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Youth-Led Innovation for Social Transformation: A Pathway to Change Communities

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Abstract

Oman's youth lack an organized movement, limiting their ability to address societal issues. Instead, they use technology, social media, and creative expression to raise awareness and mobilize communities. The study aims to examine the situation of Oman's youth, their challenges, and roles, and offer suggestions for social change growth. The research suggests a framework for youth movement organizations and innovative ideas, emphasizing the importance of prioritizing the needs of the youth. The research adopts a descriptive, qualitative approach by conducting in-depth interviews with educated and intellectual youth movement enthusiasts. Also, secondary data has been used for support and synthesis. Participants are selected from the researcher network and interviewed in person via a semi-structured interview. The Arab Spring protests led to a surge in youth movements, which are not formal organizations but collective action networks. These movements demand rights for oppressed groups and participate in decision-making processes. Youth believe in political participation and the importance of civil society. To ensure the independence of the youth movement, they need a unified vision, the right to association, organization, and collaboration with other organizations, effective grassroots activism, the adoption of decentralization, media use, and sustainable funding strategies. Implementing these frameworks can empower youth, foster social change, and contribute to the development.

Keywords: Youth, Movements, Social Change, Innovation.

Introduction

Youth in Oman do not yet have an organized known movement, an organized component of social movement that takes actions by groups of people who share common ideas for change and build the future of their society (Jansen & Agnoletti, 2021). People's feelings of unfairness or rage at a given situation are frequently the catalysts for movement. As a result, they look for like-minded individuals who can work with them to combat this. A movement can be a very effective way to confront authorities, individuals in positions of authority, institutions, and social norms. Community movements are highly popular because people frequently band together to better their own neighbourhood. Effective movements can alter society and how we think (Youth Do It, 2023).

Instead, Oman has groups of people who are working under government directions and with the cooperation of local companies (MCSY, 2021). They tackle issues related to some activities, local, national, regional, and international, but they do not act independently on their own with their own leadership and directions (Al-Jahdhami, 2021). Youth in Oman are dominated by government directions, and youth groups still failed in formulating their movements.

Youth movements have always been at the forefront of social change around the world. Their passion,

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energy, and ability to mobilize have contributed to significant progress in various fields, from politics and human rights to environmental sustainability. In recent years, there has been a growing recognition of the potential of youth movements in shaping the future of societies (United Nations, 2023). Oman, a country located on the Arabian Peninsula, is no exception to this global trend. Its vibrant and diverse youth population has been actively engaged in advocating for change and pushing the boundaries of traditional norms. In the face of societal challenges and the need for progress, Omani youth have emerged as a driving force for innovation in social movements (United Nations, 2014).

This article delves into the innovative approaches adopted by youth demonstrators in Oman, which have contributed to enhancing social change. It will explore the ways in which young activists have harnessed technology, utilized social media, and engaged in creative forms of expression to drive their agendas. Additionally, it will discuss the impact these innovations have had on raising awareness, mobilizing communities, and effecting tangible transformation in Oman. In addition, the article shed light on the unique opportunities and challenges faced by Omani youth in their quest for social change. It will examine the role of education, government policy, and community support in nurturing and sustaining youth-led innovation. Moreover, it will explore the potential long-term impact of these movements on the social fabric of Omani society and their potential to shape the nation's future.

Ultimately, the aim of this article is to highlight the significance of youth-led innovation in driving social change in Oman. It seeks to emphasize the vital role played by young activists in challenging conventional wisdom, pushing for progressive reforms, and ultimately reshaping the country's social, economic, and political landscape. By understanding and appreciating the innovative spirit of Omani youth movements, they can gain invaluable insights into the potential for social change and progress in societies worldwide.

Research Problem

Youth occupy about 40% of Oman society (Oman 2040 Vision, 2020); the focus should be on them. They have needs and should play a fundamental role in building the country and ensuring that their interests and those of future generations are protected, considered, and able to be achieved (Awashra, 2013). Youth activism in Oman and the GCC is limited and weak; civil society in Oman is limited too (Mahboob, Elyas, & Sultan, n.d.). The need is to build a youth movement, which cannot be done without grants of civil rights and rights to associations with no pressure or restrictions (Milinković, 2022). The government should not run in fear of allowing the rights of association to youth to build their own movement.

