



Youth in Development Policy

Fiscal Year 2023 Report to Congress

FAST FACTS

\$296m Mission Youth Investment OP 2023	7.3m Children & Youth Reached PPR 2023	60% Youth civically engaged PPR 2023	16 New Youth Programs YP2 APS 2020-23	1.3m Trained in Life Skills / Soft Skills PPR 2023
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BACKGROUND

USAID takes a holistic and comprehensive approach to addressing the needs of children and youth across all ages and stages of development. In order to streamline reporting and reduce redundancies, USAID submits this stand-alone Youth Report that focuses on our programming benefiting Youth (ages 10-29). This approach is consistent with USAID’s Congressional reporting in prior years.^a



Youth participate in the Digital Workforce Development Activity. Photo credit: USAID/Cambodia

USAID’s updated [Youth in Development Policy](#)¹ (“the Policy”) guides our programming in this area toward an overarching goal: Increase the meaningful participation of youth within their communities, schools, organizations, economies, peer groups, and families, enhancing their skills, providing opportunities, and fostering healthy relationships so they may build on their collective leadership. In pursuit of this vision, the Policy puts forward three related objectives:

1. **Access:** Youth are better able to access high-quality information, safe services, and livelihood opportunities and build the skills they need to lead healthy, productive, and engaged lives.
2. **Participation:** Youth have the right to fully participate in decision-making as key partners to contribute to individual, household, community, and national well-being.
3. **Systems:** Youth have a stronger collective voice in, and are better served by, local and national systems through more coordinated and effective services, practices, and policies that embody the principles of Positive Youth Development.^b

^a Required Congressional reports about USAID programs benefiting Children (ages 0-17), including, but not limited to, information on funding and programs preventing early and forced child marriage and unions; child protection; family strengthening; early childhood development; mental health and psychosocial support; and basic education will be provided separately to Congress. Links to each of the aforementioned reports are embedded throughout the Youth report for ease of reference.

^b USG-wide approach to youth development. Defined by USAID as, “Positive Youth Development (PYD) engages youth along with their families, communities and/or governments so that youth are empowered to reach their full potential. PYD approaches build skills, assets and competencies; foster healthy relationships; strengthen the environment and transform systems.”

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BACKGROUND, continued

Today, USAID is a global leader in youth programming. We work across sectors and in partnership with other U.S. government (USG) departments and agencies, the private sector, national governments, and civil-society, faith-based, and youth-led organizations around the world to assist young people in their transition from childhood to adulthood.

At the foundation of USAID's youth efforts is an approach called "Positive Youth Development" (PYD), an evidence-based framework that ensures meaningful opportunities for youth to contribute to resolving challenges and promoting positive change in their own communities and countries. To achieve the objectives of the Policy, USAID invested approximately \$296 million^c in funding from Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 in youth programming and approximately 1.3 million youth learned a broad set of skills including management, leadership, social, and/or civic-engagement skills.

This report provides a snapshot of results supported by Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 funding and a description of the mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation, structure, human resources, and budgeting that make this work possible. USAID tracks youth-related programming through annual reports on budget obligations in the FactsInfo system as well as through descriptions of youth programming in the Youth Development Key Narrative. As cross-sectoral youth activities increase, USAID is strengthening our tracking of youth-related activities across all sectors through Mission annual reporting.

YOUTH INTEGRATION AT THE MISSION LEVEL

USAID's Youth Coordinator's Office and YouthCorps works with our Missions to develop systemic, scalable solutions to address youth challenges. Since 2018, 20 USAID Missions^d have carried out cross-sectoral youth assessments to ensure that their Country Development Cooperation Strategies (CDCS) are responsive to the context-specific needs of youth. In Africa, USAID's youth programming focuses on education, democratic resilience, employment, entrepreneurship development, health, food security and nutrition. In Europe and Eurasia, USAID's youth programming focuses on youth employment, reducing corruption, and civic participation to reduce 'brain drain' and out migration. In Asia, programs focus on health, economic growth, environment, and education. In Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), USAID's youth programming focuses on preventing crime, recruitment by gangs, and promoting youth economic opportunity, workforce development, health systems, and other factors that contribute to mass irregular migration. In the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), USAID's youth programming focuses on peacebuilding, youth leadership, education, and workforce development.

