Press Release

AU-EU Youth Voices Lab - Power of the Collective

Co-creating an inclusive and youth-responsive society in Africa and Europe

**10 July 2024**

**The Consortium of AU-EU Youth Voices Lab - Power of the Collective proudly announces the launch of this ground-breaking project.** This four-year EuropeAid-funded project aims to create a more inclusive and youth-responsive society across Africa and Europe, bringing together five esteemed organizations known for their youth-led approach and youth-informed work experience: Oxfam, Restless Development, Search for Common Ground, Youthmakers Hub, and ComDev Africa. The project's implementation spans from **March 2024 to February 2028**. It operates at a **continental** level by delivering impactful strategies involving youth and decision-makers from the 5 African regions, covering all **54 countries**, targeting **14 countries in Africa** and **1 in Europe** as **Intervention Countries**, and engaging the African Diaspora as key connectors.

**AU-EU Youth Voices Lab - Power of the Collective** envisions a society where **decision-making processes** result from enhanced **youth engagement**, **empowerment**, and **connection** and **improved intergenerational partnerships** and action at local, national, continental, and cross-continental levels. The **project's Specific Objectives encompass** 2 interlinked and interrelated thematic **Journeys**. First, the **Youth Journey** empowers young people (ages 15-35) to **advocate** **their concerns and priorities effectively** at various levels. Second, the **Institutional Journey** supports institutions and organizations toward more **youth-centered** decision-making processes.

A key output is the **Youth Voices Lab App**, a mobile app co-created with **10,000 young people** based on consultations on their priorities and needs. The project also manages the **Youth Voices Third-Party-Funding Mechanism (YV-TPFM)**, providing microgrants ranging from **€1,000 to €10,000 per collective** to youth-led groups from intervention countries and the youth diaspora to support their actions and strengthen their advocacy and capacity building. Other actions include **youth advocacy training**, **Youth Power Hackathons**, and supporting **youth representatives** to participate in influential decision-making spaces.

**Our Key Objectives:**

* **Empower Youth:** Engage **24,000 young people** in information access, action planning, and accountability through youth-led initiatives.
* **Enhance Participation:** Empower **19,200 young people** to participate in civil society with collective self-care.
* **Foster Connections:** Connect **21,930 young people** in intergenerational dialogues and cross-continental partnerships.
* **Support decision-making:** Assist **630 policymakers and decision-makers** in collaborating on youth-responsive policymaking and accountability.
* **Contribute to policy development:** Support **50 youth-responsive policies** development or improvement.

**June 2024** marks a milestone month for **AU-EU Youth Voices Lab - Power of the Collective**, as it officially launched on social media on **June 20**.

**Join the community** today by following us on social media at [bit.ly/m/aueuyouthvoiceslab](http://bit.ly/m/aueuyouthvoiceslab). Let’s **Engage, Empower, Connect.** Together!

**To learn more**, visit our website at [aueuyouthvoiceslab.eu](http://aueuyouthvoiceslab.eu).

# Contacts

Cleophas Angwenyi (Oxfam International – Oxfam in Africa) | Head of AU Liaison and Advocacy Office

[cleophas.angwenyi@oxfam.org](mailto:cleophas.angwenyi@oxfam.org)

Silvia Diazzi (Youthmakers Hub) | Communication & Dissemination Manager

[silvia.diazzi@youthmakershub.com](mailto:silvia.diazzi@youthmakershub.com)

# Project Information

**Title:** AU-EU Youth Voices Lab - Power of the Collective

**Duration**: 4 years

**Starting date**: 01.03.2024

**Ending date**: 29.02.2028

**Donor**: European Union

**Grant**: EuropeAid/177759/DD/ACT/Multi

**Total Budget**: 7,368,421 Euro

**EU Contribution**: 7,000,000 Euro

**Partners:** [Oxfam International](https://www.oxfam.org/en) ([Oxfam Intermon](https://www.oxfamintermon.org/es#), [Oxfam in Africa](https://africa.oxfam.org/)), R[estless Development (RD)](https://restlessdevelopment.org/), [Search for Common Ground (SEARCH)](https://www.sfcg.org/), [Youthmakers Hub (YMH)](https://youthmakershub.com/), ComDev[Africa](https://makesense.org/en/)