

Annual Report

2023

kiyo

EMPOWERING YOUTH TOGETHER

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Introduction.

Today's youth faces unprecedented obstacles on the path to attending quality education, earning a livelihood and becoming active citizens. In 2023, we worked very hard again with our dedicated partners and volunteers to empower youth to be able to pursue their passions and dreams.

Our three year **EU programme** (2020 – 2023) on socio-economic integration of youth for peace and development came to an end. Thanks to this programme, 1 500 youth have benefitted from vocational training and an impressive 98% already found jobs.

2023 marked the second year of our five-year **DGD programme** (2022-2026) entitled 'Empowering youth together globally'. The programme focuses on the development of quality learning environments that support youth in discovering and developing their talents and potential, in becoming aware of their rights and being able to claim them and in actively shaping their own future and contributing to a more just and sustainable world. Over 10 000 youth across five countries benefitted directly from this programme.

Over the course of the year, we also developed our international '**Youth2Youth**' approach to support youth to become active global citizens. It reminds youth of 'ubuntu' (I am because of who we all are) in African philosophy. With this approach we want to support them in understanding the increased interdependency, in valuing differences in people and in working with others to find solutions to challenges affecting everyone. Linked to this, we also launched our first **Erasmus+ programme** with our French partner Lianes Coopération. With the support of many European youth actors we will develop an experienced-based toolkit for practitioners working directly with youth on active global citizenship.

We want to end with our dedication to youth leadership which goes beyond our programmes. Both in the Philippines and in DR Congo we launched a national Youth Advisory Board and youth are represented in our Board and General Assembly, embodying our belief in the power of youth to shape the future.

Everything you discover in this Report is made possible with your generous support. Together, we can empower and inspire youth to reshape their lives and create the world they deserve.

Jan Truyens
Chair of the Governance Board

Mélodie Arts & Annemie Duquet
Co-Directors

Empowering youth together.

Our starting point is that talent is universal, but opportunity is not.

Today, too many youth are denied access to education and the labour market. Many of them are discriminated against, subjected to all kinds of violence and not given a voice in society. KIYO empowers youth to take charge of their lives and realise their talents and claim their rights to be able to contribute to a just and sustainable society.

To realise this, we directly empower youth by connecting them across contexts. We also strengthen the work of 15 local partners across five countries with specific expertise on youth empowerment. We actively learn from each other on how to create enabling environments in which all children and youth can participate and feel physically, socially and emotionally safe by strengthening skills, knowledge and networks.

Together we support the **personal development** of youth through inclusive theatre arts or social circus. We support **quality education** by building a school culture that embraces children's rights and focuses on youth participation. We increase their **employment** opportunities by teaching them valuable life and technical skills. We promote **active citizenship** of youth by connecting and inspiring them with other youth around the world.



Our impact.

KIYO focuses on empowering children and youth as we fully believe in their potential as active agents of change. Youth are experts on their own lives and experiences. We want to put them in the driver seat and support them in creating a better world for themselves. We recognise that while talent is universal, opportunity is not. We believe in all youth and it is our mission to provide them with opportunities to take charge of their lives and realise their talents and rights. We do this together with our teams and partners in five countries: Belgium, Brazil, Burundi, DR Congo and the Philippines.



Our numbers for 2023...

10 003



127

Children & youth



were directly supported by our programmes.

Schools

were directly supported by our programmes.

62%



Of youth involved

in our projects are girls.



226

Youth structures

were directly supported by our programmes.

3 722



Social media followers

YOUTH 2 YOUTH BY KIYO

Youth2Youth is KIYO's international youth empowerment approach that aims to make youth aware of their talents and rights to be able to use these in contributing to a more just and sustainable world. We encourage them to reflect on what commitment they can take up and **we connect them with youth across contexts** to gain inspiration from other youth. We facilitate meaningful exchanges around **talents, rights and actions**, our three areas of expertise.

"Talking with other youth in Belgium about common subjects that we can relate to such as discrimination, brought me a lot of knowledge and new insights. The exchange was warm and both sides learned a lot."

- Daniel, 19

Participant from KIYO's partner YOUCA Brasil



"The journey with KIYO provides us with unique experiences. Through the exchange with a French-speaking school, I overcame my fear of speaking another language."

- Basma & Basmala, 16

Sisters and students at De Stemstroom in Antwerp



"Youth today are more and more conscious of their rights and place in this world. Initiatives such as Youth2Youth that connect youth are important to unify and share their ideas with each other."

- Pieter, 17

Participant from KIYO's partner in the Philippines, CYC



"Thanks to Youth2Youth I became more aware of my rights as a youth, such as the right to protection, to culture & hobbies and the right to an identity!"

- Julda, 19

Participant from KIYO's partner in DRC, ASCEN



Belgium

KIYO worked on youth empowerment both inside and outside the school context.

Within the school context, we used a school-wide approach that involves students and teachers in working on global citizenship education. In doing so, we focused on the role of youth as agents of social change. Outside the school context, KIYO supported 4th pillar and youth organisations in creating an enabling environment for the empowerment of children and youth within their work.



Context & Schools.

Context

As society evolves, education has an important task to provide youth with the right knowledge and understanding to navigate this complex world. Unfortunately, we are seeing great pressure on the school system and the focus is mainly on the importance of basic skills such as language and mathematics. However, it remains important that teachers have sufficient time and resources available to also work on citizenship skills (including participation, critical thinking and engagement) at school.