^c \$296 million is the approximate amount reported for FY 2023 funds as of September 17, 2024. Additionally, \$255 million was programmed in FY 2023 for implementation of USAID's Global Health PEPFAR DREAMS programming. As obligations are finalized, this number may change.

^d Armenia, Belarus, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eastern and Southern Caribbean, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Kenya, Kyrgyz Republic, Liberia, Madagascar, Mauritania, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda, Somalia, Timor-Leste, and Zambia

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In Africa, USAID recognizes the significant opportunities possible in investing in the continent’s “youth bulge” to transform opportunities into a “demographic dividend” through partnerships with governments focused on peacebuilding, youth leadership, education, youth economic opportunities, health, food security and nutrition.

Many USAID Missions have successfully adopted the Positive Youth Development (PYD) approach which promotes the integration and engagement of youth across the program cycle, and cross-sectoral approaches to youth programming. For example, the USAID Mission in Colombia’s Youth Resilience Activity (YRA) supported the access and participation of 8,430 young people ages 10-29 in life skills development and community engagement interventions.

In FY 2023, YRA supported 591 emerging leaders’ Municipal Youth Councils and provided seed capital to implement civic engagement initiatives and action plans endorsed by local authorities. The USAID Mission in Zimbabwe put meaningful youth engagement into practice with the formation of a Youth Advisory Board to ensure local youth input into the design of new Local Works-funded youth economic empowerment initiatives in their communities.



Young leader in Soacha, Colombia showing revitalized community spaces. Photo credit: Hilary Taft, USAID

YOUTH INTEGRATION ACROSS SECTORS

USAID is successfully integrating youth programming across all sectors and leveraging intra-agency resources to ensure we address youth needs in as much of our work as possible.

Child Protection, Care and Development: The [Advancing Protection and Care for Children in Adversity: A U.S. Government Strategy for Children to Thrive \(Thrive Strategy\)](#)² aims to build strong beginnings for children, help families thrive, and prevent violence against children. The Thrive Strategy ensures that USG investments for the most vulnerable children and adolescents promote early childhood development; support those most vulnerable children and adolescents who are, or are at risk of, living outside of family care; and protect children from violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect. USAID’s Children in Adversity team, within the Inclusive Development (ID) Hub in the Bureau for Inclusive Growth, Partnerships, and Innovation (IPI), coordinates the implementation of the Thrive Strategy under the guidance of the U.S. Government Special Advisor on Children in Adversity.

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YOUTH INTEGRATION ACROSS SECTORS, continued

Child Protection, Care and Development, continued: The team supports the oversight and coordination of the whole-of-government response to P.L. 109-95, The Assistance for Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children in Developing Countries Act and the Global Child Thrive Act. Data collected in line with the [Advancing Protection and Care for Children in Adversity Monitoring and Evaluation System](#)³ are published in the [Thrive Strategy reports to Congress](#)⁴.

Conflict Prevention and Stabilization (CPS): Youth engagement is a key element of CPS' work because youth are critical to enabling peace and mitigating conflict. From analytical capabilities to programmatic design and implementation, CPS supports youth engagement in at least ten countries and in a number of ways. For example, youth are central to the work CPS is undertaking in Ukraine, Ethiopia, Central America, Sudan, and West Africa. At the onset, CPS' Violence and Conflict Assessment employs an analytical framework to investigate the role of youth as key actors who shape peace and conflict dynamics. Assessment findings have informed specific programmatic and operational recommendations that enable Missions to better focus interventions on youth. With CPS support, youth have led student movements, launched efforts at reconciliation, and built bridges between their communities and local or national governments. Finally, integrating youth consideration and needs is part of the implementation efforts of the U.S Strategy on Women, Peace, and Security; the U.S Strategy to Prevent Conflict and Promote Stability; and the USAID Policy for Countering Violent Extremism Through Development Assistance.



Youth in Thailand participate in youth-led peacebuilding activities. Photo credit: FHI360

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Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance (DRG): The new [USAID Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance Policy](#)⁵ emphasizes that more inclusive societies require transformational changes to political systems and their underlying power dynamics. DRG interventions address the systems that keep barriers to inclusive societies in place across the entire political ecosystem, including those at the individual, institutional, and societal levels. USAID will continue to partner with youth-led/serving organizations to promote the meaningful participation of young people within their communities. This includes enhancing their skills, providing opportunities to participate, and fostering intergenerational support, so they may build on their collective leadership. This also includes expanding our efforts, across sectors, to support democratic values, build social capital, and improve civil political discourse, information integrity, and norms that are the linchpin of an inclusive society.

