

Youth Empowerment in the Context of Achieving the Objectives of Sustainable Development in Egypt

Sherif Gamal^{1,*}, Hesham Makhoul² and Mona Khalifa²

¹National Population Council, Cairo, Egypt

²Department of Biostatistics and Population, Institute of Statistical Studies and Research, Cairo University, Egypt

Received: 11 Feb. 2021, Revised: 20 Apr. 2021, Accepted: 26 Apr. 2021.

Published online: 1 May 2022

Abstract: Although young people in Egypt (15-29) represent about 27% of the total population (Central Authority for Public Mobilization and Statistics, 2017), many studies have shown that so far this enormous human potential has not been taken advantage of and serious and effective steps have not yet been taken towards empowering young people, and until sustainable development is achieved - the post-2015 agenda associated with the empowerment of young people in Egypt, there must be young people who can and will be able to change. During the development of a national strategy for youth empowerment and activation, one of the most important requirements for the development of the strategy is a good follow-up and evaluation system capable of measuring the empowerment of young people in Egypt, which measures the level of empowerment of Egyptian youth in order to improve their situation, so it was necessary to build a composite multidimensional guide that would help identify interventions needed to improve the level of empowerment in general, and even to intervene accurately at any level of dimension, in addition to working to improve Egypt's position at the international level in terms of empowerment and development of young people. The study aims in general to identify the levels of empowerment and development of young people in Egypt by building a guide to measure all possible dimensions of youth empowerment and development through a scientific methodology and measurable indicators, to analyze and evaluate the situation of young people in Egypt.

Keywords: Youth Development Index, Sustainable Development Goals, Multiple Linear Regressions.

1 Introduction

Young people are an active force in nation-building and must provide conditions to develop their capacities and activate their energies and work to expand their contribution to the social, economic, cultural and political development of their communities, so it has become necessary to empower and develop young people and to have a good follow-up and evaluation system capable of measuring this empowerment through measurable indicators and defines the empowerment of young people as "creating and supporting the favorable conditions in which young people can act on their own, and on their own terms, without relying on the guidance of others", youth development knows [1]. As "strengthening the situation of young people, enabling them to build the competencies and capacities necessary for life, and to benefit from a supportive environment that is politically, economically and legally stable, ensuring their full and active participation in their communities", the definition of youth empowerment has not differed much from the definition of youth development [2]. Youth includes all dimensions of this empowerment, and since there is no evidence to measure the empowerment and development of young people in Egypt, and since the philosophy of development in developing countries is based on a gradual level of empowerment through the adoption of international initiatives and the application of scientific methodologies to measure the empowerment and development of young people through adaptation and adaptation of those methodologies to the Egyptian situation in question, and here was the meeting point with the methodology of the Commonwealth countries, which is a methodology suitable for this role, where it has been adopted internationally and experienced in similar countries in the path of development and empowerment of a segment The Commonwealth Youth Development Index is a composite index of 15 key indicators that measure youth development in 170 countries and 51 Commonwealth countries through five dimensions that measure levels of education, health, employment, political participation and civic participation of young people [3]. This guide provides researchers,

*Corresponding author e-mail: shriefgamal16@gmail.com

policymakers, youth and civil society with how to compare the levels of youth empowerment in different countries" and the current study is important because it is considered the first contribution in this field at the local level by building a composite guide like global evidence, which measures the empowerment and development of young people in Egypt.

2 The Problem and Importance of the Study

The current study is important for considering it by building the first composite guide for youth development in Egypt - multidimensional - and linking the post-2015 agenda to SDGs with its objectives related to the dimensions of the Empowerment Guide in Egypt to improve the situation of Egyptian youth, in terms of studying disparities in the level of empowerment in general, and its importance comes in the order of the consistency of the local view with the global view on the concept of development as a template of thought and a determined attempt to dismantle it and re-create a local composition of each country according to its plans for sustainable and achievable and good implementation of this thought, already in Egypt's Sustainable Development Strategy 2030.

3 Objectives of the Study

- Identify about the components of the Youth Empowerment and Development Guide and its multi-indicator and sub indicators.
- Building a general guide for youth empowerment and development based on the Commonwealth methodology and applicable with using the 2014 Youth and Youth Survey data at the individual level.
- Identify sustainable development goals related to the Youth Empowerment and Development Guide and Identify about the extent to which youth empowerment contributes to achieving the selected sustainable development goals related to the dimensions of the Guide.

