

Terms of Reference

Regional Youth Coordinator to the RCE Community

Background

Youth is one of the critical actors among multi-stakeholders to promote Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and accelerate actions to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). ESD for 2030 framework emphasises the importance of empowering and mobilising youth as one of the five priority action areas. In the RCE community, young people have actively been involved in a wide range of activities and projects at local, national, and global levels. The Roadmap for the RCE Community 2021-2030 also highlights youth engagement as suggested actions in Strategy 1: *‘Provide opportunities, mobilise and strengthen the engagement of youths on ESD in regional/local communities as one of the key actors in addressing sustainability challenges.’*

To strengthen youth involvement in the decision-making process and facilitate youth-led and youth-focused initiatives at the regional and global levels, the Global RCE Service Centre has initiated the appointment of Regional Youth Coordinators since 2017.

Function

The Regional Youth Coordinators¹ serve advisory and supportive functions to the regional and global RCE community.

1. To provide advice to the Global RCE Service Centre on policy, strategic and operational matters to strengthen meaningful youth engagement among the RCE community at the regional and global levels and advocate for youth empowerment.
2. To coordinate or take the lead in organising youth-led and youth-focused initiatives at the regional and global levels where young people are provided with an inclusive platform for dialogue, leadership and actions.
3. To conduct outreach activities beyond the RCE community and actively disseminate information about youth activities by RCEs in the designated region through the RCE bulletin, social media and other channels through close communication with the Global RCE Service Centre to raise visibility.
4. To participate in meetings and conferences, upon invitation by the UNU-IAS Director, including the Ubuntu Committee of Peers for the RCEs, Regional RCE Conferences, and the Global RCE Conference.
5. To provide a brief report on RCE activities in the designated region to the Global RCE Service Centre on a regular basis.

Appointment

1. A Regional Youth Coordinator is appointed by the UNU-IAS Director for a particular region, namely, Africa, the Americas, Asia-Pacific or Europe, upon endorsement by the Ubuntu Committee of Peers for the RCEs.

¹ The Global RCE Service Centre, with a degree of flexibility, defines youth as individuals between the ages of 15 and 35. However, taking into account the varied national and regional definitions of ‘youth’, each region can adopt other definitions of youth accordingly.

2. The term of the Regional Youth Coordinator shall be two years, with the possibility of renewal. The appointment is limited to a maximum of two consecutive terms.

Nomination

1. Upon request of the Global RCE Service Centre, the RCE Regional Advisors shall coordinate the consultation process with RCEs in the respective regions and nominate one RCE youth representative to the Global RCE Service Centre with justification.
2. If the nominated youth representative reflects a significant imbalance of gender, the Global RCE Service Centre shall call for another nomination.

Communication

1. The Regional Youth Coordinators may hold special meetings among themselves, either face-to-face or virtual, to facilitate inter-regional collaboration among RCEs, if necessary or upon request by the Global RCE Service Centre.
2. The Regional Youth Coordinators may hold meetings with RCE youth focal points in their respective regions to plan, execute or coordinate RCE youth activities in the region.
3. The Regional Youth Coordinators shall communicate closely with the Regional Advisors and the Global RCE Service Centre and provide updates on their engagement with the RCE community.

Change to the TORs

These TORs were approved by the Global RCE Service Centre on 14 July 2022. It can be amended upon collective request by the Regional Youth Coordinators, with the endorsements of the RCE Regional Advisors and the Ubuntu Committee of Peers for the RCE Community.