In January 2023, the importance of quality education for all students was reiterated during the presentation of the Children's Rights Coalition's publication 'Teach Me how to Grow'. During a panel discussion, KIYO was able to put forward the relevance of active participation of students in education and society. DGD's recent strategic note on Global Citizenship Education also puts forward some priorities around this. In 2024, KIYO will continue to promote Global Citizenship Education for youth empowerment, both within and outside the school context.

Schools

This year, KIYO supported **five schools** in shaping their students into critical and responsible citizens, who actively contribute to a better world: **De Stemstroom Antwerp, BuSo Don Bosco Halle, Sint-Michielscollege Brasschaat, Athena Campus Drie Hofsteden Kortrijk and Sacré-Coeur de Jette**. KIYO is doing this within the framework of the School for Rights partnership, which KIYO has been coordinating since 2022. Within this project, we bring together a core team of teachers to embrace children's rights and global citizenship in their school culture. This is done through the 'whole school approach', where we try to include the whole school in this process. We question students and teachers and come up with different challenges they want to address together.



In 2023, the BuSO Don Bosco in Halle received the School for Rights label. Congratulations to the school for creating such a safe learning environment for students!

At De Stemstroom in Antwerp, the focus was on strengthening student participation, healthy food options and positively highlighting diversity at school. Students raised the issue that poverty at school is a major challenge, and that there are not enough initiatives to realise a healthy food offer at school. In response, a city grant was obtained to provide free soup and fruit at school. During a session facilitated by KIYO, the idea came up of organising a Global Day where students could get to know each other's culture and background better. Teachers, students and parents responded enthusiastically to this initiative and expressed their delight that their culture was reflected at school.



Vanessa Pletinckx
Student Counsellor BuSo
Don Bosco Halle

“ *Thanks to KIYO's experience, knowledge and ideas, we have been able to integrate children's rights even more across all school levels. Through this process, teachers have developed greater openness towards students. We encourage student participation to the maximum and if it is not possible, we explain why and what, if anything, is still possible. We are a proud School for Rights!* ”



Youth structures.

In 2023 KIYO started new tailor-made learning cycles with **two organisations working for and with youth** to strengthen their work from a children's rights and empowerment perspective. During this process, we focus on the principles of the Children's Rights Convention and to what extent an organisation is already working around developing awareness and skills from a global citizenship perspective.

SosyalBen is a Turkey-based youth organisation that works with youth volunteers to organise after-school activities in the school context with children aged 7-13 from vulnerable situations to discover their talents and build their self-confidence. Together with KIYO, SosyalBen is working on the development of a training module on global citizenship to increase the awareness and skills of their volunteers as active global citizens, taking into account the Turkish context.

Nyemime Akpee Belgium ASBL is a Ghanaian diaspora organisation based in Brussels with activities in Belgium as well as in Ghana. Children and youth are also part of their target group. Within the learning cycle, work has focused on the right to participation and the right to an identity as key pillars of active citizenship. The possible future role of Ghanaian youth in the organisation is an important focus here.

In addition, in September 2023, KIYO launched a new project in collaboration with its French partner, **LIANES Coopération**, with the support of Erasmus+. The aim of this partnership is to develop an experienced based toolkit from the knowledge and experience of both organisations that will contribute to strengthening organisations working directly with youth around active citizenship within the European context. The project aims not only to strengthen both organisations but especially to translate lessons learned into practical methodologies to inspire other organisations in their work with youth around active citizenship.

