

**YOUTH
NEXT
LEVEL**

YOUTH

**NEXT
LEVEL**

STEPS FOR COUNTRY
ROLLOUT TO SUPPORT
YOUTH-LED HIV
RESPONSES



IF WE WANT TO ROLL OUT THE YOUTH NEXT LEVEL GUIDANCE, WHAT STEPS DO WE NEED TO TAKE AND WHAT ASPECTS DO WE NEED TO CONSIDER TO MAKE IT HAPPEN?



STEP 1: Understand the current spaces and opportunities for youth-led responses

- Map national laws and policies with an impact on young people living with or affected by HIV.
- Analyse the current environment for youth-led organizations to register for, operate and access funding.
- Identify existing opportunities and allies for youth participation and leadership in national HIV responses.
- Create additional entry points or mechanisms (e.g. youth parliament, national strategy on youth engagement).
- Develop or strengthen necessary partnerships.

This document is designed as a summary and visual aid of the steps and recommendations for strengthening sustainable youth-led HIV responses included in **YOUTH NEXT LEVEL: GUIDANCE TO STRENGTHEN SUSTAINABLE YOUTH-LED HIV RESPONSES**. For more details on each of the steps outlined in this document, it is recommended to consult the above-mentioned document.

Use this diagram in conjunction with the main guidance document.

STEP 2: Decide how you will measure progress and identify your baseline

- Collect information about youth participation through the National Commitments and Policy Instrument or other relevant monitoring tools.
- Track expenditure on youth-led responses through the National AIDS Spending Assessment or other tools.
- Adapt or expand existing national monitoring tools or frameworks to include indicators on youth engagement.

STEP 3: Give practical support to build youth leadership

- Compensate young people for their time and costs for participating in your planning, implementation, monitoring, decision-making and consultative processes.
- Provide mentoring to help young people understand your terminology, rules and procedures.
- Request and listen to young people's feedback about how to be more welcoming and supportive.
- Ensure young people in all their diversity are represented (e.g. dedicated seats, recognition of caring responsibilities) based on up-to-date evidence about the groups most likely to be affected by HIV in your national context, including young people from key populations.
- Support succession planning and smooth transition of youth leadership, with opportunities for people who "age out" of the cohort of young people.

STEP 4: Mobilize resources for sustainable support

- Involve young people and youth-led organizations in determining your funding or spending priorities and simplifying your processes.
- Donors and funders: offer long-term, flexible core funding to youth-led organizations.
- Other stakeholders: partner with youth-led organizations to mobilize resources, and advocate with donors and funders to provide core funding to youth-led organizations.
- Ensure youth-led organizations are eligible for social contracting of nongovernmental organizations or other funding pathways.

STEP 5: Scale up

- Identify mechanisms or opportunities to involve young people, including those living with HIV and those from key populations, in national strategic and planning processes (e.g. policy review processes, technical working groups).
- Support the development and implementation of costed and prioritized plans to advance, expand and institutionalize youth-led HIV responses.
- Increase integration of youth-led services into the health system where appropriate.
- Mobilize sources of core funding (donor or domestic) to support youth-led organizations to scale up their services.

STEP 6: Evaluate, learn and improve

- Learn from the feedback you have collected, and use the information to strengthen your support of youth-led HIV responses.
- You may find the results framework presented in Table 1 in the Youth Next Level: Implementation Strategy helpful.



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