

MESP

ISSUE 001

# MAGAZINE

Profiling Youth Leadership in Political and Civic Spaces

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# ABOUT INTERNATIONAL REPUBLICAN INSTITUTE – IRI

**IRI** strengthens democracy by empowering citizens, bolstering democratic governance, and holding leaders more accountable to their people. For nearly 40 years, IRI have helped activists and elected officials foster healthy democratic competition, increase transparency and accountability in government decision-making, and promote inclusivity in civic and political life.

IRI's approach prioritizes meaningful youth engagement, recognizes young people's unique needs based on intersecting identities, provides young people with opportunities for engagement, and helps young people learn new skills and build networking opportunities.

IRI is a core institute of the National Endowment for Democracy, founded in 1983 by President Ronald Reagan and the United States Congress to promote the infrastructure of democracy around the world.





## ABOUT GENERATION DEMOCRACY

Generation Democracy (GenDem) – IRI’s flagship youth network – consists of over 260 young leaders from 74 countries. Since its founding in 2015, GenDem has created a pool of 18-35 year olds who promote civic and political participation and expose their colleagues to new approaches and ideas.

GenDem members have access to subaward funding, opportunities to serve as elected officials on the group’s board, and ways to participate in global panels to share their expertise.

Recognizing that youth-led programming works best when it is supported by preparation and support, Generation Democracy provides learning through virtual training sessions and in-person events that bring members together to share best practices and lessons learned.



# FROM THE EDITORS' DESK



**Nehrin Mustofa**  
– Sub editor



**Chimwemwe Kaonga**  
– Editor



**Khadija Amahal**  
– Sub editor

## WELCOME!

The *Member Spotlight Magazine* (MESP) is an opportunity to identify strategies and exchange best practices to help generation democracy members across the globe, recognize their capacity to lead. This magazine is also a platform for young leaders and organizations to learn, network and forge partnerships in terms of projects that would enhance youth leadership in democratic governance and civic engagement. The magazine profiles the amazing work by our fellow changemakers across the network and help advance a vision on how to foster the meaningful participation of the youth in politics, policy and decision-making processes.

As GenDem network, we celebrate the wins by our peers and the magazine is a testimony to this fact. Chief among our approaches in promoting youth participation in civic and political processes is by connecting members with their peers to collaborate and share insights,

equipping members with tools and resources as well as empowering members through opportunities to put learned skills into action. We hope this magazine will inspire each one of us with insights and propel us into collaborations that will drive the change we need in our respective countries.

It is also important to note that the magazine is responding to our network's Global Member Advisory Board (GMAB)'s priority. It is a known fact that the youth lack capacity and skills to effect policy change in order for them to meaningfully participate in political and civic spaces. We believe that the magazine can as well address some of these challenges only if we can decide to learn and collaborate with our peers who are addressing similar issues that we are facing in our various countries across the globe.

## ENJOY THE READ AND LEARN!

# MEET THE 2022-2023 GMAB

## GENERATION DEMOCRACY GLOBAL MEMBER ADVISORY BOARD



To double down on its belief in the power of youth engagement and youth as experts of their own reality, IRI partnered with Network members to develop the Global Member Advisory Board in 2021 to ensure that Generation Democracy is not only for the youth but also by the youth. The GMAB is composed of 12 individuals, with two representatives from each of the six regions with an IRI presence: Africa, Asia, Eurasia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). Each region represented has one member that engages in either regional or global activities. Global Officers focus on the Board's administration and global activities, while Regional Leaders are responsible for engaging regional members and managing a subaward program that addresses issues identified and targeted by the GMAB.





# TARMIZI ANUWAR: MALAYSIA LEAD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY



Tarmizi addressing participants during the workshop



Tarmizi poses with workshop facilitator



Workshop participant takes to the floor



Part of participants to the workshop



Workshop in session

Tarmizi Anuwar is a member of the Generation Democracy network in Malaysia; a Southeast Asian country. With funding from the International Republican Institute – IRI, Tarmizi mobilized his peers for a two day workshop on Public Policy hosted by the Institute for Leadership and Development Studies – LEAD. Chimwemwe Kaonga (CK) caught up with Tarmizi Anuwar (TA) to shed more light about the workshop.

