



Youth Participation in Building Health

From Global Perspective to Local Action in Belize

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Acknowledgements

- Child Advisory Body Members – Belize
- CRC Ambassadors, Belize
- Informed Teen Reporters, Belize
- Youth Advisory Movement, Belize
- Youth Advisory Group, Belize
- National Committee for Families and Children, Belize
- Statistical Institute of Belize
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Labour, Local Government and Rural Development
- Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports & Culture
- Department of Youth Services
- UNICEF, UNFPA, PAHO
- National Adolescent Health Technical Working Group

**THE GLOBAL
STRATEGY
FOR WOMEN'S,
CHILDREN'S AND
ADOLESCENTS'
HEALTH
(2016-2030)**



Global Vision for Health:
Survive, Thrive, Transform

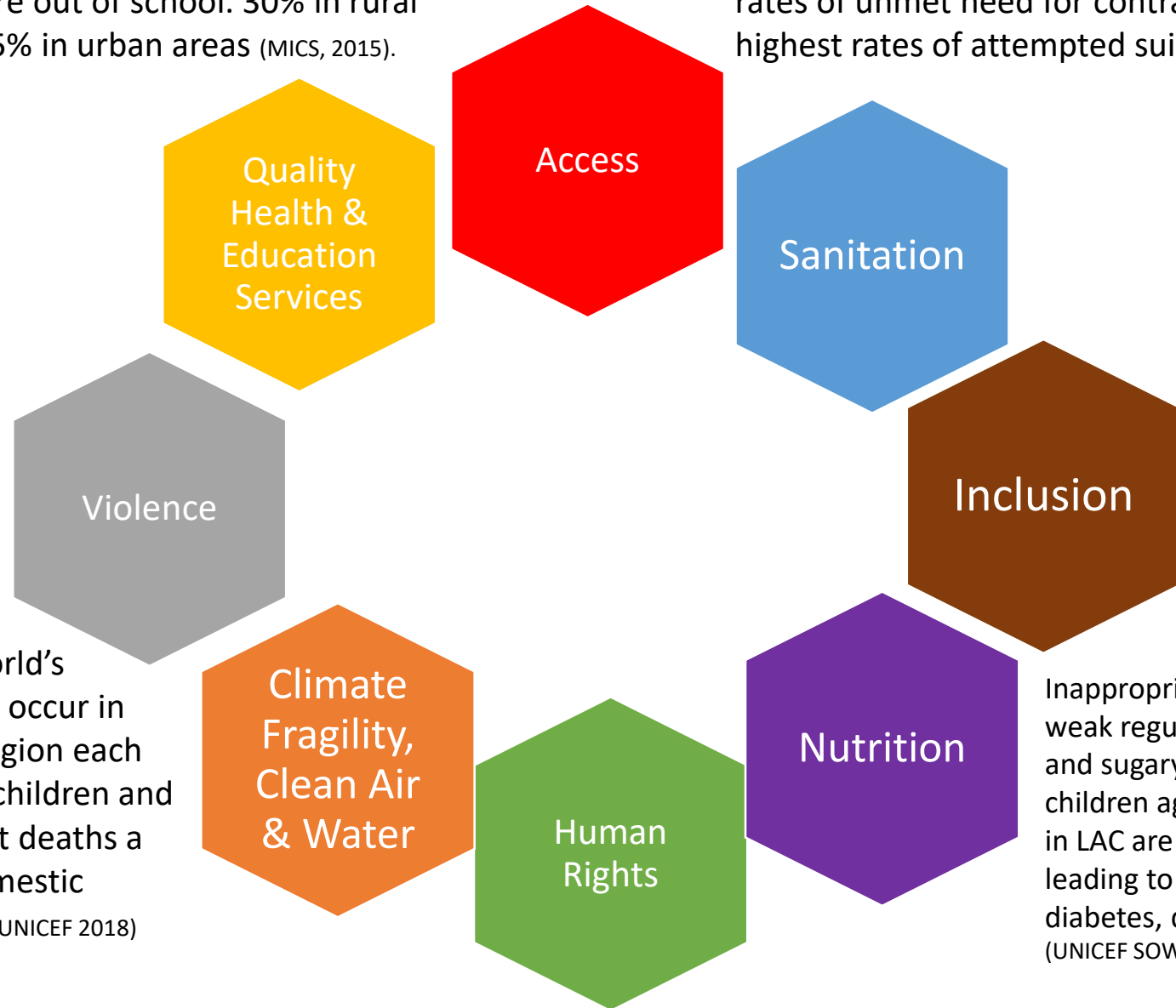
Today we have both the
KNOWLEDGE and the
OPPORTUNITY:

1. TO END PREVENTABLE DEATHS among all women, children and adolescents,
2. TO GREATLY IMPROVE THEIR HEALTH AND WELL-BEING and
3. TO BRING ABOUT THE TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE needed to shape a more prosperous and sustainable future.

