



## INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

### *Youth Migration: Moving Development Forward*

August 12<sup>th</sup> 2013

#### In brief:

- International Youth Day takes place on August 12<sup>th</sup> 2013
- This year's theme is "**Youth Migration: Moving Development Forward**", which highlights the importance of youth migration in development - the opportunities that maximise benefits and minimise risks of youth migration
- The 2013 World Youth Report (WYR) will focus on Youth Migration and Development and will be launched on August 12<sup>th</sup> 2013
- Check out NYCI's short film and information on involving young people from a minority ethnic background in youth work. Young people from minority ethnic backgrounds talk about being involved in youth work activities and the support they get from this [http://www.youth.ie/act\\_on\\_inclusion#vid5](http://www.youth.ie/act_on_inclusion#vid5)
- To learn more about working with young people from minority ethnic backgrounds download the relevant chapter from our Diversity Toolkit:  [Chapter 2 - working with young people from a minority ethnic background - all ireland.pdf](#)
- NYCI held a national consultation with young people on June 28<sup>th</sup> 2012 focused on integration and inclusion in Ireland. Read the findings here <http://www.intercultural.ie/werehere>

#### Definition:

- Migration can be defined as a movement of people from one country to another for settlement that is often permanent
- The rate of migration is increasing for many reasons including the economic and employment opportunity imbalances between developed and developing countries, between poorer and richer nations/continents
- Young migrants are particularly at risk because of their age, their lack of financial resources and experience, and more prone to social pressure, blackmailing and trafficking.

## Why should we be concerned about young people and youth migration?

- Young people make up about 30% of international migrants and are amongst the most mobile groups of people worldwide
- In 2010, 27 million international migrants were aged 15 to 24
- Migration of young people can offer valuable opportunities but it can also pose risks and lead to unacceptable situations, including exploitation and discrimination

Migration can take place within a country known as internal migration or it can mean a move to another country or continent which is called international migration.

## Why do young people migrate?

We are not 100% sure as to why young people migrate. There are however, a number of known reasons:

- Transport is relatively cheap making movement easier
- Information about opportunities beyond young people's borders is more widely available
- Family reunification
- Desire for better education
- Better employment opportunities
- To escape war or conflicts

Migration can have positive and negative impacts on young migrants depending on their personal experience and how they are treated in their new surroundings. The impact can be positive for young people where new opportunities may include the chance to participate in higher education, a decent job, professional experience or other opportunities to personally develop.

A number of challenges can arise for young migrants however, which can leave them vulnerable and open to negative experiences. These might include discrimination based on gender, migration status, ethnicity or religion; poor working conditions; lack of access to basic social services and human rights; risks associated with sexual and reproductive health; and lack or loss of social protection once the migration status of the young migrant changes (from student to graduate, for example).

## Do we have enough information on Youth Migration?

Detailed information on youth migration, the struggles and opportunities faced by young people, is in short supply. This means that policy making is based on reduced information and could be open to misinformation and as a result, policies could be irrelevant and young people may not benefit to the extent that they should. Knowing more about the lives of young migrants is important if there are to be good practices, policies and measures in place to meet their specific needs.

See the short film involving Daniela Bas, Director of Division for Social Policy and Development who talks about youth migration and what the United Nations is doing in this area

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I9D7vLlI2V4>

## World Youth Report 2013



On **August 12<sup>th</sup>**, the 2013 World Youth Report (WYR) on Youth Migration and Development will be launched. This report will focus on the various life experiences of youth migrants as well as providing insights into the role of youth participation in migration-development policymaking and practice. Further information is available at [www.unworldyouthreport.org](http://www.unworldyouthreport.org)

Read some of the e-discussions that have taken place which is informing the World Youth Report [http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_emp/documents/genericdocument/wcms\\_209613.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/documents/genericdocument/wcms_209613.pdf)

A Google+ Hangout took place in March 2013. If you want to hear more detail about youth migration, check this out [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qUHZqWGTkpw&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qUHZqWGTkpw&feature=player_embedded)

## International Youth Day Event in New York



This year's International Youth Day 2013 will be marked in the United Nations Headquarters in New York by bringing together the United Nations Secretariat (DESA) and the International Labour Office (ILO), with the support of the Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund Secretariat (MDG-F) who are co-organising an event to celebrate the Day. The event will bring together young people, civil society organisations and UN and other experts to discuss issues relating to youth migration.

### Objectives of International Youth Day Event

The objectives of the International Youth Day are to:

- Raise awareness of the opportunities and risks associated with youth migration
- Share knowledge and information stemming from recent research and analysis on this topic
- Review good practice on policies and programmes promoting employment and safe migration among young people

### Main themes to be discussed during the event

The 12 August event will shed light on a number of themes that are key to addressing youth migration issues. These themes include:

- *Understanding youth migration* – opportunities and risks. There is a general lack of awareness on the working and living conditions of young migrants. While migration of young people can open up valuable opportunities, it can also pose risks or leads to unacceptable situations, including exploitation and discrimination. To protect young migrants and ensure that migration leads to their human development

as well as contributing to the development of both their home and host countries, the key questions that will be address revolve around the motivation for young to migrate, the key issues and challenges facing young migrants and the contribution that youth migration can make to economic and social development of both sending and hosting countries.

