

**SMART YOUTH NETWORK
INITIATIVE
STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2025**



**SMART
YOUTH
NETWORK
INITIATIVE**

ACRONYMS

| | |
|--------|---|
| CBOs | Community Based Organizations. |
| SDGs | Sustainable Development Goals |
| UN | United Nations |
| SYNI | Smart Youth Network initiative |
| CDO | Community Development Officer |
| CSOs | Civil Society Organizations |
| CSAYN | Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network |
| CSBAG | Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group |
| DDP | District Development Program |
| GOU | Government of Uganda |
| M&E | Monitoring and Evaluation |
| MGLSD | Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development |
| NDP | National Development Plan |
| NEMA | National Environment Management Authority |
| NFA | National Forestry Authority |
| NGOs | Non-Governmental Organization |
| PC | Programme Coordinator |
| STEI | Science Technology Engineering and Innovations |
| UNFCCC | United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Program |

FOREWORD:

Since its inception in 2019, SYNI has remained consistent to its mission to enhance the participation of youth in sustainable development through capacity building, knowledge management and advocacy.

SYNI

enables youth to initiate their own development processes thereby contributing to their self-reliance. SYNI values place young people at the forefront to the center of development. Indeed, some progress has been reached in transforming youth and worth mentioning are the economically stable young people and the existence of household interventions to youth problems.

It is upon this background that this Strategic Plan sets out SYNI's agenda for the period 2022 – 2024. It is designed through the consolidated lessons, experiences and new practices that Smart Youth Network Initiative has accumulated over the years. It has also been developed in line with best practices for development, planning and ensuring active participation of key stakeholders at every stage.

The need for access to information and knowledge, Youth need to be empowered with many choices and explore their potentials both at national, regional and international level.

SYNI STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2022-2025

The SYNI local hubs will be the deliverable of the network to all youth in Uganda. The network will set up a Local Hub in Kampala in the three year of the Strategic Plan and later extend the model to other regions in Uganda (Mbale (East) Rubirizi (West), Moroto (Karamoja region). These Local Youth Hubs will be run by member organizations and operationalized by the network secretariat.

During the 3 years, this Strategic Plan will be guided by the following three (3) Strategic Directions (SDs);

SD 1: Civic education, peace and human rights– Scaling up youth civic roles and Responsibilities for sustainable and community transformation.

SD 2: Socio Economic Empowerment– Focusing on the capacity of young people and member organizations in order to contribute meaningfully to the development process

SD3: **Climate Action**- To build a social movement for enhanced information sharing on issues related to climate change, climate resilient communities where youth actively participate in initiatives that promote low carbon growth.

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION-

Investing in resource mobilization for the organization is one of the important pillars of this SD through reaching to potential donors and entities, collaborations and partnerships to strengthen the organization operations.

Once the strategies and planned actions under each of the thematic work areas are effectively and efficiently implemented, Smart Youth Network Initiative and its constituencies will gradually move towards achieving its goals.

I wish to extend my appreciation to all SYNI members, strategic development partners and friends that volunteered their time, skill, experience and information in the development of this Strategic Plan.

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Dr Moki A. Muhammad
Chairperson

Board of Directors
Smart Youth Network initiative

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our Network

The year 2022 marks key milestones for youth and other development movements. We have seen significant changes in levels of commitment and responses in the Global, Regional and National Youth and Broader Development Landscapes. We have witnessed the transition from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) wherein meaningful participation, active contribution, Climate Action and Unemployment are now integrated into a much broader Youth Development Common Agenda. This was witnessed as we noted the fact that dealing with the unfinished business of the three Youth issues is critical to achieving aspirations for a more inclusive and equitable Healthy Africa.

Changes in the global development context have been seriously considered by SYNI during our strategic planning processes. This new Strategic Plan 2022-2025 reaffirms our commitment to “**Community Transformation.**” However, we are also determined to broaden the scope of our work beyond our Youth Foundations, with emphasis on building Stronger Community Hub Systems and advancing Soc-Economic rights for the communities in all regions of Uganda that are most in need.