Backdrop: A Complex, unfinished agenda – large losses in human capital

1 in 4 secondary school age children in Belize are out of school. 30% in rural areas 15% in urban areas (MICS, 2015).

Adolescents in the Caribbean have highest rates of unmet need for contraception, highest rates of attempted suicides



42% of world's homicides occur in the LAC region each year. 220 children and adolescent deaths a day to domestic violence. (UNICEF 2018)

Inappropriate marketing, weak regulation of foods and sugary drinks. 1 in 3 children aged 5-19 years in LAC are overweight leading to early onset of diabetes, depression. (UNICEF SOWC, 2019)

Monitoring Progress in Delivery on the Vision (2018):

<p>Challenges</p>	<p>Reductions in neonatal mortality slower than reductions in U5 mortality</p>	<p>GBV and inequality persist and in many countries gains have been lost</p>	<p>Significant increase in humanitarian crises including mass migration</p>	
<p>Knowledge</p>	<p>Better data available on key threats to child and adolescent health</p>	<p>Recognition of lifelong & transformative impact of investment in ECD</p>	<p>Recognition of crucial dividends from investment across the lifecourse</p>	<p>Broader integration of innovation and learning from practice</p>
<p>Action</p>	<p>Access to health care critical for preventing premature deaths</p>	<p>Multisectoral action essential for impact</p>	<p>Mutual accountability and partnership essential</p>	

Specific Lessons on Adolescent Health

Challenges

No standard for school health programmes

Inadequate attention to gender norms in young adolescents (10 – 14)

Quality of care in humanitarian settings

Adolescent Mental Health

Strategic Priorities

Establish evidence-informed strategies (AAHA)

Provide comprehensive SRHR and counseling

Prevent, treat and measure impact of anaemia in girls

Strengthen adolescent HIV prevention and treatment programmes

Menstrual hygiene management

End child marriage and early unions

What are
young people
doing?





