



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE FOR THE AFRICAN RENAISSANCE



ABOUT US

Africa Alliance of YMCAs (AAYMCAs) is a network of Young Men Christian Associations (YMCAs) in Africa, bringing together friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who seek a world of unity and where everyone takes action to create lasting change at the personal, community, national, continental and global level.

Founded in 1977, AAYMCAs' main purpose is to act as the principle body for multilateral representation. AAYMCA brings together 17 YMCA National Movements in Africa with a few other Movements in formation, with a strong mandate to harness our resources, share our experiences and face the challenges of the continent as a network. Through our vision, empowering young people for the African Renaissance, we reach thousands of young people every year through long-term services, development programmes and youth empowerment programmes.

As the secretariat, the Africa Alliance of YMCAs (AAYMCAs) operates as a Technical House. The AAYMCA is a multi-disciplinary team of experienced professionals offering strategic and technical expertise in all areas of organisational development and programme operation. Our member National Movements benefit from this approach through strategic oversight and capacity building. For more than 40 years, YMCAs in Africa have used their passion, resources and intelligence to take action on sustainable projects with the aim of empowering young people using our Change Model 'From Subject to Citizen (S2C)'. S2C is designed to unlock potential and equip youth with the skills and confidence to transform themselves and other young people to influence for positive change. The change model is implemented through the Power Space, a technology that ensures that our programmes give youth an opportunity to experience self-discovery, unlock their potential and connect to opportunities. Through our four thematic areas; Civic Action, Economic Renaissance, Transformative Masculinity and Youth Justice. We are always working to better our world, and we stay committed to the end, with special emphasis on the involvement of young people.

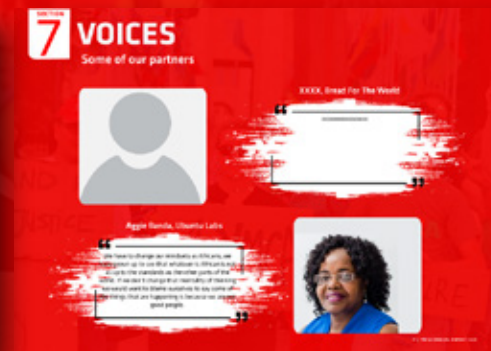
Our strength lies in our volunteer network, and our unparalleled strong emphasis on democratic leadership, transparent governance and inclusive participation of the communities we work with keep us rooted in our mission. Through our Mission to "to equip National Movements in empowering young African men and women with voice, space and ability to influence for the holistic transformation of their communities, nation and the African continent".

The Worldwide YMCA Movement

YMCA is one of the oldest and largest youth-focused movements in the world. Founded in 1844, it now operates in 120 countries and 12,000 communities, with 90,000 staff and 920,000 volunteers. It reaches some 64 million people every year. YMCA associations are strongly rooted in their communities and offer a variety of programmes and services based on local priorities and issues affecting young people.

World YMCA is committed to promoting empowerment, social justice and peace through four key areas - Health, Employment, Environment and Civic Engagement. These programme areas cover all 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and unite us in our mission to empower young people to make the world a better place.

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FOREWORD



FOREWORD

This year, we witnessed the insurgence of dangerous COVID-19 variants. The ongoing outbreaks of COVID-19 have continued to challenge the world with the virus developing new variants. Containment measures generally proved effective during 2021. However, the impact on African YMCAs, our communities and young people was significant. Despite all that, we continue to work in this very challenging environment, and we are proud of our powerful and committed youth and staff who remain undeterred, and willing to fight for every young person's rights.

We have been early adopters of the vaccine, with high numbers of staff vaccinated during the early phases of the vaccine roll-out. As an organisation, we fully support the vaccination programme.

Our pride and admiration for our youth, working to dismantle a system designed to kill their dreams and silence their voices. We continue to support our National Movements to ensure that young people have the resources and support they need to live healthy lives and thrive.

On behalf of the Leadership Team, we want to say a huge thank you to our staff, first and foremost, for your continued dedication through what has been an uncertain year. We have greatly appreciated your flexibility, adaptability, patience, and positive spirits.

Thank you to the Africa YMCA National Movements members and employees for the good work you have put in during the year and the support you have given the area alliance to deliver our unified vision and mission.

Another huge thank you is due to our partners, without whom we would not be able to provide the support that we are able to. You kept your focus on the wellbeing of young people in Africa and did whatever was needed to support their dreams and aspirations.

We are thankful for the brilliant working relationship we have established over the years, built on trust, transparency, and respect. It is an honour to serve YMCA together, and we are optimistic for the year ahead.