## CK: What is the LEAD School of Public Policy?

TA: This was a two-day workshop that was held at the Flamingo Hotel in Kuala Lumpur Malaysia, with financial support from IRI. The LEAD School of Public Policy gathered 21 youth and student leaders from Malaysia aged between 18 and 35 to discuss about the public policy issues in Malaysia. It provided a platform for the youth and student leaders to effectively engage in policymaking and influence public policy debates. The workshop informed participants of civil society's role in developing public policy and equipped participants with the tools to communicate policy goals clearly and persuasively. Apart from gaining knowledge on the policy making process, the workshop helped participants develop their writing and communication skills to ably influence public policy debates.

## CK: Why does youth engagement in public policy matter?

TA: The youth are an important component of any society. Their participation in developmental aspects can be limited or fostered by the policy directions at various levels. It is therefore pertinent for them to comprehensively look into the public policy and strive to engage in influencing public policy debates. Most developing countries do not see the voice of youth as an important factor in determining the direction of the country. They only see the youth as beneficiaries and not partners in developing communities. Every public policy that has been implemented by the government in Malaysia today, has failed to get a comprehensive and widespread view of the youth despite the policies affecting the youth.

## CK: What were some of the specific areas covered during the workshop?

TA: The following areas were covered: The use of Data, Analytical Framework and Research Method on Youth Participation in Politics; Report on Public Opinion Survey: Youth Perception on the Economy, Leadership and Current Issues; Theory of Change and Public Policy; Improving Transparency in Malaysia; Understanding Law Enactment Process in Malaysia; An Introduction to Public Policy Analysis and Writings and Media Engagement on Public Policy.

## CK: How would you describe the impact of the training on the participants?

TA: Based on the feedback forms received from all participants, 95% stated that they were generally satisfied, leaving the workshop with an increased knowledge of public policy and an improved understanding of the importance of youth participation. They gave a positive response regarding all speakers and modules that were provided, reaffirming the impact that the training had on the participants.





## CK: What was your sustainability plan for the school of public policy?

TA: LEAD provides a platform for alumni to write about Public policy on LEAD's website and e-magazine published three times a year. Participants to the school of public policy will apply and shape their knowledge and skills acquired through the school to make contributions to the publications. Additionally, LEAD provides some honorarium to participants who write articles to the online portal as the LEAD School of Public Policy Alumni. This initiative is to foster the spirit of the participants to write and embark on creating new ideas related to public policy in Malaysia.

## CK: What could be your program recommendations?

TA: This program needs to be conducted twice a year, which will provide more opportunities for young people to engage in debate and gain knowledge on public policy. The program also needs to be extended to another level; Writing on Public Policy Paper.



# ANA CAROLINA RODRIGUEZ: PANAMA

## GENDEM CONNECTIONS - THE PODCAST: A SPACE TO INSPIRE, BOOST AND EMPOWER LATIN AMERICA



Aline Yunery Zunzunegui



Ana Carolina Rodriguez



Valentina Diaz Estevez

Girl power! In the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, Ana Carolina Rodriguez teamed up with fellow Latin America GenDem members; Aline Yunery Zunzunegui and Valentina Diaz Estevez to implement the GenDem Connections Project with support from International Republican Institute - IRI. Ana Carolina Rodriguez (AR) speaks about the project to Chimwemwe Kaonga (CK).

### CK: WHAT WAS THE IDEA BEHIND THE GENDEM CONNECTIONS PROJECT?

AR: It was in the midst of the pandemic and everyone was distressed with the global suffering. We figured out how we can create a virtual community that can get everyone on board and discuss the challenges we were facing in Latin America and how we can address them.

Of particular focus were the young people and experts that could give us practical tools and informed perspective on how we can deal with the common challenges amongst the youth. We also wanted young people to listen to their fellow young people on how they are faring in communities and what leadership role they are playing amidst the crisis.

### CK: APART FROM THE BROADER PICTURE OF THE PROJECT; WHAT DID YOU WANT TO SPECIFICALLY ACHIEVE THROUGH THE PROJECT?

AR: Through the project, we intended to achieve the following:

- Spread the work and projects of Gendem members in Spotify, Facebook and twitter
- Share common concerns, in an effort to advance regional development agendas
- Foster new ideas and eventually new projects between members of the Gendem network
- Provide valuable knowledge to the audience around the topics of democracy, technology and vulnerable populations

## CK: WHAT WERE THE KEY ACTIVITIES YOU IMPLEMENTED IN THE PROJECT?

AR: We recorded four episodes. One was on elections during pandemic, another was on cyber security, the third one was on challenges of activism during pandemic and lastly on gender disparities during the pandemic.

