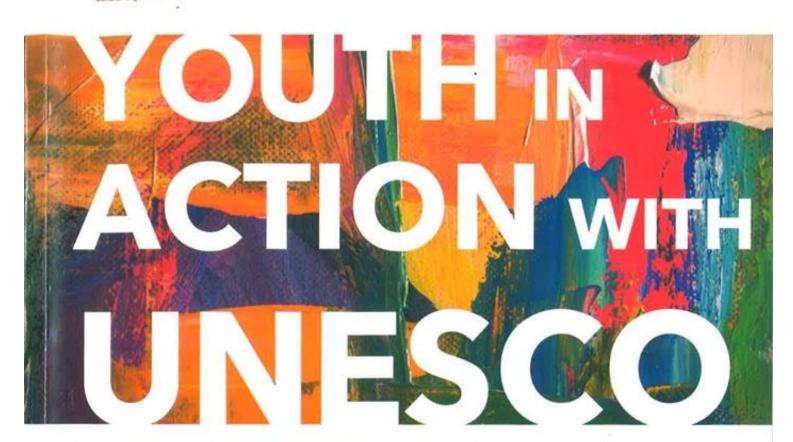


United Nations -Educational, Scientific and -Cultural Organization -

New Delhi Office

Cluster Office for Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka



STORIES OF YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN INDIA

YOUTH IN ACTION WITH UNESCO

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The recently launched United Nations Strategy on Youth "Youth 2030" imagines a world where every young person is empowered to achieve their full potential. It recognizes young people's agency, resilience and their positive contributions as agents of change.

Youth in Action with UNESCO aims to reflect on this engagement by capturing images on the ground of those young women and men who have recently benefited from or have been associated with UNESCO in India through various initiatives.

Active youth engagement is vital towards the achievement of the sustainable development goals for a better and sustainable future for all.

MAKING HER VOICE HEARD

year old Anita Raghav lives with her parents and five sisters in Mewat district in the state of Haryana. In a milieu where women's lives are still expected to revolve around traditional household chores, Anita has found a distinct sense of purpose and identity working for the community radio station Alfaz-e-Mewat FM 107.8.

One of Anita's many responsibilities at Alfaz-e-Mewat is to demonstrate the uses of radio equipment to school students, who regularly visit the radio station as part of an ongoing initiative by the station to engage youth in local development.

Anita joined Alfaz-e-Mewat as a volunteer and trainee, and learned how to undertake participatory communication and to broadcast radio programmes. She now produces content on agriculture for a programme entitled Jal, Jungle, Zameen (Water, Forest, Soil). She

enjoys leading live shows as they give her a chance to interact directly with listeners through dial-in calls. She believes that her work has boosted her confidence level, and has empowered her as an individual.

"I am thankful to my parents, especially my father, who has always supported me. [...] Working at Alfaz-e-Mewat has given my life meaning and direction, and I love doing what I do", says Anita.

Many such stories of empowered individuals in community mobilization highlights the significance of communication strategies for attainment of not only Sustainable Development Goal 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) but also Sustainable Development Goal 10 (Reduced inequalities).



Photo: @UNESCO New Delhi/Snow Leopard Pictures