

# EngenderHealth Capabilities in Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights



## ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

EngenderHealth offers **expertise in sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and family planning, maternal health, and gender equity**. EngenderHealth is committed to creating transformative, sustainable change by advancing SRH rights as human rights, expanding access to critical health information and training, and delivering quality services. With funding from various donor agencies, private foundations, and other funding institutions, EngenderHealth collaborates with governments, private sector partners, local organizations, and communities to achieve such change. In program year 2019–2020, EngenderHealth implemented an **annual revenue of \$35 million**. During this period, EngenderHealth supported activities in **16 countries across Asia, Africa, and the Americas** through which we achieved the following results:

**Our vision: A world where sexual and reproductive rights are respected as human rights and women and girls have the freedom to reach their full potentials**

- **2,535,760** individuals received **contraceptive care**
- **4,184,900** unintended **pregnancies were averted**
- **1,150,000** unsafe **abortions were averted**
- **59,100 child deaths** and **4,700 maternal deaths were prevented**
- **\$276,385,500** in direct **healthcare costs were saved**<sup>1</sup>

## TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

Our **adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive health and rights (AYSRHR) programs** aim to increase access to comprehensive adolescent sexuality education, expand and improve the quality of youth-friendly SRH services, and support communities to promote AYSRHR and eradicate harmful traditional practices that impact the health of adolescents and youth. We view young people as experts in their unique needs and desires and employ a participatory, **youth-centered approach** to engage them in all phases of programming to ensure our interventions recognize and respond to those needs. EngenderHealth incorporates a youth lens in designing, implementing, and monitoring **youth-transformative programs**. We **empower adolescents** by generating awareness of AYSRHR and improving access to **adolescent-friendly services**. We recognize the impact that families, communities, institutions, and policies have on youth attitudes and behaviors and apply a multifaceted approach to target these spheres of influence. For example:

### 2019-2020 Impact

- Approx. 482,000 young people (10–24) received contraceptives
- 22,973 young people received comprehensive abortion care

- We help governments develop strategies, policies, and guidelines to increase access to AYSRHR.
- We support facility improvements, including creation of youth-friendly corners and posting of signage targeting youth, and develop and disseminate AYSRHR materials for use at the facilities.
- We train and support providers to deliver youth-friendly counseling and services.
- We engage community and religious leaders and partner with youth-led organizations and youth peer educators to develop and disseminate messages to youth and their families aimed at addressing stigmas about AYSRHR and eliminating harmful gender and social norms (such as early marriage and early pregnancy, female genital cutting, and sexual violence).

<sup>1</sup> EngenderHealth trains healthcare providers and supports health facilities in partnership with governments and local organizations to offer quality reproductive health services. These data represent the results of those services. Data on reduced deaths and cost savings estimated using the Marie Stopes International Impact 2 Model.



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## SELECT PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### Ethiopia: A'AGO—Improving SRH Outcomes of Young People

With funding from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the five year (2017 to 2021) A'AGO (“hope” in the Afari language) project is helping improve AYSRHR outcomes in four regions of Ethiopia. We are increasing access by building the capacity of health facilities to provide quality AYSRH information and services, including comprehensive abortion care and contraceptive care, and strengthening related referral mechanisms. EngenderHealth has also integrated comprehensive sexuality education into Aflateen’s Youth In-Charge Curriculum, a global, evidence-based, teen-focused program that has been adapted to the Ethiopian context. Whereas the standard curriculum was designed to equip young people with social and financial skills to plan for successful futures, the revised version that A'AGO is piloting employs a holistic approach to youth empowerment that recognizes the complex and compounding challenges—including those associated with AYSRHR—that undermine young people’s sense of agency and ability to forge successful life plans. To date, the project has expanded comprehensive SRH care across 260 health facilities, which in turn have reached 247,057 people with SRH information and provided 150,432 people with SRH services.



### Côte d’Ivoire: Raising Ivorian Girls’ and Women’s Voices for Quality Access to Comprehensive Abortion Care

With funding from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, EngenderHealth launched this innovative two-year program in 2019. Aiming to improve knowledge and attitudes about SRH, we supported a digital awareness campaign in collaboration with local youth to improve AYSRHR outcomes. Targeting girls aged 15 to 24, we partnered with young local bloggers and influencers to launch a media campaign and collaborated with a youth-led taskforce to monitor and contribute factual responses to online community dialogues around SRH rights. Through blogs, Facebook posts, radio programs, Vox Pop and YouTube videos, and other online discussion platforms, we have reached more than 40,000 youth with AYSRHR information.

### India: TARUNYA Adolescent Health Development Program

Now in its tenth phase, EngenderHealth has been implementing the TARUNYA project with support from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation since 2008. Working in partnership with the government of India and local nongovernmental organizations, TARUNYA aspires to empower adolescents with the information, services, and the enabling environment that they need for healthy growth and development. In its most recent phase (2017 to 2020), TARUNYA strengthened 18 adolescent-friendly health clinics, organized 909 adolescent health days, and established 899 community youth groups. As a result, 109,388 adolescents received AYSRHR information and/or services from project-supported facilities and providers.



**Young people are experts on their bodies and lives. Amplifying their voices and promoting their participation and leadership is crucial to improving AYSRHR outcomes and enabling young people to achieve their full potentials.**

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