Y Care International’s mission is to create opportunities for young people to help themselves out of poverty. We believe the best way to do this is through securing and sustaining decent employment or enterprise development.

For over 30 years, we have worked with a unique network of YMCAs and other partner organisations in some of the poorest countries in Africa as well as Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean and the Middle East.

We believe that strong, socially relevant civil society organisations in the global south are of critical importance in tackling poverty and injustice faced by vulnerable and disadvantaged young women and men.
Based in London, Y Care International’s team of professionals have wide-ranging experience including in direct youth work, development and humanitarian response programming, programmatic monitoring and evaluation, fundraising from governments, trusts, corporates and individuals, communications and charity finance.

We can deliver capacity development directly through technical training, specific consultancy projects and developing resources; through facilitating access to other experts; and/or by signposting you to good practice resources and learning opportunities. Our role is to journey together with our partner organisations in capacity development.

**Programme Design in the Global South**

- **Leave no-one behind**: Effective ways of reaching and supporting the most vulnerable groups of young women and men. This could include good practice approaches for targeting and inclusion of particularly vulnerable groups.

- **Youth Enterprise and Employment Programmes**: Effective approaches for Market Analysis to underpin youth enterprise and employment initiatives; Developing minimum standards to guide programme design and implementation of youth enterprise and employment programmes; Advising on training and post-training content for youth enterprise and employment programmes; Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience approaches into programme design.

- **Emergency response**: Technical support to design, fundraise, manage and evaluate an emergency response intervention in line with the YMCA International Emergency Coordination Protocol and Emergency Response Templates.

**Programme Design Around the World**

- **Youth-led advocacy**: Developing training content and strategies for youth-led advocacy, and delivering training to youth groups on research, stakeholder mapping, campaign planning, lobbying techniques and effective communications.

- **Youth participation**: Effective mechanisms to ensure meaningful youth engagement in programmes and organisational governance.

- **Youth volunteering**: Building on our experience of running the UK Government’s International Citizen Service volunteering programmes, we can advise and provide resources covering all stages in the volunteer journey: application, assessment and screening, fundraising, training, volunteer placement planning and delivery, debrief and alumni engagement.

- **Global youth work and development awareness**: We can help you reach out to young people to make the connection with their own lives and those of peers around the world. Building on our 30+ year history of development education in the UK, we can help you build new programmes to engage and inspire solidarity with others in the YMCA.
Programme Cycle Management

- **Financial Management**: Assessing and strengthening financial management systems, processes and skills in line with good practice for NGOs; developing bespoke financial management templates; conducting internal audit spot-checks; enhancing financial management practices to meet donor requirements in advance of new programme funding.

- **Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning (MEL) and Impact Assessment**: Demonstrating the impact of your work by creating bespoke monitoring tools, advising on knowledge management systems, providing tailored training to your teams from the essentials of MEL practice to more advanced MEL and Impact Assessment methods, and producing results and learning reports. This can include conducting or facilitating MEL activities e.g. baseline surveys, mid-term reviews, final evaluations.

- **Accountability**: Improving the quality of progress reports for donors and stakeholders (narrative and financial reports; case study collection), establishing beneficiary feedback mechanisms.

- **Keeping people safe**: Assessing and strengthening policies, procedures and practice in security and safeguarding; helping to ensure that your organisation upholds its commitments to safeguard the health and wellbeing of children, young people and adults at risk involved/affected by your work, and to protect them from all forms of harm, including abuse, exploitation and violence.

Organisational Development

- **Organisational capacity assessment**: using our Capacity Development Framework, we can facilitate a participatory capacity assessment, and help you to design, implement and monitor a tailored capacity development plan.

- **Fundraising and Resource Mobilisation**: Through our fundraising research, we can identify and update you on relevant programme funding opportunities, and facilitate engagement with potential new donors by advising on planning for face-to-face meetings, documenting and following up. We can provide evidence and statistics, provide feedback, tools and tips to strengthen your funding applications. We can provide hands-on technical support in programme development, including drafting a high-quality application on your behalf. At pre-contracting stage, we can support you to prepare for donor-led due diligence and assessment processes.
  - Beyond programme funding, we can work with you to develop a resource mobilisation strategy that helps you to diversify your income sources.

- **Communications**: Advising and/or delivering training on developing compelling communications to promote the work of your organisation. This could include building skills in photography, video and website development.

- **Policy development and risk management**: Support for policy development and/or revision in line with sector standards and relevant regulations across a range of areas such as Human Resources, finance, anti-bribery, risk management, security and data protection.

A values-led approach to capacity development

Our approach to capacity development is driven by a set of core values:

- **Inclusion**: we believe the assessment and implementation of any capacity development process should involve all stakeholders in an organisation, including staff, volunteers and young people.

- **Partnership**: we will work in close collaboration with other organisations and stakeholders to support our partners in capacity development initiatives.

- **Participation**: we expect young people (staff, volunteers, members, beneficiaries) to be actively involved in the process of capacity development. We believe this leads to healthier, stronger, more accountable organisations.

- **Learning**: we will encourage reflective learning and we will develop a clear framework to track the impact of our support so that we know what works and what doesn’t.
How we can help

Call or email us for technical advice (telephone, email, Skype) and one of our technical staff team will respond during working hours.

Face-to-face training: This could range from a short meeting to a workshop over consecutive days during an in-country visit, with training facilitated by one or more of YCI’s technical staff, or local/expatriate consultants.

Distance (online) training: We can offer remote training conducted by YCI technical staff via webinars.

Resources and ‘How To’ Guides: We can develop and provide training on bespoke tools, resources and guidance materials for you to put to practical use.

Document review: You can send us written documents via email and we will provide you with detailed written feedback.

Learning/exposure exchange visits: We can support you to visit organisations in our network who have proven positive experience in a specific area of interest.

Research: We can undertake (or commission) research on a specific issue, for example to inform programme design. This could be desk-based from London or setting up a research placement in your location.

Technical consultancies: You can contract our technical staff to conduct a specific piece of work, for example a project evaluation or impact assessment.

Conferences/Roundtables: We can identify and support you to attend events to get exposure to debates on specific issues related to your capacity development interests.

Information sharing: We can share learning and good practice from within and externally to our network of partners, to enhance your work.

Contact us to discuss other options such as volunteer placements, secondments and internship opportunities. We look forward to hearing from you!

Y CARE INTERNATIONAL

67–69 Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6BP

t: +44 (0) 207 549 3150
e: enq@ycareinternational.org
www ycareinternational.org
Facebook.com/YCareInternational
Twitter.com/ycareint

Registered company no: 3997006
Charity no: 1109789

YMCA

Y Care International creates opportunities for vulnerable young people across the globe to change their lives for the better. Inspired by and faithful to our Christian values, we work with people of all faiths and none to build a more just world, free from poverty.