Appreciation goes to our partners who have supported different Initiatives on which this plan is built most importantly **Government of Uganda, Office of The Prime Minister, United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, Food Rights Alliance, Plan international Uganda.** Without their support, it would have been very difficult for Smart Youth Network initiative to do its work, we trust that this will continue.

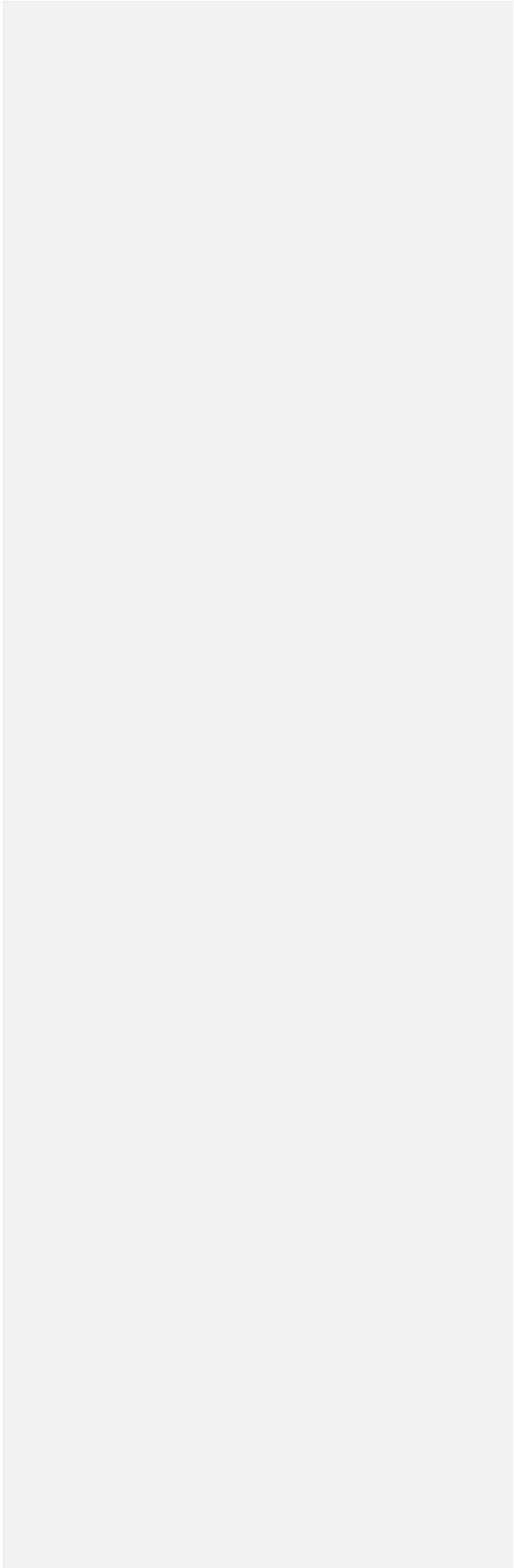
The cooperation and networking spirit of Youth Groups and Partner CSOs provided a strong input in the process of the development of this plan and its implementation remains dependent on such foundation.

I finally commend the hard work exhibited by the Lead consultant, Ms.AKello Cecilia Nokrach and Secretariat Team not only in the development of this document but also designing strategies for its implementation.

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Busingye Nurudin

Executive Director/Team Leader



INTRODUCTION

Background to SYNI Uganda

Smart Youth Network Initiative (SYNI) is a youth-Led network organization focused on community transformation. We seek to transform communities by building the capacity of young people to contribute towards sustainable development.

In the abovementioned core mandate, SYNI has, since 2017, conducted advocacy drives with a view to alleviate the various challenges that young people encounter in the transient stages of tertiary education and early adulthood.”

We have engaged the youth since 2017 in Youth Advocacy Campaigns and projects in various parts of the country to spearhead change in their communities in line with our vision, and hence alleviate the challenges that aggravate to poverty through equipping them with Innovative Market Skills, Advocacy Policy and Enhancing Peer Learning.

The Network was created to prioritize and advocate for Youth Active Participation and development needs. The Network was formed upon a realization that there is still poor standards of living of Youths and Women despite existence of policies and Legal Frameworks for Youth Unemployment.

