Appendix 2: YOMA Interview Guide for Interviews with Focus Groups

The Aim of the YOMA Project Is

- to study the nature and extent to which faith-based organisations (FBOs) contribute to strengthening or weakening social cohesion in the way they relate to marginalised youths at the local level in South African and Nordic European society;
- to compare the function of FBOs and religion for young marginalised people, in South Africa, Finland and Norway;
- to fill the gap of knowledge regarding FBOs’ relationship to and involvement with marginalised youth in their everyday living environments.

Specific Research Questions

1. What attitudes to and expectations of FBOs do marginalised youths have?
2. In what ways do religion and FBOs touch the everyday lives of young people at the margins?
3. What are the activities of FBOs and modes of cooperation with other actors in their relations with marginalised young people?
4. How do FBOs involve marginalised youths in their own activities and which avenues for inclusion are utilised?
5. How and to what extent are FBOs involved in the public debate on state and municipal youth policy?
6. What are the theological motivations of FBOs in their relations with marginalised young people?
7. In what ways is gender reflected on and taken into account by FBOs?
8. To what extent and in which ways do FBOs contribute with their activities to reducing or increasing inequalities between marginalised young people and others?
9. To what extent and in what ways do FBOs contribute with their activities to strengthening or weakening marginalised youths’ social relations in the sense of bonding, bridging or linking social capital?
10. How do public authorities and other significant groups at local level envisage the role of FBOs in processes of social cohesion, with an emphasis on challenges related to marginalised youths?
11. What differences and similarities can be found when comparing results from the local areas studied in the four countries?

_Thematic Interview Guide_

A. What is it like to live in XX?
   What do you like about this neighbourhood?
   What are the challenges living here?

B. What do family, friends, neighbours mean to you? / What significance do they have in your life? / What do they do for you? / What do you do together?
   (May also be applied to various types of civil society organisations, and public/municipal/district authorities.)

C. What organisational activities do you know about that take place near where you live?

D. What are your experiences of contacts with faith-based organisations, such as churches, mosques or organisations such as the scouts that are, for example, Christian, Muslim, Buddhist or similar?

E. Can you remember any activity or contact with such faith-based organisation(s) that has been especially positive?

F. Can you remember any activity or contact with a faith-based organisation that has been especially negative?

G. Do you know anything good that faith-based organisations do or have done for young people in your situation?

H. Can you think of anything that the faith-based organisations in XX could do for you and other young people in your situation?

I. Do you presently attend church/religious services or other religious activities?

J. Do you think that a religious belief can be of help for young people in your situation?
K. Do you think that it can be of help for a young person in your situation to be a member of a religion or a faith-based organisation?

L. Describe what you think your life will be when you are forty years old.

M. Describe what you hope your life will be when you are forty years old.