

Tool 5

Youth Consultation Survey Template

Young people are too often invited into governance spaces for appearances, then sidelined when real decisions are made. This template changes that by gathering youth priorities, needs, and barriers at the very start of the co-creation process, so young people shape commitments rather than simply react to them.

The survey can be deployed by government officials, OGP Points of Contact, civil society organizations, youth networks, and/or community facilitators as a standalone activity or as part of a wider co-creation campaign. It is ready to use via Google Forms or any digital platform, as a paper printout, or as an oral guide for in-person facilitation. Adapt it to your context: add, remove, or modify sections based on your goals, the stage of the OGP process, and the communities you are trying to reach.

SURVEY SECTIONS AT A GLANCE

- A** About You: Demographic Data
- B** Your Relationship with Governance: Civic Engagement and Barriers
- C** Your Priorities for Open Government: The Core Priority Input
- D** How You Want to be Engaged: Format and Accessibility Preferences
- E** Optional: Tell Us More

FACILITATOR & DEPLOYMENT GUIDANCE

BEFORE YOU LAUNCH

- Adapt questions to your context: Add or remove based on your co-creation goals and available time.
- Confirm the applicable data protection law and ensure the survey complies with it (see notice below).
- Translate the survey into all relevant local languages.
- Test it on a mobile device with low-bandwidth connection. This is how most respondents will access it.
- Aim for responses from at least three different youth demographic groups.
- Distribute it through trusted youth networks, not only official government channels.

Recommended distribution channels

- WhatsApp broadcast groups (most effective in low-data contexts)
- Instagram and TikTok (short video with survey link in bio)
- Youth-led CSO newsletters and student union networks
- Community radio (oral version read aloud)
- Printed copies at community centres, faith institutions, and local markets
- Outreach ambassadors briefed to introduce the survey verbally in community settings

Example of data protection notice to adapt for your context

All responses are anonymous unless the respondent chooses to share contact details in Section E. Any personal information collected will be used solely for this OGP co-creation process and will not be shared with third parties. Data will be deleted within [XX months] of the process concluding. This survey complies with [applicable national data protection law].

AFTER THE SURVEY CLOSES

- Compile results within seven days of closing.
- Produce a one-page summary of the top three priorities, key barriers, and preferred engagement formats.
- Share the summary with all respondents who provided contact details.
- Use it as the opening document in the first co-creation session.
- After co-creation concludes, document which inputs shaped final commitments (and which did not, and why) and share this with respondents.

Connection to Tool 8

This survey can serve as a Part 1 of a two-part accountability loop.

After co-creation concludes, Tool 8 (“Youth Accountability Scorecard and Community Feedback”) should be used to follow up with respondents and track whether their priorities made it into the final commitments.

A: ABOUT YOU

This section collects demographic data to ensure diverse voices are captured. All responses are anonymous. No names or identifying details are required.

Q1 How old are you?

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 18–24
- ☐ 25–29
- ☐ 30–35
- ☐ Above 35
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Facilitator Note

Adapt the upper age limit to your country's official youth definition (UN = 24, African Union = 35). Note which definition you are using in the survey introduction.

Q2 What is your gender identity?

- ☐ Woman
- ☐ Man
- ☐ Non-binary/gender non-conforming
- ☐ Self-describe: _____
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Q3 Which city/town/province/region do you come from?

Q4 Where do you live?

- ☐ Urban/city
- ☐ Peri-urban/town
- ☐ Rural/village
- ☐ I move between locations

Facilitator Note

Rural-urban breakdown is critical. Many co-creation processes unintentionally exclude rural youth. Use this data to adjust outreach strategy before sessions begin.

Q5 Which of the following describes you? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Student (secondary/vocational)
- ☐ University student
- ☐ Young professional (employed)
- ☐ Entrepreneur/self-employed
- ☐ Unemployed/seeking work
- ☐ Community or volunteer leader
- ☐ Member of a youth organization or CSO
- ☐ Other:

Q6 Do you identify with any of the following groups? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Young woman/girl
- ☐ Person with a disability
- ☐ Indigenous or ethnic minority
- ☐ Migrant or displaced person
- ☐ LGBTQIA+
- ☐ Youth in the informal economy
- ☐ None of the above
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Facilitator Note

Intersectionality data helps identify whether the process is reaching marginalized youth or only the "usual suspects." This question is optional—never require it.

B: YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOVERNANCE

These questions help us understand your current experience with civic processes and what makes participation difficult. Your answers will directly shape how we design the co-creation sessions.

Q7 Have you ever participated in any government consultation, public meeting, or civic process?

