1. Introduction

1.1 In Hong Kong, there are concerns over the challenges faced by the younger generation in their transition to adulthood (e.g. stressful schooling, high unemployment and lowered social mobility) in recent years. In the current-term Government, the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau ("HYAB") set up in July 2022 is taking the lead in coordinating with relevant policy bureaux and formulating the maiden "Youth Development Blueprint" in Hong Kong by end-2022.[1] According to HYAB, this Blueprint will "outline the vision, guiding principles and major directions" of overall youth development work and "set out the respective targets of future work, specific actions, initiatives and indicators" in seven development aspects.[2] The public expects this Blueprint will help address the caveats of existing youth measures which are criticized as too "short-term" and "fragmented".[3]

1.2 Increased youth discontent and their distrust of public institutions are global phenomena. Many advanced places thus launched a nationwide Youth Development Strategy ("YDS") to empower the youth and address their needs, with at least 25 member states of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development ("OECD") having done so.[4] YDS vary significantly across places to meet local needs, not only in terms of depth and breadth, but also in their objectives and implementation mechanisms. Yet a good YDS is usually characterized by (a) solid steering from the top of the government; (b) effective engagement of young and responsible stakeholders; (c) specific policy indicators for progress monitoring; and (d) adequate resources to roll out the relevant initiatives.

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[1] GovHK (2022a).

[2] These seven aspects are (a) sense of national identity, national pride and rule of law; (b) familiarity with recent development of the country and the world; (c) education and life planning; (d) career and entrepreneurial opportunities; (e) home-buying and housing needs; (f) participation in public affairs; and (g) whole-person development and mental health.

[3] 何漢權、邱國光 (2017) and Wong, V. and Au-Yeung, T.C. (2018).

[4] Youth policy documents in OECD are mostly named as YDS. This short note follows their nomenclature. See Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2020).

1.3   At the request of the Subcommittee to Study the Formulation of Long-term Youth Policy and Development Blueprint, the Research Office has selected YDS in **New Zealand** and **Japan** for in-depth study.   They are selected because (a) their YDS have a long history of nearly 20 years; (b) their YDS are globally acclaimed with quantifiable indicators; and (c) both places are located in Asia-Pacific and their policy experiences are seemingly more relevant for local reference.   This *Information Note* begins with key issues of concerns on youth development in Hong Kong, followed by a summary of recent global features of YDS and a dedicated section on recent development in youth policies in the **Mainland** and **Singapore**.   It then switches to detailed discussion of YDS in New Zealand and Japan, along with a summary table for reference (**Appendix 1**).

2.   Youth development in Hong Kong

2.1   After releasing the Policy Address, the Chief Executive expressed his aspirations to assist youth in areas such as education, entrepreneurship, home ownership etc., targeting "citizens aged around 40 or below".[5]   Based on the latest result of the Population Census 2021, there were 1.98 million persons aged 15-39 (excluding foreign domestic helpers) in 2021, representing 28.0% of the local population (**Figure 1**).   The figures were lower than the corresponding figures in 2011 (at 2.33 million and 34.2%) by one-sixth and one-fifth respectively, primarily due to decades of falling birth rate and population ageing.

2.2   **Youth in Hong Kong are facing many hurdles nowadays**, as outlined in the following areas:

(a) **Education** – The examination-oriented education system creates huge pressure on students.   For the annual average of 56 200 secondary school graduates in the past decade, just one-third (32%) could enrol in the full-time undergraduate degree courses of the eight publicly-funded universities.[6]   Besides, youth were lukewarm to participate in vocational education, with less than one-sixth of upper secondary students taking this alternative pathway;

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[5]   香港電台(2022)。
[6]   Education Bureau (2022a) and University Grants Committee (2022).

(b) **Employment** – Unemployment rate for youth aged 15-24 stood at a high level of 13.1% in 2021, more than twice the overall jobless figure of 5.7%.[7]   However, cumulative income growth for youth was about 60% between 2011 and 2021, broadly in-line with that for the overall population;

(c) **Entrepreneurship** – According to the annual survey by InvestHK, the number of startups surged by 2.5 times between 2014 and 2021. A separate survey conducted by Hong Kong Trade Development Council indicated that 17% of founders of local startups were aged 20-29 and 43% were aged 30-39;

(d) **Home ownership** – According to census data compiled by the Census and Statistics Department, among the households headed by youth aged 15-34, the share of those living in owner-occupied units contracted from 49.7% in 2011 to only 41.5% in 2021, after years of escalation in flat prices and deterioration in home affordability;[8]

(e) **Economic wellbeing** – Youth poverty rate (before policy intervention) for those aged 18-29 rose from 13.1% in 2019 to 15.6% in 2020 due in part to outbreak of COVID-19;[9]

(f) **Social mobility** – Empirical studies show that parental background has increasingly affected the education outcomes and earning prospects of their children, entrenching economic inequality across generations;[10]

(g) **Trust in institutions** – Some academics pinpointed the worsening socio-economic conditions and impaired life quality of youth as two of the latent fuels of earlier social unrest.[11]   In an opinion survey released in July 2022, two-thirds (64%) of local youths said that they did not trust the Government;[12]

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[7]   Census and Statistics Department (2022b).
[8]   Figures provided by Census and Statistics Department upon request.
[9]   GovHK (2021).
[10]   Legislative Council Secretariat (2015).
[11]   Shek, D.T.L. (2020) and Zheng, Y. (2020).
[12]   When asked about the policy expectation on the Government, about half (45%) of the youth cited "tackling youth's housing problem" as the first priority, followed by "listening to youth voices" (35%) and "mending relationship" (28%).   See 青年創研庫 (2022).

(h) **National identity** – Commentators took note of various survey results which suggested a significant number of youth with a weak sense of national identity or even without such feeling altogether: A survey regularly conducted by a polling organization found that the share of youth aged 18-29 who identified themselves as "Chinese in a broad sense" once hovered in the range of 30%-40% during 2001 to 2008, but since then declined gradually to generally less than 10% from 2017 onwards; [13] Separately, a survey conducted by a political party during June to August 2022 (targeting youth aged 18-35) found that 29.9% of respondents "did not identify themselves as Chinese";[14] and

(i) **Leveraging national development** – Some stakeholders also expressed concern that youth might not be proactively taking part in national development: According to a number of surveys conducted by a think tank, while about half (44%) of survey respondents participating in the Greater Bay Area ("GBA") Youth Employment Scheme indicated that they were willing to work in the GBA for long term (i.e. more than two years), both of its surveys conducted in 2019 and 2021 found that some 82% of respondents expressed no interest in working in Mainland cities in the GBA. Among respondents with interest in working in Mainland GBA cities, only one-tenth acted on the aspiration (e.g. searched for job advertisement and job market information, or took part in job interviews).[15]

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[13] According to the polling organization, "Chinese in a broad sense" is defined as those respondents who identified oneself as "Chinese" or "Chinese in Hong Kong"; apart from these two options, respondents can choose from "Hongkonger" or "Hongkonger in China". See 香港民意研究所 (2022).

[14] 民建聯 (2022).

[15] In the 2019 and 2021 survey, the share of young people expressed interest in working in Mainland cities in the GBA was 13.4% and 12.5% respectively; among these respondents, those who took action on job-seeking accounted for 8.9% and 12.7%. See MWYO (2020, 2021, 2022a).

Figure 1 – Socioeconomic profile of local youth aged 15-39[1], 2011-2021

	Indicators	2011			2021		
		Age group					
		15-24	*25-34*	*15-39*	*15-24*	*25-34*	*15-39*
Overall							
1.	**Youth population** ('000)	860.0	953.6	**2 329.0**	585.2	896.8	**1 984.4**
2.	**Share in the overall population**	12.6%	14.0%	**34.2%**	8.2%	12.6%	**28.0%**
3.	**Marital status**						
	- Never married	97.9%	60.0%	**66.3%**	97.6%	66.6%	**66.2%**
	- Married	2.0%	38.1%	**31.7%**	2.1%	31.7%	**31.7%**
Education							
4.	**Education attainment**						
	- Secondary and below	78.0%	50.1%	**62.9%**	60.0%	33.6%	**44.5%**
	- Post-secondary	22.0%	49.9%	**37.1%**	40.0%	66.4%	**55.5%**
5.	**Vocational and professional education and training**						
	- Participation rate of upper secondary students[2]	**8.9%** (2011-2012)			**15.4%** (2020-2021)		
Employment[3]							
6.	**Labour force** ('000)	347.4	817.3	**1 164.7**	226.0	781.0	**1 007.0**
7.	**Labour force participation rate**	40.4%	85.7%	**64.2%**	38.6%	87.1%	**67.9%**
8.	**Unemployment[4]**						
	- No. of unemployed ('000)	29.6	28.7	**58.3**	26.2	45.2	**71.4**
	- Unemployment rate[5]	9.8%	3.5%	**5.2%**	13.1%	5.8%	**7.3%**
9.	**Median monthly income ($)[6]**						
	- All educational attainment	8,000	13,200	-	13,000	20,000	-
	- Degree holders	10,000	20,000	-	15,000	26,000	-
Entrepreneurship							
10.	**Startup in Hong Kong**						
	- No. of startups[7]	**1 065** (2014)			**3 755** (2021)		
	- % of founders aged 20-29	-			**17%** (2020)		
	- % of founders aged 30-39	-			**43%** (2020)		
Home ownership							
11.	**Home purchase[8]**						
	- % of households headed by youth in owner-occupied units	**49.7%**			**41.5%**		
12.	**Type of accommodation**						
	- Private permanent housing	42.9%	52.8%	**50.7%**	48.9%	50.8%	**52.1%**
	- Public rental housing	38.2%	27.7%	**30.9%**	36.7%	32.9%	**32.1%**
	- Subsidized housing	18.1%	18.5%	**17.5%**	13.0%	15.2%	**14.6%**

Notes: (-) Information not available/not specified.
(1) Excluding foreign domestic helpers.
(2) Students taking certificate/diploma courses provided by Vocational Training Council ("VTC") and Applied Learning subjects in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education, as a percentage of upper secondary students in mainstream schools and VTC.
(3) Employment-related figures cover youth aged 15-34 only.
(4) Unemployment data based on the General Household Survey by Census and Statistics Department.
(5) Overall unemployment rate was 3.7% in 2011 and 5.7% in 2021.
(6) Overall median monthly income from main employment was $12,000 in 2011 and $19,500 in 2021 (the figures for degree holders across all age groups were $25,000 and $31,250).
(7) The figure only covers startups operating in co-work spaces and/or supported by incubators and accelerators. About 73% of founders of these startups were local citizens and returnees in 2021, up from 60% in 2014.
(8) Home purchase figures cover households headed by youth aged 15-34 only.
Sources: Census and Statistics Department (2017, 2021, 2022a, 2022b), Education Bureau (2022b), InvestHK (2021) and Hong Kong Trade Development Council (2021).

