

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

New Partners in South Africa

GOYN eThekweni is entering an exciting new chapter, building on Harambee's strong foundation of connecting young people to employers and economic opportunities while bringing new partners into the collaborative to expand the range of pathways available to Opportunity Youth.

Afrika Tikkun, our new Anchor Partner, brings deep experience in youth development, skills development and community-based programming, while ACTIVATE! Change Drivers, our Youth Leadership Partner, brings a powerful network of young leaders and expertise in youth leadership, civic participation and community-driven change.



Together with Harambee and GOYN, the partners are working to build a more connected ecosystem to support young people—linking demand from employers with skills development, entrepreneurship, youth leadership, community-based support and other pathways to economic opportunity.

NEW PARTNERSHIPS

GOYN ANNOUNCES NEW MULTI-YEAR PHASE OF SUPPORT FROM ACCENTURE TO EXPAND OY

We are pleased to announce a new phase of support from Accenture. This multi-year, \$5.9 million grant will enable GOYN to connect more than 422,000 Opportunity Youth to a journey toward economic mobility, improve the employability of more than 334,000 Opportunity Youth, and transform the lives of more than 122,000 Opportunity Youth across 18 communities in Brazil, Colombia, India, Mexico, and South Africa. Building on the work delivered since 2020, these results will be critical for GOYN and its community and youth partners as they work toward the goal of reaching over 2 million Opportunity Youth by 2030.

In the targeted communities, Opportunity Youth face mounting barriers to decent work: limited access to market-relevant skills, exclusion from the design of programs meant to serve them, and insufficient employer engagement to ensure training matches their requirements and leads to sustained employment. This renewed support will deepen GOYN's work for young people who are most disconnected from opportunity, particularly those left out of formal education or workforce systems, living in more remote geographies, or confronting the steepest structural barriers.

Since GOYN's inception, Accenture's support has helped develop a range of GOYN capabilities and innovations, including GOYN's Learning Lab (a comprehensive resource for global knowledge sharing), the Youth Innovation Fund (providing micro-grants to youth-led community projects), and its Data Platform (community-level data capability to track youth journeys and assess progress and impact).

"Accenture brings a powerful combination of meaningful funding and deep expertise to help build GOYN's overall strategy and organizational capacity, particularly in the critical areas of technology, data, and artificial intelligence. We are truly grateful to have such a respected global company as a champion and ally on our journey to ignite the untapped potential of millions of Opportunity Youth across the globe."

– Jamie McAuliffe, Founding Director, GOYN

"Accenture has been a core global strategic partner for GOYN since it launched, helping to design, refine and evolve its overall strategy, including its data and AI capabilities. Our partnership accelerates and scales community-led strategies to advance employment opportunities for young people aged 15–29 who are out of school, unemployed, or working in informal jobs. We are proud to strengthen our partnership and continue to reinvent how we help young people build sustainable livelihoods and contribute to thriving communities."

– Jill Huntley, Global Managing Director, Corporate Citizenship Lead at Accenture

SYSTEMS CHANGE

IN MOMBASA, OY ARE HELPING RESHAPE HOW LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANS FOR AND INVESTS IN YOUNG PEOPLE

In Mombasa, Kenya nearly 60% of youth aged 15–35 are classified as Opportunity Youth (OY), due to poor education-to-work transitions, chronic underspending on youth programs, and a civic space that rarely includes young people as active participants.

Through a two-pronged systems change strategy, GOYN Mombasa worked on shifting government mindsets and building youth civic engagement. On one side, county economists and policy officers were trained and equipped with data from youth-led ecosystem mapping that fed directly into the drafting of the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP). On the other side, GOYN trained youth policy champions to participate in public forums and create concrete proposals for the CIDP.

The impact is already visible:

- **2,000+ OY engaged** in public forums, presenting memoranda with proposals to improve youth employment.
- Budget allocation for youth affairs **increased by over 50%** from \$12.3 million to \$18.5 million.
- Over **100,000 OY** were reached with information about the CIDP, its importance, and how to participate in its development.
- **A consolidated Youth Policy Brief was developed and submitted to the County Government of Mombasa**, capturing youth-driven recommendations.