4 Data Source

This study relies primarily on youth and youth survey data 2014, providing young people and youth survey for the year 2014 a unique source of data on the situation of young people in Egypt covering a wide range of areas for young people to move into adulthood, including education, employment, immigration, health, And family formation, social issues, civil and political participation, the population Council has designed and implemented the second session of scanning in 2014, in order to document the situation of Egyptian youth after this transitional period, the population Council in cooperation with the central public mobilization and statistics collection Secondary study will also depend on the research and research available to the researcher during the study period and any other sources that can be taken into account for the Youth Empowerment and Development Guide [5].

5 The General Framework of the Study

The Commonwealth Youth Development Index, [3, 4], was adopted by the Commonwealth Group to measure multidimensional empowerment indicators, which included five key dimensions on which the general guide was based: "Education - Health - Employment - Political Participation - Community Participation", each of which included a number of sub-indicators on which the value of the dimension was calculated, and for the sustainable development goals beyond 2015, the objectives related to the dimensions of the guide were selected to select the most important indicators related to the dimensions of the empowerment and development of young people

6 Methodologies and Data Analysis

To achieve the objectives mentioned earlier, we will follow the following methodology:

- Creating a guide to empowering and developing young people by relying on the Commonwealth methodology.

Among the statistical methods used are:

- The statistical methodology for building a youth empowerment and development manual adopted by the Commonwealth Group of States.
- Multiple linear regressions to study the statistical relationship between the guide and its dimensions.

