



## Call for Application: SYNC Initiative - Strengthening Youth-Led Networks' Capacities in Eastern and Southern Africa

*Are you a youth-led network driving change in HIV, SRHR, and rights in your community? Here's your opportunity to level up your leadership, grow your impact, and strengthen your organisation!*

### About Strengthening Youth-Led Networks Capacities Initiative (SYNC)

The SYNC (Strengthening Youth-Led Networks Capacities) Initiative is a bold, youth-centred effort to power up youth-led networks across Eastern and Southern Africa.

Led by the [UNITED! Movement](#), in partnership with [Y+ Global](#), [AfriYAN](#), [UNICEF ESARO](#), [UNFPA ESARO](#), and [UNAIDS ESARO](#). SYNC provides tailored capacity assessments, co-designed development roadmaps, mentorship, training, and/or grants/seed funding to help youth-led organisations grow stronger, more sustainable, and more impactful.

The UNITED! Movement through Y+ Global and AfriYAN seeks to provide intensified capacity strengthening to selected youth-led networks in ESA using a cohort-phased approach. The goal is to strengthen the organisational, leadership, and technical capacity of youth-led organisations and networks, enabling them to be resilient, effective, and impactful in advancing HIV and SRHR programming.

### Specific Objectives of the SYNC Initiative

- Understand the capacity needs of youth-led organisations and networks to inform tailored support and planning.
- Provide differentiated capacity-strengthening support based on youth-led organisations' unique contexts, priorities, and growth stages.
- Mobilise diverse expertise, tools, and resources to deliver responsive and sustainable capacity development support.
- Facilitate access to funding and technical resources to enable implementation of capacity-strengthening plans.
- Promote South-South learning and peer exchange to strengthen collaboration, innovation, and shared strategies for supporting youth-led organisational development.

### What Selected Networks Will Receive?

If selected, your network will benefit from a comprehensive support package, including:

1. **Organisational Capacity Assessments** - To identify your strengths and areas of growth.

2. **Capacity strengthening roadmaps** - Co-develop a step-by-step plan to grow your network's capacity.
3. **Custom Capacity Initiatives** - Differentiated capacity strengthening approaches to address gaps in your roadmaps through group learning, one-to-one sessions, mentorship, seed funding, etc.
4. **Progress Monitoring** - Tools and key performance indicators (KPIs) to track your progress, update your roadmap and measure the impact of your growth from the support provided.

## Who Should Apply?

The UNITED! Movement welcomes applications from youth-led networks or organisations, including AfriYAN ESA Chapters, that meet the following criteria:

### 1. Youth-Led and Youth Representation

- At least 70% of leadership and board members are under age 30 (priority for under 24).
- The organisation is youth-led in its vision, governance, and operations.

### 2. Organisational Type

- Must be a formally established organisation or network, not an individual or informal group.

### 3. Core Focus and Mandate

- SRHR and HIV must be central to the organisation's mission and work

### 4. Geographically based in ESA

- Your organisation must be based in and operate within the Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) region.

### 5. Capacity, Motivation and Needs

In your application, describe:

- Your organisation's capacity gaps
- Why are you applying for this support?
- How will this initiative strengthen your work and impact?

## How to Apply?

To apply for the UNITED! Movement SYNC Initiative for 2025-2026, please [complete the Google Form](#) no later than **Friday, 9 May 2025**. Note that all sections of the Google Form must be fully completed for your application to be considered.

## Questions or Support?

If you have any questions regarding the application, feel free to reach out to Faith Thipe at [ftthipe@yplusglobal.org](mailto:ftthipe@yplusglobal.org) and Angel Barbyre at [babirye.m.angel@gmail.com](mailto:babirye.m.angel@gmail.com)