



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Strategy Year 2



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REPORT OVERVIEW

In 2023, the YIELD Hub reached significant milestones in its mission to enhance and empower youth partnership within the Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (AYSRHR) ecosystem.

Amidst a shrinking space for funding, social, and political opposition against sexual and reproductive health and rights, the Hub has sustained and expanded its impact, proving the resilience and necessity of our initiatives.

This report outlines our achievements and lessons from 2023, framed around our strategic objectives: **facilitating collective action learning, serving as a platform for cross-stakeholder alignment, and activating youth partnerships.** Each section of this report corresponds to these objectives, highlighting our comprehensive approach to fostering change and driving impact.

KEY MILESTONES & INNOVATIONS



ACTION LEARNING CYCLES

We completed four action learning cycles with 31 participating organisations, tackling critical issues such as measuring youth impact, compensating youth fairly, and supporting youth transitions.



GLOBAL ENGAGEMENTS

Our presence at significant events like the Women Deliver Conference and the UN General Assembly underscored our role as leaders in the AYSRHR field who connect local to global-level events.



DIGITAL EXPANSION

Enhancements to our online platforms, including the launch of a new website and a podcast series, have broadened our reach and deepened our engagement with relevant partners worldwide.



PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES

The release of 'Unleashing the Power of Action Learning: a practical guide', 'A Passion for Action: Advancing Gender Equity and Intersectionality: a case study' and other educational materials has furthered our commitment to sharing knowledge and empowering other organisations.



CHALLENGES AND ADAPTATIONS

Despite ongoing challenges to meaningfully support the work of youth in the field of AYSRHR, we adapted our strategies to continue delivering on our promises.

Challenges in measuring the tangible impact of youth contributions have sparked innovative approaches and methodologies, enriching our understanding and practices within the AYSRHR field.

LOOKING FORWARD

As we move through 2024, YIELD Hub is poised to scale its impact further.

Plans include expanding our action learning cycles, enhancing our digital tools, and continuing to advocate for meaningful youth engagement globally.

The journey of 2023 has been one of significant accomplishment and profound learning. Through this report, we invite our global partners and supporters to explore the depth of our endeavours, celebrate the achievements, and join us in our ongoing journey to empower youth and enhance partnerships in AYSRHR.

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

As we reflect on another year of unwavering commitment to advancing youth participation in sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) worldwide, I'm delighted to present the annual report of the YIELD Hub.

In the midst of ongoing global challenges for SRHR, such as the rise of anti-rights movements, regression in legislation, and scarcity of resources, our commitment to empowering young people and promoting their sexual and reproductive health keeps getting stronger. Guided by our mission to improve youth partnership in the SRHR space, we have continued to push boundaries, innovate, and collaborate for change.

Throughout the past year, our dedicated team has worked tirelessly to drive impact and facilitate meaningful change within organisations around the globe.

From measuring youth partnership to practical aspects of youth participation like compensation, recruitment, and ageing, our work has tackled a wide range of challenges young people face in engaging within the SRHR field.

One of the key highlights of the past year has been hosting three simultaneous action learning groups for the first time. We rely strongly on the participation of our members to reach our goals, and this year we saw many members growing and showing us their commitment to youth participation.

It was a pleasure to see their organisational outcomes and it made it so much easier to translate those experiences into new learnings that the field can use.

Additionally, our efforts to activate the emerging learnings led us to participate in different events where we got the opportunity to collaborate with our partners. Highlights included the United Nations General Assembly, the Global Forum for Adolescents, and the Women Deliver Conference (where I also turned 30 years old).

As we look ahead to the future, we remain committed to our vision of a world in which youth partnership is the norm within the SRHR field, not the exception. We want to see the field transformed from one that exists for youth to one that exists in partnership with youth. With your continued support and partnership, we are confident that we can make this vision a reality.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights for young people everywhere.

