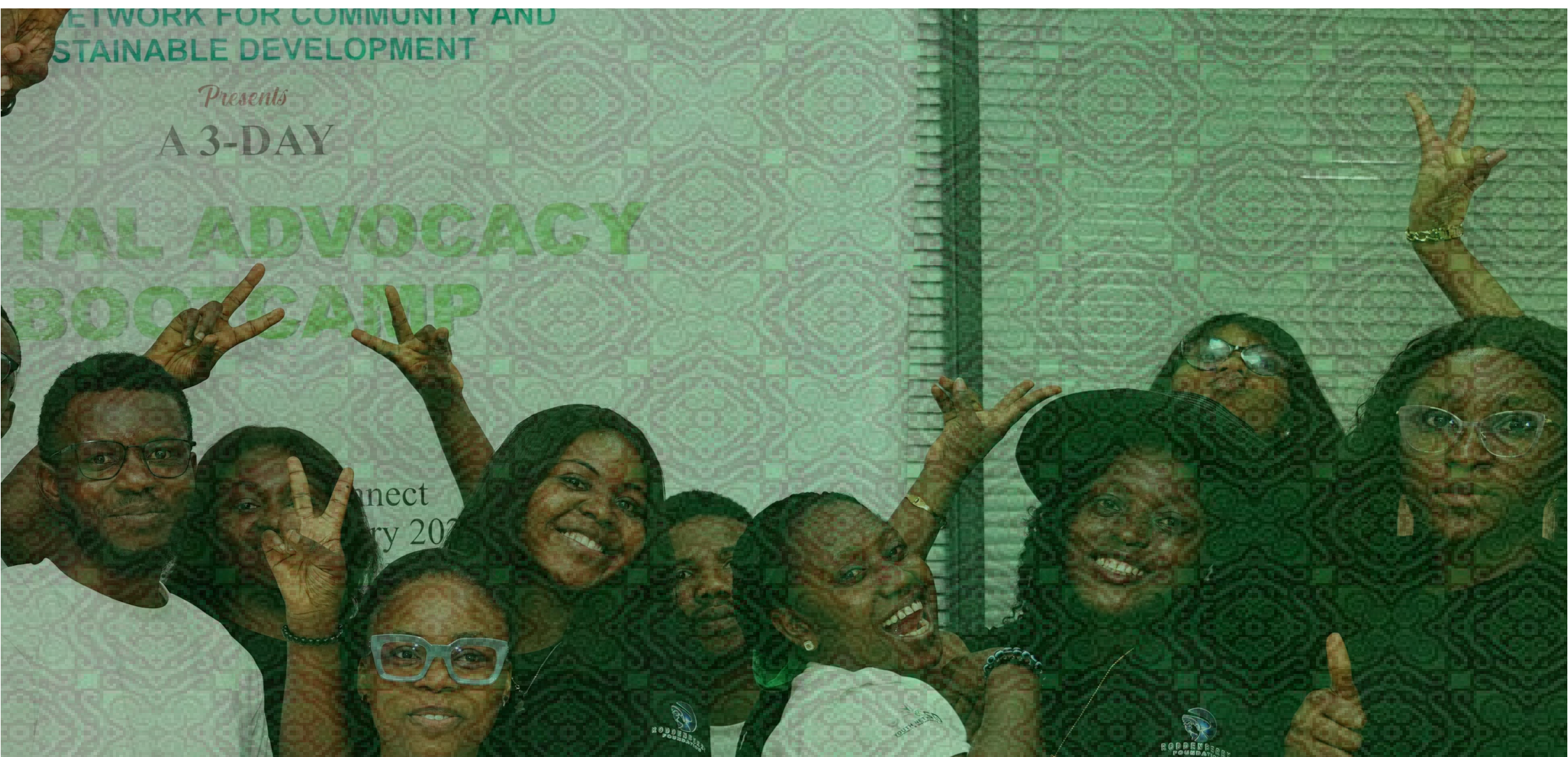




YOUTH NETWORK
FOR COMMUNITY
AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT



2024

Annual Report

Year of the report - 2024

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Message from the Executive Director

From the desk of the Executive Director

Dear Partners, Supporters, and Changemakers,

It is with immense gratitude and pride that I welcome you to the 2024 Annual Report of the Youth Network for Community and Sustainable Development (YNCSD). This past year has been one of remarkable growth, impact, and resilience as we continue to champion the rights of young people, women, and marginalized communities across Nigeria.

At YNCSD, we believe in the power of youth-led advocacy, community engagement, and policy change to drive sustainable development. Through our commitment to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), safe abortion access, ending child marriage, and advancing gender equality, we have reached thousands of individuals with life-changing programs and interventions. Our work, spanning Abuja, Lagos, Imo, and Kaduna, has not only empowered young people with knowledge and resources but has also shaped conversations that influence policies and societal norms.

This report reflects the collective effort of our dedicated team, steadfast partners, and generous supporters. It captures our key milestones, impact stories, and the challenges we've navigated in our pursuit of a more just and equitable society. As we move forward, our resolve remains strong to build a future where every young person can thrive, free from discrimination, with access to the opportunities and resources they deserve.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to our donors, partners, and every individual who has contributed to our success. Your support fuels our vision and strengthens our ability to drive meaningful change. As you read through this report, I invite you to join us in deepening our impact, expanding our reach, and amplifying the voices of young people across Nigeria and beyond.

Together, we are transforming lives. Together, we are shaping the future.

In solidarity,

Kelechukwu Nwachukwu
Executive Director, YNCSD

Vision & Mission

Empowering Africa's Youth. Advancing SRHR. Shaping Equitable Futures.

VISION



We envision thriving societies across Africa where young people stand empowered as architects of a just and equitable future, driving progress towards a continent free from gender inequality, upholding the fundamental rights of all, and ensuring sexual and reproductive health and well-being for every individual.

