



# Learning Collaborative Youth-Led Policy Advocacy &

Supported by

EDUCATIONOUTLOUD  
advocacy & social accountability



Learning Partner



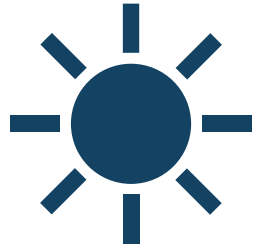


# YLPAA Learning Collaborative – Objectives

---



Equip participating grantees with strategic insights and tools for effective youth engagement in policy advocacy and accountability.



Create an enabling environment for grantees to share their experiences and best practices in youth-led policy advocacy and accountability.



Strengthen collaboration among partners, fostering peer learning and collective problem-solving through synergized efforts.



# YLPAA Learning Collaborative Journey



# Rationale for Engaging with Youth

---

## *Reflection from the Grantees*



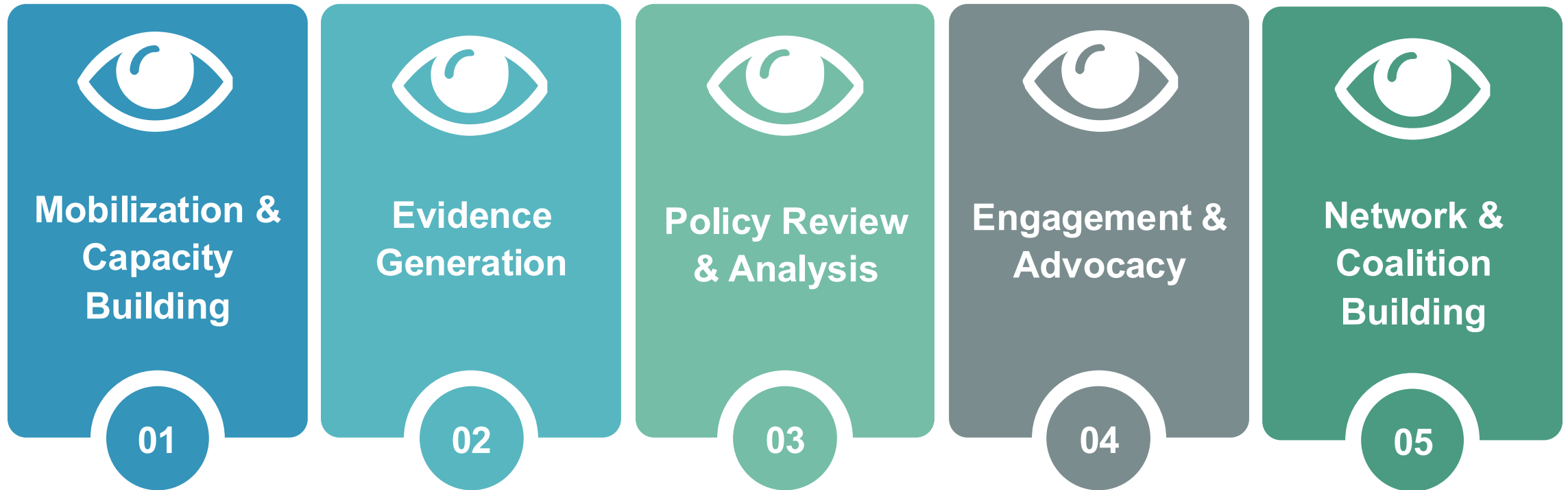
# Engaging with Youth – Key Learning Needs

---



# YLPAA Tools – Mapping Categories

---



# YLPAA – Fascinating Range of Innovative Tools

---

1

## Mobilization & Capacity Building

Learning Group, Reflection Forum, Parent Clubs, Girls' Forum, Library Circles, Policy Hackathon, Policy Camp

2

## Evidence Generation

School and/or Community Based Data Collection – Citizen Report Card/ Score Card, Mapping, Surveys, Assessments, Checklists, Youth Action Research, Social Audit

3

## Macro Policy Review and Analysis

Budget Analysis and Tracking, Policy Evaluation

4

## Engagement and Advocacy

Local Level: Town Hall Meetings  
National Level: Campaigns (Digital or Offline), Policy Dialogues and Forums , Policy Breakfast Youth Manifestos Hello MP Storytelling

5

## Network/ Coalition Building

Local, Provincial, and National Networks of CSOs, Youth Networks

# Contextualizing YLPAA – Appreciating Power & Politics

First Dimension of Power	Second Dimension of Power	Third Dimension of Power
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Which interest group wins and which loses</li><li>• The key and clearly recognisable issues are discussed in a relatively open political system</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Which groups sit at the table and which issues/ grievances are recognised</li><li>• Certain groups and issues are kept away from even getting to the table</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Preventing conflict from arising in the first place</li><li>• Powerholders shape consciousness &amp; awareness of issues through processes of socialisation, secrecy, information control, etc.</li></ul>
<b>Public Interest Approach</b> <i>“Advocacy for the people”</i>	<b>Citizen Action Approach</b> <i>“Advocacy with and by the people”</i>	<b>Transformative Approach</b> <i>“Advocacy by the people”</i>



# Contextualizing YLPAA – Appreciating Power & Politics

## *Understanding the Sources of Power and Powerlessness*

**Powerlessness** emanates from systemic exclusion of the youth from power structures. The socialization process reinforces the status quo and non-participation of the youth.

**Power** manifest as:



*Expertise & knowledge*



*Popularity/ influence*



*Political lineage*



*Relational capital*



*Access to resources*



*Voice & ability to speak up and participate in decision making*



*Capacity to advocate*



# Contextualizing YLPAA – Appreciating Power & Politics

---

## *Understanding the Sources of Power and Powerlessness*

### Causes of Youth Exclusion

- Controlled political/ social environment
- Lack of resources and civic knowledge
- Minimal youth representation in policy spaces
- Disinformation and misinformation
- Digital divide (increased by AI and tech)
- Discrimination & marginalization based on religion/ethnicity, economic states, geography, disability, gender & age
- Lack of political will

