Youth driven change
Our impact in 2018
Welcome from Fatuma and Ben

This report shows the transformative power of young people. We’re holding development projects to account using technology, developing the skills to run behaviour change campaigns and reducing the impact of climate change on communities most at risk. Youth-driven change is getting things done!

Nearly 2,000 amazing young people from across the world led Raleigh International’s work in 2018. Delivering innovative projects in five countries, they took action on global challenges. Together, they impacted the lives of over 40,000 people and joined a global movement of youth leaders.

But that’s only part of the story. Young people are continuing to take action in their own communities, from creating sustainable start-ups, to challenging gender inequality and calling for action on the climate emergency and human rights.

We’ve recognised the need for us to take the lead. We’ve been let down by the generations before us and we’ve had enough of waiting for them to fix the problems they created.

If we are going to finally defeat poverty and injustice, find sustainable ways to protect our planet, and achieve the Global Goals, young people must be the ones driving the solutions. This report shows why - join us!
Creating youth driven change

Why young people?

Young people are too often left out of the solutions to the challenges facing their future. Raleigh work with young people because we understand, from over 35 years of experience, that it’s vital for youth to be at the centre of these solutions. That’s because young people are:

**Connected influencers:** They embrace technological change and innovation to mobilise action, advocate for change and spread good ideas.

**Innovators:** Because they’re open to new ways of thinking, combined with creativity and optimism, they have the potential to offer pioneering approaches and solutions to development challenges.

**At a critical transitional life stage:** This means they’re more likely to take on new behaviours, attitudes and practices.

**Best placed to communicate and build relationships with each other:** By supporting their peers’ learning they’re able to gain and share new skills and behaviours.

**Uniquely influential role models:** They can create lasting behaviour change by spreading awareness of development challenges and promoting the attitudes and behaviours to solve them.

**Open to learning:** With the right training and tools, they can use behavioural science to help explain how people think and make decisions, and then design innovative programmes which respond to a host of needs.
The Global Goals

Only by engaging young people and creating space for them in developing the solutions to global challenges can we achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2018, young people worked with Raleigh to support eight of the SDGs:

- **1. No Poverty**
- **4. Quality Education**
- **6. Clean Water and Sanitation**
- **8. Decent Work and Economic Growth**
- **12. Responsible Consumption and Production**
- **13. Climate Action**
- **16. Peace and Justice Strong Institutions**
- **17. Partnerships for the Goals**

Our work in 2018

**Leaders of change:** Increasing the skills, knowledge and social capital of young people. Connecting them with peers and civil society organisations to lead movements for sustainable change.

**Unleashing youth enterprise:** Helping young entrepreneurs succeed. Creating supportive environments so youth employment and creativity can flourish. Promoting sustainable alternative businesses and economic inclusion.

**Tackling the climate emergency:** Supporting young people to combat climate change. Protecting biodiversity by helping create sustainable youth-led businesses. Amplifying their voice as advocates for sustainable change.

**Clean water and sanitation for all:** Engaging young people so they can create healthier communities. Empowering them to change hygiene behaviours in their homes and wider communities. Ensuring they can lead on improving and managing water and sanitation services where they live.
Leaders of change

Young people leading and partnering for global change

This is the biggest youth generation ever and they are determined to create the change they want to see.

When young people lead change, they bring others with them and make sure that no one is left behind. When treated as equal partners, young people are a powerful global community working for a sustainable future.

Almost 2,000 young people worked with Raleigh in 2018, harnessing their creativity, passion and energy to act as effective partners and going on to lead on global development challenges.

They engaged other young people, helped change the attitudes of decision makers, fostered environments where youth movements can create change, and helped communities suffering the impacts of climate change.
Exchange for campaigns, empowerment and leadership (ExCEL)

18 young people from Tanzania, Nicaragua and Nepal worked together on an innovative global exchange project. Over six months they learnt how to design and run behaviour change campaigns. Training began in Norway, followed by time in Nepal and Tanzania. They focused their work on climate change and community resilience, carrying out research in Nepal and Tanzania. This helped them identify ways at-risk communities can change their behaviours to adapt to a changing climate.

They also created exciting youth-led campaigns to spread their findings. These campaigns will run in their home communities in 2019. Importantly, they shared the skills and knowledge gained with their peers and Raleigh’s global community. This will help others to start similar campaigns, increasing the impact of their work and supporting youth voice around the world.