## CK: WHAT DO YOU THINK WERE THE MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS THROUGH THE PROJECT?

AR: We launched a regional project that covered the whole region of Latin America. This speaks volumes of networking and engagement amongst the youth in the region which also speaks to the values of GenDem. We generated a channel of knowledge as an innovative way of sharing ideas and concerns between Gendem alumni in Latin America, together with experts and young people in the region, around common topics in a world post-Covid 19. Connecting the future by connecting a generation through the Gendem Connections podcast. Additionally, we were able to take on board at least two members of the GenDem network for each episode to participate on the panel.

We tackled issues that were pertinent across the region which enhanced our civic participation. The project also enhanced our skills in project management and also skill sets in terms of video editing or uploading content on Spotify etc. In all this we say thanks to IRI/GenDem for believing in young people and giving them the resources to drive their dream.



# CHIMWEMWE KAONGA: MALAWI

## CHAMPIONING YOUTH-LED RESPONSE TO COVID-19



GenDem local network members spearheading campaign in Malawi



Officials at the campaign launch



Kaonga (right) with Blantyre City Council's Director of Health, Dr. Kanjunjunju during the launch



Participants to the launch pose for a group photo

With funding from IRI/GenDem, Chimwemwe Kaonga, a generation democracy member from Malawi spearheaded the Uniting Youth Building Bridges Initiative as a way of promoting youth-led response to the Covid-19 pandemic. According to Kaonga, the youth sector had been gravely hit by the pandemic; hence the initiative.

Kaonga made the remarks during the launch of the initiative at Golden Peacock Hotel in Blantyre, Malawi. "Covid-19 is not a respecter of age; it is disproportionately disrupting young people's lives on a larger scale. Access to jobs, livelihoods and other economic opportunities have been compromised. Young people are being obstructed from their full ability to participate in social, economic and political space" he said. Kaonga observed that Covid-19 has affected education opportunities for the youth, which, in turn, has bred gender-based violence in homes and child marriage issues. He further noted with concern the growing number of teenage pregnancies across Malawi which were linked to the closure of schools.

"It is pertinent that the youth get to the centre of Covid-19 fight. Equipped with knowledge, skills and resources, young people can be the game changers in the fight against Covid-19 using their demographics, creativity, energies and innovation," said Kaonga.

The Director of Health and Social Services at Blantyre City Council, Dr. Emmanuel Kanjunjunju, applauded the International Republican Institute because of its flagship youth program-Generation Democracy, which he said had demonstrated commitment to ensuring that the youth play a major role even in the fight against Covid-19. "It is evident young people have brilliant ideas but they often times lack support to execute their ideas. As Blantyre City Council, we shall continue supporting the youth and make sure they have a stake in civic life" said Dr. Kanjunjunju.

He advised GenDem Malawi Chapter to use the

resources prudently so that the project achieves its intended results. On the other hand, the District Health Environmental Officer (DEHO) for Blantyre, Penjani Chunda, said the youth need to be empowered so that they can help bring solutions amidst the crisis. According to Chunda, the campaign had come at the right time when the country was overwhelmed and was seeking support from various partners and stakeholders to join the fight.

The Uniting Youth Building Bridges Initiative was a youth-led and youth focused initiative that was supported by the International Republican Institute (IRI) to the tune of \$4,000. It was a digital campaign that empowered the youth with information, knowledge and skills to help fight covid-19 using platforms such as Zoom and Facebook. The launch was patronized by officials from Blantyre City Council, District Health Office, District Youth Office and youth representatives from various networks and organizations.



# NANGAMSO KWINANA: SOUTH AFRICA

CHAMPIONING 5X5 #UNITINGYOUTH CAMPAIGN:  
A YOUTH VOTER MOBILIZATION STRATEGY

Ahead of South Africa's 2019 National and Provincial Elections, Generation Democracy's Nangamso Kwinana saw it important to ensure young citizens across her country got engaged in decision-making processes and committed to advancing democracy. She believed that dynamic youth participation in civic, socio-economic and political affairs is related to whether young people will turn up to register and vote.

With the majority of the South African population being under the age of 35, a disengaged and socio-economically disenfranchised youth population leads to growing apathy and frustration with electoral processes. This results in the election of governments with political mandates that are not representative of issues most important to youth. Given the marginal participation of youth in decision-making, Nangamso believed the urgency to tackle the challenges of young people through legislation and implementation would be further eroded.