### Strategies for Empowerment

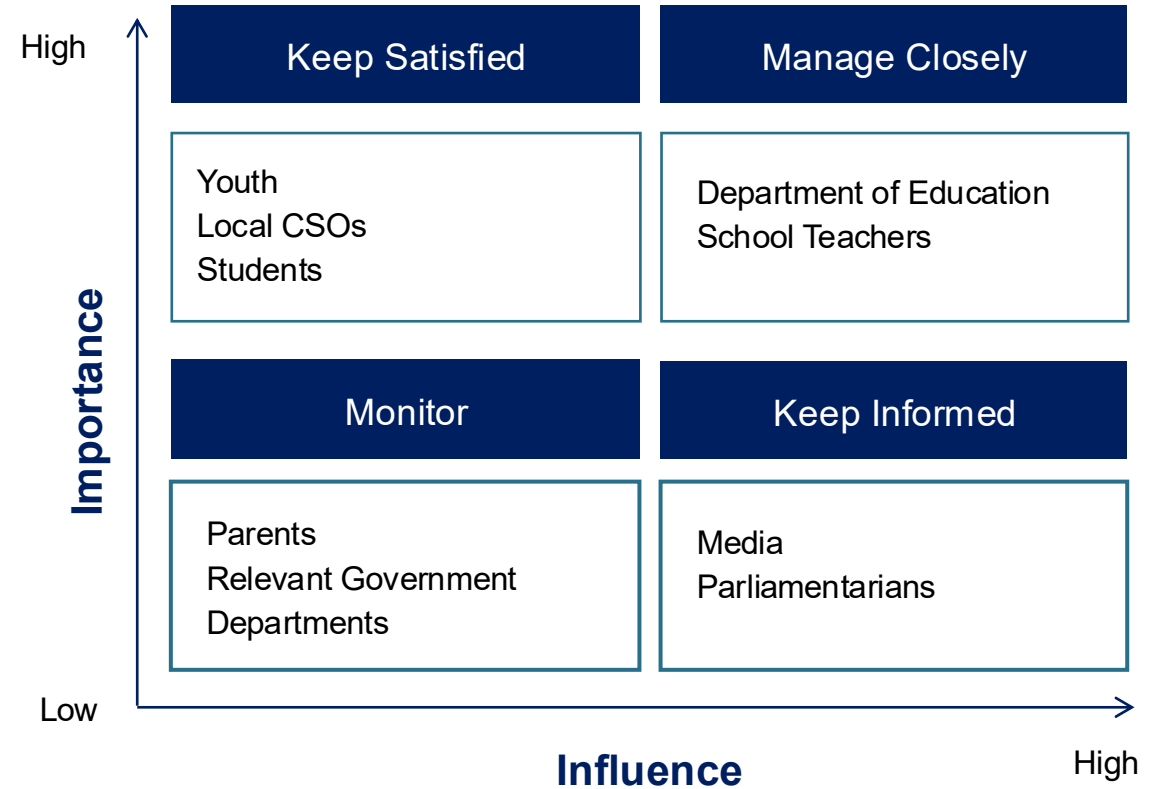
- Capacity building for youth with knowledge and skills
- Creating gender and age-inclusive safe spaces for open dialogues
- Promoting transparency via open digital platforms
- Critical thinking and digital literacy training
- Digital advocacy campaigns
- Art and expressive media to raise the youth voice
- Establishing strong support systems for inclusion