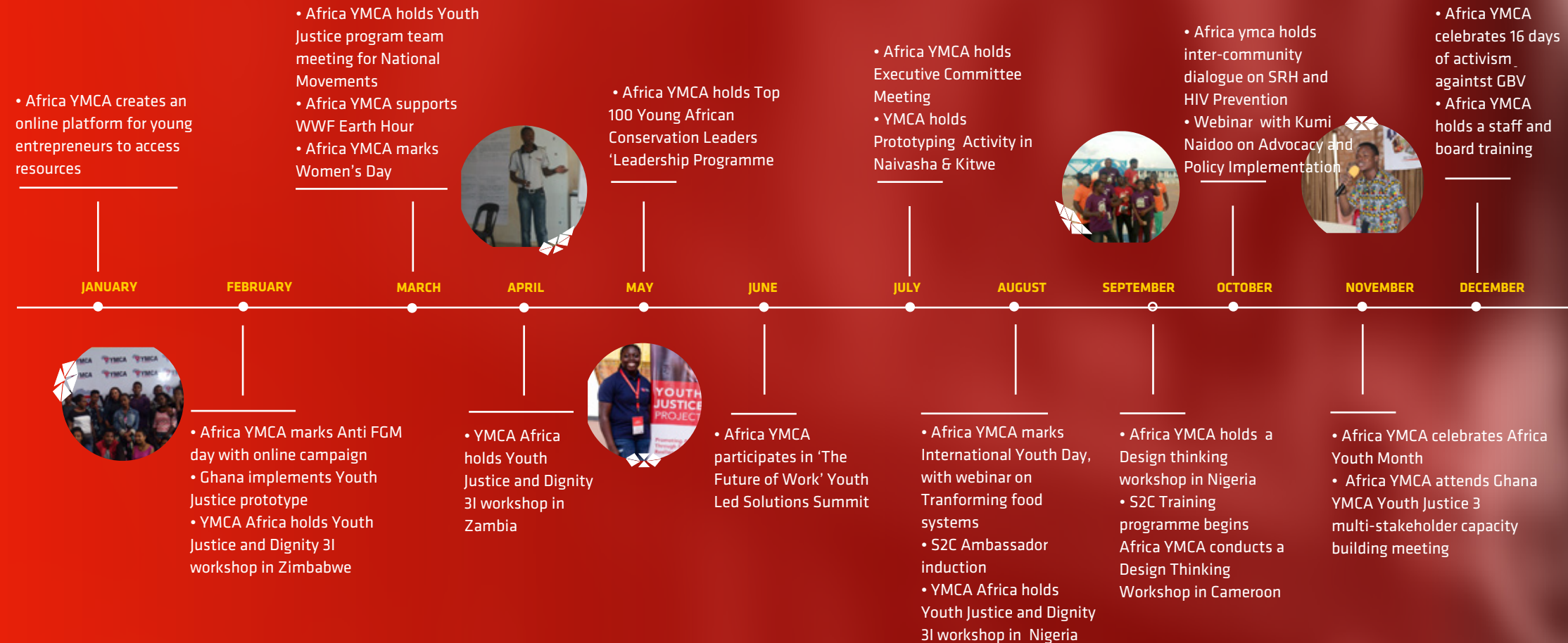


DR. ADRIEN COLY,
PRESIDENT

LANTONIRINA
RAKOTOMALALA,
GENERAL SECRETARY

AFRICA ALLIANCE OF YMCA

2021 AT A GLANCE



The Africa YMCA Movement

**42,529**

Members

+

**383**staff in 17 NMs
reached/supported for
programme &
leadership development

+

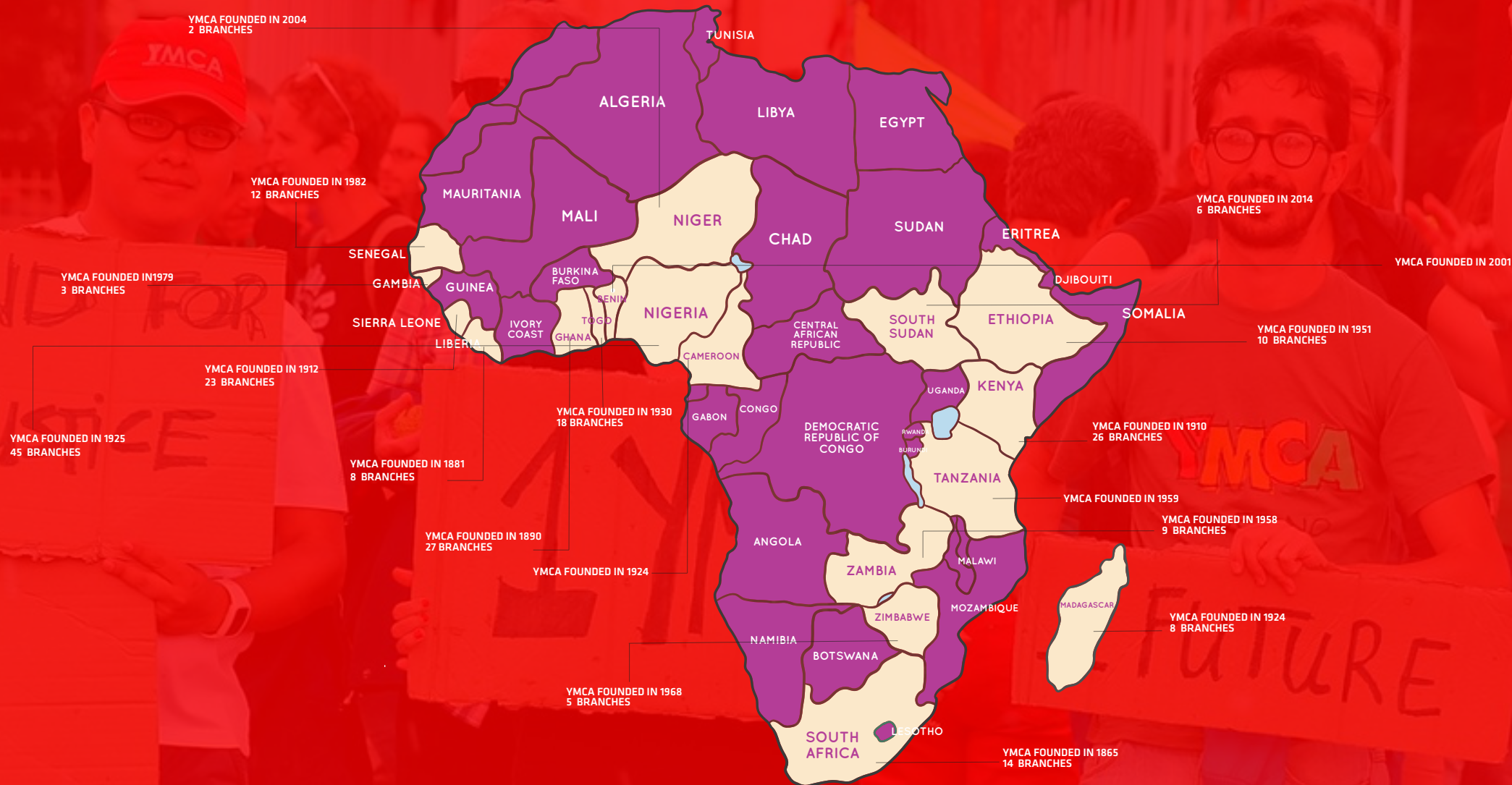
**216**YMCA local
branches in Africa

+

**4,276**

Staff & Volunteers

PRESENCE



COVID-19



COVID-19

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, most schools in YMCAs in Africa closed intermittently. However, in 2021, despite the struggle to bounce back and reopen most YMCAs were able to reopen and continue offering their services to the community.

YMCAs in Africa have also continued to provide many essentials and support young people and the community members to survive harsh economic, mental and health issues. This has helped in building resilience and building stronger families, communities, and democracies. The COVID-19 challenges presented unique opportunities for YMCAs in the communities we serve, including the opportunity to engage young people in the decisions around issues that impact their lives, the opportunity to help advance equity, and the opportunity to lift all youth voices, particularly those furthest from the decision-making table.

This year allowed us to step back and ask how we can use our resources to best serve our young people, resulting in many new and exciting initiatives. It is heart-warming to see these young people diligently pursuing their dreams of a better life. Together we are working our way through these difficult and trying times.



Ghana YMCA supporting Labone Girls Vocational School with food items, COVID-19 preventive equipment, sanitary pads and other health items to help improve the quality of life of the students.

VOICES

Some of our partners



Imke-Friederike Tiemann-Middleton, Bread For The World

“

AAYMCA and Bread for the World can now look back on an 8-year partnership that has grown steadily. From Bread for the World's point of view, AAYMCA manages not only to regard young people as a target group, but to make them real actors in the projects. The aim of empowering young people for the African renaissance is filled with life within the AAYMCA movement; young people get involved through their own spaces and thus contribute to important (political) discussions and shape their own future. Thanks to the AAYMCA, Bread for the World has often been able to draw on a network of active young thinkers who have been able to give new inputs to the work of Bread for the World through their views.

”

Aggie Banda, Ubuntu Labs

“

We have to change our mindsets as Africans, we have grown up to see that whatever is African is not as up to the standards as the other parts of the world. If we don't change that mentality of thinking we would want to blame ourselves to say some of the things that are happening is because we are not good people.

”



Cedric Dzelu, S2C Ambassador Alumni, Ghana



“The YMCA is here because we are committed to advancing global conservation and to reduce the effects of climate change. We run 2,400 programmes on environment-related issues around the world. We are a tool in the hands of young people and their communities.”