Boost for Talent

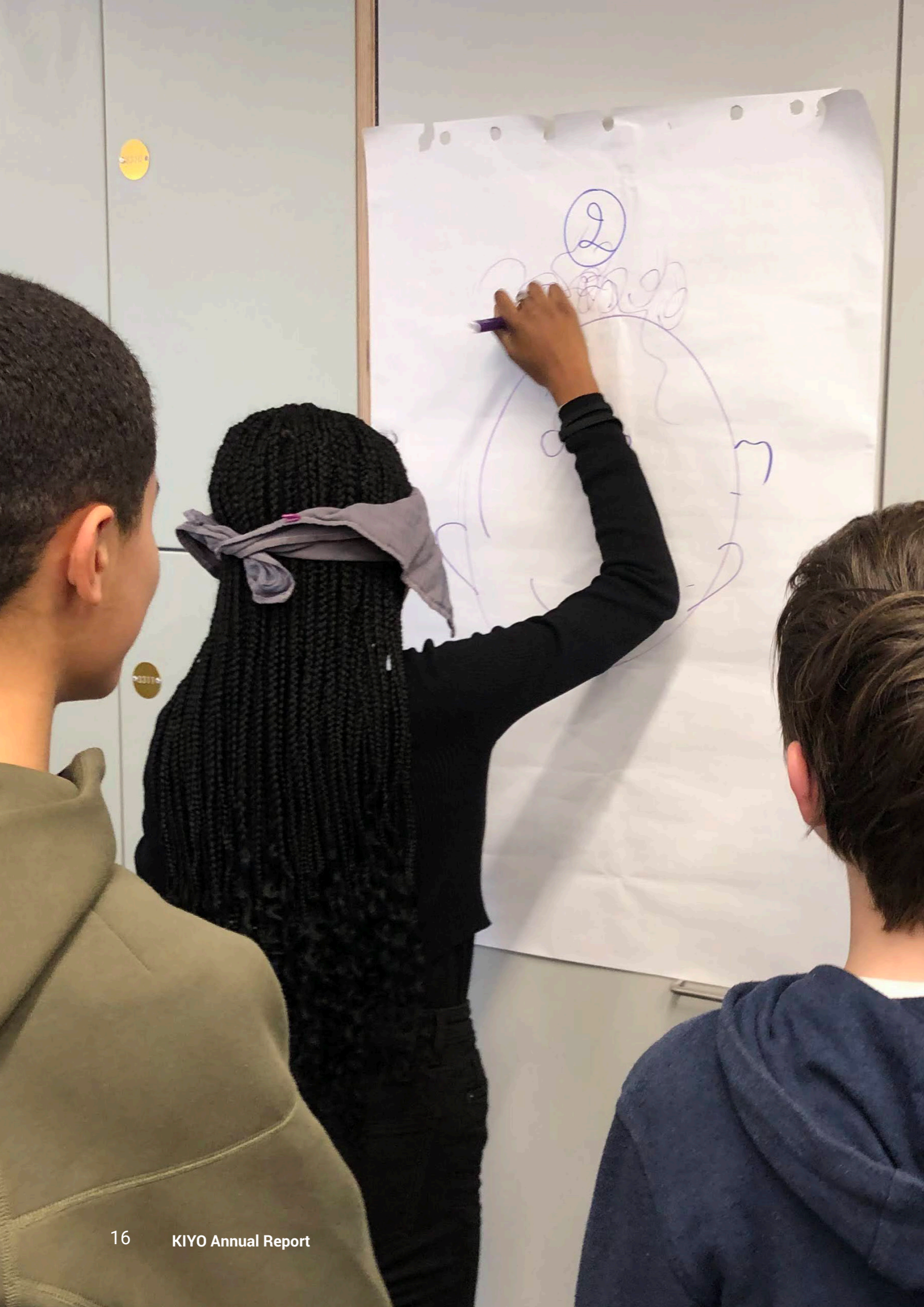
KIYO also started a journey on global citizenship with a group of youth in Brussels from the King Baudouin Foundation's **"Boost for Talent"** programme. The journey consists of four workshops around the themes of talent, rights, global challenges and understanding a different context based on a virtual exchange with youth linked to KIYO in DR Congo. After the first two sessions, youth indicated an increased awareness of their own talents and rights as a first step towards becoming more active citizens. We look forward to seeing how the youth will further evolve in this process and certainly to the exchange with the Congolese youth.



Ece Ciftci
Director SosyalBen
Foundation

“Thanks to KIYO's interactive, experimental and facilitative approach, SosyalBen has been able to strengthen its capacity as a facilitator, adapt the global citizenship education lessons to the local context and develop the tools needed for its youth capacity-building programme.”





528

Youth reached



50%
Boys



50%
Girls



Ayman, 17

Participant from the BOOST programme

“The sessions with KIYO made me realise that I have more talents than I thought. You read those words on the talent cards and you recognise yourself in them. It's like a mirror.

I am better able to decide what I can and can't do, what I like to do and what I don't. I can now make better choices for myself. ”

Brazil

Through our partnership with AMAR, we increased opportunities of youth living in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro to participate in professional courses and to find a decent job. With our partner SER we worked on personal development within and outside the school context through their social circus methodology. Together with our youth-led organisation YOUCA Brasil, we inspired youth from all backgrounds to organise themselves and develop their capacities to advocate for better youth-oriented policies and programmes for Brazilian youth.



Context & Partners.

Context

In 2023, Brazil experienced a regime change towards a more democratically oriented government, focused on addressing social and economic inequalities, following years of human rights setbacks. This year brought both challenges and progress concerning children's and youth rights, with ongoing issues like violence, exploitation, and a lack of access to quality education and mental health care that exacerbated during the pandemic. However, progress was made in legislation and policies to protect youth rights, including efforts to enhance digital education and end child labour. Civil society and youth movements became more visible, advocating for significant social changes and increased youth engagement in politics and civic life.

KIYO & its partners

The partners AMAR¹, SER² and YOUCA Brazil³ shared that participating in multiple learning sessions with KIYO strengthened them in their role as civil society actors. They became more aware of their shared history and pedagogical approaches and, by sharing their practices and reflecting on programme challenges, they supported each other in coming up with innovative solutions.

1 AMAR: Associação Beneficente Amar
 2 SER: Se Essa Rua Fosse Minha
 3 YOUCA BRAZIL: Youth For Change And Action



Wellerson Hudson Pereira Carneiro

Finance Administrator – YOUCA BRASIL

"In 2023 my biggest learning was related to resource management for the YOUCA Brazil activities. KIYO Brazil supported me and answered my questions, which strengthened my work. In addition, the reflection workshop and KIYO seminars were great moments for a more comprehensive understanding of the programme with partners and, consequently, an opportunity to improve my work with youth, though the overview of the results and experiences of other KIYO partners that were shared."



