



SIRRI CYNTHIA WAKUNA NGANG
HER VOICE FUND AMBASSADOR,
CAMEROON

Ngang, a young dynamic gender equality and Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights activist from Cameroon. Her work on SRHR and HIV is centered on providing comprehensive Sexual and Reproductive Health education especially for underprivileged girls in the North and South West Regions of Cameroon. She works as the Programs Director at Mother of Hope Cameroon, a women and youth led organization working on advancing women's empowerment and SRHR. She is passionate about ensuring that adolescent girls and young women are able to meet their full potentials in life regardless of their background and social status. She believes, AGYW are a powerful resource when given a voice, the space and the resources to soar.

My Journey as HVF Ambassador

The HVF has been a springboard to her work in the SRHR/HIV response for AGYW. Being a community based activist working with AGYW in schools, prisons and orphanages, her role as HVF ambassador has been an amplifier, moving her from the community to national and global spaces. It has placed her in platforms where her voice is louder and created positive impact beyond her professional to personal life.



Organized in collaboration with the country lead an AGYW - Stakeholder exchange where the major stakeholders from the CM, National AIDS Commission, PEPFAR and others had an exchange session with identified AGYW who asked them pertinent questions about how they are engaging and supporting AGYW in their institutions and programs. In her role as ambassador, She was able to prep with useful tips on how to engage with the stakeholders and the line of questioning. At the end of the exchange, stakeholders needed to address key issues around AGYW

Dreams are valid

Cynthia had the opportunity to attend the AIDS 2022 Conference as the HVF ambassador in Montreal, Canada. This was an exceptional experience learning and sharing with other young women about their role as leaders and what it means to represent and carry the voices of AGYW in all our diversity. It was a time to be inspired, learn, unlearn and implement.

She also attended the Sexual Violence Research Initiative Forum 2022 in Cancun Mexico from 19-23 September 2022 where she learnt great insight on the impact of Sexual Violence on HIV particularly for AGYW.



Panel Sessions on Stories of Young Women's Leadership at AIDS2022

Hard Work Pays

She was invited through the HVF as a speaker at the International Adolescence and HIV workshop in Cape Town South Africa from the 5th-6th of October 2022. She had the chance to share her work and that of her organization on the topic Gender Norms and HIV and SRHR Outcomes amongst Adolescents: Challenging Toxic Masculinities. It was an amazing time building a nexus around social norms and SRHR outcomes for AGYW.



Sexual Violence Research Initiative forum.



Presentation on challenging Toxic Masculinities at HIV and Adolescence.

Engagements and Networking

Cynthia was invited to the commemoration of the International Day of the Girl Child high level meeting on Championing the Priorities of Women and Girls in the HIV Response in Dar es Salaam Tanzania. This was organized by UNWomen and it was an amazing opportunity where young women who are emerging leaders got a time and space to define what leadership meant for them and what kind of support they needed to eventually emerge. They also got a chance to meet with other emerged women leaders in the HIV response who encouraged them and pledged their support for a young women's movement. Cynthia got the chance to meet the ED of UN women in person and the ED of UNAIDS, a mind blowing moment!!!



High level Meeting in Dar es Salaam with ED of UNAIDS, Winnie Byanyima