- Strengthen youth-led decision-making platforms
- Sensitive policy design

# Stakeholder Analysis

## Steps

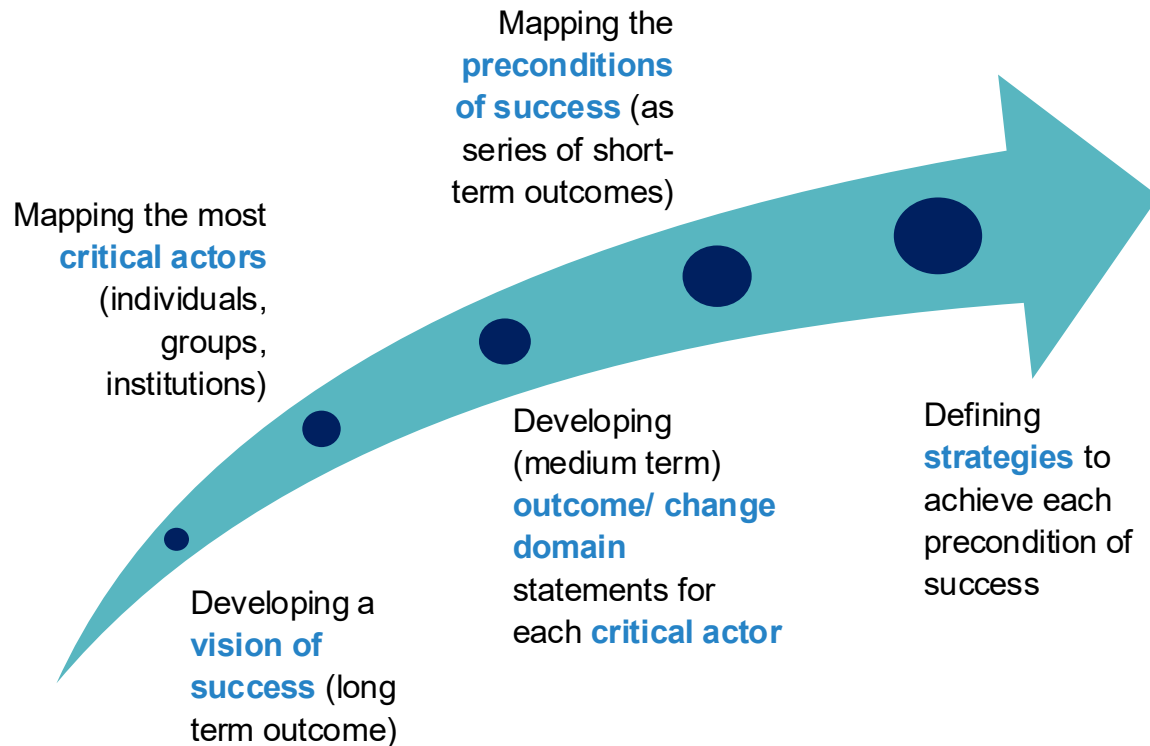
- 1 Identify key stakeholders
- 2 Assess stakeholder interests in achieving program outcomes and the potential impact on those interests
- 3 Assess stakeholder influence and importance
- 4 Outline a stakeholder participation strategy

