



# UN+ YOUTH

AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

# VISION

# 2035

The United Nations Association of New Zealand  
(United Nations Youth Association of New Zealand Branch) Incorporated



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# Introduction | He Kupu Whakataki

UN Youth is Aotearoa New Zealand's largest youth-for-youth charity. Our organisation provides youth development educational opportunities for high-school aged rangatahi. Annually, thousands of rangatahi from across Aotearoa attend UN Youth events and programmes.

During our events, rangatahi engage with a hands-on style of civics education unlike anything they receive in the classroom. Our events provide rangatahi with a renewed sense of confidence and developed skills in public speaking, negotiation, and team-working. Rangatahi walk away as inspired, active global citizens equipped to be the leaders of tomorrow.

For decades UN Youth has been transforming the lives of rangatahi and become the go to provider for civics education in Aotearoa New Zealand. As a member of the United Nations Association of New Zealand (UNANZ) and the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) we now have a vision to transform our organisation into the future and shape the lives of the future of Aotearoa New Zealand's youth.

Vision 2035 is our action plan to shape UN Youth into the future. We will ensure our commitment to providing quality development opportunities to rangatahi and maintaining our presence as the go-to provider for civics education.

We would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the shaping of Vision 2035. This marks an important milestone and the collective effort and passion of our dedicated volunteers to steer our organisation into the future.

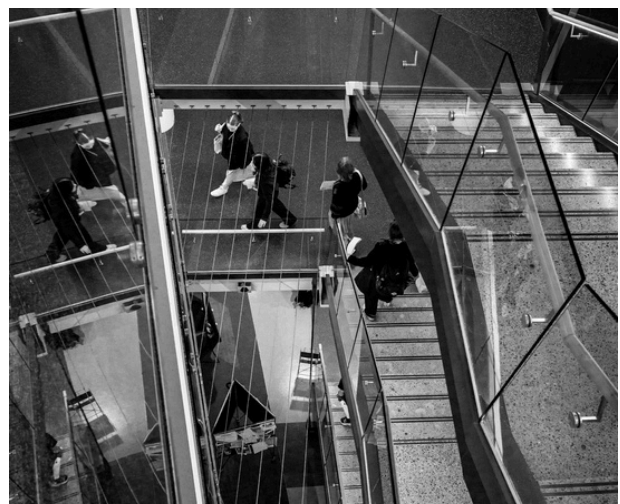
Our collective efforts are key to achieving Vision 2035. When we all work together to achieve our actions, outcomes and vision we are making our organisation stronger together.



Hala Barakat  
National President 2024



Callum Clark  
Chairperson, Board of Directors





## **Our Purpose | Tō Tātou Kaupapa**

We empower young people to be global citizens making impactful change in their communities

## **Our Mission | Ko te Uaratanga**

Our mission is to empower young people through our interactive educational approach to be global citizens and connected individuals making a difference in their communities





# Our Values | Ngā Whanonga Pono

Our strategy is informed by our values. By individually and collectively committing to and upholding our values we are prepared to bring our strategy and vision to life for the future of UN Youth.



**Empowerment** - We give everyone the chance to pursue their passion, and equip them with the skills to change the world.



**Whanaungatanga** - We foster a sense of community where people feel like they belong regardless of their level of involvement.



**Equity** - We ensure rangatahi from all backgrounds find our opportunities fair, accessible and approachable.



**Kotahitanga** - Unity, togetherness, solidarity, collective action. Like the United Nations, we know that we are stronger together.

## Te Tiriti o Waitangi | The Treaty of Waitangi

UN Youth Aotearoa New Zealand acknowledges Te Tiriti o Waitangi as Aotearoa New Zealand's founding document. We are committed to honouring and upholding Te Tiriti. This means incorporating the principles and spirit of the Te Tiriti into our work and our organisation.

## Safeguarding Statement

UN Youth places the rights and wellbeing of young people as our paramount concern. We are committed to acting in the best interests of young people providing a safe and inclusive learning environment.



