

SOUTH-SOUTH YOUTH PLATFORM

Championing Youth Involvement to Promote South-South and Triangular Cooperation in the Fields of Reproductive Health, Population and Development.



Partners in Population and Development (PPD)
An Inter-Governmental Organization Promoting South-South Cooperation

The United Nations Sexual and
Reproductive Health Agency

WHO WE ARE

The Partners in Population and Development (PPD), a global Intergovernmental Organization (IGO) comprising 27 developing countries across Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East, represents 60% of the world population, including a large share of the youth population. In collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the PPD seeks to promote population and reproductive health agenda for sustainable development through youth-led South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC). With the aim of accelerating the achievement of the ICPD goals and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), the PPD and UNFPA have thus jointly launched a unique platform for young people to engage in SSTC, called “South-South Youth Platform” (SSYP).

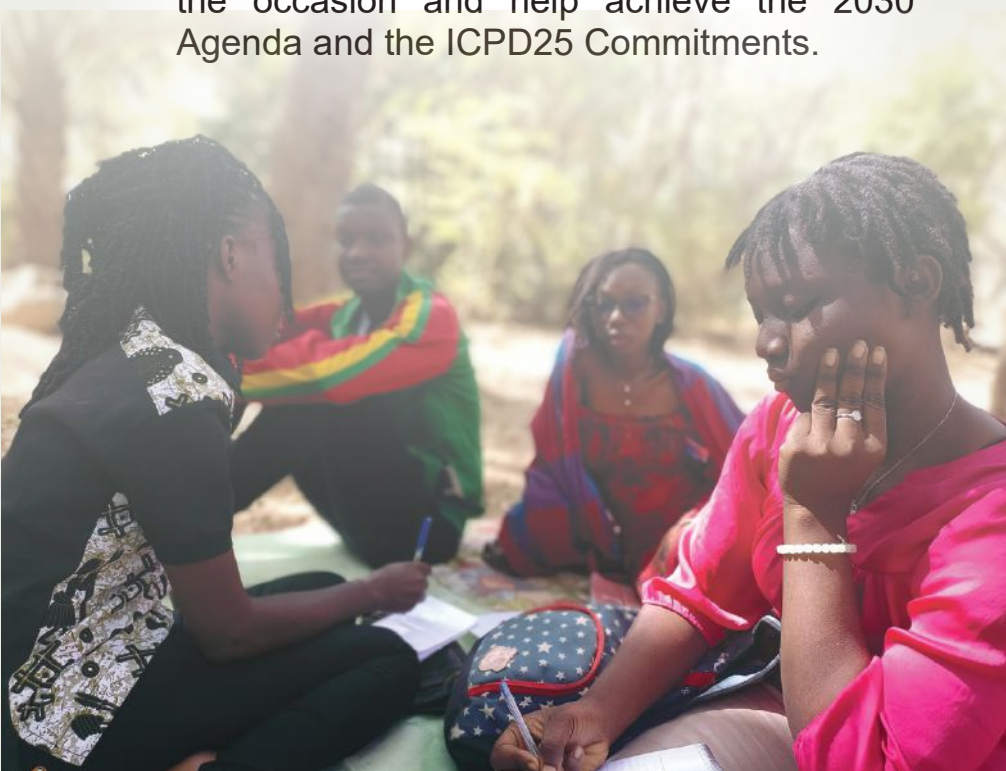
Currently, there are 1.8 billion adolescents and youth between the ages of 10 and 24, marking the largest youth generation in history. In fact, half of the world population is comprised of people aged 30 or under, which is likely to reach 57% by 2030. Yet the age balance in politics, employment, health and justice have been decidedly unfavorable towards young people, who face numerous barriers. Without the active involvement of the youth, the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals and ICPD25 Commitments remains wanting.