## Stakeholder Mapping



# Theory of Change

## Steps

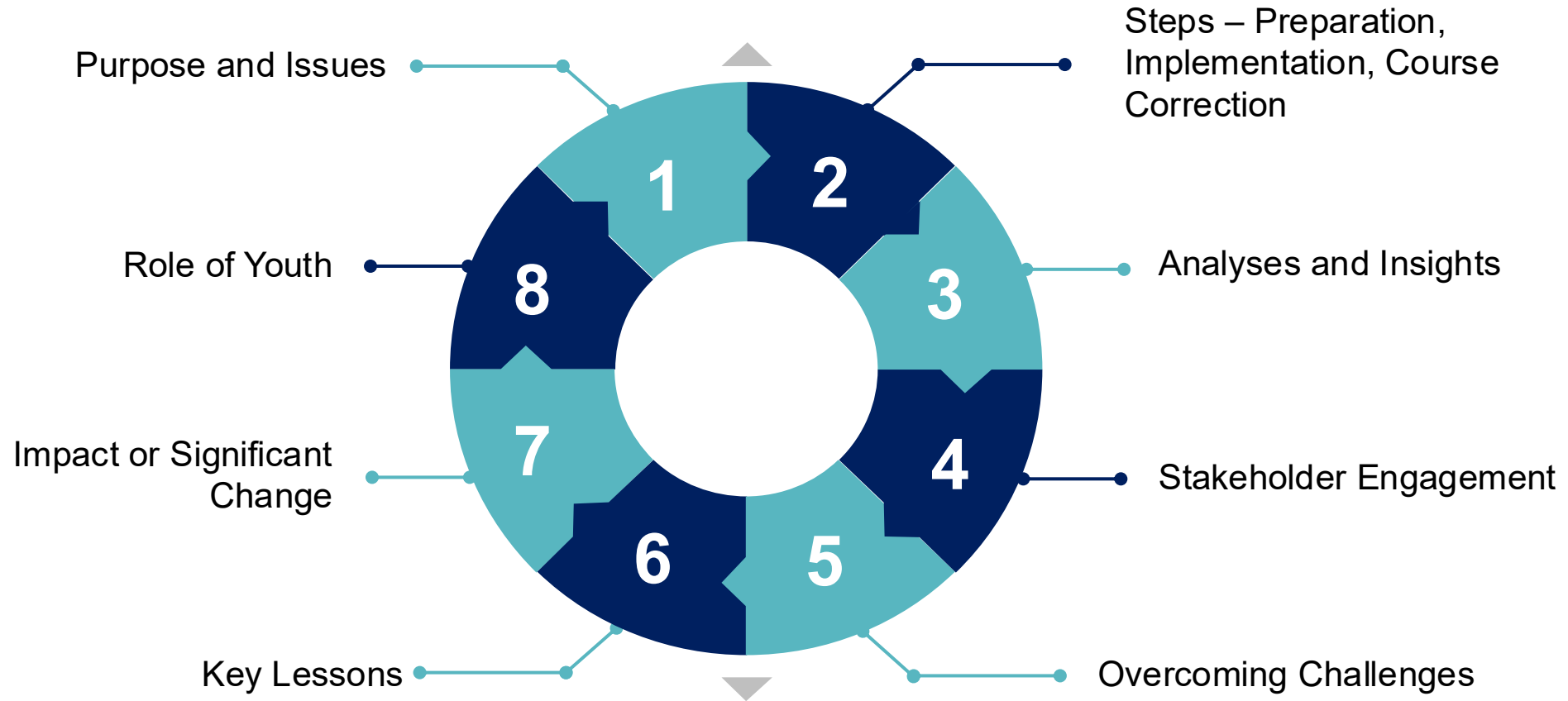


## Key Lessons

- A vision statement is a concise yet specific depiction of the sustainable future that the project aims to create.
- Outcome statements should clearly describe the specific changes that will occur, rather than the activities involved.
- Changes must occur in institutions, capacities, attitudes, behaviors, relationships, and conditions. These are the domains of change.
- Unlike logical framework analysis, the assumptions are internal, and the intervention must address these assumptions.