Community Highlights

GOYN ETHEKWINI YOUTH AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

GOYN's Anchor Partner in eThekweni, Afrika Tikkun, recently hosted workshops for Opportunity Youth and key stakeholders. The youth workshop explored the youth opportunity ecosystem and ways young people can help address barriers to education, entrepreneurship, employment, and leadership, resulting in 15 new recruits from across eThekweni's four regions joining the Youth Advisory Group (YAG).



In late August, Afrika Tikkun also brought together stakeholders from civil society, government, and youth-led organizations to strengthen GOYN eThekweni's approach, with strong support voiced for the network's focus on economic empowerment, entrepreneurship, employment, youth participation, and ecosystem building.

YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN CHARCHA 2026

Three GOYN youth representatives from India attended Charcha 2026 in Delhi, a two-day gathering bringing together civil society, government, and industry to explore how technology and collaboration can contribute to more inclusive development. Highlights included the AI Village, showcasing how nonprofits and social enterprises are applying AI to real-world challenges in agriculture, health, skilling, and employment, along with rich discussions on Theory of Change, ecosystem partnerships, and pathways to sustainable scale.



KHULE BOL: AMPLIFYING YOUTH VOICES IN BHUBANESWAR

Lighthouse Communities Foundation's Khule Bol (amplifying voices) Initiative brought young people and key ecosystem stakeholders together in Bhubaneswar, creating an open platform for youth to share their aspirations for the city's future with government, employers, skilling and placement partners, and community organizations. The YAG played a central role, with young leaders shaping the conversation through a Youth Spotlight, cultural performances, and a panel on what an authentic youth-led future could look like. The event also marked the launch of the Nayi Soch Nayi Pehchaan campaign in Bhubaneswar and Cuttack, building aspirations and sustainable career pathways for youth from underserved communities, alongside the launch of the Khule Bol Magazine, amplifying youth voices and mobilizing collective action.

TRI HOSTS MULTI-SECTORAL COLLOQUIUM TO SHAPE RAMGARH'S 2035 RURAL ECONOMIC VISION



Transform Rural India (TRI) convened the India Rural Colloquium 2026 in Ramgarh, bringing together government, financial institutions, industry, Panchayati Raj Institutions, entrepreneurs, and development partners to explore pathways to a more prosperous rural economy by 2035. Youth played an active role, with GOYN YAG members and Authentic Youth Partnership (AYP) Ambassadors sharing perspectives through TED-style talks and showcasing youth-led initiatives Kaydamitra (legal awareness and support) and Sajha Cafe (a Panchayat-supported enterprise empowering women and strengthening local economies).

CHABAB IN ACT: GIVING YOUTH A VOICE TO SHAPE THE FUTURE

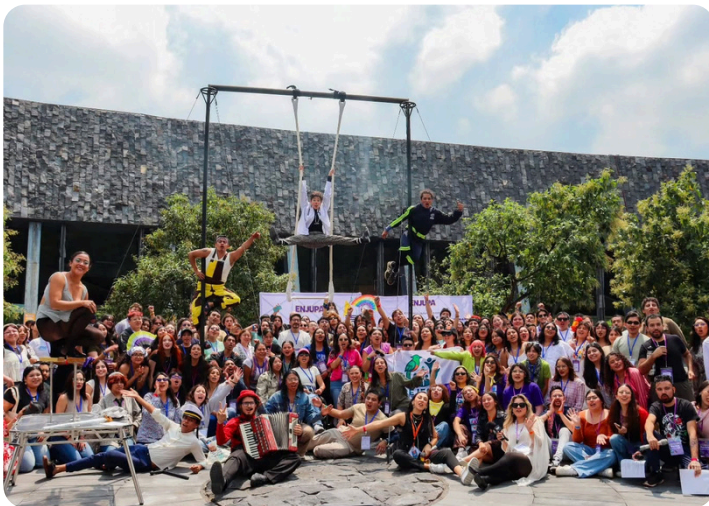
In July, EFE-Maroc organized its first two focus groups under the new local brand for GOYN Casablanca "Chabab (Youth) in Act." Through interactive activities and dialogue, these first sessions provided valuable insights into young people's journeys, challenges, and aspirations in Casablanca. The conversations will help co-create solutions that better respond to their needs and strengthen pathways to employment.



