



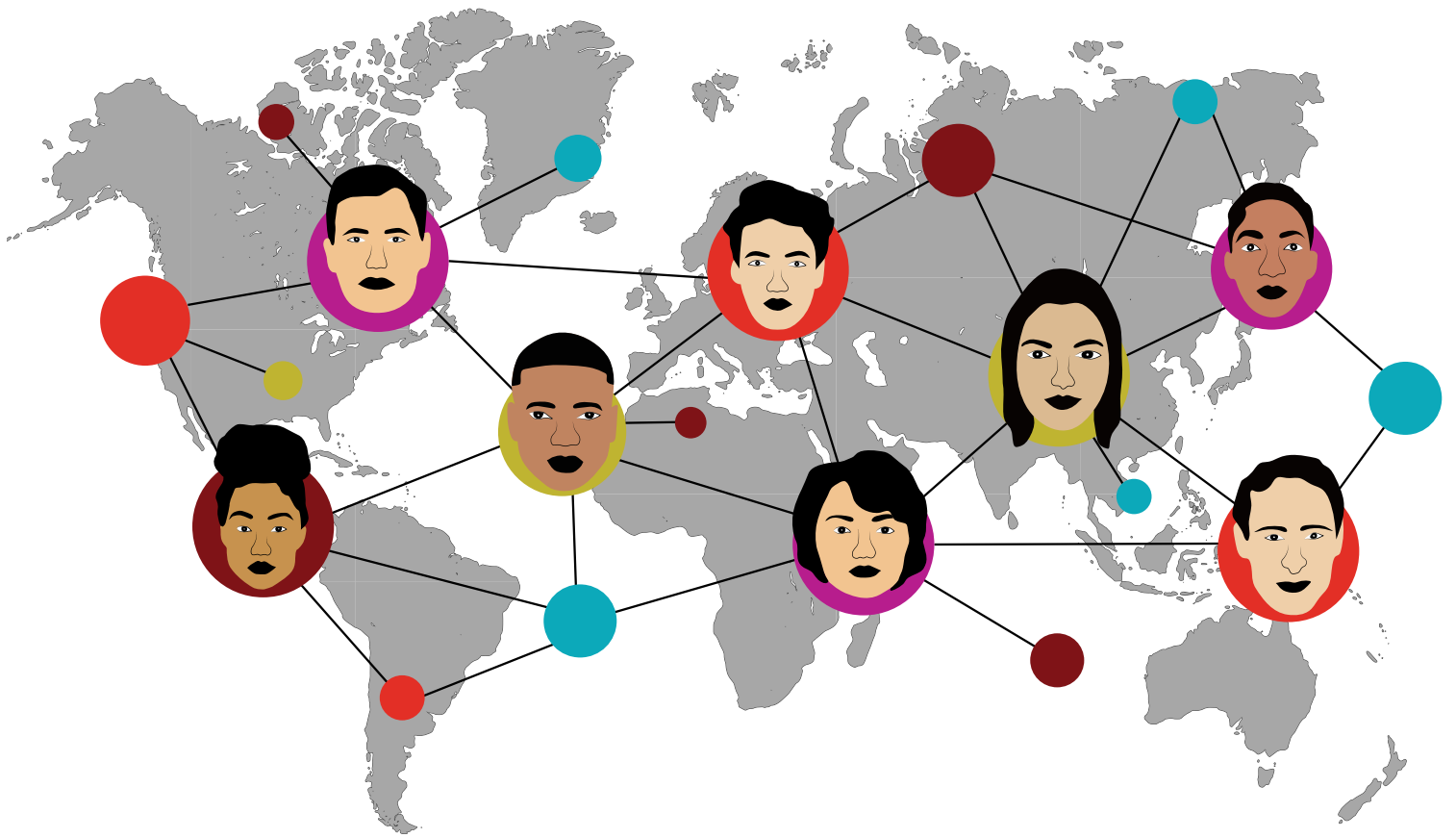
GLOBAL NETWORK OF  
YOUNG PEOPLE  
LIVING WITH HIV



# YOUNG, WILD, & FREE

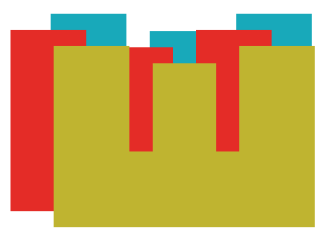
Implementation Guide 2020





It was fun working together [on Young, Wild, and Free] with young people from all over the world on projects. You get to know who is behind [advocacy] that you admire and what they have done to make it possible. It is motivating working together, as young leaders you find this to be lonely as people expect you to know it all when you are trying to find your way. When you meet others, who understand your struggles and they have overcome it makes it all easier.

**– Lucy, Positive Young Women Voices, Kenya**



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## Section 1

# What is Young, Wild, & Free?

Due to the fact that young key populations are a often criminalized populations and working with them seems more of a recruiting exercise, a lot of organizations shy away from working with them.

We work through member organizations that are fully key population led to ensure they mobilize for us, young key populations, with whom we work with.

– *Cindy, Y+ Kenya*

## BACKGROUND

Young key populations experience additional barriers in accessing sexual and reproductive health services (SRHR), HIV and harm reduction services, for a number of reasons. Service providers are confronted with laws and regulations preventing them from providing services to young people; friendly services for young key populations are often not available because service providers do not have sufficient knowledge on the specific needs of young key populations; and young key populations lack awareness on health risks and supportive networks and communities.