Dismus Osindi,
YMCA S2C ambassador and Change Agent, Kenya



“Nothing good than investing in young peopleempowering young people is empowering the future and the society”

Phumelele Hadebe -

Young Advocates for Change Alumni, UKZN Student YMCA, South Africa

“Being involved in the YMCA, threw me into what I call the deep end. I was encouraged to speak and do presentations in front of people. One of the most memorable experiences of the deep end was teaching English to young people at YMCA Madagascar through the YAC program. As challenging as it was, it gave me a self-esteem boost, improved my public speaking that boosted my confidence. I will always be grateful to the YMCA for helping me gain a skill that has helped me motivate change in the different youth and community spaces.”



”

National General Secretaries

Lloyd Gcinekile Masiye, NGS Zimbabwe YMCA

“

As Zimbabwe YMCA, we pledge to support youth empowerment and skills building for young people so that agenda 2063 becomes a reality

”

Jared Musima, NGS Kenya YMCA

“

The future is the youth and I believe that every government and every youth organisation should invest heavily in programmes that empower the youth because they are the leaders of tomorrow

”

Kwabena Nketia, NGS Ghana YMCA

“

Ghana YMCA is joining the rest of Africans to celebrate young africans for their continuous efforts towards achieving the Africa We Want through youth led solutions...we will to support youth empowerment and building skills of young people in Africa to ensure that the Agenda 2063 come to reality

”

Timotheus Kamaboakai, NGS Liberia YMCA

“

We want to use this Africa youth month to harness the energy and creativity of young people to create jobs to move towards sustainable livelihoods and work towards creating an Africa that we all can be proud of

”



ACTIVITIES



ACTIVITIES

PILLAR 1: SELF-SUSTAINING ECOSYSTEM

Ensure Sustainability of the Movement – how resources are generated and expedited in an efficient and self-perpetuating manner.

PROGRAMMES

Sustainability of the YMCA

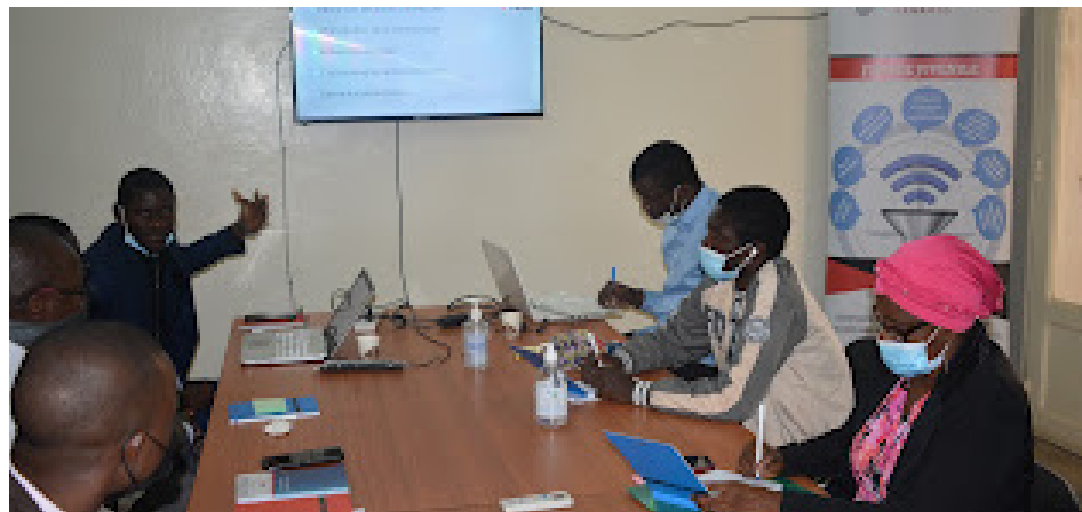
The overall goal of youth programming in Africa is to address the situation of young people in Africa and to support them to get into the driver's seat of the African Renaissance. AAYMCA continues to implement various youth programmes as well as support National Movements youth programme development. We focused on the four main thematic areas in this period, these include Civic Action, Economic Renaissance, Transformative Masculinity and Youth Justice. The results of this and other youth empowerment work are detailed in the sub-sections below.

This initiative is intended to provide support to two individual African National Movements (Senegal, & Togo) and the AAY, to rework and renew their approaches to sustainability in regard to the COVID-19 pandemic and aw post-Covid.

It further continued to follow up on two other National Movements (Zambia and Zimbabwe) to build momentum on the progress made to their sustainability in the last 3 years. So far these are the progress noted in different project areas.

Senegal YMCA set out to refine business plan with focus on risk management and profitability while seeking impact investment capital.

Previously, Senegal YMCA borrowed and paid off a bank loan of \$80K USD for a school expansion of 150 students. The current proposal will add 9 classrooms, refurbish 4 existing classrooms, improvements to the reception and security as well as introducing the Academy of Leadership. Working through a detailed analysis of the budget and developing a pro forma operating budget illustrating financial results with enrolments of 70%, 80%, 90% and 100% of target. A Risk Mitigation strategy will be developed.



Togo YMCA set out to refine their existing business plan on the agribusiness project in Aventionou and provided a business case for support. Through support of the German YMCA, property and demonstration crops/husbandry were developed and also trained young people in farming techniques.

During the last 3 years, the National Movement has been attempting to develop the agricultural initiative through small government grants. An investing partner is required to bring this project to a successful outcome. If this project is deemed as too risky, then assistance will be provided to develop another social enterprise initiative.

Zambia YMCA was selected for assistance in order to support them in their social enterprise development strategy that includes all Branches that will fund the growth of Youth programs and services. Zambia YMCA set out to finalize ongoing studies towards identifying viable investment to appropriate matured capital saving.

In regard to the aforementioned task, an initial meeting has established the framework for a working relationship going forward. Zambia YMCA renewal is worthy of a case study as it is now one of the strongest in Africa and in a growth/development cycle. Effective Leadership was recruited and challenging decisions were made resulting in the YMCA being clear of debt and poised for growth for all branches and the national office.



Zimbabwe YMCA to consolidate all business initiatives into a financial model projecting profitability and ROI. They carried out a Consultation intended to refocus the YMCA on a strategic development pathway. A National-wide social enterprise development strategy was planned as part of a Board meeting at the conclusion of the Site Visit. Each Branch had identified opportunities with both small-scale initiatives (generally agricultural) and a large-scale property redevelopment project for the National Office. ACLI participated in the selection of the new NGS in October 2019. As expected, the pandemic has shrunk the revenue base.

Africa YMCA to refine and launch one micro social enterprise initiative.

The Africa YMCA itself needs to develop a sustainability plan to fund its activities beyond grant support from several World-wide National movements.

A set of potential initiatives were reviewed, assessed and prioritized.