REGIONAL GATHERING OF POLITICALLY ACTIVE YOUTH IN LATIN AMERICA

In August, members of the GOYN Mexico City's Youth Advisory Group (YAG) attended the 2026 Regional Gathering of Politically Active Youth (ENJUPA), which aims to connect organized groups of young leaders across Latin America to share ideas and strategies.

The YAG led the "Economies in Tension" workshop where young participants proposed the type of economy they envisioned for the projects they are currently developing.



DECOLA CRIA UM RIO DE OPORTUNIDADES JOB FAIR



In the second edition of its "Um Rio de Oportunidades" (A River of Opportunities) Job Fair, GOYN Rio de Janeiro (Decola Cria) had over 500 young people participate and 2,347 opportunities were added to CriaMap, a collaborative digital platform created to connect young people to opportunities for training, work, and income.



GOYN MEXICO CITY'S ANNUAL REPORT

What started as a bold hypothesis five years ago is now a thriving collaborative of 100+ cross-sector partners across Mexico City. At the heart of this transformation, GOYN CDMX's Youth Advisory Group has evolved from a consultative body into a powerful public voice, successfully positioning Opportunity Youth at the center of the city's economic inclusion agenda.

The initiative continues to drive tangible systemic shifts on the ground: the Empresas con la Juventud network is championing inclusive hiring, the comprehensive FIT training model provides proven pathways to quality employment, and operational agreements with key government agencies like STyFE and SECTEI are embedding these practices directly into local governance. Coupled with a groundbreaking Pay-for-Results financing pilot in partnership with GIZ, this year's progress sets a strong foundation for the initiative's future.

TRAJECTORIES, MEMORY, + IMPACT - GOYN SÃO PAULO YAG



"Trajetórias, Memória e Impacto" is an audiovisual project by Juventudes Potentes' Youth Advisory Group (YAG) that gathers the stories of young people whose lives have been impacted by GOYN's opportunities for training, civic engagement, employment, and personal development. In this video, diverse journeys converge to show how youth agency, productive inclusion, and collective action can transform lives, strengthen communities, and expand future possibilities.

Recent Events

GOYN AT UNGA WEEK



The GOYN Global Team, along with AYP Global Ambassador Tania Gayosso from Mexico City participated in events on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly gathering in New York City the week of September 21. GOYN co-hosted with The Sidebar the session “Design With, Not For: What Changes When Young People Shape an AI Coach Early” in which we shared early lessons working with our nine AYP Ambassadors to design an AI coaching platform supporting Opportunity Youth pursuing dignified livelihoods and leadership pathways, and we heard first-hand from Tania about what is working and where we can improve when it comes to involving OY in the design of AI tools. As part of GOYN’s commitment to bringing OY into spaces and forums that often lack youth voice, Tania was also able to participate in other external events and partner meetings, adding critical perspective and meaningful contributions in these spaces.

2026 GLOBAL CONVENING



[LEARN MORE ABOUT
OUR CONVENING](#)

Our 7th Annual Global Convening will take place in **Tanga, Tanzania**, from **November 16–19, 2026!**

Different from traditional conferences, our convening is majority youth and designed as a space for shared problem-solving, deep learning, and authentic connection

We can’t wait to learn, build, and grow with you in Tanzania.

ABOUT GOYN

The Global Opportunity Youth Network is a community of partners and young leaders who are breaking down barriers to economic opportunity and creating lasting change so young people can thrive in livelihoods and life.

To learn more about our work visit our [website](#) and follow us:

