

# Mapping of Organizations Working in Youth-Friendly Health Services in Malawi

Malawi is one of the few countries in the region to have implemented youth-friendly health services (YFHS) from as early as 2007 and has a national YFHS strategy for 2015–2020. A major objective of the strategy is to strengthen ownership, coordination, and collaboration among the Ministry of Health-Reproductive Health Directorate, other line ministries, district structures, and key stakeholders (including community leaders and young people) at the national and district level.

A multi-sectoral integrated approach is being taken, in which public-private partnerships and multi-sectoral collaboration are encouraged to strengthen the provision of integrated youth sexual and reproductive health services. The adoption of the multi-sectoral and decentralized approach is meant to achieve a comprehensive YFHS program with diverse stakeholder involvement. However, increased coordination can be challenging and complex. The approach demands innovation, clarity of roles, and defined responsibilities linked to institutional mandates. First and foremost, there needs to be a clear indication of the partners working on YFHS across the country.

This map provides a glimpse of partners working in YFHS in each district as of 2017. Partners were identified through a mapping exercise conducted by the Health Policy Plus project, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development. At a participatory meeting and through follow-up, district YFHS coordinators from almost all district health offices provided information on which partners are working in each district. The map does not reflect coverage of interventions in the districts, as in some districts, organizations are implementing more than one project.

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