

# Meaningful Adolescent and Youth Engagement and Partnership in Sexual and Reproductive Health Programming: A Strategic Planning Guide

September 15, 2022



## Sylvia Wong, UNFPA Moderator

Sylvia Wong is Innovation Coordinator at UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund. She led and managed innovation initiatives, global challenges, and partnerships to source, implement, and scale-up new solutions that leverage digital and frontier tech, human-centered design, and data, with and for women, girls, and young people. As UNFPA Technical Specialist (Adolescents and Youth), she provided technical support on evidence-based programming, capacity building, and policy engagement to country teams and partners on adolescent sexual and reproductive health, child marriage, education and life skills, youth development, leadership and participation, in partnership with youth-led organizations and networks. She has joint Masters' degrees in Public Health and International Affairs from Columbia University in New York.



# Today's Agenda

- Opening and Welcome Sylvia Wong, UNFPA
- Global Perspective: USAID Amy Uccello, USAID
- Strategic Planning Guide Overview Alan Jarandilla, IYAFP
- Country Perspective: Ghana Esi Asare Prah, MSIChoices
- Questions & Answers Sylvia Wong, Moderator
- Closing Sylvia Wong, Moderator



# Before we Begin



Webinar will be recorded



Submit your questions anytime



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[fphighimpactpractices.org](http://fphighimpactpractices.org)



Download the handouts



## What are the High Impact Practices (HIPs)?



Evidence-based family planning practices



Vetted by experts against specific criteria



Documented in an easy-to-use format



## HIP Categories

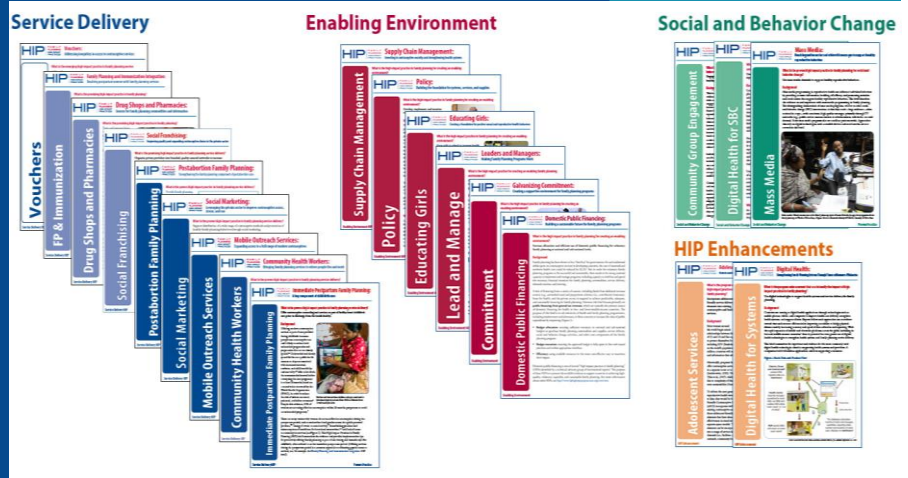
HIP briefs are grouped into three primary categories:

Enabling Environment	Service Delivery	Social and Behavioral Change
Address systemic barriers that affect an individual's ability to access family planning information & services.	Improve the availability, accessibility, acceptability, and quality of family planning services.	Influence knowledge, beliefs, behaviors, and social norms associated with family planning.
<b>Enhancements</b>		
Approaches used in conjunction with HIPs to maximize the impact of HIP implementation or increase the reach.		



# HIP Briefs

HIP briefs define the *practice* and summarize evidence of *impact* and experiential learning from implementing.



## Meaningful Adolescent and Youth Engagement and Partnership in Sexual and Reproductive Health Programming: A Strategic Planning Guide

### HIP FAMILY PLANNING HIGH IMPACT PRACTICES Meaningful Adolescent and Youth Engagement and Partnership in Sexual and Reproductive Health Programming: A Strategic Planning Guide

This Strategic Planning Guide is intended to lead program managers, planners, and decision makers through a strategic process to meaningfully and effectively engage and partner with adolescents, youth, and/or youth-led organizations on sexual and reproductive health programs and initiatives. Meaningful adolescent and youth engagement and partnership is defined as an "inclusive, intentional, mutually-respectful partnership between adolescents, youth, and adults, whereby power is shared, respective contributions are valued, and young people's ideas, perspectives, skills, and strengths are integrated into the design and delivery of programs, strategies, policies, funding mechanisms, and organizations that affect their lives and their communities, countries, and the world." Meaningful adolescent and youth engagement and partnership is a right for adolescents and youth and can improve the quality and responsiveness of sexual and reproductive health programs and policies, in turn leading to improved development outcomes.