2.3   **Ever since 1997, the Government has launched many youth development initiatives in the annual Policy Addresses, but there are criticisms that these measures are "short-term", "fragmented" and far from "a coherent set of youth policies"**.[16]   There is thus continued advocacy to formulate a comprehensive and long-term YDS in Hong Kong.[17]   For instance, the Commission on Youth ("CoY") published the engagement report in March 2018, recommending its succeeding body (i.e. the Youth Development Commission ("YDC")) to adopt a holistic strategy at a high level to foster youth development.   However, progress appeared limited over the past four years.

2.4   **So far, there are a few public concerns over the upcoming Blueprint**.   For instance, there are divergent expectations about the policy objectives, with some suggesting a broader goal (e.g. youth wellbeing) but others opting for solving more practical challenges at hand (e.g. bridging the transition from education to employment).[18]   Some are concerned about whether HYAB could coordinate the implementation of transversal youth policies effectively, as key policy areas like youth education and employment fall into the purviews of other bureaux.[19]   Others are concerned whether there will be adequate budget on youth development on the one hand, and quantifiable key performance indicators ("KPI") for monitoring the progress on the other.[20]

2.5   In his 2022 Policy Address delivered recently, the Chief Executive also mentioned that the HYAB would publish the first edition of the Youth Development Blueprint within this year, and said the HYAB and the YDC were now seeking views from youth and stakeholders.[21]   By the time when the Policy Address was delivered, the authorities have **organised and participated in over 80 related activities**, and the Government pledged to **learn more about the views of young people for incorporation into the Blueprint**.   It was foreshadowed that apart from introducing a series of initiatives to assist youth in overcoming difficulties in education, career pursuits, entrepreneurship and home ownership, the Blueprint will also outline the principles, objectives and actions of the Government in pursuing youth development, including **nurturing a new generation of young people with an affection for the country and Hong Kong and equipped them with global perspectives, aspiring mindset and positive**

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[16]   何漢權、邱國光 (2017) and Wong, V. and Au-Yeung, T.C. (2018).

[17]   Commission on Youth (2018), MWYO (2022b) and 香港青年聯會 (2022).

[18]   郭凱傑、劉慧希 (2022) and 黃梓謙 (2022).

[19]   陳建強 (2022) and 何子煜 (2022).

[20]   In 2022-2023, the budget for youth development programme under Home Affairs Bureau was HK$744 million, taking up just 0.1% of total government expenditure.   See Home Affairs Bureau (2022), 莊家彬 (2022), 陸瀚民 (2022) and 何子煜 (2022).

[21]   The Chief Executive's 2022 Policy Address (2022).

thinking, as well as **giving young people love and care, attaching importance to their whole-person development, and providing them with an enabling environment to cherish a hope for the future and strive for continuous growth, so that they could unleash their full potential in society and contribute to Hong Kong, the country and the world**. It is worth noting that:

(a) Nurturing youth to have a sense of belonging to the country, a sense of national identity and social responsibility, and affection for Hong Kong as well as feeling of attachment and commitment to our nation have all along been the objectives of National Education in Hong Kong; and

(b) Values education is also one of the four key tasks for Education Bureau's ("EDB") curriculum development: EDB indicates that values education is an essential element of whole-person education, it aims at fostering students' positive values and attitudes as well as developing students' ability to analyse objectively and make reasonable judgement when dealing with challenges.[22]

3. Recent global developments of YDS

3.1   The youth in OECD are also facing more challenges at present, as manifested by the higher youth unemployment rate (15% in 2020 and twice the overall figure), increased hurdles to social mobility across generations and diminished youth trust in public institutions.   To resolve this trust crisis and address the youth's needs, at least 25 out of 37 member states of OECD had already launched nationwide YDS by April 2020 (**Figure 2**).[23]

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[22]   Education Bureau (2022c).
[23]   Globally, 62% or 122 of the 198 countries had national YDS by 2014.   See Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2020) and Youth Policy Press (2014).

Figure 2 – YDS and age definition for youth in selected economies
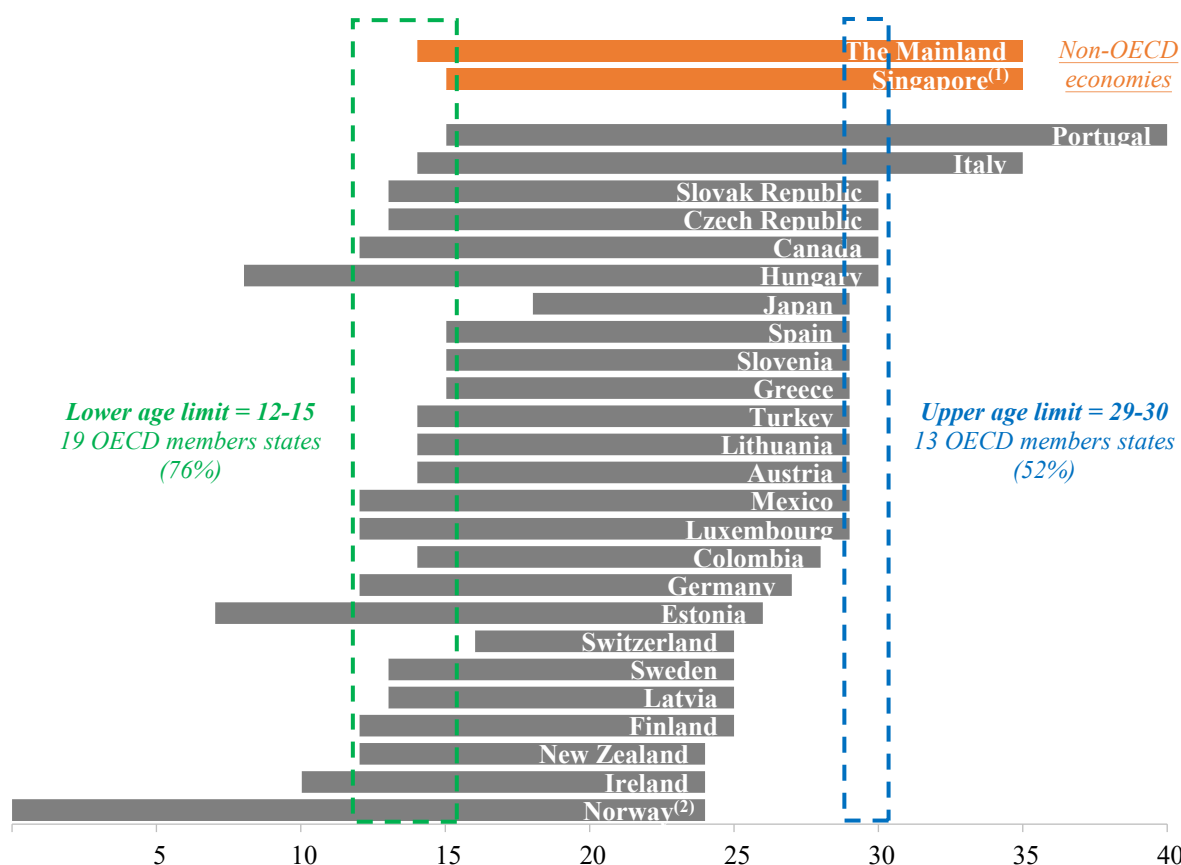
Notes: (1) Singapore does not have a published YDS. The age definition adopted by the National Youth Council is used here.

(2) Covering both children and youth, YDS in Norway does not specify the age for youth only.

Sources: Official websites of OECD member states, European Commission (2022), 國務院 (2017) and National Youth Council Singapore (2018).

3.2   **Conceptually, a focused and dedicated YDS has multiple benefits**. First, a coherent strategy with explicit policy targets can ascertain solid commitment and adequate resource allocation to youth policy initiatives. Moreover, YDS can make all ministries accord higher priority to youth-related matters in policy formulation, avoiding fragmented delivery of youth services. Apparently, YDS vary significantly across OECD and each YDS is uniquely framed in its own context.   Strictly speaking, OECD found that only five YDS among those from its member states can meet its high standard of being "fully participatory, budgeted and monitored and evaluated".[24]   For the rest of YDS, they are alleged to have inadequacies either in terms of youth engagement, resource commitment or monitoring mechanisms.

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[24]   OECD does not specify these five member states.   In its ranking on quality of YDS, the top five states in descending order are Estonia, New Zealand, Austria, Sweden and Mexico.