Warm regards, -



Dr. David Imbago-Jácome
Director, YIELD Hub

THE YIELD HUB TEAM



David Imbago-Jácome

Director



Richard Dzikunu

Action Learning Groups Lead



Somila Mjekula

Content Creator and
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Dina Chaerani

Associate



Yemurai Nyoni

Monitoring and Evaluation Officer



Beatrice Okech

Content and
Communications Advisor

COLLECTIVE ACTION LEARNING

Strategy Objective 1

1



OBJECTIVE

To facilitate collective action learning for the generation of solutions, strategies, and best practices to systematically integrate youth partnership across the Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (AYSRRH) ecosystem.

OUR PROGRESS

We successfully completed four action learning cycles, collaborating with 31 diverse organisations. Our members, composed of international non-governmental organisations (INGOs), academics, expert consultants, local civil society organisations, and dynamic youth-led organisations representing.

Online Community

Our Action Learning Online Community empowered organisations to participate in our action learning groups, so no one was left behind. Hosted on the IBP Network Platform, the community boasted 68 dedicated individuals in 2023. It featured a suite of tools and activities designed to stimulate engagement, facilitate learning, and promote networking among its members. Notably, our discussion forums and peer learning groups were key to active knowledge exchange.

MY SRH Initiative

In July 2023, we joined forces with Metrics for Management (M4M) at the Women Deliver Conference in Kigali. Our mission? To facilitate an Action Learning Workshop for their Measuring Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health (MY SRH) Initiative. Led by our incredible team, we simulated an adaptation of the collective action learning process. This immersive experience granted us valuable insights into the context of the issue, helping us to clearly define our priorities.

Our Global Reach



The Hub has facilitated the collaboration of 31 organisations in 2023.

We established the goal of having at least 30% of our members being youth-organisations, the actual amount was 60%.

Action Learning Cycle 2

6 Organisations
Measuring Youth Partnership

Action Learning Cycle 4

9 Organisations
Capacity Development For Youth Transition

Action Learning Cycle 3

7 Organisations
Finding, Engaging, and Sustaining New Generations of Youth Leaders

Action Learning Cycle 5

11 Organisations
Compensating Youth Work



Member's location

Sub Saharan Africa	15
South Asia	5
USA & Europe	10
Latin America	1

Voices from Cycle Members

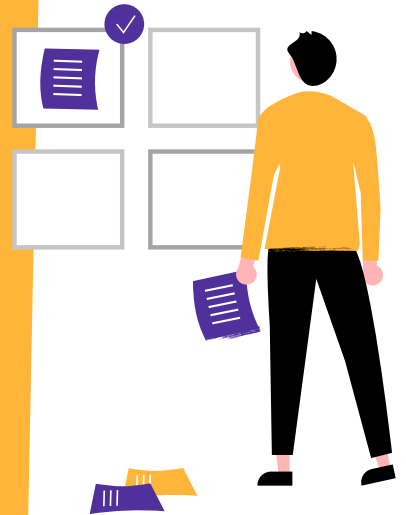
Cycle 2



Measuring Youth Partnership

MIRANDA VAN REEUWIJK
Senior Researcher | Rutgers

Participating in the Action Learning Group helped Rutgers map how we measure and report meaningful and inclusive youth participation in Rutgers' different programmes and check back with partners on what is most useful for them. We used the YIELD Theory of Change to structure that overview and identify gaps. This resulted in a fantastic resource where the colleagues and our partners can click on an area of interest or domain they are working on to access existing tools they can further adapt for their purposes. It really helped to have the YIELD action learning group to help drive this work. I found it very inspiring to exchange with others and learn from them. The YIELD hub staff did an excellent job encouraging us to be curious about each other's work and creating an atmosphere of mutuality.