This organization has combined technical assistance for Rural Women and Young People with Empowerment and Training Programs. As a mode of operation, SYNI has encouraged Village Civic Business Committees to create enabling environment for livelihoods, instead of struggling alone. Now these Young People can work together to solve common problems.

STRATEGIC PLAN BACKGROUND AND DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The development of this strategic plan followed a consultative process in order to ensure that the plan is in line with the objectives of member organizations and provides strategic direction for strengthening Youth movements coordination in influencing policy and practice in Uganda. Members gave in their views in February 2021 at the first Annual General Meeting and then in April during the Partners Consultations where more than 23 members attended. The generated ideas influenced the development of this Strategic Plan without incurring any consultancy costs but members generously submitted their ideas and views. The secretariat undertook review of the members' ideas to develop the Strategic Plan and conducted consultations with other key stakeholders. A few members from the Network helped the secretariat and Board Members to revise the issues identified in the situational report and prioritized the critical Strategic Issues for the next three years and stakeholders' workshop critical issues identified in the situational analysis report and consensus was built on the Network's Strategic Direction. That said, the Secretariat appreciates the following members that did a lot in shaping the plan; Lucky Brian, Sematimba Mwedini & Ms. AKello Cecilia Nokrach -appreciated for tremendous work done.

EXTERNAL CONTEXT

National Development Plan 3

Uganda Vision 2040 aims at transforming the country from being a predominantly peasant and low income to a competitive, upper middle-income status by 2040. The development fundamentals within the vision 2040 framework are infrastructure; Science, Technology, Engineering and Innovation (STEI); Land Use and Management; Urbanization; Human Resources; and Peace, Security and Defense. Implemented through a five-year National Development Plan, the current development plan focuses on two development fundamentals Infrastructure and Human Capital Development, with 3 priorities: Agriculture, Tourism, and Minerals, Oil and Gas aimed to increase impact and create growth momentum.

Within the current development plan, SYNI has the opportunity to tap from the Human Capital Development priority area, which focuses on increasing the accelerating the realization of the demographic dividend. In regards to the social development component, opportunity is available from Government commitment to implementing National Programmes for Youth and Women Economic Empowerment; Promoting Creative Industries for Job Creation for Young People.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs 2030)

The New Global targets for improvement of people's lives around the world, the "Sustainable Development Goals", are an unprecedented push to tackle the root causes of poverty. The SDGs embrace the need for economic development that leaves no one behind and gives every child a fair chance of leading a decent life¹. The SDG is a great opportunity for young people across the world to manage their development discourse. For African countries including Uganda, the SDGs will only succeed if the African youths harness their potentials to contribute to the development needs of their countries and if National Governments provide supportive environment for the development to happen. On the one hand, the SDG is a great opportunity for African youths to tap from it's a great leap that needs well calculated moves. Access and cost of Starting a business is still a challenge for many Youths in Uganda- Africa, Youth Unemployment, Climate Change, Teenage Pregnancies, Conflicts and Civil Wars are among the great development impediments faced by the African

youths, amidst a worldwide shared hope for a better future for billions of the youth.

Africa Agenda 2063

The agenda focuses on positioning Africa as a future powerhouse of the world. This presents opportunities and support from member states of the African Union, however, there is mounting evidence that climate change will have disastrous consequences for people in Africa. The effects of Climate Change extend beyond the environment and come with a broader set of socio-economic and political consequences, ultimately affecting the vision for Sustainable Transformation in Africa. Within the climate and environment discourse of Africa, Smart Youth Network initiative is concerned about the effect of climate change to the youth of Uganda and Africa. This Strategic Plan puts focus to the agenda 2063 and Climate Adaptability as among the key fundamentals for development.