3.3   While it appears that there is no consensus on "what should constitute the core of youth policy"[25], the major features of good practices of YDS in OECD are briefly summarized below:

(a) **No standard age definition of youth**: For the upper age limit of youth, 13 member states (52%) take age 29-30.   For the lower age limit, 19 member states (76%) take age 12-15 (**Figure 2** above). The divergence in targeted youth groups may also imply different focuses of youth development across places, as manifested by the varying policies and indicators in their respective YDS;

(b) **Some with statutory backing**: YDS are occasionally accompanied by dedicated youth laws to state governments' statutory duty to launch and review YDS.   For instance, both Finland and Luxembourg enacted youth laws to provide overall direction of YDS and to mandate inter-ministerial coordination;[26]

(c) **Leadership at the top level of government**: YDS is usually led by the Ministry of Education (e.g. Estonia and Latvia) or by the Ministry for Youth in combination with other policy portfolios (e.g. Turkey and Portugal). [27]   At least five member states (e.g. Canada and Italy) coordinate their YDS at the highest level of government (e.g. Prime Minister's office).

On YDS implementation, OECD highlights that "the hardest part of managing youth affairs is the coordination between different ministries".[28]   Given that youth policy is transversal in nature and cuts across many policy fields, the **ministry in charge of YDS is mostly taking just a coordinating role**, whereas **other ministries are responsible for policy execution under their purview**. Highest political commitment is thus needed to garner support and mobilize resources within the government for implementing YDS. Some places **set up inter-ministerial bodies or working groups** for such purpose (e.g. Luxembourg) accordingly;

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[25] Council of Europe and European Commission (2018).
[26] Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2020).
[27] In the ministerial portfolio, youth is often commingled with education, sports, women or children.
[28] Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2018a).

(d) **Strategic objectives of YDS**: YDS across OECD often outline the long-term and qualitative directions for youth development. Almost all member states set common objectives to (i) support young people in their transition to adult life; (ii) engage youth in the decision-making process; and (iii) improve the access to youth-related public policies and services.   As an exception rather than the rule, Austria adopts a bottom-up approach by requiring each ministry to develop at least one "national youth objective" and introduce measures to reach such objectives within its scope;[29]

(e) **Coverage of policy areas in the overarching YDS**: YDS usually provides general directions and policy actions in thematic areas, instead of concrete implementation details.   For instance, YDS in Turkey covers youth affairs in up to 13 policy areas (e.g. education, employment and social inclusion).   In each area, only targets and responsible parties are specified;[30]

(f) **Youth engagement**: Youth are often engaged right at the start of preparation of YDS, mostly in the forms of face-to-face public meetings, advisory group meetings and surveys.   For example, the Canadian government launched a national dialogue with over 5 000 youths in February 2018 to collect their views through online and in-person discussions, before finalization of YDS in May 2019. It later published a summary report on these collaborative views, serving as input to shape YDS;[31]

(g) **Quantifiable performance indicators and annual reporting**: About half of OECD states set up data collection systems on KPI linking to their specific youth policy objectives.   For example, the Estonian YDS includes 13 indicators (e.g. youth trust in the state, the ratio of young entrepreneurs and the share of youth not in education, employment or training ("NEET")) along with respective target levels to be achieved by 2035.[32]   The responsible ministry needs to prepare annual progress reports and at least two evaluation reports on the achievement of YDS throughout the implementation period from 2021 to 2035; and

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[29]   There were 33 national youth objectives in Austria by September 2021.   For example, the Ministry of Labour targets to raise youth awareness of safety and health protection at work, whereas the Chancellery aims to develop youth's media and information skills for participating in social dialogue.   See Federal Chancellery Republic of Austria (2022).

[30]   Ministry of Youth and Sports Turkey (2011).

[31]   Government of Canada (2018).

[32]   Ministry of Education and Research Estonia (2021).

(h) **Dedicated budgets to implement measures**: Reportedly, two-thirds of the OECD member states have a dedicated budget for YDS, but most of them do not release it to the public.[33] Spain is one of few exceptions, with an annual budget for measures in the latest YDS amounting to €12.6 billion (HK$97.5 billion, or 3.6% of government expenditure) in 2022.[34] It covered expenditures in 12 policy areas such as education, employment and housing for youth in Spain, bearing in mind that some of these measures fell within the respective ministerial budgets anyway, with or without YDS.

3.4   On top of YDS, many OECD member states also introduced other youth-related measures (e.g. youth check, youth ombudsperson and youth participatory budgeting) which are considered good practices to drive youth development.   The salient features and examples of these notable measures are beyond the scope of this short note, and hence are summarized in **Appendix 2**.

4.   Youth measures in the Mainland and Singapore

The Mainland

4.1   In **the Mainland**, the implementation of youth development measures was scattered across ministries before 2017.[35]   To facilitate better coordination, the **"Middle and Long-term Youth Development Plan (2016-2025)"** ("the Plan") was published in April 2017[36] and an inter-ministerial joint meeting mechanism comprising 51 ministries and departments was established at the national level in December 2018.   Youth are defined as persons aged 14-35 under the Plan, and support measures are spread in 10 policy areas with general directions and qualitative development goals.[37]   Moreover, the Central Government has reportedly established a monitoring and evaluation mechanism based on 26 indicators across policy areas for tracking effectiveness (but there are limited details of this mechanism being disclosed to the public), whereas

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[33]   While information on financing YDS is rather limited, the dedicated budget for youth affairs in youth ministry is noted to be trivial, accounting for just 0.1% of the annual budget of central governments across the OECD between fiscal years 2015 and 2019.
[34]   El Instituto de la Juventud (2022).
[35]   State Council Information Office (2022).
[36]   國務院 (2017).
[37]   These 10 policy areas cover (a) ideological and moral cultivation; (b) education; (c) health; (d) marriage; (e) employment and entrepreneurship; (f) culture; (g) social integration and participation; (h) protection of legal rights; (i) crime prevention; and (j) social security.

provincial governments have also been asked to draw up their own versions of YDS and indicators accordingly.[38]

4.2   Overall speaking, the Plan has certain elements that resemble YDS in OECD member states, such as assigning a coordinating entity, proclaiming policy goals and monitoring progress through a set of indicators.   Indeed, some commentators see the Plan as a breakthrough in youth policy in the Mainland "from a fragmented to a systematic approach".[39]   More recently in April 2022, the State Council published a **White Paper on "Youth of China in the New Era"**, stocktaking some initial results after five years of implementation of the Plan:[40]

(a)   Between 2017 and 2022, over 80 youth-related policies were launched under the joint inter-ministerial meeting mechanism;

(b)   While the mid-term goal of forming a "preliminary policy system and work mechanism for youth development" by 2020 was achieved, several quantitative targets under the Plan were also met ahead of the schedule (**Figure 3**);

(c)   All provincial governments have released their own youth development plans based on the local circumstances; and

(d)   Over 140 cities and counties have committed to become "youth-development-friendly cities" under a two-year pilot scheme launched in April 2022.[41]

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[38]   Municipalities directly under the Central Government were also asked to prepare their own YDS.

[39]   中國青少年研究中心中央財政資助課題項目組 (2017).

[40]   國務院 (2022) and State Council Information Office (2022).

[41]   Under the pilot scheme, 45 cities (e.g. Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Dongguan) and 99 counties have pledged to formulate replicable youth policies and programmes as references for other places.   See 中央宣傳部等 (2022) and 人民網 (2022).

Figure 3 – Selected targets for 2025 under the Plan in the Mainland

	Indicators	Target for 2025	Recent progress reflected in the White Paper	Achieved ahead of schedule
1.	Average years of education for new entrants into labour force	13.5 years	13.8 years (2020)	✓
2.	Higher education enrolment rate	50%	57.8% (2021)	✓
3.	% of youth meeting physical standards	90%	91.9% (2018)[1]	✓
4.	No. of registered young volunteers	100 million	>90 million (2021)	✗

Note: (1) Data for young students aged 14-19.
Source: 國務院 (2022).

4.3   To complement the Plan at national level, the provincial government and 15 municipal governments within Guangdong published their own Youth Development Plan by June 2021, and 21 municipal governments also established respective joint meeting mechanisms for coordination.[42]   More specifically, the youth development plan from **Guangdong province** was issued in December 2018, covering measures like setting up entrepreneurial bases, youth homes and service hotlines specifically for youth in Hong Kong.   The provincial government also pledged in January 2022 to build a "Youth Bay Area", in order to make the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area a preferred location for youth from Hong Kong to develop in the Mainland.[43]

4.4   Turning to the city level, the youth development plan from **Guangzhou** was issued in April 2020, aiming to transform oneself into a "youth innovation city".   It provided youth from Hong Kong with the financial support to startup projects together with employment and internship opportunities, among other youth-related measures.[44]   Likewise, the youth development plan from **Shenzhen** was also issued in April 2020, aspiring to build a "youth development city" through a "youth-first" approach.   It targeted to enhance the Shenzhen-Hong Kong linkage by setting up talents nurturing mechanism, youth

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[42]   廣東省中長期青年發展規劃實施工作聯席會議辦公室(2021b).

[43]   Guangdong's plan put forward 42 concrete measures and 41 key indicators for monitoring. The "Youth Bay Area" initiative released in 2022 also included measures in 16 policy areas. See 南方日報 (2020c) and 廣東省中長期青年發展規劃實施工作聯席會議辦公室 (2022).

[44]   Guangzhou's plan included 39 concrete measures and 44 key indicators for monitoring. See 新華社 (2019) and 廣州共青團(2022).

exchange platform and collaboration mechanism of youth organizations between the two places.[45]

Singapore

4.5   In **Singapore**, the **Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth** ("MCCY") is currently in charge of youth policy for persons aged 15-35.[46]   As a statutory board under MCCY, the **National Youth Council** ("NYC") also plays the roles as a nationwide coordinating body and an umbrella organization for youth affairs.   While both MCCY and NYC are responsible for notable youth initiatives such as Youth Corps, Youth Conversations and National Youth Surveys,[47] many important youth policies (e.g. education and employment) remain outside their purviews.[48]

4.6   In May 2019, MCCY and NYC jointly announced the **SG Youth Action Plan** ("SG Plan"), outlining the vision of youth by 2025 after consolidating views of some 380 young people in six rounds of face-to-face sessions.[49]   This SG Plan identified five key values (i.e. inclusiveness, care, sustainability, fairness and progress) and 12 themes (e.g. education pathway and social inclusivity) that youth are concerned the most.   Yet the SG Plan does not constitute a YDS, but just "a platform for youths to share their ideas and vision of Singapore in 2025" without any concrete policy measures, committed policy targets or monitoring mechanism.   It is noted that Singapore has not published any comprehensive YDS so far, similar to the current situation in Hong Kong.