There is limited data around young key populations as they are often underrepresented in bio-behaviour studies. Epidemiological studies reveal that young people who use drugs, sell sex or who identify as LGBT shoulder a relatively disproportionate burden of new infections when such data is reliably collected. Young people are also, even within key population approaches, harder to reach. They have different needs and require an appropriate set of, and approach in, services. In addition to the regressive laws that criminalize and undermine key populations of all age groups, there are laws, regulations and social norms unique to young key populations that keep them from accessing services.

In the second phase of Bridging the Gaps (2016-2020) we started age-disaggregating data and we gained more insight into the extent to which partners in Bridging the Gaps reach young members of key populations. Across the programme, 30% of people who use services offered by Bridging the Gaps partners are 24 and younger. In a number of countries youth comprises a larger part of service users, such as Kenya, Ukraine and Vietnam. Based on these experiences, we are able to learn from good practice, and to share, adapt, and scale up these practices in other locations and countries.

## OKAY THAT'S INTERESTING BUT WHAT IS IT REALLY AND WHY DID YOU MAKE THIS GUIDEBOOK?

Young key populations are facing their own challenges that can be completely different from the older generation. It is also important for young key populations to work on the solutions because they are the only ones who understand those challenges and, together, could be able to make things better. – **GNP+, Thara**

Young, Wild, & Free is a Y+ Global programme bringing together networks of young people living with HIV to share best practices of engagement, support, and resilience of young key populations. Young, Wild, & Free highlighted three innovative youth networks doing amazing work in the HIV response – Teenergizer (Ukraine), Inti Muda (Indonesia), and Y+ Global - who then have been working with 8 grassroots networks (Positive Young Women Voices (Kenya), Y+ Kenya (Kenya), Positive Women's network (South Africa), Y+ South Africa, Inti Muda (Indonesia), Gtown (Vietnam), Lighthouse (Vietnam), Teenergizer (Ukraine)) to implement one of their best practices. This guidebook was created so you too could learn their tricks and implement your own in your country!

I think we need to widely inform the public about this situation, work with HIV-positive adolescents, help them accept their status and live a full life. We are building now the system of sexual education - peer to peer. So, trained adolescents can share new knowledge among their friends and their age environment. – **Lina, Teenergizer, Ukraine**



## Section 2

# Who is Y+?

We have ensured that we have the young key populations in their diversity that is young people who identify as LGBTI, living with HIV, those selling sex, and young people who use drugs. The process of engaging these groups has been inclusive from planning to implementation with the hope that when the Young, Wild, & Free project is being monitored and evaluated these young people will be engaged too. Our mantra at Y+ Global is meaningfully and the greater involvement of young people throughout the process. - **Tinashe, Y+ Global, South Africa**



The Global Network of Young People Living with HIV (Y+ Global) is the network for and by young people that aims to strengthen the leadership of young people living with HIV from local to global level, empowering them to be meaningfully engaged in political and programmatic spaces that impact their lives.

Our mission is to provide ethical empowerment ensuring excellence in leadership, education, and engagement in spaces that impact our lives. This work supports our vision to achieve the best quality of life for all young people living with HIV.

In order to do our work we have a set of core values. Our values are what defines who we are and what we stand for. As the Global Network of Young People Living with HIV our values are embedded into everything that we do and what we represent:

## **INCLUSION**

**Leaving no one behind!** We aim to ensure that all young people living with HIV especially those representing key and marginalized populations are meaningfully involved in our programming. We continuously monitor internal and external engagement, whilst at the same time creating opportunities for young key and marginalised populations living with HIV.

## **PERSEVERANCE**

We remain consistent and resilient in overcoming challenges and reaching our goals. We learn to support each other and build capacities within our communities. We mobilize partners, stakeholders, collaborators who embrace our values to deliver results.

## **EMPOWERMENT**

We develop and support Young People Living with HIV in taking control of their own health. Through obtaining relevant information and research we understand the needs of young people living with HIV at all levels (local, regional and international levels). Together with our partners, stakeholders and colleagues we aim to be relevant and responsive and to deliver exceptional results that positively affect the populations that we serve. Y+ strategic plan 2019-2021.

## **ETHICAL**

We operate and collaborate with a sense of diligence, integrity and transparency, building trust within our networks.