Being around people from different backgrounds opens your mind and gives you new perspectives. We are all learning from each other which helps on both a personal level and a professional level.

Elissa, ExCEL participant, Nicaragua

Young people worked with Raleigh to impact the lives of over 40,000 people in 2018
Social accountability through youth (SAY)

This groundbreaking programme in Tanzania helps young people to improve the impact, inclusivity and efficiency of development work. It gives young people and marginalised groups a louder voice in the implementation of aid in their communities.

Local young people are using an innovative app to monitor development projects. They are also supported with the skills, knowledge, and platforms to engage with communities, decision makers and development organisations to find solutions to issues.

In 2018, 35 young Tanzanians were trained to recruit, teach and excite over 350 other young people about monitoring projects. They also carried out initial research which showed how much this project is needed.

Only 26% of community members they spoke to said there was a process for feedback on projects in their area. This is different from the responses of local government officials. 80% of officials thought processes were already in place. There is a role for young people to play to promote inclusive accountability.

SAY also supports young people to change how they are viewed. Only 16% of community members saw youth as contributing towards inclusive community planning, while only 6% believed they should be part of decision making. This project will demonstrate young people can create beneficial and inclusive change.

“ I decided to take part in this project because I want to be a young person representing my community on different issues. I want to help the community to understand the project being delivered in their village, and to lead in resolving problems. I want to be a leader of the young generation. I want people to act when there’s a problem. I want Tanzanian youth to act when there’s a problem.”

Juma, SAY participant, Tanzania
Continued action and leadership on global issues

Raleigh is a movement of young changemakers. The benefits of supporting youth-driven change can really be seen in the continued action of young people. They each go on to become active global citizens who are empowered to take a stand on the issues they are passionate about.

From creating innovative, sustainable start-ups, to challenging gender inequality and calling for action on the climate emergency and human rights, young people are continuing to press for change and are having a positive impact around the world.

Raleigh’s global movement is made up of more than 50,000 people in over 100 countries. In 15 countries young people have also created national societies after volunteering so they can continue to support Raleigh’s work and coordinate their own action.
Creating a space for ideas and action

Raleigh Nepal Society are passionate about engaging other young people in development issues. They want to create spaces for young people to exchange ideas about issues in Nepal and turn them into action. They tapped into the mountaineering culture in Nepal to create ‘Hike to Learn’.

On Hike to Learn, young people come together on a mountain hike to do team-building and discuss issues related to the Global Goals along the way. The aim is to encourage young people to reflect on their role in their community, while having fun and learning new skills.

Capturing the impact of climate change

Following his time volunteering in Tanzania, Lameck became an activist and changemaker. He wants to raise awareness of the impact of climate change on the Tanzanian landscape through talks and photography.

He entered and won a competition run by the Global Landscape Forum with a photo showing the impact of human activity on the Tarangire river. The river is now running dry and threatening both the people and animals who rely on it. His photo was the theme photo for the 2018 Global Landscape Forum conference in Nairobi, Kenya. Lameck was also invited to speak at the conference to talk about the issue and his green campaigning with Raleigh Tanzania Society.

The conference was a huge platform for me and other young leaders to discuss and build on the momentum to offer emerging solid action plans for tackling deforestation and land degradation challenges in Africa.

Lameck, Raleigh alumni, Tanzania
Raising awareness of human trafficking

Susan had been passionate about tackling human trafficking for many years. When she returned from volunteering in Nicaragua, she decided to join a ‘Walk for Freedom’ to raise awareness about the issue of human trafficking in her hometown of Plymouth and globally.

We walked silently and in single file along the streets and through the busy city centre. We immediately caught the attention of pedestrians and people in cars. We handed out around 700 leaflets and as I walked silently I could hear people having conversations about what they knew about human trafficking. By the time the walk had ended, we must have passed over two thousand people and prompted hundreds of people to stop and think – and speak out – about human trafficking in the city.

“Susan, Raleigh alumni, UK

Photo courtesy of A21, a global anti-human trafficking organisation
Unleashing youth enterprise

Supporting creativity and sustainable youth employment

Almost 700 million young people are unemployed or missing out on education and training, damaging hopes for the future.

The global youth employment challenge needs innovative solutions which are youth-driven if they are to be effective and sustainable. Young people are best placed to support their peers and create the environments needed to address the barriers that they face in finding fair work or continuing education.

