

A large group of approximately 20 diverse young people, including men and women of various ethnicities, are posed in a group photo. They are dressed in a mix of formal and semi-formal attire. The text 'EMPOWER YOUTH TO LEAD' is overlaid in large, white, bold letters across the bottom half of the image.

EMPOWER YOUTH TO LEAD

YOUTH CHAMPIONS INITIATIVE: FUNDED PROJECTS

Abhiti Gupta – India

Channelizing SRHR Laws and Entitlements for Tribal Youth

This project based in Madhya Pradesh, India works in districts with large tribal populations to help tribal youth access SRHR information. The project also engages youth in Public Interest Litigation to bring a long-term impact to their communities.

Ali Raza Rizvi – Pakistan

SRHR Ehsas Films

SRHR Ehsas Films creates discussions around SRHR in the remote areas of Karachi and Interior Sindh, Pakistan through short films and street theatre. It is producing two short films and two street theater performances and creates live and online platforms to discuss SRHR after screenings, performances, and postings.

Ankita Rawat – India

Ensuring Young People’s Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

The project goal is to increase demand to access youth friendly SRH services using digital storytelling. Towards this goal, we will work with 15 young people from India’s capital to articulate, raise awareness and build support for youth friendly SRHR services.

Firehiwot Mohammed – Ethiopia

Let’s Talk

This interactive and participatory ‘let’s talk’ talk show in an Addis Ababa high school will empower youth to make responsible SRH choices, and link them to health and counseling services.

Franklin Gnanamuthu – India

Repositioning SRH among Youth through M-Sathi

This is an innovative youth-led initiative that uses a mobile app to help young people have better SRH information in one of the poorest blocks of Bihar State in India.

Gayatri Parameswaran – India

Love Matters India WhatsApp Service – India

This project uses WhatsApp – a mobile instant messaging app – to deliver SRHR information to young people in India. The service is part of Love Matters – a blush-free information website on sex and relationships for young adults in India.

Gemeda Olana – Ethiopia

‘Daballee’ Serial TV Drama for Youth on SRH in Oromia Region

This project will increase knowledge and information on SRH for more than 100,000 urban youth in Oromia through a youth targeted television drama series.

Marta Tsehay – Ethiopia

Mobile for Students Reproductive Health in Addis Ababa University – Ethiopia

This project increases RH information and service utilization of Addis Ababa University. It sends 3,000 monthly text messages to 3,000 students, and increases family planning adherence and utilization via 200 reminder texts to 100 students while connecting them to health services.

Melanie Powers – United States

Campus Conversations on SRHR, Reproductive Justice and Intersectionality

This project increases youth access to SRHR information and services. It increases youth awareness and understanding of reproductive justice and SRHR, facilitates an exchange between New Orleans youth and those who provide healthcare services, and supports youth creating and sharing recommendations for improvements.

Monica Atkins – United States

Art, Poetry, and Justice

Art, Poetry, and Justice is an 8-week program that teaches youth about how to use art and dance to organize around social justice issues with an emphasis on SRHR.

Nakita Shavers – United States

G.I.R.L.S – NOLA (Girls Initiative for Reproducing Leaders in Society)

GIRLS – NOLA is a program of the Dinerral Shavers Educational Fund that has been designed to use integrative arts techniques with young girls in an effort to decrease poverty, discrimination, unplanned pregnancy, and cultural incompetence in the city of New Orleans.

Neelam Punjani – Pakistan

Cascade Approach: Outcome based SRHR Training of Trainers (ToT), Capacity Building and Phone Counseling for Youth

This project works with Aahung nurses, teachers, and community workers and trains them on providing sexual health education and close follow-up of master trainers along with support provision to replicate sexual health workshops for youth.

Neha Mankani – Pakistan

Khelnay Ke Din Hain (Our days to play)

This project uses an interactive and culturally appropriate board-game to build life skills and provide adolescents in Pakistan information on RHR. The overall goal of this project is to increase knowledge, comfort levels and communication around topics related to SRHR such as hygiene, gender equality, marital rights, laws and policies, nutrition and healthy families.

Nikodimos Takele – Ethiopia

An App to Fill the Gap

This initiative develops and markets Noworries, a mobile app that provides enhanced access to contraception information, promoting effective use of contraception with the aim of contributing to the goal of reducing unwanted/unplanned youth pregnancy in Addis Ababa.

Rahul Dwivedi – India

Engaging Youth in Media to Improve SRHR Outcomes

Citizen News Services selected a group of 7 young people under 30 who are getting extensive training on youth SRHR and are voicing the problems experienced by youth and widely disseminating it through CNS Syndication Service.

Samreen Shahbaz – Pakistan

Menstrual Matters: Healthy and Friendly Guide for Menstrual Hygiene Management

Menstrual Matters addresses the issue of menstrual hygiene management among young girls living in low-income communities of Karachi. The project provides an innovative solution to help young girls cope with menstruation who do not have access to hygienic sanitary options, along with information about healthy menstrual hygiene practices.

Tinbit Daniel – Ethiopia

Girls In Red (GIR)

Girls In Red introduces a new action drama animation series that features three super heroines, Tigist (patience), Tesfa (hope) and Ewnet (truth) who are between the ages 10 – 18 and takes us on an adventure of how life in Ethiopia is for young girls as they fight issues relating to SRHR and societal injustice.

Umair Jaliawala – Pakistan

Population Simulation

The project reaches hundreds of youth by incorporating a SRHR component to Pakistan's Young Leaders Conference. Population Simulation also provides seed grants for youth groups to implement small social enterprise projects.

Yeabsira Bogale – Ethiopia

Gamification in SRHR

This project aims to develop and test innovative educational games that work best in the Ethiopian context, which can positively influence young people's SRHR choices. This youth-led project will be implemented together with young students in Hawassa University.

Yosef Ahmed – Ethiopia

Dormitory Based Youth Friendly SRHR information and services

The project improves the health and quality of life of female students in Adama University by providing high quality SRHR information and services through service provider capacity building, youth mentorship, and increasing access to SRHR services in dorms.

INVESTING IN YOUTH CHAMPIONS

From December 4-12, 2014, the Youth Champions participated in the 50th Anniversary Incubator in Los Altos, California, USA. This intensive workshop integrated hands on capacity building in the areas of sexual and reproductive health and rights, leadership, innovation, and project development. The Incubator provided the Youth Champions with the opportunity to strengthen their skills and leadership capacity, learn from internationally-recognized SRHR experts, develop their own SRHR projects, and share their vision for SRHR with the Packard Foundation staff.

SEEDING YOUTH INNOVATION

During the Incubator, the Youth Champions received coaching and technical assistance from SRHR experts in the development of innovative initiatives to increase youth access to quality SRHR services and information. Each participant left the Incubator with a draft project proposal, which they finalized with their host organizations following the Incubator. YCI awarded project funding to participating Youth Champions and their organizations to launch the SRHR projects they developed during the Incubator. YCI also provides on-going technical assistance to enable the Youth Champions and their organizations to most effectively implement their innovative SRHR projects.