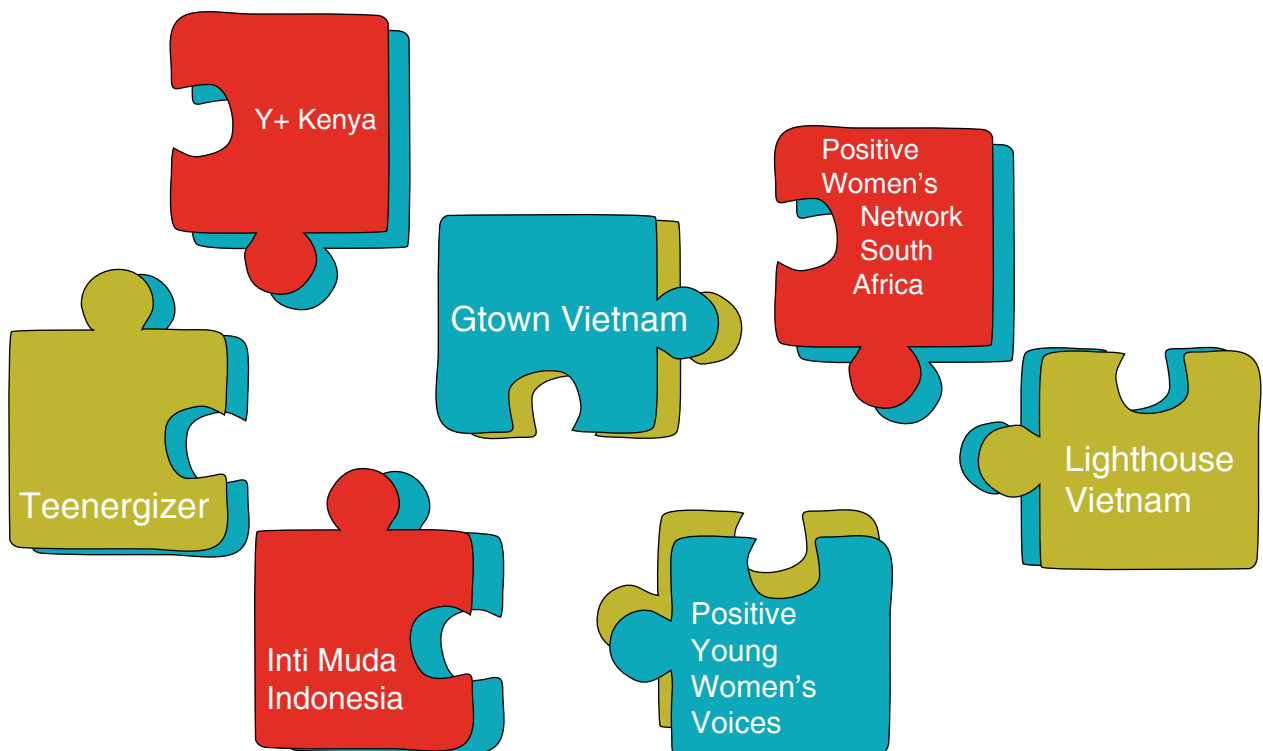
## **ACCOUNTABLE**

We require excellence and transparency from ourselves, our partners and stakeholders. We design and implement systems that allow for monitoring and evaluation of our practices increasing accountability and transparency within our organisation.



## Section 3

# Partner Profiles



### TEENERGIZER

Teenergizer is a charity organization that unites HIV-positive young people and their friends with HIV-negative status. The project includes an online counselling platform, HIV and sexual health training, support groups for HIV-positive adolescents and HIV parties (VICHerinka) for young people with the participation of stars. Teenergizer is based in Kyiv, Ukraine and works with regional teams in 4 countries and 10 cities in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

### INTI MUDA INDONESIA

Inti Muda Indonesia is a national organization whose mission is to increase the capacity of young key populations regarding sexual and reproductive health rights, improve organizational performance through strong governance and human resources, advocating to influence policies related to the rights of young key populations, and build equal partnerships to gain support and increase resources.

### GTOWN VIETNAM

Gtown organization is a young key population led organization working to increase the visibility of young key populations in Vietnam and improve their sexual health and rights. Established in 2017, Gtown is experienced in educating and communicating about sexual health and rights, online and mobile counseling and testing services for the community and connecting them to other needed services such as mental health, harm reductions, STIs, organize community events and foster the community movement.

## **POSITIVE YOUNG WOMEN'S VOICES**

Positive Young Women Voices (PYWV) is a young women led community based organization in Nairobi that has a major focus on adolescent girls and young women in their diversities aiming to reduce new HIV infections by addressing structural factors such as poverty, violence and education. The vision and passion for the inception of PYWV is to ensure adolescent girls and young women live to their full potential.

## **POSITIVE WOMEN'S NETWORK SOUTH AFRICA**

Positive Women's Network is the national network of women living with HIV in South Africa. We provide support to women and girls who are living with and affected by HIV including support for victims of gender-based violence, access to ART, contraceptives, PrEP, PEP and other HIV and TB related services. We promote human rights for adolescent girls and young women which upholds their bodily autonomy and rights-based health choices. We have ART clubs linked to adolescent girls and young women going to school and participate in programmes that keep girls in academic institutions.

## **LIGHTHOUSE VIETNAM**

Lighthouse is a social enterprise one of the first and largest registered community-based organizations led by, and working with young key populations and young people living with HIV in Vietnam since 2004. Lighthouse aims to empower the young key populations and young people living with HIV communities with strong capacity in voices to advocate based on evidence, improve their access, and utilization to sexual and mental health care, mobilize an inclusive and cohesive community to ensure no one is left behind. Our vision is a sustainable future of equity and well-being for all young key populations and young people living with HIV.

## **Y+ KENYA**

The Organization of Young People Living With HIV(Y+ Kenya) is an umbrella network of Youth Led Organizations working in support of the acceleration of the HIV response for Adolescents and Young People Living With HIV (AYPLHIV).The Efforts of Y+ Kenya are designed to meet the needs of AYPLHIV in regards to universal Health Coverage. Y+ Kenya aims to be a forum for mutual empowerment and support to enable AYPLHIV to live positively, access quality treatment, care and other HIV related services and commodities.