Figure 1: Hart's Ladder of Participation



\*The last three rungs are non-participatory.

As illustrated in Hart's Ladder of Participation (Figure 1), youth participation can range from no participation to true youth engagement or partnership. This guide focuses on rungs 4-8 of the ladder. "Youth engagement" refers to rungs 4-6 and "youth partnership" refers to rungs 7-8, when youth are afforded leadership roles and power, and decision making is equally shared with non-youth.

This Strategic Planning Guide uses the definition of "youth" which includes all young people aged 10-29. "Youth-led organizations" refers to organizations primarily led by young people under age 30. This broad age range reflects the timeline for transition from childhood to adulthood that differs across contexts, and is intentionally selected to accommodate youth-led organizations. It is critical to note that there are different developmental stages as well as diverse needs within this age range, and meaningful adolescent and youth engagement and partnership designs must be tailored accordingly.

This Strategic Planning Guide can be used in conjunction with other High Impact Practices (HIP) briefs and Planning Guides to facilitate meaningful youth engagement and partnership in the design, implementation, and monitoring of adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive programming and delivery of Reproductive Contraceptive Services.

Engage and partner with adolescents and youth, use the steps outlined below. The process of meaningful youth engagement and partnership can and should be iterative with key steps revisited as needed to ensure the continuation, project, or initiative to meaningfully.



## Today's Panelists



**Amy Uccello**  
USAID



**Alan Jarandilla**  
IYAFP



**Esi Asare Prah**  
MSIchoices Ghana



## Amy Uccello, USAID

Amy is the Senior Youth and Reproductive Health Technical Advisor at USAID's Office of Population and Reproductive Health. Amy Uccello has over 22 years of international development experience. Her technical expertise as a family planning specialist, centers on adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights (AYSRHR), adolescent development, cross-sectoral youth programming, and meaningful adolescent and youth engagement (MAYE). Her passion for AYSRHR is most evident when building local capacity, supporting youth leadership, and sharing global best practice through facilitation and training. Ms. Uccello supports a global portfolio of youth programs, offering technical guidance in AYSRHR demand generation, service delivery, and quality of care. Ms. Uccello earned her MA in International Development and Gender from American University's School of International Service.



# HIP

FAMILY  
PLANNING  
HIGH IMPACT  
PRACTICES

## Meaningful Adolescent and Youth Engagement: Strategic Planning Guide

September 15, 2022

HIP FAMILY  
PLANNING  
HIGH IMPACT  
PRACTICES

ADOLESCENT AND  
YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

### HIP Guidance

#### High Impact Practice Briefs

The HIP briefs document evidence-based family planning practices, vetted by experts and documented in an easy-to-use format.

#### Other HIP Products

##### Planning Guides

The planning guides outline a strategic process to identify the most effective and efficient investments to address in a program.

##### Webinars

The HIP webinar series features presentations on HIP practices being implemented across the globe.

##### Papers

To complement other HIP materials, papers have been developed to discuss sustainability and equity of the HIPs.

# 1.MAYE is no longer “nice to have”



USAID Youth in Development Policy 2022-2030



**HIP** FAMILY PLANNING HIGH IMPACT PRACTICES

## 2. It is time to deepen and strengthen our efforts in MAYE



# Shifting power dynamics

One-off involvement → **Decision-making power**

Youth as participants → Youth as **partners**

Common suspects → **Representative** youth

Will take:

- Commitment (changes to organizational structure/culture)
- Capacity Building (with committed resources)
- Patience with new approaches

\* Challenge to donors as well



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**USAID'S UPDATED YOUTH  
 POLICY PROMOTES INCLUSIVE  
 AND INNOVATIVE  
 DEVELOPMENT.**

**WE CAN DO MORE TO BE MORE  
 REPRESENTATIVE OF ALL YOUTH  
 GROUPS.**



### 3. MAYE is not only for youth projects & programs

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### What's missing?

“Meaningful adolescent and youth engagement and partnership is a right for adolescents and youth and can improve the quality and responsiveness of sexual and reproductive health programs and policies, in turn leading to improved development outcomes.” (MAYE SPG)

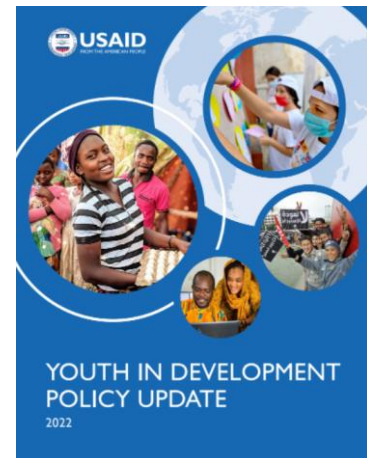
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# Categories of Youth Projects

**YOUTH-FOCUSED:** An activity in which youth are the primary program participants.

**YOUTH-RELEVANT:** An activity that includes youth within its targeted participants or beneficiaries or has a youth-specific component.

