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# YouthPower: Making Positive Youth Development Global

March 9, 2016  
At the World Bank



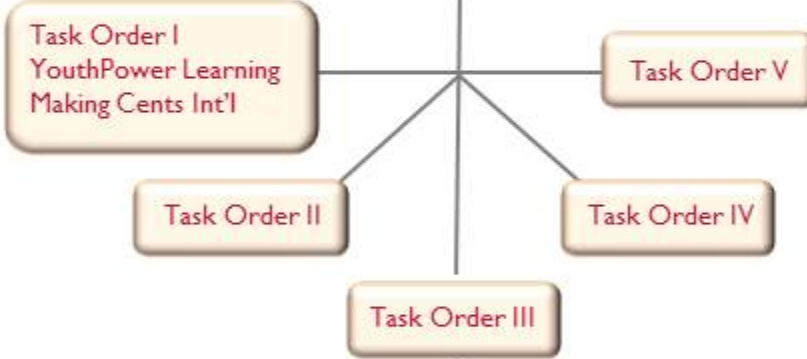
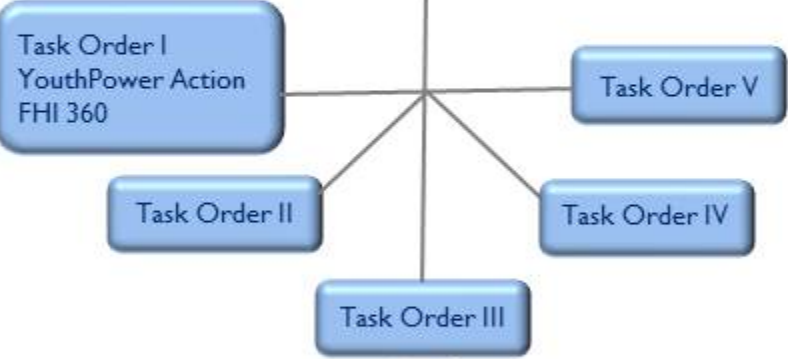
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# YOUTH POWER