Lilian V. Barbosa de Melo

Social worker – AMAR

"KIYO's support made it possible for us to offer the youth not only courses that promote socio-emotional inclusion, but also the possibility to build a collective space for exchange and critical reflection on the world through various themes in line with our common values, such as sustainability, ethnic and sexual diversity, the development of socio-emotional and sustainable skills and global citizenship. In short, KIYO has ensured that our work as a team has made a significant contribution to the education of each person we have supported."



Gustavo Lopes Bento

Social Educator – SER

"I learned from KIYO that there is always room for improvement and growth. It made me reconsider my work, viewing it from a different perspective. I achieved two things this year with the support of KIYO that made me very happy: contributing to the sociopolitical formation of the youth who are now certified as art educators; and enabling a network with other youth who also practice art in different parts of Rio de Janeiro."

Schools & Youth structures.



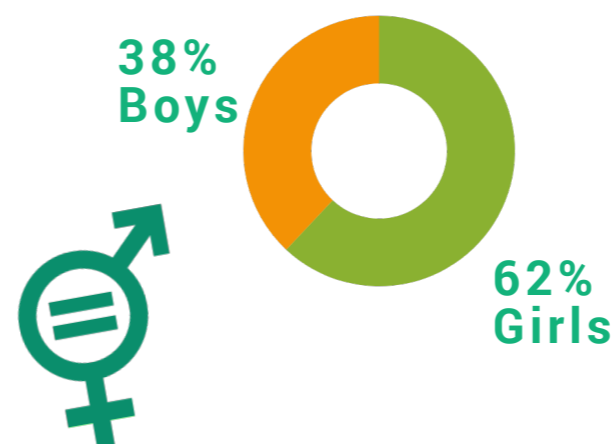
AMAR worked together with **7 TVET actors** to offer 153 youth a vocational training course in Solar Panel Installation, Rainwater Reuse, Drone operation, Barbering, Nails and Eyebrow Design. Students evaluated the courses as an important milestone in their lives which helped them to develop stronger life skills and to increase their socio-economical autonomy. At the end of the course, 67% of the youth were able to find a job or started their own business.

Through social circus, SER supported **4 public schools** in developing an inclusive school culture where children's rights are respected and where students find sufficient opportunities to develop themselves and actively participate in shaping their school environment. The schools shared that social circus and arts education allowed them to have debates with their students on social issues such as discrimination against Afro-Brazilian youth, gender, diversity and inclusion, drug abuse, and climate change. SER also reached **5 youth organizations** to see how they could benefit from integrating social circus within their activities with youth.

14 Youth-led organizations were strengthened by YOUCA Brazil on leadership, social entrepreneurship, and youth advocacy. YOUCA Brazil facilitated peer learning exchanges between youth from these different organizations to develop themselves as agents of change. YOUCA Brazil also trained 16 youth leaders as youth council delegates to defend their agenda on youth rights at the municipal and state levels of Rio. They also joined a synergy project between KIYO & Trias. It was an opportunity to connect youth from urban and rural areas of Brazil and to develop strategies to advocate against environmental racism and to promote climate justice as part of global citizenship.

591

Youth reached



Rodrigo, 25

Participant of a solar panel installation course organised by AMAR

“*My expectations about the solar panel course were to get in touch with new technologies and to be able to share knowledge about sustainability with everyone around me in my community. I had some previous experience in residential electrical work, but the course provided a lot of learning and amazing new group experiences such as taking part in the Technology Fair in São Paulo! The course went beyond what I imagined and added so much value to my life. I am currently being supported to find a job in the sector, but I've also been working independently using everything I learned during the course.*”

Burundi

In Burundi we collaborated with our partners APRODEM, Biraturaba and JSBM on strengthening school structures to increase participation and empowerment of students. Together with our partners FVS, Biraturaba and JJB, we focused on economic empowerment of youth through the set-up of community-based saving & loan groups. We also invested in social cohesion through the creation of peace clubs with our partner JJB, where youth focus on contributing to positive change in their communities as active citizens.



Context & Partners.

Context

The country faced rapidly rising inflation, which has significantly weakened the economic situation of its population. Youth are suffering the consequences of this situation, as the labour market is not favourable. Government initiatives support the economic development of a certain number of youth, but many still do not have access to economic opportunities. The programme is therefore highly relevant, by helping to raise awareness on the potential of youth and their commitment to positive change.

KIYO & its partners

Partners Aprodem¹, Biraturaba, JSBM², FVS-Amie des Enfants³ and JJB⁴ shared that KIYO provided them with a framework for sharing and discussing important issues such as gender mainstreaming and respect for children's rights. As a result of these exchanges, some partners have taken decisions to implement new institutional policies. The learning sessions between the partners on subjects such as active citizenship and choosing an entrepreneurial business idea, have significantly improved the technical skills used by the teams in supporting youth structures.

