



Meet the NextGen RH CoP

Name: Mariana Yunita H Opat

Position/Organization: Founder, Tenggara Youth Community

Next Gen RH Position: Youth Co-Chair

What expertise does Mariana bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Mariana Y H Opat is a passionate advocate and the founder of the Tenggara Youth Community, a thriving organization dedicated to addressing crucial issues related to Sexual and Reproductive Health. With a relentless commitment to her cause, Mariana embarked on her mission in 2016, aiming to improve the lives of youth in the East Nusa Tenggara region. Mariana's visionary leadership has been instrumental in driving this organization's success, ensuring that young people have access to essential information and resources to make informed decisions about their sexual and reproductive health.

Under Mariana's leadership, the Tenggara Youth Community has achieved significant milestones, including the implementation of the "Bacarita Kespro" program. This flagship initiative has been instrumental in providing comprehensive sexual education to underserved and marginalized youth in rural areas. Mariana's innovative use of social media for digital campaigns related to Sexual and Reproductive Health has further expanded the reach of her advocacy. She join Community of Practice with other creator content who focuses on this issue too.

Name: Bisrat Dessalegn

Position/Organization: AYSRH Officer, EngenderHealth

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Bisrat bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Bisrat is an emerging global health specialist dedicated to promoting holistic well-being and advocating for equality in Ethiopia. Her career is a symphony of expertise, leadership, and advocacy, as she tackles the challenges facing society head-on. Bisrat is passionate and works in Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health (AYSRHR), Maternal and Child Health (MCH), and gender equity, and her wisdom radiates through her work. She co-leads visionary projects and champions meaningful youth engagement, ensuring their voices are heard in policies that shape their futures.

Bisrat is driven by an innate sense of justice and inclusivity, and she strives to ensure that her work embraces all vulnerable groups. She truly advocates for meaningful adolescent and youth engagement, women empowerment, volunteering her time to drive positive change within her



community. Bisrat's journey is a testament to the power of one individual who dares to dream big and push the boundaries of what is possible. She courageously challenges the status quo and redefines the narrative, breathing life into a world yearning for equity, compassion, and well-being.

Name: Blessed Chetachi Peter-Akinloye

Position/Organization: Founder/Executive Director, Blessed Health Spring Initiative

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Blessed bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Blessed is a public health practitioner with about eight years of experience working in this field. Much of her work is centered around advocacy for climate change and sexual and reproductive health (SRH). As a licensed environmental health officer with the Environmental Health Officers Registration Council of Nigeria and a member of the Climate and Sustainable Development Network Nigeria (CsDevNet), Blessed is dedicated to promoting equity-based responses to climate change and sustainable development across Africa.

As an advocate for SRH, Blessed is a member of Women and Health Together for the Future (WHTF), an organization focusing on gender equality and women's health through three focal areas of work: sexual and reproductive health, maternal and newborn health, and violence against women and children. She is also a member of the Society for Adolescents and Young People's Health In Nigeria (SAYPHIN) and the Queen's Commonwealth Trust (QCT) Network. In recognition of her work, she was awarded a Global Public Health Ambassador for This is Public Health (TIPH) with the Association of Schools and Programs for Public Health (ASPPH) U.S.

Name: Danish Tariq

Position/Organization: Governing Board Member, Youth Advocacy Network (YAN) Pakistan

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Danish bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Danish Tariq has been working as a Youth Advocate for more than last nine years, focusing on Meaningful and Inclusive Youth Participation, Informed Decision Making and Policy Advocacy. He is the Governing Board Member at Youth Advocacy Network Pakistan and Communication Officer at Chanan Development Association. He is also the Fellow at Population Reference Bureau, Coordination Secretary at SAARC Youth Platform, Advisory Member at NextGen RH Community of Practice by Knowledge Success and Country Representative at Commonwealth Students' Association.

He has experience drafting policy frameworks and recommendations propositions at the national and regional levels. He has built the capacity of more than 5,000 young people



nationally and more than 1,000 people regionally on CSE, Youth SRHR and SDGs. He delivered a joint CSO statement addressing discrimination against SRHR of young people and adolescents at the 45th Session of UNHRC. Danish has spoken and represented young people of Pakistan, notably at the UN ECOSOC Youth Forum, International Conference on Population and Development, International Conference on Family Planning, Asia-Pacific Forums on Sustainable Development, Asia Youth Festival, Asia-Pacific Population Conference, and ICPD Asia-Pacific.

