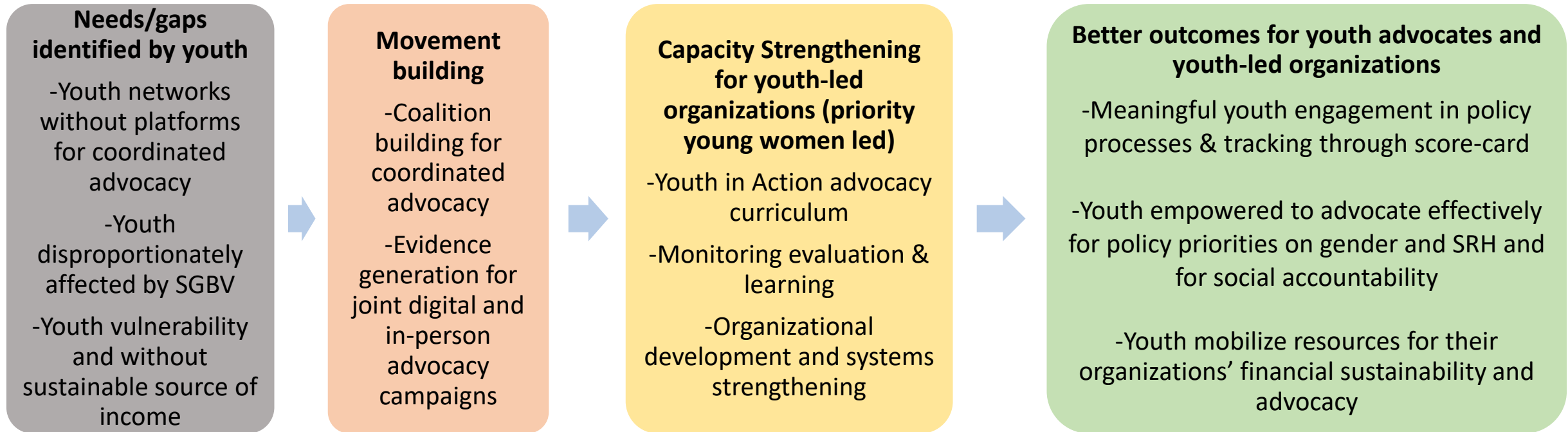




## **Y-ACT Youth in Action**

**Powering the promise of tomorrow, with the energy of today!**

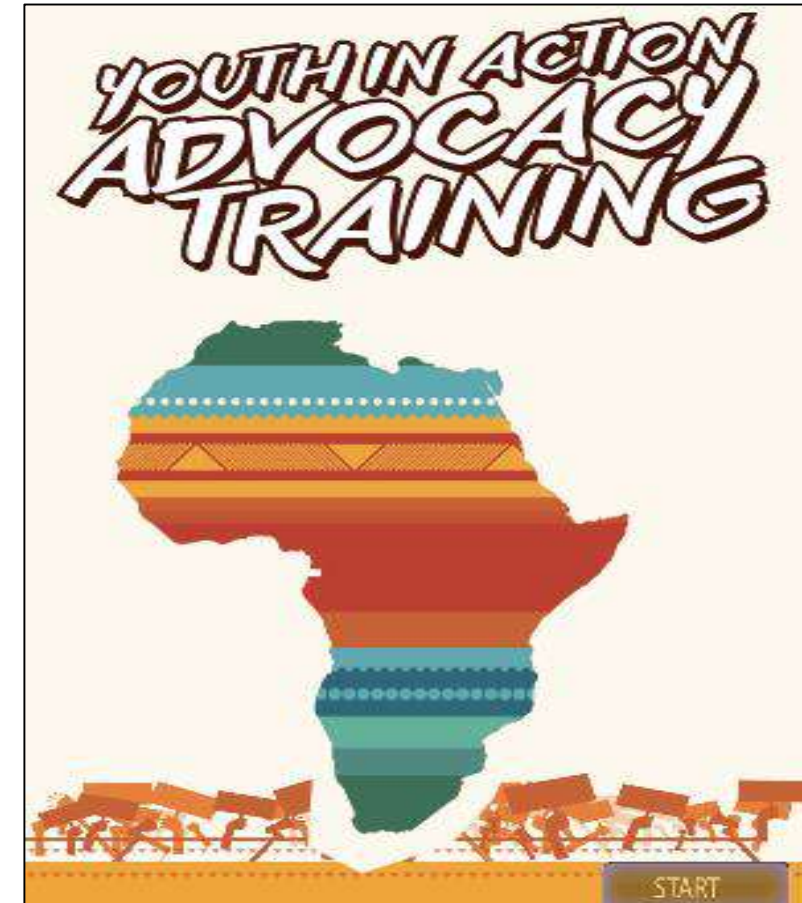
# Our approach: piloted at Y-ACT (2017 – 2021) and replicated beyond