Technical guidance integrating lessons learned under PYD

## Implementation

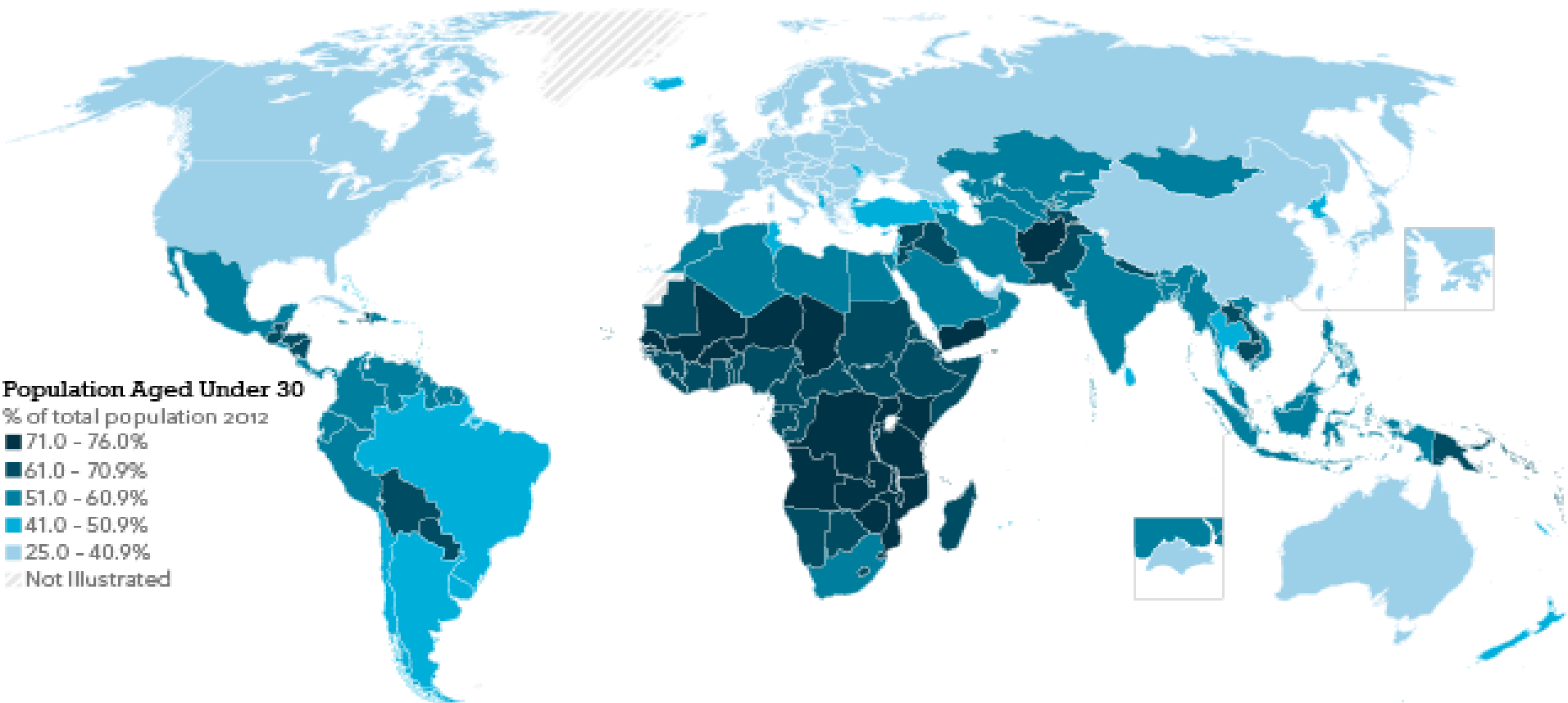
## Evidence & Evaluation



Contribution of lessons learned to build evidence base for PYD



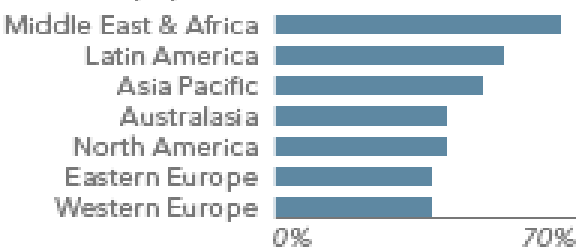
# Half the Global Population is Under the Age of 30



## Regional Population

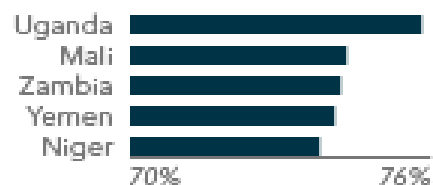
### Aged Under 30

% of total population 2012



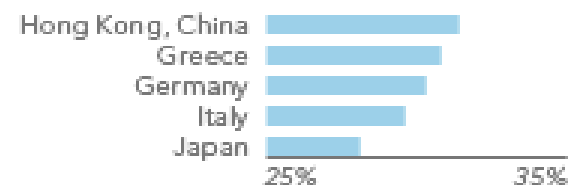
## Top 5 Aged Under 30

% of total population 2012



## Bottom 5 Aged Under 30

% of total population 2012





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## Relevant Research

### Prevention Research

What predicts and prevents poor outcomes?

### Resiliency Research

What explains success despite the odds?

### Youth Development Research

What predicts and promotes thriving?



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Source: Act Center  
for Youth Excellence,  
Cornell University



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## What is Positive Youth Development?

- Both a philosophy and an approach
  - A way of understanding young people that helps guide the design of policy, programs, supports and opportunities
- 
- Focus on strengths
  - Holistic
  - Youth engagement
  - All Youth
  - Everyone's role
  - Long term commitment



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## YouthPower: Definition of PYD

Positive Youth Development (PYD) engages youth along with their families, communities and/or governments so that youth are empowered to reach their full potential. PYD approaches build skills, assets and competencies; foster healthy relationships; strengthen the environment; and transform systems.



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## Positive Youth Development Features

- Build skills, assets, competencies
- Healthy relationships and role models
- Belonging/membership
- Clear norms, expectations and perceptions
- Youth engagement and contribution
- Safe spaces
- Access to integrated youth friendly services



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## Positive Youth Development Measurement Domains

- Assets
- Agency
- Enabling Environment
- Contribution

PYD programs recognize youth's inherent rights, and result in youth who have **assets**, the ability to leverage and act on those assets (**agency**), the ability to **contribute** to positive change for themselves and their communities, surrounded by an **enabling environment**.



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## PYD Achieves Multi-Sector Outcomes

Crime &  
Violence  
Prevention

Delay of  
Sexual Activity

Increased  
Academic/Soft  
Skills

Increased  
Community  
Engagement

Substance  
Abuse  
Prevention

Improved  
Relationships



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## YouthPower Learning and YouthPower Action

- Apply a PYD approach
- Undertake a series of core activities aimed to support and strengthen learning and implementation.
- Serve as a resource for implementation, assessment, evaluation, research, learning, program design, and technical assistance on a demand driven basis.



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USAID invests in PYD programs that:

If implemented well, programs with these elements will lead to...