Name: Dr. Rediet Negussie

Position/Organization: Project Intern—Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Family Planning Integrated Youth Activities, Amref Health Africa

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Dr. Rediet bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Dr. Rediet has a proven track record of working with local and international NGOs in the areas of adolescent and youth health and research. She is certified in quality management systems development and implementation, project management, project monitoring and evaluation, occupational health and safety management, and international financial reporting systems. Previously, she worked as a brand ambassador for MRC-ET genetic testing, introducing genetic testing in Ethiopia for different referral hospitals in Addis Ababa. She is also a member of Amref Youth Council, and she loves participating in different volunteer activities. She has excellent leadership, management, and strategic planning skills. She is passionate about youth empowerment, sustainable development, and lasting health.

Name: Ebuka Nwafia

Position/Organization: Programme Assistant, Corona Management Systems

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Ebuka bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Ebuka James Nwafia is an emerging force in public health, leveraging nearly three years of robust experience in laboratory diagnosis, volunteerism, program design, research, and management within the health sector.

Strategic Visionary and Program Innovator: With a reputation for strategic acumen, Ebuka has a proven track record of envisioning, resourcing, and supporting high-impact programming. His journey in public health involves active contributions to results-based programs at both national and sub-national levels. Emphasizing sustainability, Ebuka plays a pivotal role in scaling up best practices through policy dialogue. His expertise spans health systems strengthening, immunization, program management, stakeholder engagement, and human-centered design approaches.



Expertise in Maternal, Child, and Reproductive Health: Ebuka's passion and expertise prominently lie in maternal, child, and reproductive health. Dedicated to addressing critical healthcare needs, he actively engages in initiatives that positively impact local communities. From envisioning innovative platforms to operationalizing them, Ebuka is committed to strengthening institutions crucial for advancing healthcare outcomes for mothers, children, and reproductive health.

Program Management and Innovation: As a dedicated partnership builder, Ebuka actively promotes and supports local communities. His innovative approach involves conceptualizing and operationalizing platforms that drive positive change. His proficiency in managing and supporting results-based programs underscores a commitment to fostering sustainable health interventions.

Professional Journey: Ebuka's hands-on experience with local NGOs has contributed to impactful programs, and his work at the sub-national level has honed his skills in managing and supporting results-based initiatives. This showcases his dedication to driving positive health outcomes.

Certifications and Education: A graduate with a Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Sciences from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Ebuka augments his academic background with certifications reflecting his commitment to professional growth. Certifications include program management in Global Health, Monitoring and protocol development in clinical trials and Global Primary Health Care.

Future Commitment: Remaining dedicated to his mission of contributing to sustainable healthcare solutions, Ebuka's multifaceted skill set, strategic thinking, and passion for maternal, child, and reproductive health position him as a valuable asset in the dynamic landscape of public health.

Name: Genuine Agakhan Desireh

Position/Organization: Educational Partnerships and Projects Manager, International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP)

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Genuine bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Genuine is a registered pharmacist with a passion in global health and health systems strengthening specifically, information systems, supply chain management and health workforce development. He has practiced pharmacy in the public and private sector, and he has carried this expertise into provision of technical assistance on global health supply chain and workforce development initiatives. He is passionate about sexual and reproductive health and has supported the



introduction and scale-up of DMPA-SC in Kenya. He also has experience with policy development and review and has been an active contributor to local and global policy review forums.

He currently works with the International Pharmaceutical Federation and is supporting efforts to advance pharmaceutical education worldwide.

Name: Innocent Grant

Position/Organization: Program Director, Young and Alive Initiative, Tanzania

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Innocent bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Innocent Grant is a program director at Young and Alive Initiative in Tanzania, a local and youth-led organisation working to promote adolescents and young people's sexual and reproductive health. He is a gender specialist with a background in clinical medicine, and a self-motivated youth leader who is passionate about educating adolescents and young adults about sexual, reproductive health and rights.

