

UPROOT COMMUNITY SCORECARD TRAINING TRAINING REPORT

Community-Led Monitoring and Advocacy Roadmap Development

Dates: 13–14 August 2026

Venue: CBC Resort Center, Mvan, Yaoundé

Organizing project: CAGEAD — Community Engagement Strategic Initiative (CESI)

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Participants and facilitators, Community Engagement Strategic Initiative (CESI) Cameroon

1. Executive Summary

The two-day Uproot Community Scorecard training was designed to strengthen the capacity of youth-led organizations and YAP members to use Community-Led Monitoring (CLM) as an accountability and advocacy mechanism, and to translate scorecard findings into evidence-based advocacy priorities and an actionable roadmap. The training combined methodological grounding, stakeholder analysis, review of the 2023 Cameroon scorecard, verification of findings against 2026 evidence, priority setting, legislative strategy development, and roadmap formulation.

A central methodological feature of the training was the treatment of the 2023 scorecard as a baseline rather than a current verdict. Participants were required to interrogate the earlier findings against current policy and contextual evidence before confirming them as advocacy priorities. This process produced a significant substantive revision: the 2023 parental-consent finding was removed after participants confirmed that existing HIV policy permits emancipated teenagers to access relevant services without parental consent. The revision demonstrated the practical value of verification within community-led monitoring and strengthened the credibility of the final priority set.

The review confirmed that Laws and Policies remained the weakest of the five scorecard domains, with a 2023 score of 3.3/10, while Leaders was the strongest at 9.2/10. Participation scored 6.4, Partnerships 7.5, and Beneficiaries 5.6. Taken together, the results indicated comparatively stronger capacity in youth leadership, mobilization and CSO–government collaboration, alongside persistent weaknesses in the legal and policy environment and in the translation of youth representation into meaningful policy influence.

The training subsequently moved from analysis to advocacy planning. Participants agreed to prioritize legal protection from violence and discrimination, strengthen comprehensive sexuality education, address domestic and sexual violence through evidence and policy engagement, improve youth access to services and information, and strengthen engagement with relevant institutions. The legislative strategy adopted was to advocate for amendments to existing legal frameworks rather than pursue entirely new, isolated laws, unless evidence demonstrates that a standalone legal instrument is necessary.

The process culminated in a consolidated Uproot Roadmap, validated against evidence-linkage, SMART objective, duty-bearer authority, sequencing, resourcing and monitoring criteria. Three dated duty-bearer commitments were recorded, alongside a post-training coordination mechanism comprising short-term roadmap finalization, evidence-gap confirmation, monthly progress checks and quarterly learning sessions. The training therefore moved beyond knowledge transfer to establish a structured basis for continued youth-led monitoring, advocacy and accountability.

2. Introduction

The Community Engagement Strategic Initiative (CESI) strengthens youth engagement in Global Fund-related processes in Cameroon by creating opportunities for young people and youth-led organizations to generate evidence, participate meaningfully in decision-making, monitor commitments, and advocate for responsive policies and programmes.

The Uproot Community Scorecard is a youth-led Community-Led Monitoring tool developed in 2023 by two youth consultants in partnership with Y+ Global. It assessed the extent to which commitments affecting young people including people living with HIV, LGBTQ youth, sex workers, drug users and school dropouts were reflected in laws and policies, participation, beneficiaries, leadership and partnerships. Data collection took place across all 10 regions of Cameroon from 18 August to 8 September 2023 and was validated through a national consensus meeting on 19 October 2023, producing the seven-page Cameroon Scorecard on HIV.

The 2026 training provided an opportunity to revisit this evidence three years after its original collection. The training was therefore structured not simply as a presentation of the scorecard, but as an analytical process through which participants could distinguish between findings that remained valid, findings that required qualification, and findings that no longer reflected the current context. This approach was important for ensuring that subsequent advocacy was based on current, verifiable needs rather than on historical findings reproduced without verification.