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

Management and Administration

SYNI's governance structure comprises of the AGM, Board as the highest organ of the Network, with overriding strategic and policy decisions. The board is headed by a chairperson and is supported by a team of members. The board members were selected purposively based on their areas of expertise in various aspects of Social Development, Youth Advocacy and Policy Development. Below the board is the programs committee led by the Team Leader/CEO, supported by Executive committee. The Team Leader is the Chief Executive Officer of the network and secretary to the board. The programs committee is responsible for development of program action plans, work plans, key network coordination and partnership decisions; formulation, enactment and implementation operational decisions, bylaws policies. The executive committee is further responsible for budget management, fundraising, human resources development and institutional development. The operation of the network is implemented by heads of thematic areas and a team of network staffs and volunteers. Implementation of activities is a shared role of network members.



SNYI Strategic Plan 2022-2025

This Strategic plan (SP) seeks to strengthen Smart Youth Network initiative’s expanded role as Leading Youth Network body for Youth Advocacy in Uganda. This Strategic Plan (SP) also fosters to strengthen collaboration for contributing to achieving Uganda’s Vision 2040, National Development Plan 3(NDP 3) African Union 2063 agenda and United Nations SDGs 2030. Additionally, the plan places increased emphasis on value addition to SYNI’s membership and building a dynamic, committed and functional governance and leadership function of SYNI. The plan is structured around three (3) Strategic Thematic areas as below:

SD 1: Civic education, peace and human rights

SD 2: Socio Economic Empowerment

SD 3: Climate Action

Each Strategic Direction has a set of focus areas(interventions) that are critical for achieving SYNI to become stronger and effective. The focus areas are made of programmatic and institutional objectives and actions that are the most critical to achieving SYNI Vision, Goals and Mission.

| | |
|---|---|
| Vision: A society where youth proportionately participate and contribute to equitable social economic transformation. | |
| Mission: To enhance the participation of youth in sustainable development through capacity building, knowledge management and advocacy | |
| Core Values | |
| 2-1.Accountability | |
| 3-2.Inclusive Participation | |
| 4-3.Honesty | |
| 5-4.Rights-Based Approach | |
| Goals | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To transform youth through Civic education, circular economy and climate action. | |
| SD 1: Civic Education, Peace and Human Rights | |
| Goal: A peaceful society where citizens enjoy their roles, civic and human rights | |
| Objective1: | To create awareness on civic and human rights among youth |
| Objective2: | To influence policies and practices that promote youth participation in decision making processes |
| Objective3: | To scale up youth-based practices for advancement of social justice |
| SD 2 : Socio Economic Empowerment | |
| Goal: Enabling environment for youth innovation and socio-economic development | |
| Objective1: | To mobilize and organize youth for initiatives that promote social economic transformation |
| Objective2: | To build a platform for the promotion of youth innovations for STEM |
| Objective3: | To equip young people with skills, information and linkages to business financing |
| SD 3: Climate Action | |

| | |
|--|--|
| Goal: Climate resilient communities where youth actively participate in initiatives that promote low carbon growth | |
| Objective1: | To promote nature-based solutions for sustainable food systems |
| Objective2: | To create awareness about climate smart practices |
| Objective3: | To build a social movement for enhanced information sharing on issues related to climate change. |

KEY DEVELOPMENTS, STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES,

Opportunities and Threats

SWOT Analysis

In order to move forward in the next three years to come, SYNI external and internal issues analyzed using a SWOT analysis which will enable SYNI to implement its activities with an informed perspective of their strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities. SYNI will consider these factors to help it effectively implement its mandate and to assess its ability to deliver quality services.

| STRENGTHS | WEAKNESSES |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered, community mobilization, technical skills, big network, research, board of directors • Credibility and visibility: strong membership network that engages stakeholders effectively • Committed staff | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low level of domestic value addition. • Inadequate funding especially for Youth development work research. • Fragmented institutional structure to oversee development of the communities. • Lack of a resource mobilization strategy, poor documentation, financial constraints, • Lack of M and E Framework |
| OPPORTUNITIES | THREATS |

| | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large market size for climate smart products and apparels in Uganda and the EAC. • NDPIII Program on agro-industrialization with focus on employment creation. • COVID 19 • Partnerships • Youths rising inflation • EAC Community growth • Brand Name | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited market access/penetration for locally made Products by youth • Shrinking Civic Space, competition from like-minded CSOs. • limited funding, less government support, negative mindset towards Youth |
|--|---|