Education: The [U.S. Government Strategy on International Basic Education \(2024–2029\)](#)⁶ promotes education from early childhood through workforce development and vocational training and acknowledges the potential of a PYD approach when combined with high-quality education. The Strategy commits nine USG departments and agencies to work with partner governments, civil society, and the private sector to remove barriers to education for youth and provide programs for out-of-school youth to develop skills that will either help them re-enter formal schooling or prepare them for the workforce. The [USAID Education Policy \(2018\)](#)⁷ highlights youth as one of four priority areas, specifically: “Youth gain the skills they need to lead productive lives, gain employment, and positively contribute to society.” Reporting on education assistance for children and youth will continue to be made available in the annual report to Congress on the U.S. Government Strategy on International Basic Education, as required by the [READ Act of 2017 \(P.L. 115-56\)](#)⁸.

Gender: USAID works to advance gender equity and equality, with sensitivity to the experiences of those who suffer systemic discrimination, including adolescent girls and young women through the [Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment Policy](#).⁹ USAID’s work is deeply motivated by a commitment to adolescent girls and young women, in light of longstanding systemic discrimination and barriers that continue to affect their full participation and access to opportunity. Adolescence is a critical period, especially for girls, when significant physical, emotional, and social changes shape their futures. The Youth Coordinator’s Office supports the State Department and GenDev in compiling USAID’s contributions for the [U.S. Global Strategy to Empower Adolescent Girls Report](#)¹⁰ and the collaborative interagency update of the [U.S. Global Strategy to Empower Adolescent Girls](#)¹¹. The report outlines how, through coordinated policy, diplomacy, and programmatic actions, the U.S. government continues to focus on the education, health, and protection of adolescent girls and young people, ensuring they can reach their full potential, free from violence and discrimination.

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Health: The Bureau for Global Health (GH) supports evidence-based PYD approaches across health elements; prioritizes cross-sectoral initiatives; measures youth health outcomes; addresses youth-specific quality of care; and partners with youth and communities to transform social/gender norms and promote positive health behaviors for youth. GH recognizes that youth development is essential for strengthening, sustaining, and multiplying global health gains for individuals, families, and communities in the future. In FY 2023, USAID was the lead implementer for the United States President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)’s Determined, Resilient, Employed, AIDS-Free, Mentored, and Safe (DREAMS) program. \$255 million of DREAMS funding was programmed for adolescent girls and young women’s comprehensive HIV prevention efforts, including reproductive health services.

Humanitarian Assistance: The Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) prioritizes and ensures youth integration across all of BHA’s programming to ensure humanitarian assistance programming is safe, accessible, age-responsive, and impactful. BHA sees youth as key stakeholders and decision-makers in humanitarian settings and in our early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience efforts. One BHA program, the Gender and Youth Activity (GAYA), improves the quality and impact of emergency and non-emergency food security and resilience activities by addressing the barriers implementing partners face when integrating gender and youth into programming. In FY 2023, GAYA launched a Request for Applications and awarded small grants to: build the protective assets of adolescents in emergencies in Colombia; pilot a youth-led market assessment toolkit in Zimbabwe; and strengthen the capacities of implementers in applying gender and youth data for inclusive interventions in food security and nutrition in Benin and other countries of Sub-Saharan Africa. These initiatives make important gains in ensuring BHA’s food assistance is accessible to and informed by youth.



A group of adolescent boys perform an educational skit on the dangers of malaria in Togo. Photo credit: Jennifer Lazuta/Catholic Relief Services, PATH

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Inclusive Development: At USAID, Inclusive development is an equitable development approach built on the understanding that every individual and community, of all diverse identities and experiences, is instrumental in the transformation of their own societies. USAID believes in the principle of “nothing about youth without youth.” When young people play meaningful roles throughout all phases of the Program Cycle, that program can be more impactful and sustainable. The [Disability Policy](#)¹², [Indigenous Peoples’ Policy](#),¹³ [LGBTQI+ Policy](#)¹⁴, and [Mental Health Position Paper](#)¹⁵ all guide our work to integrating youth inclusively in development programs. The [Mental Health Report](#)¹⁶, in particular, outlines USAID’s interventions for children and youth in vulnerable situations.