## Section 4

# Project Ideas

### 1. SCORECARD

Collecting data and people's experience is important because it can highlight not only gaps but successes in institutions. While there are many examples of scorecards being used over the years in the HIV response, such as the GIPA and the Blueprint for Action for Women and Girls report cards, Y+ worked with Frontline AIDS to create the READY to CARE scorecard to improve health services for young people living with HIV. So far it has been implemented in the READY+ countries: Burundi, Eswatini, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zimbabwe and led to change such as the engagement of policymakers in Eswatini and a new health center for adolescents and young people in Burundi. What could a scorecard do in your community?

The scorecard has been implemented by country networks of young people living with HIV in collaboration with PATA and Frontline AIDS. The idea is for young people to get feedback from their peers on how services are being delivered to them and providing feedback to the health facilities through the Ministry of Health so that there is improved service delivery. We have partners like Youth LEAD from Asia who would also like to adapt or adopt the scorecard.

– *Tinashe, Y+ Global, South Africa*



The graphic is a colorful leaflet for 'READY to care'. It features a central blue area with white wavy lines at the top and bottom. The title 'READY to care' is in large black font, with 'Improving health services for young people living with HIV' below it. There are four circular portraits of diverse young people: a man in a red shirt and cap, a woman in a blue top, a woman in a black top, and a man in a white lab coat. The background is decorated with colorful geometric shapes and star patterns.

# READY to care

Improving health services for young people living with HIV

Thank you for picking up this leaflet. We want to share with you some of the things you can do to help young people living with HIV feel more comfortable and supported in health services.

Living with HIV presents young people with many challenges and we have lots of questions about our future. You are the adults in our lives who can make a big difference in how we cope and how we stay happy, healthy and safe.

## 1. Create your scorecard!

If you want to use the READY to CARE scorecard – you're in luck there is already a template. You might need to tweak it a bit for your county context or community but otherwise you can just skip this step. If not, you have got a lot of extra work to do.

## 2. Build partnerships.

At this stage it is important to make connections and map the places that your organization wants to collect data from. You need to spend some time planning and building relationships with the institutions and/or health centers where you will do the interviews and collect the cards. It's also good at this time to think about confidentiality and the ethics of protecting the information that you receive.

## 3. Collect data.

For this step there are a few ways you can do it. All have their pros and cons. For high tech there is a collection system that you can use on a smartphone – the pro is that it makes analysis very easy but the obvious con is that you need to have smart phones and money for data access. READY to CARE has an entire system to use so just following that can be very helpful. Alternatively, you can use paper and pens. The pro is it is inexpensive, accessible and easy, but the con is you will have so much paperwork to sift through to analyse. Additional questions to ask are, will a peer be there to do the interviews, or will there be a box where people can anxiously leave them?

## 4. Analyse the data.

This part is rather easy if the team used their smartphones, if not it will take a bit longer.

Advocacy should always be done from a knowledgeable standpoint and never ignorance.  
Knowledge is what will give policy makers a keen eye to listen to you. – **Cindy Y+ Kenya**

## 5. Use the data for advocacy and to make change.

Now that you have spent time looking for gaps in services including possible discrimination and stigma, it's time to put that information to work and do some advocacy. Power is knowledge and you have the information you need to point out injustices to strengthen and build the institutions in your community.

## 2. HIV PARTIES

Parties and the nightlife have long been a staple in community organizing and awareness raising in the HIV response. From the annual extravagant costume gala The Life Ball with drag queens and club kids in Vienna, to the No Pants No Problem underwear dance parties at the AIDS Conferences. Other groups, such as Dance 4 Life, have made entire organizations around hosting parties to raise awareness of HIV prevention for young people. Teenergizer shares its tips for hosting HIV parties in Ukraine for young people to sensitize people about HIV and champion LGBTQ rights.

For Teenergizer it is not about dancing, our parties are more like smart parties – an informal meeting to gain specific knowledge for example about HIV and safer sex - with stars, popular people, support HIV-positive people, HIV testing and communications.

– *Lina, Teenergizer, Ukraine*

### 1. Think of a concept!

What is the party that you want to have and what will you do there? Do you want to have a dance party? Musicians? Speakers? Will it be linked to ongoing campaigns or awareness raising (example: 16 Days of Activism, Love Positive Women, International Youth Day). This planning period is really to sort out the following questions: What do you want to do? Where do you want to do it? Who do you want to perform? Who are the participants (is it open to the public or a private event)? What support do you need to make it happen?

### 2. Secure a location.

Looking at your list, the first thing you need to do is find a location. When booking a venue, you might want to inquire if it has DJ and sound equipment on site, a stage for performances, a dance floor, a bar with drinks or if you can bring your own. This can take a few weeks so start early! Also think about size. If you plan to have 25 people, you should not book a space with capacity for 100 and the same goes the other way.

### 3. Confirm entertainment.

So now that you have the concept and venue you need to get working on the entertainment. While you probably should have already reached out to the DJ, musicians, and other performers this is the time to confirm them.

### 4. Promotion and outreach.

All the pieces are ready for your event, but now you need to make sure that people come. The method of promotion will depend on your community and what works best for them – in some cases it will be word of mouth or a WhatsApp group, in others you'll need to buy ad space or publicly post on social media. In general, having a diverse marketing strategy is best. Make an image that contains all the information that can be used in both print and digital media. Posters to hang up in offices, in clinics and on the streets, and also to post on social media. Additionally, it's great to get others including influencers and the performers to promote the party as well.

## 5. Set up.

On the day of the event put out the last-minute promotions, confirm with the performers, speakers, and any volunteers and show up early to set up decorations, the information booths, and whatever logistical pieces need to get done.