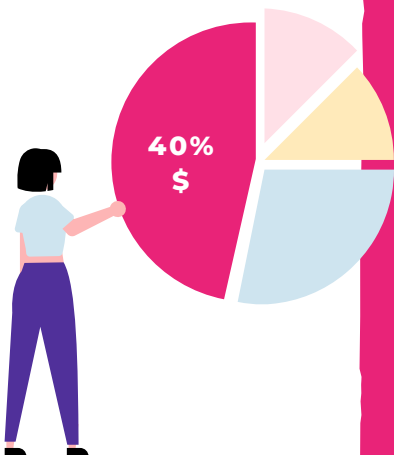
Cycle 3



Finding, Engaging, and Sustaining New Generations of Youth Leaders

GLORIA MASULA
Youth Partnerships Officer for East and Southern Africa | FP2030

After completing the Action Learning Cycle and with help from YIELD Hub, we have hired a consultant to develop an adolescent and youth strategy, and is working on revamping the 'We Trust Youth' initiative to financially support youth-led activities. We are also providing technical assistance and training to youth focal points, and have successfully lobbied for 40% of funding to go to youth-led organisations to focus on youth empowerment and capacity building.



Voices from Cycle Members



Cycle 4



Capacity Development For Youth Transition

JANE WANJA SHIRIMA

Junior Researcher | African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC)

What is unique and insightful about the YIELD Hub Action Learning Group is that they have an “open door policy,” which means the team is always available. I can reach them via email and request a one-on-one session to follow up when I have questions, want to clarify something, or encounter challenges.

They always provide us with help and support, which is very resourceful, and all the cycle sessions were super interactive!

Cycle 5

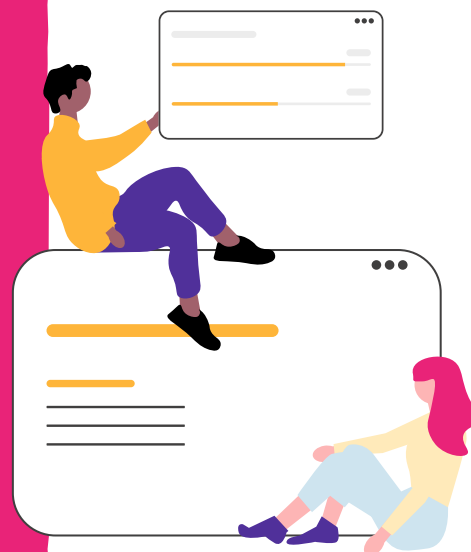


Compensating Youth Work

PHAKAMANI MOYO

Peer Counselor & FSD Coordinator | Paediatric-Adolescent Treatment Africa (PATA)

After joining Action Learning Cycle 3, I attended the PATA 2023 Summit, where we discussed youth work compensation and peer supporter sustainability. Key concerns were identified, such as inadequate compensation and a lack of sustainability beyond 24 years. To address this, we recommend government support for a minimum of two peer supporters per facility. Currently, I am leading an initiative to gather data on trained peer supporters in our region and propose the formalisation of the programme through a letter to the government.



KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

Strategy Objective 2

2

OBJECTIVE

To serve as the go-to platform for global cross-stakeholder alignment, coordination, and collaboration on youth partnership in the AYSRHR ecosystem.

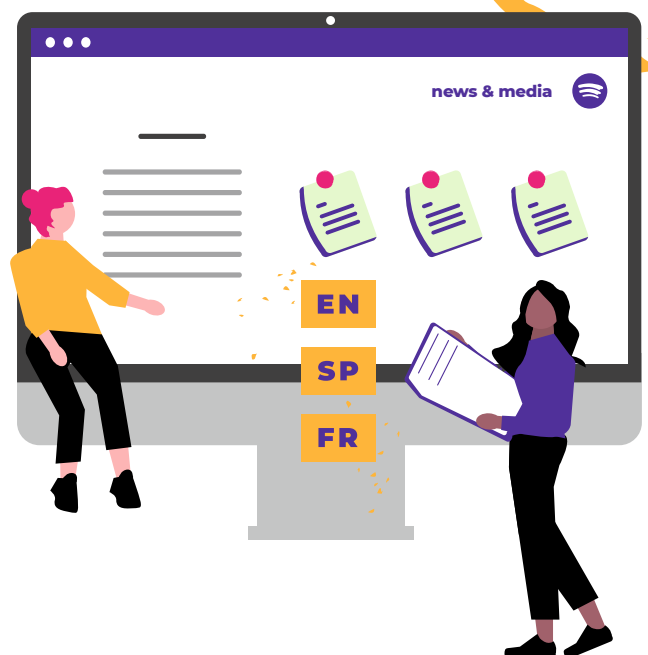
OUR PROGRESS

We've made significant strides in our content creation efforts.