"The programme's scorecard tool, which assesses our progress, has enabled us to identify areas where we need to improve our work, as well as making organisational changes." (JSBM)

"The training on children's rights has encouraged the teams in charge of activities on the ground to raise awareness among young single mothers to register their children with the civil registry so that they can benefit from their rights and have an identity as Burundian citizens." (Biraturaba)

¹ APRODEM: Association pour la Promotion et la protection des Droits des Enfants Marginalisés

² JSBM: Jeunesse au service d'un Burundi meilleur, now called Spring Communities

³ FVS-Amie des Enfants: Famille pour Vaincre le SIDA

⁴ JJB: Jumelage Jeunesse Burundi

Schools & youth structures

KIYO and its partners worked in **30 schools with 85 school structures** in 4 provinces (Gitega, Mwaro Bujumbura Rural et Bujumbura Mairie) to create an environment that is conducive to the participation of the students. **54 school clubs**, which are weekly meeting places for over **2 000 students**, supported youth to come up with ideas for active involvement in positive actions that provide solutions to challenges within their schools and/or communities. In **31 school management committees**, school authorities, parents and students, came together to discuss school governance in an inclusive way.

In the communities, KIYO and its partners have worked with **8 artisans** who run workshops that train youth in chair upholstery, sewing and welding, with a view to improving their socio-economic resilience. With the help of the programme, these trainers have improved their awareness of certain issues linked to their workshop, such as sexual harassment and abuse, discrimination and gender-based violence.

In addition, **137 youth saving and loan groups**, created and supported by the programme, are potential sources of access to finance for small income-generating projects for just over **3 400 youth**. The young members of these groups indicated that they have developed leadership and conflict management skills.

Finally, **12 youth peace clubs**, which bring together more than **400 youth**, have also been supported, with the emphasis on social cohesion and the practice of the principles of active citizenship among the young members of these clubs. Within these clubs a sense of leadership is emerging among the youth leaders. The youth peace clubs also better understand their role and the potential they have to act and bring solutions to the challenges observed in their communities.





6 259

Youth reached



36% Boys



64% Girls



Marie Goreth, 23

Participant in a youth Saving and Loan Group from Burundi

“My life was turned upside down when I became pregnant as a teenager. I stopped my studies and stayed at home until I gave birth. It was also difficult for me to find money for the small necessities like soap, cream and clothes for my child. By joining the Saving & Loan Group, I gained access to the financial means to launch my own business and I was able to form a support group with other young mothers of my age. I started by trading bananas and have now added palm oil to my activities. For the future, I plan to open a store selling a range of products. ”

‘Inkingi – Youth socio-economic integration for peace and development’ programme comes to an end

From 2020 to 2023, six local and international NGOs (KIYO, FVS - Amie des enfants, JJB, AVSI, Concern Worldwide and GLID) came together with the support of the European Union and DGD to work towards the same goal: strengthening the socio-economic integration of youth and promoting social cohesion in urban and peri-urban areas in Burundi.

In the provinces of Bujumbura-Mairie (west), Kirundo (north) and Gitega (centre), 1 500 youth aged between 16 and 24 have benefited from vocational training in a wide variety of fields, including pastry-making, sewing, welding, beauty care, car mechanics and culinary arts. Lessons in micro-financing and loan applications were also given during these six-month trips, which aimed to increase youth employment.

The results are already encouraging: almost 98% of the youth successfully completed the programme and found work somewhere or started self-employment. 78 of these self-employment activities were supported in the form of purchase of equipment or by support in paying rent. The participation of some key people around them such as parents, local authorities and community leaders proved to be a decisive factor.



DR Congo

KIYO and its partner ASCEN invested in training and skills development of youth to strengthen their socio-economic resilience and employment opportunities. With our partner ADED, we contributed to making agriculture attractive again as a decent and sustainable source of income for youth, especially for girls. We also used radio programming with our partner OCET as a powerful tool to give children and youth a voice and empower them to stand up for themselves and defend their rights.



Context & Partners.

Context

The year 2023 was characterised by a fragile security situation in the province of North Kivu in the DRC, particularly in the territories of Nyiragongo, Rutshuru and Masisi. In these territories, the military confrontations between the DRC's armed forces and the M23 rebellion are a major source of violations of children's rights and are blocking the process of empowering youth. Thousands of displaced children are deprived of their rights. Youth are forced to leave their communities, fearing for their lives, have abandoned their path to empowerment and remain prey to identity manipulation and recruitment into armed groups. However, despite precariousness of their situation, with the support of the programme, young girls and boys draw on their resilience to keep hope alive, claim their rights and pursue their hopes.

KIYO & its partners

"Learning about different approaches to empowerment and the co-creation of tools such as training modules is enabling ADED to offer quality support to youth through the community structures that support youth on a daily basis." (Pacifique Biganiro, ADED, Project Manager)

"Through respectful dialogue with KIYO we have identified our own approaches to youth empowerment. This has enabled us to point out strengths and areas for improvement in order to improve the effectiveness of our support for youth structures. Thanks to this process, ASCEN is becoming more effective than before in its work with youth, because the organisation is gaining the ability to adapt its approaches to youth from rural and urban areas, youth who are stable or displaced by war." (Julien Mbokani, ASCEN Project Manager)

Youth structures

Regarding **employability**, ADED¹ worked with **4 Agricultural Learning Centers and 18 Village Savings & Loan Associations**. ASCEN² strengthened **6 vocational support structures**. These actors have provided quality support for youth in the area of decent job creation.