# Leveraging technology for resources and empowerment

Y-ACT leverages technology to provide resources to youth advocates in the region:

- [Youth in Action' digital advocacy curriculum](#) with **over 1,000 learners from 25 countries**.
- [Meaningful youth engagement score-card](#): tracking youth engagement in policy processes with young parliamentarians.
- [YouthPowerHub](#): social accountability movement – **over 60 youth led organisations in 21 countries in Africa**. Leveraging digital platforms and AI (through a chatbot) for information. Social accountability framework developed.
- Advocacy resources: over 355 [youth focused resources](#), case studies, a [news page](#), a [campaigns page](#) highlighting Y-ACT's previous and ongoing campaigns.
- Y-ACT's website hosts a [COVID-19 info page](#) focusing on key opportunities and information for youth during the COVID-19 pandemic.



# Evidence-driven capacity strengthening

Y-ACT uses a participatory approach to identify youth advocates' priorities, assets and gaps in their advocacy work:

- **Surveys** with our vast network to inform youth-priorities. For example, last year's survey in Kenya during the pandemic published [here](#)).
- **Focus group discussions** with Y-ACT local coalitions (youth-led organizations) to inform capacity strengthening plans.
- **Capacity strengthening** for youth-led organizations through blended learning approach (in-person and digital learning), mentorship and coaching.
- Capacity strengthening topics on policy advocacy, monitoring, evaluation and learning and organizational development.

