



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

National Youth Fund

1 April 2023 - 31 March 2024



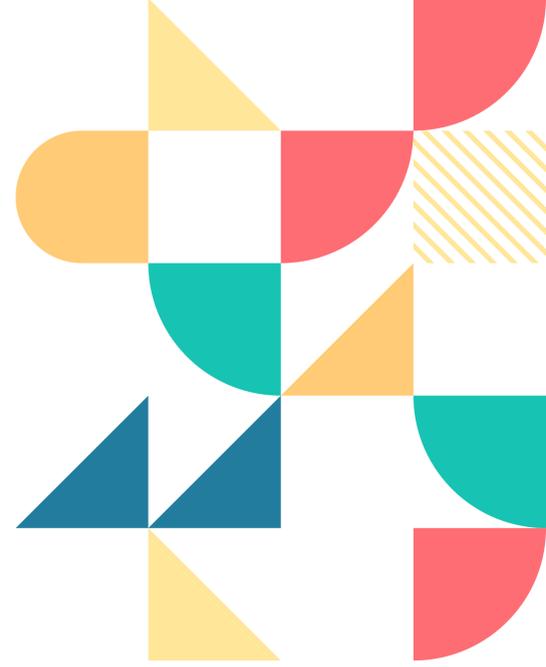
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Introduction

The National Youth Fund ("NYF") was constituted on 1 April 2013 as a Trust Under the Trustees Act, Cap 337. It was registered under the Charities Act with effect from 25 August 2014.



Unique Entity Number (UEN) : T14CC0006A

Registered Address : 490 Lorong 6 Toa Payoh #04-10
HDB HUB
Singapore 310490

NYF Trustees : **Mr Chew Kwee San**
Executive Director,
Tecity Group
Appointed on 25 February 2014

Mr Gregory Vijayendran
Partner,
Rajah & Tann LLP
Appointed on 25 February 2014

Ms Teoh Zsin Woon
Permanent Secretary,
Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth
Appointed on 1 January 2024



A Board of Trustees comprising individuals from the Public, People and Private sectors governs the NYF. The Trustees provide strong stewardship and are passionate about supporting youth initiatives that champion community and social causes. They oversee and approve the formulation of the NYF's strategic

objectives and directions and set the values and standards of the NYF. They also review the NYF's activities, adequacy of internal controls and financial reporting and compliance. The Trustees meet once a year for its annual Trustees meeting where all three Trustees are required to attend to form a quorum.





NYF Advisory Committee

Appointed 1 January 2023 - 31 December 2024

CHAIRPERSON

Mr Alvin Tan

Minister of State
Ministry of Culture, Community & Youth
Ministry of Trade & Industry
MP for Tanjong Pagar GRC

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Ms Cheryl Chen

President,
Global Foundation;
Senior Director, Social Sustainability,
S&P Global

MEMBERS

Private Sector

Ms Lim Ee Ling

Executive Director,
Market Launch (Global Programmes),
500 Global;
Co-founder and CEO,
Smarter Me

Ms Hamidah Aidilah Binte Mustafa

Founder,
Parrot Social Pte Ltd

Dr Syed Harun Alhabsyi

Nominated Member of Parliament,
Consultant Psychiatrist & Medical Director,
The Starfish Clinic of Psychiatry & Mental Wellness

People Sector

Mr Adam Abdur Rahman

Southeast CDC District Councillor,
Head, Corporate Affairs Singapore & ASEAN,
Citi

Mr Khairul Hilmi Bin Mohd Khair

Advisory Committee Member,
Youth Corps Singapore
Chief Curator,
Young ChangeMakers, NYC

Mr Ken Chua Swee Meng

Director,
UT-WAYS Freight Services Pte Ltd

Public Sector

Ms Sim Hui Ting

Director, Corporate Services Division,
Workforce Singapore

Ms Lim Seow Hui

Director, Americas,
Enterprise Singapore

The NYF Advisory Committee complements the role of the NYF Trustees in the administration of the NYF and regularly meets to assess and approve ground-up initiatives by Youth Sector Organisations (YSOs).¹

NYF Trust Secretary

Mr David Chua

Chief Executive Officer
National Youth Council

Banker

OCBC Bank

External Auditor

Assurance Partners LLP

Investment Advisor

Monetary Authority of Singapore

¹ Youth Sector Organisations are non-profit organisations whose core business focus is youth work.



