



INTERNATIONAL YOUTH ALLIANCE FOR
FAMILY PLANNING



**Annual Report
2015-2016**

*“Imagine a world where choice is the ultimate priority. A **brighter** future for **young** people depends on their ability to make informed **choices** about their own sexual and reproductive health matters”*

Gilbert Ndayishimiye
Country Coordinator, Burundi

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THE ORGANIZATION

Co-Executive Directors	Isaiah Owolabi Jillian Gedeon
Director of Operations	Burcu Bozkurt
Director of Country Coordinators	Catherine Baye
Director of Human Resources	Otuck William
Director of Research and Development	Chris Rusatira Israel Idris
Director of Communications	Khalid Eisa
Advisor for Law and Policy Issues	Ramya Jawahar

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dear members and friends,

This past year has been a memorable one for the International Youth Alliance for Family Planning (IYAFP). Our Executive Team of 9 youth, 52 Country Coordinators, and over 1,000 members have been hard at work to get their voices heard on sexual and reproductive health and rights issues. This year, IYAFP dedicated more than 15,000 USD to advocacy scholarships and 12,000 USD to community development projects led by youth. IYAFP's mandate to have youth mobilize at the grassroots level has played out significantly this past year. Additionally, for the first time, our funding by the Gates Institute enabled IYAFP to dedicate resources to employ an Executive member as a full-time consultant to work exclusively with IYAFP.

This report is meaningful to all of us at IYAFP because it allows us to share our progress and growth over the past year with the public, including our youth members, organizational partners and future donors. Additionally, our team is wholly dedicated to transparency, so we are excited that this is the first of many annual reports that we look forward to publishing.

IYAFP is playing a vital global role in youth advocacy around sexual and reproductive health and rights. Thousands of young people are signing up to join the movement because they recognize the importance of getting access to and information about family planning, and all that it means for them. From advocating for better contraceptive options, technologies, youth-friendly counselling and safe abortion, embracing gender identity, celebrating sexual pleasure, to learning about and protecting their agency over their own bodies, young people deserve the *right* to information, the *right* to access, and the *right* to advocate, regardless of their age, marital status, physical ability, religion, culture, gender identity, or language.

This alliance works with a network of open-minded, progressive, and motivated youth around the world to give youth the space they need to speak their minds. With over 400 Country Coordinator applications received this past year alone, it is clear IYAFP has successfully identified a need in the reproductive health space. We are working hard and thoughtfully to create a long-lasting and impactful youth movement. With the 2020 Family Planning agenda fast approaching, we are committed to youth taking the lead, making decisions, and effecting the positive change they want to see in their communities.

Regards,

IYAFP Co-founders and Executive Board



THE PROBLEM

Today, one quarter of people on Earth are aged 10-25 and over one-half of the global population is under the age of 30.¹ Among these youth, 90% of them live in less developed countries.² Young people's knowledge and access to essential sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services is critical for the healthy development of each individual and vital to each nation's economic and social growth. Yet, despite all the efforts to increase access to these essential health services, especially among youth, millions of young people still have unwanted pregnancies, have poor access to family planning commodities, contract sexually transmitted infections and face discrimination because of their sexuality. The unmet need for contraception is always higher among young people living in low and middle income countries and as many as 16 million adolescents between 15-19 years of age give birth every year.³ In 2013, 2.1 million adolescents were living with HIV; half of whom were female youth.⁴ Furthermore, approximately 41% of the 22 million unsafe abortions each year occur among young women ages 15 to 24.⁵ It is clear that youth are the missing element in successful, youth-friendly interventions and SRH activism and advocacy.

Youth are often the most disenfranchised population when it comes to access to family planning and sexual and reproductive health and rights. sexual and reproductive health and rights. Our work at IYAFP is based off the following three realities in our world today:

- 1) The proportion of youth in the world does not match the proportion of youth in decision-making bodies in family planning. Despite this, youth are expected to drive the bulk of the progress forward on the new United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) (particularly 3 & 5)⁶ and global family planning strategies.
- 2) Nonprofits are continuing to communicate with a non-traditional generation of youth in a traditional manner, leading to missed opportunities for more inclusivity, and more effective youth outreach and engagement on reproductive health issues.
- 3) Youth leadership is not always recognized and certainly not leveraged to the extent possible, which inhibits innovation within family planning programming.