Nangamso matches with her #5x5 Campaign team

The 5X5 campaign was therefore launched to attract young citizens to be part of decision-making and advancing democracy. A combination of students and unemployed youth formed part of the core 5X5 #UnitingYouth South Africa team, who worked to mobilize youth voters ahead of the 2019 elections. The 5X5 campaign was Nangamso's response and possible solution to curb youth apathy on the African continent. The 5X5 campaign was first implemented in Botswana by GenDem alum Rebaone Mmerekhi, in Zimbabwe by GenDem alum Mantate Mlotshwa and in South Africa by Nangamso Kwinana.



Nangamso poses with her #5x5Campaign team

The campaign was centered on having youth identify five other peers to engage in a process, a catalytic structure critical to help build an advocacy campaign. 5X5 had become a moment in a sense, led by Generation Democracy members in Sub-Saharan Africa to unite youth to understand legislation, be active citizens whom are informed, act as community activators and be exemplary leaders of the global community.

Ms Kwinana developed the 5X5 strategy during the Generation Democracy Regional Leadership Conference hosted by the International Republic Institute in South Africa in 2017. This Academy and her participation in the subsequent Generation Democracy Global Summit in Vienna helped her refine the strategy in a manner that can be implemented worldwide. The 2017 Vienna Declaration, an output of the Generation Democracy Global Summit, also provided Nangamso with a framework to help implement the 5X5 campaign.

The 5X5 campaign ultimately aimed to:

- Unite young people behind common experienced issues;
- Drive those issues to local, regional, provincial and national decision-making platforms;
- Collaborate and partner for identifying solutions to issues;
- Advocate for youth activism and participation;
- Increase the number of youth who register to vote;
- Increase the number of youth who vote;
- Increase the number of youth who run for

elected office;

- Advocate for youth to be present in decision making platforms;
- Advocate for political parties to initiate/ activate 30% of their public representatives to be those between 18 and 35 years of age; and
- Advocate for collaboration with Political Parties, Civil Society Organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations, Non-Profit Organizations, Private Businesses, Influential Individuals/ Industry Leaders, Private Individuals.

As part of the campaign in South Africa, they also analyzed South Africa's National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), the youth policy positions of the 13 political parties represented in our National Assembly and how legislation can contribute to advancing the youth agenda. Analyzing the NYDA and political party positions/stances was an introduction to empowering youth to engage with the offers pertaining to their future, to participate in decision-making by registering to vote for sound policy that contributes to advancing the aspirations of young people. It's about participating in shaping the country we will inherit from our elders.

Together, members of the Generation Democracy network are scaling movements like 5X5, to help mobilize young people to play a more active role in decision-making processes.

# NISHCHHAL KHARAL: NEPAL CHAMPIONING ARTIVISM WORKS



Nishchhal Kharal



Nishchhal poses with beneficiaries of the activism works



Artists being trained in activism works

**Nishchhal Kharal is a Generation Democracy Member from Nepal. In 2021, he implemented a #UnitingYouth Subaward to pilot the Artivism initiative in Nepal. He later established a nonprofit company named 'Freedom Studio'. Artivism Works helped Nishchhal to create a new movement of activism and engage young people through artistic activism in Nepal. Chimwemwe Kaonga (CK) caught up with Nishchhal Kharal (NK) to learn more about the project.**

CK: What is Artivism Works?

NK: It is a project that aimed at strengthening social harmony and democratic practices in Nepal by promoting the principles of good governance, pluralism, and coexistence among the youth using art and activism. By creating an activism platform to integrate art and activism for young, emerging artists and activist of Nepal, the project sought to transform their traditional work into a powerful and impactful action.

CK: What was goal of the project?

NK: Plant a seed of Artivism and create an effective activism network in Nepal, through which Nepal's grassroots social movements and democratic governance are creatively supported in a long run.

CK: What were the key activities you implemented in the project?

NK: Online Fellowship Program. Our team identified and trained ten emerging artists and activists of Nepal who are passionate about using art for the promotion of democracy and peace. After orientation meeting and team building exercises, they were trained on the key principles of democracy and integrating art and activism for promoting social cohesion and good governance. After this, they also participated in five expert-led sessions and one panel discussion session. During the fellowship program, they also engaged in content development workshop (Artivism workshop), where an expert artist guided and supported them in their work-in-progress content.