Innocent has more than five years experience in the field of sexual and reproductive health and rights for adolescents and young people in Tanzania reaching more than 500,000 adolescents and young people with information and links to services. His work gave him an opportunity to speak on national and international platforms such as the ICFP2018, women deliver conference and the CORE group African regional global health practitioners conference. His leadership and work in Tanzania has been recognised such that he was among the 2022 Mandela Washington Fellow, a prestigious leadership fellowship founded by President Obama for young African leaders and the Phil Harvey SRHR Innovation Award Winner.

Name: Jose Mateo Dela Cruz

Position/Organization: SOGIE + Students Rights, Welfare and Basic Social Services Committee Head, University of the Philippines Medicine Student Council

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Jose bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Jose Mateo Dela Cruz is a student leader, educator and a youth development advocate from the University of the Philippines (UP) Manila - the Philippines' National Health Sciences Center. For three consecutive terms, he has served as the SOGIE + Students Rights, Welfare and Basic Social Services Committee Head of the UP Medicine Student Council from 2021 up to the present. He was formerly part of the UP Manila Anti Sexual Harassment Council representing the student sector, OIC Chairperson and Representative to the Dean's Management Team of the UP Manila College of Arts and Sciences Student Council and Secretary-General of the Katipunan ng mga



Sangguniang Mag-aaral sa UP (KASAMA sa UP) - the National Alliance of UP Student Councils.

As an educator and servant of the education sector, he has served in various positions such as Technical Assistant to the University President of the Philippine Normal University - the country's National Center for Teacher Education, Senior High School History Faculty Member and Grade 12 Problem Based Learning Team Leader of Xavier School San Juan - a Jesuit Chinese Filipino College Preparatory School, and Pioneering Faculty Member, Student Relations Officer and Gender and Development Coordinator of the UP Manila School of Health Sciences in Tarlac Province - one of the extension schools of the National Health Sciences Center for the marginalized and disadvantaged communities.

As a youth development advocate, he represented the youth sector in various human rights, social development and SRHR related advisory and campaign bodies. He was a Youth and Students Sector Assembly Member of the Office of the Philippine President's National Anti-Poverty Commission. He was one of the co-proponents of the United Nations Philippines Youth Advisory Board - the official youth space of UN Philippines. He was previously a Youth Advisory Panelist for UNESCO Regional Unit for Social and Human Sciences in the Asia-Pacific, a MyWorld ASEAN Advocate for the UN Sustainable Development Goals Action Campaign, and the Youth Advisory Panel Chairperson of the UNFPA Philippines Youth Advisory Panel. He was also part of the Family Planning 2020 Expert Advisory Committee representing the youth sector and the Youth Advocacy Group Member of the Global Partnership for Education - a multilateral body hosted by the World Bank Group on the issues of Education globally.

Name: Kughong Reuben Chia

Position/Organization: Programs Director, Organisation for Health in Sustainable Development

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Kughong bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Kughong Reuben Chia is a Medical Doctor, a sexual and reproductive maternal newborn and child health (SRMNCH), expert with over seven years' experience in SRH advocacy and community development services. Through his organisation, he has led several projects on SRH including but not limited to advocacy on post abortion care, family planning use, female genital mutilation, and sexual gender based violence. He is equally a skilled researcher and his research skills let him to spearhead the development of a several manuals and toolkits through his organisation among which are a toolkit for managing and improving access to SRHR services in fragile and humanitarian settings during the COVID19 pandemic, and is currently leading the development of a self-guided manual on Comprehensive Sexuality Education which will also help in teaching age-appropriate SRH knowledge to adolescent and young people. Also, his passion for



adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights let him to create a guideline to help inform all stakeholders involved in the fight to end child marriage through a Global Leadership Challenge Project. His core skills and engagement both with local and iNGOs has given him an in-depth understanding of global issues and challenges surrounding women's SRH and wellbeing, and this has prompted his further engagements in this field to help address them.

Name: Lucky Kaesha

Position/Organization: Policy and Advocacy Associate, Pathways Policy Institute

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Lucky bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Lucky Kaesha is a Policy Associate at Pathways Policy Institute (PPI). She leads initiatives to engage communities effectively and advance public health and environmental policies through advocacy, research, and capacity strengthening. Lucky holds a Bachelor of Arts in Justice & Peace from The Catholic University of Eastern Africa and a Diploma in Conflict & Peace Resolution Studies from Africa Nazarene University. Her background is in community development, Policy Health and social work.