Resilience, Environment and Food Security:

The Bureau for Resilience, Environment and Food Security (REFS) envisions a world in which all people have sustained access to safe water, nutritious food, a healthy environment, and improved livelihoods as a result of locally-driven development strategies that protect the planet and our future. In achieving this vision, REFS takes an integrated and inclusive approach that recognizes the central importance of strengthening youth engagement, particularly that of girls and young women, in agri-food and water systems to achieve the promise of inclusive and sustainable agriculture-led growth; nutrition; resilience; and water security, sanitation, and hygiene. A dedicated Inclusive Development Division within the REFS Feed the Future Office of Country Implementation focuses on gender, youth, digital technologies, and local capacity development and supports integrated approaches to achieving cross-cutting Intermediate Result 3 of the [Global Food Security Strategy](#)¹⁷ (GFSS) on youth empowerment and livelihoods. Launching the Youth, Women and Green Jobs Diagnostic Activity, REFS is providing leadership for technical innovation to strengthen programming that facilitates the creation of inclusive green jobs and green growth, with a focus on young women and young men. REFS Aceli Africa activity is also delivering tailored access to finance to youth and women in food systems in Africa. USAID Missions implementing Feed the Future activities also prioritize action with youth, including through the implementation of GFSS Country Plans.



A young fodder entrepreneur shows off her crop. Photo Credit: Akram Ali, CLA and Communications Lead, USAID FTF Livestock and Nutrition Activity, ACDI/VOCA,

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Regional Youth and Emerging Leaders

USAID supports the leadership of young people as partners in building healthy, peaceful, prosperous, and democratic communities. USAID engages young leaders at the regional and local level to promote innovative solutions to critical development challenges across country contexts.

In Africa, the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) is building the capacity of emerging African leaders to take on development challenges in their countries by developing a network of influential young African leaders who are shaping the political, economic, and security environments and engaging their communities in health, education, and economic development opportunities across sub-Saharan Africa. YALI prepares African youth to tackle real-world challenges and collaborate with others - both Africans and Americans - to increase the impact of their ideas across the continent. Through the Regional Leadership Centers (RLCs) YALI also strengthens the capacity of African higher education institutions to develop a workforce that meets local and regional needs – regardless of sector. The 28,000 and counting RLC alumni from 49 sub-Saharan African countries are positioned to lead local businesses and organizations that become partners. This builds on USAID’s objective to deepen engagement with new partners, including small to medium sized enterprises; women-owned organizations; youth organizations; and other non-traditional USG partners.

In Central America, the recently launched [Central American Service Corps \(CASC\)](#)¹⁸ initiative reflects an investment of \$50 million in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras to engage young people to participate in different forms of paid community service. Young people are building their life and job skills, while also increasing their confidence and sense of belonging. CASC generates leadership potential and helps foster optimism among youth in Northern Central America that a better future is possible for themselves and for their communities. It will also have secondary impacts in the targeted Central American communities by channeling additional income into local economies and providing needed skills training for future employment in their communities and countries.

In the Middle East and North Africa, the GISR-MENA task order is funding youth-led grantees to implement local environmental initiatives in Tunisia, Egypt, Iraq, and Lebanon. Grantees receive technical and organizational capacity strengthening to scale their environmental sustainability efforts. The interventions include civil society organizations educating and raising environmental awareness through green clubs, school gardens, and youth leadership. The organizations also advance economic growth and adaptation efforts through green startup accelerators, green transportation, and reducing and recycling waste.

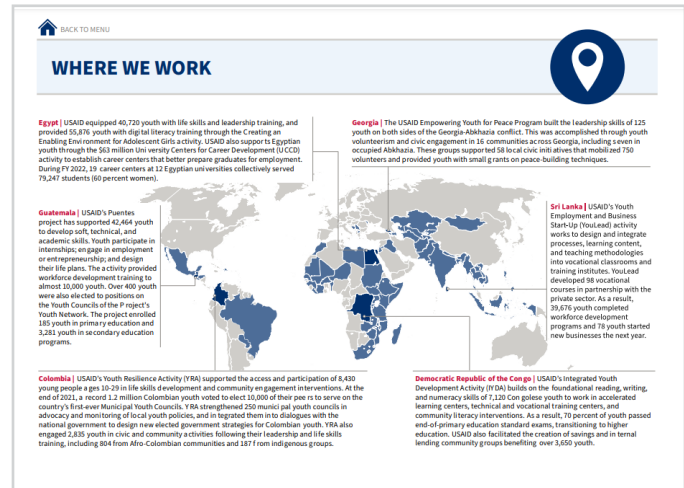
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MECHANISMS FOR COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION

USAID intentionally integrates our youth programming across sectors and Operating Units, and coordinates with multiple USG departments and agencies. USAID ensures alignment of the various actors and efforts through the following:

- Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs:** Composed of representatives from 21 U.S. federal departments and agencies, the group meets monthly to improve the coordination and effectiveness of programs that serve youth. USAID’s Agency Senior Advisor on Youth represents USAID on the working group.
- USAID Senior Champions for Youth Working Group:** Composed of senior leadership from every regional and technical bureau, the group meets on an annual and as-needed basis to coordinate Agency-wide responses to opportunities and challenges.
- USAID YouthCorps Working Group:** Composed of representatives from every regional and technical bureau, the group meets monthly to produce tools and guidance to improve youth programming. Results during FY 2023 included a publicly available [Performance Plan and Report Brief on FY 2022](#)¹⁹ reporting on emerging priority youth areas, internal guidance to support USAID’s Missions with youth integration based on the updated Youth Policy, and delivery of on-site trainings in PYD and Meaningful and Inclusive Youth Engagement for 270 USAID Mission staff and implementing partners. YouthCorps also supports youth inputs for key intra- and inter-agency taskers, policies, and strategies.
- USAID DRG Youth Working Group:** Composed of staff from across the DRG Center, regional bureaus and operating units, the DRG Youth Working Group discusses new programs, evidence, and challenges impacting youth in civic and political life. The Working Group hosts scholars, implementing partners, and young leaders to unpack the latest research and approaches that improve the participation, representation, and leadership of young people in decision-making processes.



Screenshot of the YouthCorps 'FY22 PPR Brief.

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MECHANISMS FOR COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION, continued

- **USAID GH Youth Working Group:** Composed of staff from across the Bureau for Global Health (GH) offices, the working group elevates youth as a priority in global health programming in service of the USAID Youth in Development Policy. The working group promotes targeted age- and stage-appropriate youth programming across GH; increases meaningful engagement with youth and youth-led organizations; builds staff capacity in youth programming; highlights potential synergies for meaningful youth programming across health offices; captures youth-specific data from USAID health mechanisms; and shares best practice approaches in PYD to support implementing partners and health communities of practice.
- **USAID REFS Youth Champions League:** Composed of staff from the Bureau for Resilience, Environment and Food Security (REFS) centers and offices and convened by the REFS Senior Youth Advisor to design and implement youth-inclusive and youth-targeted activities in the areas of inclusive and sustainable agriculture-led growth, food security, nutrition, resilience, water security, sanitation, and hygiene, with a focus on climate and the environment. Its objectives are to: 1) strengthen REFS's collective capacity to advance youth inclusion in inclusive, resilient and sustainable agriculture, food and water systems; and 2) establish liaisons across centers and offices with the REFS Feed the Future Office of Country Implementation Inclusive Development Youth Team to improve our connectedness and streamline reporting and communication.

HUMAN CAPITAL

USAID's Agency Senior Advisor on Youth ("Agency Youth Coordinator") and Youth Team is based in the **IPI** Bureau's **ID Hub**^e. The Agency Youth Coordinator oversees the implementation of the Youth in Development Policy and the Youth portfolio. In addition to the Agency Youth Coordinator, the team includes a Technical Specialist on Youth Issues, a Youth Advisor, a half-time Senior Training Specialist, and a Junior Program Analyst who support the Youth portfolio. The Youth Team is the Agency's lead for Youth Standard F Indicators and Agency-wide reporting; provides technical advising, training, and support to USAID's Front Office, Agency task teams and working groups, sector and pillar bureaus, and Missions; generates guidance for USAID staff on Youth In Development, including the Policy Implementation Guidance, Guidance for Youth Integration in CDCS, youth engagement, and other technical support as requested; and serves as a point of contact for USAID's civil society and youth development implementing partners. In FY 2023, the Youth Team led PYD and Meaningful and Inclusive Youth Engagement training for 270 USAID staff and partners.