**\*(NEW) YOUTH-LED:** An activity which has youth leadership guiding its implementation, management, and design.



## Thank You

## Alan Jarandilla, IYAFP

Alan Jarandilla Nuñez is a lawyer and human rights defender from Bolivia. Alan is the Executive Director of the International Youth Alliance for Family Planning (IYAFP), a global youth-led organization working to advance the Sexual and Reproductive Health, Rights, and Justice (SRHRJ) for young people and promote meaningful adolescent and youth engagement in projects, programs, interventions, and decision-making processes. Alan has over ten years of experience advocating for SRHRJ in different decision-making processes. He is a vocal advocate for human rights, and meaningful youth engagement and partnerships at different levels.



## Meaningful Adolescent and Youth Engagement and Partnership in Sexual and Reproductive Health Programming: A Strategic Planning Guide

### Co-author team:

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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



## Purpose

- Facilitate meaningful, equitable engagement and partnership with adolescents, youth, and/or youth led organizations on sexual and reproductive health programs and initiatives.

### Meaningful Adolescent and Youth Engagement and Partnership in Sexual and Reproductive Health Programming: A Strategic Planning Guide



Step 1: Prepare your institution, project, or initiative to meaningfully engage and partner with youth.

Step 2: Determine which youth to engage and the mechanisms of engagement and partnership.

Step 3: Implement the engagement and partnership with youth.

Step 4: Monitor, measure, and be accountable.

Step 5: Sustain youth engagement and partnership.

Acknowledgements

Appendix: Additional Resources

[Meaningful Adolescent and Youth Engagement and Partnership in Sexual and Reproductive Health Programming | HIPs \(fphighimpactpractices.org\)](#)

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## Process



- Scanned peer-reviewed and gray literature
- Conducted virtual consultations with **30 adolescents and youth + 12 representatives from donor, youth-serving and youth-led organizations**

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*“Meaningful adolescent and youth engagement is an inclusive, intentional, mutually-respectful partnership between adolescents, youth, and adults whereby power is shared, respective contributions are valued, and young people’s ideas, perspectives, skills, and strengths are integrated into the design and delivery of programs, strategies, policies, funding mechanisms, and organizations that affect their lives and their communities, countries, and world.”*

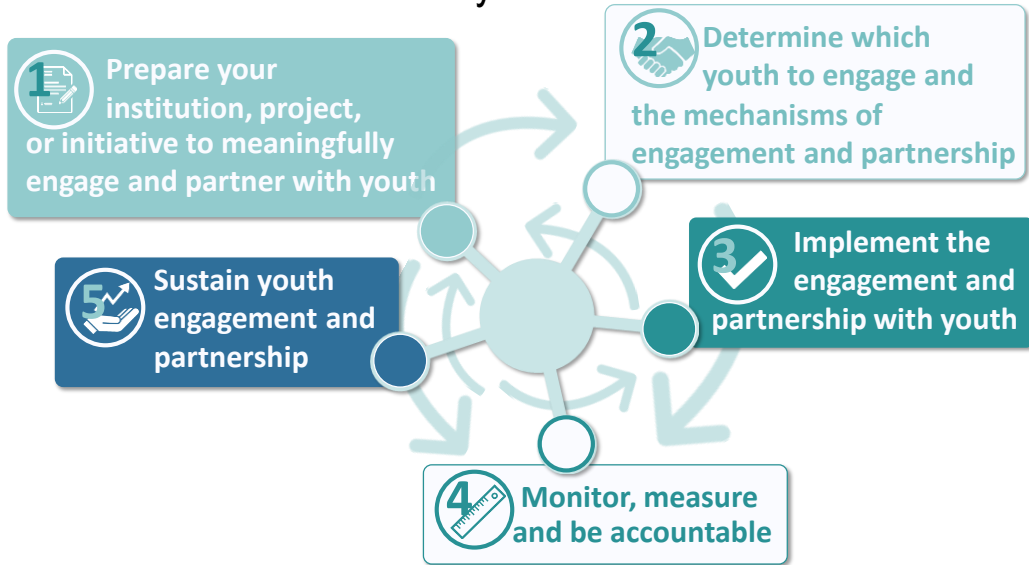
- Global Consensus Statement on Meaningful Youth Engagement

## Rationale: Why engage and partner with adolescents and youth?

- It is a right.
- Promotes positive youth development.
- Improves the quality and responsiveness of sexual and reproductive health programs, services and policies.