Over the past seven years, Lucky has demonstrated dedication and expertise in managing projects, leading advocacy campaigns, and empowering adolescents and youth with SMART advocacy and social accountability skills.

Currently, Lucky oversees an advocacy project in Laikipia County that addresses climate resilience and SRHR issues. She has conducted advocacy forums with county officials, supervised youth-led advocacy projects, and facilitated the establishment of community development committees. She has presented research findings at international conferences and contributed to policy development processes at both county and national levels.

Committed to positive change and impactful partnerships, Lucky continues to champion the rights of youth and marginalized communities through her advocacy and leadership roles. She aims to empower communities towards improved healthcare, reducing teenage pregnancies, and ending Female Genital Mutilation, and other regressive cultural beliefs.

Name: Margaret Bolaji-Adegbola

Position/Organization: Executive Director/Founder, Stand With A Girl Initiative

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Margaret bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Margaret Bolaji-Adegbola is an International Development Professional with 10 years of working experience in research, project implementation, and management, with a particular interest in adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive health and rights (AYSRH). She is the founder and executive director of



Stand With A Girl (SWAG) Initiative, a youth-led organization that promotes girls' empowerment, education, and gender equality through advocacy against harmful cultural practices and gender norms, low level of education, and poor sexual and reproductive health (SRH) information and services. Margaret also recently worked as a youth program advisor with the Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs FP Portfolio in Nigeria, where she led the design of integrated, innovative, and intentional youth and adolescent-focused sexual and reproductive health interventions.

Through working with the Population and Reproductive Health Initiative in northern Nigeria, serving as the inaugural youth representative of the Family Planning 2020 (FP2020) Reference Group, and sitting on WHO's External Advisory Group for the Global Accelerated Action for the Health of Adolescents (AA-HA!) guideline, she continues to shine a light on the unique SRH needs of young people and adolescents.

Name: Mercy Bolaji

Position/Organization: Executive Coordinator, Stand With A Girl Initiative

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Mercy bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Mercy Bolaji is an advocate and expert with over 7 years of experience in programming for adolescents Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights.

She has shown competence in designing, implementing, and managing Programs Around Social And Behaviour Change Communication, policy development, Advocacy, Stakeholder Engagement, and Meaningful Youth Engagement.

Mercy is a highly productive team player with excellent organizational, interpersonal, communication, and critical thinking skills. She is passionate about creating a supportive environment for adolescents and young people to reach their maximum potential irrespective of the odds against them.

Name: Michael Leo

Position/Organization: Program Director, Knowledge in Books

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Michael bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Michael Leo Mayala is a youth activist, holding a Bachelor of Arts in Education, he earned with an impressive academic performance at St. Augustine University of Tanzania.

In terms of professional experience, Michael has contributed significantly as a Coaching Fellow at Rhize. In this role, he has demonstrated his financial acumen by developing accurate



budgets for various activities, thereby ensuring effective resource management. He has also successfully conducted movement mapping activities, adhering to Rhize's guidelines and gathering crucial data to inform strategic decision-making within the movements. Moreover, his expertise shines through in the creation of detailed and captivating lesson plans for First Exposure Trainings, showcasing his instructional design prowess and exceptional communication abilities. Michael has effectively implemented multiple Movement Support Activities, delivering engaging and informative trainings on essential modules to various movement groups and organizations across different regions, such as Geita, Kigoma, Dodoma, and Arusha.

Michael's commitment to community service is evident through his previous role as a Community Volunteer at the National Youth Engagement Network (NYEN) in Mwanza. Through his initiative, he successfully designed and executed the "Break the Silence on GBV" project, which empowered 500 adolescents in rural public secondary schools with knowledge on gender-based violence and effective measures to combat it. Additionally, his endeavor as a Tanzania Climate Champion allowed him to secure a climate change innovation grant and launch the "Taka ni Ajira" project, which educated the community on waste separation and recycling practices.

By participating in conferences, summits, and training events, Michael consistently seeks opportunities to expand his knowledge and network. Notable engagements include his involvement in the Regional Peace School in Goma, DRC Congo, and Uganda where he collaborated with youth initiatives and established connections with stakeholders for the promotion of dialogue and peacebuilding.

Michael has also made notable contributions as a member of selection boards, serving as an application reviewer at Atlas Corps and as a Mandela Washington Fellowship Application Reader at IREX. These responsibilities highlight his keen eye for talent and dedication to fostering opportunities for deserving individuals.