^e The Agency Youth Coordinator's position is mandated under the USAID Youth In Development Policy (2022). Youth Team staff and programming activities are funded through discretionary funds as allocated by the Bureau for Inclusive Growth, Partnerships, and Innovation (IPI) and ID Hub.

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HUMAN CAPITAL, continued

REFS, GH, DRG Bureau, CPS, and other centers, hubs, and offices in IPI also have youth expertise and technical points of contact across offices and teams. Under USAID’s updated Youth in Development Policy, all Regional Bureaus (Asia, Middle East and North Africa, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Europe and Eurasia) now have a dedicated Youth Advisor. In USAID Missions, 82 have a Youth Advisor or designated Youth Point of Contact.

BUDGETARY MECHANISMS AND EXPENDITURES

USAID has attributed approximately \$296 million in funding from FY 2023 to youth programming across the Agency’s program categories for youth-relevant, youth-focused, and youth-led. The following youth-serving, global cross-sectoral mechanisms are active as of September 2024:

- [YouthPower 2](#)²⁰: USAID launched YouthPower 2 (YP2) to build on progress under the original YouthPower (2015) mechanism. YP2 is an Annual Program Statement (APS) that allows our Missions, Bureaus, and Independent Offices to design cross-sectoral programming that applies the PYD approach. To date, addenda have been issued across 16 awards. The first opportunity under YP2, [Youth Excel](#)²¹, supports new partnerships to increase the capacity of youth-led and youth-serving organizations for cross-sectoral programming.



Youth Excel’s USAID/Malawi Youth Cohort Group at the USAID Nzeru Nathu Youth Learning Summit in 2024. Photo credit: IREX

- [YouthPower 2 Learning and Evaluation \(YP2LE\)](#)²²: The YP2LE Activity brings the Youth in Development Policy to life by enabling investments in PYD research and evaluation within and across multiple sectors, including health, education, agriculture/food security, economic opportunity, peace and security, democracy, and human rights and governance. The Activity builds and disseminates PYD evidence across multiple sectors; offers leadership in promoting PYD best practices; and provides rapid response, technical assistance to USAID staff to design, implement, and evaluate youth engagement.
- [HELIX](#)²³: USAID launched the Higher Education for Leadership, Innovation, and Exchange (HELIX) mechanism to encourage USAID’s Missions, Bureaus, and Independent Offices to develop cross-sectoral programming for higher education to provide youth with a continuum of opportunities for advanced education and training. To date, addenda have been issued or anticipated across 12 awards.

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BUDGETARY MECHANISMS AND EXPENDITURES, continued

[PROPEL Youth & Gender](#)²⁴; USAID launched PROPEL Youth and Gender, the third award under the Promoting Results and Outcomes through Policy and Economic Levers (PROPEL) APS, which focuses on policy, advocacy, health financing, and governance approaches to increase youth health outcomes. PROPEL Youth and Gender is a cross-bureau, cross-sector award aimed at improving sexual and reproductive health outcomes and gender equity for people at all life stages, including youth and adolescents.

USAID also funds programming across technical areas focused on youth through numerous other mechanisms related to higher education, workforce development, civic education and civil society, global health, peace and security, and food security. For example:

- USAID's \$45 million, five-year activity, [Powered by the People \(PxP\), launched in 2023](#)²⁵, provides flexible and accessible support to address the needs, opportunities, and challenges identified by organizers, activists, and other civic actors engaged in nonviolent collective action. PxP aims to strengthen the agency, resiliency, and efficacy of organizers and people-powered social movements, including those that are advancing rights and opportunities for youth. For example, PxP supported the work of local activists who are working with policymakers to remove taxes on sanitary pads as part of a broader movement to empower girls by removing barriers to access education.
- [CyberRwanda](#)²⁶ launched Season 4 of their stories informed by real-life youth scenarios about social services, safe spaces, gender-based violence, and HIV testing, status, stigma, and disclosure. The app links youth directly to a violence reporting tool and youth-friendly health facilities. Endline data collected by 40 youth research assistants among 6,000 respondents at 60 schools noted a 91.3 percent retention rate from baseline to endline, and preliminary findings show statistically significant impact on family planning use, attitudes, and self-efficacy. Adaptations addressed digital inequities that challenged girls' use of the online ordering services due to low internet connectivity, fear about confidentiality, and high data costs by creating an unstructured supplementary service data (USSD) feature, or "quick code," to link basic phones with mobile networks and increase accessibility.