3. Objectives

Main objective:

To strengthen the capacity of youth-led organizations to use the Uproot Community Scorecard as a Community-Led Monitoring and accountability mechanism to influence policy implementation, strengthen meaningful youth participation, and contribute evidence and advocacy priorities to national and global health processes, including Global Fund Grant Cycle 8 (GC8).

Specific objectives:

- Strengthen participants' understanding of Community-Led Monitoring and its role in accountability and policy influence.
- Build the capacity of youth-led organizations to understand, interpret and utilize the 2023 Uproot Community Scorecard findings.
- Enable participants to identify priority gaps related to laws and policies, participation, national strategies, leadership and partnerships.
- Strengthen participants' advocacy and accountability skills, including stakeholder mapping, evidence-based advocacy and engagement with decision-makers.
- Support participating youth-led organizations to develop a practical Uproot Roadmap based on identified scorecard priorities.
- Establish a structured approach for youth-led organizations to monitor implementation of the roadmap and document progress.

4. Training Rollout

4.1 Day One — Understanding and Analysing

Day One established the conceptual and analytical foundation for the training, moving from CLM and safe participation to stakeholder influence, scorecard methodology, the five domains and the 2023 findings.

4.1.1 Introduction to Community-Led Monitoring

The training opened with an introductory session on Community-Led Monitoring (CLM), designed to establish a common understanding of the concept, its purpose and its relevance to accountability in the HIV, tuberculosis and malaria response.

CLM was presented as a cycle through which communities most affected by a policy or service define questions, gather and interpret evidence, engage duty-bearers, track responses and adapt their action. The session emphasized placing adolescents, young people and key populations at the centre of decisions affecting their health and rights.

The discussion highlighted the accountability dimension of CLM: community experiences and observations can be organized into evidence that can be discussed, verified and acted upon. The approach therefore creates a cycle linking evidence, dialogue, commitment, follow-up and learning



Participants also examined the relationship between community evidence and power. In a practical exercise, young people affected by HIV, TB and malaria were placed at the centre of a stakeholder map, with institutions, decision spaces and service providers identified around them. Relationships were categorized as strong, weak or missing, and participants identified where stronger community evidence could improve influence. This established the conceptual bridge to the Uproot Scorecard.

4.1.2 Safe Participation and Working Agreements

Working agreements emphasized evidence before opinion, population-level language, protection of confidentiality, respectful challenge and participation without requiring disclosure of personal identity, health status, experience or affiliation.

4.1.3 Stakeholder Relationship Mapping

Participants mapped actors around young people affected by HIV, TB and malaria. Three relationships were flagged as weak or broken: health facilities and community leaders; local government councils and other relevant entities; and health facilities and national ministries or programmes. Churches and government were also discussed within the wider collaboration landscape.

The exercise established an important analytical premise: an advocacy priority requires clarity on the problem, the actors who can influence it, the evidence required and the appropriate engagement route.



Facilitator walks participants through the stakeholder relationship map, anchored on “Young People.”

4.1.4 The Five Domains and Categorization Exercise

The five domains were examined as interconnected but distinct dimensions: Laws and Policies, Participation, Beneficiaries, Leaders and Partnerships. The distinction between Participation young people's voice and influence and Leaders leadership development, youth-led delivery, evidence generation and resource mobilization was clarified through a question-sorting exercise.

4.1.5 Review of the 2023 Cameroon Findings

Domain	Score /10	Analytical interpretation
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Laws & Policies	3.3	Weakest domain; significant accountability and policy gaps.
Beneficiaries	5.6	Mixed progress; national strategies exist but access barriers remain.
Participation	6.4	Youth representation exists, but meaningful influence remains inconsistent.
Partnerships	7.5	Strong CSO–government collaboration; weaker private-sector and academic links.
Leaders	9.2	Strongest domain; mentoring, advocacy, evidence generation and resource mobilization scored strongly.

The pattern indicated comparatively stronger capacity in youth leadership, partnerships and organizing than in the legal and policy environment, providing a basis for concentrating advocacy effort on the most significant accountability gaps.