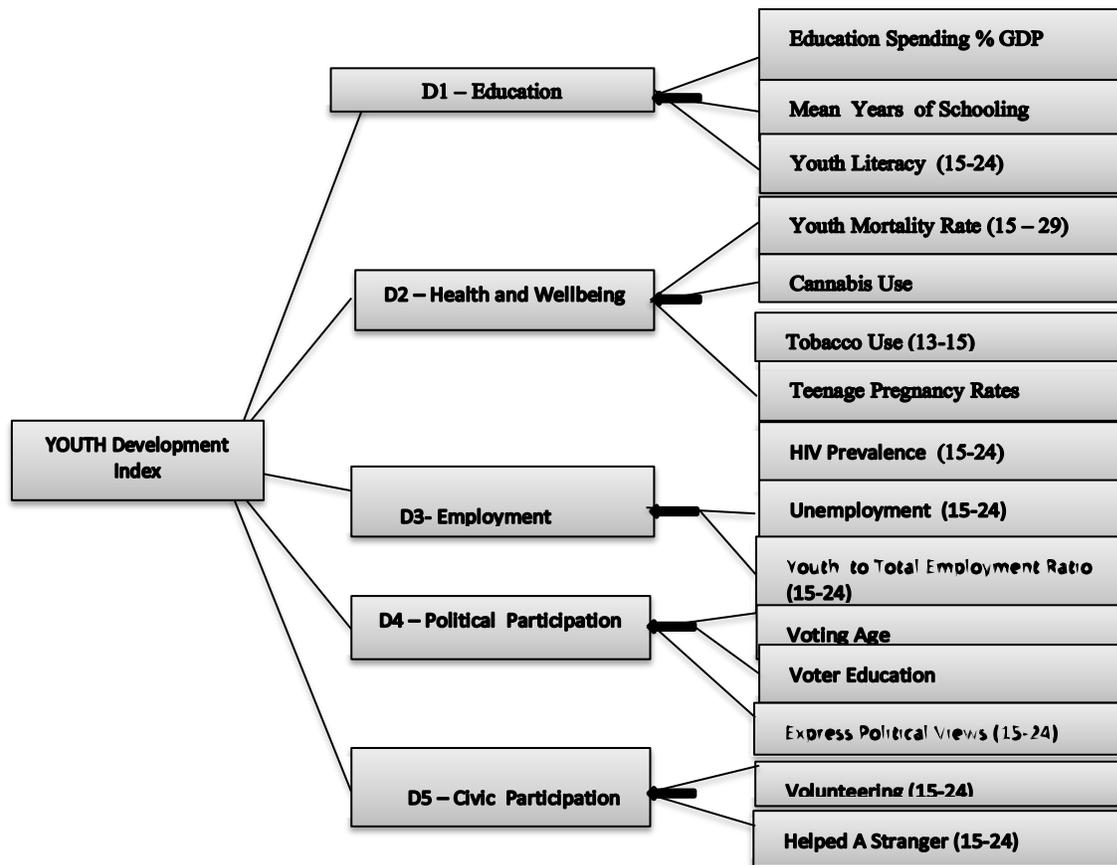


Fig. 1: The Conceptual Framework.

6.1 Commonwealth Group Methodology in Building Youth Empowerment Guide:

The Commonwealth Youth Empowerment and Development Plan represents the provision of a database and a database of evidence for member states to identify strengths and weaknesses, and a monitoring and evaluation database to measure the follow-up of the progress achieved by countries in the empowerment and development of young people, in addition to identifying the most important weaknesses in the guide that need to be improved and developed [6].

6.2 Key Dimensions of Youth Empowerment Guide:

Given the conceptual framework to guide youth empowerment in the form of (1) it is clear that there are 15 indexes of leading indicators that make up the basic dimensions to guide the development and youth empowerment in the dimensions of education, health, employment, and political participation and social participation where education consists of Indicators (average years of education — expenditure on education – literacy rate among young people), but after the health and Welfare guarantees (young mortality – drug abuse – rate of teenage pregnancy-incidence of AIDS among the youth-smoking), either after work contains (employment rate among young man – Youth unemployment rate) regarding political participation after guarantee (youth policy and the extent of their representation in society – voter outreach programs level – the expression of political opinions openly) and included after community participation indicators (rate of volunteering – helping others).

Temperatures range from manual development and youth empowerment between zero and one per ideal class representing the highest level of youth empowerment, either zero or relatively reflects the lack of development and empowerment of young people, this system is the same UN index to measure human development index, and in manual Empowerment and youth development necessary to identify the differences between levels of high, medium and weak States, which necessarily reflects the level of empowerment of youth in those countries.

The five dimensions have been selected to guide the development and empowerment of youth and the 15 indicators through technical Advisory Committee to guide the development of youth in the Commonwealth, the Committee is composed of experts, academics and practitioners in the development of youth in various Commonwealth countries, and tries to guide

the development and youth empowerment To be as comprehensive as possible in many States, there are some limitations in the nature of the data in some countries which consists of data on employment and political and social participation of the least developed countries and weak statistical capacities, and over time he hopes that each of Governments and non-governmental organizations, civil society and researchers work together to improve information and work better for development and improvement of youth development measures in those countries.

The plan represents empowerment and youth development in the Commonwealth provide database and manuals for the Member States to identify strengths and weaknesses and provide a database for monitoring and evaluation to measure up the progress made by States in the development and empowerment of youth, in addition to identifying the main points Weakness in the directory which you need to improve and develop [9] .

Manual was adopted to develop and empower youth in calculating weights for each indicator weighted in terms of the relative importance of other indicators of the relative importance of each on the expert assessments of Technical Advisory Committee of Commonwealth Youth Development Directory in account where the relative importance of equal dimensions of education And health and employment (28%) due to the dimensions of importance in the development and empowerment of youth, or the dimensions of political participation and community involvement also has scores of materiality, but less than previous dimensions (8%) from his point of view ratings gentlemen experts [3].

Table 1: Commonwealth Factor/ Dimensions Weight.

Domain	Code	Indicator	Weight	% Weights	Domain Sum
D1– Education	D1.1	Mean Years of Schooling	5.00	14%	28%
	D1.2	Education Spending % GDP	1.00	3%	
	D1.3	Youth Literacy (15-24)	4.00	11%	
	D5.2	Helped A Stranger (15-24)	1.00	3%	
D2– Health and Wellbeing	D2.1	Youth Mortality Rate (15 – 29)	5.00	14%	28%
	D2.2	Cannabis Use	1.00	3%	
	D2.3	Teenage Pregnancy Rates	2.00	6%	
	D2.4	HIV Prevalence (15-24)	1.00	3%	
	D2.5	Tobacco Use (13-15)	1.00	3%	
D3– Employment	D3.1	Unemployment (15-24)	5.00	14%	28%
	D3.2	Youth to Total Employment Ratio (15-24)	5.00	14%	
D4 – Political Participation	D4.1	Voting Age	1.00	3%	8%
	D4.2	Voter Education	1.00	3%	
	D4.3	Express Political Views (15-24)	1.00	3%	
D5 – Civic Participation	D5.1	Volunteering (15-24)	2.00	6%	8%
	D5.2	Helped A Stranger (15-24)	1.00	3%	