Participants during the fellowship worked with peers to develop at least one activism content that is shareable on social media platforms. They have also since been posted on social media.

Secondly, we produced video content. To raise the digital awareness on the rights of citizens and importance of democracy and peace, the project developed eight short videos which covered topics such as: Democracy in Nepal and Good Governance, Election in Nepal, Pluralism, Populism, Radicalization and violent extremism, Enhancing Social Cohesion and Activism Works

CK: What are your key results?

NK: Network has been developed with ten emerging artist who were directly engaged in the project through trainings and collaborative actions. Similarly, different activism contents including eight videos have been produced explaining values and importance of democracy and social harmony in Nepal and around the globe. These materials served as a starting point that helped Freedom Studios to reach wider audience. Also, an old network with activists has been strengthened and new network with artists has been built through their engagement in expert-led sessions and promotion of the project actions.

CK: Did you have any sustainability plan for the project?

NK: Several instances of obstructing civic space for artists and activist have clearly demonstrated the need of an association, networks and groups where artists can engage and unite for creative expression. Freedom Studio aims to be a pioneer of such group which supports artist in any legal challenges and threats along with creating skills development and networking opportunities for them. Our plan is to develop Freedom Studio as a safe space for artists to defend their rights, promote democracy and counter injustice.



Nishchhal poses with beneficiaries of the activism works



NEJRA VRETO (RIGHT) AND MIRZA RASTODER (LEFT)

# NEJRA VRETO: BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

## DIGITAL POLICY FACTORY



NEJRA VRETO

The International Republican Institute through Generation Democracy, supported Nejra Vreto and Mirza Rastoder to implement the Digital Policy Factory in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Digital Policy Factory used digital media to promote the work of young councilors around Bosnia and Herzegovina while providing them professional assistance and expertise in policymaking and bringing positive change to their local communities.

According to Nejra, the main goal of the project was to help the first-time elected local councilors in their path towards active political engagement in policy and decision-making processes. The key objectives of the project were to ensure that:

- First-time elected local councilors actively engage in the policy development and decision- making processes.
- Citizens have a better understanding of their local representatives' priorities and the process councilors follow to propose initiatives to the Municipality/City Council.
- There is Increased cross-party collaboration and Parliamentary Expert Initiative (PESI) engagement

In order to achieve these objectives; the project developed the PESI group. The group enhanced cooperation with first-time elected councilors, drafted laws and initiatives for the councilors, and created a digital policy factory documentary. Councilors also recorded digital journals for the initiative and submitted to the local assembly.

The project was a success as it enhanced cooperation amongst the different political party representatives and promoted an exchange of experiences between different local communities all across Bosnia and Herzegovina. Additionally, it established cooperation between the councilors and PESI group, which can be seen as a long-term collaboration and used in the future for the potential joint cross-party initiatives and law amendments. Finally, the creation of digital journals and mini documentaries that show the path of local councillors towards the drafting of initiatives, submitting them and finally implementing them in their local councils. Addressing the problems

in this creative and unique way was a very good method of attracting youth in their local communities to become more aware and interested in the local politics and social and political activism in general.

## Parliamentary Expert Support Initiative



NEJRA VRETO (RIGHT) AND AND MIRZA RASTODER (LEFT)



Kateryna (right) poses with first GMAB President, Mariam Kasrashvili, during the meeting



Some meeting participants take to the camera with Mariam Kasrashvili during the meeting



GenDem Eurasia meeting in session

# KATERYNA DVORNICHENKO: UKRAINE GENERATION DEMOCRACY EURASIA MEETING

“The GenDem Eurasia meeting laid the foundation for future collaboration by providing GenDem Eurasia Members with a networking opportunity to foster mutual cooperation among themselves.”  
Kateryna Dvornichenko, a GenDem member from Ukraine

In her capacity as 2021 GMAB Representative for Eurasia, Kateryna Dvornichenko organized a regional meeting for Eurasia GenDem members with support from IRI/GenDem. This activity provided a forum for attendees to identify barriers and co-develop tools to tackle the core causes of regional challenges that result in low youth participation in political processes in Eurasia. . Chimwemwe Koanga (CK) engaged Kateryna Dvornichenko (KD) to find out more about the Eurasia meeting.

