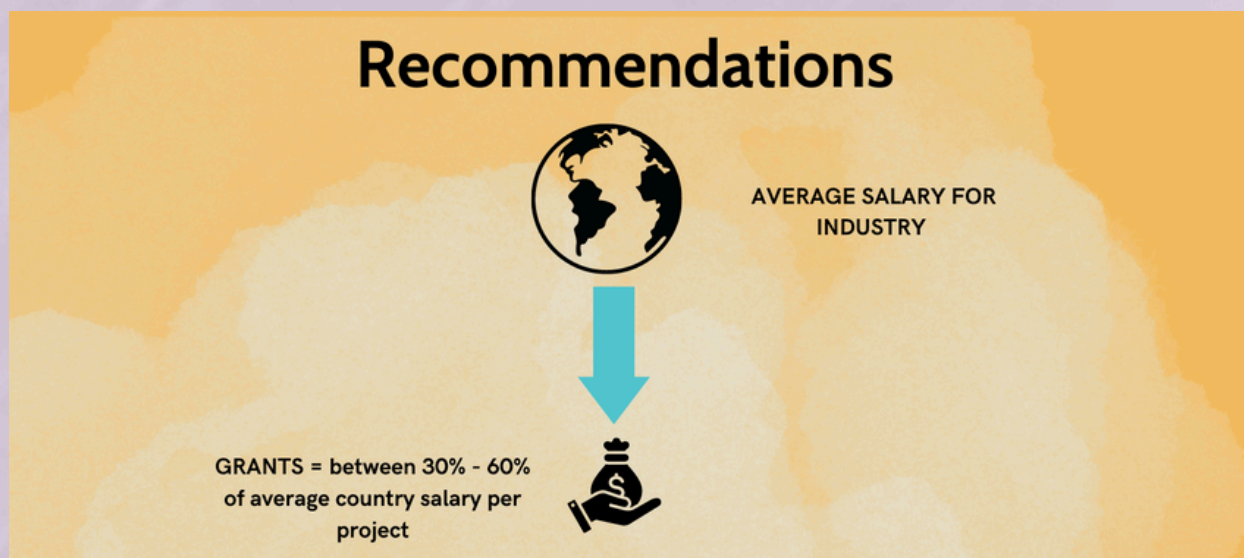
YouthBank International

For the training, support, mentoring, know how and the Licence fee

Money for local Youth funds



Even though it is up to your organisation to decide on the amount of money for the YouthBank funds, our experience has thought us that greater impact is made with smaller funds. The recommendation would be to have funding amounts anywhere between 30% and 60% of the average salary in your country.



In our experience, there are usually three different options for raising the money for YouthBank funds. It is up to you to decide what would work best for your organisation and for young people involved.

Young people raise the local youth fund



Young people themselves organise different activities to raise the money for their local youth fund. Activities can be: donations, partnerships with local entrepreneurs, participatory budgeting, etc.

50:50 Match Funding



Young people raise the money with different activities. The same amount of money they raise, the organisation matches equal amount.

Organisation raises the local youth fund



Organisation is responsible for raising the money for fund, in full amount!

PLEASE NOTE: SMALLER AMOUNTS OF MONEY MAKE GREATER IMPACT!

Flexibility of the model



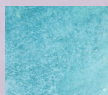
There are many different ways how YouthBank model is implemented. There are mostly 2 types of organisations that start the YouthBank model:



In YouthBank International Network we have many examples of flexibility and different models organisations create for themselves to be able to deliver the YouthBank model in their community, their city, or even their country.

These are the most common ways of how the YouthBank model can be delivered in your community. However, your situation can be very different, and you may want to start completely new model that would work for you.

How ambitious are you?



If you wish to set up more than two local YouthBanks, you would be creating a YouthBank network. By the definition, YouthBank network is more than two local YouthBanks that a host organisation brings together to share lessons, experience and activity that improves young people's leadership, decision-making and community building opportunities.

