

## Policy Advocacy on Youth Employment & SRHR (2023–2024)

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### 1. Project Overview

- **Objective:** Influence policy frameworks to improve youth employment opportunities and strengthen SRHR rights and services at district and national levels.
  - **Location:** Lusaka & Western Province, Zambia (with national engagement).
  - **Timeline:** June 2023 – March 2024.
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### 2. Background & Rationale

- **Context:** Youth face high unemployment rates, limited access to vocational opportunities, and challenges in exercising SRHR rights. Policy responses are often fragmented and not informed by youth voices.
  - **Rationale:** Advocacy is critical to ensure policies integrate youth priorities, safeguard SRHR, and promote decent work opportunities. Evidence from baseline surveys and SRHR outreach fed into this advocacy.
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### 3. Activity Components

#### a) Research & Policy Briefs

- Produced 3 policy briefs highlighting youth employment gaps and SRHR service delivery challenges.

#### b) National & District Roundtables

- Convened 2 roundtable dialogues with policymakers, CSOs, and youth leaders.

#### c) Media & Public Engagement

- 5 radio/TV appearances and 2 op-eds published to amplify youth voices.
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### 4. Detailed Execution Phases

#### Phase 1: Evidence Gathering (Jun–Aug 2023)

- Consolidated findings from baseline survey and SRHR outreach.
- Identified policy gaps in youth employment and SRHR.

#### Phase 2: Policy Brief Development (Sep–Oct 2023)

- Drafted 3 briefs: (1) Youth Employment, (2) SRHR Access, (3) Cross-cutting Youth Policy Recommendations.

#### Phase 3: Advocacy Campaigns (Nov 2023 – Jan 2024)

- Organized national youth forum in Lusaka.
- Held 2 district advocacy dialogues in Western Province.



#### Phase 4: Dissemination & Follow-up (Feb–Mar 2024)

- Shared briefs with parliament committees and ministries.
- Followed up with local councils to integrate recommendations.

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#### 5. Implementation Timeline

Phase	Timeframe	Key Activities
Evidence Gathering	Jun–Aug 2023	Data consolidation & gap analysis
Policy Briefing	Sep–Oct 2023	Drafting & validation of briefs
Advocacy Campaigns	Nov 2023–Jan 2024	Roundtables, youth forum, media outreach
Dissemination	Feb–Mar 2024	Submissions to councils & parliament

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#### 6. Outcomes & Impact

- **Policy Influence:** 2 district youth strategies updated with project recommendations.
- **Youth Empowerment:** 30 youth leaders trained in advocacy and policy engagement.
- **Visibility:** SRHR and youth employment featured in 5 mainstream media platforms.
- **Institutional Uptake:** Ministry of Youth & Sport adopted recommendations on skills training expansion.

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#### 7. Key Partners

- **Ministry of Youth, Sport & Arts:** Policy engagement.
- **National SRHR Network:** Advocacy collaboration.
- **District Councils:** Integrated recommendations locally.
- **Media Houses:** Amplified advocacy messaging.

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#### 8. Youth & Community Testimonials

- *“Seeing our voices reach parliament was powerful. We know our struggles are finally being heard.” — Brian Chanda, Youth Advocate*
- *“These policy briefs gave us tools to negotiate with leaders. Now, youth employment is on the council agenda.” — Agness Phiri, Community Youth Leader*

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Approved by:



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**Date:** 26th January 2025



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