This progress is largely due to the increased activity of our Action Learning Groups, which form the foundation of our knowledge management and learning activation. Furthermore, the expansion of our specialised communications team has also contributed to this success. We've created and distributed over 40 different user-friendly resources through various online and in-person channels. Our content, which includes videos, audio recordings, and written materials, ensures a broad reach. Importantly, our efforts have led to a growing presence on social media, marked by increased insights and engagement.

Website

We've made several enhancements to the [YIELD Hub website](https://www.yieldhub.global). These include a secondary navigation tab for easy access to our latest news, media, and resources, and the addition of a Spotify icon to promote our newly launched podcast channel on Youth Partnership. Most notably, we've translated our website into three languages: English, Spanish, and French. We also plan to translate all digital reports and resources to further increase accessibility.

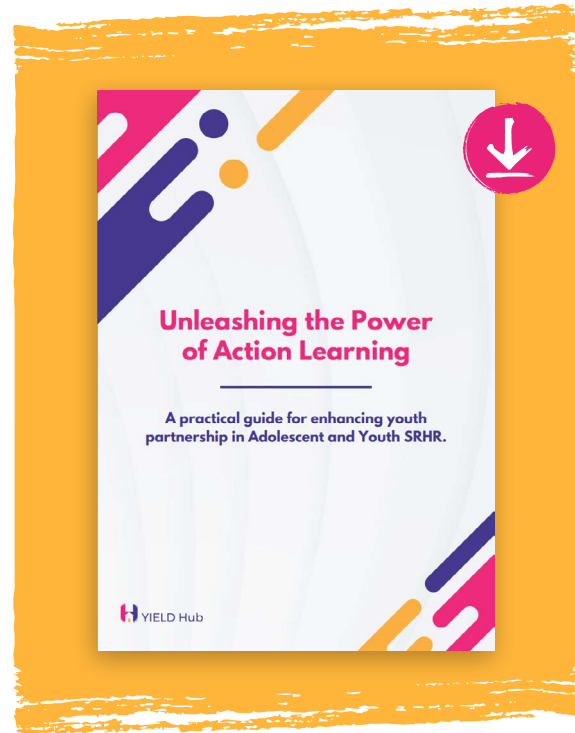


RESOURCES LAUNCHED



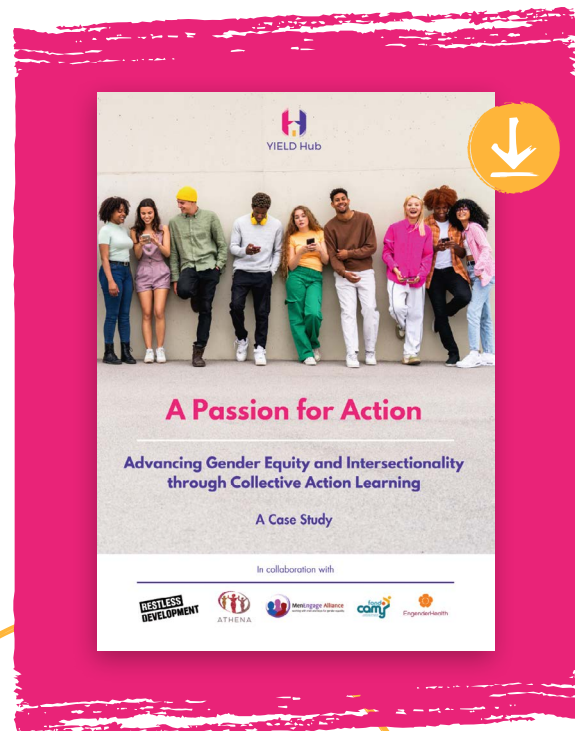
Unleashing the Power of Action Learning: a practical guide

This comprehensive and practical resource explains how the YIELD Hub implements Collective Action Learning. The guide aims to help other institutions understand the action learning process and encourage them to adapt and apply some of its elements and processes to support their work. By sharing their knowledge and experiences, the YIELD Hub hopes to inspire and empower others to improve their practices in enhancing youth partnership in Adolescent and Youth SRHR.