# Our Vision | Tā Mātou Matawhānui

In 2035, 10,000 young people will actively participate and grow through UN Youth every year. They will come from diverse backgrounds and will be a voice for their communities, creating impactful change.





# Vision 2035 Strategic Pillars

A strategy requires clear direction that gives guidance and choice over our future. We have a goal in mind that we want to achieve and knowing that we cannot achieve everything is critical to choosing the right priorities for the organisation. This helps us make the biggest impact where we can.

Vision 2035 focuses on four core strategic pillars that will be our focus over the next ten years. Our strategic pillars give us direction and are intentionally high level directions so that our pillars can shift and adapt overtime as our organisation continues to change and grow.

These four strategic pillars will allow us to make the biggest impact for our organisation's future.





# Pillar One: Quality Youth Development |

## Pou Tuatahi: Kounga o te Whanake Rangatahi

***We empower young people to lead the spirit of the United Nations by creating positive change in their local, national and global communities.***

UN Youth aims to create a learning environment that delivers quality and relevant educational material that equips rangatahi with the skills to make the change they want to see in the world. Providing supportive and tailor-made material is crucial in developing the educational potential for rangatahi at our events and programmes.

Tailoring our events and programmes to rangatahi is crucial. This helps accommodate for different learning styles, cultural and environmental contexts, and the expectations of key stakeholders such as whānau, schools, and tertiary institutions.

### Strategic Pillar Outcomes

- Our events and programmes deliver high-quality and relevant youth development experiences that are valued by young people and their families.
- Our events and programmes consistently accommodate for different learning styles and contexts.
- Rangatahi are empowered to lead change and feed their ideas and visions into our educational materials.
- Our youth development content highlights and demonstrates a diverse, safe and inclusive learning environment.

### Actions to achieve our outcomes

- Develop a Youth Development Policy to define our unique educational approach and provide consistency across all our youth development activities.
- Equip our volunteers with the tools and development opportunities to deliver quality youth development activities.
- Deepen our connections and partnerships with other youth development and global/civic minded organisations.
- Diversify our youth development material for different contexts, including age groups, learning styles and other contexts.
- Incorporate safeguarding materials into our youth development activities and content to empower young people to be safe from harm.
- Scope and develop new programmes, events and international opportunities to provide young people and volunteers even more opportunities to get involved with at UN Youth.



# Pillar Two: Community Impact |

## Pou Tuarua: Pāpātanga Hapori

***We amplify the voices of young people in an organisation that is By Youth For Youth***

UN Youth is open to all and is an organisation by youth for youth. We foster the best in rangatahi and create an inclusive community network that enhances our partnerships and embraces democratic values.

Fostering a networked community means building strong relationships with a variety of people, organisations and other stakeholders.

### Strategic Pillar Outcomes

- Our organisation is seen as an accessible, safe and welcoming environment for rangatahi to learn and volunteer. Our organisation also reflects the communities we live in.
- Our organisation has a positive social impact in local, national and global contexts.
- We are a well connected and relationship-focused organisation with a vast network of partnerships.
- We honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi and have strong relationships with tangata whenua.
- Our refreshed equity model allows even more young people and volunteers to get involved in our programmes and events.

### Actions to achieve our outcomes

- Our promotions and external communications will amplify UN Youth's inclusive and welcoming environment. This will help draw like-minded volunteers and rangatahi into the organisation.
- Review our current equity funding model to develop a refreshed model that focuses on hardship, accessibility, and the scale of funding available to young people and volunteers.
- Develop and deliver a strategy in collaboration with the New Zealand Youth Global Awareness Trust that encompasses equity and investment back into the organisation. This strategy will also ensure continued connection and communication with our alumni, providing them opportunities to engage with the organisation.
- Research, measure and cultivate our social impact as an organisation, and proactively inform our communities and stakeholders of our accomplishments.
- We will build our cultural competence providing training and awareness opportunities.
- We will build our capacity and credibility to engage and partner with iwi and hapū.