KEY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STAKEHOLDERS

Stakeholder matrix

| Stakeholder | Stake/interest | Current Attitudes / Collaboration Areas | Power Level |
|---|---|--|-------------|
| Young People and women | Key beneficiaries of our Programs and development solution | Available to participate and contribute in our development work | High |
| Local Governments at local levels | -LGs are direct targets for the Youth empowerment Advocacy work | Can easily collaborate with the network on most issues | High |
| Member Youth Group Organizations | At General Assembly, are interested in capacity building and all other joint work areas | Highly interested in the work of the network | High |
| Environmental Government Agencies: NFA, NEMA, UWA | Coordination, Supervision and monitoring environmental justice Climate action programs | These consider some of the work of Youth and women CSOs to be complementary to the supervision mandate | Medium |
| Duty Bearers (Youth Members of Parliament) | Channels of policy initiation Channeling issues of the young people interest to the rest of Parliament Business | Consider CSOs as partners and source of information | Medium |
| Parliamentary Committees (Trade, SDGs, Human Rights, Climate change, | Legislation on Climate action, Budgets, Economic empowerment, | Consider CSOs as partners and source of Solutions, information | High |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--------|
| Budget) | Education and upholding accountability in the sector | | |
| Private Sector such as PSFU, banks, Companies | Providing of resources, engagement with the young people in jobs and markets | CSR, Information dissemination, employ youth, supporting local content | Medium |
| Donors (WWF, EU, SID A, UNDP, UKAID, UNCDF, GIZ, PLAN, ACTION AID) | Funding advocacy, Empowerment plans and initiatives | View the network as an agent and partner of soci-economic change/ development | High |
| Other CSOs (such as national/ international NGOs that operate in the same areas) | Horizontal and vertical linkages on advocacy issues. This includes consultations, involvement, joint advocacy, capacity, knowledge management | Looking at the Smart Youth network as an agent and partner of soci-economic change/ development | Medium |
| Media | Disseminate/ amplify Youth and children Advocacy key messages | Consider CSOs as partners and source of right information | High |

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE NETWORK

- a) An inclusive network with a broad membership and representation both at the Regional and at the local village level composed of people that are passionate about community Transformation;
- b) Building strong legitimacy and a voice movement making the Network a credible and authoritative interlocutor in multi stakeholder dialogue, Talk shows and planning on community Transformation in areas of operation.
- c) Supporting and empowering Youth actors and groups at the local level, providing guidance and coordination to bring to life our shared vision;
- d) Supporting risk communication, cross-learning and sharing on scaling up best solutions in sustainable development.
- e) Reaching out to grassroots organizations and youth groups including farmers' organizations, SMEs
- f) Forging strong partnerships, Network growth in size, depth, scope and ambition.

STRATEGIC DESIGN

The overall goal of this Strategic Plan is to attain a Society (Uganda) in which the youths are empowered to contribute to all development processes, have access to adequate productive resources and effectively contribute to sustainable development. This will be attained through building strong Partnerships to Network with other players with capacity to empower and coordinate access to production resources, access information, knowledge, climate action and civic education, peace and Human Rights. The strategic Plan thus sets three objectives to be attained during the three-year period. Through the three objectives, the strategic plan is expected to deliver change and community transformation.

SUMMARY OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- a. **Development of Training Tool book** for Youth in Green and Digital Business - two new Learning Tools; TB4GB 2020A and TB4DB 2021B were released. Production technologies covering marketing and branding, Recycling and financial management were launched.
- b. **Youth Employment Empowerment facility (YEEI)** - a Skills Institute and Digital lab was established in Nateete for Community Trainings and mindset change, information sharing and Community Baraza Meetings, Camp fires.
- c. **Increase in Youth production and incomes** – the support from Uganda Investment Authority, enabled SYNI to train and mentor 370 Startups in Green Business and Entrepreneurship in 2021. Our partnership with Merchandiseuganda.com provided 59 young people and women jobs as business developers.
- d. **Contributed to the Civic Education Program (Ready to Stand Project)** – 7 youth Mobilized by Smart Youth Network initiative were elected as Councilors and youth leader.
- e. **Climate change Bill 2021** was passed and we Represented Uganda at **Stockholm +50 in Sweden Stockholm** where we contributed to the passing of the Clean and healthy environment as a Human Right by the UN General Assembly Headed by the United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres in 2022