# Documentation of YLPAA Tools







## *Framework for Reflection and Documentation of Tools*



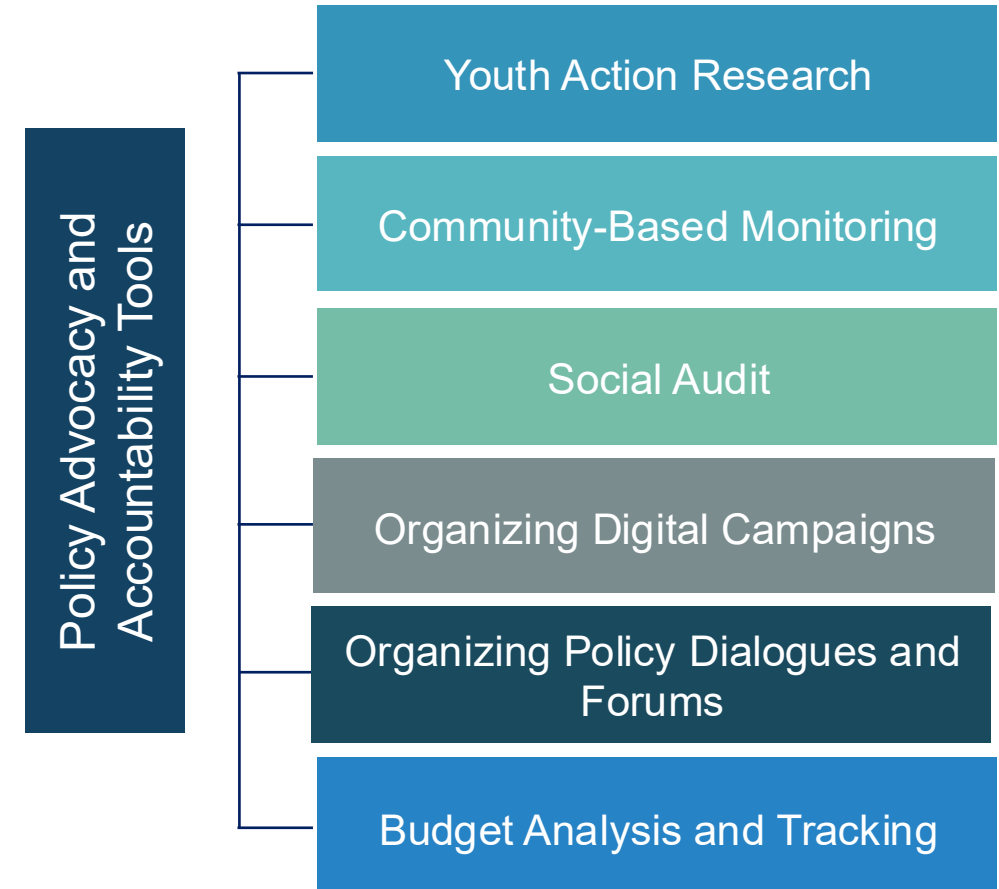


# Documentation of YLPAA Tools

## Description of Each Tool

-  Overview: Purpose and relevance of the tool
-  Step-by-step process: Effective facilitation of the tool
-  Youth engagement: Meaningful involvement of youth
-  Impact and strategies: Effective engagement approaches
-  Challenges and solutions: Addressing barriers and overcoming them
-  Examples: Insights from diverse contexts

## Documented Tools



# Insights Gained – Learning Methodology and Process

---

Integration of virtual and in-person interactions – consistent engagement, broader participation, meaningful reflection

“Safe and Energizing” – inspiring a desire to replicate similar environments to promote ongoing dialogue & shared learning

Breakout discussions, role-plays, simulations & cross-country exchanges provided opportunities for reflection, reciprocal learning, cultivation of humility, & dialogue across differences

SGDs in dyads & triads encouraged intensive conversations; in-person gathering fostered trust & openness

# Insights Gained – Content

---

A diverse array of YLPAA tools, techniques & best practices, informed by cross-country experiences, sparked innovative ideas for local adaptation

A key highlight was the introduction of participatory action research approaches

Power mapping and stakeholder analysis encouraged more intentional and inclusive engagement with stakeholders

Emphasis on contextualization & localization recognized the importance of adapting tools to meet the specific needs of marginalized youth & policy environments