YMCA Finland: Climate Smart Agriculture

The Climate Smart Agriculture project with the objective of promoting youth employability in Kenya through Agri-business, Vocational and Entrepreneurial skills training has had activities implemented successfully during the first year of implementation 2021. The project noted an increased crop output from the climate smart demonstration plot as compared to the traditional farming plots, As a result of the project, the following are some of the main results were also recorded:

There has been partial sponsorship of 100 (40 males, 60 females & 5 people living with disabilities) vulnerable youth undertaking various certificate and diploma courses. The students at KYCAT are excited to learn climate smart agriculture which is in tandem with environmental conservation. There's been development of marketing campaigns including a pod-cast for NTI. During implementation, team procured supportive equipment for people living with disabilities including walking sticks, hearing aids and wheelchairs and training of teachers in sign language which is ongoing, construction of ramps for access by persons with disabilities at NTI and KYCAT. The students and the local community have come to appreciate climate smart agriculture which has been adapted at the College. 10 local farmers paid a study visit to the Kenya YMCA College of Agriculture and Technology

PILLAR 2: YMCA POWER SPACE - YOUTH POWERING INTO THE FUTURE

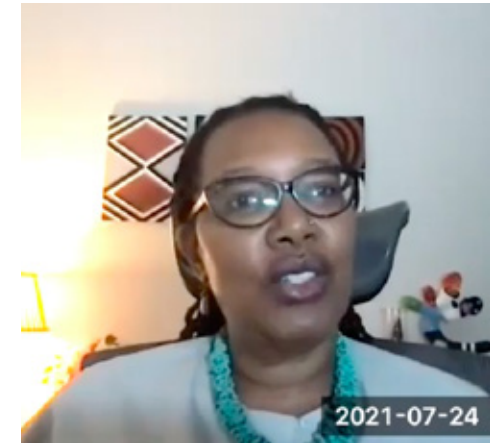
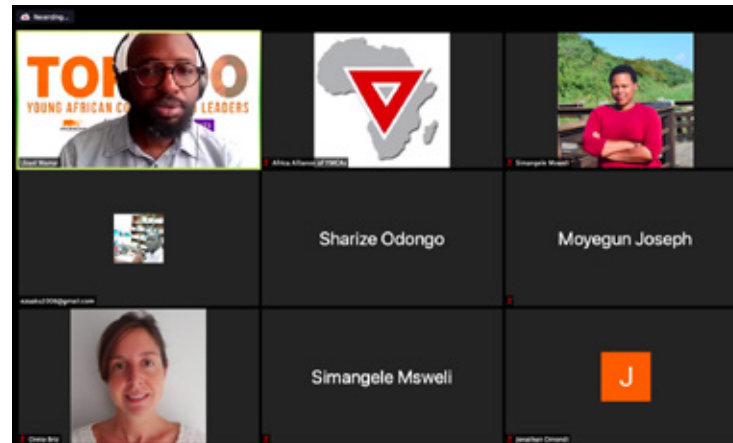
Revitalise African YMCAs as the attractive space for young people as sustainable institutions with diverse resource base and skills for youth empowerment

Civic Action

S2C Ambassadors

The Youth Leadership Development work was centered on the S2C Ambassadors. A total of 35 young persons were recruited from 18 National Movements including 2 physically challenged young people. 17 Males and 18 females were recruited. For personal reasons, 3 persons have withdrawn from the program; one each from South Africa, Zambia and Kenya. Zambia and South Africa have been replaced. The appended sub-report shows the full list of individuals, including their nationalities. The actual training began with an orientation session held on the 25th of September, 2021. Sessions were led by Dr. Katindi Sivi-Njonjo from Longview (Africa Futures Foundation), Sarah Mpapuluu (Think Place Kenya) and Heriniaina Randriamalala (YMCA Madagascar). These sessions are ongoing

As part of the S2C training, the AAYMCA provided sponsorship for one of the S2C Ambassador; Francisca Ohnewaa Francisca Ohnewaa from Ghana who had an outstanding performance during the training to attend the African Youth SDG summit in Addis Ababa Ethiopia. The three days' summit was held from the 9th to the 11th of March, 2022 under the theme "Youth Resilience in the Covid-19 era; pathways to accelerate actions towards achieving the SDGs", and was intended to connect youth in Africa to learn about the sustainable development Goals and to empower them to contribute actively to its implementation, monitoring and accountability



Top 100 young African conservationists engagement and training

African Wildlife Foundation together with Africa Alliance of the YMCA, World Scouts Movement, and WWF consortium invited youth networks and conservation organizations to nominate young people under the age of 35 who are actively involved over the last three years in impactful conservation work at community, national, or international levels in Africa. A total of 565 nominations were received but 100 were selected for the award. The Top 100 then had access to a one-year leadership development programme aimed at enabling them have knowledge and skills to improve design of their initiatives, implementation model, community engagement, networking and resource mobilisation.

The Top 100 one-year leadership development programme provided the top 100 with knowledge and skills to improve design of their initiatives, implementation model, community engagement, networking and resource mobilisation. The programme also gave the Top 100 access to mentorship from industry leaders in nature and wildlife conservation. Further, they had access to information resources and tools to enable them better manage their initiatives, monitor and scale and sustain their initiatives. The leadership programme ended in December 2021.

Youth Justice

Youth Justice and Dignity

AAYMCA continued to support the expansion of the Power Space that promotes innovation and co-creation by Innovative, Human Centred and Scenarios Based youth-led programmes that promote youth resilience activities. Design Thinking workshops on Human Centered Design approaches to Youth, Dignity and Justice were held in 4 YMCA National Movements.

1. Zimbabwe

As a result of the Design Thinking Workshops, The YMCA Zimbabwe began implementing Powerspace prototypes in Bulawayo. The PowerSpace targets young people (18-25) in conflict or at risk of conflicting with the law from low-income situations with no access to credit to expand their businesses. Staff and partners facilitate training in entrepreneurship and life skills and the YMCA provides an experimental start-up capital/loan for business sustenance, growth, and to establish evidence for the launch of a revolving fund. The participants are identified through community case workers, gatekeepers, and the local juvenile hostel (Percy Ibbotson Rehabilitation Hostels).

The Ministry of Youth, Sports, Arts and Recreation, Ministry Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (SMEs), Bulawayo Vendors and Traders Association (BVTA) and Bulawayo City Council (Recreation Department) have been part of the stakeholders that have engaged the young people during their trainings giving them relevant information about how they can benefit from their organisations.

2. Nigeria

The YMCA conducted Low-cost Experiments in two locations in Northern (Kaduna) and Western (Lagos) Nigeria on 20th and 16th December 2021 respectively. The Kaduna experiment had 56 people in attendance. 15 makeup artists within the following age groups participated: 10 to 15 years – 1 person; 16 to 20 years – 7 persons; 21 to 25 years – 5 persons; 26 to 30 years – 1 person; 31 to 35 years – 1 person. The Lagos Experiment had 30 sex workers in attendance, 11 within the following age group participated in the survey: 18 to 25 years – 10 persons; 26 to 35 years – 1 person

3. Cameroon

During the reporting period Cameroon YMCA carried out three main activities: a focus group discussion, a Design Thinking Workshop and African Youth Month activities. The focus group discussion took place on the 15th of September 2021 at the Yaounde Listening and Transit Center. Staff gathered 12 street children together to understand their living conditions in order to design a programme according to their feedback, but also to use their answers as the case studies for the situation of street children in Cameroon. After the Design Thinking workshop, Cameroon were not able to implement the PowerSpace prototype answer to the Design challenge: How might we engage youth living in the streets of Yaoundé to access sustainable livelihoods and reduce their reliance on illicit drugs?