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Annex: Reporting on Youth across Sectors

To measure progress on the Youth in Development Policy, USAID projects and activities use five cross-sectoral Standard Foreign Assistance Indicators for youth along with 14 sex and age disaggregated indicators from various sectors. The indicators in the [Standard Foreign Assistance Framework](#)²⁷ also are relevant for youth programming across five technical sectors: economic growth, health, basic and higher education, democracy and governance, and resilience and food security. Many of the indicators can be disaggregated by age to identify youth participants if programming is not exclusive to youth participants.

Youth Standard Indicators and other age-disaggregated standard indicators

SPSD Category	Indicators	Indicators Name	Results - FY 2023
Cross-cutting	Youth 1	Number of youth trained in soft skills/life skills through USG-funded programs	1.3 million
Cross-cutting	Youth 3	Percentage of participants in USG-assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources who are youth (ages 15–29)	32 percent
Cross-cutting	Youth 5	Percentage of youth who participate in civil-society activities following soft-skills/life- skills training or initiatives from USG-assisted programs.	60 percent
Cross-cutting	Youth 6	Number of youth who complete USG-assisted leadership programs.	12,845 youth
Cross-cutting	Youth 7	Number of children (0-19 years) and youth (10-29) reached with USG assistance.	7.3 million children and youth *

*This reflects the first year of reporting for this indicator and is expected to increase in the coming reporting cycles.

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Annex: Reporting on Youth across Sectors, continued

Youth Standard Indicators and other age-disaggregated standard indicators

Economic Growth	EG.3-2	Number of individuals participating in USG food security programs	4,592,205 youth (Age 15-29) **
Economic Growth	EG.4.2-7	Number of individuals participating in USG-assisted group-based savings, micro-finance or lending programs	286,017 youth (Age 15-29)**
Economic Growth	EG.6-3	Number of individuals who complete USG assisted workforce development programs	113,000
Education & Social Services	ES.2-55	Number of learners reached by USG-assisted higher education interventions	95,7400
Education & Social Services	ES.5-1	Number of USG social assistance beneficiaries participating in productive safety nets [IM-level]	255,698 youth (Age: 15-29)**
Democracy, Human Rights & Governance	DR.3.3-1	Number of individuals who received USG-assisted political party training	796 youth (10-29)
Democracy, Human Rights & Governance	DR.3.3-2	Number of USG-assisted political parties implementing initiatives to increase the number of candidates and/or members who are women, youth and from marginalized groups	44
Democracy, Human Rights & Governance	DR.6.1-2	Number of human rights defenders trained and supported	1,332 (Age: 10-29)
Democracy, Human Rights & Governance	DR.6.3-1	Number of individuals from low income or marginalized communities who received legal aid or victim's assistance with USG support	1,400 youth (Age: 10-29)

**These represent results from Feed the Future programs, which include some contributions from USAID's interagency partners.

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Endnotes

- 1 <https://www.usaid.gov/policy/youth>
- 2 <https://www.childreninadversity.gov/thrivestrategy/>
- 3 <https://www.childreninadversity.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/APCCA-monitoring-evaluation-system-1.pdf>
- 4 <https://www.childreninadversity.gov/resources/#tab-2be342badbed34ffdc9>
- 5 <https://www.usaid.gov/policy/democracy-human-rights-and-governance>
- 6 <https://www.usaid.gov/us-government-education-strategy>
- 7 <https://www.usaid.gov/documents/1865/2018-usaid-education-policy>
- 8 <https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/2023-09/2023%20USG%20Report%20to%20Congress%2C%20Basic%20Education.pdf>
- 9 <https://www.usaid.gov/document/2023-gender-equality-and-womens-empowerment-policy>
- 10 <https://www.state.gov/reports/report-to-congress-on-actions-taken-to-implement-the-u-s-global-strategy-to-empower-adolescent-girls/>
- 11 <https://2009-2017.state.gov/s/gwi/priorities/adolescentgirls/254674.htm>
- 12 <https://www.usaid.gov/inclusivedevelopment/disability-policy>
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- 19 https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/2024-01/FY_2022_PPR_Youth_Brief_FINAL_508.pdf
- 20 <https://www.youthpower.org/youthpower-2-aps>
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