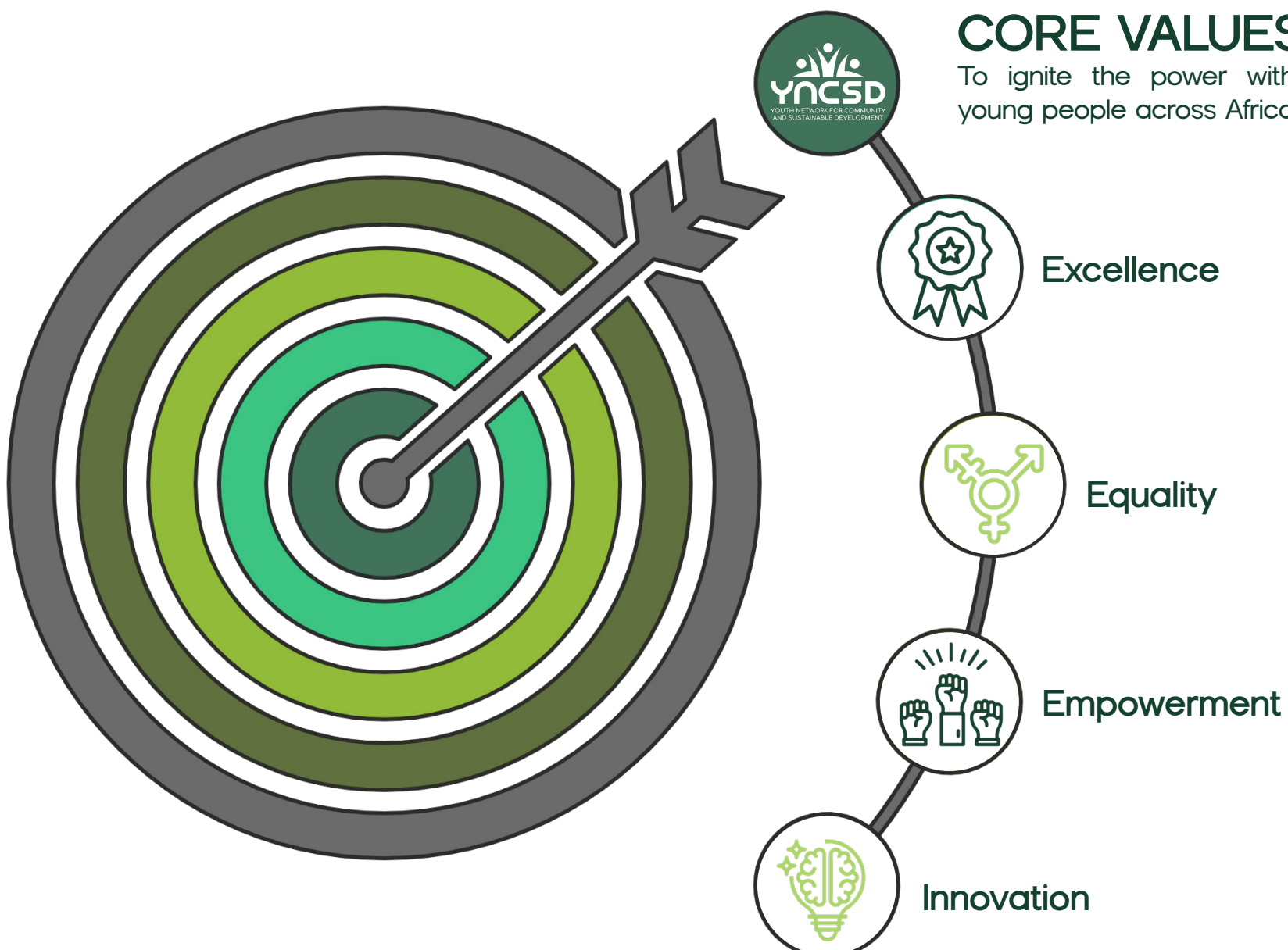
MISSION



To ignite the power within young people across Africa, through advocacy, research, and communications, equipping them with the knowledge, skills, and resources to champion sexual and reproductive health rights, dismantle gender inequality, and co-create a thriving and equitable future for all.

CORE VALUES

To ignite the power within young people across Africa





Strategic Objectives:

1.
Increase Access to
SRHR Services &
Strengthen Capacity of
Providers.

2.
Strengthen Policy &
Advocacy for SRHR
service provision.

3.
Evidence-Based GBV
Prevention
& Response.

4.
Galvanize Youth
Participation in
Governance and
Accountability.

5.
Gender-Responsive
Climate Policies in
Emergencies &
Humanitarian Settings.

6.
Empower LGBTQ+
Rights Movement &
Strengthen Access to
Basic Services.

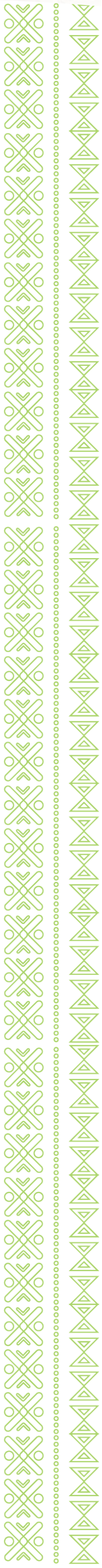


Our Stewardship

At YNCSD, we believe in steadfast stewardship of our world's most important challenges facing today's youth. Our commitment to empowerment, equity, and sustainability drives everything we do.