## 5 steps to meaningfully engage and partner with adolescents and youth



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## Steps 1-2

<p><b>1</b> Prepare your institution, project, or initiative to meaningfully engage and partner with youth</p>	<p><b>2</b> Determine which youth to engage and the mechanisms of engagement and partnership</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct internal assessment</li> <li>• Create an action plan for needed changes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify which youth to engage</li> <li>• Co-create scope and establish structure of engagement and partnership with youth</li> </ul>

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## Ways to engage and partner with adolescents and youth



Youth lead sexual and reproductive health research design, data analysis, and dissemination.



Youth-led organizations funded to lead specific activities and initiatives



Youth lead advocacy and social accountability.



Youth serve in decision-making structures



Youth co-create organization mission statements and strategic plans.



Youth participate in national budgeting processes.

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## Steps 3





### Implement the engagement and partnership with youth

- Formalize the process
- Compensate youth fairly
- Provide ongoing support
- Ensure continuous trust-building and learning

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## Steps 4-5

 <b>4 Monitor, measure and be accountable</b>	 <b>5 Sustain youth engagement and partnership</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measure and evaluate the process, quality, and effectiveness</li> <li>• Co-create and implement accountability strategies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan for and create opportunities for long-term relationships</li> </ul>

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## How can you use the SPG today?

- Conduct an internal assessment to determine readiness
- Review and update policies, systems, and processes
- Improve the level and quality of youth partnership
- Use in conjunction with other HIP briefs and Strategic Planning Guides

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## THANK YOU

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## Esi Asare Prah, MSIchoices Ghana

Esi Asare Prah is a Ghanaian feminist with especial interest in Health Policy and Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights. She currently works as the Advocacy and Donor Relations Manager at MSI Ghana, where she leads all advocacy projects, develop/strengthen Strategic internal and external relations with key stakeholders, donors, state institutions and civil society partners, generate, facilitate transfer of knowledge/learnings and oversee the delivery of gender and youth responsive interventions. Esi is a ICFP2022 Youth Trailblazer and member of the IBP Track Program Implementation Subcommittee.



# YOUTH PARTICIPATION AT COUNTRY LEVEL SRHR PROGRAMMING

## MSI REPRODUCTIVE CHOICES GHANA

ESI ASARE PRAH  
MSI Ghana Advocacy and Donor Relations  
Manager

### THE NEED

Almost 50% of Ghana's population is <20

Approx 70% sexually active by age 20

17% and 32% modern contraception among married and unmarried girls 15 – 19yrs res.

57% unmet need for contraception >20yrs olds

Low Adolescent reach by MSG channels

MARIE STOPES  
GHANA  
Changing perceptions, real choices



## It is time to talk!

VISIT OUR DIVA ZONE CENTRES AT  
MARIE STOPES ASHIAMAN OR TEMA  
NEWTOWN OR TALK TO US!

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📞 0556 48 90 90

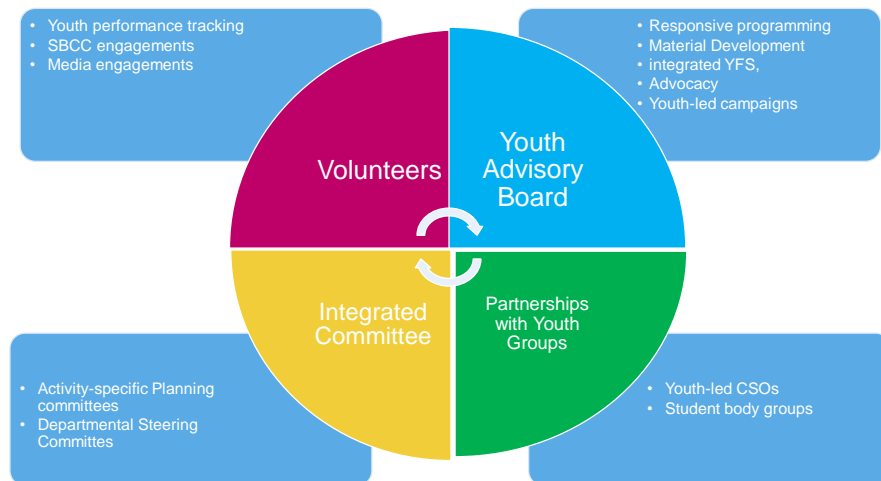


Your FUTURE  
is Better with the  
Right Advice

follow us :   