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[45]   Shenzhen's plan comprised 92 concrete measures and 102 key indicators for monitoring. See 南方日報 (2020a, 2020b).

[46]   Ministry of Culture, Community, and Youth (2022a).

[47]   MCCY and NYC launched (a) "Youth Corps" in 2014 as a community service unit with over 32 000 youth members aged 15-35; (b) "Youth Conversations" in 2018 to collect opinions from over 8 000 young participants through online polls and face-to-face meetings; and (c) six rounds of "National Youth Surveys" since 2002 to collect youth's views on different topics (e.g. values and attitudes, education and employment).   See Youth Corps Singapore (2021) and National Youth Council Singapore (2019, 2022a, 2022c).

[48]   In 2020, the standalone youth development budget for MCCY and NYC was S$116 million (HK$660 million), representing just 0.1% of overall government expenses.   See Ministry of Finance Singapore (2022).

[49]   Government of the Republic of Singapore (2020).

4.7   The Singaporean government further pledged to step up youth engagement following the parliamentary election held in July 2020.[50]   For instance, NYC launched a one-stop online portal namely "Youthopia SG" in October 2020 to facilitate youth's discussion of trending topics and participation in public affairs.[51]   Moreover, a series of "National Youth Dialogues" has been launched in mid-2022 to enhance multilateral communication among youth, experts and government officials.[52]   Nonetheless, there is no apparent linkage between these engagement activities and policymaking by youth, noting that the youth-oriented support measures introduced by the Singaporean government over the past two years were mostly scattered around on-the-job training, job opportunities, exchange programmes with other Asian places, mental wellbeing, transfer of digital skills, etc.   There is no indication that a YDS will be formulated based on these engagements in the short run.

4.8   In addition to understanding life aspirations and priorities of youth, the Singaporean government has all along been putting efforts into inculcating a deeper understanding of the values that define the Singapore society and fostering good character and active citizenship in youth and students.   More specifically, messages delivered through National Education include: (a) "Singapore is our homeland; this is where we belong"; (b) "No one owes Singapore a living"; (c) "We must ourselves defend Singapore"; and (d) "We have confidence in our future".[53]   Apparently, apart from proactively supporting youth with various measures, Singapore also puts emphasis on nurturing a sense of citizenship, belonging to Singapore and pride in contributing to the city-state.

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[50] The share of votes received by the ruling People's Action Party ("PAP") slid from 69.9% in 2015 to 61.2% in 2020.   In response to commentary on the decline in youth support, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong remarks that "the young people have significantly different life aspirations and priorities...This will have to be reflected in our political process and in government policies".   See Straits Times (2020) and Reuters (2020).

[51] National Youth Council Singapore (2022d).

[52] The dialogue comprises seven conversation sessions in total.   The first two sessions were held on the topics of "renewing our social compact" in July 2022 and "towards a net-zero future" in September 2022.   See National Youth Council Singapore (2022b).

[53] Social Studies as well as Character and Citizenship Education are compulsory subjects at Singaporean primary and secondary schools.   Meanwhile, there are two further messages in Singapore's National Education, namely, "We must preserve racial and religious harmony" and "We must uphold meritocracy and incorruptibility", in addition to the 4 messages mentioned in paragraph 4.8.   See Ministry of Education Singapore (2018, 2020, 2022) and Legislative Council Secretariat (2022).

5. Youth development strategy in New Zealand and Japan

5.1   Considering the long history of YDS and the Asia-Pacific background of New Zealand and Japan, the ensuing paragraphs and **Appendices 3-5** will compare and contrast their salient features in more details.

<u>Overall</u>

5.2   **New Zealand** set up a standalone Ministry of Youth Affairs ("MYA") back in 1988, and it is also known to be the only member state in OECD with a ministry exclusive for youth at present.[54]   In January 2002, MYA introduced the **"Youth Development Strategy Aotearoa"** for youth aged 12-24 (i.e. a somewhat lower maximum age versus OECD peers).[55]   Fast forward to 2017, the new Labour Party government pledged to tackle the child poverty problem in New Zealand, as the 18% poverty rate for children aged 0-17 in the country was among the highest in OECD back then.[56]   Subsequently, the New Zealand government promulgated the **"Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy"** ("CYWS") in August 2019, the second YDS in New Zealand.[57]

5.3   CYWS is built on a **bold vision of "making New Zealand the best place in the world for children and youth people"**, with nine guiding principles[58] and six desired wellbeing outcomes (selected children and youth policies and relevant sub-indicators are in **Appendix 3**).   Two of the top priorities of CYWS are reducing both poverty and family violence, considering over 250 000 or one-quarter of children and youth are victims of such social problems annually.   Some 20 government agencies are responsible for executing CYWS, and they listed out 124 existing and new policy actions to be delivered from 2020 to 2024 in the "Programme of Action" released also in 2019.[59]   Each action has the key deliverables and timeframe specified.   At least five ministries further introduced their own action plans.   For example, the Ministry of Youth Development released "Youth Plan 2020-2022" in July 2020

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[54]   MYA was later restructured into the Ministry of Youth Development in October 2003, strengthening its influence over other government agencies in executing YDS.   See Office of the Minister of State Service (2016) and Ministry of Youth Development (2012).

[55]   New Zealand's YDS covers both children (aged below 12) and youth (aged 12-24).   As at end-2021, there were some 844 060 young people aged 12-24 in New Zealand, representing about 16.5% of the population.   See Ministry of Youth Affairs (2002) and Stats NZ (2022).

[56]   The average child poverty rate among 33 OECD member states was 13% in 2017.   See Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2022).

[57]   Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (2019a).

[58]   For example, the CYWS states that "all children and young people deserve to live a good life" and "actions must deliver better life outcomes" as two of the principles.

[59]   Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (2019b).

for turning youth voice into action, whereas a joint venture comprising nine government agencies co-developed the "National Strategy to Eliminate Family Violence and Sexual Violence" in December 2021 to ensure children and youth are safe and free from violence in their families.[60]

5.4　　　For **Japan**, the shortage of gainful employment and worsened life prospects for youth after the collapse of bubble economy in the 1990s[61] were considered motivations for the government to (a) set up the Headquarters for Youth Development under the Cabinet Office in June 2003 (renamed as Headquarters for Promotion of Development and Support for Children and Young People in April 2010); and (b) launched the "**National Youth Development Policy**" ("NYDP") in December 2003, the first YDS in Japan.[62] NYDP was subsequently updated four times, namely in 2008, 2010, 2016 and 2021.[63]　The most recent one, released in April 2021, is entitled **"Outline for the Promotion of Development and Support for Children and Young People"** ("Outline").

5.5　　　Similar to the practice in New Zealand, the Outline in Japan covers both children (aged 0-17) and youth (aged 18-29, i.e. a slightly higher minimum age vis-à-vis OECD counterparts).[64]　The latest Outline published in 2021 set an **overall goal to create a society where youth can "find a place to belong, grow and play an active role"**.　It includes 126 existing and new initiatives (generally brief policy directions without implementation details) which can be grouped into five directions, aiming for (a) ensuring sound development for all youth; (b) supporting youth with difficulties; (c) assisting youth to carve out a creative future; (d) developing a social environment for youth growth; and (e) training for human resources that support youth growth (selected children and youth policies and relevant indicators are in **Appendix 4**).

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[60]　Ministry of Youth Development (2020) and The Board for the Elimination of Family Violence and Sexual Violence (2021).

[61]　The unemployment rate of youth aged 15-34 doubled from 3.1% in 1990 to 7.5% in 2002, the historical high in Japan.　The share of "freeters" (i.e. job-hopping part-time workers) and NEET also surged to 6.1% and 1.9% respectively in 2002.　See Statistics Bureau of Japan (2022a, 2022b) and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (2012).

[62]　Headquarters for Youth Development (2003).

[63]　Headquarters for Youth Development (2008), Headquarters for Promotion of Development and Support for Children and Young People (2010) and 子ども・若者育成支援推進本部 (2016, 2021)

[64]　As at October 2021, there were 15.0 million young people aged 18-29 in Japan, taking up 11.9% of the overall population.　See Statistics Bureau of Japan (2022b).

5.6　　By referencing the major features of YDS in OECD member states listed out in paragraph 3.3 above, the shared elements between YDS in New Zealand and Japan are summarized below:

(a) **Statutory backing**: The "Children's Amendment Act" in New Zealand (as part of the Child Poverty Reduction Bill and passed in December 2018) lays down the statutory duties for the government to publish and review CYWS regularly for improving wellbeing of children and youth.[65]

Meanwhile, the "Act on Promotion of Development and Support for Children and Young People" passed in July 2009 makes publication, review and implementation of the Outline a statutory requirement in Japan;[66]

(b) **Leadership at the top level of government**: CYWS in New Zealand is currently led by the Prime Minister herself (in her capacity as Minister of Child Poverty Reduction) together with (i) the Minister for Children; and (ii) the Child Wellbeing Unit under the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet ("DPMC"). Yet on implementation, the Cabinet set up the Social Wellbeing Board in 2018 specifically for this purpose. The Board is tasked to align government agencies' youth measures to the 6 desired wellbeing outcomes listed in CYWS, and its membership includes chief executives (i.e. public servants) from 10 government agencies as board members and the Public Service Commissioner as independent chair.[67] This cross-sectoral board provides oversight regarding the implementation of CYWS on one hand, and its members also retain accountability for delivering initiatives under the "Programme of Actions" on the other hand.

