

## **Scaling What Works: A Community-Led Model Reducing Teenage Pregnancy in Tororo District**

### **The challenge**

Tororo District has one of the youngest populations in Uganda. In several sub counties, teenage pregnancy rates range from 24% to as high as 50%. National policies exist, yet their impact often stalls at community level due to weak enforcement, cultural resistance, and limited local ownership.

### **The Petta breakthrough**

Between 2022 and 2025, Petta Subcounty reduced teenage pregnancy from 33.3% to 20%. This was not achieved through service delivery alone, but through a community-crafted and enforced teenage pregnancy bylaw that aligned legal accountability, health services, and social norms.

Local councils, LC courts, faith and cultural leaders, parents, health workers, and adolescents themselves became co-owners of the solution.

### **What changed**

- Adolescent family planning uptake increased more than fourfold
- Health facility budgets for adolescent SRHR increased by 44%
- Girls returned to school and accessed vocational pathways
- LC courts actively enforced child protection and bylaw provisions
- Faith and cultural leaders publicly championed SRHR and parental responsibility

District leadership has formally recommended scaling this model across Tororo.

### **Why scale now**

Neighboring sub counties share the same demographic pressures and risk factors. TDYAN YOVANU holds a district-wide mandate, strong government partnerships, clean audits, and a proven implementation framework.

Scaling is not about replication for its own sake. It is about transferring a tested governance model into high-burden areas where it is urgently needed.

### **The scale-up vision**

With partner support, TDYAN YOVANU will:

- Support adoption of the Petta bylaw framework across at least 10 high-burden Sub Counties

*When a Community Writes the Law: How Petta Sub County Cut Teenage Pregnancy by 13%”*

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- Train LC courts, HUMCs, and para-social workers to anchor enforcement and accountability
- Integrate adolescent SRHR into local planning and budgets
- Expand participatory documentation and learning for continuous improvement

### **The ask**

We are seeking strategic partners to invest in:

- Program expansion and technical support
- Strengthening M&E and documentation systems
- Core organizational capacity to sustain quality at scale

This is an opportunity to back a locally owned solution that has already delivered measurable, credible change.

### **Conclusion**

**Petta proved that when communities write the rules and enforce them together, girls’ futures change.**

**Scaling this model means protecting thousands more.**

*With us for us*