# Future Learning Needs

---

1

Coalescing policy  
advocacy efforts  
among youth

2

Digitalization of  
education and  
AI

3

Establishing common  
frameworks and  
strategies among  
EOL grantees

4

Staying relevant  
in shifting  
political  
landscapes

5

Engaging youth  
through an  
intersectional and  
holistic lens

6

Social media &  
digital campaigns

7

Continued support &  
learning exchange  
on tools for YLPAA

8

Private sector  
engagement - CSR  
partnership  
opportunities

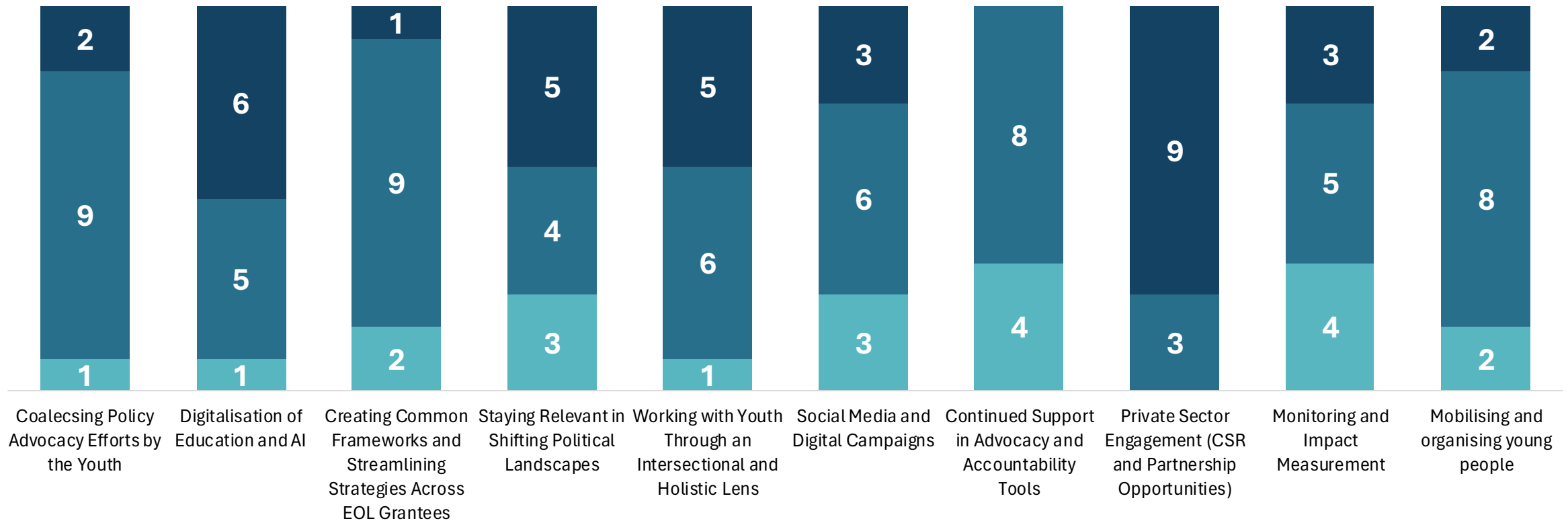
9

Mobilizing and  
organizing young  
people

10

Monitoring and  
impact measurement

# Preferences for Mobilizing Future Learning Support



- My organisation has the necessary capacity and experience, so further capacity building is not required.
- Require help from outside the Learning Collaborative.
- Require help from the current Learning Collaborative.
- This can be addressed by my organisation.