## 6. Party!

Since you have worked hard to get here, try to just enjoy yourself.



### 3. FESTIVAL

Who doesn't love a festival. Music, hanging out with friends, art, and performances?! Festivals can last one day or many days. They can be great ways to build community and bring people together for a greater cause. Inti Muda has created an annual festival called the Every Youth Summer Festival in Bali. Bringing young people together to talk about HIV, social justice, and inequalities in something they coined as edutainment – which is educational entertainment. In their version they have musical performers, DJs, dancing, educational workshops and sessions, and sleeping under the stars all on the beach. Here are some of the steps so that you could make your own.

Through the festival we talk about many issues related to young people such as HIV, sexual and reproductive health and rights, discussions about sexuality and pleasure, patriarchy, and many more. It is important for young people to understand these issues, so the youth festival can help to provide information with cool activities, that can not only reach young key populations but others as well. – **Irene, Inti Muda, Indonesia**

#### 1. Think of a Concept and Planning.

Whether your festival is one afternoon or one week it cannot be done without planning. Festivals have many moving parts and need special attention to the details and scheduling. These initial planning sessions will be similar to the HIV Dance Party asking the questions: What do you want to do? Where do you want to do it? Who do you want to perform? Who are the participants (is it open to the public or a private event)? What support do you need to make it happen? In this case you will also need to think about length of time, and budget costs for different variations. As you can imagine there is a big difference in resources needed from an afternoon park picnic with acoustic guitars then a three-day event with 20 bands, DJs, and logistics of people sleeping, eating and don't forget going to the toilet.

The youth festival can be held in a safe and comfortable place, in a cool, beautiful location, and also accompanied by entertaining activities such as music, artists and others. Planning can be start by identifying issues that are of interest to young people and then building a concept to address the main issues. -- **Irene, Inti Muda, Indonesia**

#### 2. Secure a location.

For a festival location is everything. Large groups of people are generally noisy and need support like access to clean water and a place to go to the bathroom. Maybe your festival can take place on a beach, or a park – but you might need to think about permits, security, and once again a toilet. So maybe it's easier to have a festival that takes place in a club or warehouse. Just ensure that you take the time to find the right location for you that can best support the project and the people you want to attend.

### **3. Confirm entertainment.**

So now that you have the concept and venue you need to get working on the entertainment. While you probably should have already reached out to the DJ, musicians, and other performers already this is the time to confirm them. You can also reach out to community groups and speakers who might want to host sessions or booths at the festival.

### **4. More planning!**

You might be thinking, hey this is quite similar to an HIV Dance Party – you're not wrong. A festival is like a longer drawn out party. Which means you need to do much more organizing, scheduling and planning. Every step of the way you need to modify and adjust the plan to ensure that it is up to date and as accurate as possible. At this time, it is good to create a schedule of activities at the festival and the general outline with the performers and session outlined. This is the time to really think about ticket costs as well.

### **5. Promotion.**

Now that you have the venue and awesome line up of performance, workshops and community partners it's time to tell the world. Design posters, images, memes, whatever to promote your event. Highlight the artists, organizations and everyone who is involved so people get excited and know what to expect.

### **6. Even more planning!**

So now that you have promoted the event and maybe you are starting to sell tickets or getting reservations, you need to go back to the plan (including your budget) to make sure that you are on track. Make sure that you also trouble shoot ideas. For example, do you have a back-up plan if the power for the sound system goes out? Or if it rains outside? These are good things to consider so you are not surprised if they happen during the festival.

### **7. Set Up.**

On the day of the event put out the last-minute promotions, confirm with the performers and any volunteers, and show up early to set up decorations, information booths and whatever logistical pieces.

### **8. Enjoy (or at least try to).**

To be honest the day of the event is never as fun for the organizers. It's going to be lots of solving problems and making other people happy. But just at some point take a minute and look at the cool festival you helped to build and all the people you brought together.