Resource Mobilization Principles

The Network will seek funding to develop work within its three programme focus areas on a National and local basis. The following principles will guide the mobilization of resources at the Smart Youth Network Initiative:

- a) The secretariat Team will establish partnerships and joint action planning with member organizations to provide Strategic issues and project ideas and ask for support and keep members informed of funding opportunities available.
 - b) Time will be invested in Strategic Planning, Lobbying, Identifying, and building relationships with new prospective Partners and Government.
 - c) In as far as possible, Board members and Team Leader will use their official positions as opportunities for networking and resource mobilization.
 - d) Raising of project funds will take place across the Network with various individuals involved in developing funding proposals including the hire of consultants and the Network will take into consideration its capacity to implement and manage the proposed projects.
 - e) When negotiating with donors, the Network will ensure that the terms and conditions of funding agreements, procedures and reporting schedule are mutually acceptable.
 - f) The Network will seek to develop relationships and partnerships with major donors. This will be achieved through a comprehensive communication strategy that seeks to understand each other's work and values.
 - g) The Network will encourage donor-sponsored programmes as long as they fit within the organization's overall mission and there is appropriate institutional capacity to support the implementation of such programmes.
- h) The network will develop a Resource Mobilization strategy to assist in network fundraising .

SYNI GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND ADOPTED INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME RESULTS

| Goal and objectives | Outcome/ adopted intermediate outcomes | Indicators |
|--|---|---|
| <i>Objective 1.</i> A peaceful society where citizens enjoy | Increased awareness on civic policies and human rights practices that | Number of youths actively involved in decision making processes |

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| their roles, civic and human rights | promote youth participate in decision making processes. | |
| Objective 2. Enabling environment for youth innovation and socio-economic development | Increased markets and financing for youth enabling environment for social economic transformation. | 16 Regional skills and information centers established for youth innovators |
| Objective 3. Climate resilient communities where youth actively participate in initiatives that promote low carbon growth | Increased investment nature-based solutions for food systems and awareness on climate smart practices | Number of youths trained in food systems and movements built for climate change information sharing. |
| Objective 4. Strengthen the institutional coordination for improved service delivery | Improved service delivery | Level of satisfaction with service delivery at SYNI. |

Interventions and actions to be implemented during FY 2022/23 – 2024/25:

Outputs and actions have been identified under each intervention and this form the priorities over the 5-year period as shown in the table below:

SYNI OBJECTIVES, INTERVENTIONS AND ACTIONS (FY 2022/23 – 2024/25)

| OBJECTIVES | SYNI STRATEGIC INTERVENTIONS | OUTPUTS | PLANNED ACTIVITIES |
|--|---|---|--|
| Objective 1. A peaceful society where citizens enjoy their roles, civic and human rights | Support Youth to actively participate in civic engagements and programs | Information and reading on peace and human rights developed | Support development and release information on civic responsibilities and mindset change |
| | | | Promote civic education and human rights for mindset change of youth toward social community development. |
| Objective 2. Enabling environment for youth innovation and socio-economic development | Strengthening Youth Capacity to start and grow businesses for job creation and employment | Youth mobilization and sensitization entrepreneurship skills & livelihoods are <i>conducted</i> | Conduct sensitization, training and demonstration of good business management, innovation and creativity |
| | | | Advocating for increased budget and financing for youth lead businesses and startups |
| | | | Setting up a skills and information center in major regions of Uganda. |
| Objective 3. Climate resilient communities | Support nature-based solutions for sustainable food | Evidence of increased capacity on environmental | Create awareness about climate smart practices and create movements to share information for climate action. |

| OBJECTIVES | SYNI STRATEGIC INTERVENTIONS | OUTPUTS | PLANNED ACTIVITIES |
|--|---|--|--|
| where youth actively participate in initiatives that promote low carbon growth | systems and climate change | protection improvements among CSO leaders and communities. | Advocate for increase and expansion of the Uganda Green Fund. |
| | | | Mobilize and train youth to scale up climate action projects solutions that aim at improving food systems. |
| Strengthen the institutional coordination for improved service delivery | Strengthen institutional capacity of SYNI to improve service delivery | Staffing and SYNI structure | Fill vacant positions |
| | | | Up-grade M&E function within SYNI structure |
| | | Administrative and Support Services | Staff remuneration and welfare |
| | | | Regulatory and promotional functions |
| | | | Procure Office furniture and fittings |
| Procure transport equipment and public address system | | | |