On the 9th of March 2022, the AAYMCA through the Youth Justice program held a program team meeting for National Movements implementing the Youth program. The meeting was attended by 16 persons including 2 national General secretaries and 14 program managers and program leads. The meeting provided an update on thematic area leads in areas of sustainability, learning and international reach as well as a reflection on the plan for the group for effective delivery in 2022.

Ghana YMCA

The Eastern Regional YMCA has held a mega sensitization workshop for members of the Koforidua 'Pragya' [Tricycle] Riders Association on 25th August 2021 to educate them on their rights and responsibilities as road users. The workshop which was held at the Eastern Regional YMCA office received over three hundred commercial try-cyclists who engaged directly with high-level officers from key stakeholders and regulators such as the Ghana Police Service, the Drivers' Vehicle Licensing Authority (DVLA), National Youth Authority (NYA), Motor Traffic and Transport Department (MTTD), Road Safety Commission and the Municipal Guard.

The workshop was part of the Ghana YMCA's Youth Justice III project which seeks to strengthen the resilience of young people at risk of offending the law, young people in conflict with the law and young ex-detainees. This workshop was as an unprecedented opportunity for the cyclists who are generally marginalized by stakeholders to hold an open conversation with authorities and receive education on road safety regulations.

In the Ashanti Region, the project team organised a workshop for young people at Wawase and its environs to sensitise them on how to avoid conflict with the law and educate them on how law enforcement agencies process conflict with the law.

The Region also held a short football tournament for young people in the town which was crowned with a beautiful trophy presented by the Regional Director of the Ashanti-BA YMCA. The Volta Regional YMCA also held a workshop to sensitise young people on how law enforcement officers deal with juvenile cases in accordance with the law, the role of citizens, especially the youth in crime prevention and the importance of fostering good police-citizen relationships.



The YMCA Data Community Initiative was launched in June 2021, with five information webinars and two video tutorials. The platform is a shared space to identify staff and Board members, and to house information on YMCA in-country operational programmes which can lead to a set of common indicators to measure impact.

All YMCA National Movements were granted access to the platform, and to date 42 are actively participating by populating the platform with data.

Other data improvements include: a listing of all online presence across all National Movements; the addition of new data for tracking the 'Fair Share' (financial contribution) system and the voting status of National Movements; and a new and customised online voting system which was developed and tested in September, reducing the time taken to vote from hours to minutes.

A new on-line platform, Cvent, was chosen to host World YMCA Governance meetings and the World Council 2022. The Cvent platform incorporates registration and all event information. It houses in one place all the data needed for any large online or physical event.

Transformative Masculinity

SexManenoz

Transformative masculinity is an approach used by AAYMCA to counter male disempowerment by allowing for a broader understanding of what it means being a real man. Transformative masculinity

explores the different sides of what it means being masculine and how men can find their role as

men in a changing society.

The project dubbed Sexmanenoz (Swahili slang for Sexual Reproductive Health matters) 'applied Human-Centered Design to develop interventions for positive masculinity to promote adoption of sexual reproductive health and rights products and service for women of reproductive age in Kenya and Zambia. The program was being implemented through the Powerspace methodology, a conversational space that allows for conversations around gender matters in Kenya and Zambia. The focus was on identifying and addressing issues around gender through education, challenging social cultural norms and influencing policy change.



Girls like money & we cant afford to keep up with them."

- A 17-year-old boy from Kitwe

If you have a garden and you don't water it, others will water it for you."

- A 29-year-old woman from Livingstone

Relationships

Relationships are centered on financial benefits and perceived as casual for short-term benefits.

There is the expectation that relationships should come with financial gains. Adolescent girls and young women expect their partners to be able to provide for their financial requirements. Transactional sex within relationships is present. Young women in their 20s will mostly date older men who can provide financially. The older men who in most cases are married will therefore play a role in facilitating the use of condoms or supporting the young women to take up a family planning method. This leaves young men with fewer options and a negative perception of relationships. In general, community perceives adolescents engaging in sex as promiscuous and a show of disrespect to their guardians. However, for young men and especially women at certain ages, they are encouraged to seek out sexual relationships but with the aim of it leading to marriage.

Teenage relationships despite being frowned upon are rampant and involves sex.

A number of adolescents are in relationships despite society expectations that they should not be. While girls expect financial gain from these relationships, boys in return expect sex. Guardians discourage teenage relationships and will advise their children, especially the girls, to stay away from early relationships but will often avoid discussing matters about sex. However, it is openly known that teenagers are getting into sexual relationships even though it is not widely accepted. The norm seems to be shifting as teenage relationships are becoming rampant and silently tolerated by the general community.

During the research phase, the team engaged with a total of 250 participants from Livingstone and 500 participants from Kitwe respectively. In depth interviews and focus group discussions were conducted with participants from both YMCA membership and the community level to provide a representative sample that reflects the community state as accurately as possible.

In Kenya, the team engaged with a total of 277 participants in Naivasha and 312 participants in Nyeri respectively, making a total of 589 participants. In-depth interviews and focus group discussions were conducted with participants from both YMCA and the community to provide a representation of the general population's perception and motivation within the context of the study. These sessions were conducted in YMCA centres and other locations most convenient to our participants.

The project reached 750 youth in Zambia and 589 in Kenya.

[FULL REPORT](#)

Economic Renaissance

Building Youth Livelihoods Resilience

The Building Youth Livelihoods Resilience initiative strategy was to create an online platform for young entrepreneurs to access resources and skills building that can help them keep their businesses operating/pivoting or at least hibernating to enable them to bounce back quickly after the pandemic. This prototype initiative was built upon the architecture of AAYMCA's programme methodology, the Power Space, that enables young people experience self-discovery, unlock potential and connect to opportunities on an online platform. In its pilot phase, the project targeted young entrepreneurs in urban areas of Madagascar (Antananarivo), Zimbabwe (Harare and Bulawayo), Ethiopia (Bahir Dar) and South Sudan (Juba).

The initiative commenced with the recruitment of mentors to support the content creation for the platform. Participating National Movements recommended at least 17 Mentors, both staff and volunteers to support content creation and support youth on the platform. Created content was posted on the platform and later promoted through our social media platforms Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. The webinars mainly focused on self-awareness with the mobilization undertaken through our social media platforms and newsletter.



The progress with this initiative has demonstrated the potential of migrating more programmes to online platforms making them accessible to as many young people as possible. The content on the platform is now also being used in prototypes in Madagascar, Ghana and Zimbabwe that are also aimed at building youth livelihoods although they are not entirely based online. This has therefore proved that the online platform can serve as a library of digital content that can be used both online and offline for youth livelihoods initiatives.

This prototype initiative has provided much learning for the AAYMCA about the possibilities of youth engagement through online platforms away from social media. It has also demonstrated the wealth of knowledge from within the YMCA from the fact that the content on the platform was exclusively generated from within the movement. AAYMCA will continue in 2021 to improve the platform with the intention of expanding its reach and providing more content for young entrepreneurs. AAYMCA is appreciative of the support of Y Care International that made it possible to particularly set up the infrastructure to make the platform a reality.



