

Youth Excel Menstrual Health and Hygiene Grant Competition Phase II:
Advancing inclusive menstrual health and hygiene for girls' education
in Malawi & Zambia

Youth Excel is pleased to present [Amos Youth Center – Zambia](#) and [Zayane Creations Trust – Malawi](#) as the winners of the second phase of the menstrual health and hygiene grant competition.

In 2022, Youth Excel launched the first phase of this grant competition to fund local youth-led and youth-serving organizations to conduct implementation research activities for strengthening menstrual health and hygiene management for girls' education in Malawi and Zambia. With support from the USAID Office for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GenDev), 5 winners received \$50,000 each for implementation research activities on their school-based menstrual health and hygiene management activities over 8 months.

Based on the strong outcomes and [learnings](#), in March 2024, Youth Excel invited the winners to submit a proposal to apply their research-to-change findings from the first phase to enhance the effectiveness of their menstrual health and hygiene programming in a second phase with an additional \$50,000 of core funding over 6 months from August 2024 to January 2025. Through a participatory selection process including peer review as well as an expert selection panel with youth representation, Amos Youth Centre and Zayane Creations Trust were awarded funding (please see details in the table below).

Partner & Country	Organization Description	Project Description
Amos Youth Centre (AYC), Zambia (Youth-led)	The Amos Youth Centre (AYC) is dedicated to empowering Zambian youth to break the cycle of poverty in their communities through education and leadership development.	Amos Youth Center (AYC) will develop and disseminate a multi-media storybook for inclusive menstrual health hygiene education for vulnerable youth and youth with disabilities in Kafue and rural Chiawa Chiefdom in Zambia.
Zayane Creations Trust, a former Days for Girls Malawi social enterprise (Youth-serving)	Zayane Creations Trust works to shatter menstrual stigma and limitations so that women and girls are empowered with improved health, education, and livelihoods.	Zayane Creations Trust (ZCT) will support religious leaders during menstrual rites of passage to ensure the safety and provision of accurate information to adolescent girls in Rumphi, Mangochi, and Dedza in Malawi.

