



## **Training Session on “Integrating OIC Youth Strategy into the National Programmes in OIC Member Countries”**

25-26 November 2024      Ankara, Republic of Türkiye

Registration link: <https://erp.sesric.org/events/2024-TS-OICYouthStrategy/Apply>

### **1 Background and Rationale**

According to the SESRIC report on the “State of Youth in the OIC Member States 2024”, OIC member countries are home to a significant young population of 367 million, accounting for 29.5% of the world’s total youths in 2023. This demographic is projected to increase to 380 million by 2025, comprising 30% of the global youth population. Recognising the potential and challenges associated with this large youth cohort, the OIC and its members have prioritised youth development through regular organisation of the Islamic Conference of Youth and Sport Ministers (ICYSM) and development of the OIC Youth Strategy.

The ICYSM, held periodically since 2005, aims to empower youth and facilitate joint action among member countries. The adoption of the OIC Youth Strategy in 2018 further underscores the OIC’s commitment to leveraging youth potential for sustainable development. The strategy outlines 11 priority areas, including education, employment, social inclusion, combating extremism, entrepreneurship, health, marriage, civil society, cultural challenges and globalization, migration and integration, and environment. In addition, the OIC-2025 Programme of Action also guides member countries towards harnessing the full potential of youth in all aspects of socio-economic well-being.

Despite these comprehensive policies and goals, there is often a gap between policy formulation at the OIC level and implementation at the national level. To bridge this divide, the 5<sup>th</sup> ICYSM requested the Member States to appoint focal points in the Ministries responsible for youth and sports issues to ensure effective coordination with the OIC General Secretariat and timely implementation of the OIC Youth Strategy. In this context, the Department of Youth and Sports at the OIC General Secretariat organised a virtual coordination meeting with the designated focal points in the Ministries responsible for youth and sports issues in the OIC member countries on 13 March 2024. During this event, the participants recommended the OIC General Secretariat to organise a physical training session for the designated focal points.

The Secretary General of OIC welcomed this recommendation and decided that SESRIC, in coordination with the Department of Youth and Sports at the OIC General Secretariat, and other relevant organisations and institutions, would organise an in-person training session for the designated national focal points.

Furthermore, the resolution no.4/50-C (O.P.21 on Youth), adopted by the 50th session of the Council of Foreign Affairs Minister (CFM) held on 29-30 August 2024 in Yaoundé, Republic of Cameroun, called upon the OIC General Secretariat and SESRIC to organise a Training Session on “Integrating OIC Youth Strategy into the National Programmes in OIC Member Countries”. The activity will be implemented on 25-26 November 2024, at the Headquarters of



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SESRIC in Ankara, Republic of Türkiye, in collaboration with the Ministry of Sports in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Chair of the ICYSM and other relevant OIC bodies.

This training session aims to equip focal points with the knowledge and skills needed to integrate OIC youth strategy into their countries’ national programmes. Through a collaborative learning, exchange of best practices, country experiences, and networking opportunities, designated national focal points will not only enhance their individual capacities but also contribute to a broader ecosystem of knowledge sharing and cooperation among OIC member countries.

### **2 Objectives**

- Present and promote OIC policies and goals related to youth as outlined in the OIC Youth Strategy and the OIC-2025 Programme of Action.
- Provide an opportunity for designated focal points and other relevant stakeholders to learn how to effectively integrate the OIC Youth Strategy into their national programmes.
- Offer an opportunity for designated focal points and other relevant stakeholders to learn about youth-related programmes and initiatives of relevant OIC institutions.
- Equip national focal points with necessary knowledge and skills to integrate OIC Youth Strategy into national programmes and action plans.
- Explore potential projects, initiatives and programmes at the country level that could receive technical support and/or funding from the OIC and its relevant institutions.
- Foster intra-OIC cooperation, networking, and the exchange of best practices among participants from various OIC member countries and institutions.



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### **3 Expected Outcomes**

- Participants will gain a deeper understanding and awareness of OIC policies and goals related to youth, especially the OIC Youth Strategy and the OIC-2025 Programme of Action.
- Focal points and relevant stakeholders will develop the skills and knowledge required to effectively integrate the OIC Youth Strategy into their national programmes.
- Participants will learn from the experiences and best practices of other OIC member countries that have successfully integrated the Youth Strategy into their national programmes.
- Participants will develop actionable plans and strategies tailored to their countries' specific needs for implementing the OIC Youth Strategy.
- Improved design and implementation of national youth programmes that align with the objectives of the OIC Youth Strategy, leading to more effective youth development initiatives.
- Enhanced networking and collaboration among focal points and stakeholders across OIC member countries, fostering a community of practice for continuous support and knowledge sharing.
- Participants will gain insights into feasible opportunities for seeking support and financing from the OIC and its relevant institutions.
- The training session will foster collaboration and mutual learning among participants from diverse OIC member countries and institutions, paving the way for future partnerships and joint initiatives aimed at advancing youth empowerment and development.

### **4 Organiser(s)**

The session will be jointly organised by the OIC General Secretariat (Department of Youth and Sports), SESRIC, and other relevant OIC bodies.