Regarding the relative importance of each individual indicator has the following indicators are both equal in terms of relative importance (14%) and (average years of education the young mortality rate youth unemployment rate employment rate among young people) and is considered the highest weighted all indices have got Indicators (spending on education-drug abuse-prevalence among youth-smoking-median voter-voter education level-expressing political views – help others) on lower relative weights in the Guide (3%) From the standpoint of gentlemen experts what explains her table (1) how to calculate weights for index development and youth empowerment [7].

Table 2 shows the value of manual development and youth empowerment at the level of the Arabic Republic of Egypt in accordance with the methodology and weights through the Commonwealth recognize the value of every dimension of the Guide according to the relative importance in the directory, and according to what has been calculated from the five constituent dimensions values guide the development And youth empowerment in the Arabic Republic of Egypt as shown in table 2 which shows the value of manual development and youth empowerment in the Arabic Republic of Egypt where the total value of the Guide (0.74), according to the classification and arrangement of the Commonwealth Youth

development directory levels, Egypt was ranked average among the Nations of the world And Commonwealth according to this classification, classification of States that the value of the evidence to develop and empower youth less than (0.40) at low level, While the medium level is the value Guide (0.40 to less than 0.76), and States with high directory which directory value (0.76 to less than or equal to 1) [3].

Table 2: Youth Development and Empowerment Composite Index in Egypt.

Domain	Code	Indicator	Egypt value	Nor. Value	Weight	% Weights	Domain Sum Weight	Indicator value	Domain Value	
D1 – Education	D1.1	Mean Years of Schooling	9.9	0.780	0.5	14%	28%	0.390	0.236	
	D1.2	Education Spending % GDP	3.8	0.803	0.1	3%		0.080		
	D1.3	Youth Literacy (15-24)	94.5	0.936	0.4	11%		0.374		
	Total							0.845		
D2 – Health and Wellbeing	D2.1	Youth Mortality Rate (15 – 29)	0.9	0.913	0.5	14%	%28	0.457	0.236	
	D2.2	Cannabis Use	1.9	0.970	0.1	3%		0.097		
	D2.3	Teenage Pregnancy Rates	125	0.469	0.2	6%		0.094		
	D2.4	HIV Prevalence (15-24)	0.01	1.014	0.1	3%		0.101		
	D2.5	Tobacco Use (13-15)	2.1	0.970	0.1	2%		0.097		
Total							0.845			
D3 – Employment	D3.1	Unemployment (15-24)	32.64	0.499	0.5	14%	%28	0.250	0.192	
	D3.2	Youth to Total Employment Ratio (15-24)	2.63	0.875	0.5	14%		0.437		
	Total							0.687		
D4 – Political Participation	D4.1	Youth Policies and Representation	0.75	0.75	0.33	3 %	%8	0.248	0.068	
	D4.2	Voting Education	0.5	0.5	0.33	3 %		8%		0.165
	D4.3	Express Political Views (15-24)	0.647	1.348	0.33	3 %		0.445		
	Total							0.858		
D5 – Civic Participation	D5.1	Volunteering (15-24)	0.028	-0.093	0.66	6 %	%8	-0.061	0.008	
	D5.2	Helped A Stranger (15-24)	0.446	0.494	0.33	3 %		0.163		
	Total							0.109		
Total Index									0.74	

7 Multiple Linear Regressions to Study the Statistical Relationship between the Guide and its Dimensions

In this section, the statistical relationship between the five dimensions of the Youth Empowerment and Development Guide will be recognized and the impact of each dimension on the guide will be recognized by imposing a statistically significant relationship between these dimensions and the youth empowerment and development guide by conducting an analytical test

of the link and the multiple regression of each dimension as independent variables and between the youth empowerment and development guide as a dependent variable, to find out the impact of each dimension in the overall guide through the value of the β regression coefficients [8,9], and to identify the statistical significance of each dimension on the evidence, whether or not this relationship is moral, has shown the results of the analysis: -

Table 3: the multiple linear regression Result.