As mentioned in previous pages, the YouthBank model is flexible and adjustable to your organisation and to the change you are bringing in your community.

To get the insight into some possibilities you would have while wanting to establish your local YouthBank Network, please take a look at the definitions and terms below, as well as some examples on the following two pages.

YouthBank Network

A YouthBank network is run by a host organisation whose strategic role is to coordinate local YouthBanks in the geographic area that they serve. A YouthBank network is more than two local YouthBanks that a host organisation brings together to share lessons, experience and activity that improves young people's leadership, decision-making and community building opportunities.

YouthBank host organisation

A registered organisation in its own jurisdiction with its own governance structure. The YouthBank host organisation operates under a Licence agreement with YouthBank International and has the capacity to coordinate, develop and support a YouthBank network made up of partner organisations or run directly by the host organisation.

Partner organisation

The host organisation may decide to structure their YouthBank network by inviting partner organisations from the same geographical area to invest their resources and to support a broad based collaborative approach to building a YouthBank network. A partner organisation can be from a public, private, voluntary or community sector background and share YBI's vision for YouthBank and the coordination role of the host organisation.

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Community

Host organisations are invited to define their geographic community where a YouthBank network will be established. Often these are defined as administrative boundaries, though not always. Some YouthBanks, whilst working in defined geographic places, prioritise communities of interest as their agenda for change, (e.g. indigenous communities).

Local YouthBanks

Usually 12-15 young people between the ages of 15 - 25 years old, drawn from a range of backgrounds who receive training and support from the host organisation or one of its partners on how to run a YouthBank and create their own agenda for change. The agenda for change are the funding priorities set by the local YouthBank team to fund projects.

YouthBank grant-recipient

Those who receive a grant from a local YouthBank to devise their own solutions to the issues that matter to them.

Impact you can make

Impact that the YouthBank model creates is happening on many levels.

The change will happen in:



Once you start implementing the YouthBank model, you will notice that not only will your organisation culture change, but you will also witness the change in your local community, the way people from your community perceive young people, and also the change in young people and how they perceive themselves.

We understand that in today's world impact is a word used often and in cases where there is no real impact happening. However, being in the service to young people, we understand that the biggest impact can be done by themselves, by the young people.

Impact reports are usually created on a yearly basis. But we wanted to measure the data in a real time. This is one of the reasons why we have created YouthBank International Learning Platform (digital tool available to YouthBank practitioners/coordinators). Impact measurement is a part of our Learning Platform where impact is measured in the real time!

The successful implementation of the YouthBank model across almost 40 countries, diverse in culture, history, tradition, and politics is testament to its simple but effective formula. In rolling out the YouthBank model on an international basis the agreed principles and practices that framed the approach was informed by the articles of the UN Convention on the Rights of Children and Young People as applied in a philanthropic and active citizenship context. The ethos of YouthBank also fits with the policies and values promoted by the Council of Europe and the European Union - subscribing to the democratic principles inherent within national youth policies and strategies in the countries where these exist.



Having in focus the young people of today, here are some benefits young people have from being involved with the YouthBank:

Empowerment

YouthBank empowers young people by giving them the opportunity to make a real difference in their communities. They are involved in the process of identifying local needs, developing project ideas, and allocating funds to initiatives they believe will have a positive impact.

Civic Engagement

The program promotes active civic engagement among young people. It encourages them to take an active role in their communities, fostering a sense of responsibility and ownership for creating positive change.

Leadership Development

YouthBank offers valuable leadership development opportunities. Participants gain skills in project management, teamwork, communication, problem-solving, and decision-making. These skills are transferable and beneficial for their personal and professional growth.

Grant making Experience

YouthBank provides young people with firsthand experience in grant-making. They learn about the grant application process, proposal evaluation, and budgeting. This knowledge equips them with valuable insights into the world of philanthropy and grant management.