In recognition of his outstanding achievements, Michael has been honored with the Tanzania Emerging Youth Award (TEYA 2022) in the category of "Outstanding Youth in Peace and Security."

Aside from his professional pursuits, Michael possesses a range of skills, including computer proficiency, basic knowledge of MS Office applications, effective use of social media platforms, research and proposal writing abilities, and the capacity to work collaboratively as part of a team. Beyond work, he derives great satisfaction from building meaningful connections with people, indulging in reading books, enjoying music, and embarking on travel adventures.



Name: Ngong Justin Chee

Position/Organization: Program Lead, Youth 2 Youth-Cameroon

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Justin bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Justin Ngong is a communications professional with over seven years of working experience in the health and development sectors, with special attention to HIV/AIDS clinical care management. Adolescent and youth health care has been the center of his work for the past five years. He is the co-founder and programs lead of a thriving youth-led organization Youth 2 Youth, which advocates for improved adolescent health and wellness in fragile crisis settings. Justin had served as the National Youth Focal Person for Family Planning 2030 where he currently serves as the communications officer for the FP2030 North, West, and Central Africa Hub based in Abuja-Nigeria. Justin is equally a research fellow at the University of Bamenda-Cameroon. He has a strong passion for Global health communication, International Development, Governance, and Public Policy.

Name: Shilpa Lamichhane

Position/Organization: Program Manager, Visible Impact

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Shilpa bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Shilpa Lamichhane, is a young believer in social change who is working for young people's sexual and reproductive health and rights since 5 years now. She has completed her Master's degree in Public Health and is working as a Program Manager at Visible Impact which is a young-women-led organization. As a Program Manager, she unleashes youth as social champions, focussed on sexual and reproductive health and rights, and strategizes youth advocacy with governments from grassroots, to international level. She has represented youth issues at APFSD Youth Forum, International Conference on Family Planning, APCRSRHR, Congress of the World Association of Sexual Health and so on. She is also the Knowledge Management Champion for Asia under Knowledge SUCCESS, UNLEASH Rwanda Talent and the member of United States Embassy Youth Council Nepal.

Name: Simon Bine Mambo, MD, MPH.

Position/Organization: Executive Director, Youth Alliance for Reproductive Health

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Simon bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Simon is a young Medical Doctor, researcher and advocate for the sexual and reproductive health and rights of adolescents and young people. His daily goal is to contribute to the quality of life through advocacy and the provision of health services. He has been nominated as a Youth Delegate to several regional and international conferences and summits to amplify youth voices, a two-time



Youth Champion as Youth Trailblazer at ICFP 2018 and 2022, and a one-time recipient of the Packard David and Lucile Foundation's Quality Innovation Challenge award. He is the GFF, CSCG Independent Advisory Board Member (YLO Representative), Policy and Advocacy officer at Youth Sprint Movement. Simon is Co-Founder and Executive Director of Youth Alliance for Reproductive Health (YARH-DRC) in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

He has published several peer-reviewed articles in international journals and devotes his time to researching and promoting the health and well-being of young people in complex and humanitarian contexts.

Name: Siti Khuzaiyah

Position/Organization: M.Epid. PhD (Cand), Universitas Muhammadiyah Pekajangan Pekalongan, Central Java, Indonesia

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Siti bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Siti Khuzaiyah is a registered midwife from Indonesia. She has been working as a lecturer for the Midwifery Program at the Faculty of Health Sciences, Universitas Muhammadiyah Pekajangan Pekalongan, Indonesia, since 2012.

Aside from being a lecturer, Siti Khuzaiyah is a certified breastfeeding counselor and infant massage instructor. She has a lot of interest in adolescent and youth reproductive health. Since 2014, she has been working a lot with adolescents. In 2015, she published a book about adolescent reproductive health entitled "The Secret of Teens, Guide book of Teens". Following that publication, she actively goes to schools and the community to share positive values and educate adolescents about reproductive health.