Advocacy

Africa Youth month

Further, In November 2021, the Africa Alliance of YMCAs celebrated the Africa Youth Month through National Movements under the theme: “Defining the future today: Youth-Led solutions for building the Africa we want.” Activities were led by the current Subject to Citizen Ambassadors where they organized various activities with the assistance of the S2C Ambassadors Alumni. 801 men, 721 women, 1522 people in total participated in various activities across the continent. The process was preceded by an invitation to the youth leaders to send proposals for funding for between 500 – 900 USD each, depending on the capacity of the Movements. AAYMCA disbursed the monies in response to the proposals. A total of USD \$14,125 was disbursed. A detailed report of the activities and thematic focus of each of the youth is appended.



Global Youth Mobilization for Generation Disrupted (GYMGD) Report

In December 2020 the Big 6 Youth Organizations with co-funding from the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Foundation, launched the Global Youth Mobilization for Generation Disrupted (GYMGD) a two-year initiative.

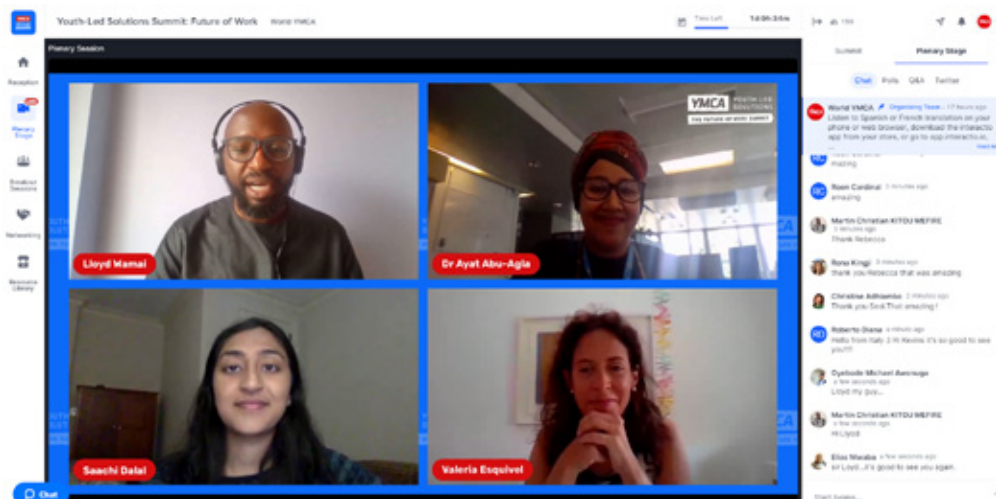
The GYMGD aimed to change the narrative towards highlighting the efforts that young people all over the world are making to support their communities to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Young people were severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in areas of missed opportunities in education, employment, as well as lack of health care. The Pandemic further exposed them to domestic violence and they suffered from loneliness and mental health issues after loss of their loved ones and even themselves losing their lives. These negative impacts were recognized by the Big 6 Youth Organizations and World Health Organization, hence the GYMGD aimed to address them and motivate young people to take action in their local communities to support response and recovery plans.

The Big 6 Alliance of Youth Organizations consists of World YMCA, World YWCA, World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM), World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Guides (WAGGGS), The Duke of Edinburgh, International Award and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). Each of them allocated USD 200,000 each for their respective national movements to fund national initiatives to the tune of USD\$5,000 – USD\$15,000.

Ten National Movements from the Africa Alliance of YMCAs presented their innovative ideas under the provided guidelines to the GYMGD evaluation team. YMCA Cameroon, YMCA Ethiopia, YMCA Ghana, YMCA Kenya, YMCA Nigeria, YMCA Sierra Leone, YMCA Togo, Zimbabwe YMCA qualified and received cumulative funding of up to \$ 85,500.00 for the African Movement in general.

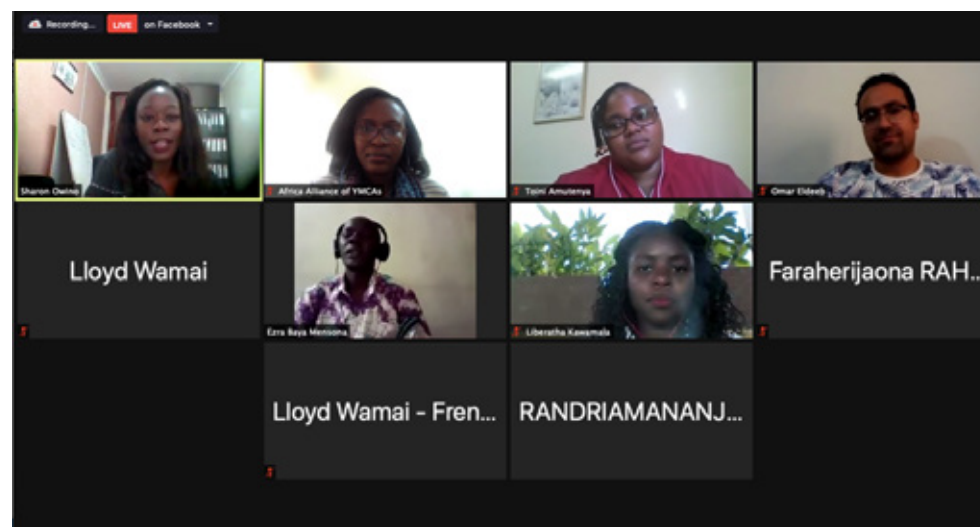
Youth-Led Solutions Summit

AAYMCA facilitated participation of youth teams from across the continent in the first ever Youth Led Solutions Summit on Climate change that was held online. Working with our partners, the Africa Wildlife fund (AWF) and the Worldwide fund for Nature Regional Office for Africa (WWF (ROA)), we prepared a record number of a total of 233 individual participants arranged in 29 teams. This was the largest contingent of participants among all the participants in the world. 6 of these teams were awarded with seed funding at various levels to implement various youth led activities. One of the teams From Ndola YMCA in Zambia was featured as a team of immense impact across the world movement, and sent a representative -Rebecca Nkunde - to COP 26 in Scotland.



International Youth Day

In celebration of International Youth Day, the Africa Alliance of YMCAs hosted a webinar that will take place on the 12 of August 2021. The webinar will highlighted expert opinion and presentations in the thematic areas of Agriculture and Food Security, Food Security and policy, Environmental conservation and Climate change held via zoom.



PILLAR 3: DYNAMIC FAMILY OF INFLUENCE

This entails a strong Movement with an entrenched fraternity that grows from 17 National Movements to at least 34 movements by 2026.

Capacity building

AAYMCA's Capacity Building activities focused on ensuring that National Movements are well governed, mission centered and self-sustaining. This is guided and expected to contribute to the long-term strategy, the Y 3.0, specifically the pillars on the Ecosystem, Family of influence, Service and Impact.

Board training & Staff training

13 Executive Committee members were trained on safety, Sustainability and the role of Boards in Human Centered approaches to youth dignity and Justice.