### **5 Participants**

Designated National Focal Points on Youth in OIC member countries and representatives from relevant OIC institutions.



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## **6 Logistical Details**

- The training session will span over 2 (two) days, including a half-day study visit to a relevant institution in Ankara on the second day.
- A question and answer session will follow the presentation(s).
- Simultaneous translations will be provided among Arabic, English, and French.
- Speakers are requested to send their presentations to [srehman@oic-oci.org](mailto:srehman@oic-oci.org) and [training@sesric.org](mailto:training@sesric.org) by 13 November 2024.



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### 7 Draft Work Programme

Day 1: 25 November 2024	
09:00 – 09:30	<b>Registration</b>
09:30 – 10:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recitation of Verses from the Holy Quran</li><li>• <b>Opening Statements</b></li></ul>
10:15 – 10:45	<b>Family Photo &amp; Coffee Break</b>
10:45 – 12:15	<p><b><i>The State of Youth in OIC Member Countries and the OIC Youth Strategy</i></b></p> <p>SESRIC’s presentation in this session will be divided into two parts. The first part will provide delegates with an overview of the “State of Youth in OIC Member Countries”, covering key areas such as demography, education, health, and the labour market. The second part will discuss the “OIC Youth Strategy”, focusing on its 11 main priority areas and the detailed modalities identified for successful implementation. These priority areas include education, youth employment, social inclusion, youth and extremism, entrepreneurship, health services, marriage and early marriage, youth engagement and civil society, new cultural challenges and globalization, migration and integration, and youth and environment.</p> <p><b>Speaker:</b> <b>SESRIC</b></p>
12:15 – 13:00	<p><b><i>OIC Countries’ Experiences &amp; Best Practices in Integrating the OIC Youth Strategy into Their National Programmes</i></b></p> <p>This session will explore the experiences and best practices of OIC member countries from three regions—Asia, Africa, and the Arab region—in incorporating the OIC Youth Strategy into their national programmes. Participants will gain insights into successful initiatives and approaches that have effectively engaged and empowered youth, contributing to their overall development. The session will feature case studies and examples from various OIC countries within these regions, highlighting innovative strategies, collaborative efforts, and impactful projects. Participants will have the opportunity to learn from these experiences, discuss challenges, and exchange ideas on how to further enhance the integration of the OIC Youth Strategy within their own national contexts. The session aims to foster a collaborative environment for knowledge sharing and capacity building among OIC member countries, ultimately contributing to the advancement of youth development across the region.</p> <p><b>Speaker:</b> <b>The Gambia (tbc)</b></p>



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<b>13:00 – 14:30</b>	<b><i>Lunch &amp; Prayer Break</i></b>
<b>14:30 – 15:20</b>	<b><i>OIC Countries’ Experiences &amp; Best Practices in Integrating the OIC Youth Strategy into Their National Programmes (Cont.)</i></b>  <b>Speaker:</b> Saudi Arabia ( <i>tbc</i> ), Türkiye ( <i>tbc</i> )
<b>15:20 – 16:00</b>	<b><i>Efforts of OIC Institutions in Implementing the OIC Youth Strategy</i></b> This session will feature briefings by OIC institutions on their efforts to implement the OIC Youth Strategy, including reporting on activities relevant to youth development. The session will highlight the role of OIC institutions in advancing the strategy’s objectives, emphasising the importance of empowering youth through education, skills development, and entrepreneurship. Participants will learn about successful initiatives and partnerships that have contributed to youth development in OIC member countries, with discussions focusing on best practices, challenges, and opportunities for collaboration to enhance the impact of youth-focused initiatives within the OIC framework.  <b>Speakers:</b> IsDB, ICESCO, ISSA, ICYF ( <i>tbc</i> )
<b>16:00 – 16:30</b>	<b><i>Coffee Break</i></b>
<b>16:30 – 17:00</b>	<b><i>Efforts of OIC Institutions in Implementing the OIC Youth Strategy (Cont.)</i></b> <b>Speaker:</b> IsDB, ICESCO, ISSA, ICYF ( <i>tbc</i> )



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Day 2: 26 November 2024	
<b>09:30 – 10:30</b>	<b><i>Integrating the OIC Youth Strategy into National Programmes (Breakout Session)</i></b> This break-out session aims to provide a collaborative platform for national focal points from OIC member countries to discuss and share effective strategies for integrating the OIC Youth Strategy into their national programmes. The session will facilitate knowledge exchange, highlight best practices, and identify common challenges faced by member countries. To ensure effective communication and participation, the break-out session will be divided into three groups according to the OIC languages: Arabic, English, and French.
<b>10:30 – 11:00</b>	<b><i>Coffee Break</i></b>
<b>11:00 – 13:00</b>	<b><i>Integrating the OIC Youth Strategy into National Programmes</i></b> Presentations by groups and open discussion ( <b>tbc</b> )
<b>13:00 – 14:00</b>	<b><i>Lunch &amp; Prayer Break</i></b>
<b>14:00 – 17:00</b>	<b>Study Visit</b>

## 8 Registration

To access to the registration page, please point your browser to:

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