

GLOBAL YOUTH MOBILIZATION

POWERING CHANGE: YOUNG PEOPLE LEADING THE COVID-19 RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

Summary Interim Report,
February 2022

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SCOUTS
Creating a Better World



YMCA
empowering young people



WorldYWCA



WORLD ASSOCIATION
OF GIRL GUIDES
AND GIRL SCOUTS



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S
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THE CHALLENGE

An estimated 1.2 billion young people have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic response measures.¹

Disruptions to education, employment, services and social support have changed the future of an entire generation.

The Global Youth Mobilization (GYM) is focused on addressing the complex and overlapping challenges created by the pandemic across four broad areas:



COVID-19 prevention, vaccines and combatting misinformation



Mental and physical health



Education disruption and employability



Gender inequality and combatting domestic and gender-based violence

"We, the young people, are addressing the consequences of COVID-19 by working with creative, youth-led solutions that will contribute to building resilience in a post-pandemic reality."

Luis Alvarado, Project Lead, Human Building Bridges, Venezuela

"Young people are now willing to take on leadership roles in their communities to educate adults without fear. In a country like Ghana, young people educating adults is seen as disrespectful, hence young people have, over the years, not dared take up such roles. This project has changed the narrative as adults are listening and not taking offense, which is a good sign of change."

Brenda Adiaba, Project Lead, Ghana

¹ Big 6 Youth Organizations. "Young People Championing Post-Pandemic Futures". December 2020 <https://bigsix.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Final-Young-People-Championing-Post-Pandemic-Futures.pdf>

OUR GOALS



At the heart of the GYM, young people are leading the solutions to the challenges created by the pandemic, fully engaged in the design and implementation of all initiatives.

The GYM is delivering youth engagement, social action and campaigning for change in three core areas:



Activation of grassroots Local Solutions

More than \$2million is available through small funding opportunities for Local Solutions led by young people and youth-led organisations, as well as an Accelerator Programme to scale up the most effective ideas.



Driving national change through the Big Six

More than \$1.8million has been invested in the Big Six Youth Organizations to reenergise national organisations and provide much needed non-formal education and learning.



Championing Young People

The GYM is championing youth-led ideas, recommendations and solutions from the grassroots and advocating for changes in international, national and local policies.

"WHO is proud to support the global movement to engage and empower young people as a driving force in the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. What the Big Six have achieved in a year through launching and implementing the Global Youth Mobilization is phenomenal and unparalleled in the youth development sector. We look forward to continuing our support and encourage other partners to join the mobilisation and invest in the health and well-being of future generations."

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus,
WHO Director-General



OUR IMPACT

Read our full progress report at globalyouthmobilization.org

To date, the GYM has provided funding to 183 Local Solutions projects across 41 countries and funded 74 National Projects across the Big Six in 56 countries.

Overall, the endeavour is on track to meet all key targets and mobilise hundreds of thousands of young people and youth-led community organisations in COVID-19 response and recovery efforts.



218,692

Young people engaged



804,050

Community beneficiaries



77

Countries



Local solutions



183

Projects supported to date



400

Projected total projects



179,104

Young people directly engaged



495,919

Community beneficiaries



\$587,000

Funds dispersed to date for Local Solutions



\$600,000

Funds remaining for 2022

All data are accurate as of 21 January 2022. The figures for young people directly engaged and community beneficiaries are projections based on awarded projects to date. The Local Solutions data relate to the first three funding cycles and do not include the remaining unallocated projects that will be approved during the remaining three funding cycles.