COMMUNICATION AND FEEDBACK STRATEGY

Rationale and objectives of the Communication Strategy:

The main purpose of this Communication Strategy is to disseminate the SYNI vision and goal and the actions that will lead to their realization. The strategy will enable stakeholders to provide feedback on the implementation of the Strategic Plan in order to improve service delivery.

Key communication priorities:

Key issues to be communicated include:

- Guidelines for business/startup establishment, startup management for jobs.
- Availability of youth programs and opportunity for learning and growth mindset
- Youth friendly policies and Climate change vulnerabilities statistics
- Youth initiatives for sustainability and scale up
- Projects implementation status

IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNICATION PRIORITIES:

Key stakeholders, their influence, issues and channels of communication

| Name of stakeholder | Key issues/messages to communicate | | Channels & frequency of communication |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|
| Youth | Guidelines for business establishment, startup management Availability of government youth programs and opportunity for learning and growing the mindset Youth friendly policies and Climate change vulnerabilities statistics Youth initiatives for sustainability, scale up and funding | | Radios Internet (social media) Community Meetings Youth Leaders Frequency – Weekly during the Youth meetings |
| Local and political leaders | Guidelines for Youth Pogroming and budgeting. Youth friendly policies and Climate change vulnerabilities statistics. | | Periodic reports Meetings/conferences Radios/TV |

| Name of stakeholder | Key issues/messages to communicate | | Channels & frequency of communication |
|---|---|--|--|
| | Youth initiatives for sustainability, scale up and funding. Projects implementation status. | | Community leaders Frequency – Monthly or as need arises |
| Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies | Youth friendly policies and Climate change vulnerabilities statistics. Youth initiatives for sustainability, scale up and funding. Projects implementation status. | | Main media Internet (social media) Periodic reports Meetings/conferences Frequency – Quarterly or as need arises |
| International stakeholders | Guidelines for Youth Pogroming and budgeting. Youth friendly policies and Climate change vulnerabilities statistics. Youth initiatives for sustainability, scale up and funding. Projects implementation status. | | Periodic reports Internet (social media) Emails Meetings/conferences Frequency – Annually or as need arises |

MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) FRAMEWORK

Monitoring and evaluation arrangements

M&E function within the SYNI structure:

In order to ensure adequate implementation of M&E, SYNI will up-grade the M&E function to Section level. The Section's main purpose will be to coordinate all the M&E activities; including developing the M&E framework, and establishing and implementing the M&E system.

The Finance & Administration Department will ensure the M&E Section's roles are adequately supported within the Organization's hierarchy and the other Departments/Sections are properly aligned to support the M&E functions.

Staff capacity to implement the M&E function will be strengthened through training and other capacity building initiatives to ensure that SYNI staff keep up with current and emerging trends in the field. SYNI will periodically review and compile capacity building gaps for the different actors which will be addressed during the training sessions

PROGRESS REPORTING:

Performance monitoring reports will be prepared and disseminated as follows:

- a) **Field fortnightly reports** – these shall be produced by the SYNI member group Data Clerks in every zone and sent to SYNI head Office. The reports will be consolidated into a national report and disseminated to the Office of the Prime Minister and other relevant stakeholders. The report will also be presented during the SYNI monthly meetings.
- b) **Management reports** – each department/section shall prepare and present a report during Management thematic Committee meetings. The reports will be discussed and recommendations made to improve implementation of activities.