4.6 Scorecard Methodology and Domain Interpretation

Participants reviewed the methodology used in the 2023 scorecard. Responses were scored as Yes = 10 points, Somewhat = 5 points and No = 0 points, with a –2 point penalty for criminalizing laws. Each domain comprised 15 questions, with scores calculated from the questions answered and then averaged across the five domains to produce the overall country score.

The domain-categorization exercise also clarified an important conceptual distinction between Participation and Leaders. Participation concerns young people's own voice and presence in decision-making spaces, while Leaders concerns organizations and structures that generate evidence, mobilize resources and build youth leadership. Two areas of initial confusion were resolved: stigma and discrimination protections were confirmed under Laws and Policies, while dedicated funding for developing youth leaders was confirmed under Leaders.

4.1.7 Gap Prioritization

Participants reviewed 2023 gaps alongside current observations, marked issues as confirmed, changed or requiring verification, and voted for gaps that were important, evidence-backed and possible to influence. The highest-ranked priorities and outstanding evidence questions were carried into Day Two

Day Two — From Evidence to Signature

Day Two shifted from interpretation to strategic decision-making and action planning, focusing on current verification, priority selection and roadmap development.

4.2.1 Re-testing the 2023 Findings

The most significant verification exercise concerned parental consent. The 2023 scorecard had recorded parental consent as a barrier to adolescent access to SRH services, HIV testing and treatment. During Day Two, participants reviewed the relevant questions against current evidence and concluded that existing HIV policy permits emancipated teenagers to access the relevant services without parental consent. The issue was therefore removed from the advocacy roadmap by consensus.

This demonstrated the intended discipline of CLM: historical community-generated evidence was treated as a baseline to be tested, not as an immutable conclusion. Other findings, including gaps in legal protection, comprehensive sexuality education and protection from violence, were confirmed as requiring continued attention.



The gap prioritization vote in progress, with the underlying evidence and scoring for each candidate gap visible on the flipcharts.

- Finalizing the scorecard review carried over from Day 1: re-testing Day 1's priority gaps against current evidence resulting in the removal of one 2023 finding (parental consent for SRH services) after review against scorecard questions 1.4–1.9 showed existing HIV policy already permits emancipated teenagers to access services without parental consent.
- Advocacy and evidence strategy: defining “influence” as evidence participants already hold from community interactions, and agreeing an institutional-audit and private-sector engagement strategy (situational analysis reports to corporations such as MTN to inform CSR allocation).
- A legislative strategy decision, reached after reviewing Laws and Policies questions 1.1–1.13 in detail: advocate for amendments to existing general legal frameworks rather than pursuing entirely new, isolated laws for specific populations, unless strong documented evidence justifies otherwise.
- Roadmap methodology: transitioning from priority filter to a single, structured, evidence-based Uproot Roadmap (see Section 6).
- Group presentations and roadmap validation against five evidence-linkage questions and four SMART/authority/resourcing/monitoring criteria.

- Implementation, monitoring and reporting plan, closing personal and organizational commitments, and evaluation including a written knowledge assessment administered in English and the roadmap evaluation form.

The parental-consent reversal is worth noting specifically, because it is the moment the training's design proved itself. A finding that felt true in 2023 turned out not to hold up under fresh scrutiny in 2026 and rather than defending the old finding out of loyalty to the process, the group let it go and moved on. That is a harder discipline than it sounds, and it is exactly what separates community-led monitoring from community-repeated assumption.



Facilitator introduces the Priority Filter Worksheet exercise, the bridge from prioritized gaps into roadmap objectives.

5. Outcomes

5.1 2023 Scorecard Findings, Re-Tested Against 2026

Domain	Score /10	What this told us
Laws & Policies	3.3	Weakest domain, and it stayed the weakest after re-testing. General anti-discrimination and GBV laws exist, but none specifically protect adolescent girls and young women, people living with HIV, or key populations from violence and discrimination.
Beneficiaries	5.6	The one domain where 2026 evidence actually moved the needle: the parental-consent barrier for SRH/HIV services was found to already be addressed by existing HIV policy for emancipated teens, and was removed as a priority.
Participation	6.4	Youth representation exists in national spaces, but a disconnect remains between representation and meaningful policy influence — presence in the room is not the same as influence over what happens in it.