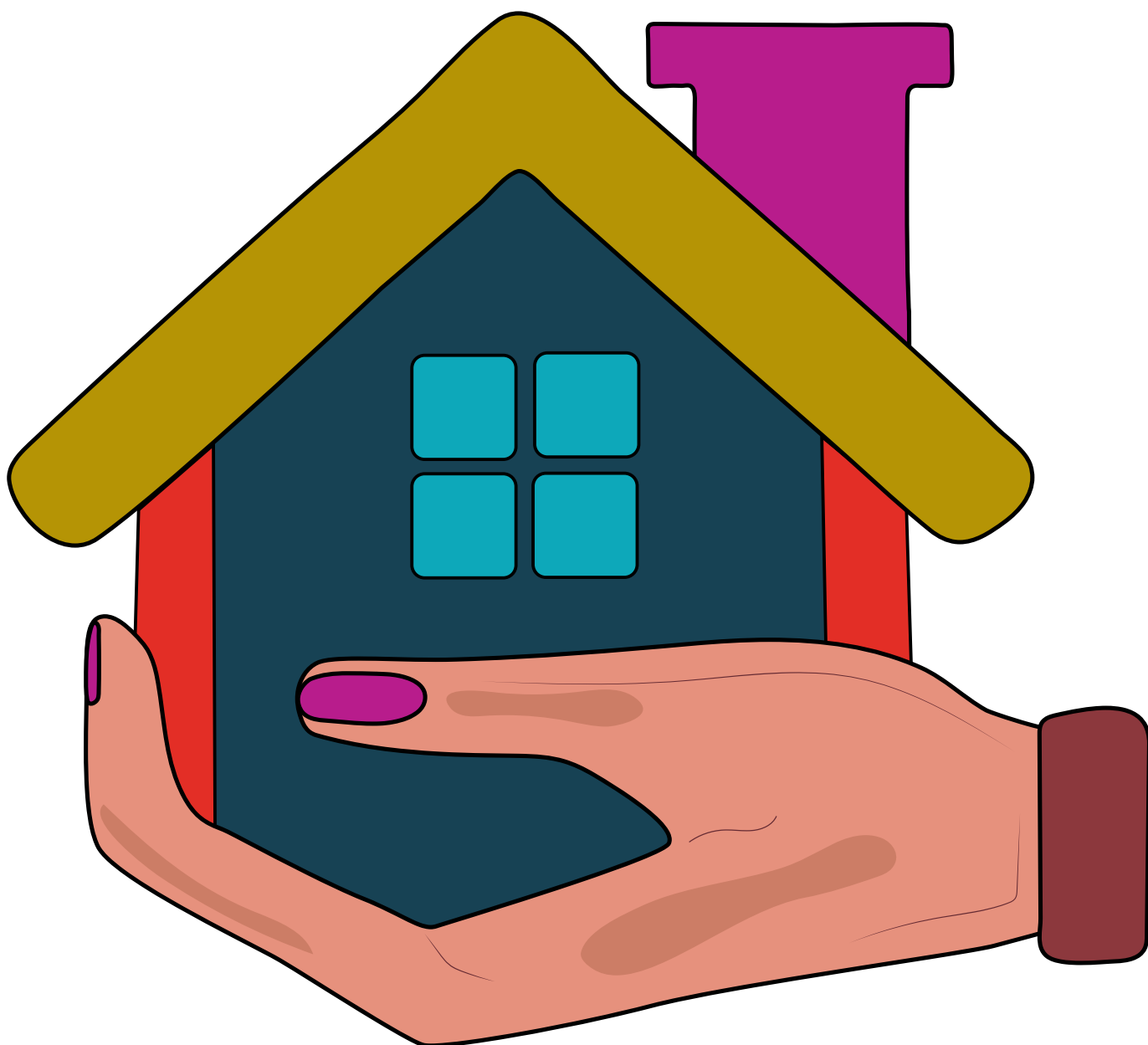


## 4. SAFE HOUSE

Inti Muda Indonesia implemented a project called "IM Safe". IM Safe aim was to facilitate a safe house or shelter for young people from key population who experiencing stigma, discrimination, and violence based on sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and HIV status. Safe houses take a lot of resources and planning because you need not only a physical space for people to live but you also need to furnish the house, pay the bills, feed the guests, and have a team of people to support the ongoing program maintenance. Safe houses are life changing for those in need and can have a big impact in the community. Everyone needs a safe space to live.

Young key populations experience stigma and discrimination about HIV status, sexual orientation and many things that make them uncomfortable in their environment or home with their families. In our opinion, a safe and comfortable home is creating a space to be able to freely express or do anything without having to fear stigma and discrimination from other people who have an impact on mental health. In the safe house we also carry out activities such as capacity building, English classes, and other activities to provide capacity for young key population.

– Irene, Inti Muda, Indonesia



## 1. Planning.

In order to start the process of a safe house you need to have a plan – and a good one. Everything down from mission and vision, to budget. In most cases you will need to start planning at least a year in advance in order to leave time to write grants and get resources.

## 2. Write grants and get resources.

Not the easiest of tasks, but in this case one of the most important. Remember that securing a house and paying the bills costs money, and usually lots of it. If, however, you do have access to a space (for example, a few unused bedrooms in an office) then this step could be less time consuming.

## 3. Find a location.

Now that you have your idea and resources the next thing to do is to secure the location.

## 4. Outreach and programming.

At this step you need to work throughout the process. What will be the key programs and policies of the space? Are there rules in the house to support the guests better? What services are you actually going to offer and how will you find the people who are most in need?

**Tip:** Make Standard Operational Procedures and house rules and don't forget to conduct an assessment to find out their interests and talents in order to produce activities that can be useful for young key populations

## 5. Creating a safe space.

After you secure the location, you'll probably realize it doesn't magically come as a safe haven for young LGBTQ, drug users, sex workers, or HIV positive community members. At this stage you'll have to decorate, get new furniture, paint the walls, and make it into an actual home.

## 6. Open house.

When everything is all set up and the walls are painted, it's time to open the doors to those in need. At this stage you can start programming and allowing for guests to use the safe house.

## Section 5

# Tips to Network Building Across Movements

## 1. Be Open to Difference and Other Ways of Doing Things

I have been joining several international, regional and national platforms, working with a number of activists from different countries. I've enjoyed working with them, learning from their experiences and expertise, exchanging the practices, lessons learned and ideas/innovations. I think the key is we should open our mind, proactively seek opportunity for exchanging, networking and collaboration.

– **Tung, Lighthouse Vietnam**

I think it's most important to create a safe space where all participants are able to state their ideas and opinions without being judged by others even if they might not agree with them due to their own background. All of our Young, Wild, & Free participants spoke relatively good English. Sometimes it took some more time to understand each other but everyone was very supportive and respectful which I believe gave all participants the confidence to speak up.