- ☐ Yes, several times
- ☐ Yes, once or twice
- ☐ No, but I wanted to
- ☐ No, I did not know these existed
- ☐ No, I was not interested

Q8 If you have participated before, how did you hear about it? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Social media (Instagram, TikTok, X/Twitter, Facebook)
- ☐ WhatsApp or community message
- ☐ My school, university, or workplace
- ☐ A youth organization or CSO I belong to
- ☐ A friend or peer told me
- ☐ Radio, TV, or newspaper
- ☐ I have not participated previously (skip this question)

Q9 What are the biggest barriers that stop young people like you from participating in government processes? (Select up to 3 or as many as applies to you)

- ☐ I don't know when or how to participate
- ☐ The process is too complex or uses confusing language
- ☐ Meetings are in places or times I cannot access
- ☐ I don't believe my input will be taken seriously
- ☐ I don't have internet access or a device
- ☐ Language barriers (process not in my language)
- ☐ Safety concerns or fear of reprisal
- ☐ Financial cost (transport, time off work)
- ☐ I am not interested in politics or government
- ☐ Other

Facilitator Note

Barrier data reveals which exclusions are structural vs. motivational. Use these results to directly inform the format, timing, and channels of the co-creation process.

Q10 What would encourage more young people to participate in government processes (e.g., developing action plans, monitoring projects)? (Select up to 3)

- ☐ Digital/online platforms
- ☐ Youth-specific spaces or forums
- ☐ Clear feedback on how input is used
- ☐ Training / workshops on civic engagement
- ☐ Incentives (e.g., stipends)
- ☐ Awareness campaigns on social media
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

Q11 Do you know what the Open Government Partnership (OGP) is?

- ☐ Yes, I know it well
- ☐ I have heard of it but don't know much
- ☐ No, this is the first time I have heard of it

Facilitator Note

Use Q11 results to decide how much OGP orientation is needed at the start of co-creation sessions.

C: YOUR PRIORITIES

FOR OPEN GOVERNMENT

This is the most important section. Your answers here will directly feed into the co-creation process and help shape what government commitments are proposed. Please answer based on your lived experience: there are no right or wrong answers.

Q12 In your own words, what are the most important problems your government should address for young people right now?
(Select up to 3)

- ☐ Unemployment and job creation
- ☐ Access to quality and affordable education
- ☐ Skills development and employability training
- ☐ Economic hardship and the rising cost of living
- ☐ Youth empowerment and inclusion in decision-making
- ☐ Mental health awareness and support services
- ☐ Security and safety for young people
- ☐ Technology access and digital opportunities
- ☐ Entrepreneurship support and access to funding
- ☐ Poverty reduction and economic empowerment
- ☐ Corruption and improved governance
- ☐ Affordable healthcare for young people
- ☐ Infrastructure development (electricity, roads, internet)
- ☐ Agricultural opportunities for youth
- ☐ Gender equality and protection from gender-based violence
- ☐ Climate change and environmental sustainability
- ☐ Access to affordable housing
- ☐ Drug abuse prevention and rehabilitation programs
- ☐ Civic engagement and leadership development
- ☐ Social protection and support for vulnerable youth
- ☐ Improved access to internships and work experience opportunities
- ☐ Better public transportation systems
- ☐ Financial literacy and inclusion
- ☐ Innovation, research, and support for creative industries
- ☐ Reducing inequality and promoting equal opportunities for all young people
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

Facilitator Note

Place this open question early in Section C while energy is high. Responses often generate the most powerful verbatim quotes for advocacy use and co-creation briefing documents.

Q13 Thinking about the priority areas you selected above, what is the biggest barrier or issue that young people face in your community?

Examples: “No value for money on education budget expenditure,” or “Young people are excluded from environmental decision-making”

Q14 How important are each of the following issues to you personally?

Rate each issue from 1 (Not important) to 5 (Extremely important). Circle or tick the relevant column.

