



Youth Safety Policy for the Wikimedia Community User Group in South Sudan

1. Introduction

The Youth Safety Policy outlines the guidelines and procedures for ensuring the safety and well-being of young individuals participating in the activities and initiatives of the Wikimedia Community User Group in South Sudan. This policy aims to create a safe and inclusive environment that protects the rights of young people and promotes their active engagement while adhering to local laws and international best practices.

2. Definitions

- a. "Youth" refers to individuals under the age of 18.
- b. "Wikimedia Community User Group in South Sudan" refers to the recognized user group that operates within South Sudan and contributes to Wikimedia projects.

3. Commitment to Youth Safety

The Wikimedia Community User Group in South Sudan is committed to promoting the safety and well-being of young people. The organization will:

- a. Treat all young individuals with respect, dignity, and fairness.
- b. Take appropriate measures to prevent harm and protect young people from all forms of abuse, neglect, and exploitation.
- c. Comply with local laws and regulations pertaining to youth protection.
- d. Establish transparent and accountable procedures for addressing any concerns or incidents related to youth safety.

4. Code of Conduct

The Wikimedia Community User Group in South Sudan has a Code of Conduct that applies to all members, volunteers, and participants, including young individuals. The Code of Conduct:

- a. Prohibits any form of discrimination, harassment, bullying, or abusive behavior towards youth.
- b. Encourages respectful and inclusive communication and interactions.
- c. Provides guidelines for appropriate online behavior, including interactions on Wikimedia projects, social media platforms, and other communication channels.

5. Supervision and Oversight

- a. All activities involving youth should be supervised by responsible adults who have undergone appropriate background checks and are trained in youth protection.
- b. At least two adults should be present during any in-person activities involving youth.
- c. Online activities should be monitored and moderated to ensure a safe and respectful environment.

6. Informed Consent and Privacy

- a. Prior to participating in any Wikimedia activities, young individuals and their parents or legal guardians must provide informed consent.
- b. Personal information and images of youth should be handled with utmost care and respect for privacy rights. Consent must be obtained before publishing or sharing any such information.

7. Reporting and Response

- a. Any concerns, incidents, or suspicions related to the safety or well-being of young individuals should be promptly reported to the designated youth safety officer or a trusted authority within the Wikimedia Community User Group.
- b. The organization will respond to reports in a timely and confidential manner, conducting thorough investigations as necessary.
- c. Appropriate disciplinary measures will be taken against individuals found to have violated the Youth Safety Policy or the Code of Conduct.

8. Training and Education

- a. All members, volunteers, and participants involved with youth-related activities must undergo training on child protection, youth safety, and relevant policies.
- b. Young individuals should receive age-appropriate education on their rights, safety, and responsible online behavior.

9. Review and Updates

This Youth Safety Policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure its effectiveness and compliance with changing laws and circumstances. Updates and amendments will be communicated to all relevant stakeholders.