¹ The World's Youngest Populations, Euromonitor International, 2012

² Das Gupta, M., Engelman, R., Levy, J., Gretchen, L., Merrick, T., & Rosen, J. E. (2014). The Power of the 1.8 billion, ADOLESCENTS, YOUTH AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE FUTURE, State of world population, 2014.

³ WHO. Preventing early pregnancy and poor reproductive outcomes among adolescents in developing countries: what the evidence says. Geneva: WHO; 2012.

⁴ UNAIDS. The gap report. 2013; Available from: www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media_asset/UNAIDS_Gap_report_en.pdf

⁵ Shah I, Ahman E. Unsafe abortion differentials in 2008 by age and developing 2 country region: high burden among young women. *Reprod. Health Matters.* 2012;20(39):1-6. doi:10.1016/S0968-8080(12)39598-0.

⁶ SDG #3: "Good Health and Well-being." SDG#5: "Gender Equality."

Our Mission

To enable youth from around the world to contribute a significant voice and lead interventions and decisions on family planning and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and rights. We are looking to empower young people to become global advocates with the skills, knowledge and resources needed to scale up youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health initiatives and services.

OUR STORY

IYAFP was born out of the passion and involvement of youth delegates during the International Conference on Family Planning held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in November 2013. Youth were selected from around the world to join a Youth Pre-Conference several days prior to the conference and there was a voiced need for continued engagement on youth sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Facilitated by the co-founders, many youths met multiple times throughout the week to conceptualize, discuss, create, develop, and vote for the future of IYAFP.



OUR VALUES

The very basis of our organization's creation – through a participatory, inclusive and democratic process – is the way in which our organization has and will continue to operate. Our Executive Board members represent youth in different countries and contribute diverse perspectives. Rather than tokenizing the involvement of youth, our leadership is comprised of youth (15-30 years) and our geographic diversity is one of our biggest strengths, showing that IYAFP is not only an organization, but a movement.

The status quo is that youth are often involved on the fringes of any SRHR activism or intervention. With IYAFP, youth are the main facilitators and leaders of such activism and interventions. Thus far we are the one of the only all encompassing international SRHR youth organization for youth, by youth, with growing reach and momentum since our official launch in November 2013.

Our objectives:

- a) To be the voice of young people during policy-making processes on family planning issues at the local, national and international levels.
- b) To protect and promote the right of young people to quality contraceptive service and timely information.
- c) To collaborate with other youth groups and to be a strategic leader for all family planning work.
- d) To create a platform for ideas, success stories, and opportunity sharing for effective, more youth-friendly family planning interventions.

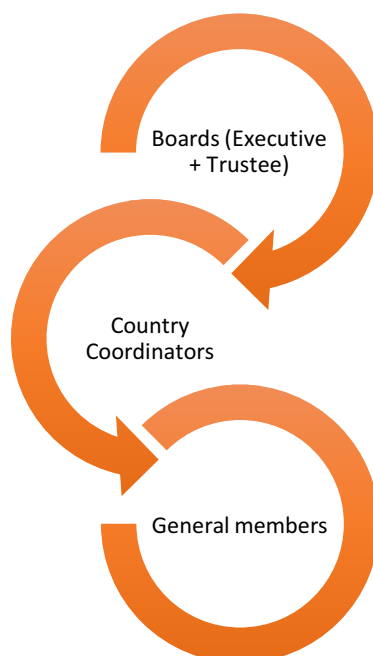
OUR ORGANIZATION

The International Youth Alliance for Family Planning (IYAFP) is organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. IYAFP seeks to defend human rights, advance youth education, and promote the public health of youth all across the world. Through its alliance of young individuals, youth associations, organizations, and communities, IYAFP shares a common mission to support the provision of comprehensive reproductive health care education and services with a particular focus on family planning for youth.