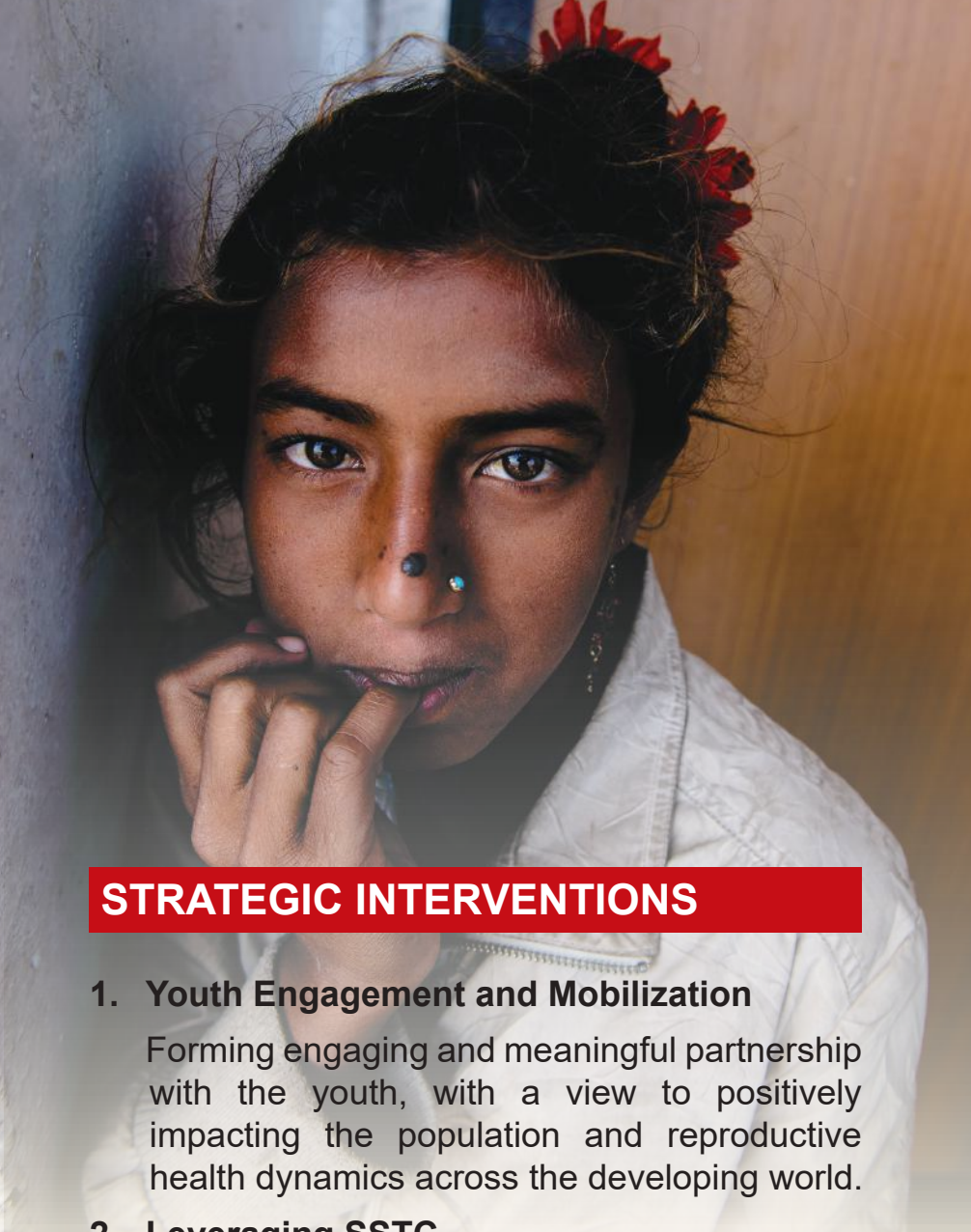
Moreover, due to barriers to reliable reproductive health information and adequate health care, the youth face a higher risk of unwanted pregnancy, unsafe abortion, sexually transmitted infections and diseases, including HIV/AIDS, and sexual coercion in the post-COVID era. The pandemic has also exacerbated the trends around domestic abuse and child marriage, increased the burden of unpaid household work, and disrupted the educational and health systems worldwide -- all of which are adversely affecting today's young people. There is thus a felt need for a youth-oriented platform undertaking programmatic interventions such as advocacy on

the policymaking level, capacity building, production and exchange of technology and knowledge, and raising awareness among young people about their rights and obligations. To this end, as developing countries recover from the external shocks induced by the pandemic and other global challenges, the South-South Youth Platform (SSYP) has been launched to facilitate youth engagement and mobilization.

AIMS

- a. Establish a dynamic and interactive platform that will foster, promote and utilize youth engagement in a bid to bolster population and reproductive health agenda in the post-COVID era.
- b. Institutionalize South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) and promote its utility in facilitating youth mobilization and delivering on the promises of ICPD25 and the SDGs.
- c. Utilize social media platforms to connect, educate and empower young people of the developing countries.
- d. Establish an inclusive, sustainable and youth-led forum for exchange of knowledge and technical support.
- e. Build the capacity of young minds so that a new generation of change makers can rise to the occasion and help achieve the 2030 Agenda and the ICPD25 Commitments.





STRATEGIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Youth Engagement and Mobilization

Forming engaging and meaningful partnership with the youth, with a view to positively impacting the population and reproductive health dynamics across the developing world.

2. Leveraging SSTC

Utilizing SSTC as an important vehicle to advance multilateral cooperation on integrating youth in the global development agendas and formal political processes.

3. Social Media Communications

Tapping the potential of social media, with its prevalence and wide acceptance, as one of the most powerful tools to promote youth-led advocacy and disseminate development solutions.

4. Production and Exchange of Knowledge

Bridging the gap between the youth and experts, and bringing youth leaders and



activists together to share their first-hand experiences, insights and challenges in an effort to inform and guide the present and future youth-oriented strategies and programs.

5. Capacity Building

Investing in the capacity development of the youth to mitigate the digital, secondary-level and job-specific skills crisis among the youth, and attain the demographic dividend for the developing countries.

ON REFLECTION: MILESTONES

- Held a webinar with youth and experts on “Harnessing Youth Engagement to Address SRHR through SSTC in Post-Covid Era.”
- Organized a concept notes competition to encourage innovative thinking, form new partnerships and highlight the lessons learned and best practices on leveraging youth involvement to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the ICPD agenda.
- Organized an essay competition to gain a deeper understanding into the perceptions of young people across the developing world and help build their capacity.



- Organized a photography competition to put a human face on complex development matters through creative means.
- Organized a months-long digital campaign, utilizing social media platforms, which engaged around 55,000 young users.
- Facilitated the engagement of youth activists, youth-led networks, human rights educators, researchers, development experts, gender activists, and private and public institutions from developing countries.
- Held a webinar with youth and experts on “Engaging Youth: Curating Innovative Solutions to Push Forward the ICPD Agenda and the SDGs. ”
- Organized a thematic photo exhibition, featuring the curated photographs of the youth of the Global South.
- Developed a publication, titled “South-South Youth Platform: Strategies and Visions,” shining a spotlight on the journey of the SSYP thus far, delineating its objectives and action plans, and developing practical strategies for the future.

South-South Youth Platform

**A Joint Initiative of Partners in
Population and Development and UNFPA**

ssyp@ppdsec.org

facebook.com/SouthSouthYouthPlatform

twitter.com/SSYP_ppdsec

Phone: +880 2 9881882-3, Fax: +880 2 8829387