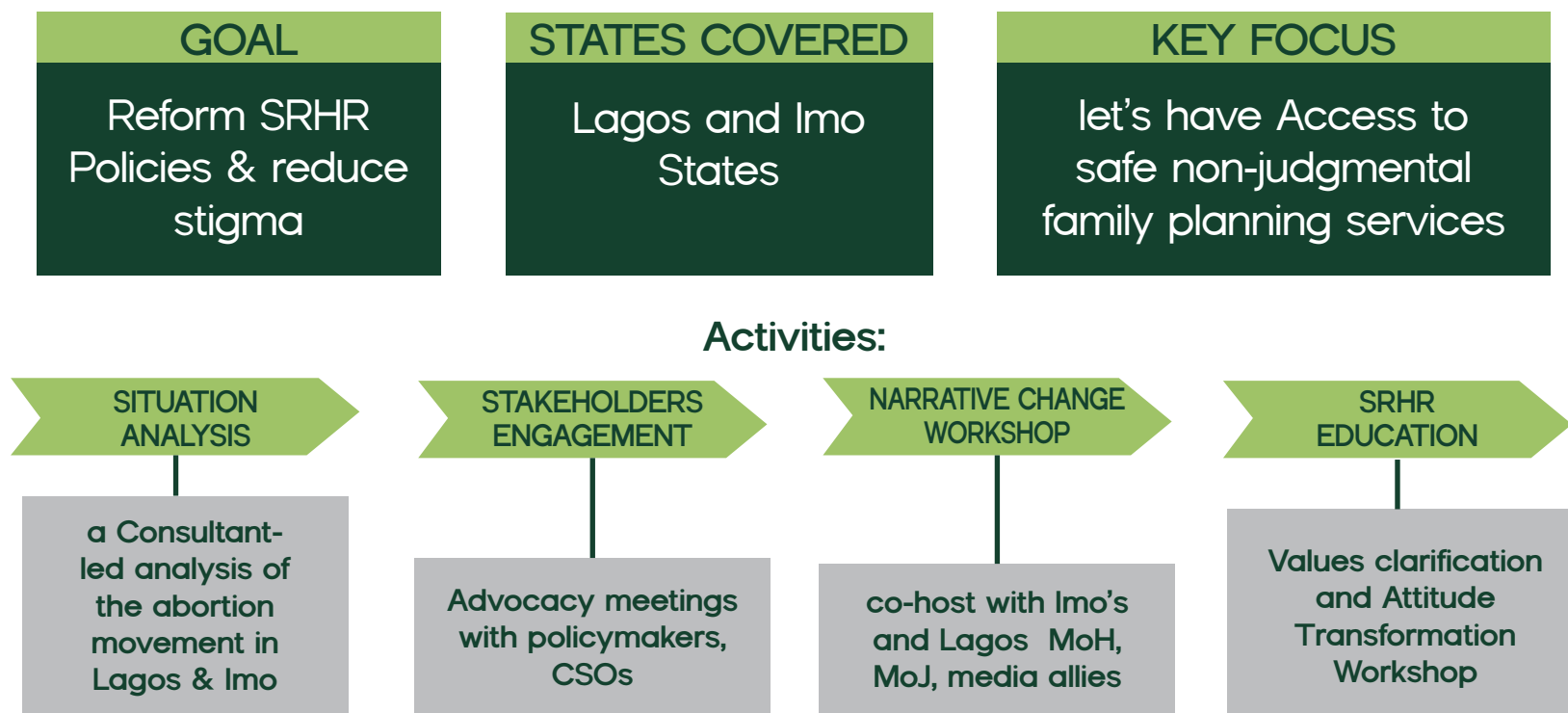


The People Behind the Vision – to spotlight your youth-led team



Projects Key Achievements & Impact

1. Accelerating Coordinated Advocacy for Improved SRHR Policies in Nigeria (Move2Act Project)

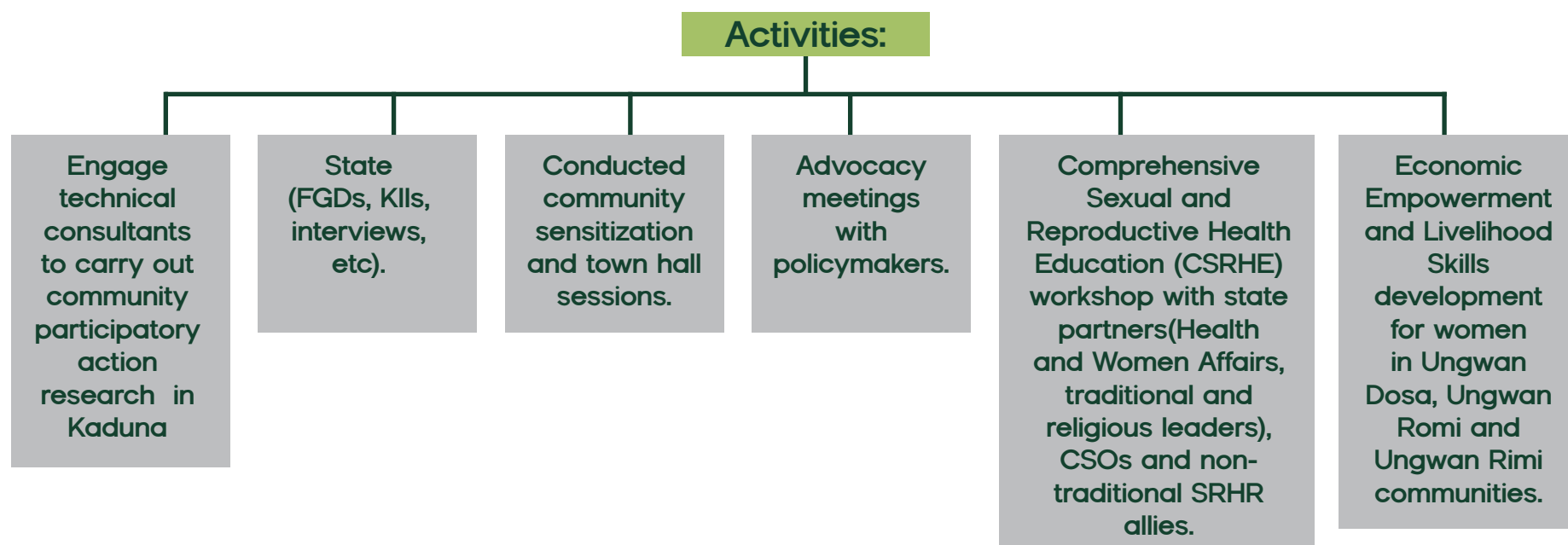


Impact:

50+

Stakeholders engaged (Legal experts, policymakers, CSOs actively participated in strategy discussions), Cross-sector collaboration (Ministries of Justice, Health, Women Affairs + Media = Broader support), Shifting the narrative (Community-level discussions and workshops reduced abortion-related stigma.).

2. Combating Child, Early and Forced Marriage (CEFM) Project in Kaduna State: To carry out awareness and advocate for policies addressing CEFM.





Impact:

1000+

community members engaged,

30 Women trained ✓

5 facilitated advocacy meetings with policymakers. ✓

3. RAES Pamoja Known as the 'Tobasewo' Campaign: Improve adolescent girls and women access to safe SRHR services.

Activities:

Conducted specialized training sessions to equip 30 content creators with the competencies to craft and deliver more productive social media stories/ framing of SRHR and abortion storytelling.

Launched a targeted social media challenge/social media campaign to improve access to safe abortion services.

Creative industry collaboration with theatre and stage production directors/ producers to include positive safe abortion narratives in storytelling on television, radio, theatre productions and stage acts.

Impact:

Reached 45 young people who championed to create positive safe abortion narratives using media and in the creative industry.

4. Linking and Learning to Improve Access to Sexual and Reproductive Products and Information and Services (LINKS Project):



This project, We want to see more sexual and Gender Minorities and girls having unhindered access to information on their bodily integrity and autonomy. We also want to see that sex workers in FCT Abuja have access to their body agency. This means that fewer of these communities will have the need to walk into health facilities to access these services. In addition, we want to see that these communities have been trained on how to exercise agency over their bodies and sexual health so they can realize their full rights. We will do this through a peer-to-peer approach in training on agency, self managed abortion and through our hotlines.

Overall Impact in 2024

Completed peer education sessions for FSW and LBQ+ communities.

Conducted community outreach in identified communities in FCT- Abuja.



Response to Crisis:

This project will provide access to SRH unmet needs covering family planning, reusable pads and menstrual hygiene products for women, girls and gender minorities in IDP camps in Benue and Kogi states.

Activities:

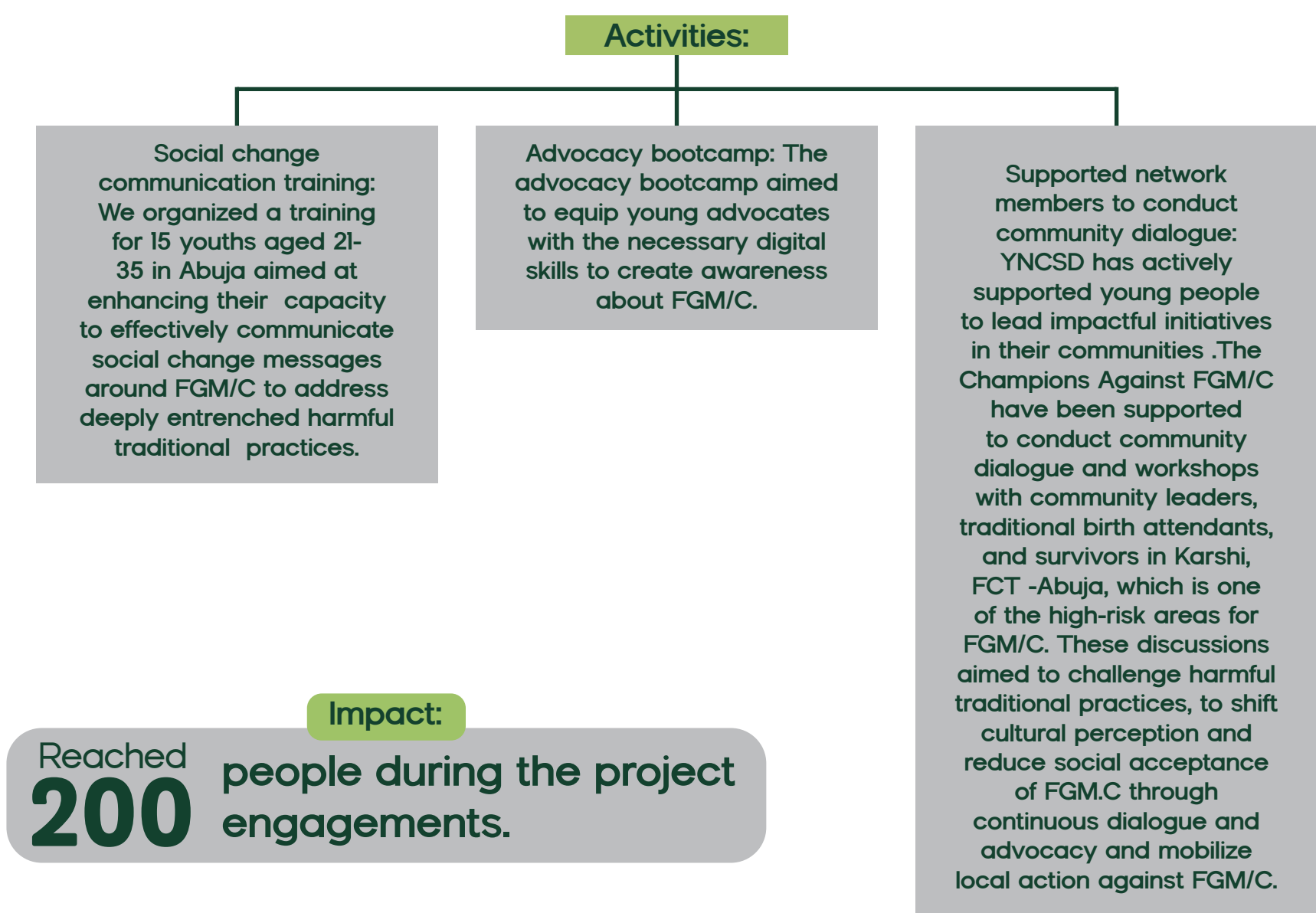
- Meeting with Remilekun Rachel from Participatory Initiative for Behavioral Change and Development(PIBCID): We engaged in a discussion with PIBCID and introduced the ongoing project to the organization.
- Visit to the Etsu of Adankolo Community where we introduced the project to the traditional ruler, seeking support and collaboration.
- Visit to Adankolo IDP Camp where we observed the camp, noting that it is currently empty but serves as a refuge during the flooding season.
- Visit to National Service Civil Defence Commission: Introduced the project to the gender desk officers, who also oversee the humanitarian unit. This provided an opportunity to align the project with their ongoing efforts.
- Courtesy Call to the Traditional Ruler of Gadumo Community: Extended greetings and reintroduced the project, reinforcing support and collaboration.
- Visit to Gadumo IDP Camp: Assessed the camp's status, noting that it is empty but will be occupied during the flooding season.
- Visit to State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), Kogi State: Reintroduced the project to the new Executive Secretary of SEMA in Kogi State, receiving positive feedback and showing strong interest in collaboration.
- Visit to Global Women's Health and Rights Initiative, Benue: Introduced the project to the organization, represented by the programs officer due to the absence of the Executive Director.
- Visit to SEMA, Benue State: Secured project approval from the Executive Secretary through representatives Mr. Solomon(Head of Department, Relief and Rehabilitation) and Donald(Head of Admin), affirming the project's alignment with local needs and gaining access to the identified camps in Benue State.
- Visit to Ichwa and Abagena IDP Camps: Assessed these IDP camps in Benue State, understanding their conditions and needs.

Impact:

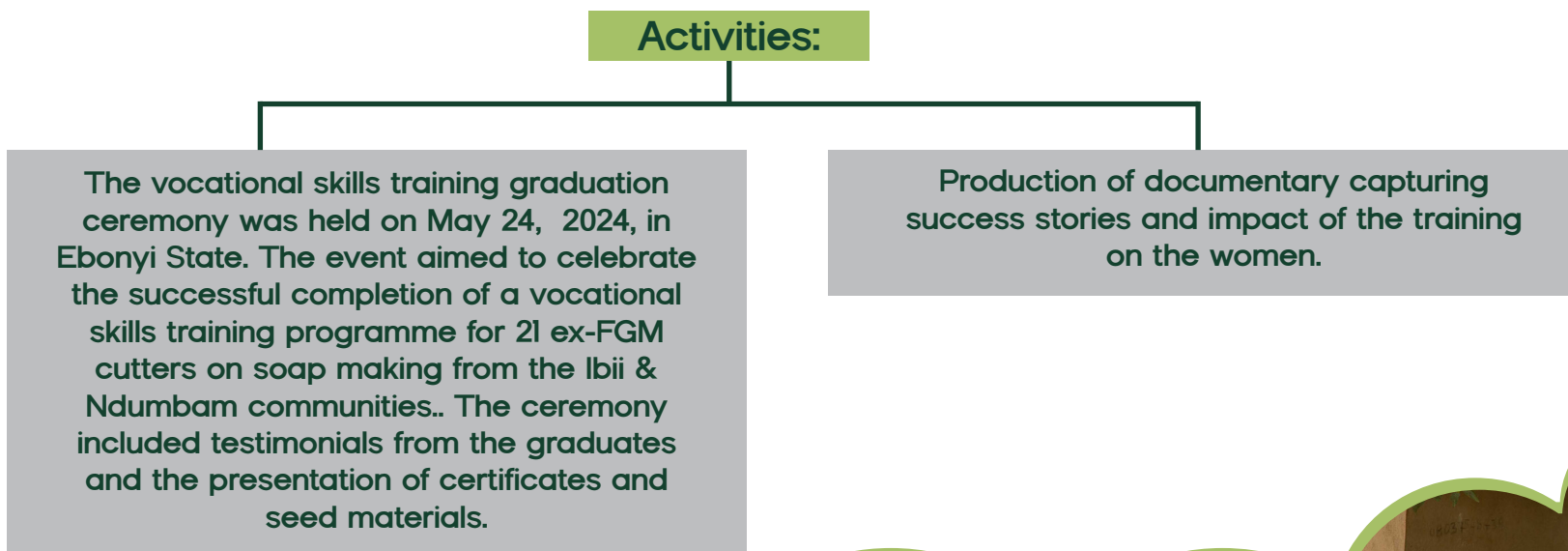
10 stakeholder engagements in Benue and Kogi States.