National projects



74
Projects



39,588
Young people
engaged directly in
volunteer activities
through the Big Six



308,131
Community beneficiaries



76,677 / 25%
25% of total community
beneficiaries are from
under-represented
groups – primarily rural
youth, refugees and
victims of gender-
based violence

Projects by theme

National projects
 Local solutions

**COVID-19
prevention, vaccines
and combatting
misinformation**



12 28

**Education
disruption
and employability**



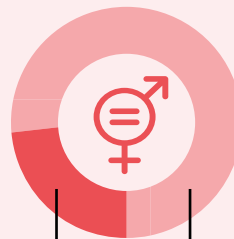
37 91

**Mental
and physical
health**



17 31

**Gender inequality and
combatting domestic
and gender-based
violence**



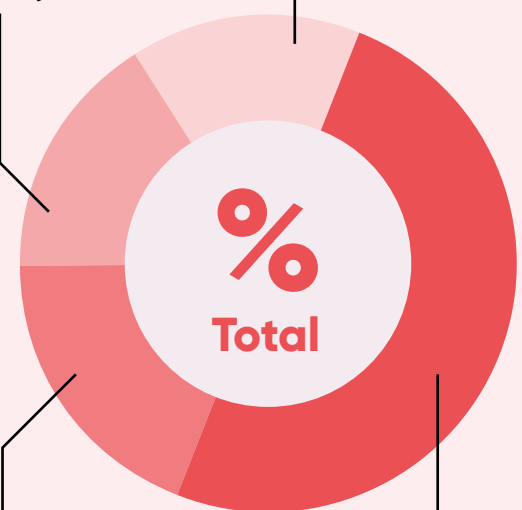
8 33

16%
41 projects

15%
40 projects

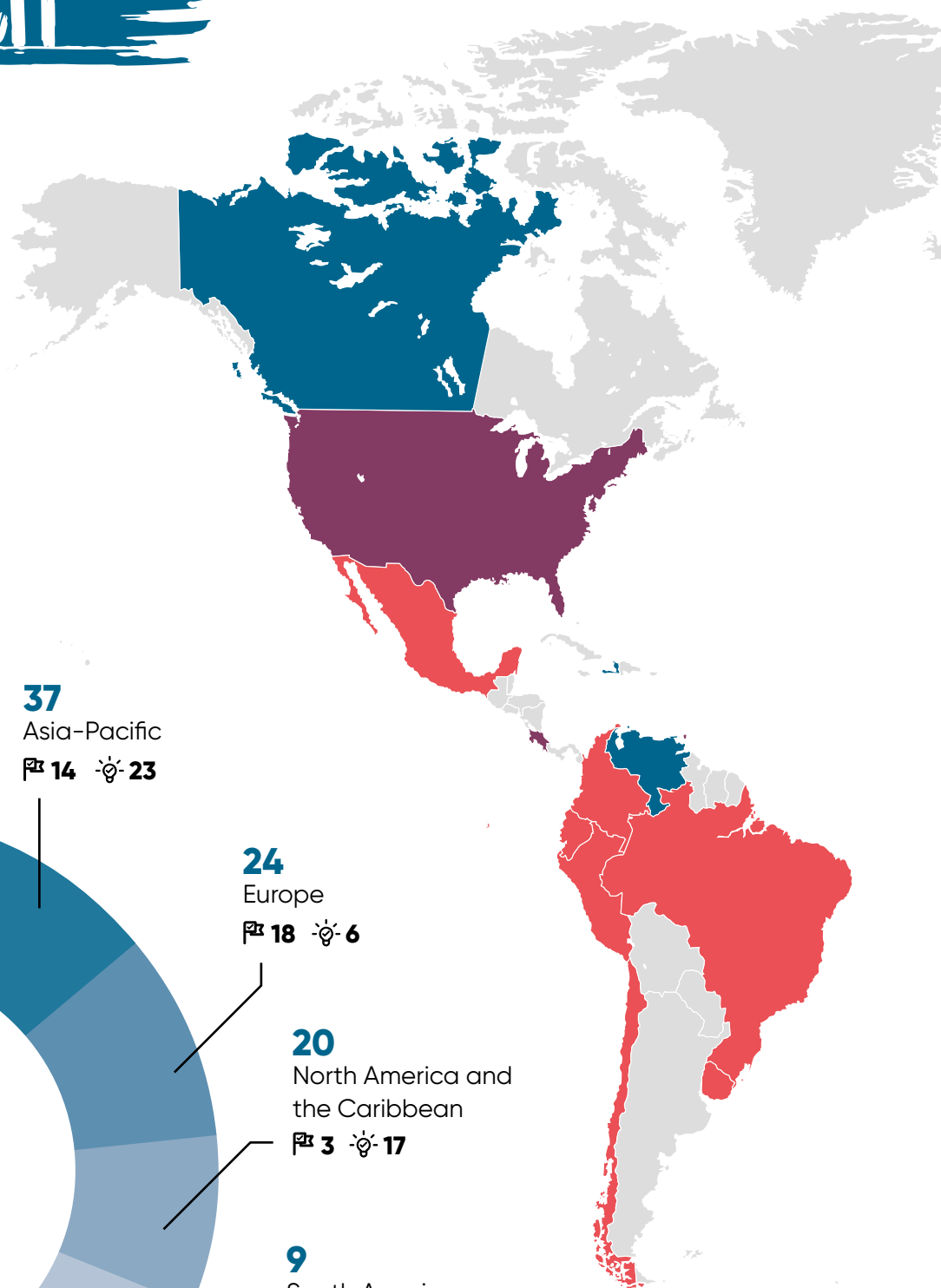
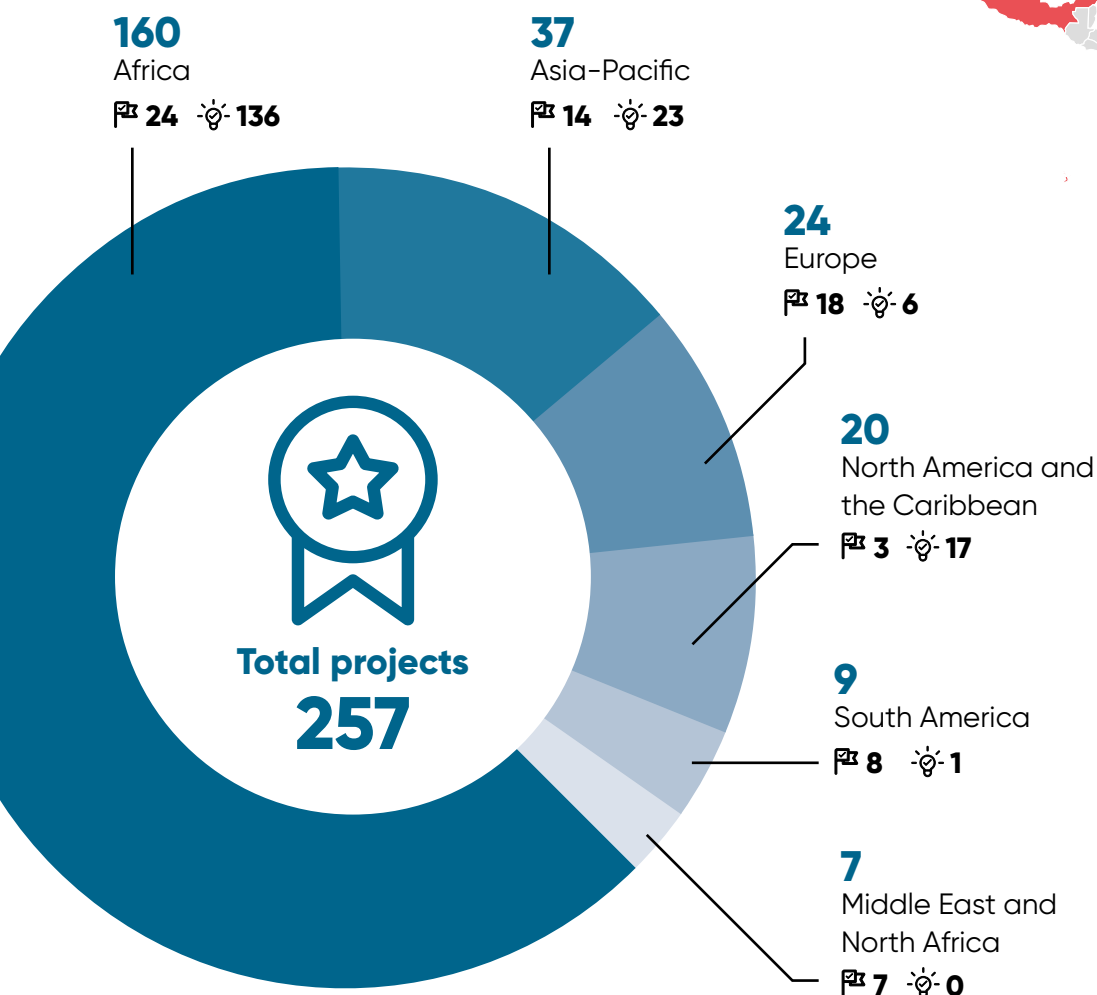
19%
48 projects

