



RESTLESS DEVELOPMENT

Global strategy
2022–2030

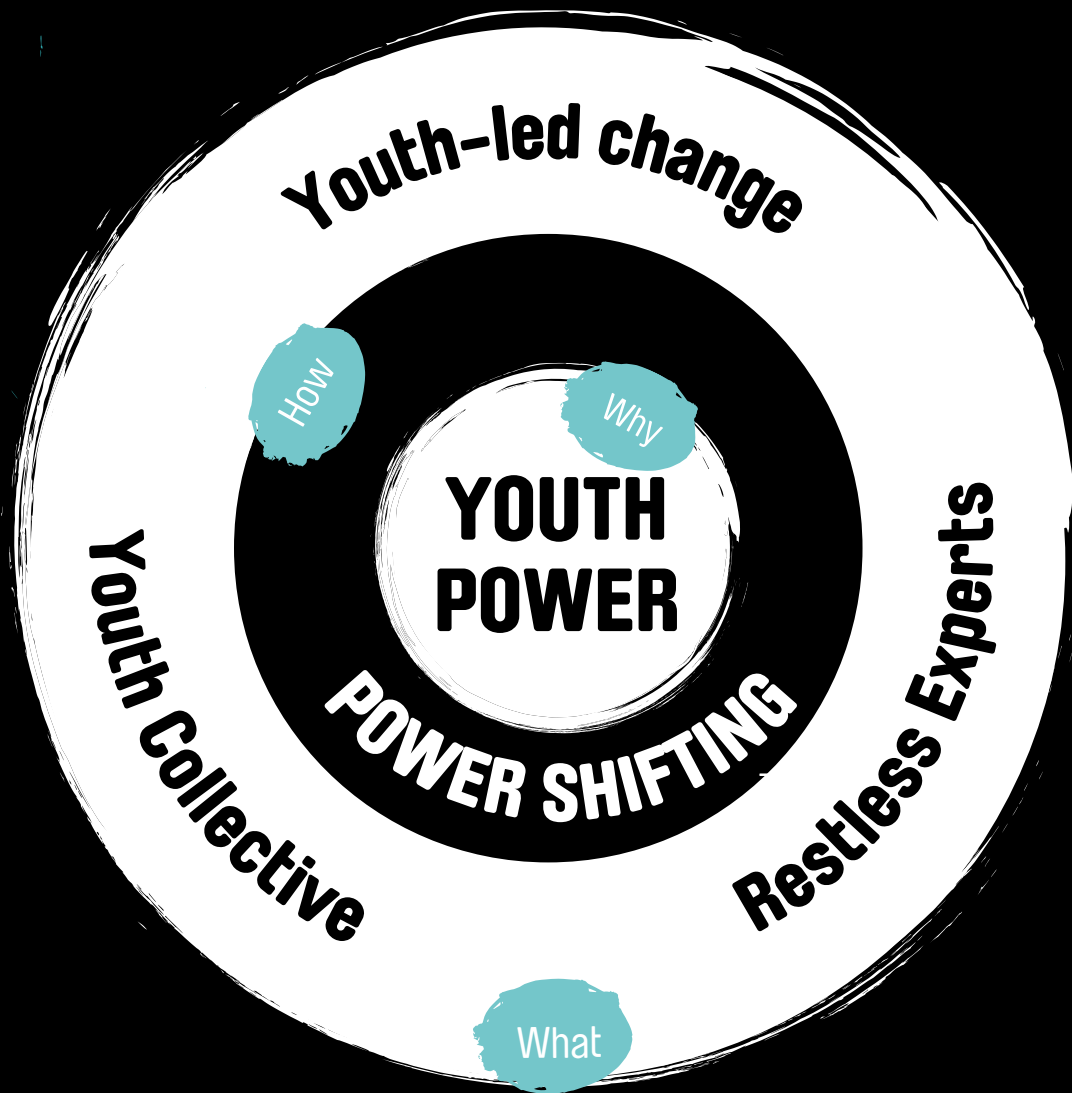
**RESTLESS
DEVELOPMENT**

**At the heart of everything we do is
Youth Power:
The collective power of young
leaders to create a better world.**

YOUTH POWER



OUR STRATEGY IN BRIEF



IMPACT Priority Areas



*** Education & Livelihoods**

*** Gender & Sexual Rights**

*** Voice & Democracy**

*** Climate Justice**

YOUTH POWER PRINCIPLES

These youth power principles have been compiled and defined by young leaders across the world. Youth Power is not rigid, it works across different issues and sectors. Youth power is about celebrating our complexity, diversity and uniqueness. For us Youth Power is the following.