A Passion for Action: Advancing Gender Equity and Intersectionality through Collective Action Learning

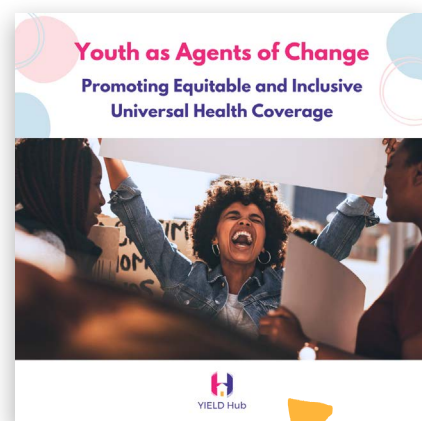
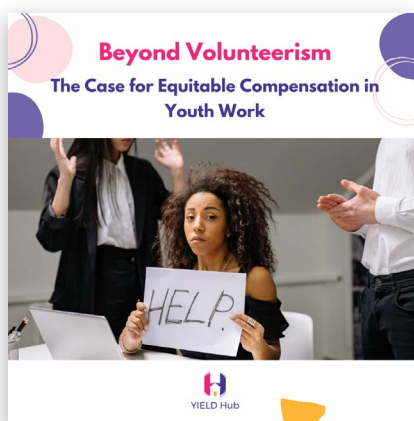
In 2022, we launched our first Collective Action Learning Cycle to drive forward the agenda of youth partnership, mainly focusing on addressing systemic gender inequities. In 2023, we were proud to launch a comprehensive case study that presents the experiences and outcomes of the five pioneer organisations. By engaging with the findings and reflections captured in this case study, we hope our audiences will find actionable insights that can support their organisation's development journey.



Our Content at a Glance

PUBLISHED BLOGS

Written content is a valuable avenue for us at the Hub. It serves as a platform for us to share the practical knowledge we've gained through our experiences and that of our Action Learning Group members. It also provides an opportunity to raise awareness about the complex issues we are working to address through the efforts of our Collective Action Learning Cycles. Through our blogs, we aim to engage with our audience, spark meaningful discussions, and drive transformative changes in our community.





WEBSITE

1.7 K users
6.2 K visits



NEWSLETTER

1325 subscribers

SOCIAL MEDIA

Percentage increase in followers between 2022-2023.



LEARNING ACTIVATION

Strategy Objective 3

OBJECTIVE

To activate youth partnership within the Hub’s spheres of influence, as well as advocate broadly within the AYSRHR field and broader development stakeholders.

Theory of Change (ToC)



In 2023, we revisited the original YIELD ToC, first published in 2020, to assess its relevance three years post-publication. We sought input from Action Learning Group members for this review. This ToC is intended to serve the AYSRHR field, its indicators becoming operational when adopted by organisati-

ons in their strategies, work plans, and programs. We conducted interviews with 33 organisations across five action-learning cycles to understand how relevant the YIELD Hub Theory of Change and its indicators are to good practices and emerging trends in youth engagement.

The Youth Partnership Podcast

We successfully launched and completed the first season of our Youth Partnership Podcast, comprising five episodes. Created to incorporate more diverse voices into the YIELD Hub’s continuous action learning cycles, this podcast intends to enliven the action learning process. Season 1 gives our audience

a glimpse into the discussions that take place during these cycles. It also provides an opportunity to actively participate in relevant issues, thereby fostering norm change within the AYSRHR ecosystem.



Our Activation at a Glance



EVENTS

IBP Partners Meeting

We co-hosted a session on enhancing Youth Partnership within the IBP Network with the Young and Alive Initiative.