The current strategic thinking moves towards adopting an open system, opening internationally on all fields and levels, with efforts to protect Islamic-Arabic culture. The problem centres around strategic thinking in the political domain that, and maybe sounds of fear and hesitation from granted rights of associations, using the black battles days ago, since the country has lived in an internal conflict, a bloodshed, and a division (Al-Zayoud & Tarawneh, F 2012). It is necessary for youth to keep moving and build their movement. Youth are the drivers of social change (ECPR, 2018); they have the power and determination to make the change. Whatever this change might be called, revolution or progress.

The study's goal is to examine the situation of young people in Oman, their difficulties, and roles, and offer some suggestions for the growth of social change. The following two research issues are addressed in the paper: what is the current state of the Omani youth movement, if any, and what can be done to build and organize it? The importance of this study centres around suggesting a framework for building suitable youth movement organizations and suggesting some innovative ideas.

The paper has the following sections: Section 2 presents background information about youth in Oman. Section 3 presents the methodology; Section 4 presents the findings; Section 5 discusses the results;

Section 6 presents a suggested framework for youth; and lastly, it offers recommendations.

Background of Youth in Oman

The history and internal experience in Oman led to the exclusion of associations or unions of youth; women and youth are two important components in society's development and should play a role in social aspects (Al'Omairi & Amzat, 2012). To have a great role, they should work on forming movements. The reality shows that political engagement and aspects of civil society have been narrowed (Abouzzohour, 2021). Youth can participate in activities organized and supervised by government entities; youth have participated in government-led projects; examples of these projects are advocacy for road safety, sport activities, arts, entrepreneurship, walking, and attending workshops, which aim to, in the same vein, allow networking among youth groups under government supervision (Diwan of Royal Court, 2023).

Youth in Oman have played a role in shaping the socio-political landscape of the country through their popular activities (Unesco, 2019). Youth activities have emerged in response to various social, economic, and political challenges faced by the country's young population. Oman, a conservative, and traditionally patriarchal society has experienced rapid modernization and socio-economic changes in recent decades. This has led to a growing gap between the older and younger generations, with youths seeking to express their aspirations and concerns in an increasingly globalized and connected world (Unesco, 2023).

One of the key factors influencing youth activities in Oman is the high youth population. According to the World Bank, more than 40% of Oman's population is under the age of 25. This demographic shift has resulted in increased awareness and activism among young Omanis, who seek to address pressing social issues such as unemployment, limited economic opportunities, limited access to affordable housing, and the unequal distribution of wealth (Islam, 2020). Today, addressing youth issues and raising their voices can be done through social media.

Social media platforms' growth has also been crucial in organizing and motivating young Omanis. Platforms like Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube have given young Omanis a place to express their thoughts, voice their concerns, and plan protests or rallies. As a result, youth movements have been able to develop traction and increase public knowledge of their concerns, forging bonds of friendship among the youth population (Breteau & Al-Suleimani, 2022).

Additionally, the Arab Spring, which swept across the Middle East in 2011, had a significant impact on youth in Oman. While Omani youths were not directly involved in large-scale protests like their counterparts in other Arab countries, the events of the Arab Spring sparked discussions about political participation, freedom of expression, and demands for more transparent governance. These discussions served as a catalyst for the formation of youth movements, pushing for progressive reforms and increased political representation (Abouzzohour, 2021). However, the government of Oman has taken steps to address the concerns raised by the youth movements. Sultan Qaboos Al Said, who ruled Oman for nearly 50 years until 2020, introduced a series of socio-economic reforms to modernize the country and improve the living conditions of its citizens. These reforms included efforts to diversify the economy, create job opportunities for young Omanis, and invest in education and infrastructure (Oman 2040 Vision, 2020).

Overall, youth in Oman have played a role in highlighting the concerns and aspirations of the country's younger generation. By utilizing social media platforms and leveraging their numbers, young Omanis have sought to drive social and political change, pushing for greater transparency, social justice, and inclusive governance.