Collaboration & Networking

YouthBank brings young people together from diverse backgrounds and allows them to collaborate on projects. They develop teamwork and networking skills while working with their peers, local organizations, and community leaders.

Increased Awareness

Through their involvement in YouthBank, young people become more aware of the social issues affecting their communities. They gain a broader perspective on societal challenges and develop empathy and understanding for different social groups.

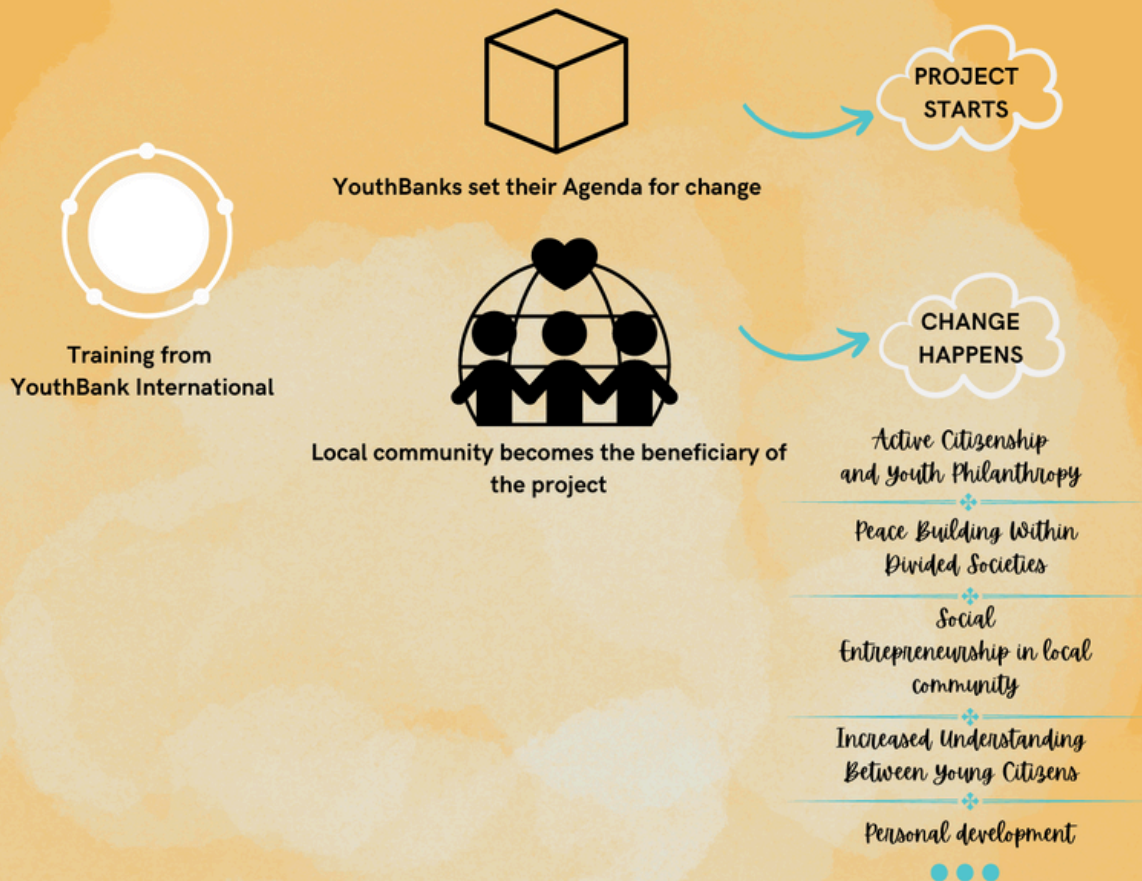
Personal Growth

YouthBank offers young people the opportunity to challenge themselves and step out of their comfort zones. They gain confidence, resilience, and a sense of achievement as they successfully navigate the grant-making process and witness the positive outcomes of their initiatives.