A LOT



**DIGITAL
ENGAGEMENT,
MOBILIZATION
& SOCIAL
CHANGE**

**ORGANIZED
ADVOCACY &
REPRESENTATION**

4,532
U-REPORTERS **+87.3% THIS YEAR**

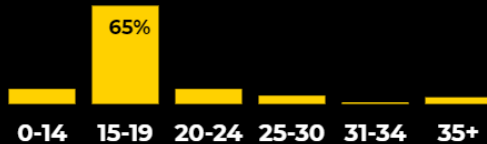
59.7 %
AVG RESPONSE RATE



45%
1,934



55%
2,389



**PARTNERING WITH 6,364,698 U-REPORTERS
IN 61 COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE**



**PRIMARY DATA
COLLECTION &
DISSEMINATION**



**PARTICIPATION THROUGH ARTS, THEATRE,
INNOVATION AND TALENT TO ADDRESS
SOCIAL NORMS AND CHALLENGES**

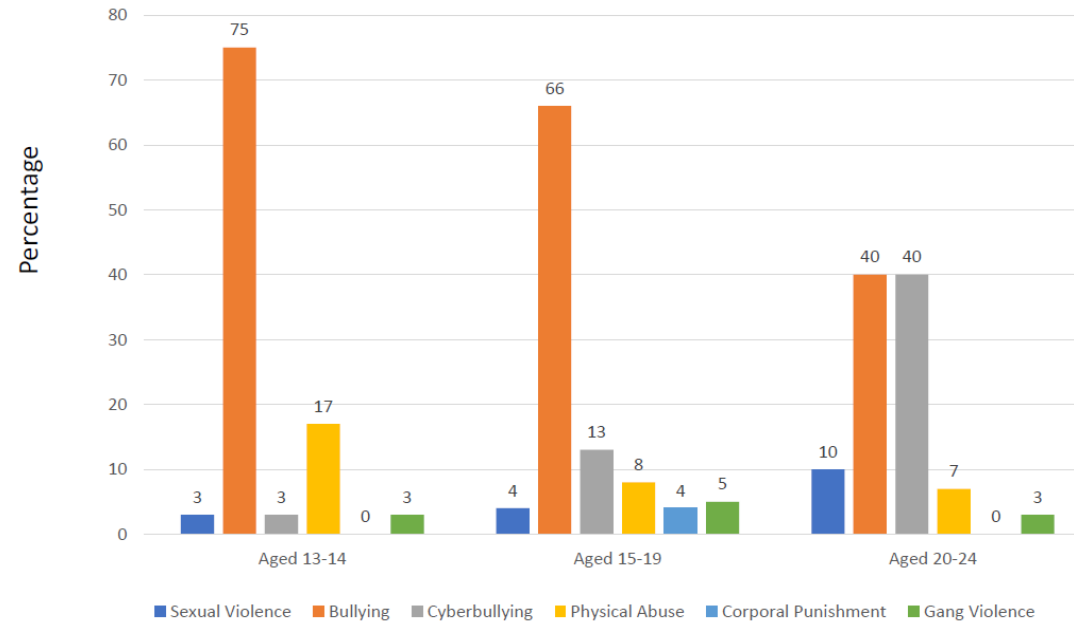


**STRUCTURED ENGAGEMENT
WITH LOCAL LEADERS TO
LEARN, FOSTER PARTNERSHIP &
ACCOUNTABILITY**

3 Things Should Not Be Without



What's the most common type of violence in your school?



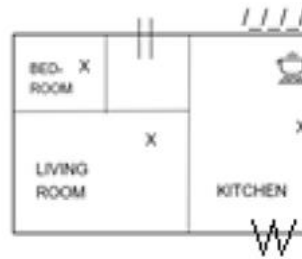
Source: U-Report Belize <https://belize.ureport.in/polls>

Note: The number of respondents from survey was calculated based on the ones who responded to this question. The number of respondents from the U-Report was calculated based on the ones who indicated their age.



Monitoring Air Quality

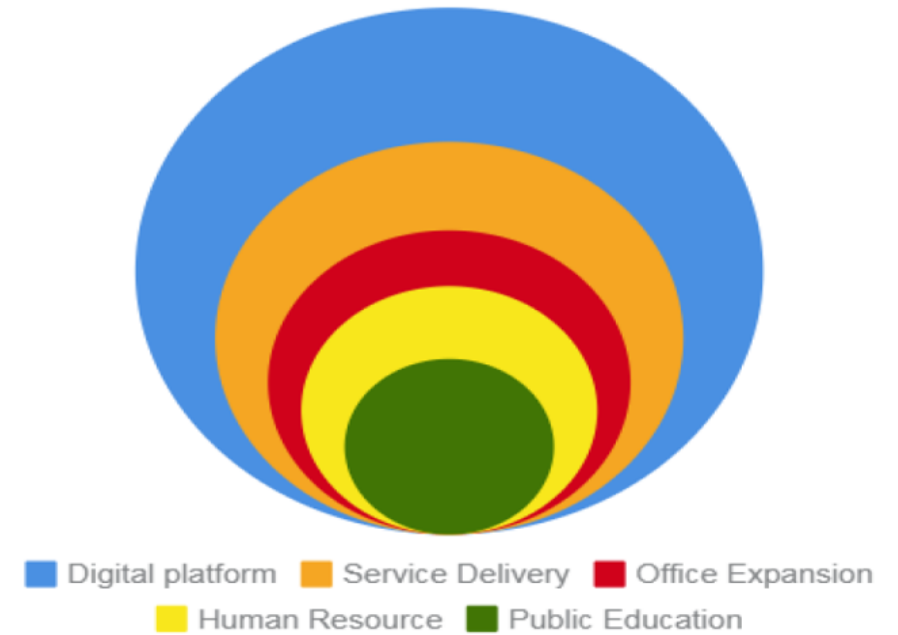
Children used a "laser egg" to monitor the air in their homes once in the morning and in the evening generating weeks of data