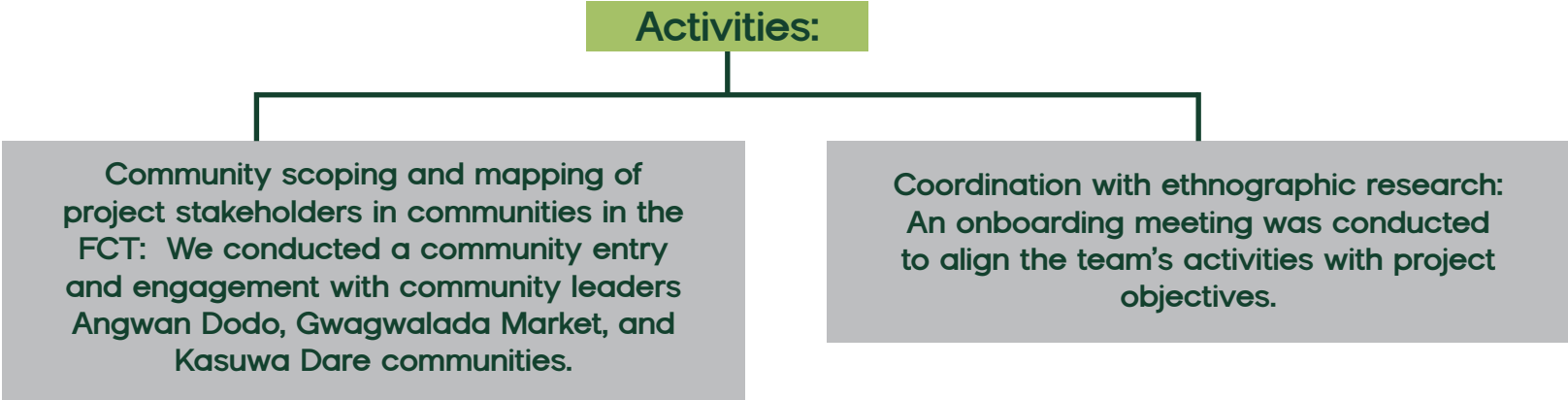
5. **Roddenberry Foundation:** This project significantly expanded YNCSD’s efforts to eradicate Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting(FGM/C) through targeted trainings and community-based initiatives.



6. **FREE Fund (Financial Resilience and Economic Empowerment):** The FREE Fund aimed to ensure long-term investment in the economic empowerment of adolescent girls and young women.



7. MAMA Network: Access to SRH and Information funded by the MAMA Network (TICAH)



8. Amplify Change Pamoja- Activating Choices: Establishing a Community-Led Movement for Safe Abortion Access in Lagos State.

- Total beneficiaries reached:
- Advocacy engagement:
- Community sensitization:
- Capacity building:

YNCSD efforts in 2024 have significantly contributed to advancing youth-centred advocacy, reproductive health and rights, and gender equality in Nigeria. We remain committed to expanding our impact in 2025 by deepening community engagement and strengthening policy advocacy.

- statistics on outreach and impact (e.g., number of beneficiaries served).

Success Stories & Case Studies.

“I am happy that YNCSD has brought this project to Kaduna State. This is my first time seeing an organization specifically addressing Child Early and Forced Marriage (CEFM)”-Mrs. Mercy Madaki, Social Services at Ministry of Human Services and Social Development”

- Feature personal stories that illustrate impact.
- testimonials from beneficiaries.

4. Advocacy & Partnerships



Summarize policy or advocacy efforts made during the year.



Highlight key partnerships and collaborations.

- Overview of M&E frameworks used to assess project success.

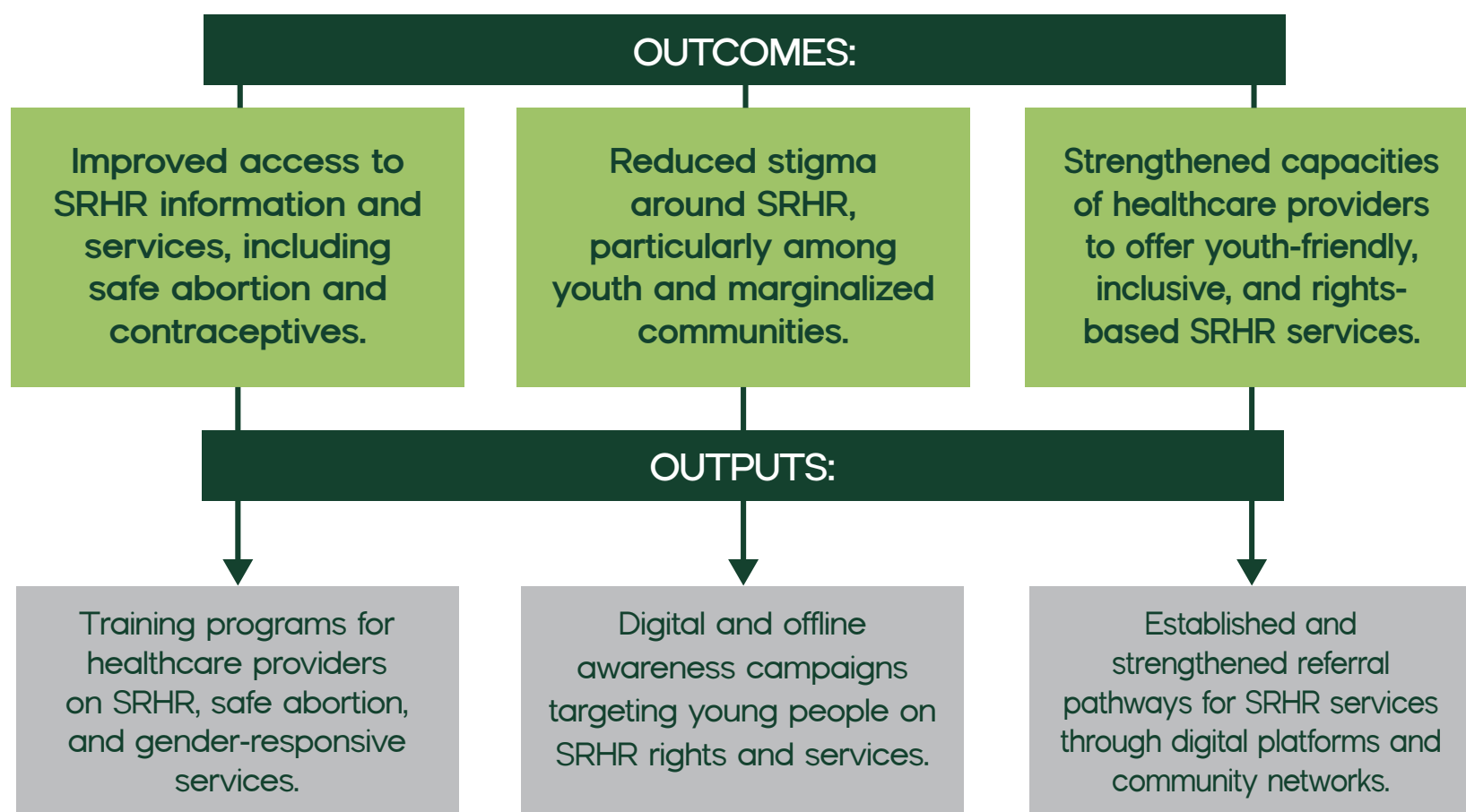
Theory of Change for YNCSD (2024-2029)

Impact Statement:

We envisions a society where young people, women, and marginalized communities have equitable access to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), gender justice, and governance participation, leading to sustainable social change and improved well-being.

OUTCOMES, OUTPUTS, AND PATHWAYS OF CHANGE:

1. Increased Access to SRHR Services and Strengthened Capacity of Service Providers



Assumptions:

- Healthcare providers and policymakers are willing to integrate youth-friendly services.
- Communities are open to conversations on SRHR and harmful practices.
- Funding remains available to support service delivery and advocacy.