Great progress has been made by community actors in actively taking up gender aspects in their various activities. For example, both girls and boys are considered for internships without discrimination. This allows young girls to feel more secure and to take up internships in trades traditionally reserved for boys. Now there are girls learning car mechanics with a clear vision of becoming a professional garage mechanic. In addition, their trainers have not only strengthened their participatory learning capacities but have institutionalised participatory learning methodologies by integrating these approaches into their various modules. Community actors also indicated that they have a more holistic perception on youth empowerment and are now integrating the identification of young people's talents into their vocational training process. It improves the orientation of youth towards a choice of occupations that is based more on their talents. It gives youth the hope that the trade they choose will give them greater fulfilment.

Regarding active citizenship, OCET³ worked with **3 groups of young reporters** and ASCEN with **7 youth clubs** around awareness raising and youth participation. Firstly, the adoption of a democratic culture as a way of operating within youth structures has encouraged many youth to take an active part in various community activities. Youth have increased self-esteem because their views are taken into account in the decisions taken within their clubs. Secondly, community actors are adopting inclusive approaches to enable youth to accept each other regardless of ethnic identities or social ranks that often cause division between communities in the context of the war. Lastly, youth are becoming aware of the effects of climate change on family farming systems and are taking initiatives for sanitation activities, learning about waste management, and tree planting.

1 ADED: L'Appui au Développement d'Enfant en Détresse

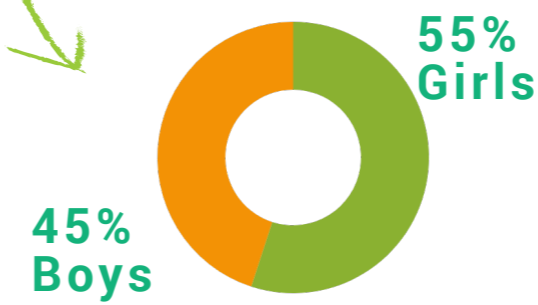
2 ASCEN: African Social Cohesion Entrepreneurship Network

3 OCET: Oeuvre communautaire pour l'éducation pour tous



942

Youth reached



Abigael, 20

Participant from a mechanics course organised by ASCEN

“When I was growing up I used to make cardboard cars. I always mentioned that my dream job was to be a mechanic. I did not like men saying that a woman couldn't be a mechanic. For myself and my community, I wanted to take up this challenge and thanks to all the support I've succeeded.”



Philippines

Together with our partner Bidlisiw, we increased opportunities of youth in vulnerable situations to access decent jobs through participation in technical courses with special attention to the development of life skills. Through our partnership with CYC, we strengthened the capacities of youth organisations to effectively advocate for the rights of indigenous children and youth. We also guided theater arts teachers and young students-artists together with our partner PETA in using creativity and imagination to address social issues and express themselves through theatre arts.

Context & Partners.

Context

In 2023, government emphasis on industry-driven and enterprise-based technical courses aimed to produce job-ready graduates, marking a shift toward employment-centric training. The resumption of full face-to-face classes resulted in academic overload and heightened mental health issues among youth. Economic challenges, particularly inflation and escalating poverty rates, further impeded youth participation in various initiatives. Moreover, the implementation of the Anti-Terrorism Act posed threats to civic groups, underscoring the difficulties faced by youth leaders. Despite these hurdles, the local government and youth council elections offered avenues for active youth participation and engagement.

KIYO & its partners

Partners expressed appreciation for the collaborative learning environment fostered by KIYO through regular mutual and shared exchange sessions and workshops.

“The learning processes with KIYO paved the way for the enhancement and development of our programmes and approach.” (Merie Joy Llenos, Programme Coordinator, Bidlisiw)

“KIYO provided guidance and feedback, leading to the adaptation of certain operational systems & methods as well as the reporting and evaluation of the programme as a whole.” (Wilson Billones, Programme Director, PETA)

“The learning processes fostered a collaborative relationship grounded in transparency, trust, and mutual respect which served as an avenue to refine our organisational processes and sustainability plan.” (Keidy Transfiguracion, Executive Directress, CYC)

Schools & youth structures

Bidlisiw¹ collaborated with **22 technical-vocational institutions** and **42 private companies** to enhance the training of youth in vulnerable situations. A pivotal moment was the introduction of KIYO’s Awareness – Participation - Protection – Skills development (APPS) approach, with these institutions and companies actively engaging in APPS scanning and assessment to identify gaps and devise action plans. This led to the implementation of common activities related to APPS, enhancing the integration of life skills and trauma handling among youth. Moreover, these actors influenced other private companies to adopt the APPS lensing process.

CYC² partnered with **20 youth-led organisations** across the Cordillera region, focusing on themes like gender & diversity, environment, and human rights. They demonstrated improved abilities in implementing programmes on youth protection, awareness, leadership skills development, and participation. They expanded their membership, networking, cultivated second-line leaders, formed additional youth groups, and enhanced organisational management systems.

PETA³ collaborated with **33 secondary schools** and **three youth theatre organisations**. ‘Special Program in the Arts’ teachers successfully translated the Department of Education’s curriculum guide into everyday lesson plans, leveraging their enhanced understanding of theater and teaching tools. Inclusive teaching methods became more prevalent among teachers, while schools and youth theatre organisations staged 69 theater shows on societal issues attended by over 60 000 predominantly youth audiences.