IYAFP functions as a voluntary association of youth from around the world. It is a pro-choice and equal opportunity organization that does not discriminate based on race, color, nationality, religion, creed, marital status, geographic location, sexual orientation, disability or military status.

Youth are defined as individuals aged 15-30. All members of the Executive Board and Country Coordinator cohort must fall between this age range.

We have three levels of leadership:



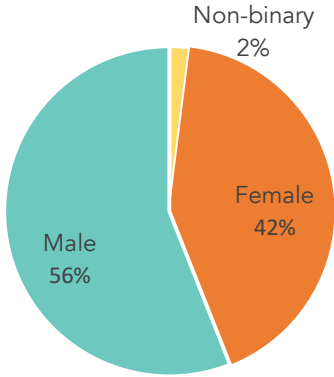
COUNTRY COORDINATORS



IYAFP Country Coordinator Cohort, 2016-2018

Country Coordinators, aged 15-30, volunteer between 4-6 hours/week on SRHR advocacy, administration, communications and/or conferences for a two-year term. They have access to an exclusive network of youth who share their success stories, best practices, international opportunities, and knowledge and information about the SRHR situation in their context. Their role is to assemble all IYAFP members in their country to promote SRHR in a way that leverages their existing experiences and connections for effective and legal family planning advocacy.

These events and projects depend on the needs they see in their communities, what networks they have access to, and what expertise and skills they bring to the table. Country Coordinators are occasionally invited to apply for small educational grants and seed grants to lead community development projects and attend conferences.



WHAT WE DO

All of the work we do can be categorized under these 5 pillars:



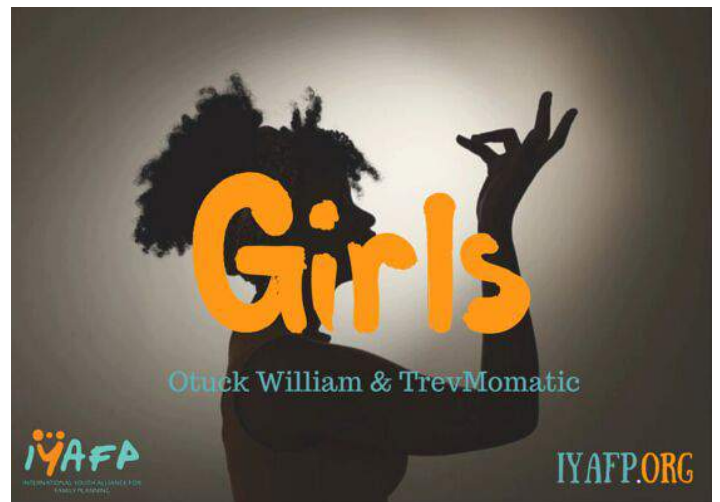
Advocacy

We mobilize young people to advocate for quality, affordable and accessible family planning and sexual and reproductive health programs.

Art Advocacy

We have launched two songs to the public: the IYAFP anthem and the IYAFP Girls Song.

During ICFP 2016, we hosted an 'art advocacy' workshop giving youth the creative space to create meaningful poetry and lyrics.



Premiered at the International Conference for Family Planning and officially launched on International Women's Day, our Girls advocacy song reached over 22,000



Online Advocacy

Chats we hosted:
#YouthSRHProbs twitter chat for International Youth Day. See our [Storify](#)

Postponement of ICFP2015 chat using #YouthFromTheAshes. See our [Storify](#).

World AIDS Day online quiz

International Women's Day launch of Girls video using #IWD2016.