2. Strengthened Policy and Increased Advocacy for SRHR and Gender Justice

OUTCOMES:



OUTPUTS:

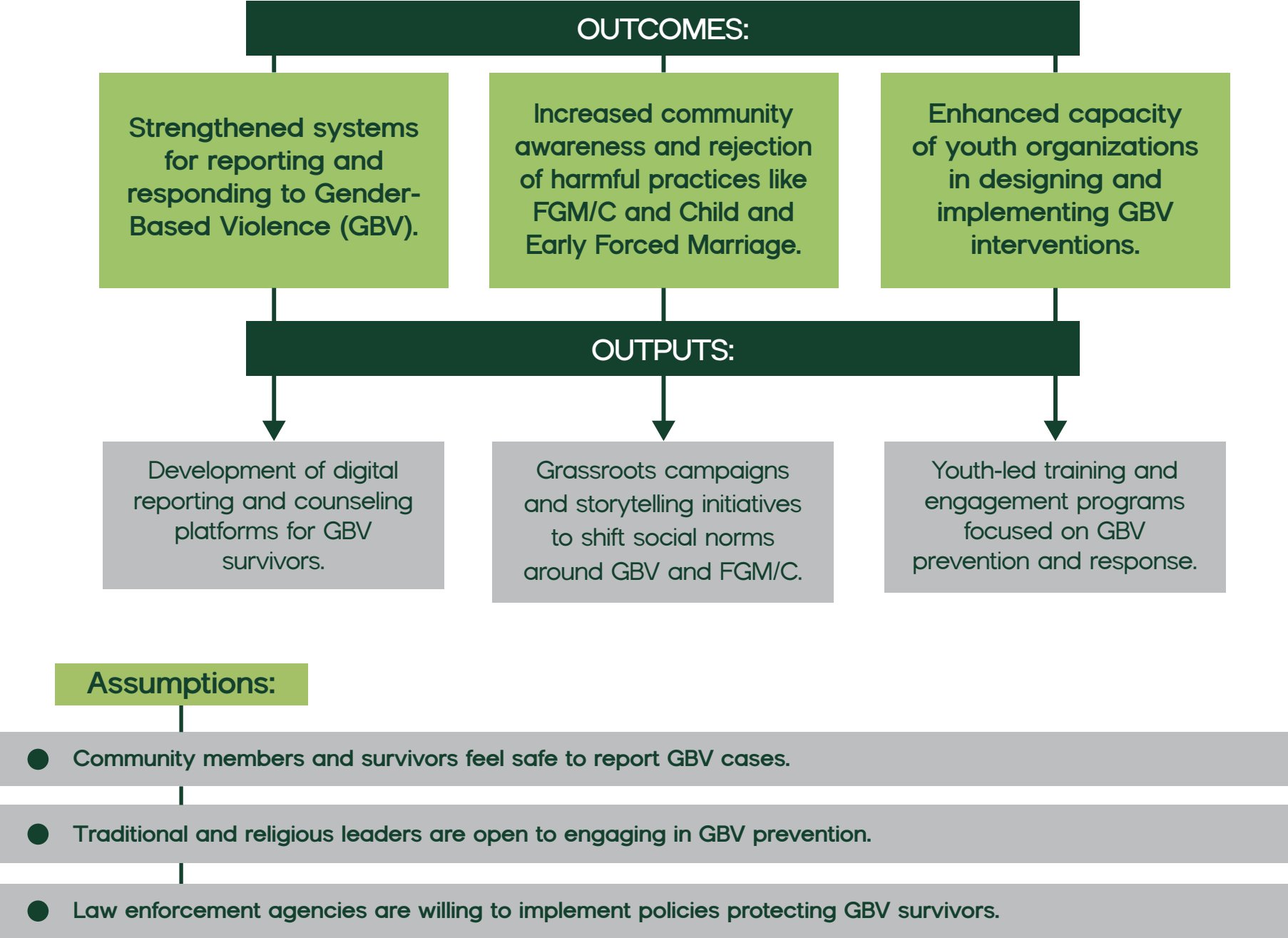


Assumptions:

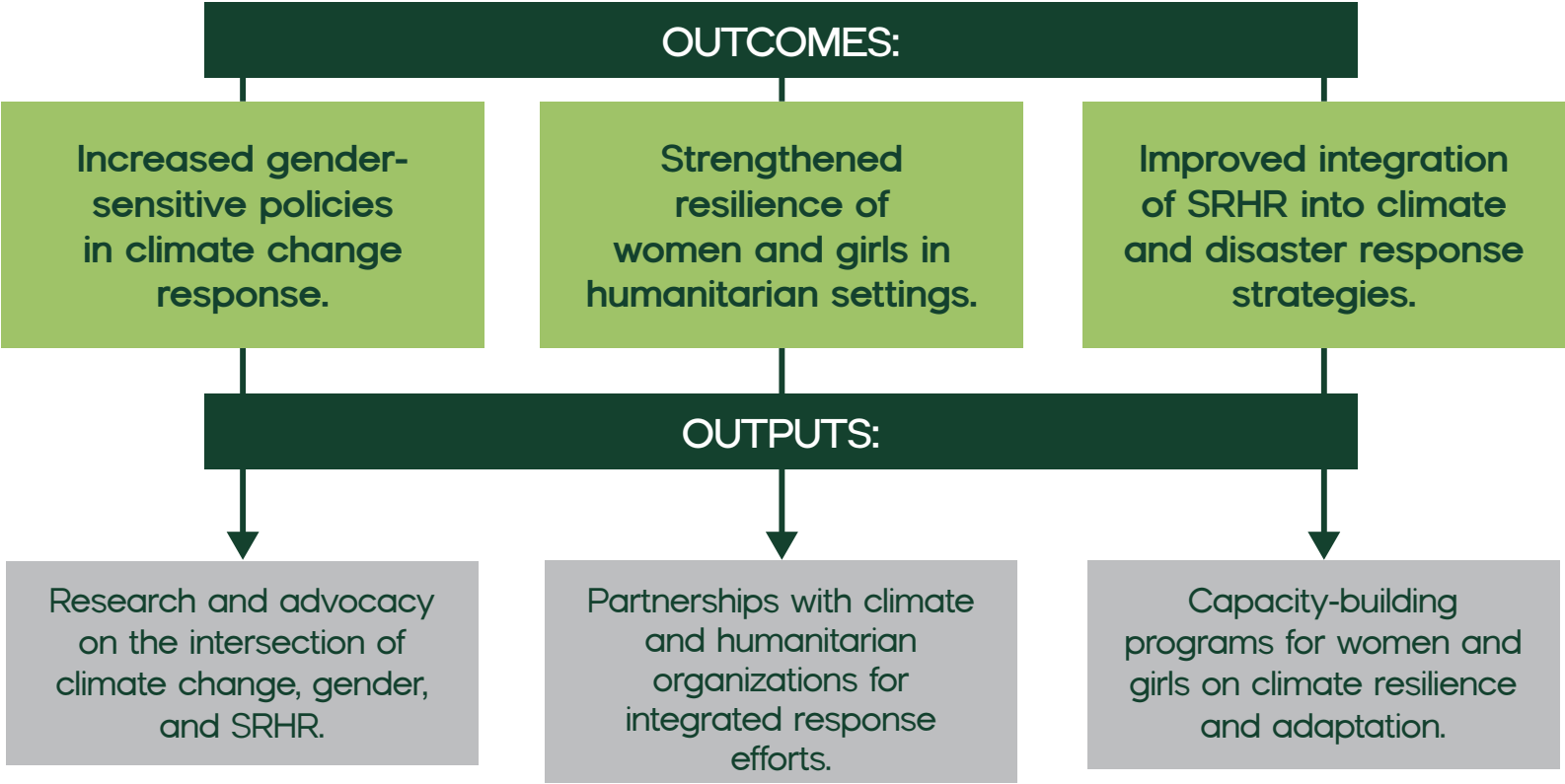
- Policymakers are receptive to evidence-based advocacy.
- Stakeholders (youth, CSOs, healthcare providers) are willing to collaborate on policy advocacy.
- There is sustained political will for gender-sensitive governance.



