

# ADVANCING PARTNERS & COMMUNITIES YOUTH ACTIVITIES



[www.advancingpartners.org](http://www.advancingpartners.org)

Advancing Partners & Communities (APC) is a five-year project funded and managed by the U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) Office of Population and Reproductive Health. APC is implemented by JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc., in partnership with FHI 360. The project is designed to support USAID Missions to apply global learning and experience in implementation of programs at the country level. APC provides technical and organizational capacity development to in-country partners, as well as a grants solicitation and management mechanism to support nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) that do not yet meet USAID eligibility criteria, paired with technical assistance to help them bridge that gap.

APC recognizes the importance of addressing the unique needs of adolescents and youth as part of a comprehensive approach to strengthening community health systems and programs.

## CURRENT APC YOUTH ACTIVITIES

### In Asia and the Middle East:

- ▶ Works closely with regional bureaus and missions to determine priorities in the field of youth sexual and reproductive health (YSRH), to better understand the key issues, to determine the current scope of youth programming, and to support the development of local expertise in gender-sensitive youth programming.
- ▶ Developed an electronic dashboard that provides at-a-glance views of indicators related to the YSRH of people ages 10 to 24 years living in 17 USAID priority countries in Asia and the Middle East.
- ▶ Plans to host a regional technical meeting with local NGOs to strengthen and expand their organizational management and technical capacity to support youth and gender programming.
- ▶ Will support a local NGO in strengthening their YSRH and gender programming.

### In Nepal:

- ▶ Provided a small grant to the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) to work with youth centers and train peer educators in YSRH.

### In Tanzania:

- ▶ Supporting the USAID Mission to adapt an existing text message intervention to make it suitable for youth and to expand the message content to include information about puberty, HIV, STIs, and pregnancy.

### In Trinidad and Tobago and Suriname:

- ▶ Working with country teams to adapt *Positive Connections: Leading Information and Support Groups for Adolescents Living with HIV* for the local context and to include new information about youth affected by (not exclusively living with) HIV.
- ▶ Updating the countries' National Pediatric HIV Treatment and Care Guidelines.

### In Uganda:

- ▶ Collaborating with the USAID-funded Gender Roles, Equality and Transformations (GREAT) project in Northern Uganda to increase access to family planning for young people in and out of school in Northern Uganda.
- ▶ Working with the Salvation Army to integrate family planning into the existing Sustainable Community Responses for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (SCORE) project in Eastern Uganda by increasing access to community family planning.

### Building Connections with Faith-Based Organizations:

- ▶ Awarded a small grant to Christian Connections for International Health (CCIH) to help identify church communities in Uganda willing to engage in family planning services and pilot test materials to improve faith community family planning services for adults and youth.
- ▶ Working with CCIH to build the capacity of faith communities and faith-based organizations in family planning.