Which will in turn contribute to these outcomes...

Engage young people, families and communities

Build skills, assets, and competencies

Foster healthy relationships

Strengthen the environment

Transform systems

Strengthened engagement of youth in development activities and policy-making process (IR 3)

Increased use of services and opportunities by Youth (IR 1)

Improved quality of services and opportunities for youth (IR 2)

### USAID's impact: healthy, productive and engaged youth

- Youth fully **participate** in democratic and development processes, play active roles in peacebuilding and civil society, and are less involved in youth gangs, criminal networks, and insurgent organizations.
- Youth are better able to access economic and social **opportunities**, share in economic growth, live healthy lives, and contribute to household, community, and national wellbeing.
- Youth have a **stronger voice** in, and are better served by local and national institutions, with more robust and youth friendly policies.

The indicator domains used to measure change

Contribution

Assets

Agency

Enabling Environment



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## Building Capacity on Positive Youth Development

- Train USAID Youth Corps and USAID Mission Staff
  - Developed curriculum on positive youth development, adolescent development, life and soft skills, youth engagement, measurement and systems analysis to enhance cross-sectoral program design
- Webinar on PYD
  - March 11, 2016
  - <http://bit.ly/1WSdbOZ>



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## Expanding the evidence base

- Meta review on PYD
  - how PYD approaches are being implemented across sectors in low and middle income countries, and what does the evidence say about their effectiveness
- YP Learning Grants within the COPs
  - Opportunity to answer real time question and test solutions
  - [youthpower.org/resources/learning-grant-RFA001](http://youthpower.org/resources/learning-grant-RFA001)
- Provides evidence and evaluation support
  - to USAID missions through field support buy-in options.



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## Expanding the evidence base

- Building girls social assets and healthy relationships
  - Implement girls mentoring pilot based on review of evidence
- Enhancing programs for adolescents living with HIV/AIDS
  - Engage youth to review evidence and give input on pilot
- Reviewing evidence about programs that integrate SRH programming with workforce development
  - Pilot integrated models to build evidence on cross-sectoral programming



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## Providing Guidance on Measurement

- Develop measurement framework and illustrative indicators
  - Support development of USAID F-indicators
- Develop references and provide support for PYD measurement
  - Toolkits
  - Training and Webinars
  - Technical Assistance
- Identify most important soft/life skills related to sexual and reproductive health outcomes and prevention of violent behaviors
  - Review of existing instruments to measure soft/life skills
  - Adapt and pilot instrument



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## Promoting collaboration and knowledge sharing

- Website: [youthpower.org](http://youthpower.org)
  - central repository of shared learning, as well as an active site for use by youth practitioners
- Communities of Practice (COPs)
  - social networks that drive discovery of promising practices in positive and cross-sectoral youth development.
    - Youth Engagement
    - Cross-sectoral Skills
    - Gender and PYD
    - Youth in Peace and Security
  - Join at: [youthpower.org/youthpower-communities](http://youthpower.org/youthpower-communities)



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## Putting PYD in Practice

- Five field activities
  - Nicaragua
  - Honduras
  - El Salvador
  - Kenya
  - Mozambique
- More field activities to come...



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## Nicaragua TVET SAY – Approach to PYD

- The Nicaragua Technical Vocational Education and Training Strengthening Program for At Risk Youth (TVET SAY) employs a holistic systems approach to strengthen the private TVET system to better serve at-risk youth along the Caribbean Coast.
- Youth provided with relevant technical training, including soft and life skills, to become capable employees and entrepreneurs.
- Offers differentiated support for higher risk youth, including psychosocial, family, and related wrap-around services.



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## Nicaragua TVET SAY - Results

- Build capacity of private TVETs to provide quality training and services to at-risk youth
- Establish partnerships with the private sector to place at-risk youth in jobs
- In the Caribbean Coast, 1,000 youth receive scholarships and employment support to attend TVET trainings
- Transform public perception of TVET as an effective means to prepare youth for employment
- Reduce youth involvement in crime and violence in the Caribbean Coast



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## Honduras Proponte Más - Approach to PYD

- Aims to reduce risk factors among youth and families at risk of joining gangs and/or engaging in criminal behavior in Honduras
- Provides support for alternative measures for youth in conflict with the law and in juvenile detention
- The project will build the capacity of youth-serving organizations to provide secondary prevention services, including family support; refer ARY and families to appropriate services; and strengthen family networks.



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## Honduras Proponte Más - Results

- Reduced empirically derived risk factors among youth and families
- Increased number of youth and families receiving secondary prevention services
- Increased number of eligible youth and families accessing additional support service



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