Working with 2,683 rural youth entrepreneurs in three countries, young people delivered training and support in business skills. This created 563 youth-led enterprises.

Young people supported and trained 2,683 youth entrepreneurs.
Nepal

In Nepal, young people helped communities to protect their income from changes in the local environment due to climate change. They ran almost 100 awareness raising sessions for over 2,000 people in alternative farming methods. This meant 543 rural households were made aware of the consequences of climate change and equipped with at least one coping strategy to reduce its impact on their livelihoods.

Volunteers got us highly motivated and we could see the immediate benefits of diversifying. We now have 22 polytunnels and are planning to add more after seeing the benefits of the commercial farming of tomatoes. The extra income from selling these has been a relief to me and my family.

Panchu, livelihoods entrepreneur, Nepal

In Nepal: 543 rural households supported to protect their income from climate change
Through our work, entrepreneurs gain more skills and knowledge to move forward with their lives and businesses. They feel more motivated and have learnt that, even if they don’t get the seed funding, once they apply a structure to their business, they can move forward and achieve some great things thanks to our local youth mentors.

Robyn, livelihoods volunteer, Nicaragua

Nicaragua

In Nicaragua, 64 youth entrepreneurs were supported to develop their business ideas, a majority of whom were female. Young people also supported 46 of the entrepreneurs to pitch their ideas, with 25 receiving an average investment of USD$229. Eight entrepreneurs were also supported to gain access to follow-up finance to help them fund the expansion of their business. 27 youth-trained local mentors will provide a strong support network for all young entrepreneurs in the region.

In Nicaragua:
64 youth entrepreneurs supported to develop their business ideas
In Tanzania, 510 young people received over 2,000 hours of youth-led training and support in business skills. 473 new youth enterprises were launched with seed funding. Continued support from 139 trained youth mentors is helping to sustain and grow their businesses.

6,200 people also took part in sessions ran by young people on the benefits and barriers to youth enterprise, helping create good local environments for youth-led businesses to flourish.

An exciting digital skills programme with young alumni supported 13 rural and urban entrepreneurs to develop digital knowledge which will help their businesses become more effective and provide new markets for expansion.

A new project also connected young entrepreneurs with executives from a global health company. The executives provided mentoring and business skills support to young people who had started health based social enterprises to help them diversify and grow their businesses.

“
They encouraged us to look at how our business is viable and will help women and children. They helped us make a very good business plan. We have grown, we have moved from where we were to somewhere else much better.

Jolenta, youth entrepreneur, Tanzania
Tackling the climate emergency

Protecting biodiversity and fighting climate change

Young people are facing a planet at risk. This is due to the inaction of global leaders on climate change and the effects of unsustainable practices on natural environments.

But they are leading the way globally in tackling the climate emergency. They are advocating for a new sustainable approach to the use of natural resources and the protection of vital habitats.

Young people worked with communities who are most at risk from climate change in three countries. They planted over 220,000 new trees and trained local young people to manage and monitor local environments. They also ensured young people are seen as equal partners in developing plans for climate mitigation.

Young people helped plant over 220,000 new trees
There needs to be more education on climate change and how it affects our community and the wider world. This will create change in the right direction. We also need a bigger presence as the environmental committee to motivate everyone to plant more trees. The project has brought more unity among our community. We are working together to plant these trees and hopefully we can use this unity on future projects as well.

Medson, committee member, Tanzania
Costa Rica

In Costa Rica, young people helped increase the capacity of national parks to protect biodiversity. They contributed to conservation projects and worked with 380 people living in communities in national parks through awareness sessions on biodiversity, environmental conservation and climate change mitigation.

Working with a local charity, young volunteers also supported the creation of an indigenous led eco-tourism business. This will ensure the local forest is protected by the community as it is a source of income.

"If climate change continues as it is now, in forty years' time this forest and our project won’t exist anymore, and it will just be a savannah. This is really serious, this is happening in my country, so we need to start letting people know that this is real, and this is happening now. We need to do something about it!"

Alejandro, environment volunteer, Costa Rica

In Costa Rica: Indigenous communities supported to create businesses which protect local environments
Malaysian Borneo

In Malaysian Borneo, young people worked with indigenous communities and authorities in the state of Sabah to create and maintain tree nurseries, raise awareness of biodiversity loss and deliver infrastructure. Over 1,000 trees were planted and two tree nurseries were refurbished. These actions were supported by 20 awareness raising sessions reaching 400 people.