Access to quality education and skills training

- 1 Not important
- 2 Slightly important
- 3 Moderately important
- 4 Very important
- 5 Extremely important

Employment and economic opportunity

- 1 Not important
- 2 Slightly important
- 3 Moderately important
- 4 Very important
- 5 Extremely important

Access to accurate government information

- 1 Not important
- 2 Slightly important
- 3 Moderately important
- 4 Very important
- 5 Extremely important

Anti-corruption and public accountability

- 1 Not important
- 2 Slightly important
- 3 Moderately important
- 4 Very important
- 5 Extremely important

Digital rights, data privacy, and AI governance

- 1 Not important
- 2 Slightly important
- 3 Moderately important
- 4 Very important
- 5 Extremely important

Climate change and environmental justice

- 1 Not important
- 2 Slightly important
- 3 Moderately important
- 4 Very important
- 5 Extremely important

Healthcare and mental health services

- 1 Not important
- 2 Slightly important
- 3 Moderately important
- 4 Very important
- 5 Extremely important

Safety, justice, and freedom from violence

- 1 Not important
- 2 Slightly important
- 3 Moderately important
- 4 Very important
- 5 Extremely important

Political participation, and youth representation

- 1 Not important
- 2 Slightly important
- 3 Moderately important
- 4 Very important
- 5 Extremely important

Gender equality and protection from discrimination

- 1 Not important
- 2 Slightly important
- 3 Moderately important
- 4 Very important
- 5 Extremely important

Housing and urban/rural infrastructure

- 1 Not important
- 2 Slightly important
- 3 Moderately important
- 4 Very important
- 5 Extremely important

Social protection and financial inclusion

- 1 Not important
- 2 Slightly important
- 3 Moderately important
- 4 Very important
- 5 Extremely important

Facilitator Note

In Google Forms or any other digital data collection platform, use a "Multiple choice grid" question. Rows = issue areas, columns = 1 through 5. Enable "Require a response in each row."

Q15 From the list, which THREE issues are mostly affecting young people in your community/country? (Select exactly 3)

- ☐ Access to quality education and skills training
- ☐ Employment and economic opportunity
- ☐ Access to accurate government information
- ☐ Anti-corruption and public accountability
- ☐ Digital rights, data privacy, and AI governance
- ☐ Climate change and environmental justice
- ☐ Healthcare and mental health services
- ☐ Safety, justice, and freedom from violence
- ☐ Political participation and youth representation
- ☐ Gender equality and protection from discrimination
- ☐ Housing and urban/rural infrastructure
- ☐ Social protection and financial inclusion

Facilitator Note

The combination of Q14 (rating matrix) and Q15 (forced top 3) gives you both depth of feeling and a ranked priority signal, which is useful for synthesis and reporting to governments.

Q16 Is there an issue important to you that is **NOT** listed above?
If yes, please describe it.

Q17 On a scale of 1–5, how much do you feel young people’s voices are currently heard in government decision-making?

Q18 Think about a specific moment when a government policy or service directly affected your daily life. What happened?

(Write, say, or record as much as you can)

Facilitator Note

Storytelling prompts generate powerful qualitative evidence and are more accessible for respondents who struggle with abstract policy language.

Q19 In your view, what would an honest, open, and accountable government look like for young people? What would change in your life? Or one change you wish to see?

Facilitator Note

"Future state" framing captures aspirations, not just grievances, making it easier to translate responses directly into commitment language during co-creation.

D: HOW YOU WANT TO BE ENGAGED

These questions help us design the co-creation process around your real availability and preferences—not the other way around.

Q20 How would you prefer to participate in the co-creation process?
(Select all that apply)

- ☐ In-person community workshop
- ☐ Online meeting or webinar
- ☐ Online survey or digital form
- ☐ WhatsApp or social media poll
- ☐ Phone or radio call-in
- ☐ Written submission (email or letter)
- ☐ Through my youth organization or CSO
- ☐ I would prefer not to participate personally but can share with others

Q21 Do you have any accessibility needs we should consider when designing the engagement?

Facilitator Note

Keep this open-ended. Do not list disability categories—it can feel stigmatizing. Simply invite people to share what they need.

Q22 Would you be willing to help spread the word about this co-creation process in your community or network?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Maybe
- ☐ No

Facilitator Note

Peer mobilization is more effective than top-down outreach. Follow up directly with "yes" respondents and brief them as community ambassadors.

E: TELL US MORE

This section is entirely optional. If you would like to stay involved in the process, you can share your contact details below. All data is handled in accordance with applicable national data protection law and will only be used for this OGP co-creation process.

Q23 Would you like to be contacted about future engagement opportunities related to this process?

- ☐ Yes, I consent to be contacted
- ☐ No, keep my response anonymous

Facilitator Note

Consent must be explicit.

Q24 Please share your preferred contact details. (Only if you answered “Yes” to Q23)

(Email, phone, or WhatsApp)

Facilitator Note

Specify in the question description what the data will be used for and how long it will be stored before deletion.

Q25 Is there anything else you would like us to know before the co-creation process begins?

Facilitator Note

A free-response closing catches insights that structured questions miss, often generating the most memorable and actionable data in the entire survey.