Objective of the Fund



The NYF aims to **deepen youth development and youth action**, allowing youths to pursue their aspirations while contributing to the community.

The NYF also seeks to **enhance the capabilities of youth sector organisations** and achieve a range of quality and impactful programmes



The **objective** of the NYF is to encourage and support:

- (i) **Youth Development & Youth Action**
- (ii) **Youth Sector Development**

This is done through the provision of resources to any eligible youth or youth body for these purposes.

POLICIES



Funding Sources

The NYF is financially supported by Government grants.



Reserves

The NYF carries out regular reviews on the amount of reserves to ensure that it is adequate to fulfil continuing obligations.



Investments

The NYF is invested in Special Singapore Government Securities (SSGS). The SSGS is managed by the Monetary Authority of Singapore.



Overview of the Fund

The NYF is a **\$100 million fund** that *encourages and supports ground-up youth initiatives and innovations* to co-create social change for the benefit of the community. It supports meaningful projects that are aligned to key youth outcomes of *nurturing future-ready youths* and *youths who are committed to Singapore*.



NYF Grant Schemes

Youth Development

National Youth Fund (Sector)²

Youth Expedition Project

Youth Corps Community Internship

Youth Action

Youth Action Challenge

Young ChangeMakers

Youth Corps Singapore

² NYF [Sector] was previously known as NYF Ground-up which consists of 1) youth programmes/capability development projects led mostly by organisations, 2) research projects; and 3) youth leadership development projects by youth leaders who wish to pursue training and development in reputable local/ international platforms.

Overview of FY 2023



4 KEY STRATEGIES

that Trustees endorsed for NYF in FY 2023

1 - Catalyse **Ground-Up Youth Action** and Expand Partnership Platforms with Youths

2 - Drive and Strengthen Partnerships in Support of **WOG Youth Focus Areas**

3 - Develop **Future-Ready Youth** via Support for **School-to-work Transitions**

4 - Grow **Global / Asia-Readiness** through Exposure



\$9,868,054
grant awarded

849
projects funded



209,737
Youths engaged and developed

27
New YSOs supported



For FY 2023, the NYF approved **\$9,868,054** to support a total of **849 projects** from Youth Sector Organisations (YSOs), Schools³, individuals and projects that were curated by Youth Corps Singapore (YCS).

The NYF engaged **134,450 youths** via the *Youth Development* grant initiatives and **75,287 youths** via the *Youth Action* grant initiatives. The proportion of youths engaged via Youth Development and Youth Action grant initiatives are approximately **60%** and **40%** of the total youth outreach respectively.

³ Schools, including Institutes of Higher Learning (IHL), are institutions whose core work revolves around innovating and promoting programmes to spur active citizenry in youths.



PORTFOLIO OF PROJECTS SUPPORTED



45%

Education 

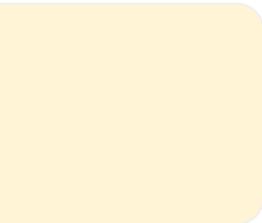


27%

Community Service 



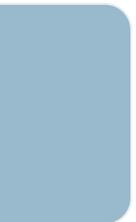
12% **Wellbeing** 



8% **Social Cohesion
Social Capital** 



4% **Environment** 



4% **Others** 

⁴ includes School-to-Work transition and Entrepreneurship

⁵ Arts, Cultural and Heritage and Sports & Adventure

National Youth Fund [Sector]



Since FY 2021, the NYF [Sector] was redesigned from year-round applications to thematic grant calls to better address youth needs and emerging challenges. The transition to thematic grant calls and introduction of engagement and support sessions such as grant clinics has allowed NYF [Sector] to be more successful in its outreach to new organisations.

THEMATIC GRANT CALLS IN FY 2023

1

SOCIAL COHESION

It aimed to:

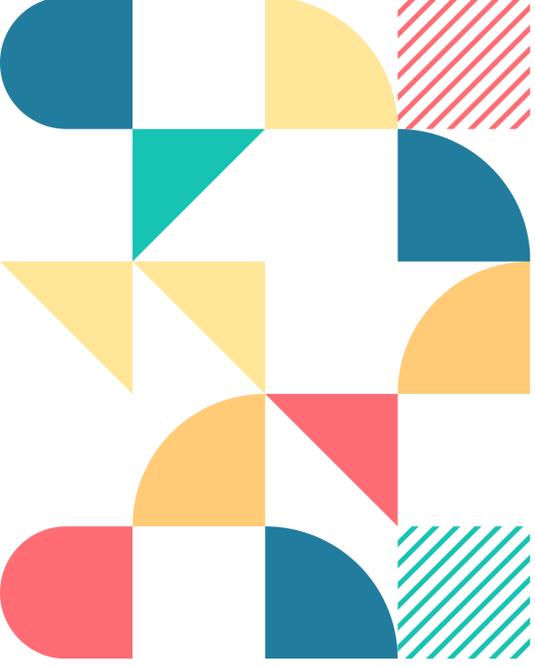
- 1) Promote intergenerational bonding between youths and other generations, and among youths; and
- 2) Support vulnerable youth groups to improve youths' resilience and social capital and empower youths in general to volunteer with a community organisation to better support vulnerable youth groups.

2

SOCIAL CAPITAL

It aimed to foster:

- 1) Bonding by building strong ties between different youth groups to provide support for one another; and
- 2) Bridging by connecting youths with individuals from different demographics, particularly those with greater access to information and networks to aid in advancement.



Youth Action Challenge

YAC Season 5

The Youth Action Challenge (YAC) is a *structured four-month programme* that gives youths the opportunity to act on their passions and co-create an inclusive, sustainable and progressive Singapore. Mentors and advisors help youths ideate solutions that can drive meaningful change within the community, at the national level and even across Asia.

YAC Season 5 Themes

1 **Caring & Inclusive Society**

2 **Food Security**

3 **Digital Inclusion & Safety**

4 **Well-being & Resilience**

48
projects supported

177
youth leaders

PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING [PB]

Beyond engaging youths to take action, YAC also *empowered the broader youth population to allocate project funding* through the Participatory Budgeting Exercise.

39
YAC teams put their projects through the PB exercise

160
youths participated in the in-person PB exercise

1,501 youths participated in the digital PB exercise

\$287,000
awarded to teams in the PB exercise

Young ChangeMakers

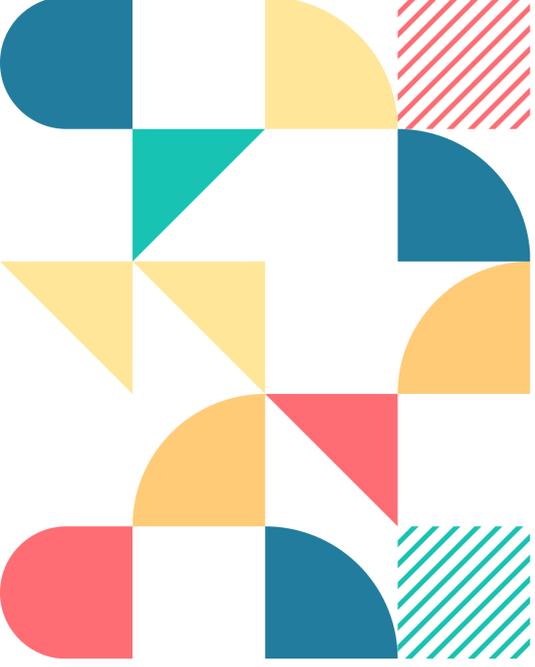


The Young ChangeMakers (YCM) is a *by youth for youth* programme that empowers youth curators in the grant making process and support other youths to take action to benefit the Singapore community and society.

The YCM secured 4 partnerships in FY 2023. The partnerships were delivered in various modalities to cater to partners' interest areas and needs for the community. The partnerships aimed to encourage industry partners to recognise youth action and improve their willingness to work with youth.

