MENA Youth Capacity Building in Humanitarian Action

An Initiative of Reach Out to Asia/Education Above All Foundation
WHAT IS MYCHA?

MYCHA is part of a global movement to promote the participation and leadership of young people in national, local and international humanitarian processes. The initiative aligns with ROTA’s strategic objective of supporting young people across various contexts to realize their full potential and contribute to the development of their communities. MYCHA contributes directly to Key Action 3 of the Compact for Young People in Humanitarian Action, which in turn contributes to Transformation 3F of the Agenda for Humanity.
WHAT ARE THE ORIGINS OF MYCHA?

**WHS Global Youth Consultation**
To ensure that the views and recommendations of young people were effectively integrated into the UN Secretary General’s WHS report, ROTA co-organized the World Humanitarian Summit’s Global Youth Consultation (WHSGYC) in Doha in September 2015 in partnership with the Qatar Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the UN Major Group for Children and Youth. The key outcome of the WHSGYC was the **Doha Youth Declaration on Reshaping the Humanitarian Agenda.**

**World Humanitarian Summit**
To further advance the Doha Youth Declaration, ROTA contributed to the planning of the World Humanitarian Summit High-Level Special Session on Transforming Humanitarian Action with and for Young People in Istanbul. It was at this Special Session where ROTA committed to launching a three-year initiative in the MENA region to increase young people’s capacities, knowledge and active participation in humanitarian action.

**Compact for Young People in Humanitarian Action**
The Compact for Young People in Humanitarian Action was launched at the WHS and represents a global commitment of humanitarian partners - representing government, civil society, United Nations entities and the private sector - to guarantee that the priorities of young people are addressed by the humanitarian system.

**MYCHA**
In November 2017, the first MENA Youth Capacity-Building in Humanitarian Action (MYCHA) was hosted in Doha by ROTA. The MYCHA Initiative represents ROTA delivering on our commitment and is a direct contribution to Key Action 3 of the Compact - capacity building and local action.
HOW DOES MYCHA CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMPACT?

The Compact guides long-term commitment based on 5 Key Actions. ROTA holds a leadership role on the Compact Technical Working Group, where we are the co-chair of the Key Action 3 Taskforce.

IN SUPPORT OF THE COMPACT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION

MEMBERS OF THE COMPACT:
1. Make humanitarian programmes contribute to protection, health, development of young women, young men, girls, and boys.

2. Support systematic engagement and partnership with youth in all phases of humanitarian action, especially decision-making and budget allocations.

3. Strengthen young people’s capacities to be effective humanitarian actors, and support local youth-led initiatives and organizations in humanitarian response. This includes young refugees and internally displaced persons living in informal urban settlements and slums.

4. Increase resources to address the needs and priorities of adolescents and youth affected by humanitarian crises and use the new gender and age marker for better tracking and reporting.

5. Generate and systematically use age- and sex- disaggregated data.
MYCHA has six interrelated components. Each is designed to increase capacity among youth from crisis-affected contexts and to provide platforms for them to demonstrate their ability to contribute in positive ways. The development, refinement, and delivery of youth focused training content forms the core of the model. Components of the emergent model will be synthesized into open source tools and resources which are replicable and adaptable by other agencies to meet their needs for engaging youth at the local level.

**HOW DOES MYCHA CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMPACT?**

**SKILLS MODULE**
Developing new youth-focused training manual on the basics of humanitarian action

**REGIONAL TRAININGS**
Platform for testing skills module and for networking and knowledge sharing

**LOCALIZED TRAININGS**
Trainings are replicated in accordance with local priorities and contexts

**YOUTH-LED ACTION**
Researching and documenting contributions youth make in humanitarian contexts

**EVIDENCE GENERATION**
Researching and documenting contributions youth make in humanitarian contexts

**YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP**
Engaging young people in the design and leadership of the initiative
WHAT HAS MYCHA ACHIEVED SO FAR?

At the core of MYCHA is a series of three regional trainings held annually in Doha. The first such training was hosted in November 2017 by ROTA/EAA, along with partners UNHCR, OCHA, and Qatar Red Crescent (QRC). It provided a unique opportunity for 120 youth between the ages of 18-30 to acquire knowledge and skills in humanitarian action. Once participants complete a MYCHA training, they receive six months of ongoing support and mentorship by local NGOs in their home countries to help them deliver youth-led humanitarian actions which they plan themselves.

MYCHA 2017/8 Achievements

- 310 Youth Trained in Humanitarian Action
- Youth From 16 Nationalities Represented in the Training
- 4 Days of Training Completed
- 43 Learning Sessions Delivered
- 17 Learning Areas Covered
- 6 Months of Post-Training Follow-up Conducted

Twitter
- 318 Posts, Reach by: 475,545,
- Impressions 1,334,411

Instagram
- 710 Profile Views, Reach by: 2,912,
- Impressions 28,580

Facebook
- 13,461 Likes page, increased by: 127

Media coverage
- 33 Local, Regional & 21 International,
- Local, Total available AVE 1,456,964 QR
WHO ARE OUR PARTNERS?

MYCHA is a partnership based initiative. From the development of the training content, to the replication of MYCHA trainings at the local level, each component of MYCHA is being supported by a key group of partners.

MYCHA Partners and Sponsors

![OCHA](image1.png)
![UNHCR](image2.png)
![DOHA INSTITUTE FOR MIGRANTS STUDIES](image3.png)
![Qatar Red Crescent](image4.png)
![human appeal](image5.png)
![INEE](image6.png)
![NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL](image7.png)
![MERCY CORPS](image8.png)
![OSMAN CONSULTING](image9.png)
![care](image10.png)
![HAD](image11.png)
![UNICEF](image12.png)
![QATAR FUND FOR DEVELOPMENT](image13.png)
![QNCC](image14.png)
WHERE ARE LOCAL MYCHA TRAININGS HAPPENING?

MYCHA training are now being localized across many countries in the MENA region, including Jordan, and soon Gaza and Lebanon.
HOW DOES MYCHA ENGAGE YOUTH AS LEADERS?

The MYCHA Youth Advisory Group (MYAG) and Taskforces are a key element of our model and a way to “anchor” the skills youth are developing through the initiative. The rationale is that as an initiative aimed at recognizing and strengthening the capabilities of young people, MYCHA must meaningfully engage them in its design and leadership.

The aim is to:

- Showcase the potential/capacity of young people as humanitarian actors and contributors
- Supplement the MYCHA training and capacity building by providing further outlets for youth to demonstrate and further improve their skills and knowledge
- Mobilize a pool of youth ready to work with different stakeholders at various levels
- Generate new knowledge by documenting and sharing experiences and best practices

MYCHA YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP [MYAG]

M&E

- Documents field level actions taken by youth who receive MYCHA training
- Assess and evaluate the overall level of effectiveness of MYCHA Model in preparing youth for local action

RESEARCH

- Tests hypothesis that providing training in humanitarianism can help catalyze youth-led actions at the field level
- Investigates role youth are taking in humanitarian crisis affected contexts

ADVOCACY

- Uses evidence generated through rigorous research to advocate for further inclusion and engagement of youth
- Advocates for replication of MYCHA Model
WHAT’S NEXT?

“

ROTA has committed to hosting the regional level MYCHA trainings for three consecutive years in Doha (2019-2017). After the third year, it is ROTA’s vision that other MENA-based organizations will continue to host at least one regional level training annually. ROTA intends to support this effort by providing all the tools and resources developed so far under the initiative.

”