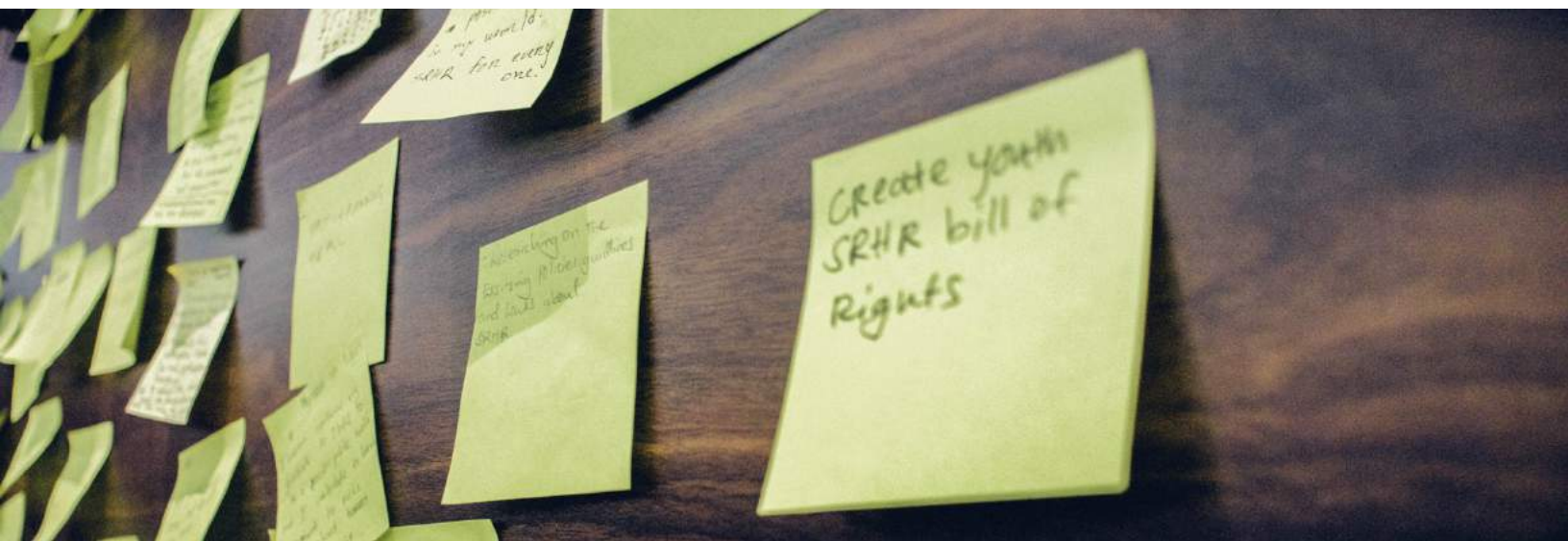
Conference participation

IYAFP youth attended and played a significant role at the following conferences:

United Nations General Assembly, 2015
International Conference on Urban Health, 2015
International Conference on Family Planning, 2016
UN Commission for the Status of Women, 2016
International Congress on AIDS in the Asia/Pacific Region, 2016
African Conference on Sexual Health and Rights, 2016

Coalitions

IYAFP is a member of the Youth Health and Rights Coalition (YHRC), a coalition comprised of advocates and implementers who, in collaboration with young people and adult allies, are working to advance the sexual and reproductive rights and health of adolescents and youth around the world. The YHRC advocates with key decision-makers to prioritize funding and support for comprehensive adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive rights and health policies and practices. The goal is to ensure young people in the developing world have the sexual and reproductive rights and health information, tools, commodities, and quality services necessary to make healthy and informed choices about their own lives. IYAFP will continue to join coalitions and partnerships.



Capacity Building

We help build the competence and capabilities of our volunteers to help them create sustainable, evidence-based, family planning and sexual and reproductive health interventions and innovations in their home countries.

Workshops and orientations



All Country Coordinators get a two-step orientation upon acceptance into the cohort. Country Coordinators learn about our mission and alliance, the type of work we do, how we do it, and why we do it. We also provide them with a comprehensive introduction that includes instruction and training on leadership, networking, research methods, policy analysis, and advocacy to help them successfully develop and implement evidence-based family planning and sexual and reproductive health programs.

Project Development

Country Coordinators are invited to submit proposals for community projects related to improving the sexual and reproductive health in their community. The entire proposal process involves strengthening the project proposal, establishing a monitoring and evaluation system, and identifying the both the reach and the sustainability of the project.