From Wednesday 10th November to Saturday 13th November 2021, AAYMCA conducted an Agile Governance staff and board training workshop at the Gracia Gardens in Nairobi. The training was attended by all the staff of the AAYMCA as well as the Deputy President and treasurer of the AAYMCA Executive Committee. The training focused on strengthening Board capacities towards agile governance for the 21st century leadership styles and empowering young people towards a sustainable future.



GOVERNANCE



GOVERNANCE

Executive Committee meeting

The Executive Committee conducted a virtual meeting on 17-18 July 2021. In solidarity, the committee noted that the world is still coming to terms with the pandemic and that there was need for everyone to adapt to the new norm. Furthermore, there was noted the need to address the effects of the pandemic in all dimensions: political, economic, social and technological.

One of the more critical strategies recommended by the committee was a focus on sustainability and innovation. It was also highlighted that the Movement needs to be proactive and realize that the best help will only come from Africa - thus there is need to generate and access resources from within the continent. It was noted that for Africa to turn the crisis into opportunity, the continent needs to invest in innovation in terms of governance, management, programs – with digital and data collection being improved.

During a discussion on African YMCAs walking with the global movement, the Executive Committee members pointed out the need for the African movement to work with the global movement but with increased engagement and collective action aimed at building impact. The Committee underlined the need for a unified voice, and good preparation while participating in global events. This preparedness should start from the grassroots, upwards to the regional level.

Regarding the African Renaissance, it was noted that this vision evolves emanates from agenda 2063 and informs the work of the Movement. On the other hand, the World Alliance of YMCAs is just now coming with vision 2030. The Africa Movement is proud to be ahead in vision setting.

Africa YMCA Liaison office in Ethiopia

AAYMCA provided Ethiopia YMCA with funding for the set-up of a Liaison office in Addis. The support also included branding tools, a special charter (currently pending the full go-ahead of the Executive Committee) and provisions for meetings in the lead up to the Africa Youth Day.

Provisionally, the following have been agreed upon as the objectives of the Liaison office:

To build the institutional capacity of the YMCA network to conduct Advocacy around AGA, AGP, AU Agenda 2063, AU Shared Values Instruments, African Charter on Democracy and AUC Youth Engagement Strategy

To make the day-to-day cooperation between the AU and the network of YMCAs in Africa, based on the AU's charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (Article 31) and the African Youth Charter a possibility.

To support the Headquarters in Nairobi to play its role as the institutional entry point for the African YMCA to the AU as well as the advocacy and strategic engagement point with the AU, African States, Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and CSOs.

To act as a repository for all research material and policy documents coming out of the programmes, projects and activities of the YMCA (including events and celebrations) and shall be a critical point of dispersion of these materials to all relevant offices and persons within the AU.

To host and participate in events related to the vision of the AAYMCA with and for the African Union, especially in Addis Ababa. This may include representation in continental and regional meetings held in Addis Ababa.



GOVERNANCE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr Adrien Coly - President

Ms Queen Ndlovu - Vice President

Mr Du Prince Tchakoté Noubissi - Treasurer

Mr Reynolds Kissiedu - Western Zone Representative

Mr Mathang Ruby Francisco - Southern Zone Representative

Ms Norris Loleyah Hawa - Gender Representative

Mr Yirga Gebregziabher Assefa - Eastern Zone Representative / World Alliance

Executive Committee Member

Mr Kevin Kodjo Dodji Fiashinou - World Alliance Executive Committee Member

Dr Nompumelelo Thabethe - World Alliance Executive Committee Member

Ms Irene Ayimba - World Alliance Executive Committee Member

Mr Ronald Senghore - World Alliance Executive Committee Member

Ms Frances Boi-Kadé Reffell - Youth Representative

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Mr James Ekow Rhule

PAST GENERAL SECRETARY

Mr Carlos Madjri Sanvee

STAFF AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

Ms Lantonirina Rakotomalala - General Secretary

Mr Lloyd Wamai - Programmes Innovation & Management Executive

Ms Anne Kotut - Administrator/P.A to the General Secretary

Mr Francis Indangasi - Accounts Officer

Ms Elizabeth Nanjala - Finance and Human Resource Manager

Mr Osborne Wanyama - Business Development Advisor

Mr Christian Kamara - Zonal Facilitator, West Africa

Ms Lavine Imali - Communications Officer

Mr Jared Musima - Eastern Zonal Facilitator

Ms Julliana Ndavi - Grants Accountant

13 PARTNERSHIPS



PARTNERSHIPS

PILLAR 4: IMPACT/SERVICE

The overall result of the YMCA engagement with Africa, the eventual difference that the movement makes by being present and active- this extends to the youth and to systems that relate to the youth in general.

Affiliated partners



Funding partners



Supporting partners



Figures to follow

SECTION

15

YMCA WORLDWIDE



WORLD YMCA IN 2021

ENHANCING IMPACT ON YOUNG PEOPLE

The three-day YMCA Youth Led Solutions Summit on the Future of Work in June 2021 empowered young people with knowledge about how the world of work is changing. Nearly 800 young people from over 100 countries attended the Summit and had access to over 40 hours of interactive online engagement provided by 150 contributors. The Summit focused on new opportunities emerging in the Green (Day 1), the Care (Day 2) and the Creative (Day 3) economies. 71 Solution Teams were then formed to design solutions and ideas on youth employment and entrepreneurship. 27 final seed grant awards for successful solutions were announced in December 2021, worth some USD 170,000 in total, including USD 70,000 managed by Y USA.



350 people worldwide registered for the YMCA Youth Led Solutions Summit on Mental Health and Wellbeing held with Y Australia on World Mental Health Day, 10 October, and 150 joined the event and heard keynote speeches and a panel discussion. They then joined in the advanced co-creation of the Open Manifesto, a set of principles and guidelines for YMCAs working in mental health, and a prototype digital Wellbeing platform, 'the World of Wellbeing'.

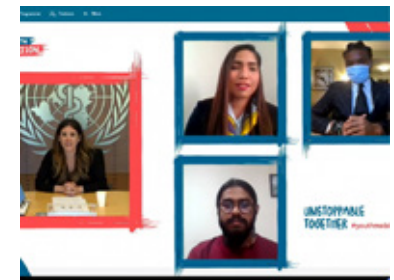
After the YMCA Youth Led Solutions Summit on Climate Action of October 2020, World YMCA announced in March 2021 that 35 local climate action projects would be funded. Final seed grant awards of successful solutions were announced for 27 Solution teams from 14 countries, for a total USD 170,000 in November 2021. The top categories of these projects were waste management, advocacy & activism, food security, green economy & employment, and conservation. Six of the projects were also selected as focal projects for YMCA at the 'COP 26' Conference in Glasgow in November 2021. An 18-strong team of young YMCA delegates from all over the world had access to the 'Blue' (governmental) Zone of the Meeting, as well as a series of events in the 'Green' (non-governmental) Zone.

In February, World YMCA issued a statement calling for free and equal access to Covid vaccination for all. In the wake of the Afghanistan crisis, it held an online webinar.

Other individual advocacy calls for action concerned Myanmar, systemic racism, Women, Earth Hour, Colombia, Palestine and Ethiopia. It ran the World YMCA-YMCA Week of Prayer and Fellowship in November, on the theme of 'Beauty from Brokenness'.