– **Thara, GNP+, Netherlands**



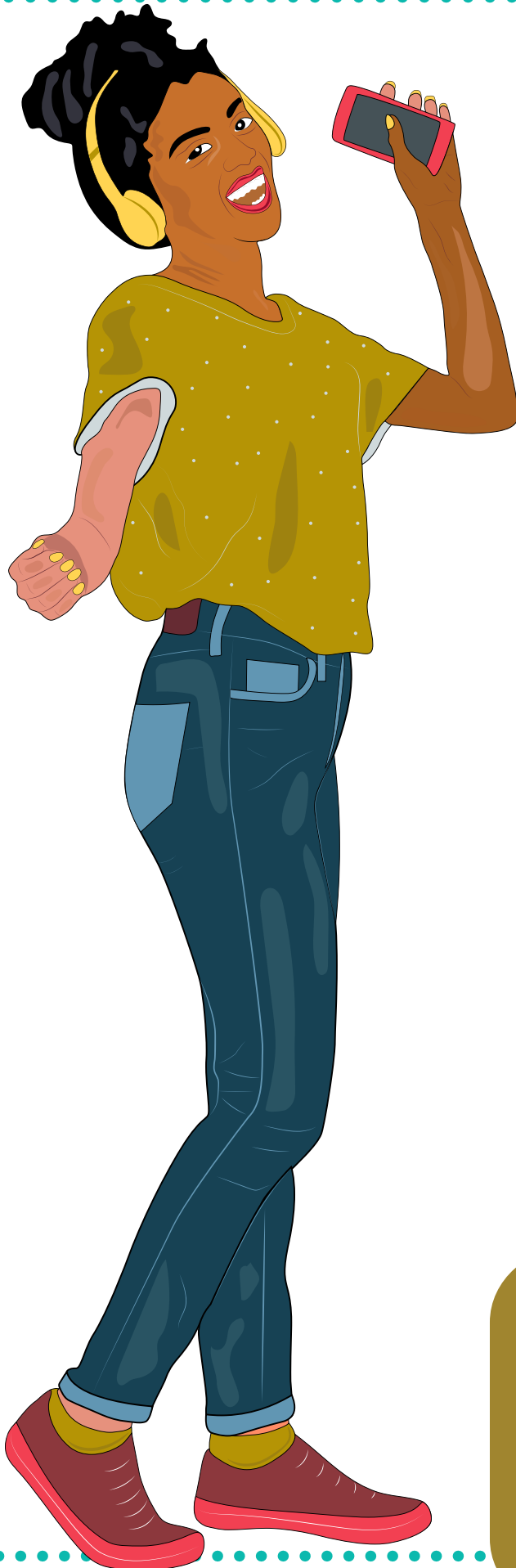
Be open, dream big. Young people across the globe are almost similarly facing the same challenges and interventions to reach them are possibly the same despite regional differences. That said, you should keep an open mind to interventions other youth led organizations are implementing and dream big enough to actualize it after owning it.

– **Cindy, Y+ Kenya**

We are very flexible to work with anyone and we know to mobilise youth to participate in the events and most are volunteers serving the community in rural and semi urban areas.

– **Nonhlanhla, PWN, South Africa**

## 2. Let the Community Lead



It's important to have young key populations involved instead of just talking about them as mostly happens because that way you might be trying to fix problems that don't even exist and miss a lot of important issues that do exist.  
– **Thara, GNP+, Netherlands**

Listen to the community you are aiming to work with, the stories, thoughts, ideas will help you to design the proper and appropriate program for them. Ensure the program should have space for the beneficiaries to engage in planning, implementing, monitoring and feedback.  
– **Tung, Lighthouse Vietnam**

Community knows the best about the issues they face and what they need. They know how to interact and communicate with their brothers, sisters among the community. Community needs to be empowered and awaken potential and strength to lead the fight against HIV/AIDS.  
– **Duong, Gtown Vietnam**

I think we are doing a good job to gather people together with diverse representation of the key populations. However, we need to have meaningful engagement from all KPs and have different strategies for different key populations based on their culture and characteristic to ensure their engagement such as MSM and transgender people are quite familiar with online stuffs (email/ fb) but female sex workers and injections drug users you might use another way to engage such as community event, in person meeting, phone contact. Not only sub groups among key populations, but consider demographics such as age, security, education etc.  
– **Tung, Lighthouse Vietnam**

### 3. Share Resources and Knowledge

The way the program [Young Wild & Free] was structured it has been very interesting and easy because we were all proactive and very [engaged to better support young key populations in our countries]. It is definitely important to work together [as networks] because we are all able to collectively share best practices and lessons from working in the field and ideally contextualize workable interventions to our own settings.

– **Cindy, Y+ Kenya**

Us young leaders supporting each other is movement building on it's own. We had one person who got stuck while trying to create a project proposal for the ready 2 care scorecard and who was halfway around the world jumped in, sent them their proposal and then had a call to discuss the fine details and share knowledge.

– **Thara, GNP+, Netherlands**

We need high quality knowledge about sexual and reproductive health to increase their safety, remove persistent stereotypes, reduce toxicity, clarify values and the right to choose. We can help them to feel themselves more freely in conditions of age- related changes in their body, relieve anxiety associated with entering into a sexual relationship and choosing a partner, feel more confident and know your rights in this relationship.

