Invest in Youth-Led Solutions for Gender Equality

**THE POWER OF YOUTH**

**WITH YOUTH, FOR YOUTH**

Yet, young people — especially girls and young women — face barriers to health, rights, and opportunities.

**HEALTH**

- **20 MILLION** adolescent girls have an unmet need for modern contraception; complications in pregnancy & childbirth are a leading cause of death.
- **OVER 30%** of all new HIV infections globally occur among young people aged 15-25.
- Suicide is the third leading cause of death for adolescents aged 15-19.

**RIGHTS**

- Legal restrictions and stigma contribute to **3.9 million unsafe abortions** annually among girls aged 15-19.
- **12 MILLION GIRLS** are married before the age of 18 every year.

**OPPORTUNITY**

- About **262 MILLION** children and young people are not in school.
- **21%** of the world’s youth were excluded from employment, education, or training in 2018.
- In 2018, working youth were **twice as likely** to be living in extreme poverty than adults.

Updated March 2020. For data sources and definitions please visit www.womendeliver.org
THE SOLUTION: 
Meaningfully engage young people in decisions concerning their lives and futures.

POLITICAL

SUPPORT young, progressive candidates for political office.

RESERVE space for young people on boards, commissions, and decision-making bodies.

FINANCIAL

INVEST in youth as well as youth-led and serving organizations.

COMPENSATE young people for their work and services.

REPRESENTATION

SHARE platforms and visibility to promote youth voices.

RECOGNIZE the diversity of youth and avoid tokenism.

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