

Levels of Responsibility

NONE: Adults have unchallenged and complete authority. Youth are not involved in making decisions.

TOKENISM: Adults set the agenda and make the decisions. One or two young people may be brought in to contribute ideas, but their input is not necessarily used.

CONSULTATION: Adults consult a number of young adults, for example, through focus groups. However adults still make all of the decisions.

REPRESENTATION: A small group of young adults are selected to represent their peers, usually via a committee system or advisory board. The extent to which the young people are involved in the decision-making varies depending on the organization.

PARTICIPATION: Young adults set the agenda, decide on issues and activities, and have joint accountability with adults. They are involved in planning, implementing, and evaluating projects and programs.

SELF-MANAGING: Young adults manage their work with little or no guidance from adults.

Assess the level of responsibility that your coalition currently employs when working with young adults. Move to the group you identify with and/or pair up.

If your coalition is not at self-managing, please consider this question: What can be done differently to move your coalition to the next step.

If your coalition is successfully at the self-managing level of responsibility, please consider this question: How did you get there?

***Please be prepared to report out.**