What difference has youth participation made in Belize? DATA



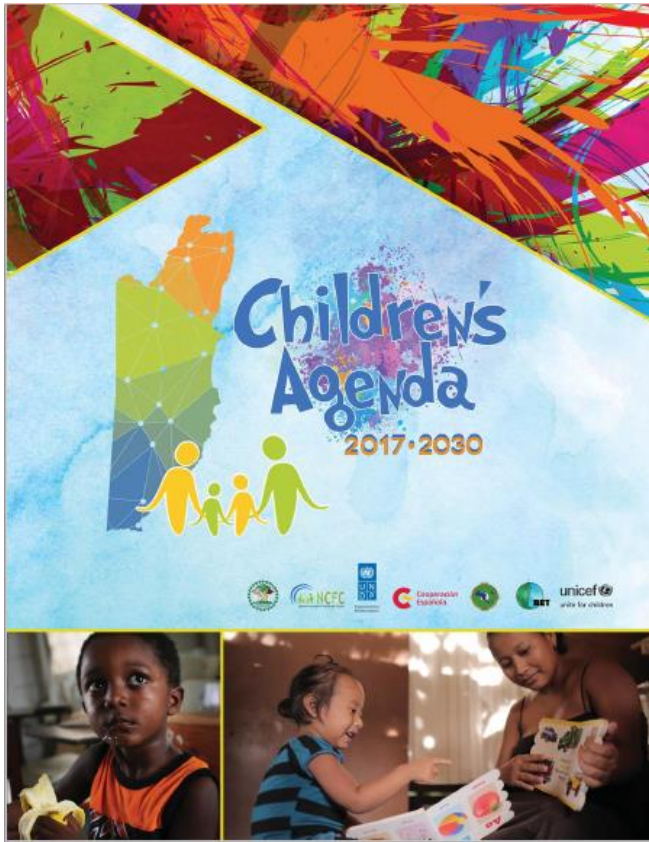
What Do You Think Should Be Prioritized to Improve the National Birth Registration System in Belize



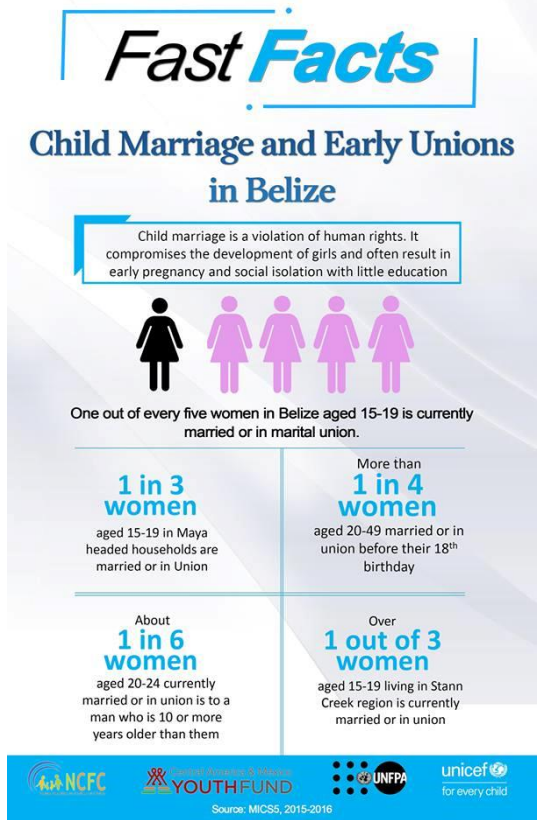
What difference has youth participation made in Belize? PROGRAMME DESIGN

What difference has youth participation made in Belize? CAPACITY





October 12, 2018: Belize Mayors Association and Ministry of Local Government following signing of the Hopkins Declaration committing Municipal Governments to invest and act to achieve certification as child-friendly municipalities by 2021



What difference has youth participation made in Belize? **ACCOUNTABILITY**

In summary: Youth
Participation – a
catalyst for impact

“If you want to build a ship, don't drum up people to collect wood and don't assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea.”

Antoine de Saint-Exupery

Awareness

Mentorship

Skills

Opportunities
for
Participation

Resources

Key References

[WHO, UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNWomen, The World Bank Group. Global Strategy for Women's Children's and Adolescents' Health \(2016 – 2030\)](#)^b

[WHO, UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNWomen, The World Bank Group. Survive, Thrive, Transform. Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health: 2018 report on progress towards 2030 Targets.](#)

[Statistical Institute of Belize and UNICEF Belize. 2017. Belize Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2015-2016,](#)

[UNICEF, State of the World's Children Report, 2019](#)

[UNICEF, A Familiar Face: Violence in the Lives of Children and Adolescents](#)