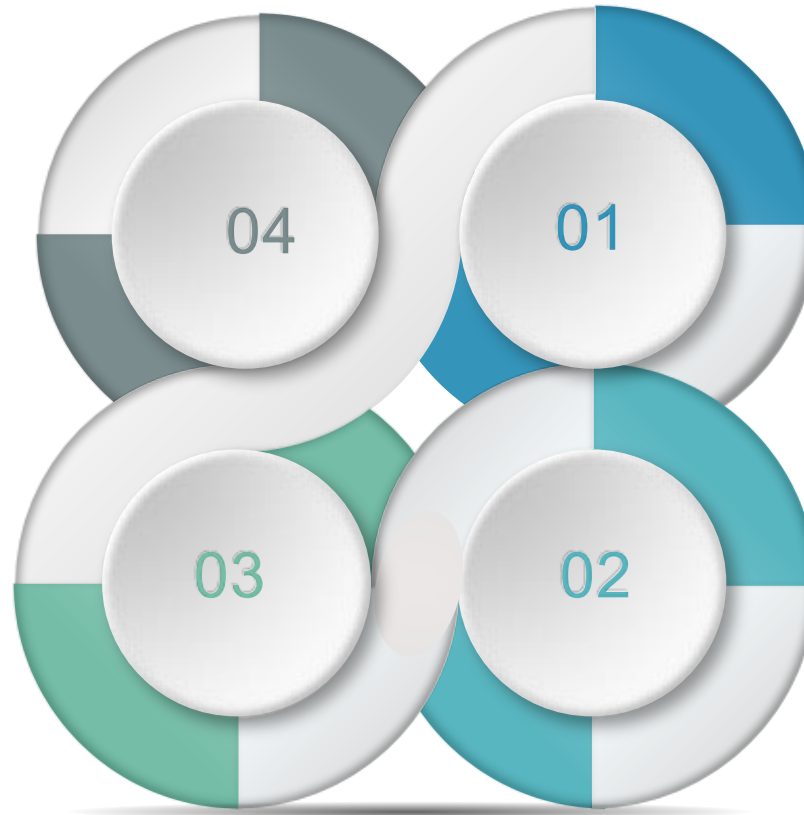


# Sustainability and Future Directions

## *Initiatives Expected to be Led by the Grantees*

Systematize processes & identify mentors for LC through bilateral engagement

Integrate insights from LC into all programmatic elements

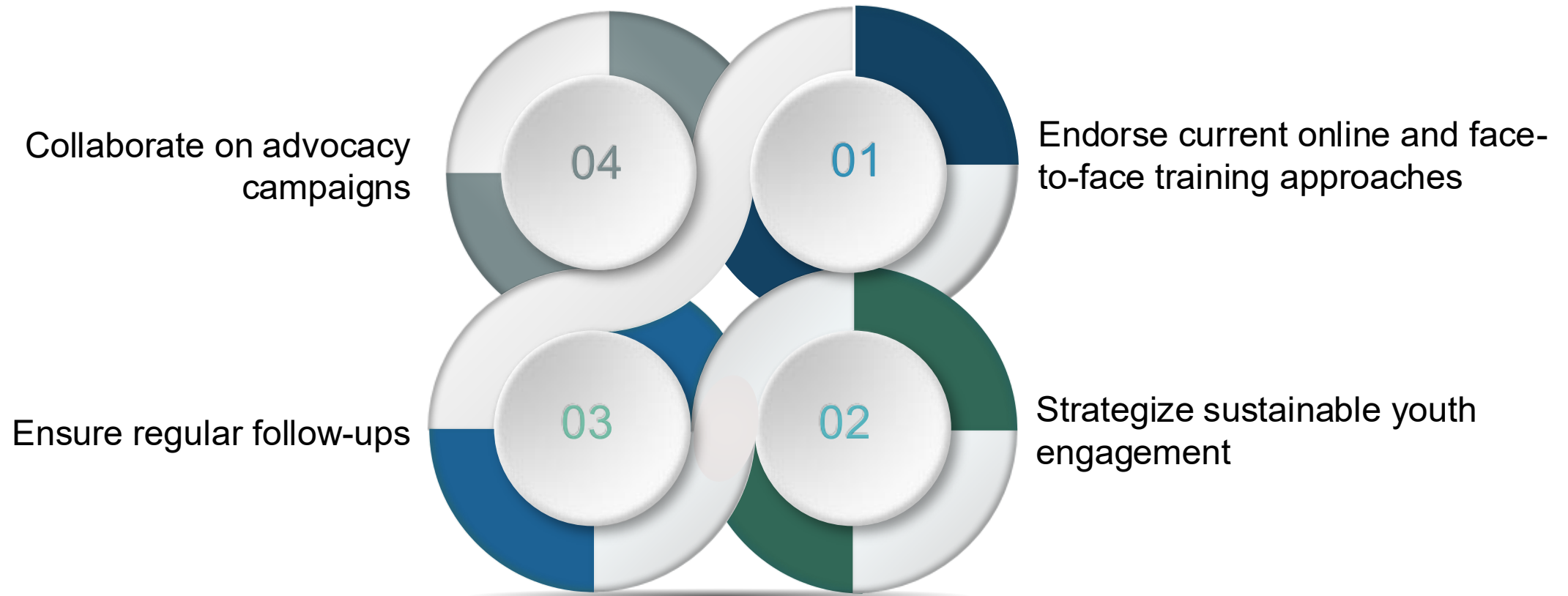


Establish a network among the grantees

Facilitate learning exchange

# Sustainability and Future Directions

## *Initiatives Expected to be Facilitated by the RMU-AP*



# Reflections on Facilitating This Learning Collaborative

---

## *Key Lessons and Reflections*

- Learning Collaboratives are most effective when delivered in a truly participatory mode, where learning partners and grantees co-create a shared space rooted in mutual respect, peer learning, and collaboration.
- They are most impactful when participants engage through multiple formats, and through blended approaches, creating a safe and flexible environment that encourages open dialogue and the sharing of diverse perspectives and lived experiences.
- These collaboratives should be viewed as ongoing processes, not one-time deliverables. They must be thoughtfully coordinated, planned, and executed to support meaningful and sustained engagement.
- There is also a need for learning partners to connect with those who have previously engaged with the same set of grantees, to align with existing learning pathways and build continuity.