3. Evidence-Based Approaches to GBV Prevention and Response.



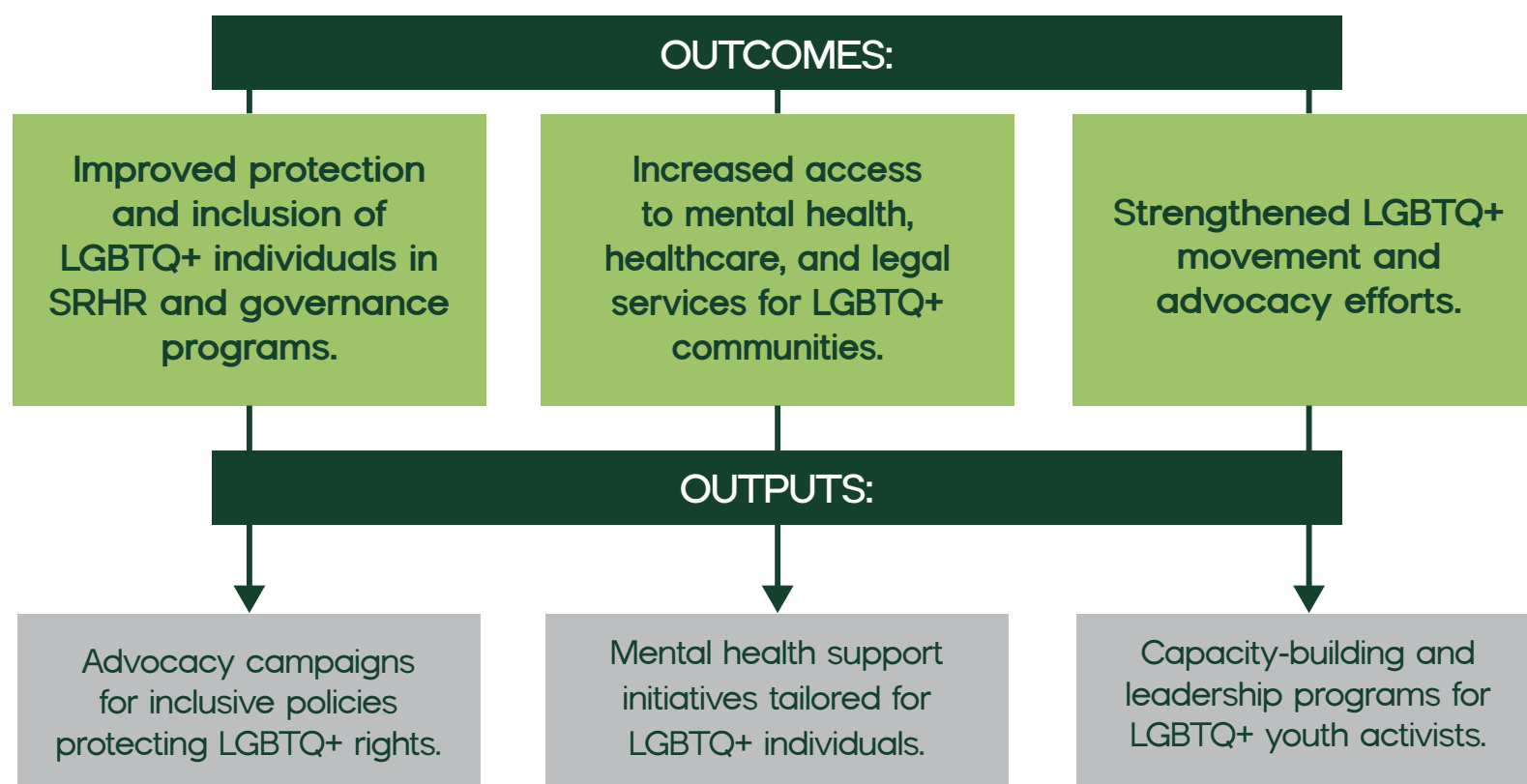
4. Gender-Responsive Climate Action and Humanitarian Response.



Assumptions:

- Climate organizations recognize the importance of integrating SRHR into their strategies.
- Women and girls in affected communities are willing to engage in climate response initiatives.
- Policymakers prioritize gender-responsive climate action.

5. Strengthened LGBTQ+ Rights and Access to Basic Services.



Assumptions:

- Policymakers are open to engaging on LGBTQ+ rights
- Community-based organizations and networks are willing to collaborate.
- Funding and resources are available to support LGBTQ+ advocacy and service delivery.

Monitoring Evaluation And Learning

- Track progress towards outcomes through data collection and reporting.
- Conduct periodic evaluations to refine strategies and interventions.
- Use evidence to inform advocacy and policy recommendations.
- Engage stakeholders in learning and knowledge-sharing processes.

Key performance indicators (KPIs) measured.

1. Reach & Participation:

- Number of beneficiaries reached (disaggregated by age, gender, and location).
- Number of training sessions conducted (SCC Training, Advocacy Bootcamp, FREE Fund vocational training).
- Number of youth champions engaged in advocacy efforts.

2. Capacity Building & Awareness:

- Percentage of trainees demonstrating improved knowledge on FGM/C,SRHR and advocacy strategies.
- Number of community dialogues, town halls, and rallies conducted.
- Social media engagement metrics (reach, impressions, shares, and interactions).

3. Policy & Behavioral Change:

- Number of community leaders publicly endorsing anti-FGM/C or SRHR initiatives.
- Policy changes or commitments influenced at local, state, or national levels.
- Percentage of trained youth advocates actively implementing community-based initiatives.

4. Service Access & Impact:

- Number of referrals made via the DIVA hotline for SRHR services.
- Percentage increase in website traffic for SafeBank, YNCSD’s online SRHR resource portal.
- Number of professional circumcisers transitioned to alternative livelihoods.
- List measurable indicators tracked during the year (e.g., number of beneficiaries reached, training sessions conducted, policy changes influenced).
Provide quantitative and qualitative data where possible.