- c) **Board committee reports** – the Board Secretary shall coordinate development on Board committee reports to be presented and discussed during committee and board meetings.
- d) **Government Quarterly reports** – using the UN Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) and the Performance Budgeting System (PB, quarterly reports shall be made and disseminated to Ministry of Gender and the Ministry of Finance, Planning and OPM within one month after the end of every quarter.
- e) **SYNI annual reports** – at the end of every financial year, SYNI shall prepare an annual report which will be published and disseminated to the stakeholders.

M&E Results Framework:

An M&E Framework was developed to provide guidance on continuous monitoring of each intervention using specific indicators at various levels to inform the next stage. SYNI will establish and implement an M&E system that will ensure that the set targets are realized as outlined in this strategic plan.

STRATEGIC PLAN BUDGET ESTIMATES

Table below summarizes the cost estimates of implementing this strategic plan over the periods i.e. 2022-2025. The figures for 2022 have been included to provide a picture of the starting point.

Projected Funding for Smart Youth Network initiative for 2022-2025

| ADVOCACY ISSUE | OUTCOME | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|--|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| CIVIC EDUCATION, PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS | Increased awareness on civic policies and human rights practices that promote youth participate in decision making processes. | | | |
| | Actions | | | |

| | | | | |
|----|---|--------|---------|--------|
| 1. | Dialogue to influence policies and practices that promote youth participation in decision making processes | 9,700 | 16,500 | 28,000 |
| 2. | Youth Debates and roundtable know your rights and civic roles | 25,000 | 25,000 | 28,000 |
| 3. | Capacity building for Youth Leaders, communities on Human rights & Civic roles | 23,300 | 23,300 | 27,500 |
| 4. | Social media, radio & TV programs | 9,000 | 12,000, | 15,000 |
| | SUB-TOTAL | | | |
| | SOCIO ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT | | | |
| | Increased capacity and financing policies for youth enabling environment for social economic transformation | | | |
| | Actions | | | |
| 1. | Mentorship & soft skills training for Youth Groups, individual, communities | 13,300 | 16,000 | 18,000 |
| 2. | Building the Capacity of youth in public budget influencing, tracking & accountability | 20,000 | 21,000 | 25,000 |
| 3. | Convening Annual Youth Entrepreneurship Financing conference | 29,400 | 36,500 | 39,400 |
| 4. | Assorted technical training for Secretariat team | 5,500 | 6,800 | 8,000 |
| | SUB-TOTAL | | | |

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------|--------|--------|
| CLIMATE ACTION | Increased investment nature-based solutions for food systems and awareness on climate smart practices | | | |
| | actions | | | |
| 1. | Setting up a Youth Community climate action hub, information and digital center. The Hub center model based in Nateete (Head Hub) Mbale (East), Rubirizi (West) | 15,000 | 18,000 | 20,000 |
| 2. | Dialogue with duty bearers and policy makers in advocating for environment protection and climate action policies | 12,000 | 13,000 | 15,000 |
| 3. | Annual reports and quarterly Advocacy reports with recommendations and solutions with best practices of youths in Green development in Uganda | 10,000 | 13,000 | 15,000 |
| 4. | Capacity building for youth groups in strategic advocacy, leaderships, evidence-based advocacy for natural resources governance | 35,000 | 40,000 | 43,000 |
| | | | | |
| | SUB-TOTAL | 16,000 | | |

| GENERAL OVERHEADS AND CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT | | | | |
|--|---|--------|--------|---------|
| 1. | SYNI Permanent offices and Local Hubs | 16,000 | 16,000 | 16,000 |
| 2. | Equipment, vehicles, Technology | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 |
| 3. | Institutional strengthening & resources mobilization | | | |
| 4. | Pursuing corporate social responsibility funding | 18,000 | 19,000 | 190,000 |
| 5. | Capacity building of youth groups in proposal writing and financial management | 17,000 | 19,900 | 27,000 |
| 6. | Growing membership, movement building at national & Regional level. | 24,400 | 30,400 | 50,000 |
| 7. | Investment into Smart Youth Network's local enterprises like Fashion shop, Farm, E-commerce Project | 26,800 | 26,800 | 26,700 |
| | | | | |
| | SUB-TOTAL | | | |
| | GRAND TOTAL | | | |