For Japan, the government set up the "Headquarters for Promotion of Development and Support for Children and Young People" under direct leadership of the Prime Minister and with a

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[65] Parliamentary Counsel Office (2018).
[66] e-Gov法令検索 (2009).
[67] For example, the Board includes chief executives from (a) Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet; (b) Ministry for Children; and (c) Ministry of Education.

membership comprising all 19 Cabinet Ministers[68] to ensure all youth-related measures will reach individual ministries, thereby fostering smooth implementation of youth measures in the Outline. Since the establishment in April 2010, the Headquarters have conducted 9 inter-ministerial meetings to deliberate and decide key youth policies, including the finalization of the Outline;

(c) **Youth engagement**: The New Zealand government conducted an extensive engagement with some 10 000 people (including 6 000 children and youths) in the fourth quarter of 2018, and their feedback was published online as well as served as the foundation of formulating the CYWS in 2019.[69] Besides, the Children's Amendment Act also mandates the government to consult children and youth again whenever it intends to make changes to CYWS.

In Japan, youth aged 13-29 are appointed as "special youth rapporteurs" as from 2009 to collect their views on designated youth matters.[70] Before the finalization of the latest Outline in 2021, 170 special youth rapporteurs were asked to provide views in November 2020 as direct input. In addition, the Cabinet Office launched another consultation in March 2021, receiving some 1 200 submissions from the public. Consultation feedback from both exercises was released online;[71]

(d) **Quantifiable performance indicators and annual reporting**: The New Zealand government records 36 indicators (e.g. ratios of youth criminal offences, serious injuries and election turnout) in an "Annual Implementation Report" submitted to the House of Representatives and disclosed to the public online. This apart, monitoring reports are also released regularly to give an account of the progress of policy initiatives under the "Programme of Action".[72]

The Cabinet Office in Japan, meanwhile, introduced a "Children and Young People Index Board" in 2021 to track 190 indicators on

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[68] The "Act on Promotion of Development and Support for Children and Young People" stipulates that at least seven Cabinet members (including the Chief Cabinet Secretary and Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) must be members of the Headquarters.

[69] Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (2019c).

[70] 內閣府 (2020a).

[71] 內閣府 (2020c, 2021a).

[72] So far, two "Annual Implementation Reports" and three monitoring reports had been released by August 2022.

children and youth, and as at September 2022 the Index Board has already been subject to 4 updates on indicator coverage and/or data.[73] It is also a statutory duty for the Japanese government to publish a "White Paper on Children and Young People" annually to report implementation status of the Outline, and submit it to the National Diet (i.e. Japanese Parliament).

Full list of indicators in New Zealand's "Annual Implementation Report" and Japan's "Children and Young People Index Board" is at **Appendix 5**.   The choice of indicators in these two places, indeed, may have reflected the respective focuses of their youth policies to some extent.   In terms of definition of age for youth: New Zealand capped the age of youth at 24 years old, thus the 36 indicators in its "Annual Implementation Report" contain only two items that are more relevant to school leavers and persons in the workplace – namely, "participation in employment, education or training" and "representation of youth's voices" (in terms of voter registration and trust in parliament) – while other indicators concern mostly physical and mental health, overall situation of the households, education and academic performance etc.; in contrast, given Japan defined youth as aged between 18 and 29, thereby covering mostly persons who have entered the workplace, about one-fifth (or over 30) of the indicators in "Children and Young People Index Board" were related to employment, workplace, income and financial situation, on top of many other indicators on linkages with the community (including sense of belonging, whether help is available in their daily lives and willingness to use support services).[74]

It is noted that the indicators in both New Zealand and Japan are merely for the purpose of tracking temporal changes, and neither places have set explicit targets for most of the indicators (except for targets for child poverty rates in New Zealand[75]);

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[73]   These indicators can be further classified into three categories, namely (a) attitudes; (b) surrounding conditions; and (c) satisfaction and quality of life.   See 內閣府 (2022a).

[74]   On the other hand, New Zealand's "Annual Implementation Report" and Japan's "Children and Young People Index Board" also share a number of common indicators, including sense of security, mental health status, housing quality and affordability, participation in education and academic performance, child abuse, bullying, suicide and criminal offences.

[75]   New Zealand set three concrete targets for lowering child poverty by the financial year 2020-2021, namely (a) poverty rate before-housing-costs at 10.5%; (b) poverty rate after-housing-costs at 18.8%; and (c) material hardship rate at 10.3%.   The latter two targets were met, according to the latest statistics released in February 2022.

(e) **Regular review mechanism**: New Zealand conducts reviews on its CYWS at triennial intervals (a review was just released in September 2022; see paragraph 5.9 for details) and the next YDS will be finalized by early 2023, whereas Japan has a quinquennial interval (i.e. the next review is due in 2026, alongside an interim evaluation being scheduled for 2023); and

(f) **Dedicated budgets to implement measures**: Both New Zealand and Japan have disclosed the overall budget for implementing their YDS across ministries.   The expenditure of "Programme of Action" between 2020 and 2024 took up 4.0% of core government expenditure (NZ$3.5 billion or HK$18.1 billion) in New Zealand in 2019, [76] whereas the latest Outline accounted for 4.8% of government expenditure (¥5,098.6 billion or HK$361.0 billion) in Japan in 2021.[77]

5.7   Moreover, both YDS in New Zealand and Japan included civic and citizenship related indicators (such as sense of belonging, support for cultural identity, voter registration, and involvement in and contribution to the community), though only to a limited extent.   Meanwhile, fostering national identity appears to fall outside the YDS in the two places.   Using their recent measures as examples: New Zealand government released finalized content on the national histories in March 2022, which will become part of the curriculum from 2023 onwards; the Japanese government made moral education a formal and compulsory subject for primary students in April 2018 and also for junior secondary students in April 2019, with a view to nurturing respect for tradition and love of the country among youth.[78]

Policy effectiveness

5.8   In **New Zealand**, the annual report submitted to the parliament for the year ending June 2021 reflected that "the majority of children and young people continue to do well across most outcome areas".[79]   Notwithstanding the rosy views from the authorities, only 14 out of 32 sub-indicators with data available (i.e. 44%, such as housing affordability, voter turnout and food security) showed

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[76]   The budget covers 124 existing and new policy initiatives under the "Programme of Action".   Unlike the past single-year budgets confined to their own policy domains, a ministry can now leverage multi-year allowances to develop their own initiatives or collective initiatives with other ministries.

[77]   內閣府(2021b).

[78]   Ministry of Education (2022) and Legislative Council Secretariat (2020).

[79]   Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (2022a).

improvement in 2020-2021 over the preceding year.[80]   Some indicators (e.g. mental wellbeing) even deteriorated over the same period.[81]

5.9   Regarding regular review of the CYWS, in additional to the release of indicators for monitoring by the community, DPMC also commissioned an independent entity to conduct an external evaluation study, which was published in June 2022.[82]   The study recognizes CYWS's efforts in driving "cross-government collaboration" and "agency accountability" (as manifested by the coordination work of the Social Wellbeing Board), but it also points out certain areas for improvement, such as the weakened governance structures and advisory arrangements during the implementation phase of CYWS, the significant gap in available data on youth, the lack of prioritization and innovation in policy actions, and the need to increase knowledge of CYWS among the community.[83]   Subsequently, the New Zealand government released its triennial review in September 2022, in which it acknowledges the shortcomings highlighted by the external evaluation and hence makes 16 specific recommendations to improve the implementation of CYWS, such as (a) developing a suite of monitoring and evaluation products tailored to four priority areas (e.g. racism and mental wellbeing) in the next phase of CYWS; and (b) creating an online platform to raise representation and engagement opportunities for youth.[84]

5.10   In **Japan**, the government proclaims that the Act has successfully established a "comprehensive framework for promoting child and youth development" across policy fields over the past decade.[85]   Yet the latest data released in the Children and Young People Index Board in September 2022 provided a less promising picture, with just 58 out of 114 indicators (i.e. 51%,

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[80]   Out of 50 sub-indicators derived from those 36 wellbeing indicators, only 32 had available data in 2020-2021.

[81]   The ratio of youth aged 15-24 who experienced a high level of psychological distress increased by eight percentage points over a year to 19% in 2020-2021.

[82]   Allen and Clarke Regulatory and Policy Specialists Ltd. (2022).

[83]   More specifically, the study highlighted that (a) some stakeholders (e.g. Māori) were not included in the governance structures during the implementation phase of CYWS, whereas the advisory group formed by experts on child wellbeing and poverty reduction had ceased operation; (b) some indicators (e.g. those related to early childhood development and experience) were either missing or not "measuring what matters"; (c) stakeholders viewed the Strategy as "trying to do too much" and incapable to offer clarity about where to focus and what actions to prioritize, plus it was also mostly built on the work already underway rather than driving many new actions and investment; and (d) many representatives from non-governmental organizations and academic institutes advocated for identifying and supporting champions to increase the knowledge of the Strategy in the community.

[84]   Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (2022b).

[85]   內閣府 (2020d).

such as youth crime rate and international student exchange) improved over past few years.[86]   Moreover, in a survey of special youth rapporteurs conducted in 2020, three-quarters of the respondents (72%-81%) indicated that they had heard of neither the Act nor the Outline, and some opined that the latter was too abstract and lengthy.[87]

5.11   Despite the mixed results reflected by indicators in both places, New Zealand and Japan still demonstrated some common features in their respective YDS which are considered international good practices among their OECD counterparts.   In terms of aligning with the quality standards for YDS set by OECD, New Zealand took the 2nd position out of 25 places in a ranking exercise in 2020, whereas Japan took the 15th position.[88]

6.   Concluding remarks

6.1   In **Hong Kong**, youngsters are facing more challenges in their transition to adulthood, including stressful schooling, higher unemployment and slowing social mobility.   To address the discontentment, there is high hope in the community about the upcoming Youth Development Blueprint to be formulated by HYAB, rectifying the criticism of being too "short-term" and "fragmented" in youth measures seen in the past.

