



### 2018 National Youth Forum

The forum brought together YAM members representing each of the 36 states of federation to share experience, build Champions in Youth Activism in SRHR and increase networking among YAM members. During the forum, there was the launch and dissemination Youth Strategy 2017-2020 and YAM Guideline to YAM.



#### VISION STATEMENT

YAM envisages that Nigeria will be "A country where young people are empowered to freely act on their Sexual, Reproductive Health and Rights."

#### MISSION STATEMENT

The movement advocates for and acts on behalf of young people in Nigeria in the area of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and other issues that affect their total development.

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**ABOUT YAM:** The Youth Action Movement (YAM), is the youth wing of the Planned Parenthood Federation of Nigeria (PPFN). YAM is a grass root movement of young people, by young people and for young people in Nigeria. It is opened to all young Nigerians of sound mind aged 10-24 years. The movement advocates for the Sexual and Reproductive Health rights of young people in Nigeria as well as any other related challenges that the Nigerian youth faces. It works in collaboration with other youth groups and organizations through focused programmes.

#### YAM AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To enhance youth participation and representation at all levels of PPFN governance
- To promote sharing of best practices on SRH among young people
- To promote social progress and improve healthy life-styles among young people in Nigeria
- To mobilize resources to achieve its mandate



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# PPFN YOUTH ACTION MOVEMENT



## This Issue

- Female Genital Mutilation
- SRHR
- Regional Reports

### STAY WOKE!!!! END FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is "the partial or total removal of the external female genitals or other injury to the female genitalia organs for non-medical reasons" – IPPF

FGM is widely practiced in Africa, and due to its large population; Nigeria has the highest number of cases in FGM accounting for about one quarter of the estimated 115-130 million circumcised women worldwide. Despite the increased international attention, the prevalence of FGM overall has declined minimally. The FGM procedure has no health benefits for girls and women. Adverse consequences of FGM are shock from pain, hemorrhage infection, acute urinary retention following such trauma, damage to the urethra or anus as a result of struggle by the victim during the procedure.

In Nigeria, several approaches have been adopted by a lot of organizations in tackling FGM. However, there is no federal law prohibiting the practice of FGM in Nigeria. This is the main reason for the slow progress in declining the prevalence of FGM. At the grassroots, efforts should be made to join in the crusade to say NO to FGM anywhere it is practiced among our people.

By: **AMINAT ABIMBOLA ADEGBITE**  
YAM Coordinator Southwest Region

### YOUNG PEOPLE: A GROUP DEPRIVED OF QUALITY SRHR INFORMATION & SERVICES.

Young people's access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) information and services can occur through different means, including communication with parents and teachers as the most preferred ones. However, teachers and parents are reported to have very limited knowledge on the subject matter and when they do; shy away from it. As a result, majority of young people lack information and access to SRHR services. Poor access to SRHR is associated with young people's vulnerability to sexual health risks, such as early pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases. Importantly, SRHR issues of youths with disabilities are also often ignored out in research, programming and policymaking.

Hence, it is clear that multiple approaches are needed to reach and meet the diverse needs of the different groups of young people. In this regard, some measures are recommended: strengthening of school, community and health service linkages in the delivery of sexual and reproductive health education to young people. Also, projects should focus on promoting school and curriculum-based delivery of sex education, while actively promoting peer led community-based education and improving the youth friendliness of health service delivery points to meet the needs of young people.

By: **AAA. KAREEM**  
(YAM) North Central Regional Treasurer