Research Methods

The research adopts a descriptive approach with a focus on quantitative methods by conducting in-depth interviews with several educated and intellectual people who are interested in the youth movements. In addition, secondary data is used to support the purpose of the article, and in some places, the synthesis of the data comes from secondary resources and the interviews.

The procedures for selecting participants based on the researcher network from different professions and fields, meeting them in person, and adopting a semi-structured interview allow participants to speak and present their positions and opinions fairly. After conducting the interviews, the answers were collected according to specific headings that were included in this manuscript. using the input from the interviews and secondary data to draw the framework.

The next section presents the findings.

Youth Movement and Social Change

This section presents important topics related to youth with their relations to filed movement, social change, and government. It presents findings synthesized from both a literature review and interviews.

Importance of Youth Engagement and Social Change

Youth engagement and social change play a critical role in the development and progress of societies, and this holds true in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) region, including Oman. In recent years, there has been a growing recognition of the importance of involving youth in decision-making processes and empowering them to contribute to the creation of positive social change (United Nations, 2018).

Firstly, youth engagement is crucial for fostering a more inclusive and representative society. The GCC countries, including Oman, have a young population with a significant percentage of youth. By actively involving young people in decision-making processes, their unique perspectives, ideas, and talents can be harnessed to address societal issues effectively. This engagement helps ensure that the interests and needs of the youth are considered, leading to more balanced and equitable policies that cater to the entire population. (USAID, 2014).

Moreover, youth engagement cultivates a sense of ownership and responsibility among the younger generation towards their communities and country. When young individuals are given opportunities to actively participate in shaping their society, they develop a sense of belonging and pride (Unesco, 2021). This, in turn, motivates them to become agents of positive change and work towards building a better future for themselves and their fellow citizens. By actively involving the youth, we can tap into their passion, energy, and innovation, which are indispensable resources for social progress (interview with activist, 2023).

Furthermore, youth engagement fosters the development of vital skills and competencies among young people. By participating in various civic activities, leadership programs, and community initiatives, youth can enhance their critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills. This enables them to become more effective contributors to society. Additionally, youth engagement provides a platform for networking and collaboration, allowing young individuals to connect with like-minded peers, share ideas, and leverage collective strengths to drive social change (Oecd, n.d.).

In the context of the GCC region and Oman, youth engagement and social change are especially important due to the challenges faced by young people. These challenges include high unemployment rates, limited access to quality education, and societal expectations. By engaging them in meaningful

ways, these obstacles can be addressed more effectively. Through initiatives such as entrepreneurship support programs, vocational training, mentorship schemes, and policy consultation, young people can be equipped with the necessary skills and opportunities to succeed, thereby contributing to both their personal development and the overall progress of society (Al-Muqbaliya, Al-Jamoussi, & Al-Maamari, 2021). These challenges, like demands, need a movement to take care of them. A fundamental issue is representing youth interests and participating in decision-making. A young intellectual student, specializing in political students, expressed the need for real youth participation; he stated that the current institutions for youth representation are cliché (activist interview, 2023).

Status of Youth Movements in Oman

Oman, a country in the Middle East, has been witnessing a surge in youth field movements in recent years. These movements have gained momentum and have played a significant role in shaping the current social and political landscape of the country. One of the major youth groups in Oman aims to empower young people and provide them with a platform to express their ideas and engage in dialogue. It promotes political awareness and civic participation and encourages young people to make a positive impact on society. The Youth of Oman has been successful in attracting many youth members to some field activities (Shuker, 2011).

Another prominent youth field movement in Oman is the March 15 movement. This field movement was inspired by the Arab Spring and sought to address issues such as unemployment, corruption, and a lack of political reform in Oman. The March 15 field movement organized protests and demonstrations, demanding change, and improvement in various aspects of the country's governance. Although this field movement faced some challenges and experienced a decline in activity in recent years, it is still considered an important part of Oman's youth field movement scene.