6.2   On **global practice**, at least 25 member states of OECD have introduced their own YDS.   As mentioned in the previous section regarding the biggest challenge in the management of youth affairs, OECD pinpoints that it is "the coordination between different ministries".   The Mainland's establishment of joint meeting mechanisms at both national and regional levels, New Zealand's Prime Minister, her Child Wellbeing Unit and the Social Wellbeing Board, and Japan's "Headquarters for Promotion of Development and Support for Children and Young People" under the direct leadership of Prime Minister are all staunch efforts in smoothening YDS implementation and coordination.

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[86]   Out of 190 indicators in total, only 114 have data comparable to the past.   The other 49% or 56 indicators showed deterioration, mostly in the aspects of school education and health amidst the adverse impacts brought by the COVID epidemic.

[87]   內閣府(2020b).

[88]   The OECD's assessment framework of quality standards of national YDS covers eight criteria, namely (a) supported by political commitment; (b) evidence-based; (c) participatory; (d) resourced/budgeted; (e) transparent and accessible; (f) monitored and evaluated/accountable; (g) cross-sectoral/transversal; and (h) gender responsive. See Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2020).

6.3 YDS in these three places also share the feature of having quantifiable performance indicators for monitoring and regular review mechanism, thereby promoting transparency and providing evidence-based feedback on youth policy. In particular, the Japanese government made multiple updates on the "Children and Young People Index Board" within two years; New Zealand goes further by engaging external experts to perform independent evaluation on its CYWS, and responds positively by introducing enhancement measures. However, the mixed results of performance indicators in New Zealand and Japan, notwithstanding the long-standing history and the acclamation for their YDS, serve as a timely reminder that YDS is no panacea given the complexity of youth issues.

6.4 Consultation and engagement are other keys to the formulation of youth policies. While it is not surprising for New Zealand and Japan to extensively engage youth and experts when formulating their respective YDS, it is noted that Singapore, though without a formal YDS, has rolled out youth engagement initiatives (including face-to-face and on-line conversations) since 2018, reflecting in part how the government treasures youth's voice.

6.5 Although all these youth initiatives, such as putting in place YDS, having quantifiable targets to track progress and engaging youth, have their merits, the challenge remains how governments can attract active participation across different youth segments and how the views canvassed can be translated into effective policies to address practical concerns among youth.

Overview of youth population and youth development strategy in selected places

		Hong Kong	The Mainland	Singapore	New Zealand	Japan
A.	**Youth Population**					
1.	**Official age definition of youth**	-	14-35	15-35	12-24	18-29
2.	**Youth population ('000)**	1 984[1] (Aug 2021)	399 384 (Dec 2020)	1 077 (Jun 2021)	844 (Dec 2021)	14 952 (Oct 2021)
3.	**Ratio of youth to overall population**	28.0%	28.3%	27.0%	16.5%	11.9%
B.	**Basic facts of youth development strategy ("YDS")**					
4.	**No. of YDS published so far**	0	1[2]	0	2	5
5.	**Year of the latest YDS**	-	2017	-	2019	2021
C.	**Key features of the latest YDS**					
6.	**Dedicated youth law for YDS**	-	-	-	✓	✓
7.	**Prime Minister as leading coordinator**	-	✗	-	✓	✓
8.	**Inter-ministerial coordination mechanism**	-	✓	-	✓	✓
9.	**No. of ministries/departments involved**	-	51	-	10	19
10.	**No. of people consulted/engaged as input before finalization of YDS**	-	-	-	10 000	1 370
11.	**Engagement report published online**	-	-	-	✓	✓
12.	**No. of policy measures involved**		-		124	126
13.	**Annual progress report to parliament**	-	✗	-	✓	✓
14.	**No. of indicators for YDS**	-	26	-	36	190
15.	**Regular review of YDS (interval of years)**	-	10	-	3	5
16.	**Budget amount for YDS on national level**	-	-	-	NZ$3.5 bn[3] (HK$18.1 bn)	¥5,098.6 bn[4] (HK$361.0 bn)
17.	**Ratio of budget to public expenditure**	-	-	-	4.0%	4.8%
D.	**Global ranking of YDS**					
18.	**OECD's quality standards for YDS in 2020 (out of 25 places)**	-	-	-	2nd	15th

Notes: (-) Information not available/not specified.
   (1) Data for youth aged 15-39.
   (2) Referring to the national YDS only, whereas provincial YDS are excluded.
   (3) Budget for "Programme of Action" between 2020 and 2024.
   (4) Budget in 2021.

Examples of other youth-related measures generally not covered in YDS

	Salient features of other youth-related measures	OECD member states	
		No. adopted the measure	**Examples**
1.	**Youth check/youth impact assessment** is a mechanism to assess the anticipated impact of new regulations on young people. It provides a tool to tailor policy outcomes to youth concerns and serve as accountability tool for youth stakeholders.	13	Austria, Belgium (Flanders), France, Germany, Ireland, New Zealand
2.	**Ombudsperson/commissioner for youth** is a public authority charged with the protection and promotion of the rights of young people. They play a crucial role in mainstreaming youth rights and concerns in policy making and service delivery across government institutions.	19	Belgium, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Slovak Republic, Slovenia
3.	**Youth participatory budgeting** is a method to seek the views of young citizens on the allocation of public resources. It makes budgets more responsive to their needs, in particular when the process is transparent and youth are involved in the whole process of designing, selecting and implementing these projects.	-	Canada (Vancouver), Portugal, United States (Boston and Seattle)
4.	**Youth parliament** is a series of youth-oriented events which replicate parliamentary procedure and debates, with the objectives to collect views of young people and raise their awareness about the political process.	-[1]	Estonia, France, Finland, Ireland, Latvia, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Portugal, Sweden
5.	**Youth information centre** is a one-stop shop to better inform young people about a wide range of available services, such as exploring study opportunities, seeking employment, finding housing accommodation, accessing to health services, participating in volunteering, among others.	21	France, Israel, New Zealand, Spain, Sweden

Notes: (-) Information not available/not specified.
(1) Globally, 56% of countries had youth parliaments in 2021 to engage young people in parliamentary work.
Sources: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2018b, 2020) and Inter-Parliamentary Union (2021).

Selected policy measures and sub-indicators of the "Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy" in New Zealand published in 2019

	Policy measures	Selected sub-indicators	*2019-2020*	*2020-2021*
Vision: "New Zealand is the best place in the world for children and young people"				
Six wellbeing outcomes (Children and young people...)				
A.	**...are loved, safe and nurtured**			
1.	• Preventing and eliminating **family violence and sexual violence**	**Harm against children and youth**: No. of children and youth (aged 0-17) being harmed	34 673	*35 081*
2.	• Extending **paid parental leave** to 26 weeks from July 2020	**Quality time with parents**: % of youth (aged 12-18) who feel they get to spend enough time with parents	-	-
B.	**...have what they need**			
3.	• Experimenting **free school lunch** programme for 21 000 students by 2021	**Food insecurity**: % of children and youth (aged 0-14) running out of food sometimes	20%	15%
4.	• Establishing 6 400 new public housing places by 2022 • Increasing funding to provide transitional housing to the people with needs	**Housing affordability**: % of households with children and youth (aged 0-17) spending over 30% of their disposable income on housing	37%	34%
C.	**...are happy and healthy**			
5.	• Expanding access and choice of **primary mental health and addiction support**	**Mental wellbeing**: % of youth (aged 15-24) with high levels of psychological distress at some stage over a four-week period	11%	*19%*
6.	• Developing a **suicide prevention strategy** for children and youth	**Self-harm and suicide**: No. of suicides per 100,000 youth (aged 15-24)	18	17
D.	**...are learning and developing**			
7.	• **Reforming vocational education** with changes to be phased in from 2020 • **Waiving study fees** for the first year of tertiary education or training	**Regular school attendance**: % of children and youth (aged 6-16) attending school regularly	65%	*61%*
8.	• Introducing **programmes for NEETs**, such as employment support services and wage subsidy for hiring youth	**Youth participation in employment, education or training**: % of youth (aged 15-24) participating in employment, education or training	88%	88%
E.	**...are accepted, respected and connected**			
9.	• Releasing the Strategy for **Māori Language Revitalization** to support a wider use of indigenous language	**Languages**: % of youth (aged 12-18) speaking second and/or third language in everyday conversation	-	-
10.	• Introducing **Bullying Prevention and Response Work Programme** to tackle bullying in schools	**Experience of bullying**: % of youth (aged 12-18) experiencing bullying in the last 12 months	-	-
F.	**...are involved and empowered**			
11.	• Launching **Youth Voice Project** to build meaningful and two-way communication channels between youth and the Government	**Representation of youth's voices**: % of youth enrolling and voting in the general election	69%	78%
12.	• Investing in a new type of small, **community-based youth justice facility** to support their rehabilitation	**Criminal offending**: Offending rates per 10,000 youth (aged 10-17)	179	162

Note: (-)   Information not available/not specified.
Sources: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (2019a, 2019b, 2022a).