NEW PARTNERSHIPS IN FY 2023

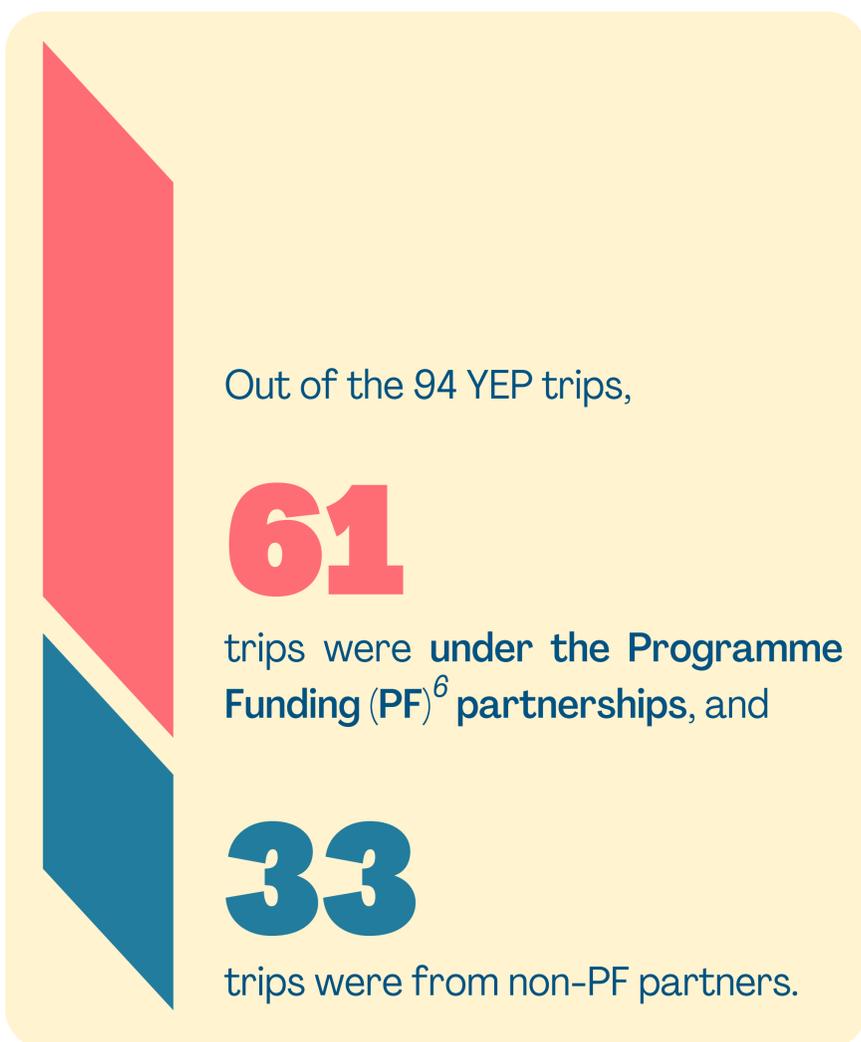
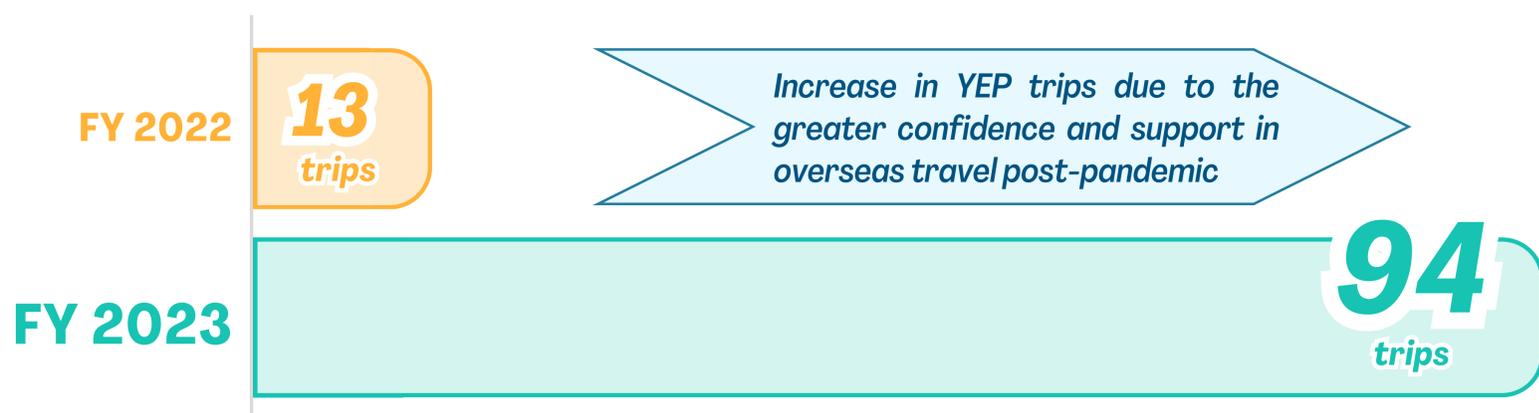




Youth Expedition Project

The Youth Expedition Project (YEP) is a **Service-Learning Programme** by Youth Corps Singapore to nurture confident and resilient youths who are active citizens with the desire to make a difference both at home and overseas.