Independent Variables	R	R2	F Sig
	Beta	T	T Sig
Constant	3.021	536.976	0.000
Education	0.984	536.976	0.000
Health	0.908	119.324	0.000
Employment	1.303	143.003	0.000
Political participation	0.804	72.467	0.000
Community Participation	0.011	38.212	0.444

Table (3) shows that the model of multiple decline is moral in significance (0.000), R2 came with a high explanatory value of 0.864, with a statistically significant relationship between all dimensions of the manual and between the directory of empowerment and development of youth as a dependent variable except one dimension, which is community participation, and the result of the analysis was consistent with the theoretical frameworks where after community participation was one of the least of these dimensions in terms of relative importance and in terms of weight in the evidence, and the dimensions of employment and health were the most affected on the ranking, followed by political participation.

Regression Equation

$$Y = a + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \dots + e$$

$$Y = 3.021 + 0.984(\text{Education}) + 0.908(\text{Health}) + 1.303(\text{Employment}) + 0.804(\text{Political}) + 0.011(\text{Participation}) \quad (1)$$

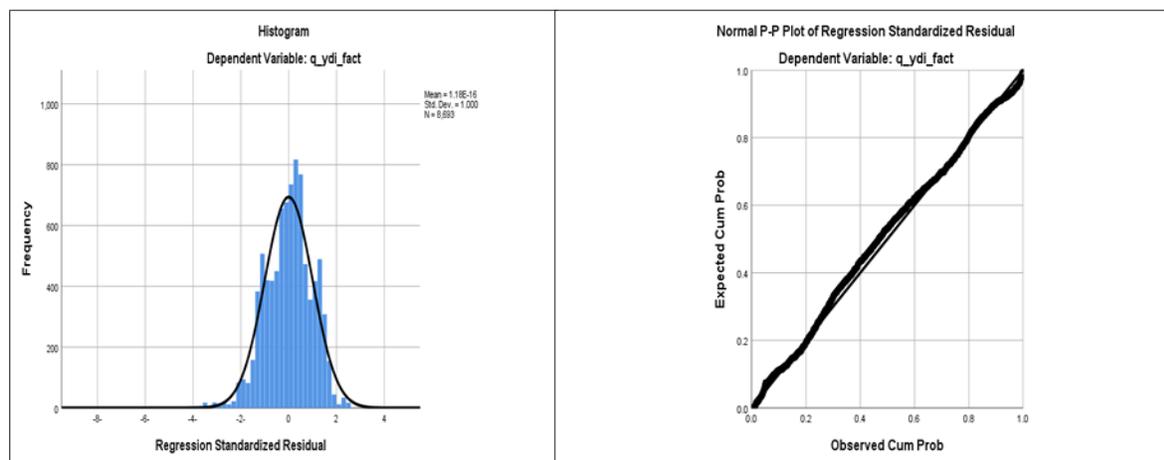


Fig. 2: Regression Standard Residuals.

9 The Importance of Empowering Young People in achieving Sustainable Development Goals

According to the general framework of the study, which dealt with the dimensions of the Youth Empowerment and Development Index and the Sustainable Development Goals [10], which are the following goals chosen in accordance with each of the main dimensions of the guide, which is illustrated by the following figure (1), which shows how to invest the empowerment and development of young people at the level of all dimensions of the Youth Empowerment and Development Guide in achieving some of the sustainable development goals at the level of the Republic as shown in the

form shown that there is an reciprocal relationship between the empowerment and development of young people and the achievement of sustainable development goals and the achievement of sustainable development goals. Egypt 2030.

9.1 The Extent to which Youth Empowerment Contributes to Achieving the Selected Sustainable Development Goals Related to the Dimensions of the Guide:

9.1.1 GOAL 4: Quality Education:-

This goal is closely related to the dimension of education, which is considered the first dimension in the Guide for youth development and empowerment, and in retrospect from what post-education values have shown at the national level, which showed that the education spending index was the least valuable indicator (0.08), which means that attention is needed to this indicator and the need to increase allocations for spending on education while the values of the rest of the other indicators were fairly close, as for the value of the total dimension (about 0.84) was very good and the index was very good.