Each project leader gets one-on-one support from a member from the Executive team to strengthen the proposal.



Educational sessions and workshops

"For Youth, by Youth: When Family Planning means so much more," "A celebration of young people and their right to full choice", and "Project Development and Leadership" are but a few education sessions that we led. The content of these sessions helped give participants a heightened understanding of youth experiences in family planning while building their capacity as leaders in their own communities.



Create Opportunities

Young people can do more when they have the opportunities to lead, network, exchange knowledge, and receive funding to develop their own charitable programs, initiatives, and ideas.



Every two years, we competitively select youth around the world to join the IYAFP Country Coordinator cohort. Between December 2015 and January 2016, we received a total of 425 applications from 64 countries worldwide.

Country Coordinators get exclusive access to grants for projects and scholarships to attend regional and international meetings to participate in plenaries, workshops, and conference-related events addressing sexual and reproductive rights. In the event that funding is not available, our youth get access to an IYAFP sponsorship package which has so far helped two Country Coordinators get a full sponsorship to the International Conference on Family Planning.

Using WhatsApp© as our main communication channel, young people exchange knowledge, and network and connect with each other through IYAFP-facilitated and engaged discussions.

Community Development

Community collaboration and grassroots actions are key to sustaining the impact of our programs.

Through our community development grant program, we work with young people by providing them with seed funds, technical support and facilitate opportunities for youth to partner and receive more support from local and international organizations.

In 2015, we selected 10 projects by Country Coordinators and 1 project by one of our Executive Committee members.

Bangladesh

Title: National Workshop on Youth Leadership in Family Planning

Our Country Coordinator in Bangladesh worked to create a national level network of youth organizations working on family planning related projects and initiatives by inviting them all to attend a national workshop. The aim of this workshop was to engage at least 50 youth organizations in Bangladesh and build their leadership capacity to foster IYAFP and FP2020 strategies at the country level. The information communicated at this gathering benefitted over 5,000 youth advocates who are connected to these attending organizations.



Burkina Faso

Title: Educating and mobilizing high school and university students in understanding their sexual and reproductive health and rights in Ouagadougou.

Our Country Coordinator in Burkina Faso used his project to strengthen the skill and knowledge of 60 youth networks and youth organizations with 15-24 year old young adults on SRHR (including sexual violence) via two trainings. The project was implemented in 4 secondary schools and 2 universities in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. Beneficiaries of this project included youth network leaders and organizations that help youth with school and academics.



Cameroon

Title: National Appropriation Forum

Our Country Coordinator from Cameroon signed up to lead a project to organize a national appropriation forum with invited youth associations, youth-centered organizations, and members of both Cameroon's national youth forum and the Ministry of Youth. Discussions during the forum were centered on goals that target Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and family planning. The youth participants mapped out the unmet needs of SRH in the SDGs and gave recommendations on how government, community based organizations, and youth associations could meet these needs. The idea of having an online platform for youth and family planning was accepted by all.



Myanmar

Title: Right, Evidence to Action (REAct)

Right, Evidence to Action (REAct) is an ongoing project in Myanmar aiming to systematically collect data and information about the health situation relating to family planning across the nation. The Myanmar Country Coordinator of IYAFP led the effort to gather this important information with the assistance of the Myanmar Health Sector Committee, led by the Minister of Health. He collected case studies through different groups of age, gender and sexual orientation who are of reproductive age. He documented and mapped out the case studies to prepare for advocacy meetings at national levels. The goal of the project was to enhance the quality of health care services through the mobilization of the evidence found and through advocacy efforts.

Nepal

Title: Sexuality Education and Contraception for Schools' Young People / Adolescents (SECSY People) Project

Our Country Coordinator in Nepal distributed questionnaires and collected data on knowledge, attitude, and behavior about SRH among youth in Nepal in two different districts in Kathmandu Valley. He and his team of medical students and colleagues will use these results to inform an evidence-based program whereby peers will reach out to youth and will lead lectures, interactive sessions, and demonstrations about SRH. This project led him to meet with stakeholders, schools, and community leaders to evaluate the program and ensure sustainability in the region.