YEP-GO continues to be offered as an **alternative** for youths who are interested in overseas community service but unable or prefer not to travel. There was a total of 13 YEP-GO projects in FY 2023.



⁶ A PF Partner is an Endorsing Organisation (EO) who has been invited by NYC to work closely for the YEP programme and other related initiatives (e.g. YEP sharing, Overseas Partnership Development). It undertakes the roles and responsibilities of an Endorsing Organisation, the delivery of the YEP programme as well as the administration of the YEP grant for the teams endorsed by the PF.

Highlights of FY 2023 Projects



NYF [Sector]

Friendzone

Friendzone Conversations: Between Generations



Friendzone forms new connections while deepening the relationships that already exist by organising events for people in the same neighbourhoods, sectors, life stages and organisations.

CATEGORY

**Social Cohesion
Social Capital**



PROJECT AIM

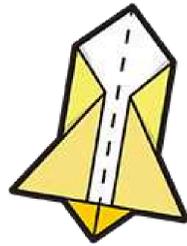
Through designing and facilitating meaningful community conversations, the project **fostered genuine connections** and **promoted mutual understanding** between young adults (aged 18-35) with other generations. The eventual goal was to **bridge the values divide** and **strengthen social networks**.





(Highlights of FY 2023 Projects)

NYF [Sector]



THE
ASTRONAUTS
COLLECTIVE

Project Mentor Up!

Through *Project Mentor Up!*, The Astronauts Collective aimed to provide youths from more challenging backgrounds with dedicated Education Career Guidance (ECG) mentoring supporting in their pursuit of meaningful careers through:

CATEGORY

Education 

1

Developing **sustainable** and **scalable** Education and Career Guidance (ECG) framework and mentor guide to **build mentoring capabilities** in Singapore

2

Developing a **case management process** to **facilitate an integrated support** for the youths



Young ChangeMakers

Camp Simba

: @campsimba

Camp Simba was a joint project between NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, NTU Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, and Duke-NUS Medical School which aimed to address the emotional needs of children whose family members were afflicted with cancer by:

1

Providing a safe and conducive environment to have fun and enjoy themselves

2

Imparting key values such as resilience and courage

3

Building a community for the children to be able to draw support and strength from one another



FEEDBACK

“Sarah (fictitious name to protect her identity) had difficulty coping with her mother’s cancer diagnosis when she was in primary school. Through Camp Simba, Sarah was able to regain her self-confidence and hope for the future, and be comfortable with her identity. This has greatly contributed to her becoming a more joyful person.”



CATEGORY

Wellbeing 

(Highlights of FY 2023 Projects)

Young ChangeMakers

One Hit Wonder

One Hit Wonder was a short 15-minute film produced by a group of eight third-year students from Temasek Polytechnic, studying for a diploma in Digital Film and Television. It was a light-hearted drama about one migrant worker's journey of kinship, identity and aspirations.

SYNOPSIS

Nasir had been working in Singapore for 5 years as a migrant worker. His endless hard labour was all for one goal - making sure that his younger brother had a brighter future ahead. When his plans to make extra cash only led to more troubles, he came face-to-face with entering a music competition for a cash prize of \$10,000.

“During a Q&A session during the team’s institutional Design Show, an audience member questioned the inclusion of Nasir and Hafiq’s conflict. Team explained that eldest siblings often sacrifice their dreams to support their families, striking a chord with her. Though not a migrant herself, audience member empathized with Nasir’s struggles. Her emotional response underscored the resonance of our film’s message with the broader audience. It affirmed that Nasir’s journey reflects the shared experiences and understanding of many.”

FEEDBACK

CATEGORY



Education



(Highlights of FY 2023 Projects)



Youth Action Challenge



the moonbeam co. the moonbeam co.

The moonbeam co. aimed to repurpose excess produce and create high-value products that can be consumed instead of being wasted, focusing on product creation with greater value in terms of quality and novelty so as to make them more appealing to consumers. The project had established partnerships with local food producers to repurpose their excess produce to lessen waste.



FEEDBACK from YAC participants

"I really enjoyed learning more about how projects are formed from ideas and the amount of thought, effort and research needed to support a cause for change. Being able to listen to so many passionate and experienced individuals from all walks of life is so valuable, something I am so grateful to be able to be exposed to."