WE ARE PROUDLY YOUNG

We are global and diverse, not defined by an age bracket. We have different lived experiences, knowledge and are experts in our own realities.

WE ARE HOPEFUL AND VISIONARY

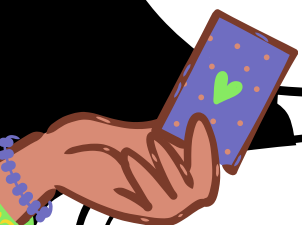
We are creating new pathways beyond the status quo. We innovate and turn our vision of a better world into reality.

WE ARE ADAPTABLE AND RESILIENT

We are not restricted by process and short-termism. We are resilient to challenges and crises and adapt in ways to best achieve our goals.

WE ARE LEADERS

Our leadership is not hierarchical. We are paving the way and call on others to change and support our transformative and alternative forms of leadership.



WE ARE INCLUSIVE

We are all different and unique. We celebrate the power of our diversity. We also acknowledge intersectionality, our diverse experiences and privileges. We seek to create safe spaces for free participation.

WE ARE SKILLED MOBILISERS

We are connected. We use tech to provide solidarity and support, overcoming barriers of time and distance, creating local and global movements with shared purpose. We are best when we work together.

WE ARE TRUTHFUL

We are authentic and honest with ourselves and each other. We are driven by passion and hold each other and decision makers to account.

WE ARE DIVERSE AND INTERCONNECTED

We don't work in sector silos. We recognise the connectedness of the issues we seek to address: including gender equality, climate change, health, livelihoods, education, disability rights and democracy.

WE ARE CHANGEMAKERS

We are effective in the long term and our actions impact the future. We mobilise and organise using transformative approaches that respect people and the planet.

WE LISTEN

What is your youth power principle?

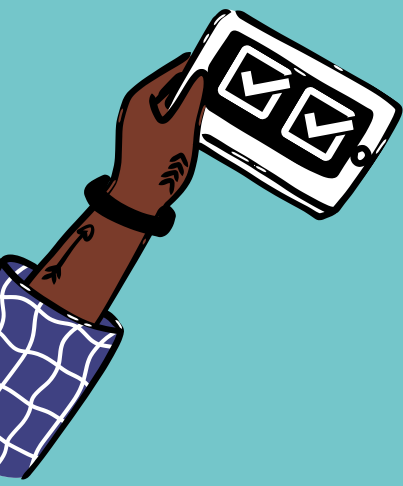
POWER SHIFTING

How we do our work is as important as what we do. We take a power shifting approach. We see the growing inequalities and injustices in our world. We are intentional in our efforts to shift power; enabling young people and communities who have previously been marginalised to lead change.

We are feminist, inclusive, gender transformative and anti-racist in our approach. We are grounded in communities and work in partnership to ensure young people lead with their communities. We recognise historic power inequalities and aim to decolonise development.

We recognise the barriers that women, girls, non-binary people, people living with disabilities, and young people with different ethnicities, religion and sexual preferences face in the communities in which we work. We want to proactively shift power and ensure every young person is able to lead and create a just and sustainable world and access their rights.

**We've created the
POWER SHIFTING CHECKLIST
to guide the work that we do and to
help others that want to ensure all
young people have the power to lead.**



POWER SHIFTING CHECKLIST

1. PRIORITISE YOUTH LEADERSHIP

- ✓ Trust young people to lead from the outset.
- ✓ Support youth-led organising.



2. PRIORITISE SAFETY & HAPPINESS

- ✓ Protect the health and safety of young people.
- ✓ Support youth happiness and wellbeing.

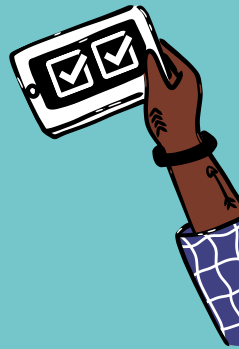


3. TRAIN, SUPPORT & RESOURCE YOUNG LEADERS

- ✓ Plan Ahead. Provide and resource tailored inclusive training and support to all young leaders.
- ✓ Compensate fairly. Ensure no young person is doing unpaid work, or is out of pocket due to their commitment.
- ✓ Fund locally led youth groups and organisations.

4. BE OPEN, DYNAMIC AND ACCOUNTABLE

- ✓ Learn. Invest in monitoring and evaluation and build a culture of learning.
- ✓ Ensure Dynamic Accountability. Let young people participate fully, be transparent and provide a continuous feedback loop.