The rise of youth movements in Oman can be attributed to several factors. Firstly, the increasing youth population in the country has led to a greater desire for political reform and a more active role in decision-making processes. Additionally, advancements in technology and social media have provided young people with platforms to connect, organize, and voice their opinions, making it easier for them to mobilize and create change.

The government of Oman has taken note of the growing influence of youth movements and has responded in various ways. It has established initiatives such as the National Youth Program for Skills Development, which aims to enhance the professional and personal skills of young Omanis. The government has also introduced policies to encourage entrepreneurship and job creation for young people. These efforts reflect the recognition of the potential and impact of the youth population in Oman (Breteau & Al-Suleimani, 2022; Unesco, n.d.). However, there are still challenges and limitations for youth movements in Oman. The government maintains tight control over the political system, limiting the extent to which these movements can voice their demands and bring about substantial changes. Moreover, conservative cultural norms and societal expectations often discourage youth participation in political and social movements (Minzie, 2015).

In conclusion, youth movements in Oman are on the rise and have become influential players in shaping the country's social and political landscape. These movements have provided young people with a platform to express their opinions, demand change, and engage in meaningful dialogue. While they face challenges and limitations, the government's recognition of their importance and efforts to empower young Omanis demonstrate a positive shift in acknowledging the potential of the country's youth.

Government and Youth Movement

As literature indicates, in certain periods, youth have asked for some citizen rights, such as houses and work. Nichols & Malenfant (2023) tackle the sociological practices of youth experiences of homelessness. Sulaiman et al. (2023) investigates the economic side of Omani youth and tackle the topic of green entrepreneurial inclination among youth and sustainable development in the Sultanate of Oman. In addition, government entities like the Department of Culture, Sports, and Youth (DCSY) have conducted several activities related to their scope of mission (DCSY, 2023).

Youth can participate in local, regional, and international activities; an example is Arab youth participation in global movement activities to address climate change across multiple sectors (Unesco, 2022). However, youth must work under government directions and vision; they do not have their own vision. Government entities, with the cooperation of the private sector, launched several capacity-building programs, including leadership programs. For example, more than a hundred graduates participated in a leadership program called *Qudurat*, financed by Mazoon Dairy Company (Mazoon Dairy website, 2017).

Recently, the Oman government has worked on introducing youth strategic documents with vision, mission, and strategy (Arabian Daily, 2023). All participants were under government direction, and most of the youth participants are government employees. Unlike Oman, youth have established their own movement in Arabic countries, including countries with kingdom systems such as Morocco, Jordan, Bahrain, and Kuwait (Unescwa, 2013).

Considering Youth Rights

The government in GCC started thinking about how to deal with you during the period called Arab Spring, the revolution and demonstration that goes on in the street in 2011, asking for political, social, and economic rights (Ismail, 2012; Britannica, 202). Boghardt (2013), indicates that protesters in the Middle East, including GCC countries, were aged between 18 and 30. In the GCC, youth have started these demonstrations asking for their demands or rights, especially with states that have diversity, such as Bahrain, Kuwait, and Oman. Looking for their demands, it is easy to figure out that they call for a reform—legislative, judicial, and other structural reforms—rather than changing the political systems, i.e., a revolution (Boghardt, 2013). Demographic and economic factors, such as the "youth bulge" and high unemployment rates, could increase the demand for structural reform in countries like Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, and the UAE. Approximately one-third of the population is aged 15–29, with unemployment rates ranging from 17–24%. In Oman, older generations have criticized young protesters for demanding political and economic change after concessions by ruler Sultan Qaboos (Boghardt, 2013).

Innovative Approaches and Potential Benefits

Innovative approaches refer to new and creative ways of addressing problems, challenges, or opportunities. These approaches typically involve thinking outside the box and generating fresh ideas that challenge traditional methods and practices. These innovative approaches can have numerous potential benefits across various fields and industries. On the economic side, one potential benefit of innovative approaches is their ability to increase efficiency and productivity. By implementing new methods and technologies, organizations can streamline their processes, automate repetitive tasks, and eliminate inefficiencies. This can result in cost savings, reduced labor requirements, and improved output quality (Deloitte, 2018). Another potential benefit is the ability to enhance customer satisfaction. Innovative approaches often prioritize customer needs and preferences, leading to the development of new products or services that better meet their expectations. By continuously adapting to changing customer demands, organizations can generate customer loyalty, increase market share, and gain a competitive advantage (Deloitte, 2018).