Selected policy measures and relevant indicators of the "Outline for the Promotion of Development and Support for Children and Young People" in Japan published in 2021

Overall goal: "Create a society where all children and young people can find a place to belong, grow and play an active role"			
Five policy directions			
	Policy measures	**Selected indicators**	***(year)***
A.	**Sound development of all children and youth**		
1.	• Assisting schools to **detect and handle bullying** cases	**Bullying**: No. of critical situation of bullying	314 *(2015)* 514 *(2020)*
2.	• Offering **employment support** (e.g. consultation and referral) for new graduates at employment center	**Employment rate**: % of university students who found employment after graduation	74.7% *(2016)* 74.1% *(2021)*
3.	• Enhancing **physical education** and sports club activities in schools	**Physical fitness**: Score of the physical fitness test for second year junior high school students - Male - Female	42.00 41.05 49.41 48.41 *(2016)* *(2021)*
B.	**Supporting children, youth, and their families who are facing difficulties**		
4.	• Organizing **street counseling** to prevent youth crime	**Youth crime**: No. of juvenile arrests for the Penal Code offences per 1 000 population	4.5 *(2016)* 2.2 *(2021)*
5.	• Holding **drug prevention workshops** and classes at schools	**Drug offences**: No. of youth (aged under 30) being arrested for drug offences related to cannabis	1 198 *(2016)* 3 817 *(2021)*
6.	• Setting up a one-stop **consultation system for single-parent families** to obtain child-rearing allowance	**Single-parent family**: Poverty rate of working-age households with children and one adult	54.6% *(2012)* 48.1% *(2018)*
7.	• Beefing up **consultation support for suicidal youth** with the use of face-to-face meeting, phone and social networking service	**Suicide cases**: No. of suicides among youth (aged 20-29)	2 235 *(2016)* 2 611 *(2021)*
C.	**Assistance for children and youth who will carve out a creative future**		
8.	• Enhancing **support for local youth to study abroad** and outstanding international students to study in Japan	**International student exchange**: - No. of Japanese who studied abroad - No. of international students	55 000 62 000 210 000 280 000 *(2015)* *(2020)*
9.	• Promoting **science and mathematics education** by offering learning opportunities (e.g. training camps and contests) in high schools	**OECD Programme for International Student Assessment ("PISA")**: - Average score for mathematical literacy - Average score for scientific literacy	532 527 538 529 *(2015)* *(2018)*
D.	**Development of social environments for the growth of children and youth**		
10.	• Developing **after-school children's clubs** for 300 000 children by 2023	**After-school activities**: No. of after-school children's clubs	23 619 *(2016)* 26 925 *(2021)*
11.	• Strengthening education related to appropriate **use of the Internet**	**Internet usage**: % of children and youth (aged 13-19) using the Internet	98.2% *(2015)* 96.6% *(2020)*
E.	**Training and support for human resources who will be responsible for supporting the growth of children and youth**		
12.	• Publishing **Children and Young People Index Board** to society	-	- -
13.	• Setting up **network of specialized human resources** (e.g. social workers, and teachers) for youth development	-	- -

Note: (-) Information not available/not specified.
Sources: 子ども・若者育成支援推進本部 (2021) and 内閣府 (2022a).

36 indicators of New Zealand's "Annual Implementation Report" and 190 indicators of Japan's "Children and Young People Index Board"

Indicators of New Zealand's "Annual Implementation Report"

Six wellbeing outcomes (Children and young people…)		
	Indicators	**Sub-indicators**
A.	**…are loved, safe and nurtured**	
1.	Feeling loved	- % of youth (aged 12-18) who feel they are loved by the people who look after or care for them
2.	Family and whanau (i.e. extended family) wellbeing	- % of youth (aged 12-18) who rate their families as doing well - % of youth (aged 18-24) who rate their families as doing well
3.	Quality time with parents	- % of youth (aged 12-18) who feel they get to spend enough time with the people who look after or care for them
4.	Harm against children and youth	- No. of children and youth (aged 0-17) with notifications to Ministry for Children who were referred for further assessment or investigation - % of youth (aged 12-18) that in the last 12 months have been hit or physically hurt, or they have seen others in the home being hit or physically hurt by adults in the places where they usually live
5.	Feeling safe	- % of youth (aged 12-18) who agree they feel safe at home
6.	Serious injuries	- No. of serious injuries (non-fatal) per 100 000 children and youth (aged 0-24) - No. of deaths of children and youth (aged 0- 24)
B.	**…have what they need**	
7.	Material wellbeing	- % of children and youth (aged 0-17) living in households experiencing good material wellbeing
8.	Poverty (before-housing-costs)	- % of children and youth (aged 0-17) living in households with less than 50% median equivalized disposable household income before housing costs
9.	Poverty (after-housing-costs)	- % of children and youth (aged 0-17) living in households with less than 50% median equivalized disposable household income after housing costs
10.	Poverty (material hardship)	- % of children and youth (aged 0-17) living in households experiencing material hardship
11.	Food insecurity	- % of children and youth (aged 0-14) living in households where food runs out sometimes or often
12.	Housing quality	- % of children and youth (aged 0-17) living in households with a major problem with dampness or mold
13.	Housing affordability	- % of households with children and youth (aged 0-17) spending more than 30% of their disposable income on housing
C.	**…are happy and healthy**	
14.	Prenatal wellbeing	- % of people registered with lead maternity carer, among all people giving birth - % of people registering with lead maternity carer in their first trimester of pregnancy, among all people registered with lead maternity carers
15.	Prenatal exposure to toxins	- % of people giving birth who were smoking two weeks after the birth of their child
16.	Subjective health status	- % of youth (aged 12-18) reporting their health as good, very good, or excellent - % of youth (aged 15-24) reporting their health as good, very good, or excellent
17.	Potentially avoidable hospitalizations	- % of potentially avoidable hospitalizations per 1 000 children and youth (aged 0-14)
18.	Mental wellbeing	- % of youth (aged 15-24) who experienced high or very high levels of psychological distress at some stage over a four-week period - % of youth (aged 12-18) that in the last 30 days felt nervous, hopeless, restless or fidgety and/or so depressed that nothing could cheer you up
19.	Self-harm and suicide	- % of youth (aged 12-18) that in the last 12 months who deliberately hurt themselves or tried to kill themselves - No. of suicides per 100 000 youth (aged 15-24)

Indicators of New Zealand's "Annual Implementation Report"

Six wellbeing outcomes (Children and young people…) (cont'd)		
	Indicators	**Sub-indicators**
D. …are learning and developing		
20.	Participation in early learning	- % of children (aged 3) attending early childhood education for 10 or more hours a week on average - % of children (aged 4) attending early childhood education for 10 or more hours a week on average
21.	Regular school attendance	- % of children and youth (aged 6-16) who are regularly attending school
22.	Literacy, numeracy, and science skills	- % of youth (aged 15) meeting the level 2 benchmark for reading - % of youth (aged 15) meeting the level 2 benchmark for mathematics - % of youth (aged 15) meeting the level 2 benchmark for science
23.	Social-emotional skills	- Based on aggregated survey data that measures compassion, respectfulness and trust
24.	Self-management skills	- Based on aggregated survey data that measures organization, productiveness and responsibility
25.	Participation in employment, education or training	- % of youth (aged 15 to 24) who are participating in education, training, or employment
E. …are accepted, respected and connected		
26.	Ability to be themselves	- % of youth (aged 12-18) who agree that it is easy for them to express their identity
27.	Sense of belonging	- % of youth (aged 12-18) who feel a sense of belonging to Aotearoa/New Zealand as a whole
28.	Experience of discrimination	- % of youth (aged 12-18) who report experiencing discrimination in the last 12 months
29.	Experience of bullying	- % of youth (aged 12-18) who experienced bullying in the last 12 months
30.	Social support	- % of youth (aged 12-18) who say they have an adult they could turn to if they were going through a difficult time and needed help
31.	Support for cultural identity	- % of youth (aged 12-18) who have someone they can ask about their culture, whakapapa or ethnic group
32.	Languages	- % of youth (aged 12-18) who in everyday conversation speak a second and/or third language
F. …are involved and empowered		
33.	Involvement in community	- % of youth (aged 12-18) who report helping others in the neighbourhood or community
34.	Representation of youth's voices	- % of youth enrolled and voted in the New Zealand General Election - Average rating of trust in parliament for youth (aged 18-24)
35.	Making positive choices	- % of youth (aged 15-24) who are hazardous drinkers - % of youth (aged 15-24) who smoke daily - % of youth (aged 15-24) who use e-cigarettes daily - % of youth (aged 15-24) who have used cannabis in the last 12 months
36.	Criminal offending	- Offending rates per 10 000 children and youth (aged 10-17)

Source: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (2022a).

Indicators of Japan's "Children and Young People Index Board"

A. Attitudes of children and young people	
(I) About yourself	
1.	Self-esteem: Like who I am now
2.	Self-efficacy: Feel strongly that I am useless
3.	Sense of fulfillment: Have a full life now
4.	Hope for the future: Have bright hopes for my future
5.	Spirit of challenge: Am willing to tackle things that I am not sure will work
6.	Willingness to contribute to society: Want to do something useful for society
(II) About the surroundings	
	i) The following places are ones where I can relax, feel comfortable
7.	My room
8.	Home
9.	School
10.	Community
11.	Workplace
12.	Cyberspace
13.	No place
	ii) There are people I can talk to about anything at the following places
14.	Family
15.	School
16.	Community
17.	Workplace
18.	Cyberspace
19.	No place
	iii) There is someone who will help me when I am in trouble at the following places
20.	Family
21.	School
22.	Community
23.	Workplace
24.	Cyberspace
25.	No place
	iv) Perception of each place
26.	Home: It's a place where I can belong
27.	Home: There are people I can consult with
28.	Home: There are people who can help me
29.	School: It's a place where I can belong
30.	School: There are people I can consult with
31.	School: There are people who can help me
32.	Community: It's a place where I can belong
33.	Community: There are people I can consult with
34.	Community: There are people who can help me

Indicators of Japan's "Children and Young People Index Board"