PARTNERSHIPS

In April 2021, World YMCA worked closely with its Global Youth Mobilization partners to deliver the Global Youth Summit, which featured a YMCA ambassador speaking alongside the WHO Director General and climate activist Greta Thunberg at the launch event. 18 National projects (with an estimated collective reach of over 120,000 people) were approved in July for funding of USD 199,000.



The World YMCA joined its partners in the 'Big Six' - the world's largest youth-led and youth-focused organizations, reaching some 250 million people a year - in a new coalition that brings together any and all such youth organizations who are committed to working together for young people and future generations.

The Coalition launch came two weeks after the publication of the UN's Our Common Agenda Report, which presented a 25-year vision on the future of global cooperation, and made a number of strong recommendations for empowering young people.



In June 2021, the World Alliance was invited to join the ILO's Decent Jobs for Youth platform as a partner. In July, it was granted complimentary membership in MIT's new SolveED programme of interactive courses on entrepreneurship and innovation. In 2021 World YMCA and WWF worked together on an Earth Hour campaign in March, and the global biodiversity agreement in September.

JOURNEYING TOGETHER AS ONE WORLDWIDE MOVEMENT

All five YMCA Communities of Impact worked towards their goals of collating and multiplying best policy and practice across the worldwide Movement in 2021: Employment and Entrepreneurship; Mental Health; Refugees; Climate Action; Policy and Advocacy.

The YMCA Data Community Initiative was launched in June 2021. 42 YMCA National Movements are actively populating the platform.

Some 115 News stories were published over the course of the year 2021, all of which fed into monthly news bulletins and social media (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram).

SUPPORTING THE POST-COVID FINANCIAL RECOVERY OF THE MOVEMENT

In 2020, the YMCA [Covid] Solidarity Fund made grants of almost CHF 380,000 to support 27 National Movements, saving or supporting an estimated 380 jobs in the process. In 2021, 70% of these grants finalised their grant cycle and approved final reports.

World YMCA developed the first stage of a multi-year and multi-phase partnership with the HP (Hewlett Packard) LIFE Foundation to accelerate digital equity, receiving USD 70,000 to work with five YMCAs to encourage the uptake of HP LIFE courses as part of the YMCAs' ongoing programmes.

GOVERNANCE

In March 2021, World YMCA proposed a number of Constitutional Amendments designed to make the organization fitter and leaner for the 21st Century. These included reducing the size and composition of the Executive Committee while newly including external members. World YMCA consulted the Movement, and the changes were approved at an Extraordinary World Council Meeting on 30 October 2021.

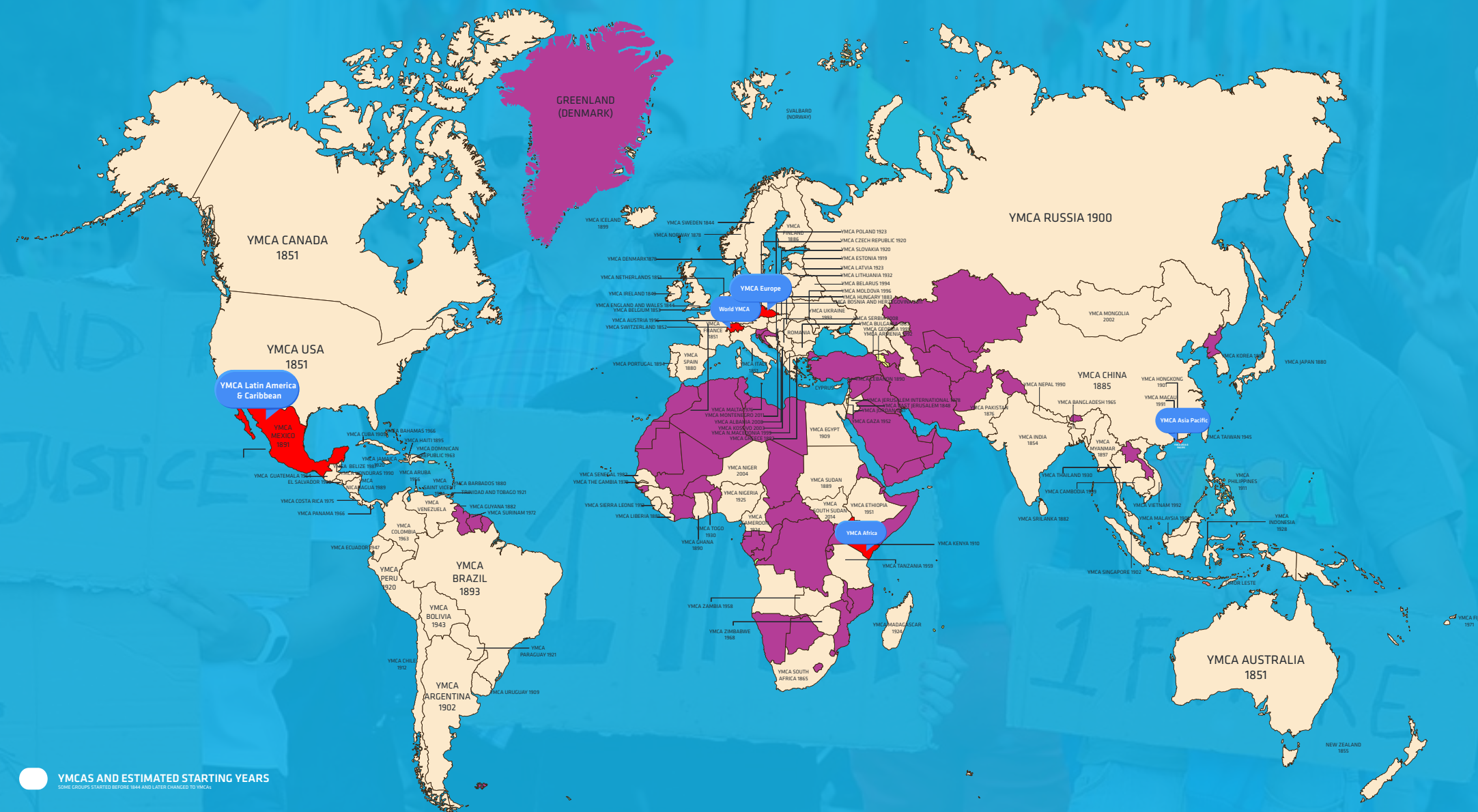
LOOKING FORWARD

The Vision 2030 process – agreeing the global YMCA's shared vision, mission and priority action areas for the next decade – intensified in 2021. The four priority areas are Community Wellbeing, Meaningful Work, Sustainable Planet, Just World. In September, over 450 people attended five information webinars on Draft 1. Thereafter Draft 2 was circulated for a second round of consultation in December.



In April 2021, World YMCA confirmed that the 20th YMCA World Council would take place in July 2022, as a hybrid part-physical, part-online event. Intense preparations began, and registration opened on 1 November 2021.





YMCAS AND ESTIMATED STARTING YEARS

SOME GROUPS STARTED BEFORE 1844 AND LATER CHANGED TO YMCA's



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