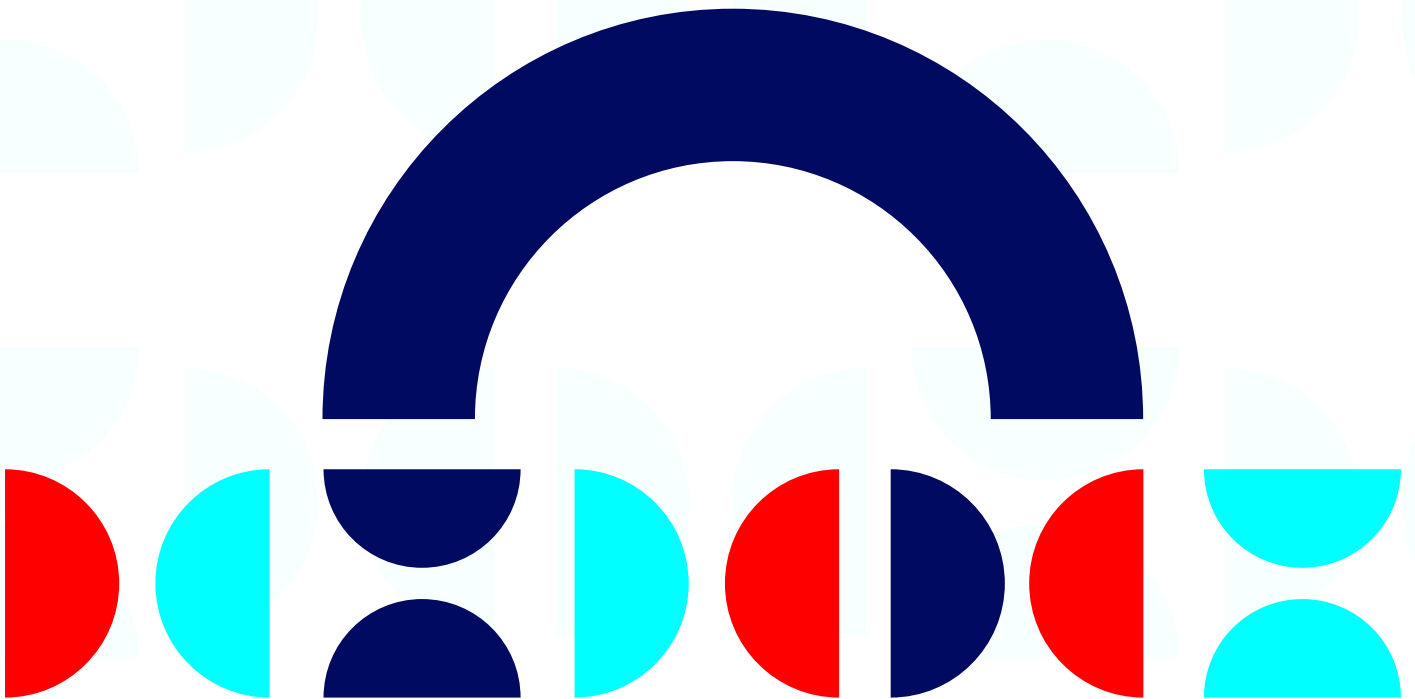
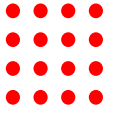




Summary Document Of The

YOU(TH) CARE MID TERM REPORT





Background on You(th) Care

The You(th) Care Programme is a collaborative effort between multiple partners aimed at empowering adolescents and youth aged 10-24 in Kenya, Tanzania, and Zambia to advocate for and engage in self-care for their sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR) needs.

The project follows two interdependent pathways: Pathway 1 focuses on lobbying and advocacy for an enabling environment, while Pathway 2 focuses on capacity strengthening and advocacy for quality services.



Purpose of the mid-term review

From October to December 2023, we embarked on a crucial mid-term review (MTR) of our ongoing program to evaluate the progress of its implementation. The evaluation was reflective of a two year implementation period (2022-2023). The primary aim of this review was to provide actionable insights for future planning and strategic adjustments for the last two years of the project (2024-2025), both at the country level and on a global scale. Specifically, the MTR sought to highlight successful practices, identify potential opportunities and gaps, recommend any necessary adjustments to the program's targets and indicators, and ultimately guide strategic decisions to enhance the program's implementation. It is important to note that we focused only on quantitative data from 2022 and did not include data from 2023. Although we received reports from our partners for 2023, the terms they used were different and made it hard to match their data with our project goals. We decided not to use any numbers from these reports to avoid confusion and errors. However, we did use descriptive information to enrich the report.



