



Survey respondents were asked to select all the geographic levels at which they work (e.g., subnational, national, regional, and global). Of the respondents who work in Uganda, their geographical focus was as follows: nine work at the sub national level, 19 work at the national level, nine work regionally, and four work globally. Though all 22 respondents reported working in Uganda, nine organizations also work in different countries, including Bangladesh, Democratic Republic of Congo, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, South Sudan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, and Liberia, among others. As a result, some of the findings presented in this report may also reflect the respondents' experience working regionally or globally.

Most of the respondents that work in Uganda reported working in health and nutrition (including SRMNCAH-N), education, climate change, and gender equality. Of those that work in health and nutrition, the organizations that responded to the survey focus on the following areas: adolescent health, sexual and reproductive health (SRH), and maternal, newborn and child health. Respondents also predominately conduct the following activities: advocacy, youth engagement, and coalition building.

Tables 1, 2 and 3 below provide additional information about the respondents' work by sector, areas of focus in health and nutrition, and specific activities. Please note that the respondents selected all answer choices that were relevant.

**Table 1. Sectors in which respondents work in Uganda, 2023 CSO/YLO Community Survey**

Sectors	Number of respondents
Health and nutrition, including SRMNCAH-N	20
Climate change	9
Education	10
Human rights	6
Gender equality	9
Humanitarian	4
Governance	3
Community empowerment in refugee camps	1
Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)	1
Communication and media	1

**Table 2. Health and nutrition focus areas of respondents in Uganda, 2023 CSO/YLO Community Survey**

Health and Nutrition Focus Area	Number of respondents
Sexual and reproductive health	14
Maternal health	14
Newborn and child health	14
Adolescent health	16
Nutrition	12
Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs)	2
Environmental health	1
Palliative care	1
Global Health innovation including vaccines, medicines, devices, diagnostics, and digital tools	1

**Table 3. Activities that responding organizations implement in Uganda, 2023 CSO/YLO Community Survey**

Organizational Activity	Number of respondents
Advocacy	22
Research	13
Accountability and monitoring	13
Civic engagement	12
Youth engagement	16
Health financing	10
Policy development	13
Legal defense	1
Technical assistance	10
Coalition building	14
Service delivery	11
Health R&D and regulatory strengthening	1
Digital health	1
Scientific innovations for improved education and nutrition	1
Engagement with the government	1

As indicated in Table 4 below, most of the respondents in Uganda categorized their significant accomplishments or “wins” as the following: implemented high-impact programs; effectively carried out youth engagement; and supported policy development.

**Table 4. Respondents’ accomplishments and “wins” in Uganda, 2023 CSO/YLO Community Survey**

Organizational Accomplishment or “Win”	Number of respondents
Mobilized multilateral or bilateral resources for health and/or nutrition	12
Mobilized domestic resources for health and/or nutrition	11
Supported policy development	13
Supported a specific policy win	10
Implemented high-impact programs	17
Effectively carried out civic engagement	11
Effectively carried out youth engagement	16
Conducted impactful research	12
Convened or assumed a leadership role in coalitions	12
Engagement with country governments and multilateral organizations	1
Increased SRMNCAH-N awareness to young people through media platforms	1

### CSO/YLO Capacity Gaps and Opportunities

The respondents that work in Uganda ranked the activity of the broader CSO/YLO community in Uganda as 6.6 out of 10 where 1 indicates the CSO/YLO community is not active; 5 indicates that it is moderately active including dynamic coalitions and partnerships; and 10 indicates that it is highly active in a manner that leads to impact. These organizations provided the following additional information about their categorization of the CSO/YLO landscape:

- “Initially, YLOs were not involved in high-level planning engagements, but now YLOs are involved in every step of the processes, including national budget.”
- CSO/YLOs in Uganda “have a specific working group for adolescents and youth on SRMNCAH-N.”
- “We are moderately active because we implement short-term projects that end when a project is gaining momentum. At times we do not have funding.”
- “Implementing partners, including national and international organizations, see CSO/ YLO as competitors, and numerous government restrictions are challenges.”

- “Some of the YLOs have limited resources to participate in platforms and limited institutional capacity to participate.”
- “We work with youth forums at the community level to build their knowledge and skills, so they can address issues that affect them.”
- “There is a growing movement of youth-led organizations in my country, and they are taking leadership in several sectors.”
- “Youth-led organizations lack capacity and resources to thrive in their advocacy and programs.”

These responding organizations listed the top two areas in which they need the most support related to organizational development:

- Financial management (e.g., Fundraising, Business development, procurement, donor relations, grants management) – *77% of respondents*
- Partnerships and Coalitions (e.g., Coalition creation, coordination, management) – *68% of respondents*

The survey respondents listed the top two areas that their organization needs the most support related to technical capacity as follows:

- The latest techniques/competencies/policies/trends in SRMNCAH-N – *64% of respondents*
- Domestic resource mobilization – *59% of respondents*

To address the areas where respondents need support related to organizational development and technical capacity, 86% of respondents funding (e.g., grants) as the most important intervention. Less than 50% of respondents selected the following interventions:

- Working session or technical consultation with a technical expert (1:1) -- *41% of respondents*
- Long-term or short-term coaching or mentorship from a PAI staff – *41% of respondents*
- Multi-stakeholder collaboration (including government stakeholders, multilateral and bilateral stakeholders, CSOs/YLOs, etc.) – *36% of respondents*
- South-South collaboration – *32% of respondents*

Most respondents (82%) preferred that these interventions be offered in a hybrid format with both in-person and virtual components.

## SRMNCAH-N Policies and Health Financing Priorities and Challenges

Out of the respondents that work in Uganda, six reported being very familiar with the country's government priorities related to SRMNCAH-N, while ten reported being somewhat familiar and two were not familiar. Fifteen respondents reported engaging in work related to the development of policies that are supportive of SRMNCAH-N in their country context. Of the respondents that reported engaging in policy development and health financing in the past, they listed the key entry points for their engagement:

- Participation in CSO/YLO networks
- Engagement in-country government policy-level fora
- Direct advocacy toward country government representatives

The respondents reported that the following are the most pressing opportunities and/or needs to advance or sustain SRMNCAH-N in their country context:

- “Calls for more collaborations and partnerships with young people, specifically YLOs, globally could advance SRMNCAH-N in a more innovative and informed manner in Uganda.”
- Formal education on society engagement on issues related to nutrition
- Sustained funding and capacity building for CSO/YLOs
- Information about SRMNCAH-N for CSO/YLOs
- Youth engagement and community-based participatory approaches (CBPA)
- Strengthening multi-stakeholder engagement and platforms
- “Increasing domestic funding for SRMNCAH-N at the level of sub-national level government; and multi-sectoral engagement and coordination mechanisms at the country level.”
- “There is an existing gap of real-time responsive data that can be useful for tracking commitments within the communities. The voices of women and girls are still neglected and their agency to demand their rights still limited due to the patriarchal system in the country.”
- “Involvement of key stakeholders at different levels—‘leaving no one behind’—could contribute to a favorable political environment.”
- “Integration of mental health into SRMNCAH-N.”

They also reported the following as the greatest challenges to advancing these opportunities:

- Lack of funding for SRMNACH-N issues
- Lack of funding for civil society and youth engagement
- Limited coordination among SRMNACH-N stakeholders
- Limited civic space for civil society and youth engagement

## Global Financing Facility (GFF)

Before receiving this survey, the respondents that work in Uganda 13 respondents reported that they were aware of the GFF. Five respondents were engaged in GFF processes, while four had attended a GFF information session and two had heard of the GFF. According to respondents that were at least somewhat aware of the GFF, they described the greatest value-add of the GFF as follows:

- “The greatest value addition from GFF is hearing from young people and giving them a chance to address the SRMNCAH-N they are facing by themselves by giving them opportunity to address them by themselves.”
- The GFF “increases service delivery for women, children, and adolescents.”
- The GFF uses a “grassroots-based approach.”
- “The introduction of results-based financing has been very effective, and we are pushing for its sustainability.”
- The GFF “supports youth programs for effective and meaningful advocacy.”
- Funding and capacity building opportunities for CSO/YLOs

Respondents also reported being engaged in other health-focused platforms, financing mechanisms, and networks globally, regionally, and nationally, including PMNCH, UHC2030's CSEM, ENAP+EPMM, AlignMNH, response Innovation Lab and Save the Children Uganda, the ministry of health Technical Working Group that was instituted by the government of Uganda through the Ministry of health, Ministry of Health technical working committees. Generally, respondents reported that CSO/YLOs in their networks learn about engagement opportunities or health and development mechanisms through the following avenues:

- WhatsApp and/or e-mail groups or listservs
- Social media
- Peer organizations or coalitions

Out of the total of 22 respondents that work in Uganda, eight were aware of GFF-related activities underway in the country, while five were not, and nine declined to respond. Those that were aware of active GFF processes reported that the following were underway in Uganda:

- GFF Multi-stakeholder Country Platform
- CSO/YLO Country GFF Coalition
- Consultations related to the country's Investment Case
- Consultations with GFF Liaison Officer
- Other GFF meetings/stakeholder consultations
- The recent call for proposals from the GFF NGO Host

Five respondents reported being somewhat familiar, five reported being very familiar, and three reported not at all familiar with their country's Investment Case

implementation status. Eight respondents that work in Uganda reported that CSO/YLOs have been invited to engage in GFF processes in their country, including:

- GFF Multi-stakeholder Country Platform
- CSO/YLO Country GFF Coalition
- Contributions to the country's Investment Case
- GFF meetings/stakeholder consultations
- Engagement with GFF Liaison Officer
- The Joint Learning Agenda by the GFF Secretariat

Two respondents said CSO/YLOs have not been invited to engage in GFF processes for the following reasons: "YLOs and CSOs do not know of these opportunities that are mentioned in the survey," and "the information is not reaching us."

Four respondents reported that there is a CSO/YLO Country GFF Coalition in their country, while three said there isn't, and five were unsure. These respondents also ranked their relationship with the GFF Liaison Officer a 3.8 out of 10, where 1 indicates no relationship between CSO/YLOs and the GFF Liaison Officer, 5 indicates some engagement and communication, and 10 indicates active engagement and collaboration between CSO/YLOs and the GFF Liaison Officer.

Eight respondents working in Uganda reported that their organization has engaged in GFF processes, while three said they had not, and two were unsure. Organizations reported engaging in the following GFF processes in their country:

- GFF Multi-stakeholder Country Platform
- CSO/YLO Country GFF Coalition
- Civil Society Coordinating Group (CSCG)
- Development efforts related to the country's Investment Case
- GFF meetings/stakeholder consultations
- Capacity building of CSOs/YLOs

Four respondents described their engagement in GFF processes as very impactful, four said it has been somewhat impactful, one reported they were not engaged, one reported it has not yet been impactful while twelve declined to answer. When asked to describe their organization's contributions to these GFF processes that led to impact, they said:

- "Conducted research on CSOs and community engagement on results-based financing of the GFF, which informed the development of the country's Investment Case."
- "Advanced SRMNCAH-N among young people in Uganda and form a coalition to easily advance SRHR work in Uganda."
- "Capacity building for domestic resource mobilization."



- “Led the social accountability activities (including community scorecards) that have influenced the funding and programmatic shifts in SRMNCAH-N in Uganda.”

Respondents working in Uganda reported that the following top three factors enable meaningful CSO/YLO participation in GFF processes:

- Open communication with GFF stakeholders (e.g., GFF Liaison Officer, GFF NGO Host)
- Opportunities to engage in the GFF Multi-stakeholder Country Platform
- Invitations to attend GFF meetings and stakeholder consultations

According to the respondents, the top five barriers that hinder meaningful CSO/YLO engagement in GFF processes in Uganda are:

- Lack of communication from GFF stakeholders (e.g., GFF Liaison Officer, GFF NGO Host)
- Lack of coordination among CSO/YLO stakeholders
- Weak CSO/YLO Country GFF Coalition
- Inability to engage in the GFF Multi-stakeholder Country Platform
- Inability to engage in the development of the Investment Case

Respondents also said that CSO/YLOs need the following information to engage effectively in GFF processes in their country:

- Regular information about health financing mechanisms (e.g., country, multilateral, and bilateral)
- Data resources for SRMNCAH-N advocacy and accountability
- Capacity building for domestic resource mobilization
- Best practices on civil and youth engagement in GFF processes
- How to apply for grant funding through the GFF NGO host

Respondents in Uganda listed the following future opportunities to strengthen CSO/YLO engagement with GFF processes at the global, regional, and country levels:

- “Invite different YLOs forums from around the world to share experiences with other YLOs.”
- Ensure “CSOs are involved in all level policy making for SRMNCAH-N.”
- CSO/YLOs must be able “to participate in platforms so that ideas could be taken into consideration, including implementation.”
- CSO/YLOs should be engaged in future meetings related to Uganda’s Investment Case.
- Engagement can be enabled through:
  - “New grants, stronger inter-country engagements, and increased youth participation.”
  - “Constant communication and engagement via different forums.”
  - “Strong coalitions at country level, as well as Global North partnerships and South-South partnerships that have been established through the GFF past processes.”
  - “Continual engagement with YLOs by the GFF so as to hear from them and also share our perspectives through surveys like this one.”