# Pillar Three: One Organisation |

## Pou Tuatoru: Kotahi te Whakahaere

***We are a sustainable and future focused organisation with a strong foundation and footprint in our communities.***

Our organisational sustainability is crucial and relies on a strong foundation to deliver all of our activities and support our purpose. Strengthening our foundations and investing in our future means our organisation remains relevant and adapts to the challenges of the future.

UN Youth's operations and organisational structure needs to have a strong foundation of finances, assets, governance, technology and safeguarding processes that support the effective delivery of youth development and volunteer development.

### **Strategic Pillar Outcomes**

- Our governance and operational structure is future focused to deliver on our strategic vision. It will help us achieve our mission and purpose in a way that is cohesive across and connects between all parts of our organisation.
- Our finance model is diversified and sustainable, delivering quality outcomes to rangatahi and enables organisational growth.
- Our events and operational structure focuses on environmentally and socially sustainability. This will ensure that we are making a positive impact.
- Our communications and marketing are effective and deliver value to external and internal channels.

### **Actions to achieve our outcomes**

- Identify new funding streams and opportunities to invest back into the organisation to drive growth. Maintain and expand on existing relationships and exercise prudent liquidity management.
- Collaborate with open minds across all parts of our organisation to ensure that participants in UN Youth activities have an equitable experience regardless of their background or geographic location.
- Investigate better ways to manage our data, leveraging new digital infrastructure that makes our practices easier and more accessible for our young people and volunteers.
- Invest in tools and resources to support the delivery and development of our child safeguarding practices, reporting and processes.
- Develop an internal and an external communications strategy to promote our activities and build our brand and public profile. Develop ways to communicate volunteer success within the organisation.
- Our branding will be refreshed and clearly demonstrate our purpose and mission to stakeholders.
- Investigate and implement ways to make our programmes and events more environmentally sustainable and socially responsible.

# Pillar Four: Volunteer Development |

## Pou Tuawhā: Whanake Tūao

***We equip and recognise our volunteers with all they need to lead the spirit of the United Nations creating positive change in their local, national and global communities.***

Volunteers make it possible for our young people to learn and head out into the world. Our volunteers need to be empowered and effective in their role if we are to deliver quality youth development experiences to young people across New Zealand.

We need to support and develop our volunteers, clarify expectations and highlight how the organisation can develop them and recognise their own potential.

Whether our people are volunteering at a regional or national event, or office holders at the regional or national level, we are committed to providing a quality and positive experience for all.

### Strategic Pillar Outcomes

- Our organisation is a welcoming and safe environment for people to volunteer. We provide high quality training and development opportunities to our volunteers.
- We have national reach and a network of prepared volunteers that feel supported and valued. Our volunteers are ready to deliver quality youth development and are encouraged to learn and develop themselves.
- We are effective in recruitment, retention and the succession of our volunteers, providing a pathway for progression and recognition.

- Our systems and processes enable fair and transparent outcomes for all volunteers.

### Actions to achieve our outcomes

- An Awards and Recognition Policy will provide a flexible and encouraging framework to recognise our volunteers for the length of service and quality of impact to our organisation and wider community.
- We will gather and analyse feedback from our volunteers at all levels to ensure continuity. We will actively feed this information into our operational and governance decision making.
- A Volunteer Policy will provide support at all stages of the volunteer lifecycle. It will provide guidance on internal and external training, quality onboarding, resources and ongoing development opportunities to ensure our volunteers feel supported and empowered to contribute.
- We will make it easier to volunteer, equipping volunteers with the skills they need for their roles. We will provide flexible arrangements and create roles that have clear expectations and achievable deliverables.
- Volunteers are equipped with the skills to safeguard young people and ensure all young people are safe from harm.





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The United Nations Association of New Zealand (United Nations Youth Association of New Zealand Branch), Inc is the youth arm of The United Nations Association of New Zealand, a member of the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA).

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