Methodology of the mid-term review

The review was conducted in 5 main steps or phases:



Step 1: Getting Started: We looked over all the important documents about the program and made an initial report.



Step 2: Gathering Information: We talked to 31 important people involved with the program and those who benefit from it to get their thoughts.



Step 3: Making a Draft: We put together our initial findings into a draft report, had a meeting to talk about it, and then made updates based on the discussion.



Step 4: Finalizing the Report: We made a final version of our report, making sure to add any last pieces of feedback.



Step 5: Sharing What We Learned: We shared the final findings with everyone involved at a big meeting.

The programme’s performance has been measured against the Indicator Framework, using a “traffic light” rating system outlined below:

<p>Green indicates that the programme has achieved or gone over the halfway mark as of the MTR</p> <p>(50% and above)</p> <p>9 indicators</p>	<p>Amber indicates that the programme target is on track, but as of the MTR, it has fallen behind schedule.</p> <p>(5% - 49%)</p> <p>8 indicators</p>	<p>Red indicates that the programme is far off from target as of the MTR.</p> <p>(Below 5%)</p> <p>2 indicators</p>	<p>Grey means no data available</p> <p>(no data available at time of the evaluation)</p> <p>6 indicators</p>
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Output level summary against the 4-year targets

Pathway 1: Lobby and Advocacy for an enabling environment	0.1.1	Number of You(th) Care consortium partners with improved Advocacy Knowledge		Number of adolescents and young people trained in advocacy		Number of Advocacy Roadmaps Created for Community Coordination and Engagement		Number of Adolescents and Young People Engaged in Advocacy and Decision-Making Actions	
	0.1.2	Number of adolescents and young people reached through social and behavioural change communication (SBCC)				% of adolescents with improved knowledge on SRHR and HIV, self-care services and gender			
	0.1.3	Number of adolescents and young people reached through social and behavioural	Number of duty bearers reached through online and offline campaigns	Number of journalists trained on SRHR including HIV	Number of community actors/ stakeholders reached during inter-generational dialogues	Number of decision makers and duty bearers participating in advocacy meetings at national and sub-national level	Number of policy briefs and shadow reports developed	Duplicate for the # of Journalists – row 3	Number of submissions made by national partners on policy and strategy documents
Pathway 2: Capacity strengthening and advocacy for quality services	0.2.1	Number of public health service providers trained to deliver quality psychosocial care and support (cumulative count)	Number of facility quality improvement plans developed	Number of health service sites successfully actioning their quality improvement plans (70% of QIP steps have been implemented)	Number of health facilities assessed by score cards	Number of score cards completed by unique AYPLHIV in those facilities	Number of community health workers trained to deliver quality psychosocial care and support (cumulative count)	Number of Peer Supporters trained (unique numbers, cumulative count)	
	0.2.2	Increase in knowledge and positive attitude towards adolescents and young people by trained public health service providers				Number of public health service providers that participate in national, sub-national, and regional advocacy meetings			



1 Findings from Objective 1: Strategic Planning Insights for 2024-2025

Impact Achievements:

- **Tangible Results:** Positive changes are already noticeable, e.g the decrease in new HIV infections at our sites in Tanzania, showcasing early success.
- **Kenya's Milestone:** It's among the first in Africa to adopt WHO's self-care guidelines, showing leadership in health innovation.
- **Zambia's Commitment:** The Ministry of Health is promising better services for teenagers, indicating governmental support.

Key Achievements and Progress:

- **Health Service Days in Kenya:** These special days improve healthcare access for AYPs, demonstrating how having effective collaboration and coordination with Healthcare providers and AYP can result in increased access to HIV/SRHR commodities and services.