Innovative approaches can also lead to improved problem-solving and decision-making. By encouraging creative thinking and embracing new perspectives, organizations can find novel solutions to complex problems. This can result in breakthrough innovations, improved strategic planning, and the ability to seize new opportunities (Pandya, 2021). Furthermore, innovative approaches can foster a culture of collaboration and learning within organizations (Hafidh, 2023). Additionally, innovative approaches often have the potential to drive sustainability and social impact. By focusing on environmentally friendly practices, renewable energy sources, and social responsibility, organizations can align their innovations with the broader goal of creating a sustainable future. This can enhance their reputation, attract socially conscious customers, and contribute to positive social change (Hamzah, 2022).

In summary, innovative approaches have the potential to bring numerous benefits to organizations. From increased efficiency to customer satisfaction, improved problem-solving, and sustainability, these approaches can drive positive change and help organizations stay ahead in a rapidly evolving world. Embracing innovation and embracing new approaches can be key strategies for success in various industries and fields. What kind of innovative approaches have youth adapted, and what new approaches can youth use?

The Role of Innovation in Engaging Youth

Innovation plays a vital role in engaging youth and fostering their active participation in society. It holds the power to inspire and empower young individuals, enabling them to contribute meaningfully to their communities and create positive change.

One of the key aspects of innovation is its ability to capture the attention and interest of young minds. Today's youths are born into a digital era where technology and innovation are integral parts of their lives. By harnessing the power of innovative ideas, organizations, governments, and educational institutions can create engaging platforms and opportunities that resonate with the younger generation (faculty member interview, 2023). Innovation serves as a catalyst for creativity and problem-solving skills. It encourages young people to think critically, question the status quo, and find innovative solutions to the challenges they face. It provides them with a sense of purpose and ownership as they become active participants in shaping the world around them (faculty member interview, 2023).

Engaging youth through innovation also fosters an entrepreneurial mindset. It encourages young individuals to take risks, explore new ideas, and develop their own initiatives. By providing them with the right tools and resources, such as mentorship programs and access to funding, we can empower young people to turn their innovative ideas into reality and become successful entrepreneurs (Orced, 2014). Furthermore, innovation can address societal issues that particularly affect young people, such as unemployment, environmental degradation, and social inequality. By involving youth in the innovation process, their perspectives and experiences can contribute to the development of sustainable and inclusive solutions. This not only empowers young individuals but also strengthens their sense of belonging and agency as active citizens.

Moreover, innovation offers new avenues for learning and education. With the rise of technology, traditional educational models are being supplemented and transformed by innovative approaches. Online platforms, virtual reality, and interactive tools enable young people to access knowledge and skills outside the confines of traditional classrooms. This opens endless possibilities for engaging youth in lifelong learning and empowering them to pursue their interests and passions (Oced, 2016).

Youth have used social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. Now, youth should enhance their usage of several social media platforms to attract young interests and initiate discussions on topics that are important to their rights—economic, social, educational, and political.

In conclusion, innovation plays a critical role in engaging youth and nurturing their active involvement in society. By embracing innovative ideas, organizations, governments, and educational institutions can inspire, empower, and support young individuals in making a positive impact. Engaging youth through innovation not only benefits them individually but also contributes to the development of a vibrant and prosperous society (Serdyukov, 2017).

Successful International Models

International models often must come up with innovative solutions to difficult challenges. They can inspire youth movements to approach problems from different angles and think creatively to find effective solutions, i.e., creative problem-solving (Interview youth activist, 2023). In addition, successful international models work in different cultures and contexts, i.e., from a global perspective. This gives them a broader perspective and understanding of global issues. They can share their experiences and knowledge with youth movements, encouraging them to think beyond their local boundaries and consider the wider global impact of their actions (OCED, n.d.).

