**YOUTH WORK MALAYSIA**

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Youth work is still green in Malaysia and has long been perceived as voluntary field rather than professional. The youth work in Malaysia has hardly been seen as a career. Current situation shows that the youth work is only common in public sector but not in the voluntary sector as majority of youth workers are without professional education and training. A group of researchers and activists since early 2000 inspired by the success of youth work in UK and The Commonwealth has been struggling to promote professional youth work within youth development realm in Malaysia culminating with the proposal of the establishment of professional body known as National Association of Youth Work Practitioner (NAOYWP) Malaysia. However this noble effort was denied probably due to some political and uncertain reasons. The struggle continues and by the virtue of National Youth Policy (3rd revision) 2015 - 2035, professionalism of youth work is officially recognized by the Malaysian Government as one of the main focal point in youth development realm. As a result, a series of discussion to establish a comprehensive professional youth work ecosystem were held by Ministry of Youth and Sport together with Malaysian Youth Council (MBM).

**Malaysia’s Youth Work Achievements to date**

* Malaysian National Federation of Youth Worker (FKPB) has been established by Malaysian Youth Council (MBM) in 2016 to facilitate and assist Ministry of Youth and Sports to materialize this important agenda.
* Government via Ministry of Youth and Sports agreed to create National Occupational Standards (NOSS) for youth work and is about to amend Youth Societies and Youth Development Act 2007 in order to insert a special clause on the establishment of Youth Work Board.
* Youth Work Board will govern the professional youth work in Malaysia.
* Malaysian National Federation of Youth Worker (FKPB), a group of committed youth workers is actively promoting youth work in Malaysia to create awareness within the society.
* FKPB is expanding its role globally when Commonwealth Alliance of Youth Worker Associations (CAYWA) recognized the existence of (FKPB).