50%
28 projects

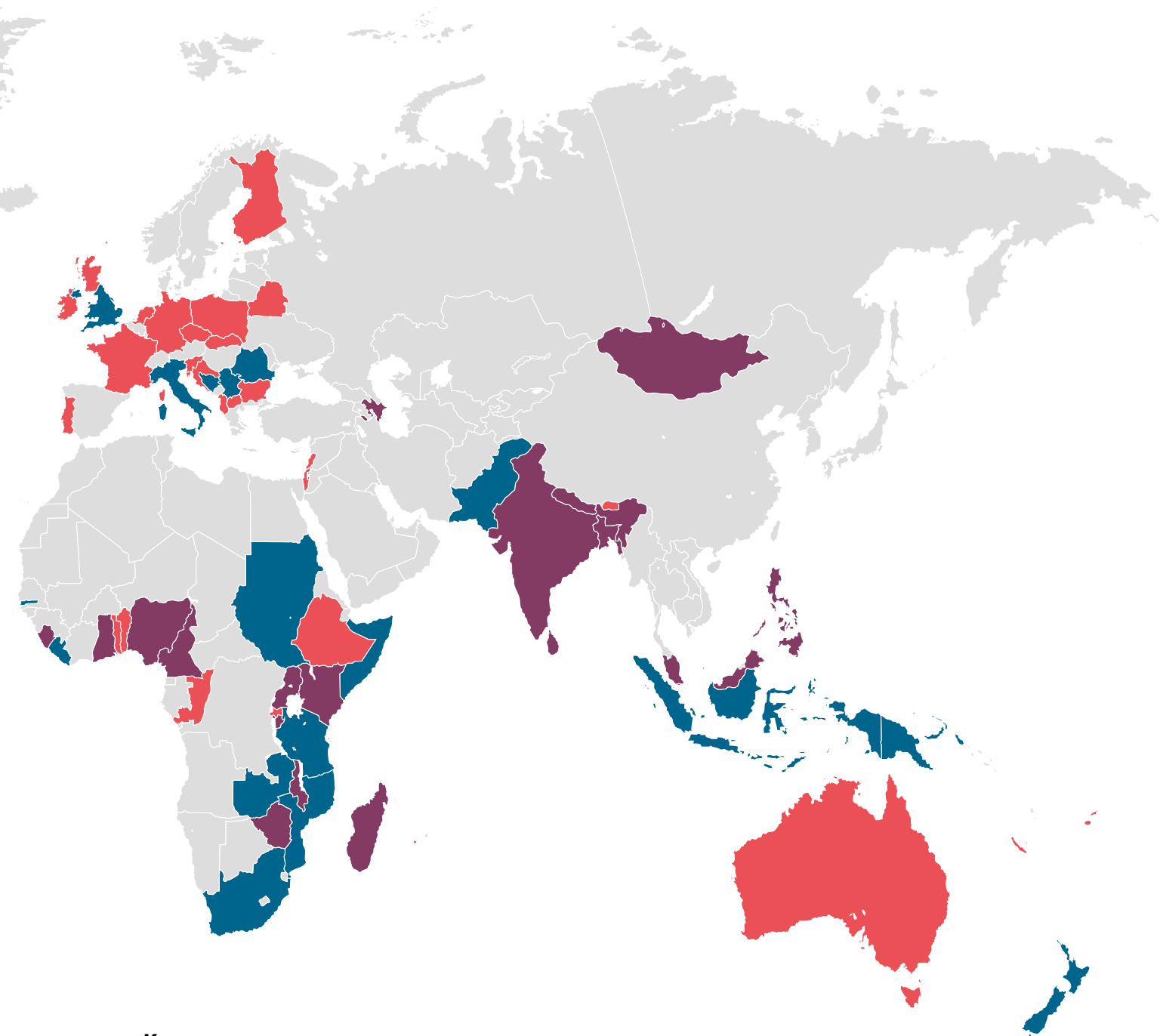


OUR REACH

In more than 77 countries across the world, the GYM has engaged and directly invested in young people, informal groups, youth-led organisations and national organisations of the Big Six.



**Read our full progress report
at globalyouthmobilization.org**



Key

- GYM National Project
- GYM Local Solutions
- National Projects and Locations Solutions

Note: Demographic data for the young people leading each project are available upon request. This map and the split of countries does not reflect the political views of the Big Six Youth Organisations, WHO or United Nations Foundation

YOUTH-LED DECISION MAKING AND INNOVATION IN FUNDING

We believe it is essential to harness the surge of activism, creative solutions, passion and commitment demonstrated by young people in response to COVID-19.

The GYM Local Solutions initiative is a unique open call to all young people, regardless of background or location, to submit their solutions to the health and societal COVID-19 challenges facing youth and their communities today. Applications can be submitted in five languages and young people can work offline to ensure community groups in rural communities or areas with low connectivity can still apply. Funding is available in

four tiers, from \$500 to \$5,000, and awarded on a three-month review cycle.

Aligned with the ethos of youth-led decision making, young people are in control of allocating all the funding for Local Solutions projects. A group of more than 40 Youth Panellists from around the world decide how the funding is allocated and who is awarded the grants.

See here for further details.

"Being a Youth Panellist warms my heart because I get to be a part of empowering other young people, like myself, to be leaders. I love this project because it has given young people a voice and an opportunity to make change within their communities. Young people are the future and based on the number and quality of applications I have seen so far, I see a bright future with amazing leaders."

Ariel Smith, USA, World Young Men's Christian Association



HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT AND GET INVOLVED

Policy recommendations

Read our 12 policy recommendations developed from our discussions and engagements with young people, youth-led organisations and national organisations of the Big Six [here](#).

