Parallel Session III
Meaningful engagement and youth leadership in the movement

Context
Effective youth participation is increasingly demanded by young people themselves as beneficiaries, but especially as full stakeholders. There are good practices and excellent examples that demonstrate the positive impact that youth participation can have in decision-making, advocacy and project implementation and monitoring. However, these examples and experiences, although few, are not necessarily known, adopted, adapted and disseminated as good practices.

The opportunity to include young people systematically and permanently, in accordance with a rights-based approach to development, should not be missed if the OP community is serious about improving the health of young people and supporting the acceleration phase of the Partnership that aims to reach 2.2 million other users of modern contraceptives by 2020.

Objectives
The objectives of the session are as follows: 1. To hear the voices of young people by sharing their experiences in terms of meaningful engagement and highlight what they need to become leaders, and 2. To facilitate a discussion with donors, government officials, youth and civil society on the successes and challenges of meaningful youth engagement, and how to expand and sustain good practice in line with the OP’s vision.

Format
The session will be moderated by a youth and a partner to demonstrate the importance of a partnership, and will be interactive and dynamic.

The session will begin with some welcoming remarks, a brief overview of the OP’s strategy and the role of the TTJ (10 min).

The introduction will be followed by examples of success stories told by young people. The experiences and contributions of young people are numerous. To be able to show the greatest amount possible and to draw fundamental lessons, we suggest starting with two interactive ten-minute periods in the form of a “speaker’s corner.”

Themes for demonstrating good practices:
1. Every voice counts
2. Unity is strength
3. Working towards a secure future
4. Win-win partnership
This model is structured around two (or three) groups who will listen to a young person’s story (4 minutes) followed by questions (6 minutes).

After ten minutes, the groups will turn and listen to a second story and ask questions.

After these two stories (20 minutes in all) the participants will have to write on post-it notes (one idea per post-it note!) the barriers (red post-it notes) and opportunities (green post-it notes) for sustaining and expanding the stories of young people and thus “promoting and systematically integrating young people and supporting their leadership.”

The post-it notes will be stuck on the wall under “big themes” (resources, training, etc.) (10 min). Moderators will perform a quick analysis based on participants’ post-it notes. (5 min)

The second part of the session is structured around a 15-minute panel with a donor representative, representatives of key ministries (health, education, youth, women/welfare) and CSOs. The panel will focus on the challenges and opportunities for meaningful youth engagement and leadership, and especially on their role and commitment. It will be an interactive panel with questions and answers.

The panel will be followed by a plenary discussion of the main conclusions of the session with the aim of identifying preliminary recommendations for the entire OP on meaningful youth engagement and leadership (10 min).

| Moderator 1 | Youth: Gloire Ayetolou |
| Moderator 2 | Youth: Dialkatou Diallo |
| Panelist 1 Youth | Imelda Salifou (Benin) |
| Panelist 2 Youth | Cornelia Glele (Benin) |
| Panelist 3 Youth | Adam Dicko (Mali) |
| Panelist 4 Youth | Tenin Traore (Cote d’Ivoire) |
| Panelist 5 Donor | Perri Sutton, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation |
| Panelist 6 CSO | H. Adjowa Adandogou D’Almeida, President of CSO Coalition/Togo |
| Panelist 7 Gov | Dr. Souley, Director of Reproductive Health, Ministry of Youth of Niger |