WD2023

We partnered with CIFF, PMNCH, Rutgers, the Ouagadougou Partnership, CHOICE, and Engender Health at the Women Deliver 2023 Conference. We facilitated group discussions and launched our first Action Learning Toolkit and 2022 Annual Report.

UNGA

We participated in the World Contraception Day webinar and the Generation Equality Forum Midpoint Moment.

Global Forum for Adolescents

We collaborated with youth-led organisations to co-host a session on meaningful engagement of adolescents and youth.

Shaping Foreign Feminist Policy Conference

We aimed to strengthen Dutch partnerships, understand their priorities, and network with potential Action Learning Groups partners.

CSO Forum - 7th Asian and Pacific Population Conference

Supported by UNFPA Asia Pacific Region, we connected with SRHR Advocates, Youth-Led organizations, and CSOs in the Asia Pacific region.

Clinton Global Initiative

At this year's Clinton Global Initiative, we emphasised the urgent need to prioritise youth partnerships to advance adolescent health and well-being. We support organisations to put into practice their own commitments to strengthening youth partnerships.

WEBINARS

Universal Health Coverage and SRHR

The YIELD Hub, in collaboration with youth advocates, hosted its first ever webinar on "SRHR for Universal Health Coverage."



TUNE IN TO THIS ENGAGING YOUTH-LED WEBINAR!!

Theme: SRHR for Universal Health Coverage: What Young People Want!
Date: Thursday, 19th January 2023
Time: 4:00 - 5:15 PM CET

YIELD Hub

GENDER TRANSFORMATIVE APPROACHES FOR ADVANCING YOUTH PARTNERSHIP IN SRHR.

NYASHA SITHOLE (MODERATOR), KAPILA RATHNAYAKE (SPEAKER), ANA AGUILERA (SPEAKER), KURAIISH MUBIRU (SPEAKER), OLAOLUWA ABAGUN (SPEAKER), RICHARD DZIKUNU (SPEAKER)

YIELD Hub MenEngage Alliance



Advancing Youth Partnership in AYSRHR

Working with MenEngage Alliance, we held a seminar on "Gender Transformative Approaches for Advancing Youth Partnership in AYSRHR."

Addressing Structural Violence in AYSRHR

During the 16 Days of Activism campaign, we teamed with PMNCH Digital Advocacy Hubs for a webinar on structural violence against young women and gender diverse youth in AYSRHR.



SAVE THE DATE!

TUNE IN TO OUR WEBINAR!

THEME: ADDRESSING STRUCTURAL VIOLENCE AGAINST YOUNG WOMEN AND GENDER DIVERSE YOUTH IN AYSRHR.

Friday, 8th December 2023
 1:00 - 2:30 PM CET

REGISTER NOW!

YIELD Hub PMNCH EngenderHealth MenEngage Alliance ATHENA

EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS



We became PMNCH members.



We became Global Health Council members.



We are board members of the Global Roadmap for Action for Youth-led AYSRHR.

GRATITUDE FEATURE

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR ADVISORY BOARD

As we look back on a year filled with both challenges and achievements, we owe a big thank you to our board of advisors. Their insights and guidance have been essential in helping us navigate the complex landscape of Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (AYSRRH).



Ana Aguilera

Deputy Director, Adolescent and Youth SRHR, EngenderHealth



Anshu Mohan

Team Lead, Partner Engagement, Partnership for Maternal Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH)



Franklin Paul Anand Gnanamuthu

Senior Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Manager, Restless Development



Linda Weisert

Head of Equity, Gender Advocacy and Youth Partnerships, Children's Investment Fund Foundation



Miranda Van Reeuwijk

Senior Researcher International Programmes, Rutgers



Reine Stéphanie Thiobiano

Youth Lead/Facilitator of the Youth Think Tank of the Ouagadougou Partnership Coordination Unit. Programmes, Rutgers



Pragya Singh

Program Coordinator at CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality



WHERE WE ARE

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