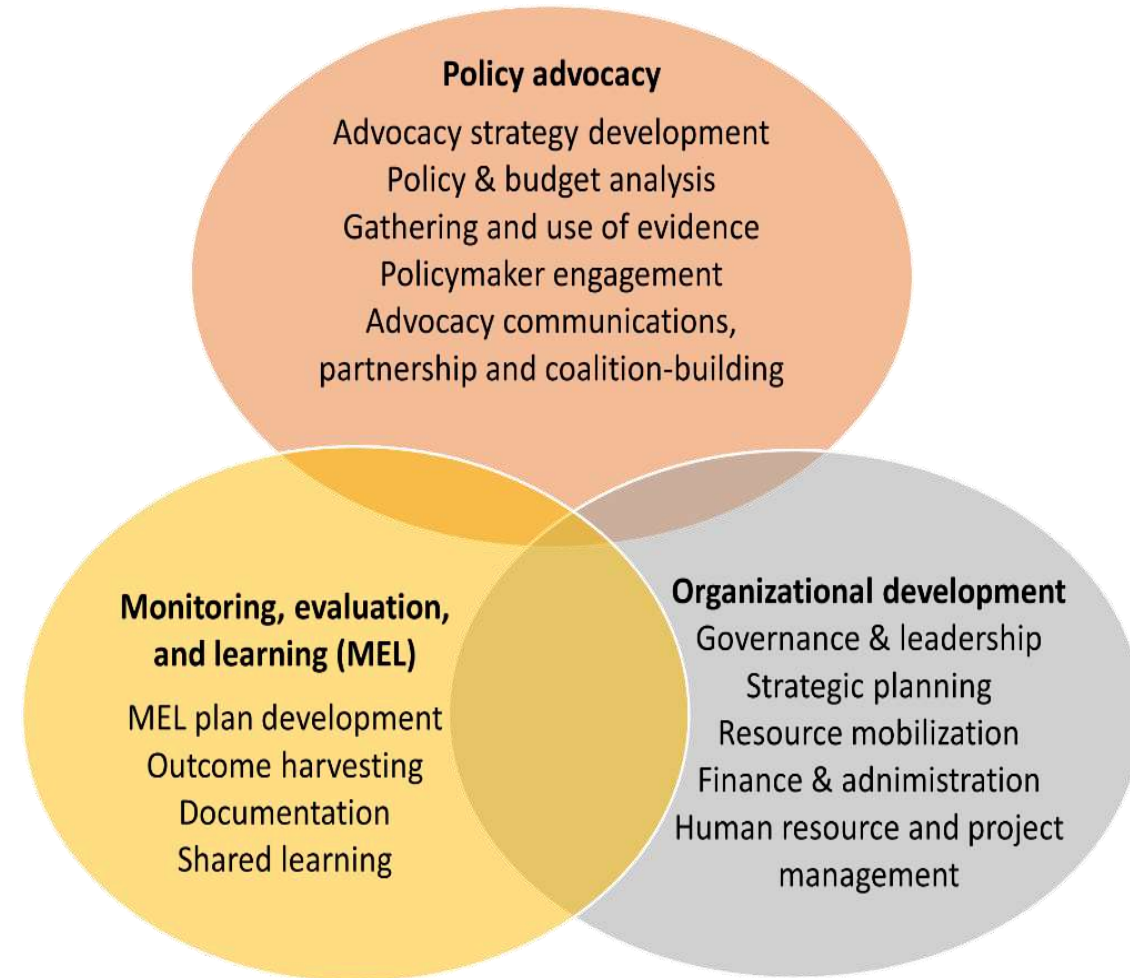


Fig.1: Capacity strengthening topics for youth-led organizations



# Policy advocacy wins by Y-ACT youth coalitions

Numerous youth priorities in gender and SRHR influenced by youth coalitions as below:

**Regional level:** currently informing the East Africa community SRH bill (through partnership with UNFPA)

**National level:** Implementation of postnatal return-to-school guidelines for teen mothers; adoption of the Y-ACT Meaningful Youth Engagement Framework by Kenyan Parliament

## **Sub-national level:**

- **Kilifi County (coastal):** developed Menstrual Hygiene Management policy with an implementation guide.
- **Nairobi County (urban):** developed first Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) policy. Influenced the training of health care providers on adolescent and youth friendly services.
- **Kakamega County (rural):** inclusion of a teen pregnancy reduction framework in the draft County Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Protection Policy.
- **Kisumu County (urban):** development of draft Youth & Adolescent Health Policy.
- **Samburu County (pastoral):** development of county's first guidelines on provision of youth friendly services; development of anti-beading policy to reduce child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.



# Scale of Y-ACT model for greater impact

**Powering the promise of tomorrow, with the energy of today!**

## Movement building to support young women activists at grassroots

Y-ACT network: over 880 youth-led organizations; over 3,500 youth advocates

## Evidence driven programming for gender advocacy

Surveys and focus group discussions to inform policy and youth priorities

## Leverage technology for resources, advocacy and social accountability

Y-ACT digital network, tools and resources

## Organizational development, Monitoring, evaluation and learning

Resource & capacity for grassroots young women led organizations

- Utilize network to amplify and support grassroots young women-led advocacy campaigns – focus on gender and SRH.

- Planned mapping of emerging youth priorities (to build back better from the pandemic), focusing on empowerment and gender.
- Use evidence to inform youth-led policy advocacy strategies.

- Youth in Action curriculum (blended learning) for advocacy strategy.
- Resources on info-site: opportunities for empowerment and advocacy.
- Social accountability for advocacy policies on gender and SRH.

- Capacity strengthening (organizational development, MEL) and sub-granting to grassroots organizations: priority to young women led organizations.



# Contact us!

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