

Youth Engagement

Meaningful youth engagement invites youth and adolescents into the design and delivery of programs that affect their own lives. It also involves strengthening the capacity of youth to support implementation, leading to greater ownership of the process and improved outcomes.

Key Outcomes of Youth Engagement

- Increases participation by adolescents and youth in youth-friendly service delivery and AYSRH programming decision-making
- Increases access to AYSRH services, including quality contraception services, by adolescents and youth
- Increases uptake of contraceptives at the facility by adolescents and youth



Guidance and Tips

- 1 Identify youth already supporting reproductive health activities.**
Identify youth who are active in the community or health facility in clubs, community dialogues or members of local governance structures.
- 2 Build and strengthen the capacity and knowledge of youth in AYSRH knowledge and communication skills.**
Focus on empowering young people with life and communication skills to build their confidence and self-esteem to be able to participate more meaningfully.
- 3 Solicit and implement feedback from youth.**
- 4 Involve community influencers who youth admire.**
- 5 Link youth engagement activities directly to facilities so that youth know where to access contraceptive counseling from health providers.**

Service Delivery Intervention Guidance

- 1 Address provider bias by bringing in youth perspectives.**
Involve youth in [whole site orientation](#), [skilled provider](#) and [on the job trainings](#).
- 2 Recruit and deploy youth-focused providers.**
They have been trained to [serve adolescents and youth](#).
- 3 Adapt [service delivery](#) to accommodate youth schedules.**
Keeping in mind school hours and careers, clinic hours on the weekend may be necessary.

Demand Generation Intervention Guidance

- 1 Youth can serve as mobilizers for [community dialogues](#) and as [radio guest speakers](#).**
This allows youth to raise awareness with their peers about their unique reproductive health needs as adolescents.
- 2 Youth can provide information directly to other youth.**
This can include sharing where to access youth-friendly services through SMS/text, WhatsApp groups, or social media posts to their network.
- 3 Youth can provide advice and direct referral for reproductive health services.**

Advocacy Intervention Guidance

- 1 Youth can participate in clubs at schools and universities.**
Using TCI-U resources, other students can learn about reproductive health. They can also offer psychosocial support, refer to youth-friendly facilities and distribute short-term methods within their campus.
- 2 Embed youth in local governance and facility-level bodies.**
Youth should participate in local government budgetary committees and annual workplan meetings, and can form part of the PIT structure at the geography level and participate in monthly progress review meetings. Opportunities should be created for youth to be invited to serve in high level national and sub-national conferences. At the facility level, youth need to be invited to serve on quality improvement teams.