5. INTENTIONALLY SHIFT POWER

- ✓ Recognise Intersectionality. Acknowledge that everyone has a unique experience of discrimination – and be intentional about removing barriers for every young person.
- ✓ Let communities lead their own development.
- ✓ Let young people be holistic leaders, to inform, influence and deliver their own futures.



6. BE RESTLESS: FLEX, INNOVATE & CREATE

- ✓ Youth Power is not bound by existing systems or the status quo. Give young people the space to flex, innovate and create new ways to have impact.



THE RESTLESS APPROACH

YOUTH-LED CHANGE

We support young people to lead change, with opportunities to build confidence, networks and skills to lead initiatives which have a lasting impact. Our work differs in response to the context and challenge. However, it is always led by young people in their community and in line with the Power Shifting Checklist. We have a number of models which underpin much of our work, including:

* **YOUTH TRAINING AND EMPOWERMENT**

Young people are provided with tailored training, support, networks and mentors enabling young people to learn, adapt, grow, and ultimately thrive.

* **COMMUNITY MOBILISATION**

Young people change behaviour or mobilise action in their communities to respond to long-standing challenges such as child marriage or gender-based violence, as well as more pressing emergencies such as disease outbreaks or climate related disasters.

* **YOUTH-LED ACCOUNTABILITY**

Young people are supported to advocate and hold decision-makers to account.

* **YOUTH-LED RESEARCH**

Young people capture key insights on issues that matter most to them, and use them to inform policy and practice.




YOUTH COLLECTIVE

Restless Development wants youth civil society to thrive. Youth civil society is a diverse and innovative network of youth groups, organisations and networks. A vibrant strong youth civil society is essential for tackling so many societal challenges today.

We host the Youth Collective; a global community for youth-led organisations. We will continue to support and strengthen the Youth Collective, with deeper engagement. We will enable peer to peer support, learning and opportunities. We will transfer power, resources and ownership to youth organisations.




RESTLESS EXPERTS



We provide regular advice and guidance to institutions, governments, partners and corporations, supporting them to develop strategies and approaches that include youth perspectives. We offer expertise to set up youth advisory panels, convene youth audits, and develop recommendations and youth strategies.

We offer support with organisational change, ensuring meaningful youth engagement principles are embedded in organisational culture – from young members on steering committees and Boards, to youth designed and led programmes, activities and campaigns.



OUR IMPACT PRIORITIES

Restless Development supports youth power to create a better world. We aim to ensure maximum impact and work on a huge range of issues in different corners of the world. Much of our work spans different issues – including responding to emergencies, health crisis and on digital rights. Our current impact priority areas are:

*** EDUCATION & LIVELIHOODS ***

We want all young people to have the skills, knowledge, resilience and opportunities that enable them to thrive. We take a youth-led approach to ensuring that every young person has a quality education, and access to training and opportunities that set them up for life. We want all young people, especially women and girls, to be able to stay in school, and be able to make a sustainable fulfilling living when they leave.

*** GENDER & SEXUAL RIGHTS ***

We know that bodies, identities, gender and sexualities are subject to discrimination and violation. We empower young people to change attitudes and behaviours, as well as services and policies, to advance and uphold sexual and reproductive health and rights, and gender equality.

*** VOICE & DEMOCRACY ***

We believe more just and participatory democracies are possible, where institutions are accessible and responsive to young people. We support young people to lead as active citizens and create change in their communities by influencing social and political structures, and those in power, with evidence-based solutions.

*** CLIMATE JUSTICE ***

Young people risk losing the most from climate change, yet they are systematically excluded from conversations to address it. We support young people to be leaders in transitioning to a just and sustainable world by strengthening youth civil society and an intergenerational response.

An illustration of a hand holding a bouquet of colorful flowers (yellow, blue, and red) against a dark background. The hand is brown and has some small white marks on it. The flowers are tied together with a brown string. There are also some blue and yellow circular shapes floating around the hand.

RESTLESS DEVELOPMENT

Restless Development is a non profit global agency. We support the collective power of young leaders to create a better world.

We are independently registered and governed in nine countries (India, Nepal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda, UK, USA, Zambia and Zimbabwe) bound together by our vision for youth power. We are a global team of more than 200 people based in 13 countries and we also host a growing youth collective of close to 4,000 youth organisations in 185 countries.

We are committed to creating an agency that paves the way on youth-led change and walks the talk on power shifting.

www.restlessdevelopment.org

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