Mentorship

YouthBank often provides opportunities for young people to connect with mentors and professionals in their chosen fields. These connections can provide guidance, support, and potential pathways to future educational or career opportunities.

Impact



SDGs & YBI

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015. The Agenda provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership.

More than 1/3 of the 169 targets of the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), highlight the role of young people and the importance of their

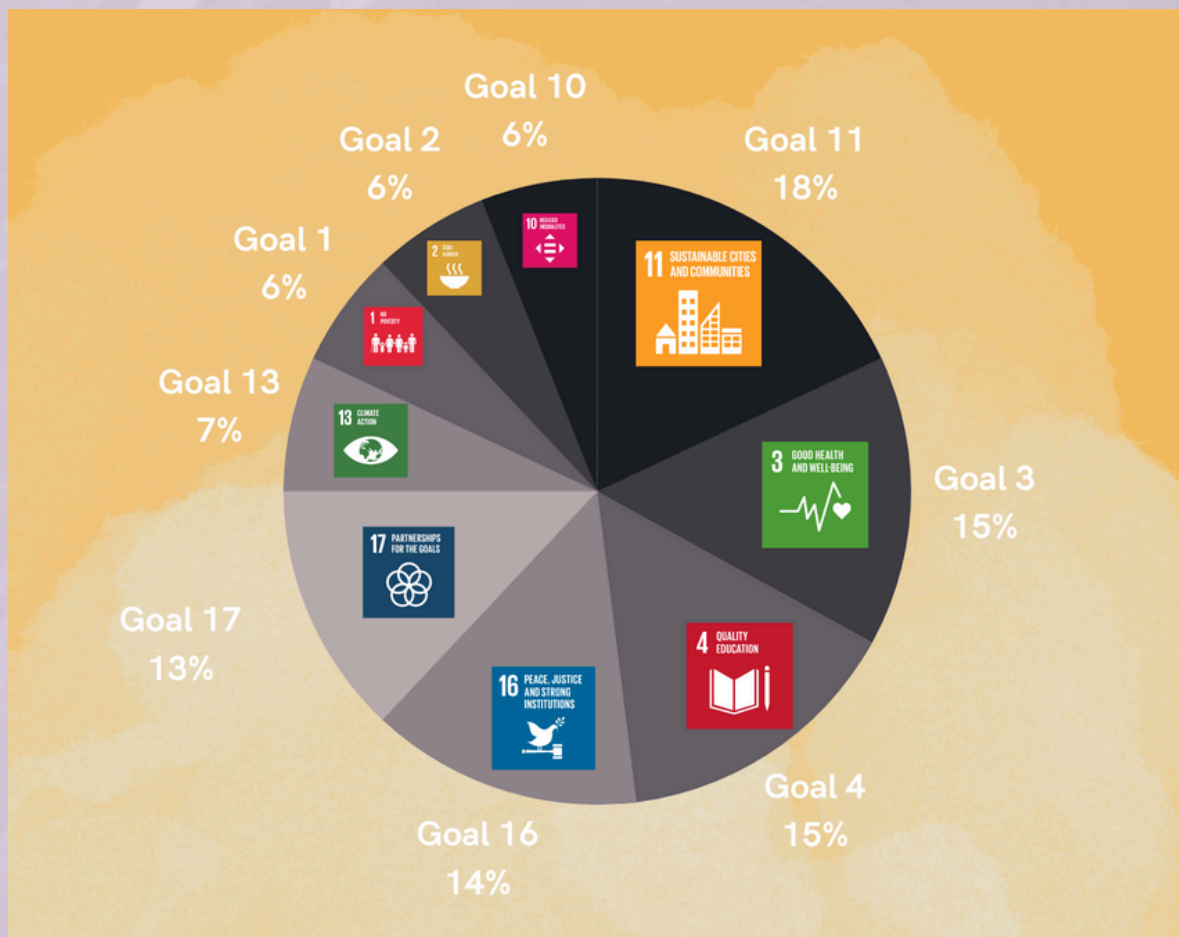


*empowerment,
participation, and
well-being.*

to accelerate economic development, reduce poverty and build sustainable societies.