- 1 Bidlisiw Foundation, Inc
- 2 CYC: Cordilleran Youth Center
- 3 PETA: Philippine Educational Theatre Association





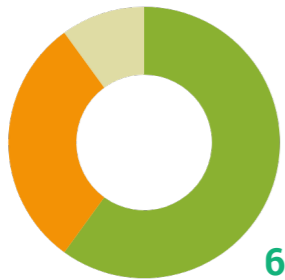
1 683

Youth reached



10%
LGBTQIA+

30%
Boys



60%
Girls



Martina, 17

Participant of PETA's Young Artists' Playlab (YAP) Generate Theatre Workshop

“The power of youth lies in their ability to voice their opinions and be listened to. I consider myself fortunate to have found my voice through the arts, particularly in our voter's education play. By engaging with our community, we empowered individuals to make informed decisions at the polls. Let this be a testament to the transformative potential of youth advocacy and artistic expression.”

Philippines

EMPOWERMENT



Financial Overview.

2023 in a financial overview

KIYO can count on the financial support and generosity of institutions, associations, companies and private supporters.

Your donations make the difference. Thanks to your support, KIYO and its partners are able to work on the empowerment of many children and youth worldwide.

Which donations and grants did we receive in 2023?

As in previous years, institutional grants are the main source of revenue for KIYO. Our two biggest institutional donors in 2023 were the Belgian Government (DGD) and the European Union. In 2023 they accounted for 85% of our total revenue.

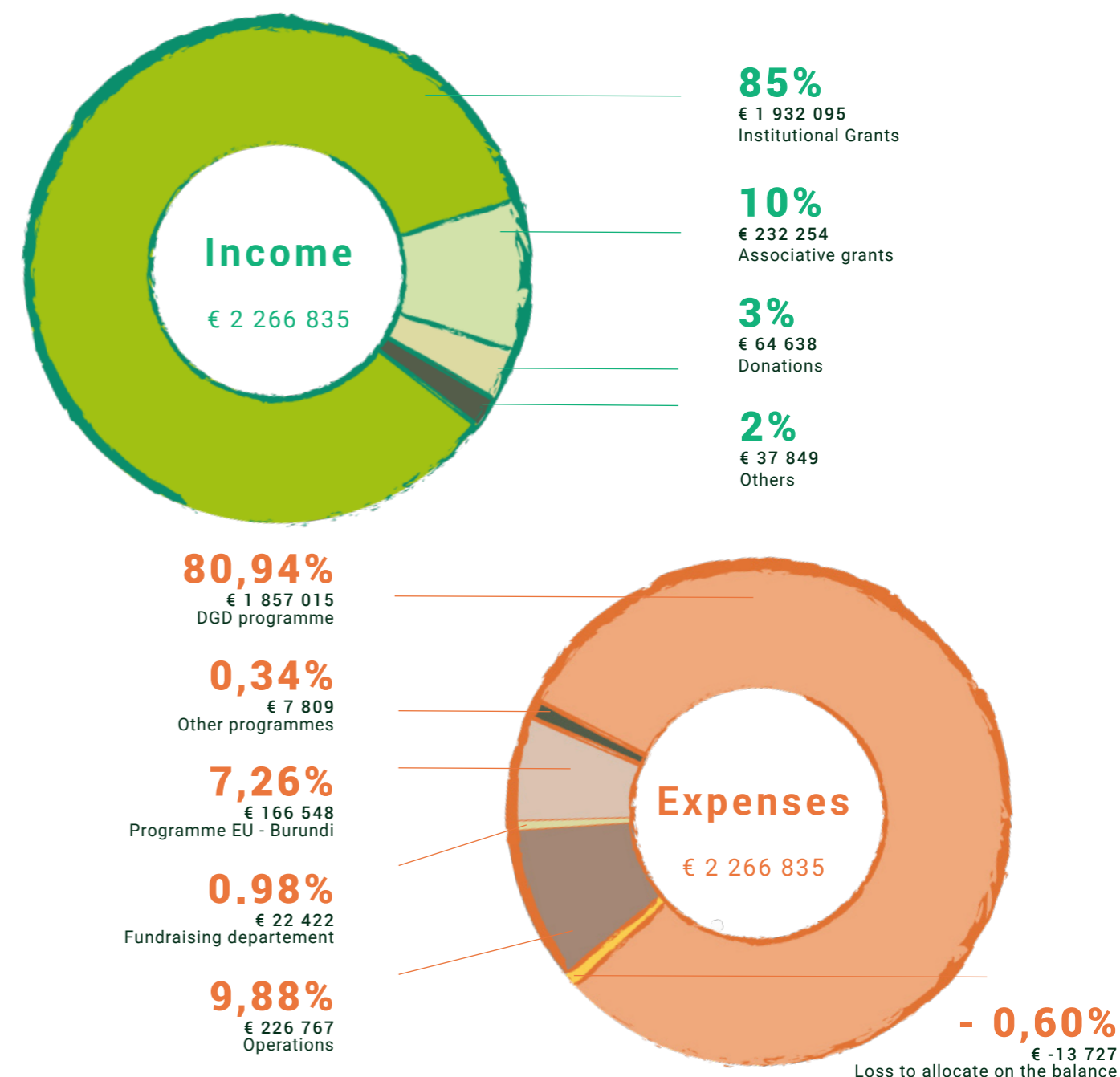
Furthermore, KIYO receives a lot of grants from associative associations and support groups. In 2023 they represented 10% of our revenue.