She was the chief of the youth organization Nasyyatul Aisyiyah, a women's youth organization that works on education, health, and social activities (2016-2020). In 2018, under her leadership, Nasyyatul Aisyiyah Pekalongan implemented a comprehensive teenage health service in the Pekalongan Regency, Central Java. The name of the service is PASHMINA (Pelayanan Remaja Sehat Milik Nasyyatul Aisyiyah), which the Central Board of Nasyyatul Aisyiyah initially created. This service provides six tables: registration and body mass index measurement, hemoglobin measurement, reproductive health counseling, psychology counseling, education counseling, and nutrition counseling. This program collaborated with the region's Department of Health, Youth Department, Family Planning, and Community Health Services.

Siti Khuzaiyah has trained more than 200 cadres (volunteers) for PASHMINA and has serviced more than 1,000 adolescents in the Pekalongan Regency. In 2019, she brought the PASHMINA



program for the youth competition at the Central Java province level and was awarded as the Winner.

She is in the final year of her PhD at the Midwifery Program, PAPRSB Institute Health Sciences, Universiti Brunei Darussalam. Her PhD project explores health care-seeking behavior among pregnant adolescents in Brunei Darussalam. She is also a member of the Advisory Committee NextGen RH CoP with eight other members representing Asia and Africa, working on adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive health (AYSRH) under USAID and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

She has produced many papers published in international and national journals, proceedings, and books. She is also interested in conducting research collaborations with other researchers around the world.

Name: Siviwe Tina Gaika

Position/Organization: HIV Prevention Advocate, APHA

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Siviwe bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Siviwe Tina Gaika, a young Black queer woman hailing from Gqeberha, South Africa, is a trailblazing advocate for human rights and HIV prevention. Armed with a Bachelor of Social Science degree from Rhodes University, where she double majored in Psychology and Law, Siviwe embodies a passionate commitment to empowering young people and addressing critical issues facing today's youth.

As the visionary founder of #HOG (Helping Our Generation) since its inception in 2017, Siviwe has steered the organization as a beacon of hope, focusing on key areas such as fighting against gun violence and raising awareness about gender-based violence and femicide. Her personal advocacy for HIV prevention is seamlessly woven into #HOG's initiatives, ensuring that the youth in her community are educated on contraceptives and prevention methods through educational workshops.

Siviwe is not only an HIV prevention advocate but also facilitates Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) round table talks with youth in her community, in her capacity as an APHA groundforce. These discussions serve as vital platforms to educate and empower young individuals on important topics related to their sexual health and rights. Additionally, she leads HIV prevention talks, bringing crucial information and awareness to the forefront of youth conversations. In her role as an APHA groundforce and the groundforce team leader, Siviwe extends her reach and impact beyond local borders. This position allows her to contribute to larger-scale efforts in the fight against HIV/AIDS, advocating for policy changes, and promoting access to essential healthcare services.



One of #HOG's central efforts, under Siviwe's leadership, involves conducting educational workshops tailored for teenagers. These workshops provide vital knowledge on safe sex practices, mental health awareness, effective study methods, and preventive measures against various challenges they may face.

#HOG, under Siviwe's guidance, transcends mere charity; it is a platform for empowerment and education. Through a powerful blend of advocacy, mentorship, and practical support, #HOG aims not only to address immediate challenges but also to inspire and equip young people with the tools and opportunities they need to thrive in today's world.

Currently pursuing her LLB, Siviwe continues to lead #HOG while simultaneously advocating for HIV prevention with a steadfast commitment to its mission: to uplift, educate, and empower our generation, creating a brighter tomorrow for all.

Name: Yewo Grace Gondwe

Position/Organization: Program Advocacy Coordinator, Malawi Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights Alliance

Next Gen RH Position: Advisory Committee Member

What expertise does Yewo bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Yewo Grace Gondwe is a Malawian young lady dedicated to foster youth empowerment and advocate for the protection of human rights. She is a Social scientist passionate about SRHR, with exceptional leadership, mobilization, capacity strengthening and policy advocacy skills. She has worked with community projects focused on SRHR, good governance, gender equality and human rights with Non-Governmental Organizations for more than 5 years in Malawi. She is currently working, as a programme advocacy coordinator for the Malawi Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights alliance where she coordinates SRHR programmes. She has experience in adolescent and young people's SRHR advocacy at local, national, regional and global levels. She has coordinated several youth-led advocacy initiatives regarding Youth Friendly Health Services, Comprehensive Sexuality Education, Sexual Gender Based Violence and Harmful Practices.

