



# Challenges for the health sector and academic institutions

concerning the health and well-being of young  
people in Palestine

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# Adolescent and youth sector

- Research,
- Policy, and
- Practice



-> national  
development  
process

# Role of the university



- Evidence-based youth health interventions,
- Policy-making based on sound analysis, and
- Improved professional skills in relevant health sectors

# Youth demographic dynamic

- Occupation,
- Migration,
- Exile and
- Diasporas



# Transition to adulthood



- Resilience-promoting factors in situations of stress and fear.
- Understand the social/cultural context of occupation
- Find specifics that promote or hinder healthy behaviours in that context
- Ensure development tasks of late childhood, adolescence and early adulthood are achieved

# Behaviours / attitudes of adolescents



- Reflect those of the adults who influence them
- Parental responses to changing societal dynamics

# Social mobilization paradigm



- “Problem” or “unhealthy” behaviour can be also often understood as “healthy participation”
- See young people as assets rather than as a burden

# Risk and difference



- Risks and difference are “normal” in life
- Normative experiences are nonetheless surrounded by myth and taboo
- Familiarity and awareness reduce harm



# Youth participation is key



# Research agenda setting

- **Socioeconomic & structural** factors
- **Lifestyle** factors
- **Participation** issues
- **Knowledge** base & structures (Indicator and measurement framework (MDGs))
- Adolescent & youth provision in **health systems**
- Profiling adolescent **clients**