CATEGORY

Environment





(Highlights of FY 2023 Projects)

Youth Action Challenge

vitaliTea VitaliTEA



*VitaliTEA harnessed the power of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) to **enhance mental well-being** among stressed youths, offering a unique blend that combines an effective TCM formula with oatmilk to create a milk tea that appeals to the youths. The project aimed to expand its availability in cafes as well as host wellness workshops, with the mission to positively impact as many stressed youths in Singapore as possible.*



CATEGORY

Wellbeing

FEEDBACK from YAC participants

YAC was a program that was a front-row seat to the realities that Singapore and Singaporeans face. Hence it was not just about concepts or philosophy, but really an opportunity to take action.”

“YAC really guides us through from 0 all the way to 1 where we can feel confident of our abilities. It allows us to be comfortable not knowing anything, or having had no experience prior to attending the workshops.”

Youth Corps Aspirant Project

East Point Project



In collaboration with MINDS Towner Gardens, Team Epic aimed to **empower Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (PWIDs)** by creating a platform for them to explore their interests, discover their passions and form meaningful bonds with volunteers from diverse backgrounds.

“Through regular engagement sessions, we aspire to develop greater independence and confidence in performing activities of daily living as well as to promote social inclusion of our clients in wider society.”

CATEGORY

Community Service



Dream Big

The "Dream Big" project was tailored for **scholars aged 13 to 16**, aiming to **support their Talent and Interest Development (TID)** through planning initiatives. It involved collaboration with =Dreams staff and service providers to **explore potential career pathways** and execute parts of the TID curriculum. Additionally, the project focused on building relationships with the scholars, increasing their motivation levels, executing development plans, and ensuring the right engagement based on interest and discovery analysis.

CATEGORY

Community Service



CATEGORY

Community Service

(Highlights of FY 2023 Projects)

Youth Expedition Project



YEP Project Xing Fu 14

YEP Project Xing Fu was an annual service-learning project organised by SMU undergraduates to Thailand. The project focused on working with a boarding school called **Minmahaw School in Mae Sot, Thailand**.

The main aim was to develop the Burmese youth in these three main areas:



Digital Literacy



Educational & Career Development



Cultural Exchange

through delivering workshops on various topics such as Python Programming, Excel Analytics, CV Writing, Interview Skills and Communication, in preparation for the Burmese youth to pursue University education and Career opportunities.

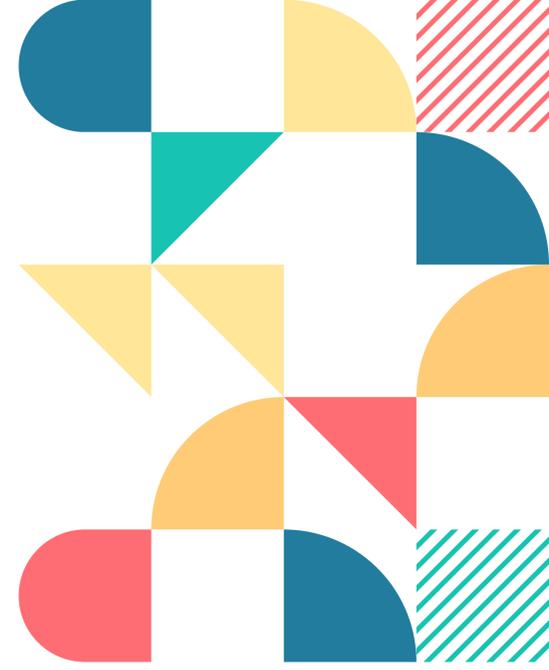
YEP Project Boundless



YEP Project Boundless was an initiative by a team of 21 volunteers from Keat Hong Youth Network, comprising of students and working adults aged 17 to 30. The team conducted a service-learning project in **Phong Thanh, Vietnam**. The project involved **conducting financial planning classes** for secondary school students, and **construction of a home** for a disadvantaged family.



Forging Ahead



For FY 2024,
the NYF will continue to support
NYC's mission and vision through the



4 KEY STRATEGIES:

1 - Catalyse **Ground-Up Youth Action** and Expand **Partnership Platforms** with Youths

2 - Drive and Strengthen Partnerships in Support of **WOG Youth Focus Areas**

3 - Develop **Future-Ready Youth** via Support for **School-to-work Transitions**

4 - Grow **Global / Asia-Readiness** through Exposure

NYC also aims to **adopt a partnership approach** to deepen partnerships and projects that supports NYC key workstreams and identified areas of needs for greater impact.

This will sharpen NYF as a lever to **provide youths with more opportunities** to become **agents of change**, and be **future-ready** through better support and partnerships with key youth sector players.



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