– **Lina, Teenagizer, Ukraine**

From what I have learned from others in Young, Wild, & Free, I brought it back to Vietnam, designed our program based on those experiences and our local context such as sensitization training for health care providers, community based participatory research, chemsex intervention, self testing etc. Working together we can optimize the strengths and fill in the gap of capacity of each other, save time and money and greater impacts for the community.

– **Tung, Lighthouse Vietnam**



## 4. Be Accountable and Transparent

We are part of the people living with HIV sector where there's mutual accountability on all the programmes we collaborate on including as members of the SANAC (South African National AIDS Council) Civil Society Forum from districts to national level. It's important  
- *Nonhlanhla, PWN, South Africa*

Young people have been left behind in terms of resource allocation as people had an assumption that young people cannot deliver. At Y+ Global we have managed to change the narrative through being transparent and accountable. In all our interventions we have learned that extensive communication is the fuel to the growth of our network. Funders need to see how resources are being used and if they are reaching the intended recipient. This has a huge impact on providing concrete evidence in changing the youth leadership narrative.

- *Tinashe, Y+ Global, South Africa*



## 5. Be Confident to Advocate for the Change You Believe In!



We believe in what we do - we are uniting the voices of young people affected by HIV and creating a healthy community. We clearly understand what we want to change in policy or governments. We don't give up, we learn from our mistakes and move on."

– *Lina, Teenegizer, Ukraine*

Just do it! Your idea will grow itself once you start. It also puts you on a path of learning which keeps getting you better as a young leader and you meet your tribe. Those who come in and make your work easier. It is important to listen to what the young people are saying for you to work on what is responsive to their lived realities.

– *Lucy, Positive Young Women Voices, Kenya*

You got this and it will get easier, promise.

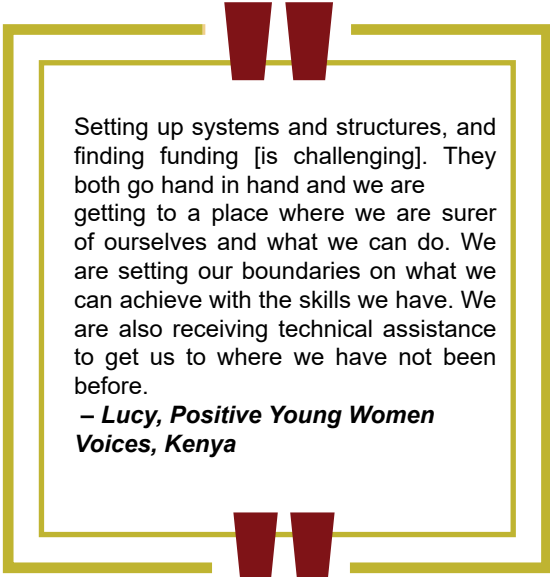
– *Lucy, Positive Young Women Voices, Kenya*

Nothing changes if nothing changes! The first change should be ourselves. Believe in what you believe and think creatively - positively. Change comes from small things, gathering together we can make bigger change and we totally can dream about a brighter future for young key populations.

- *Duong, Gtown Vietnam*


## Section 6

# Practical Tips to Overcoming Challenges



Setting up systems and structures, and finding funding [is challenging]. They both go hand in hand and we are getting to a place where we are surer of ourselves and what we can do. We are setting our boundaries on what we can achieve with the skills we have. We are also receiving technical assistance to get us to where we have not been before.

– **Lucy, Positive Young Women Voices, Kenya**



First, I think it is about language: not all of us are good in English, therefore to understand each other, we need to be patient, calm and supportive to each other.

Second, we are a very diverse community with different context, culture, and religion. Respect is the key to ensuring all voices will be heard and space for all people to speak and also, creating clear rules in working together is needed.

Third, about expertise, people with different levels of expertise, therefore, there may be different understanding. Provide clear information, arrange people in different roles based on their expertise is needed.

Last, we differ from commitment, expectation and engagement. We should listen to all expectations, be clear about people's commitment when joining an activity, and arrange defined roles and objectives for their engagement. Rules for working together are important.

– **Tung, Lighthouse Vietnam**







While working with groups and networks, maybe, when working with several adults, there is still seniority. Remind adults that in order to be a good ally they need to take the backseat and let the youth lead.

- Irene, Inti Muda, Indonesia



With the timezones you should just plan ahead because there is only a specific time slot each day that works for everyone. Also working with chats on whatsapp and facebook might make it easier as everyone can respond in their own time.

- Thara, GNP+, Netherlands



Many organizations have challenges in bringing out the best of their interventions through communication specifically online. Some have social media platforms but they do not have the capacity for communication for development or to bring to light their implementation fidelity.

- Tinashe, Y+ Global, South Africa



Sharing and learning from other countries shapes our mind as we adopt some of their activity and advocacy issues - example the score card. The issue of stigma in our facility makes it difficult for youth to access medication and that has made our work complicated.

- Nonhlanhla, PWN, South Africa



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## More information or get in touch!

Teenergizer	<a href="http://www.teenergizer.org">www.teenergizer.org</a>
Gtown Vietnam	<a href="http://www.gtown.vn">www.gtown.vn</a>
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Positive Young Women Voice's	<a href="http://www.positiveyoungwomenvoices.org">www.positiveyoungwomenvoices.org</a>
Lighthouse Vietnam	<a href="http://www.gtown.vn">www.gtown.vn</a>
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