And even though our private individual donations only represent 3% of our revenue for a small organisation like KIYO, they make the difference.

What did we do with these donations and grants in 2023?

The main part of all donations and grants goes directly to our international programmes, namely 89.61%. The largest programme is our DGD programme called 'Empowering youth together' that we implement in Belgium, Brazil, Burundi, DR Congo and the Philippines. Next to that, we also successfully implemented a three-year programme on the socio-economic integration of youth for peace and development supported by the European Union in Burundi.

In addition, 9.88% was spent on operations and 0.99% on direct fundraising initiatives.



Want to know more?

Go to <https://www.kiyo-ngo.be/what-we-do/reports> to find our annual accounts. Specific questions on our finances? Send us your question via info@kiyo-ngo.be. We are happy to answer in complete transparency.

Good Governance.

General Assembly & Governance Board

KIYO has a highly motivated General Assembly and Governance Board. As we want to keep a close connection with our key actors, youth are also represented in our Assembly & Board. Each year, the Board evaluates its functioning in terms of good governance and compliance with Belgian law. This year, the Board focused on increasing the fundraising potential of the organisation and on the appointment of a new Chair Jan Truyens.

This year, we welcomed the following persons to our General Assembly: Jan Wyckaert, Laura Gatoni, Nick Calcoen, Ece Ciftci, Charlotte Vroemans, Francine Devriese, Elien François and Mimi Baeyens.

National Youth Advisory Boards

Both in the Philippines and in DR Congo, we launched a National Youth Advisory Board. Through these youth structures, KIYO wants to ensure that the voices of the youth are taken into account in its programmes and governance structures. This way, KIYO guarantees youth participation in the decision-making processes of the organisation. It operationalises KIYO's belief that the youth should be the beating heart of the organisation.



Current members of the Governance Board



JAN TRUYENS CHAIR



HELEEN CALLENS



LOES DEBUYSERE



FRANCINE DEVRIES



LAURA GATONI



SANDRINE KRAM



PHILIPPE SCHIETSE



KATRIEN VAN HOOYDONK



CHARLOTTE VROEMANS



JAN WYCKAERT

Integrity.



Ethical code

KIYO subscribes to the ethical code of the VEF. The VEF is the Association for Ethics in Fundraising. Members of the VEF label inform donors, staff and employees at least on an annual basis about how raised funds are spent. Our annual report is a concrete translation of this obligation. Want to know more? Have a look at www.vef-aerf.be

Annual accounts 2023

KIYO's 2023 financial statements and balance sheet have been drafted by our Governance Board, approved by the auditor and filed at the National Bank of Belgium where they can be consulted.

Integrity

In 2023, KIYO renewed its values, the foundations of our integrity framework. The new values are: Interconnection, Inclusion, Sustainability and Adaptability. They have been developed and validated across the different countries where we work and apply in each of these contexts. You can read more here: <https://www.kiyo-ngo.be/who-we-are/integrity>

To further enhance our integrity culture, KIYO also continued its internal awareness raising and training activities on integrity. Besides the briefing of new staff on policies and procedures in place, quarterly exchanges and training are organised with the Integrity Focal Points of our country teams. An overview of the Integrity Framework and Codes of conduct are available here: <https://www.kiyo-ngo.be/who-we-are/integrity>. Also, continuous capacity development takes place between KIYO and its partners, as well as between partners around integrity and child & youth safeguarding issues. Furthermore, three possible financial integrity concerns and two possible moral integrity issues were identified and managed at the level of different KIYO country offices.



Legacies.

A charity for children and youth in your will.

Do you think about life and what comes after? Would you like your possessions to remain meaningful to others beyond your lifetime? Then you might consider including a charity in your will.



Our promise

When you decide to leave a legacy to KIYO, we promise to invest it in sustainable and impactful solutions for children and youth, not in short-term measures. And we promise to continue until every child and youth is able to develop their talents and enjoy all their rights - meaning the right to an opinion, education, healthcare, protection, information, privacy, recreation and leisure. You can help make this a reality!

Would you like to talk about it?

Our Legacy Advisor Jan is here for you. You can call him directly or send him an e-mail. If you like, he will visit you for a personal conversation. Jan has been committed to KIYO for more than 10 years, first as a board member, then as chairman of the board and now as volunteer Legacy Advisor. You can also find more information on our website.



Jan De Paepe: +32 478 45 42 81 or jan.depaepe@kiyo-ngo.be
Via mail: Joseph II straat 20, 1000 Brussels

TESTAMENT.BE

Thank you,

Your support enables us to change the lives of many children and youth around the world

With your support KIYO managed to develop youth into problem-solvers, decision-makers, and critical thinkers in both local and global contexts, which contributes to a nation's strength and progress.

Empowering Youth Together



Annual Report
Published by KIYO

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💻 www.kiyo-ngo.be

KIYO empowers children and youth to take charge of their lives and realise their rights. Together with partners, KIYO strengthens children and youth. This enables them to bring about positive individual and societal change as global citizens.

 [KIYOempoweringyouthtogether](https://www.facebook.com/KIYOempoweringyouthtogether)

 [KIYO_ngo](https://www.instagram.com/KIYO_ngo)

 [KIYO-ngo.be](https://www.KIYO-ngo.be)

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