- *Good practices, policies and programmes on youth employment and migration.* National policies and programmes can play an important role to reap the benefits and minimize the risks relating to youth migration. A series of good practices resulting from joint action by the United Nations will be presented and discussed during the event organized by the UN Secretariat and the ILO., The discussion will aim to identify the factors that contributed to develop the good practices, lessons learned and replicability of the same practices.

- *Youth perspectives – sharing experience on migration.* To better understand the migration experiences of young people, the event will organize a panel composed by people who are engaged in the implementation of programmes and other initiatives to promote safe migration and decent work for young migrant people.

#### **Sources of Information:**

United Nations Youth: Social Policy and Development Division; UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA); Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC); International Labour Organisation (ILO)

## ***What are you doing to mark International Youth Day 2013?***

***Let us know:  
[deved@nyci.ie](mailto:deved@nyci.ie)  
[intercultural@nyci.ie](mailto:intercultural@nyci.ie)***

#### **Here are some suggestions for taking action:**

NYCI is half way through presenting its ten-part video series exploring what young people and youth workers have to say about equality and inclusion. Each short clip in the video series, supported by the Equality Authority, can be used as a standalone resource to raise discussions within youth groups, or in conjunction with the free online resource *Access All Areas: A Diversity Toolkit* in order to embed diversity within youth groups. A new video will be posted each month.  
[http://www.youth.ie/act\\_on\\_inclusion](http://www.youth.ie/act_on_inclusion)

**Access All Areas** Diversity Toolkit for the youth sector [www.youth.ie/diversity](http://www.youth.ie/diversity) (with chapters on working with young people from a minority ethnic background, and young Travellers)

**All Different All Equal** is aimed at those working with young people willing to explore the issues of diversity, promote equality and to challenge prejudice and discrimination. The young population of Ireland includes people of many different ethnicities and religions, as well as students and workers from around the world. This resource attempts to address migrant issues in a global context, highlighting the links between migration and development and between Ireland and other countries around the world

[http://www.youthdeved.ie/sites/youthdeved.ie/files/All\\_Different\\_All\\_Equal\\_Ireland\\_2006.pdf](http://www.youthdeved.ie/sites/youthdeved.ie/files/All_Different_All_Equal_Ireland_2006.pdf)

Read more about **Migration and Ireland** (2012)

[http://esource.dbs.ie/bitstream/handle/10788/335/ba\\_ngadaonye\\_da\\_2012.pdf?sequence=1](http://esource.dbs.ie/bitstream/handle/10788/335/ba_ngadaonye_da_2012.pdf?sequence=1)

Read more about Migration and Young People and Ireland (2010)

[http://www.tcd.ie/immigration/css/downloads/In\\_the\\_front\\_line\\_of\\_Integration.pdf](http://www.tcd.ie/immigration/css/downloads/In_the_front_line_of_Integration.pdf)

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| <b>Create a Charter for your group:</b>  | Develop a charter for your youth group to promote the rights and inclusion of young people from a wide variety of backgrounds   |
| <b>New group members:</b>                | Encourage young people from different backgrounds to join your youth group  |
| <b>Languages and understanding:</b>      | Find about what languages are spoken by migrant communities in your area. See if someone can translate information on your youth group into these languages   |
| <b>Watch film/download app:</b>          | According to UNHCR every minute eight people are forced to flee war, persecution or terror. What would you do? Watch the video or download the app: <a href="http://mylifeasarefugee.org/">http://mylifeasarefugee.org/</a> |
| <b>Educational radio or TV show:</b>     | Contact your local or national radio or TV stations to share information about International Youth Day and young migrants with others   |
| <b>Organise a public meeting/debate:</b> | Discuss the risks and benefits of youth migration and how young people can tackle the challenges of migration locally, nationally and internationally   |
| <b>Organise a Google+ Hangout:</b>       | Bring together young people, youth organisations and others from your own country and/or internationally to discuss experiences of youth migration  |
| <b>Roundtable discussion:</b>            | Promote intergenerational understanding and partnership on the issue of youth migration   |

<b>Hold a youth forum:</b>	Exchange ideas and discuss the social, economic and cultural backgrounds of migrants to raise awareness about issues affecting young migrants and how some of these issues can be dealt with by other young people
<b>Organise a concert:</b>	Invite musicians and hold a debate or public discussion involving young people and politicians and policy makers
<b>Create an info point:</b>	Create a centralised location where information on youth migration related issues can be found – youth organisations, schools, universities, community centres, online, etc
<b>What about an exhibition:</b>	Using art, showcase the challenges for young migrants or how they benefit as a result of migration. Use music, culture and arts to raise awareness
<b>Write to/meet with Ministers:</b>	Contact your Youth and Development Ministers and request a meeting or information on youth migration in your county/country. What plans are there to assist young migrants?