She serves as a member of a multi-national Power to Youth programme global Meaningful and Inclusive Youth Participation technical working group where she provides strategic guidance on matters related to young people within the program. Further, she is a fellow for the Africa SDG programme and Young Women Leadership Programme. She is also affiliated to Youth Coalition for Reproductive Rights and also represent the coalition in the World Health Organization (WHO) Youth Council where she supports and provide recommendations on key health and development issues affecting young people through a comprehensive and inclusive WHO youth



engagement strategy. Additionally, she is a member of a global Generation Democracy Network by International Republican Institute and serves as a National Coordinator for the Malawi local chapter. She embodies a Human rights based and Gender Transformative approach in executing her roles in the aforementioned areas.

Yewo Holds a Bachelor's Degree of Social Science in Development Studies obtained from University of Livingstonia and currently pursuing a Master of Arts in International Relations and Diplomacy with the Malawi School of Government.

Name: Brittany Goetsch

Position/Organization: Program Officer, Knowledge SUCCESS, Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs

Next Gen RH Position: Community of Practice (CoP) Coordinator

What expertise does Brittany bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Brittany Goetsch is a program officer at the Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs. She manages the youth portfolio and leads several partnership and content activities for Knowledge SUCCESS. She also supports regional teams, content creation, and knowledge management resource development for the project and CCP's advocacy work under PROPEL Youth + Gender. Her technical experience includes AYSRHR, HIV prevention and testing, gender, youth partnership, strategic health plans, and training and educational curricula development.

Name: Catherine Packer

Position/Organization: Technical Advisor - Research Utilization, FHI 360

Next Gen RH Position: Youth Technical Advisor

What expertise does Catherine bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Catherine is passionate about promoting the health and well-being of under-served populations around the world. She is experienced in strategic communications, knowledge management, project management; technical assistance; and qualitative and quantitative social and behavioral research.

Catherine's recent work has been in supporting reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health and population, health and environment programs; private sector delivery of FP to young people; self-care; DMPA-SC self-injection (introduction, scale-up, and research); social norms related to adolescents' reproductive health; and retention in HIV services of adolescents living with HIV. Now based in North Carolina, USA, her work has taken her to many countries including Burundi, Cambodia, Nepal, Rwanda, Senegal, Vietnam, and Zambia. She holds a Master of Science in Public Health degree specializing in international reproductive health from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Name: Erin Broas



Position/Organization: Student Program Specialist, Knowledge SUCCESS, Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs

Next Gen RH Position: Communications Lead

What expertise does Erin bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Erin Broas is a full-time Master of Science in Public Health (MSPH) candidate at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Molecular & Cellular Biology and in Public Health from the University of Arizona. Erin has previously worked in health education, health promotion, and health communication, with a particular focus on adolescent health, education access, and food security. As a Student Program Specialist at the Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs, she supports knowledge management activities, communications, and content development related to family planning/reproductive health and COVID-19.

Name: Collins Otieno

Position/Organization: East Africa FP/RH Technical Officer, Knowledge SUCCESS, Amref Health Africa

Next Gen RH Position: Co-Chair

What expertise does Innocent bring to the Next Gen RH CoP? Collins Otieno is a versatile development practitioner with a wealth of experience and expertise in family planning and reproductive health (FP/RH) communication, program and grant management, capacity strengthening and technical assistance, social and behavior change, information management, and media/communication outreach. Collins has dedicated his career to working with local, national, and international development NGOs to implement successful FP/RH interventions in East Africa (Kenya, Uganda, & Ethiopia) and West Africa (Burkina Faso, Senegal, and Nigeria). His work has focused on youth development, comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), community engagement, media campaigns, advocacy communications, social norms, and civic engagement. Previously, Collins worked with Planned Parenthood Global, where he provided FP/RH technical assistance and support to Africa Region country programs. He contributed to the FP2030 Initiative's High Impact Practices (HIP) program in developing the FP HIP briefs. He also worked in the Kenya Urban Reproductive Health Initiative-Tupange (with Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs), The Youth Agenda and I Choose Life-Africa, where he led various youth campaigns and FP/RH initiatives. In addition to his professional endeavors, Collins is passionate about exploring how communication and engagement are shaping and moving FP/RH development in Africa and around the world. He loves the outdoors and is an avid camper and hiker. Collins is also a social media enthusiast and can be found on Instagram, LinkedIn, Facebook, and sometimes on X.