9.1.2 GOAL 3 Good Healths and Well-being.

According to the total values of the indicators of this dimension, the value of the dimension related to health at the level of the Republic was about(0.84)and is considered at the high level according to the levels of dimensions based on the methodology of the Commonwealth countries, and the value of the dimension according to its weight within the guide is (0.236) of the total value of the guide for the development and empowerment of youth in the Arab Republic of Egypt.

9.1.3 GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

The results showed the great burden on the state for youth employment and employment in the coming period, it is clear that the indicator on the rate of youth unemployment needs to be improved, although the overall value of the index is moderate (about 0.687) and necessarily an improvement in the youth unemployment index will also positively affect the indicator of the rate of unemployment among young people 15-24 to the adult unemployment rate.

9.1.4 GOAL 5: Gender Equity

This goal is closely related to the dimensions of political participation and social participation in the Guide to youth development and empowerment, and according to the results in calculating the value of these two dimensions in the Guide for the Development and Empowerment of Youth where the value was reduced after community participation, and this dimension needs a lot of attention where the value of the total dimension was very low for the rest of the dimensions of the guide where the value of the dimension (about 0.101), which is what It will have a significant negative impact on the total value of the guide, but with regard to the dimension as a whole (about 0.857), which is a good and high value according to international standards, and in both, there is a strong tendency in the State to integrate young people into political life at the national level, which may increase the development and empowerment of young people in the rest of the dimensions and affect the high value of the overall youth development index.

10 Conclusion and Recommendations

Thus, depending on the study results and the development and youth empowerment in accordance with international rates need to pay attention to the dimensions that would devalue the College directory and are the dimensions of health, community involvement and political participation where Egypt ranked in these dimensions in the lower level According to the methodology of the Commonwealth in the ranking of countries according to gross and values guide values each separately, and this necessarily reflects the emphasis on indicators for each dimension and improvement which will lead to higher dimension value and therefore high-value guide as a whole.

Empowering young people requires radical changes in the political, economic, and social environment that causes them to be excluded. The government's policy of promoting the rights of young people is a priority for the government.

One of the most important parts of the equation is to strengthen the capacities of young people in education, which is closely linked to a wide range of development outcomes. Education maximizes access to the labor market, higher income levels, broader political participation, and support for female participation and pro-equality attitudes. Education must therefore be at the forefront of state attention.

Acknowledgement

This paper and the research behind it would not have been possible without the exceptional support of my supervisors, Professor Doctors **Hisham Makhoul** and **Mona Khalifa**. Their enthusiasm, knowledge and exacting attention to detail

have been an inspiration and kept my work on track from my first encounter with them to the final draft of this paper. They have also looked over my transcriptions and answered with unfailing patience numerous questions about Youth Empowerment. I am also grateful for the insightful comments offered by the anonymous peer reviewers at the research. The generosity and expertise of one and all have improved this study in innumerable ways and saved me from many errors; those that inevitably remain are entirely my own responsibility.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article.

References

- [1] Philanthropy and Youth Empowerment Foundations' Innovative Approaches to Support Youth., 2014.
- [2] Australian Youth Development Index., 2016.
- [3] Youth Development Endex., 2013.
- [4] Australian Youth Development Index., 2016.
- [5] Panel Survey of Young People in Egypt (SYPE) [2014] The Population Council, Inc.
- [6] Morton, M. H. (2013), Youth empowerment programs for improving adolescents' self-efficacy and self-esteem a systematic review. *Research on Social Work Practice.*, **23(1)**, 22-33(2013).
- [7] Ministry of Youth and Sports, F. (2014). Fiji's Rising Young Generation- Index, Youth Development.
- [8] Sciences Series #132. provide an example with commented SPSS output. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- [9] IBM. (2013). SPSS BASE 22.0 User's Guide. IL: SPSS Inc. Chicago: IBM.
- [10] British Medical Bulletin, Volume 124, Issue 1, December 2017, Pages 81–90.