International models work with diverse teams of professionals from around the world. They develop strong networks and learn how to collaborate effectively with people from different backgrounds. They can teach youth movements the importance of networking and collaboration, helping them build strong alliances and work together towards common goals (OECD, n.d.). Adaptability and resilience: International models face many challenges in their careers, including rejection, competition, and demanding work schedules. They often must adapt to new environments and overcome obstacles to succeed. They can inspire and mentor young activists, teaching them the importance of perseverance, resilience, and adaptability in their pursuit of change (Bramly, 2023). Embracing diversity: Successful international models experience firsthand the value and beauty of diversity. They work with individuals from different nationalities, ethnicities, and cultures. They can promote inclusivity and acceptance within youth movements, encouraging young activists to embrace diversity and leverage it as a source of innovation and strength (Interview youth activist, 2023).

International models need strong communication skills to work with designers, photographers, and agencies from around the world. They can share their expertise in communication with youth movements, teaching them how to effectively convey their message, engage with diverse audiences, and use social media platforms strategically.

Branding and marketing: International models often must build and manage their personal brand. They learn about marketing strategies, personal image management, and public relations. They can guide youth movements in building their own brand identity, raising awareness about their cause, and effectively communicating their mission to the public (Wahyuningroem, 2023). Environmental consciousness: Many successful international models are advocates for sustainable fashion and environmental conservation. They promote ethical and sustainable practices within the industry. They can inspire youth movements to prioritize environmental issues and develop innovative solutions to create a more sustainable future (World Economic Forum, 2021). By drawing on the experiences and skills of successful international models, youth movements can gain valuable insights and inspiration to drive innovation and create positive change in their communities and beyond.

Results and Discussion

This section presents a summary of the results concluded from interviews that were conducted with some intellectuals and educated youth in Oman. They expressed their thoughts regarding the fact that the protest

action in the Arab countries, or what was known as the Arab Spring, led to giving a strong impetus to the protest movements or youth groups, which were not dependent on the political parties or their ideologies under their control, which made the protest action take on a popular, **decentralized** character with the strength and will of the youth. The protest action contributed to putting youth issues firmly on the table where governments could not turn their backs on them (Interview youth activist, 2023).

Protest activities are considered tools for groups of social movements that feel oppressed and marginalized and thus demand rights and their gateway to participation in decision-making. Economic conditions contribute to some extent to protests in developing countries. What distinguishes the new social movements is that they raised entirely national issues and were not of a weak or narrow political nature. Whereas new social movements are social and political activity that takes the form of an organized movement that demolishes the prevailing social patterns and replaces them with others consistent with their actual interests. These movements go beyond irregular social activities, but they are not at the level of formal organizations like parties and unions but rather work within the framework of a network system of collective action, which is what distinguishes them by giving them more dynamism in their movement. (Interview youth activist, 2023) In the same direction of renewal in youth social movements, the phenomenon of electronic protest movements has spread, and its role and the extent of its influence on the street and its movement, and even on the trends of decision-makers in some cases, who have resorted to issuing their statements and positions on social media, have become clear (Interview youth activist, 2023).

There are many contents under the heading of political participation, as it includes critical action in terms of participation in debate, participation in elections, candidacy and election, membership in political parties, all the way to political protest action on the ground, such as sit-ins and demonstrations. In addition, the right to establish voluntary organizations is the basis for popular participation and the existence of civil society, so that the state is organized through the Ministry of Justice and the dissolution of organizations is through the law and the courts, and so that civil society organizations are committed to transparency (Interview youth activist, 2023).

Because of the structure of Arab societies, including Oman, youth have a large share of the population as the current and future generations; they must play an important and vital role in shaping the present and shaping the future. Young people do not seek to change the system of government. There is local acceptance of the structure of the current political system, and young people seek to participate in all aspects of political, economic, and social life. They believe that participating in decision-making and determining their future and the future of their country brings public benefit to everyone (Interview youth activist, 2023).