YouthBank International analyses the priorities YouthBank groups identify, mapping them against the SDGs. What remains to be amplified are stories from young people about why these changes occurred, how they should be further represented and, in this context, how those changes reflect the SDGs.





Even though there is a strong correlation between the SDGs and Agenda for Change young people of YouthBanks define, young people create their own change regardless of the SDGs.

Young people create their own stories of change. They decide what they want to change. They set their own projects. YouthBank International can map their project and connect their Agenda for Change with specific SDG. This results in what we are now able to showcase - interests young people have towards SDGs.

Although Agendas for Change change yearly, we have noticed that the young people want to solve problems which are in a direct correlation to the following SDGs:

Sustainable cities and Communities
Good health and well-being
Quality education
Peace, justice and strong institutions
Partnership for the goals

Summary

Being engaged with YouthBank comes with many benefits. In this document we have listed some of them, but it is up to you to create your own experience with the YouthBank model. And to see for yourself why model works, the size of the impact it can make and the disruptiveness it implies.

Just like managing any other project, for implementing the YouthBank model you will need:

The Team

The Time






The Money

YouthBank model is flexible, it can be fully adapted to your context and it works everywhere in the world.

Agenda for Change is recognized by young people. They are not told what to do, think or say. They are supported by adults on their journey towards active citizenship.

Your commitment to YouthBank International is 3 years, after which you can remain in the YouthBank International Network as a subscriber.

Tips & Tricks

-  Think of potential partners who might be interested in starting the YouthBank with you
-  Think about what resources you have vs. what resources you would need
-  Create a 3-year long plan
-  Start small (focus on quality rather than quantity)
-  Small grants lead to big change



Case Studies

MANCHESTER, UK

YouthBanks funded by the City council

Manchester City Council oversees a network of 4 YouthBanks, hosted by partner organisations including Nurturing Foundations, Rushford Park, Youth On Solid Ground, and YPAC Manchester. The young grant-makers range from 12 to 25 years old. The hosting organisations encompass a variety of focuses, including sports, street youth work, and Black-led initiatives. This collective effort represents a diverse array of young individuals from across Manchester. Each YouthBank is led by a dedicated practitioner who is a staff member of the hosting organisation. Young people meet week in their own area. The network convenes monthly meetings to support the practitioners, share learning and collaborate. They have all successfully completed one YouthBank cycle and are currently progressing through their second cycle.

LIVERPOOL, UK

YouthBank in the hospital

Liverpool YouthBank, an extension of the Alder Hey Youth Forum, is a successful community engagement initiative. The Forum engages young members in activities like YouthBank, leadership courses, and consultations. While membership isn't tied to hospital service use, many members have long-term illnesses, connecting with Alder Hey Children's Hospital Trust's healthcare mission. Youth Workers from Alder Hey Children's Hospital Trust play a crucial role in YouthBank's success, offering guidance and integration within broader youth engagement initiatives. Funded in partnership with the NSPCC, Liverpool YouthBank allocates £5,000, empowering young individuals aged 12-18 to decide fund allocations for various youth initiatives in Liverpool. Beyond healthcare, the project includes leadership courses, consultations, and city-wide financial decision-making, aligning with the forum's goal of making a real difference in the community.

GEORGIA

Self-led YouthBanks

The YouthBank model in Georgia, scaled by the Europe Foundation and funded by US AID, is a youth-led initiative. Approximately 120 youth volunteers aged 14-18 from 19 regions gather annually for skill-building sessions through YouthBank Methodology. These sessions equip them to assess, fundraise and address community issues as a YouthBank team. Graduates return to share lessons and train new recruits. During a yearlong grant cycle, youth volunteers undergo grantmaking training and learn qualitative research skills independently. They collaborate on a community needs assessment and request for proposals, demonstrating self-reliance without adult oversight. The foundation enhances their capabilities with three capacity-building workshops, adopting a "train the trainer" approach. YouthBank teams then educate their peers and communities, connecting local issues to broader concerns.

