



Call for Candidates

The Delegation of the [European Union](#) to Nigeria and to ECOWAS is part of the [European Union External Service](#), and is one of the 140 EU Delegations throughout the world. Under the leadership of the Head of Delegation, the EU Delegation is working together with Member States, Nigerian Authorities and Civil Society Partners to achieve sustainable development and reduce poverty, promote democracy, human rights, and the rule of law. With a large population of youth, the EU Delegation believes that the future of Nigeria will largely depend on the ability to provide young Nigerians with opportunities for employment, education, health and access to decision-making processes.

What is the Youth Sounding Board?

The Youth Sounding Board (YSB) aims to create a space for meaningful involvement of young people in the EU's cooperation with Nigeria. It will enable active engagement and exchanges between young people, decision-makers, the Member States of the European Union, and the European Union itself. The YSB will advise the EU Delegation in Nigeria on youth participation and empowerment and on a broad range of topics such as employment, education, training and entrepreneurship, environment and climate change, human rights and democracy, peace and security, digitalisation and technology, gender, social inclusion and health, peace and security, as well as culture, arts, media and journalism. The YSB also aims at creating opportunities for young people and youth organisations to express their views, connect and exchange. The YSB will allow young people to have an influence on the policy and programmes of the EU in Nigeria, and will thereby contribute to make EU action more participatory, relevant and effective for young people in Nigeria.

How will the Youth Sounding Board work?

The Youth Sounding Board will be composed of 25 young people (18 – 30 years) from Nigeria. YSB members will serve an unpaid mandate of two years (September 2024-September 2026) and will engage in activities aiming at:

- *Advising*: The YSB will advise the EU Delegation on designing, implementing and monitoring programmes and strategies related to youth.
- *Influencing*: The YSB will play a critical role as bridge between the youth population and government by influencing policies and legislation and how the EU can strengthen or further facilitate this process.
- *Monitoring*: The YSB will monitor the impact of EU programmes on youth, the extent to which of youth's needs and priorities are included, and make suggestions to improve support to young people.
- *Informing*: The YSB will serve as a knowledge hub for both the EU and the YSB Members to exchange information and share ideas. The YSB will keep the EUD informed of the most important issues for young people, emerging trends, concerns, opportunities and constraints.



For this purpose, the YSB members will, among others:

- Hold 4 meetings (virtual or physical) per year;
- Develop a work plan with objectives and activities;
- Discuss and deal with ad-hoc issues or requests using online tools and platforms;
- Build links with similar structures and existing youth initiatives at local and country level.

How can I become a member of the Youth Sounding Board?

The Youth Sounding Board aims to be diverse and inclusive. It should bring together a range of opinions and experiences from across the 6 geopolitical zones of Nigeria. The YSB aims to be inclusive and diverse in terms of gender, age, ethnic and cultural background, professional position, life situation, disability status and sexual orientation. To ensure diversity, all young and motivated people are welcome to apply, including those with less experience. Candidates with special needs, disabilities, in situation of vulnerability or from minority groups are encouraged to apply. All candidates must fulfil the following eligibility criteria:

- Be between the age of 18-30 at the end of the application period (7 June 2024)
- Have a good command of English
- Be a resident in Nigeria

Candidates will be selected based on:

- Experience and shown initiative in youth participation and youth empowerment;
- Outreach and youth engagement skills and experience, including work with youth organisations and experience with youth that are in disadvantaged or vulnerable situations;
- Communication skills including language skills and experience with traditional and social media;
- Creativity and motivation, including ideas for YSB functioning and activities.

What is the timeline?

7 June 2024:	Application Deadline
30 June 2024:	Candidate Shortlist
July 2024:	Interviews
31 August 2024:	Announcement of selected candidates
September 2024:	Launch of Youth Sounding Board

The selection process will be conducted in two stages:



First stage: all candidates will be informed of the outcome of the first stage (shortlist) of the application by the end of June 2024 and whether or not they have been shortlisted.

Second stage: shortlisted candidates will be invited for interviews in July 2024.

Final results: all shortlisted candidates will be informed of the final results by the end of August 2024.

A first (virtual) meeting of the YSB will be organised in September 2024.

What else do I need to know?

In case of any question or enquiry, please contact DELEGATION-NIGERIA-YOUTH-SOUNDING-BOARD@eeas.europa.eu. The EU Delegation might ask for further documentation and proof of information provided in the application form in the course of the selection process from the shortlisted and selected candidates (e.g. social media handles, CV, etc.). The selected candidates will be requested to provide a copy of their identity document to prove they meet the eligibility criteria. Candidates who are selected as members of the EU Youth Sounding Board for International Partnerships will not be considered eligible for the Youth Sounding Board in Nigeria. The EU Delegation will draw up a reserve list of candidates.