Partnerships	7.5	CSO–government collaboration is genuinely strong; private-sector and academic engagement remain the visible gap, which is exactly what the Day 2 CSR strategy was built to address.
Leaders	9.2	The strongest domain by a wide margin — resource mobilization and evidence generation are real strengths, though internal funding for youth-led organizations themselves remains thin. The group deliberately chose not to prioritize this.

Read together, these five scores point to a consistent pattern: Cameroon's youth HIV response is comparatively strong at the level of organizing — leadership, partnership, mobilization — and weaker at the level of law. This means the roadmap produced by this training could focus on the legal gap directly, rather than spreading limited resources across five equally weak fronts.

5.2 Key Gaps Confirmed

- No specific legal protection from violence or discrimination for people living with HIV, drug users, sex workers, gay men, transgender people, or adolescent girls and young women — including the ability to report crimes such as rape or physical abuse without fear of prosecution.
- Funding for youth organizations rated only “somewhat” adequate — Global Fund support exists but is insufficient, and has led to project reductions.
- 95% viral suppression has not been demonstrated; stigma, cost and fragmented services were identified as the main barriers.
- Comprehensive sexuality education exists in schools but not communities, and current domestic-violence provisions remain insufficient.
- Ministry of Education school clubs disseminate HIV information but do not reach students in private schools or non-members.

5.3 Legislative Strategy and Duty-Bearer Commitments

One of the more significant decisions of the two days concerned whether adolescent girls and young women needed an entirely new law written specifically for them, or whether existing frameworks could be amended instead. Participants weighed both options against the available evidence rather than the relative visibility of each choice, and settled on the more achievable path: advocate for amendments to what already exists, reserving new legislation for gaps that evidence shows cannot be closed any other way. This produced three dated commitments:

Duty-bearer	Deadline	Commitment
Ministries of Public Health and Youth Affairs	End of Dec 2027	Sign commitments and guidelines for the protection of key/vulnerable populations.
Civil society organizations (to MINPROFF & Min. Justice)	31 Aug 2027	Submit a paper detailing evidence and repercussions of domestic violence.
Civil society (with MINEDUB & MINESEC)	31 Jul 2027	Reach agreement on a comprehensive sexuality education curriculum.

6. Consolidated Uproot Roadmap

What follows is not two groups' work placed side by side it is the single roadmap the full participant group arrived at, built by combining the Beneficiaries-track work led with YAP and the Laws and Policies-track work led with COMAGEND, CAGEAD, SWO and HOYUCA into one coherent set of fields. The two tracks fit together more naturally than they might first appear: one addresses the barriers an individual young person faces trying to access a service today, the other addresses the legal architecture that either protects or endangers them tomorrow. A roadmap that only did one of those would be half a strategy.

The roadmap functioned as the mechanism for translating verified priorities into accountable action. The workshop brought together the Beneficiaries-track work led with YAP and the Laws and Policies-track work led with COMAGEND, CAGEAD, SWO and HOYUCA. The two tracks were treated as complementary: one addresses barriers experienced by young people in accessing services, while the other addresses the legal and policy conditions that shape protection, access and accountability.

Each roadmap was assessed against five evidence-linkage questions and four quality criteria:

The priority is linked to a scorecard finding and a verifiable current need.

The advocacy objective is specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound.

The named duty-bearer has actual authority to influence or act on the issue.

Activities are sequenced, assigned and realistically resourced.

Progress indicators and verification sources are sufficiently clear to support monitoring.

The roadmap was validated against five questions confirming each priority links to a scorecard finding with verifiable need, and four criteria: objectives are SMART; the named duty-bearer has real authority to act; activities are sequenced, owned and resourced; and the monitoring framework has clear indicators and verification sources. Where the underlying flipcharts did not record a field, that is marked honestly below rather than filled in.