MSI Reproductive Choices

## THE RESPONSE



MSI Reproductive Choices

## KEY BUMPS ALONG THE WAY



MSI Reproductive Choices



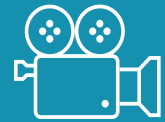
# Questions & Answers



## Before we close

Presentation and Recording available here:

<https://www.fphighimpactpractices.org/meaningful-adolescent-and-youth-engagement-webinar/>



## For more information, please visit:

- High Impact Practices: [www.fphighimpactpractices.org](http://www.fphighimpactpractices.org)
- Improving Sexual and Reproductive Health of Young People: <https://www.fphighimpactpractices.org/guides/improving-sexual-and-reproductive-health-of-young-people/>
- Adolescent-Responsive Contraceptive Services: <https://www.fphighimpactpractices.org/briefs/adolescent-responsive-contraceptive-services/>



## IBP Track Program Implementation



**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
FAMILY PLANNING**  
PATTAYA CITY, THAILAND • 14-17 NOVEMBER 2022

- Nov. 12-13** Youth Preconference
- Nov. 13** Two Pre-conferences on Program Implementation
- Nov. 14** Opening Ceremony
- Nov. 15-17** Program Implementation Sessions
  - Eight sessions focused on WHO Tools and High Impact Practices
  - Partnership with Eight Youth [Trailblazers](#)

**Youth:** <https://icfp2022.org/youth-community/>

**Program Implementation:** <https://icfp2022.org/program-implementation/>

**#ICFP2022 Schedule**  
In-person & virtually  
View the full program at [ICFP2022.org](https://icfp2022.org)

Time	Day 1 MON 14 NOV	Day 2 TUES 15 NOV	Day 3 WED 16 NOV	Day 4 THUR 17 NOV
7:00 AM				
8:00 AM		Side Events (8:00 - 9:00 am)	Side Events (8:00 - 9:00 am)	Side Events (8:00 - 9:00 am)
9:00 AM	ICFP 2022 site visits, pre-conferences, and more	Opening Plenary (8:30 - 10:00 am)	Opening Plenary (8:30 - 10:00 am)	Opening Plenary (8:30 - 10:00 am)
10:00 AM		Session 1 (9:30 - 11:00 am)	Session 1 (9:30 - 11:00 am)	Session 1 (9:30 - 11:00 am)
11:00 AM		Hourly Session 1 (10:00 - 11:00 am)	Hourly Session 1 (10:00 - 11:00 am)	Hourly Session 1 (10:00 - 11:00 am)
12:00 PM		Session 2 (11:30 - 1:00 pm)	Session 2 (11:30 - 1:00 pm)	Session 2 (11:30 - 1:00 pm)
1:00 PM		Hourly Session 2 (12:00 - 12:30 pm)	Hourly Session 2 (12:00 - 12:30 pm)	Hourly Session 2 (12:00 - 12:30 pm)
1:00 PM		Lunch (1:00 - 2:00 pm)	Lunch (1:00 - 2:00 pm)	Lunch & Closing Ceremony (1:00 - 2:00 pm)
2:00 PM		Session 3 (2:00 - 3:00 pm)	Session 3 (2:00 - 3:00 pm)	
3:00 PM		Hourly Session 3 (3:00 - 4:00 pm)	Hourly Session 3 (3:00 - 4:00 pm)	
4:00 PM		Session 4 (4:00 - 5:00 pm)	Session 4 (4:00 - 5:00 pm)	
5:00 PM	Opening Ceremony (4:30 - 5:00 pm)	Hourly Session 4 (5:00 - 6:00 pm)	Hourly Session 4 (5:00 - 6:00 pm)	
6:00 PM	Welcome Reception (6:00 - 8:00 pm)	Net Capital Celebration (6:45 - 7:00 pm)	FFitchest (6:45 - 7:00 pm)	
7:00 PM		Side Events (7:00 - 8:00 pm)	Side Events (7:00 - 8:00 pm)	
8:00 PM		ICFP Live Performance (8:00 - 9:00 pm)	ICFP Live Performance (8:00 - 9:00 pm)	
9:00 PM				

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
**FAMILY PLANNING**  
PATTAYA CITY, THAILAND 14-17 NOVEMBER 2022

\*Times are listed in Bangkok City Time (GMT +7)

# Thank you for your participation today!