Independence for the youth movement lies in the freedom to make decisions, but they do not mind receiving an unconditional fund from the government because money is coming from citizens at the first stage. Youth needs to form a coalition youth movement of young people in the states and governorates so that it is decentralized and non-bureaucratic. Everyone contributes by setting goals and formulating the directions of the youth movement, which consists of both genders. The compass of the youth movement is to participate in decision-making and represent the interests of youth and society (Interview youth activist, 2023).

Kicking forward the youth movement starts from freedom from self-censorship, in which a person believes that he is monitoring himself in accordance with the public authorities at a time when the public authorities want ideas to escape from the state of stagnation or the current reality and seek development ideas. A minimum base requirement is to present and express ideas, positions, and trends without believing that they are acceptable or unacceptable to the system (Interview youth activist, 2023).

Respondents agreed that a framework for youth movement should be drawn and provided to local youth activities across the country. Frameworks are operated within all dimensions of the political, economic, and social axes. The next section shows the suggested framework.

Framework - Allowing Youth to Take Role

Youth movement organizations play a crucial role in empowering and mobilizing young individuals towards positive societal change. This framework aims to provide a structured approach for developing and strengthening youth movement organizations in Oman. Youth should take their role in the country, and this required an active youth movement organization.

Unified vision: the youth movement should have a wide national vision that suits youth diversification: students, workers, professionals, clubs, etc.

Right to association: youth should be granted the right to association as it is fundamental to civil society. Registration of youth associations, institutions, and teams with the Ministry of Justice

Organizationally: A decentralized coalition movement in the governorates and geographical locations

Independence: The youth movement should be independent of the government and act independently of the government. In terms of funding: self-funding, voluntary, from the public and from the government, and unconditional.

Collaboration: Collaboration is an important pillar of youth movements. They often work together with other youth organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and government agencies to achieve their goals. This can involve partnering on projects, sharing resources, and coordinating advocacy efforts.

Grassroots activism: Youth movements often start at the grassroots level, with young people initiating and leading the movement. They value bottom-up approaches and prioritize community organizing, direct action, and mobilization to create meaningful change.

Decentralization: the youth movement should be flat across local communities sharing the same vision, but they do not have a top hierarchy to keep active and independent with no top control from dominators. This means that the youth movement should enhance collaborations with local, academic, and private sector organizations to leverage resources, knowledge, and networks. Collaborative projects and partnerships can enhance the impact and sustainability of youth movement organizations.

Use of media (electronic and social media): social media has played an important role in youth movement activities, and now it is considered a fundamental arm of the movement.

Funding and Sustainability: Develop a sustainable funding strategy that diversifies income sources for the organization. Seek grants, corporate sponsorships, partnerships, and crowdfunding initiatives. Aim to establish long-term sustainable revenue streams to ensure the organization's financial stability.

The framework provides a structured approach for youth movement organizations in Oman to effectively operate, grow, and make a significant impact on the lives of Omani youth. By implementing this framework, these organizations can empower young individuals, foster social change, and contribute to the overall development of Oman.

Conclusion

In conclusion, youth engagement and social change are of utmost importance in the GCC region, including Oman. By involving young people in decision-making processes, empowering them to

contribute, and addressing their unique needs and challenges, societies can foster inclusivity, ownership, and skill development among the youth. This leads to the creation of a more prosperous, equitable, and sustainable future for all. Investing in the youth today ensures the development of responsible, engaged citizens who will shape the future of their communities and nation.

By shedding light on the power of innovative approaches within youth movements, this research paper endeavours to contribute to the ongoing efforts of youth empowerment and positive societal transformation in Oman. By embracing innovation, Oman's youth can actively shape the future of their communities and the nation.

As recommendations for fostering innovation in youth field movements in Oman, the following imitative actions should be taken:

- building youth movement as a part of civil society, this means that youth movement should be taken away from the control of the government.
- development of comprehensive youth vision, mission, and frameworks based on the pillars explained above.
- Because of the important of internet and social media, investment in digital skills training and capacity building
- Promotion of inclusive and diverse youth participation in youth groups, movement, society, and local organizations.
- Allocation of national resources and financial support from public budget and independent bodies in Oman to be used for innovative projects.

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