CK: Why was it important to hold the Eurasia Meeting?

KD: It provided an avenue for participants to learn best practices for increasing meaningful youth participation in decision-making processes from their regional peers, and strategies for writing successful subaward proposals to support this work.

CK: What did you specifically intend to achieve by hosting the Eurasia meeting?

KD: The meeting intended to realize the following key objectives:

- Engage members through in-country and regional collaboration.
- Mobilize and empower youth to consider a career in politics.
- Provide members with the resources and knowledge to confront regional challenges.
- Provide members with an improved understanding of how to write successful subaward proposals.
- Teach members best practices and new tools to advance youth participation in formal decision-making processes.
- Raise member awareness of the regional priorities listed in Eurasia Priority Map and brainstorm strategies to address these priorities.
- Enable members to collaboratively solve the regional challenges and remove obstacles to youth engagement in governance across Eurasia.

CK: How many participants benefitted from the Eurasia meeting?

KD: The total number of program participants was 17, ten of whom were female and seven males. All participants were 35-years old and under. They represented seven countries: six participants were from Ukraine, six from Georgia and one each from Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Malawi, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Mexico. Five were non-members and twelve were members of Generation Democracy network.

CK: What impact did the meeting had on participants?

KD: The meeting addressed lack of communication and collaboration among Generation Democracy Eurasia members, Low youth political participation and the spread of disinformation and propaganda. These issues were tackled holistically to the satisfaction of the participants. Generation Democracy Eurasia members established strong cross-regional relationships. Participants developed and applied a region-wide strategic approach to increase youth participation in political processes. Participants learnt new strategies to advance youth political participation, what disinformation is and ways to prevent it, and how to write successful subaward proposals.

CK: How do you plan to sustain the impact?

KD: I plan to continue uniting and engaging members of the Generation Democracy Global network in the Eurasia region and beyond. My goal is to achieve sustainable collaboration among GenDem Eurasia members to advance youth political participation in our region. My appeal to IRI is that it supports more frequent regional events and activities to ensure that Eurasia members have opportunities to meet and discuss regional challenges, and together develop effective strategies to address them. Additionally, providing funding in support of GenDem Eurasia regional projects that have advancing youth political participation as their goal would be very beneficial.



BBI consultations with the youth



BBI consultations with the youth

# PETER NGUIRE: KENYA

## UNITING YOUTH ON BUILDING BRIDGES INITIATIVE

## **“IRI has been amazing in empowering the youth with resources through subawards”**

Peter Ngure joined Generation Democracy in 2019 upon his selection to attend the Generation Democracy Global Summit in Washington, DC. A founder of the Pathways Policy Institute (PPI); Ngure got a subaward from IRI/GenDem to implement the Uniting Youth on Bridging Bridges. But what is the Uniting Youth on Building Bridges Initiative? Chimwemwe Kaonga (CK) caught up with Peter Ngure (PN).

PN: In 2019, Kenya was undergoing a review of the constitution led by the government called the Building Bridges Initiative. The BBI was a government initiative aimed at reviewing the law aimed at consolidating democracy through provisions that represents the interests of the majority. As PPI, we felt there were issues that needed to be addressed taking into consideration the fact that BBI being a national initiative needed to take into consideration the interests of every citizen including the youth. We already raised questions in terms of the composition of the BBI taskforce lacked inclusion of the youth. The report that came out was also not youth centric. We needed a review of report and include issues that affect the youth. Our key objective was inclusion of the young people in the BBI. We needed young people occupy at least 30% of the positions in government. We also needed the government to stop taxing young people in terms of higher education as well considering tax incentives for young people in business

### **CK: What key activities did you implement through the project?**

PN: We conducted an analysis of the BBI report and identified common issues for youth. We came up with a ten-pager report and printed some copies for circulation to the youth. We also conducted two youth sensitization workshops on the issues raised.

### **CK: Do you think the project was a success?**

PN: Yes, The project registered success. As stated earlier, we managed to take the youth on board and have their views on the BBI. The issues that we came up with were channeled to the BBI Committee and were incorporated into the BBI report. The report was later launched by the State President.

### **CK: How important was the subaward to the process?**

PN: Obviously very important! IRI has been amazing in empowering the youth with resources through subawards. I remember when I got this subaward, my organization had just started. IRI did not look at our lack of proper systems or audit reports as factors to deny us opportunity for support- this is unique approach and commendable.

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