Nigeria

Title: Programming for sustainable community impact: helping adolescents in hard to reach areas and vulnerable populations get SRH messages

Our Nigerian Country Coordinator has created a network of peer educators all over Nigeria to be qualified to advocate, to teach, and to discuss pressing issues around SRH. This network will have peer educators reach out to young students and increase their knowledge on access and importance of SRH. He has reached out to experienced youth in the Northern, Southern, and Western parts of Nigeria to help him create this national network.

Tanzania

Title: Tuzungumze Project: Provision of online friendly family planning, SRH education and counseling

Our Country Coordinator from Tanzania has created an online forum for youth to discuss issues bordering on their SRHR. University students who visit the platform will be able to ask questions anonymously with the added option of using short-code voice text messaging to ask questions. Part of this project involved training at least 40 selected medical volunteers to serve as administrators, monitors, moderators, and to answer questions.

The chat box is live at this website:

<http://tanzaniaruralhealth.org/http://tanzaniaruralhealth.org/>



Liberia

Title: Promoting Integrated Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH)/HIV awareness campaigns for disabled and non-disabled girls at risk

Our Country Coordinator in Liberia worked with school girls and teachers (including those with disabilities) in slum communities to educate them on sexual and reproductive health. The project aim was to sensitize and raise awareness on (i) Contraceptive and family planning, (ii) maternal health care for teenage mothers, and (ii) Counseling of rape survivors.

Senegal

Title: Responsible sexuality among youth

Our Country Coordinator in Senegal's project involved educating youth on SRH through several meetings and talks, creating an awareness campaign with condom distribution, hosting radio shows in the community, launching a poetry contest on SRH, and sharing information about sex work and the importance of protection. He has also hosted two movie nights on the streets of Senegal raising awareness of unintended pregnancies and STIs.



Uganda

Title: School and Community Outreach: Project to Sensitize Youth on Family Planning and Sexual and Reproductive Health in Uganda

Our Ugandan Country Coordinator reached out to girls in hard to reach Ugandan communities (Kalangala, Kigungu, Wakiso) to host workshops, educational sessions, and activities to promote access and information to SRH. Along with her team of youth, she distributed male and female condoms in conjunction with business cards with contact information for counselors and youth officers who can answer to SRH -related queries in these rural villages.

Research

In order to implement sustainable, evidence-based programs and achieve results with our advocacy, high quality data collection, analysis, and interpretation must be a key component of our work.



In collaboration with Management Science for Health (MSH)'s Leadership, Management, and Governance program, IYAFP supported data collection efforts for a global scientific study on the effectiveness of youth leadership programs that contribute to health service delivery improvements and positive outcomes for young people and their communities. Through our systematic qualitative research design, including interviews, IYAFP helped identify best practices to adopt when working for/with young people and family planning around the world.

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY April 2015 - March 2016

REVENUE

Grant Funding	93,820.00
Bank account activation deposit	50.00
Total Revenue	\$93,870.00

EXPENDITURES

Programs (<i>ex. Project funding, Conference grants, Advocacy events</i>)	31,191.24
Operations and Administration (<i>ex. Consultant salary, Taxes and licenses, Financial tools</i>)	31,200.43
Development (<i>ex. Non-profit registration costs, Legal and Professional fees</i>)	7,618.23
Total Expenditures	\$70,009.90
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$23,860.10
NET REVENUE	\$23,860.10

*All figures are in USD

DONORS & PARTNERS

IYAFP is grateful for the overwhelming support from our donors and partners. We look forward to growing these relationships to further our charitable purposes of defending human rights, advancing youth education, and promoting the public health of youth all across the world.

Donor:

Bill and Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health

BILL & MELINDA GATES INSTITUTE *for*
POPULATION *and* REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

IYAFP has officially been incorporated as a non-profit in Washington, DC.



INTERNATIONAL YOUTH ALLIANCE FOR
FAMILY PLANNING

Join us!

Membership to IYAFA is absolutely free to any youth or ally across the world.
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