### **Having a debate/discussion? Key questions to ask and answer:**

- What is safe migration and how can young people experience safe migration?
- What are the dangers of irregular migration?
- What rights do and should young migrants have?
- What role can young people who have migrated play in promoting development at home and abroad?
- What about young women migrants? What might they experience? Are they more at risk?
- What can young people do to protect and promote positive public perceptions of migration and youth migrants?
- What are the benefits and risks of youth migration?

### **Exploring the issue of migration further - opportunities to understand and campaign**

**Making Ireland Home** [www.youth.ie/nyci/making-ireland-home-young-immigrants-speak-out](http://www.youth.ie/nyci/making-ireland-home-young-immigrants-speak-out) is an excellent video produced by a number of young migrants who speak about their experiences of being from a migrant background living in Ireland. It covers Belonging, Racism, identity etc (20 minutes long) (MRCI production)

**Think and Act** [www.thinkandact.ie/](http://www.thinkandact.ie/) is excellent online resource designed for primary teachers interested in social justice issues especially those relating to young migrants. With an emphasis on active learning and critical thinking, Think and Act will get your group thinking and talking about the world around us.

**Minding the Gap** – watch this! Campaigning for equality in education  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Sszyqlgk7g>

**Recording Racism in Ireland** <http://www.integrationcentre.ie/getattachment/d70f7539-ce06-403d-98d7-da21f7d46426/Recording-Racism-in-Ireland.aspx>

**Report a Racist Incident** <http://www.enarireland.org/ireport/>

**Justice for the Undocumented** <http://www.mrci.ie/our-work/justice-for-undocumented/>

**Put Education First** <http://www.integrationcentre.ie/Campaigns/Schools-for-All.aspx>  
**And...**

<http://www.integrationcentre.ie/Media/Press-Releases/2011/The-Integration-Centre-Welcomes-Move-to-Overhaul-E.aspx>

**Irish Attitudes to Immigrants becomes more negative** <http://www.integrationcentre.ie/Media/Press-Releases/2011/Irish-Attitudes-to-Immigrants-Become-More-Negative.aspx>

**Media that Matters** is film festival that takes place annually. The short films are created by people from all over the world, including young people, and deal with everything from the environment, human rights, migration and interculturalism. Click on Browse films by issue on the right hand side of the page. All films are available to watch, and purchase, via [www.mediathatmattersfest.org/](http://www.mediathatmattersfest.org/) Check out the video '**Why do white people have black spots**' under International. It's one of our favorites

## Here are links to some of the organisations involved with migrants in Ireland:

### **The Integration Centre** <http://www.integrationcentre.ie/Home.aspx>

The Integration Centre is a non-governmental organisation which is committed to the integration and inclusion of people from immigrant backgrounds in Ireland. The Centre specializes in planning, monitoring and advocacy at city, local, national and international levels and provides regionalized information, advice and training services. Evidence-based research influences positive change in legislation, policy and practice. They have more than 250 affiliated organisations as part of their network.

### **The Migrant Rights Centre Ireland** <http://www.mrci.ie/>

The Migrant Rights Centre Ireland is a national organisation working to promote justice, empowerment and equality for migrant workers and their families. MRCI takes a stand with migrants to tackle the root causes of inequality using a community work approach with a focus on participation, leadership and empowerment, and have a strong track record in securing policy changes e.g. Bridging Visa for undocumented migrants; reversal of work permit changes; protections for domestic & agriculture workers; reversing the minimum wage cut. MRCI operates a Resource Centre and has a national remit. Current priorities include rights for undocumented migrants; criminalising forced labour; protections for migrants in diplomatic households; au pairs; carers, domestic workers, restaurants workers; ethnic profiling and access to education.

### **The Department of Justice and Equality** <http://www.justice.ie/>

The Department of Justice and Equality sets about to help make Ireland a safer and fairer place in which to live and work, visit and do business. The remit of the Justice family of agencies and services stretches across a range of human concerns and touches on aspects of national life as diverse as the protection of life and property; the prevention and detection of crime; the provision of services for the buying and selling of property; the management of inward migration to the State and providing a Courts Service and other forms of investigative tribunals. On the international front, the Minister and the Department serve the interests of Ireland in relation to Justice and Home Affairs' matters by participating fully in the European Union, the Council of Europe and the United Nations among other international fora.

### **Irish Naturalisation & Immigration Service (INIS)** <http://www.inis.gov.ie/>

The Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service was established in 2005 in order to provide a 'one stop shop' in relation to asylum, immigration, citizenship and visas. The INIS is responsible for administering the administrative functions of the Minister for Justice and Equality in relation to asylum, immigration (including Visas) and citizenship matters. The INIS also facilitates a whole of government approach to immigration and asylum issues which enables a more efficient service to be provided in these areas.