- **Smile Campaign (Zambia):** Smile campaign is an initiative by healthcare providers in Zambia to improve adolescent friendly services. HealthCare workers initiated the Smile Campaign in Zambia, as result of healthcare workers training at You(th) Care facilities, to create welcoming adolescent friendly environments for youth at health facilities.
- **Policy Contributions:** We aim to influence policy in the You(th) Care countries to establish HIV/SRHR self-care as a priority for AYP. Efforts in Kenya to develop adolescents and youth frameworks are commendable steps towards policy enhancement.

Challenges and Opportunities:

- The need to broaden the program's reach and refine monitoring and evaluation practices is evident. Opportunities for growth include increased public engagement and collaborative partnerships.

2 Findings from Objective 2: Enhancing Impact Through Strategic Focus

Key Implementations:

- **Youth Leadership:** We have seen robust youth involvement in leadership and program execution, though challenges in budget allocation and defining "youth-led" initiatives persist.
- **Gender Sensitivity:** Awareness of gender transformative approaches is growing, yet scaling up these efforts is critical for broader societal impact.

- **Rights-Based Approach:** Commitment to inclusivity and human rights remains strong, supported by effective partnerships and collaboration.
- **Involvement of Healthcare providers:** Continued training of healthcare providers in delivering youth-friendly services and quality SRHR healthcare has been essential in advocating for uptake of services by AYPs.

3 Findings from Objective 3: Reflecting on Program Values and Successes

Recommendations for Improvement:

- **Short-term Focus:** Strengthening monitoring and evaluation frameworks and addressing operational challenges are immediate priorities.
- **Long-term Strategy:** Documenting our successes, expanding the scope to include paediatric populations, and enhancing the capacity of youth advocates are crucial for sustained impact.

Sustainability Initiatives:

- **Documentation and Partnership:** Recording achievements and working with sustainable institutions are essential steps towards ensuring our long-term success.
- **Government Engagement:** Strengthening ties with government entities can secure ownership and potentially unlock additional funding opportunities.

Best Practices from You(th) Care

- **Youth-Led Efforts:** AYPs aren't only being capacitated from the project; they're also engaged meaningfully and making big decisions, with some guidance from experienced healthcare providers and community leaders.
- **Reaching Out Everywhere:** Whether it's in schools, communities, or health facilities, we find ways to connect with AYPs, regardless of them being in or out of school.
- **Customized Approach:** Our approach is effective in reaching different groups of APs, by engaging them in places such as places of worship, schools, or community centers to talk to everyone inclusively.
- **You(th) friendly Toolkits:** We have developed a special youth-friendly toolkits created for AYPs, for peer educators and for Healthcare workers which provides comprehensive information on Self-care and sexual and reproductive health.
- **Learning and Growing Together:** The partner to partner collaboration with-in the You(th) Care project, ensures that we are well-capacitated, allowing us to help and support AYP more effectively.
- **Stronger Together:** When community health workers and peer educators team up, they learn a lot from each other, become more confident, and get better at helping and supporting AYP.

Recommendations for Lasting Impact of You(th) Care

- **Capture Success:** Writing down what we've achieved and how we did it is key. This way, future projects can learn from our journey.
- **Partner with the Long-Term in Mind:** Teaming up with local organizations, local governments and health facilities, will ensure that means the good practices keep going.
- **Keep Youth Involved:** Continuing to work with young people even after the project ends is crucial. Their ongoing involvement will keep the momentum going and lessons shared.
- **Work Together from the Start:** When creating new programs, involve the people you're supporting from the beginning. This makes sure everyone feels the project truly belongs to them.
- **Policy Matters:** We aim to make SRRH self-care and the lessons from the project a part of the country's official health policies. By working with government groups and sharing what we've learned at national and district meetings, we can reach and help more people.
- **Broaden Our Circle:** Teaming up with reporters, training more young leaders, and giving our partners the tools they need for success will help our project achievements to last.
- **Build Our Skills:** Strengthening our ability to find resources for future projects means we can keep making a difference in our communities.
- **Grow Our Team of Advocates:** The more young advocates we train, the further our message will spread.
- **Involve the Government:** Getting government officials on board can help secure funding, like in Zambia, where local funds have proven to additionally support the project's efforts.



Conclusion

In summary, while the You(th) Care project has demonstrated significant progress towards its objectives, ongoing efforts to refine strategies, expand reach, and enhance programme sustainability are necessary. These actions will ensure the programme's continued success and its ability to make a meaningful impact on the communities it serves.