These include calls to **increase funding for lifesaving, youth-led mental health services**; involving **young people and young leaders in intergenerational dialogue and decision-making**; and creating **safe spaces for young women, girls and members of the LGBTQ+ community** to share experiences, support one another and increase awareness of the danger of gender and domestic based violence.



If you work in a government department, international agency, corporation or foundation, we call on you to do the following:



Fund and support the Global Youth Mobilization

We are committed to increasing funding for child, youth-led and youth-focused networks and movements, and working with funders to make funding more strategic, inclusive and accessible.



Promote our work and commit to youth representation

Campaign with us to ensure that young people from all backgrounds are at the heart of decision-making processes and improve meaningful representation for all young people, including those most impacted by discrimination and inequality.



Commit to enabling intergenerational support for young people

Work with us to increase intergenerational dialogue and prioritise young people and future generations, securing gains that make a difference to their lives and to the planet.



Invest in young people through our Local Solutions funding model and Accelerator Programme

Share your expertise and experience by mentoring young people and Awardees through the Local Solutions fund.

Read our full progress report at globalyouthmobilization.org

Join our mobilization today. Please contact solutions@globalyouthmobilization.org for more information.

"Young people have the potential and the dynamics to bring positive change. Your contributions to resources will be a great support."

Faustine Ikaze Shimo, World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, Rwanda



World Health
Organization



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Thank you to the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Foundation, WHO Foundation and all the donors who have supported the COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund. Without their generous support this project would not have been possible.

A global youth-led movement for change

Funding by youth, for youth

globalyouthmobilization.org
#youthmobilize



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