“...The depletion of rainforests is occurring at high rates nowadays and has a greater negative impact than you would first expect. Our work here in the tropical rainforest is having a direct impact on preserving and restoring these environments and their inhabitants.”

— Shriya, environment volunteer, Borneo
Clean water and sanitation for all

Changing behaviours and creating healthier communities

One in three people around the world don’t have access to clean water or improved sanitation. Almost 1,000 young people die every day from preventable diseases caused by unsafe water, a lack of sanitation and bad hygiene practices. Many more are sick and cannot attend school or work, limiting their chances in life. But young people are vital to solving this problem. They can change behaviours to create healthier communities.

Young people worked with 39 communities in four countries to improve water sources and toilets for over 12,500 people. More than 13,500 people also took part in sessions delivered by young people to change attitudes to handwashing and menstruation.
As the new leader of the Water User Committee here, I have to manage all the work around our water resources. This includes managing where the materials come from to what kind of work should be given to different people. I have to be involved in every step of developments around our water resources.

Rajeep, committee member, Nepal

In Nepal, young people worked with 18 communities, providing access to safe drinking water for 3,256 in their homes. 4,842 people have been provided a new community water source within 30 minutes of their homes. This helps keep communities healthy, allowing people to focus on their work and household.

To ensure sustainability, community members were trained to manage water and sanitation infrastructure. Young people delivered over 120 awareness raising sessions on handwashing and menstrual hygiene management for over 4,500 people. Together this is helping to change behaviours, break down barriers and tackling misleading stereotypes.

In Nepal:
Over 3,250 people now have safe drinking water at home
We trained a group of young community members. They will work alongside families to educate them on different themes of hygiene in the home such as personal hygiene, how to protect the environment, and how best to use their water sources. By planting these seeds, we hope the community will nurture their water, sanitation and hygiene needs and develop as a community in terms of sanitation technology and health.

Francesca, WASH volunteer, Nicaragua

Nicaragua

In Nicaragua, young people worked with local youth entrepreneurs to train them in developing environmentally friendly hygiene facilities. 132 households had functioning toilets which were installed and maintained by the entrepreneurs who gained sustained livelihoods from the training.

Across 11 communities, young people worked with communities to rehabilitate water systems, handwashing facilities and toilet blocks. 71 sessions on safe hygiene practices and 126 awareness raising events were delivered reaching 2,248 community members.

Young people also supported communities to set up water groups with 50% female members to ensure the sustainability of the work.

In Nicaragua:
Seven new youth-led businesses provided 132 homes with eco-friendly sanitation facilities
As the school water club teacher, I teach all the students about the issues Raleigh volunteers have introduced. Raleigh volunteers have been educating the students on the spread of diseases and the importance of keeping themselves safe. I hope the whole community will see and learn the importance of health and put education as a priority since they are both of equal importance.

Fabian, teacher, Tanzania

In Tanzania:
Access to toilets and handwashing facilities for over 7,000 young people

In Tanzania, young people improved sanitation and hygiene infrastructure in schools. They also worked with the pupils to spread good hygiene behaviours to the wider community and increase their impact.

At 13 schools, young people worked with community members to construct toilets, handwashing stations and menstrual hygiene rooms. 7,612 students now have access to new facilities, with 3,728 female students gaining access to gender specific facilities.

351 awareness sessions were delivered by young people for 6,969 people on hygiene and sanitation infrastructure management to ensure sustainability. 12 youth-led school clubs were created to help continue the promotion of good hygiene and sanitation behaviours.

In Tanzania: Access to toilets and handwashing facilities for over 7,000 young people
Malaysian Borneo

In Borneo, young people worked in four communities, helping 565 people get access to safe water. Work with communities combined sanitation facilities, awareness raising on safe hygiene behaviours, and training management committees to ensure long lasting change in these communities. New infrastructure included construction of 27 water tanks and 71 tap stands, connected by 10.6 kilometres of piping.

Zakirah, WASH volunteer, Borneo

“I think it is going to make their lives easier having clean, accessible water. Water is such a problem here and it’s very remote. We helped build the pipe, the rainwater collection and a pump so it will be easier for the community to get water.”

In Borneo: 10.6km of safe water piping laid
Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who supported youth-driven change in 2018

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