



SELMA NDAILOHENDA IYAMBO
HER VOICE FUND AMBASSADOR,
NAMIBIA

Selma Ndasilohenda Iyambo is a 21 year old Sexual Reproductive Health Rights Activist that is passionate about community work, empowering and representing young people in all their diversity. Born in a small village of Uukwalumbe in the outskirts of Okahao town and raised in Windhoek. She has seven years experience in working with young people's sexual reproductive health, HIV/AIDS and Human rights which all started when she volunteered at the Namibia Planned Parenthood Association (NAPPA) . At Nappa she served as the National Chairperson for the Youth Action Movement and represented and Youth representative to the NAPPA board.

From 2020 to 2022, Selma has used her expertise as a Journalism student and experience in the area of Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights to contribute articles to an online teen magazine that is popularly known as AfterBreak Magazine and non profit organization known as Sister Namibia. Currently, she is the Her Voice Fund ambassador to Namibia and a Hub Editor at Infinity Youth Magazine. On the other hand, she is also a final year Media student at the University of Namibia.



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Achievements

Stakeholder Consultation with AGYW-led and serve community based organization

Selma , was part of the team that was spearheading and co facilitated the stakeholder engagement with seven community based organizations. The consultation was aimed at providing technical assistance to CBO's in five Southern African countries. Representatives of the seven organizations sat and contributed to the development and strengthening of a curriculum which will strengthen organizational development amongst them. The consultation was made possible by PATA, Y+ GLOBAL and Her Voice Fund Namibia.

Opinion Piece on Misgendering and why it matters .

On the 15th September 2022, an article that is titled "Misgendering matters: Here's Why" was published on the website of a Non profit organization known as Sister Namibia. In this opinion piece the ambassador highlights the impact of misgendering onto the next person and why it's important to try by all means possible to avoid misgendering the next person. She also made use of examples that she has observed in her daily life and those of other young people who have been misgendered.



Africa Cafe 7 Words and language matters

 Dr Margaret Mbugua, PATA, Kenya	 Cyrian Narcis Komba, Tanzania	 Selma Nhasilohenda Iyambo, Y+ Global, Namibia	 Agnes Ronan, PATA, South Africa	 Dr Gloria Tsubenya, Yisa, SFH, Nigeria	 Tatenda Madren Chitaura, Zvandiri, Zimbabwe
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PATA 2022 SUMMIT

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Virtual Presenter at the PATA 2022 Summit,

Following the publishing of her opinion pieces on the various social media platforms, Selma was granted yet another platform at the PATA summit to deliver a virtual presentation on the last day. The presentation was based on this theme "Words and Language matter", it was aimed at shedding more light on how the words that health healthcare providers use when engaging with young people, the impact it , possible consequences and how they can do better in case they have realized that they have misgendered them.

Engagement with the President of the Organization of African First Ladies for Development , and First Lady of the Republic of Namibia H.E Monica Geingos.

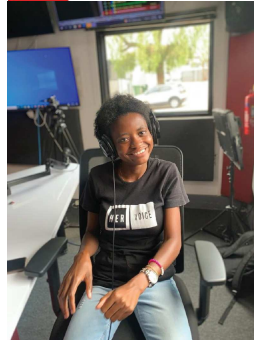
Selma was honored to be part of the delegation from the Global Network of Young People Living with HIV alongside the Director of Programmes, Management & Governance. During the engagement which highlighted the challenges that we as young people in all our diversities face and deliberated on ways in which the two offices can collaborate in solving these challenges. Amongst the challenges discussed are:

- The need to improve the service delivery of SRHR and HIV services to young people
- Laws that hinder young people from accessing and creating safe spaces for these young people to access the necessary services.
- The need to grant young people a seat at key decision making spaces and allow them to be key role players in finding solutions to challenges that they face.



Youth Central interview in commemoration of the International Day of the Girl Child

In commemoration of the International Day of the Girl child, the ambassador was interviewed by one of the largest radio stations in the country about the work of Her Voice Fund in Namibia in relation to the Girl child . The work done under the grant in Namibia that where highlighted are such as how Her Voice Fund ensures that the girl child is empowered, informed and aware of their rights and have access to the necessary SRHR services.



GUEST OF THE DAY

YOUTH CENTRAL

SELMA IYAMBO

Youth central speaks to Selma Iyambo, an HIV activist for Her Voice Fund in Namibia to talk about Sexual reproductive health and rights.

Tune in on 95.3 FM, desertradio.fm or watch us live on The Namibian's Facebook page at 2pm to listen

Social Enterprise and SRHR awards top 10 finalist

Selma, was shortlisted from over 170 applicants to the top 10 of the Social Enterprise and SRHR Awards which was organized by Hon. Emma Theofelus, the 2022 United Nations Population Laureate and Deputy Minister of MICT in Namibia . The award was directed to SRHR advocates, supporters and enthusiasts that are currently addressing population matters in Namibia. Though the ambassador did not make it to the top five that received the awards, we are proud of how far she has come.

The Her Voice Fund Coordinator , Maximina Jokonya and the Director of Programmes, Management & Governance, Tinashe Rufurwadzo were also present at the award ceremony in Windhoek.



Shortlisted for Namibia Media Trust Podcast Fellowship and UpShift Namibia Bootcamp

Selma was shortlisted to 14 young people from across Southern Africa to partake in the podcast fellowship which took place for five days in Windhoek. The fellowship brought together young people with diverse podcast ideas, her idea is about starting a Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights podcast in her country. During the podcast , participants received in depth training and practical lessons on how to go about establishing the podcast.

It is the same idea that she pitched at the UpShift Namibia, which is a bootcamp under UNICEF and Physically Active Youth that brings together young people between the age of 14- 24 that have ideas which can change their community and solve any problems which ones community face. Thus far she has been shortlisted to the to 38 from over 70 participants who were part of the bootcamp with the aim of making it to the final stage of the bootcamp in order to receive funding and mentorship to establish the business idea.

