Youth Excel Welcomes New ‘Anchor’ Partners

Youth Excel facilitates Issue-Based Collaborative Networks (ICONs), a whole-system-in-the-room model that convenes diverse youth-led and youth-serving organizations and groups, along with adult allies, to from a place-based collaborative that collectively tackles a shared problem. The ICON collaborative works together over a 9-12 month period. Participants build skills in Research-to-Change (implementation research), conduct research, share data, create new knowledge collectively, learn from each other, and share learnings to influence decision-makers and strengthen local youth development.

Local Anchor partners in each ICON location co-lead and co-facilitate each ICON with core members of the Youth Excel team.

Asociación Miriam para la Promoción Intelectual de las Mujeres (MIRIAM) – Guatemala

Ixoqib Miriam is an nonprofit organization founded in December 1999. Through a comprehensive care model, Ixoqib' MIRIAM enables indigenous women to integrate into the country’s economy and actively participate as agents of change and contributes to the transformation of society to ensure gender equality, social justice and a fulfilling life for women. MIRIAM brings together more than 31 organizations and/or groups of women in 13 different departments and 23 municipalities. (Baja Verapaz, Jalapa, Guatemala, Chimaltenango, Jutiapa, El Quiche, Escuintla, Santa Rosa, Alta Verapaz, Quetzaltenango, Sololá, San Marcos and Totonicapán).

Asuda for Combating Violence Against Women – Iraq

Asuda is an organization that aims to build a world where women prosper through access to equal rights and resources and opportunities. Asuda works to combat violence against women and girls by advocating for women’s rights and providing quality multi-sectoral responses for Gender-Based Violence survivors. Asuda empowers women to actively contribute to their community and society, participate in decision-making processes, and lead the social, political, and economic transformation. Asuda supports vulnerable women and girls socially and economically (widows, IDPs, refugees, SGBV survivors, FHH, etc.) in acquiring the proper skills to become economically independent and self-reliant. Asuda’s three domains of work are Protection and Awareness, Emergency Response, and Advocacy.
**BIM SARL – Dominican Republic of Congo**

Founded in 2017, BIM SARL supports and mobilizes young entrepreneurs and leaders of youth organizations by building the capacity of leaders and managers. It works in conflict-affected areas of Eastern Congo, such as agriculture opportunity and business development.

**CERC – Dominican Republic of Congo**

Founded in 2017, CERC seeks to create a generation of young leaders and 'leave no one behind' in governance and local development. It works in Kinshasa to empower youth through education & capacity-building, movement building, and influencing decisionmakers to solve community problems through research, data, and advocacy. Its network includes over 3000 youth, and it has developed solutions including accessible and safe drinking water, accessible education to children at risk of exclusion, and strengthening urban rubbish collection.

**LakeHub Foundation - Kenya**

LakeHub Foundation is a youth-led technology and social innovation hub based in Kisumu, leveraging the decentralization and access to technology, cultivating entrepreneurship culture and social innovations; bundled with 1:1 World-Class Mentorship, internships, and job placement opportunities across Western Kenya and its environs. Primarily, LakeHub exists to spur innovation as a means of job creation and solving social problems in the Western Kenya region. With over 7 years of technical experience in creating an open and supportive space where university/college graduates, young talented software developers, creatives, entrepreneurs, and social innovators in Western Kenya hone their technical and soft skills, cascading peer-peer learning experiences, network, collaborate and formalize partnerships for scaling best practices, launching start-ups, and forming a coalition of youth-led consortiums to bid for both tech and social gigs.

**Rwanga Foundation - Iraq**

Rwanga Foundation is a non-governmental organization that envisages a world where quality education is accessible for all. Its mission is to provide services, build capacities and design policies to ensure easy access to education for all and improve the overall educational standards in KRI, Iraq and the greater global community. Rwanga's strategic goals are to develop platforms for youth to discover talents and fulfill their potentials, introduce the latest technology, including e-learning system to the education process in order to meet the advanced international standards, create a culture and passion for learning in particular among the youth. Rwanga Foundation's Headquarters is based in Erbil. It officially launched its activities in September 2013 to conduct projects and activities all over Iraq through its four main sectors of education, youth, environment and vulnerable groups.