SOUTH AFRICA

YouthBanks are expanding through the efforts of The Institute for Community Advancement (ICA)

In South Africa, YouthBank empowers young individuals aged 14-35 through fundraising and grantmaking initiatives, encouraging them to lead positive change in their communities. The Institute for Community Advancement (ICA) hosts and supports YouthBank projects along the West Coast while simultaneously providing essential training and support to organizations nationwide. Acting as both an implementer and infrastructure support, the ICA's collaboration with YouthBank International positions them to effectively build and sustain YouthBanks, fostering impactful community development across the region. YouthBank's unique approach requires host organizations to provide matched funding, supporting the efforts of young people as they raise funds independently.

As an infrastructure support organization, the ICA envisions a national fund that would empower YouthBanks across the country to apply for funding. Additionally, the ICA explores potential exchange programs between YouthBanks, envisioning a regional YouthBank HUB through national gatherings of Coordinators and members.

MINNESOTA, USA

YouthBank in school

Youth aged 14 to 19 residing in the Northfield School District or attending a Northfield school actively participate in YouthBank. They give grants to youth-led projects, providing comprehensive training and knowledge-sharing opportunities. Empowered with the skills needed, young individuals make informed decisions, fostering tangible change for Northfield's youth.

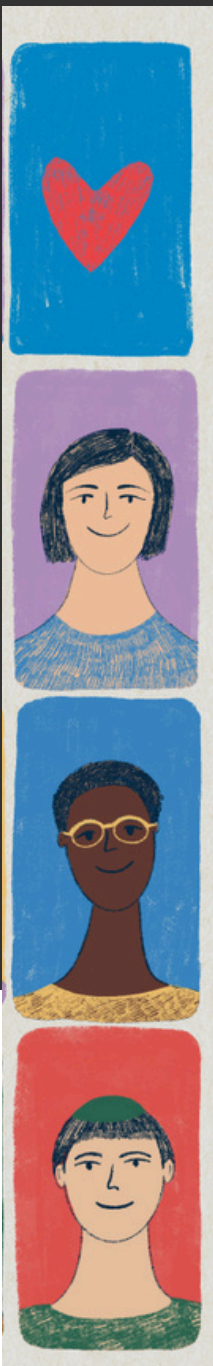
Experienced Adult Advisors deliver on-the-ground skills training, collaborating with local organizations and donors. This ensures young participants have access to necessary guidance and resources, transforming their aspirations into reality. Over the past 8 years, YouthBank has contributed \$164,000 to projects envisioned and executed by the youth.

YouthBank upholds core values of equity for all and youth empowerment. It actively amplifies the voices of all youth, particularly those underrepresented, and staunchly opposes racism. This commitment extends to fighting against systemic biases and ensuring an inclusive environment for all.

UKRAINE

YouthBanks of initiative

The National Network for the Development of Local Philanthropy is dedicated to supporting YouthBanks in Ukraine, focusing on fostering a Culture of Philanthropy and engaging youth in civil society. Since 2011, the Youth Banks have been actively engaging young people, emphasizing intersectoral partnerships, civic competencies, and cross-cutting skills, making a significant impact on Ukrainian communities. Comprising 5-10 young members, each Youth Bank organizes fundraising events and conducts grant competitions, operating as a dynamic entity that welcomes new members annually. Through systematic and charitable approaches, these youth organizations assess community needs objectively, raising funds ranging from UAH 20,000 to 30,000 to implement socially significant initiatives.



REAL LIVES.
REAL MONEY.
REAL CHANGE.



YOUTHBANKTM INTERNATIONAL