



About YPO

Young Presidents' Organization is a global network of young chief executives that connects 19,000 peers and their families in more than 110 countries to learn, exchange ideas and address the challenges leaders face today. Guided by the mission of building Better Leaders Through Education and Idea Exchange™, the organisation provides members with access to unique experiences, world-class resources, alliances with top learning institutions, and specialised Networks to enhance their business, community and personal leadership.

YPO was founded in 1950 by manufacturer Ray Hickok who, at the age of 27, inherited his family's 300-employee company in New York. He and other young presidents began meeting regularly as a way to become better leaders by learning from each other. This founding principle still guides the organisation today.

YPO members transition at age 50 to World Presidents' Organization (WPO) a group founded in 1970 by 200 former YPO members, continuing the lifelong learning experience with access to the YPO-WPO global network and additional benefits.

In aggregate, the companies run by YPO and WPO members employ more than 16 million people and generate more than US\$6 trillion in annual revenues.



Members networking during a business event.

“YPO has been an incredible source of inspiration, knowledge and growth for my family and me. My Forum, which I consider my personal advisory board, has been instrumental in allowing me to understand my strengths and my weaknesses in virtually all aspects of my life. This makes one humble, yet stronger. If it weren't for my involvement in YPO, I would certainly not have had half of the formidable experiences around the world that I have had to date, and will continue to have in the years ahead.” – **Johannesburg Golden City YPO member**



Membership Demographics

YPO Africa

Type of Business

Entrepreneurs	40%
Family Business	30%
Professional	30%

Scope of Business

(includes WPO)

International	49%
National	41%
Local	7%
Regional	3%

Nature of Business

(includes WPO)

Sales	34%
Manufacturing	24%
Service	23%
Financial	12%
Other	4%
Agency	3%

Membership, Leadership and Management

To qualify for YPO membership, business leaders must be under the age of 45 and must be the chief operator (CEO, managing director, president, chairman or equivalent) of a company that fulfills minimum size and complexity criteria. Members transition to WPO at the age of 50. YPO-WPO is managed by professional management teams located around the world and led by a chief executive officer.

Education

The YPO and WPO experience centers on education and idea exchange. Chapters bring members together to discover new insights into many topics, ranging from geopolitical and business to personal and community issues. The organization offers seminars and industry roundtables, bringing together members from many different countries to examine specific industry trends and best practices. International conference calls allow members to learn from world-class experts in the comfort of their home or office. Events are a stimulating blend of educational and social opportunities. Alliances with leading higher-learning institutions, including Harvard Business School, Stanford Business School, London Business School, INSEAD and more, provide exclusive access to the world's top experts in business and leadership.

Networks

Networks put a new spin on YPO and WPO networking by allowing members to connect beyond their local chapters and through special Networks.

Business Networks focus on various business sectors, industries and regions, which allow members to instantly expand professional contacts. These include the Family Business, Real Estate Industry, Doing Business With China, the Women's International Network and more. With 3,000 members, the Deal Network is the largest of YPO-WPO's 58 Networks with burgeoning activity in the Africa Region.

Personal Networks allow members to connect globally around topics of personal interest including the Wine, Golf, Photography, Personal Investing and Art Networks. The Golf Network is the largest Personal Network with more than 2,000 members.

Social Enterprise Networks bring like-minded YPO and WPO members together to address community, philanthropic and humanitarian endeavors, such as the Economic Development, Education Outreach and Sustainable Business Networks.

In addition, the Africa Region has a strong networking Group called Doing Business in Africa with more than 180 members which engages members at events such as World Economic Forum meetings in Africa. The Africa Wine Group, an extension of the Global Wine Network, is providing a series of wine networking opportunities thus far in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban with a regional offering coming up this year. There is also a global member-to-member exchange called M2Mx which provides immediate assistance and expertise on any topic, from business questions to health issues.

“YPO has enriched my family and my life and given me the opportunity to network with business and spouse leaders throughout the world. I have had amazing experiences meeting empowering people from around the world and attending international events such as Global Leadership Conferences, YPO-WPO Harvard Business School Spouse/Partner program, mother-daughter retreats and more. I don't hesitate recommending YPO to entrepreneurs as it will surely make a difference.” – **YPO Nairobi Spouse**



Family

Membership of YPO includes access to programs for parents and children, spouses or partners, youth and young adults. The organization has a growing slate of programmes to engage children and young adults such as @University Groups, internships and events with other children of YPO members. Spouses can join Forums with other spouses and have access to spouse-only events and education programs.

Forums

Forums are groups of eight to 10 members who meet as peers on a regular basis in an atmosphere of confidentiality, trust and openness to share in each other's business, family and personal experiences. Every day, members connect and exchange powerful ideas and deep experiences through Forum. For this reason, Forum has grown to include Spouse/Partner Forums, Network Forums, Young Adult Forums (ages 18 and up), Couples Forums, Family Forums and International/Regional Forum.



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