Participant presents on roadmap



YAP, SWO and HOYUCA delegates finalize roadmap details together

Component	Consolidated content
Organizations, focal persons, contact	Youth Against Pandemics (YAP) — Habiba Hiodi, 653841635; and a consortium of COMAGEND, CAGEAD, SWO and HOYUCA (focal person not recorded on flipchart).
Priority domains, questions and 2023 scores	Beneficiaries (2023 score: 5.6) — Q4.3 (0), Q4.6 (5), Q4.7 (5), Q4.9 (0), Q4.10 (5), Q4.11 (5), Q20 (0). Laws and Policies (2023 score: 3.3) — Q1.1–1.3, Q1.12, Q1.13(b), Q1.13(e).
Evidence baseline and 2026 verification status	Young people aged 15–24 in Cameroon remain significantly affected by HIV and face barriers to reliable, youth-friendly information and health services; 2026 status to be established via a 30-day baseline survey of at least 30 young people. On the legal side: a law addressing GBV exists but has no specific provision for domestic or sexual violence; a CSE strategy is being implemented in schools; general anti-stigma provisions exist but none specific to people living with HIV; sex work is punishable by law; and no law specifically protects adolescent girls and young women.
Population affected	Girls and boys aged 15–24, in and out of school, with particular attention to vulnerable youth, youth living with disabilities and youth distant from health services; adolescent girls and young women; sex workers and other key populations; and people living with HIV.
SMART objectives advocacy	(1) By 31 December 2026, secure integration by the relevant health or municipal authority of a youth participation mechanism in at least one local HIV/TB/malaria prevention activity, including appointment of at least two youth peer educators and at least one awareness activity co-organized with YAP. (2) By the end of December 2027, the Ministries of Public Health and Youth Affairs should have signed commitments and guidelines for the protection of key/vulnerable populations. (3) By 31 August 2027, draft and submit a civil society paper to MINPROFF and the Ministry of Justice on the evidence of prevalence of domestic violence and its repercussions on women and society at large. (4) By 31 July 2027, CSOs will have collaborated with MINEDUB and MINESEC to develop and secure agreement on a curriculum for the roll-out of CSE in schools. Immediate action: design a policy brief on why CSE is important.
Named duty-bearers / decision spaces	Relevant Divisional Delegate or health district; Mayor or municipal youth officer; head of an integrated health centre; head of a school or university institution; MINPROFF, CSOs, MINESEC, Ministry of Justice, MINEDUB (objective 2 separately names “Ministries of Public Health and Youth Affairs” — see note in Section 5.3).
Activities (sequenced)	Awareness-raising campaigns and individual information sessions; planning meetings with the authorities. 3.1 Stakeholder engagement and advocacy: convene initial consultation with MINEDUB, MINESEC and CSOs to build consensus on the need, scope and priorities of CSE in schools. 3.2 Conduct a review of existing curricula, policies and evidence on CSE to identify gaps, opportunities and