Indicator	Target	Achieved
Youth trained on SBCC & advocacy	69	69
Community engagements conducted	6	6
Social media engagement (views/interactions)		
Referrals via DIVA hotline	15	15
Ex-cutters trained & transitioned	50	47
Policy commitments to End Child Marriage secured	9+	10

Qualitative Impact:

- Beneficiary testimonials indicated increased confidence in advocacy efforts.
- Three Traditional leaders in three target communities have committed to ending FGM/C in Imo and Ebonyi and Child Early and Forced Marriage in Kaduna.
- Participants report stronger digital advocacy skills and increased engagement with policymakers.

5. Challenges & Lessons Learned

- Outline difficulties faced and how they were managed.
- Lessons learned to improve future projects.

6. Future Plans & Goals

- Outline upcoming projects and strategic goals for the next year.

7. Acknowledgments & Supporters

- Recognize donors, partners, staff, and volunteers.
- “Thank You” section.

8. Financial Summary

- Income and Expenses Overview (Use simple infographics or charts).

- Funding sources (Grants).
- Program vs. administrative expenses breakdown.
- Statement of accountability and transparency.

9. Contact Information

- Website, Email, Social Media Links.
- Office Address & Phone Number.

Strengthening Advocacy Through Values Clarification and Attitude Transformation (VCAT) Training.

As part of our commitment to advancing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), the Youth Network for Community and Sustainable Development (YNCSD) successfully hosted a Values Clarification and Attitude Transformation (VCAT) Training under the Move2Act Project and Pamoja Project in Lagos State. This transformative session aimed to challenge biases, shift perspectives, and equip advocates with the tools needed to promote safe abortion rights and gender equality.

The training brought together key stakeholders, including healthcare providers, women-led organizations, legal experts, and youth advocates, fostering open dialogue on restrictive abortion laws and their impact on marginalized groups. Through interactive exercises, real-life case studies, and strategic discussions, participants deepened their understanding of SRHR issues and strengthened their commitment to rights-based advocacy.

Key sessions included:

- Understanding Biases in SRHR Advocacy – Encouraging self-reflection and unpacking deeply rooted societal stigmas.
- Policy and Legal Landscape – Exploring Nigeria's abortion laws and identifying pathways for legal reform.
- Strategic Advocacy Approaches – Equipping participants with tools to influence policy change and drive impactful storytelling.
- Technology in Advocacy – Leveraging digital tools and media to amplify SRHR advocacy efforts.

This training not only enhanced participants' capacity to lead impactful advocacy but also set the stage for collective action towards progressive policy reforms. By fostering a network of informed and empowered advocates, the Move2Act and Pamoja Projects are driving Nigeria closer to achieving reproductive justice and gender equality.



Girls First Fund Team Visits Nigeria, Engages Communities in Kaduna State



As part of efforts to strengthen partnerships and enhance community-led initiatives addressing Child, Early, and Forced Marriage (CEFM), the **Girls First Fund (GFF) team** recently visited Nigeria to engage with project stakeholders and beneficiaries in **Kaduna State**. The visit was a significant milestone in the ongoing collaboration between **Youth Network for Community and Sustainable Development (YNCSD)** and GFF, aimed at fostering sustainable solutions to protect and empower young girls.

During the visit, the GFF team met with **traditional and community leaders, women’s groups, local advocates, and young girls directly impacted by the CEFM Project**. These interactions provided a platform for open dialogue on the root causes of CEFM and the progress made in tackling this issue through grassroots advocacy, economic empowerment programs, and legal enforcement efforts.

A key highlight of the visit was a **community town hall meeting**, where survivors of child marriage shared their experiences, shedding light on the urgent need

for **education, legal protection, and economic opportunities** for young girls. Local leaders and stakeholders reaffirmed their commitment to enforcing the **Child Rights Act**, ensuring that girls remain in school and have access to opportunities for self-development.

The Girls First Fund team also **conducted site visits to project locations**, where they observed the implementation of community-driven interventions, including **mentorship programs, skills training, and advocacy campaigns** led by YNCSD. The team commended the resilience of the local advocates and pledged continued support for initiatives driving systemic change in the fight against child marriage.

The visit reinforced the importance of **collaboration, policy advocacy, and grassroots engagement** in addressing child marriage in Nigeria. As YNCSD continues to champion the rights of young girls, the partnership with Girls First Fund remains instrumental in scaling impact and ensuring that every girl has the right to a future free from forced marriage.

PHOTO REELS



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Communication & Advocacy Officer
at the MAMA Regional Meeting



Consortium partners
at the Pamoja Convening



CSRHE Workshop Kaduna 2



Digital Advocacy Bootcamp 1



Digital Advocacy Bootcamp 2



Digital Advocacy Bootcamp 3



Head Of Programme and the Communication
Office at the Pamoja convening in Lagos



MAMA Regional Meeting



Pamoja Power of Narrative Workshop



Participants at the force of stories
workshop



Participants at the Pamoja Power of
Narrative Workshop



Participants during an exercise at the
force of stories pamoja workshop

PHOTO REELS



Presentation of certificates at the
freefund closeout event



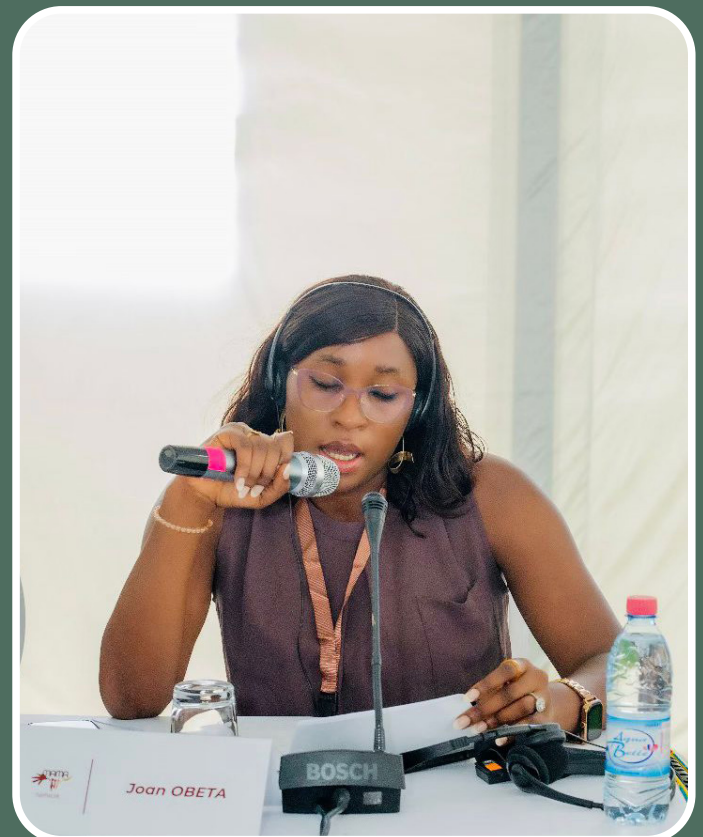
Team members & Partners at the
Empath Alliance Regional Meeting



Snap Section from the Pamoja force of
stories workshop



Snapshot of the Communication
& Advocacy Officer at the MAMA
Regional Meeting



Snapshot of the Communication
& Advocacy Officer at the MAMA
Regional Meeting



Team members at the Empath Alliance Regional Meeting



CEFM-GFF Community Visit 1



CEFM-GFF2



Power of narrative pamoja workshop



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