A. Attitudes of children and young people (cont'd)	
(II) About the surroundings	
	iv) Perception of each place
35.	Workplace: It's a place where I can belong
36.	Workplace: There are people I can consult with
37.	Workplace: There are people who can help me
38.	Cyberspace: It's a place where I can belong
39.	Cyberspace: There are people I can consult with
40.	Cyberspace: There are people who can help me
	v) Relationship with people
41.	With Parents
42.	With Others
	vi) Relationship between the number of places where I can belong and self-perception
43.	Self-esteem
44.	Self-efficacy
45.	Sense of fulfillment
46.	Hope for the future
47.	Willingness to contribute to society
	vii) Relationship between the number of places where I can talk to and self-perception
48.	Self-esteem
49.	Self-efficacy
50.	Sense of fulfillment
51.	Hope for the future
52.	Willingness to contribute to society
	viii) Relationship between the number of places where there is someone who will help me when I am in trouble and self-perception
53.	Self-esteem
54.	Self-efficacy
55.	Sense of fulfillment
56.	Hope for the future
57.	Willingness to contribute to society
(III) Support	
58.	Experiences of difficulties: Experienced difficulties that prevented me from having a smooth social or daily life
59.	Experiences of resolving difficulties: Have had the situation (58) above improved
60.	Helpful support: None of the support received has been useful
61.	Recognition of support organizations: Do not know any institution
62.	Willingness to use a support organization: Do not want to use it
63.	Desire for consultation and support: Do not want to consult with anyone or receive support
	Relationship between number of places where you can belong and the below
64.	Have had some difficulty situation improved
65.	Do not know any support organization
66.	Do not want to use any support organization
67.	Do not want to consult with anyone or receive support

Indicators of Japan's "Children and Young People Index Board"

B.	**Children and young people and the situation surrounding them**	
	(I) Situation by place	
	<u>Home</u>	
68.	Child abuse: No. of child abuse cases handled by child guidance centers	
69.	Child abuse: No. of child abuse cases arrested by police	
70.	Poverty: Child poverty rate	
71.	Single-parent family: Poverty rate among working-age households with children and one adult	
72.	Single-parent family: Average income of households with single parent and unmarried children only	
73.	Single-parent family: Percentage of children from single-parent households who go on to study after compulsory education (go to high school, etc.)	
74.	Single-parent family: Percentage of children from single-parent households who go on to higher education (university, etc.)	
75.	Young Carer: I fall under the young carer category	
76.	Hikikomori (social withdrawal): Those who have been hikikomori for more than seven years	
77.	Social care: Foster parent entrustment rate	
	<u>School</u>	
78.	Suicide: No. of suicides among pupils/students	
79.	Bullying: Critical situation of bullying	
80.	Bullying: Damage caused by slander and defamation on PCs, smartphones, etc.	
81.	Non-Attendance at School: No. of non-attending students at elementary and junior high schools	
82.	Non-Attendance at School: No. of non-attending students in high school	
83.	No. of students who dropped out of high school	
84.	Violence: Violence in and out of school (elementary school)	
85.	Violence: Violence in and out of school (junior high school)	
86.	Violence: Violence in and out of school (high school)	
87.	OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA): Average score for "Mathematical Literacy"	
88.	OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA): Average score for "Reading Literacy"	
89.	OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA): Average score for "Scientific Literacy"	
90.	Total score of the physical fitness test: 5th grade elementary school pupil (male)	
91.	Total score of the physical fitness test: 2nd-year junior high school student (male)	
92.	Total score of the physical fitness test: 5th grade elementary school pupil (female)	
93.	Total score of the physical fitness test: 2nd-year junior high school student (female)	
94.	Hours of hands-on activities conducted in schools: Elementary school	
95.	Hours of hands-on activities conducted in schools: Junior high school	
96.	Hours of hands-on activities conducted in schools: High school	
97.	International Student Exchange: No. of Japanese who studied abroad	
98.	International Student Exchange: No. of international student	

Indicators of Japan's "Children and Young People Index Board"

B. Children and young people and the situation surrounding them (cont'd)	
(I) Situation by place	
	Community
99.	Social interaction in the community: Percentage of people who answered that they socialize with the local community
100.	Social interaction in the community: Participation rate in nature experience activities conducted by organizations
101.	Social interaction in the community: Percentage of respondents in their 20s in Tokyo's 23 wards who said they were interested in moving to a local area
102.	Percentage of respondents agreeing that whole-community effort is required to foster healthy growth of children and young people
103.	No. of after-school children's classes
104.	No. of after-school children's clubs
105.	No. of plans for children and young people formulated
106.	No. of municipalities with comprehensive consultation center for children and young people centers
107.	No. of local support network systems for children and young people support established
	Cyberspace
108.	Internet usage rate: 6 to 12 years old
109.	Internet usage rate: 13 to 19 years old
110.	Internet usage time: Percentage of respondents with average usage time of three hours or more (elementary school pupil)
111.	Internet usage time: Percentage of respondents with average usage time of three hours or more (junior high school students)
112.	Internet usage time: Percentage of respondents with average usage time of three hours or more (high school students)
113.	Smartphone usage: Elementary school pupil
114.	Smartphone usage: Junior high school students
115.	Smartphone usage: High school students
116.	No. of children affected by Social Network Services-related incidents
117.	Filtering rate: Percentage of parents who use filtering services for their children's internet use
	Workplace
118.	Unemployment rate (male and female total): 15 to 19 years old
119.	Unemployment rate (male and female total): 20 to 24 years old
120.	Unemployment rate (male and female total): 25 to 29 years old
121.	Ratio of non-regular employees (male and female total): 15 to 24 years old
122.	Ratio of non-regular employees (male and female total): 25 to 39 years old
123.	Average wage for 25 to 29 years old (regular employees)
124.	Average wage for 25 to 29 years old (non-regular employees)
125.	Ratio of freelancers to the population aged 15 to 34 years old: male
126.	Ratio of freelancers to the population aged 15 to 34 years old: female
127.	Percentage with remote work arrangement in place
128.	Ratio of young unemployed in population aged 15-39 (male and female total)
129.	Percentage of students who find employment or go on to study after compulsory education: High school
130.	Percentage of students who find employment or go on to study after compulsory education: "Kosen" (College of Technology)
131.	Percentage of students who find employment or go on to study after compulsory education: Junior college
132.	Percentage of students who find employment or go on to study after compulsory education: University
133.	Percentage of students who find employment or go on to study after compulsory education: Post-secondary institution (specialty programmes)
134.	Percentage of students who find employment or go on to study after compulsory education: Specialized post-secondary training college

Indicators of Japan's "Children and Young People Index Board"

B.	**Children and young people and the situation surrounding them (cont'd)**
	(II) A situation common to multiple places

	Life and safety
135.	No. of suicides among persons under 30 years old (male and female total): 19 years old or younger
136.	No. of suicides among persons under 30 years old (male and female total): 20-29 years old
137.	No. of incidents of criminal offenses where the primary victim was a person under 20 years old
138.	No. of victims of child prostitution
139.	No. of victims of child pornography
140.	No. of juvenile arrests for Penal Code offenses
141.	No. of juvenile arrests for Penal Code offenses (No. of people per 1 000 population)
142.	No. of juvenile offenders (criminal law) guided
143.	No. of persons under 30 years old arrested for drug offenses: Stimulant
144.	No. of persons under 30 years old arrested for drug offenses: Cannabis
145.	No. of deaths due to unintentional accidents among persons under 30 years old
	Health
146.	Incidence of overweight/obese children: Elementary school (11 years old)
147.	Incidence of overweight/obese children: Junior high school (14 years old)
148.	Incidence of overweight/obese children: High school (17 years old)
149.	Incidence of underweight children: Elementary school (11 years old)
150.	Incidence of underweight children: Junior high school (14 years old)
151.	Incidence of underweight children: High school (17 years old)
152.	Pupils/students with less than 20/20 vision: Elementary school (11 years old)
153.	Pupils/students with less than 20/20 vision: Junior high school (14 years old)
154.	Pupils/students with less than 20/20 vision: High school (17 years old)
155.	Nutritionally balanced meals: Percentage of citizens who eat at least two well balanced meals consisting of a staple food, a main dish, and side dishes almost every day (people in their 20s)
156.	Nutritionally balanced meals: Percentage of citizens who eat at least two well balanced meals consisting of a staple food, a main dish, and side dishes almost every day (all generations)

Indicators of Japan's "Children and Young People Index Board"

	C. Index group for satisfaction and quality of life (Dashboard)
157.	Balance of financial assets
158.	Amount of disposable income
159.	Lifetime wage (estimated total value of wage assuming the person works at the same company from graduation to retirement age)
160.	Ratios of unemployment rate and of active job openings-to-applicants
161.	Ratio of number of regular employees to number of unwilling non-regular employees
162.	Scheduled salary/minimum wage
163.	Total floor area of home
164.	Rent/land rent (percentage of income)
165.	Home ownership rate
166.	Actual working hours (regular workers)
167.	Percentage of employees working long hours (49 hours or more per week)
168.	Rate of taking annual paid leave
169.	Average life expectancy/healthy life expectancy
170.	Percentage of persons strongly suspected of having diabetes (changes in the number of deaths due to lifestyle-related diseases)
171.	Percentage of persons with exercise habits
172.	Post-secondary enrolment rate
173.	Educational attainment ranking of OECD countries
174.	Number of adult students enrolled (university/graduate school)
175.	Participation rate in volunteer activities
176.	Individual donation total
177.	Time spent in social interaction
178.	Environmental standards compliance rate for noise
179.	Achievement rate of environmental standards for fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and water quality (Biological Oxygen Demand)
180.	Changes in forest coverage and urban park area per capita
181.	Number of criminal offenses
182.	Traffic fatalities
183.	Deaths and missing persons due to natural disasters
184.	Number of children waiting for nursery school
185.	Percentage of employees taking childcare leave
186.	Total cost of education for children (all public schools)/total fertility rate
187.	Percentage of recipients of long-term care insurance services
188.	Percentage of business establishments with provisions for nursing care leave system
189.	Percentage of people who left their previous job in the past year for nursing care
190.	Nursing care/nursing time

Sources: 子ども・若者育成支援推進本部(2021) and 内閣府(2022a).

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