	priority content areas. 1.1 Form an expert task force with CSOs and technical advisors to draft proposed protection guidelines and non-discrimination commitments. 2.1 Gather qualitative and quantitative data on domestic violence prevalence, legal gaps and its societal repercussions on women.
Timeline / milestones	Beneficiaries track: three months, extendable to six depending on available resources. Laws and Policies track: near-term activity window of August–September 2026 ahead of the 2027 objective deadlines, with milestones being the curricula review conducted, the expert task force identified, and qualitative/quantitative data gathered on legal gaps for domestic violence.
Responsible persons / partners	YAP focal person, team of young volunteers, health district, integrated health centre, municipality, schools/universities, youth associations, community peer educators, community media; COMAGEND, CAGEAD, SWO, HOYUCA.
Progress or success indicators	At least 30 young people consulted; at least 2 advocacy meetings; at least 1 written commitment/validated meeting report from an authority; at least 300 young people reached; at least 70% of participants able to name two prevention measures or services; at least 20% of youth referred to an appropriate service where needed — with the Laws and Policies track's indicators tracked against the milestones above rather than listed separately.
Verification sources	Pre/post questionnaires, attendance lists disaggregated by age and sex, photos with consent, meeting reports, letters/emails, signed action plan, YAP publications, health centre or partner attestations; drafts, reports, pictures.
Risks and mitigation	Risks: refusal by authorities, low decision-maker availability, low youth mobilization, HIV/TB-related stigma, insufficient resources, misinformation. Mitigations: request appointments officially and early, mobilize youth through their networks and institutions, use non-stigmatizing and confidential language, prioritize low-cost activities, have messages validated by a health professional. (Not separately recorded for the Laws and Policies track.)
First 30-day action, owner and date	Hold a scoping meeting with YAP youth and carry out a rapid consultation with at least 30 young people aged 15–24. (The Laws and Policies track's near-term activities are the Aug–Sept 2026 items above; a specific owner and date were not separated out on the flipchart.)
Reporting channel and next check-in date	Summary report shared by WhatsApp and email with the YAP team and partners, with a monthly follow-up meeting — the same monthly cadence set out for the whole training in Section 7 below, which the Laws and Policies track also feeds into.

7. Post-Training Coordination and Next Steps

Sustaining this momentum depends on the coordination timeline below, which sets out ownership and deadlines for each next step:

Owner	Timeframe	Action
Facilitators	7 days	Circulate proposed post-training coordination mechanism.
Participating organizations	14 days	Submit clean digital roadmap, expanded from the workshop skeleton into an organization-specific version.
Project/organizational focal persons	21 days	Confirm evidence gaps identified for each roadmap.
Ministries of Public Health and Youth Affairs	By end of Dec 2027	Sign commitments and guidelines for protection of key/vulnerable populations.
Civil society organizations	By 31 Jul 2027	Reach agreement with Ministry of Justice on CSE curriculum.
Civil society organizations	By 31 Aug 2027	Submit evidence paper on domestic violence and its repercussions.
All participants	Monthly, 3 months	Progress-check meetings on roadmap actions and evidence collection.
All participants	Ongoing, quarterly	Learning and experience-sharing sessions.

8. Evaluation and Learning

Evaluation was integrated into the training process. Day One closed with a Menti-based evaluation, while Day Two concluded with a written knowledge assessment administered in English and a roadmap evaluation form. Participants also recorded individual and organizational commitments and identified roadmap focal points.

From a training perspective, the most important learning outcome was the application of verification to advocacy prioritization. The ability to remove an earlier scorecard finding when current evidence did not support it, and to prioritize amendments to existing frameworks based on feasibility and evidence, demonstrated movement from passive knowledge acquisition toward analytical and strategic use of the scorecard.

9. Conclusion

The two-day training achieved its core objective of strengthening the capacity of youth-led organizations and YAP members to use the Uproot Community Scorecard as a Community-Led Monitoring and accountability mechanism and to translate verified findings into an actionable advocacy framework. Participants progressed from understanding the scorecard methodology and findings to interrogating the relevance of those findings in the 2026 context, identifying priorities, selecting appropriate advocacy pathways and assigning responsibility for follow-up.

The process produced a sharper and more defensible advocacy agenda than would have resulted from simply reproducing the 2023 findings. The removal of the parental-consent priority following current-policy verification demonstrated the importance of evidence validation, while the decision to pursue amendments to existing legal frameworks reflected a strategic preference for achievable, evidence-supported change.

The training further produced dated duty-bearer commitments, a consolidated roadmap spanning service-access and legal-protection priorities, and a post-training coordination mechanism with defined short-, medium- and longer-term follow-up. Collectively, these outputs position participating organizations to engage more strategically in Cameroon's Global Fund Grant Cycle 8 processes and to contribute youth-generated evidence to national and global health decision-making.



Participants and facilitators at the close of the two-day training, in front of their own gap-analysis and priority flipcharts.