

YSE 2021 - Scenarios

- These eight scenarios represent challenges faced in both Ghana and India.
- Your Project Proposal should be a direct response to one of these scenarios.
- Please read through them and choose one.
- You don't need to respond to every challenge raised in your chosen scenario but should consider some of the challenges raised and the wider context provided.

Scenario 1 (India)	<p>In Bihar, India, youth unemployment is rising especially following the COVID-19 pandemic. In one rural community, most young people are unable to complete school for financial reasons. Even if they complete high school, they will be unable to go on to tertiary education.</p> <p>This means their job opportunities are limited, most end up with sporadic work in agriculture, which only runs for 4 months of the year. Many soon end up in forced marriages with a family that they struggle to support on their limited income. This is also creating a sense within the community that it is not worth paying for children to complete school.</p>
Scenario 2 (India)	<p>A rural community in West Bengal is regularly impacted by adverse weather conditions including flooding and cyclones. Crops and roads are destroyed, meaning that the community struggles for food, and are unable to access facilities outside of the village including school and health facilities.</p> <p>Each time they rebuild with support from local NGOs, but more adverse weather will cause the same problems again. They need to find a longer-term solution to protect their families and livelihoods from future disaster.</p>
Scenario 3 (India)	<p>A recent study in Tamil Nadu showed that youth participation and engagement with politics is low. India is a young nation, with a median age of 24.1 years, meaning that the youth vote is vital for democratic processes. Unfortunately, a high percentage of youth are illiterate – 31% of young women and 14% of young men, and this is worse in rural regions such as Tamil Nadu.</p> <p>There is evidence to show that young people are interested in driving change – in Tamil Nadu 7% of MPs are below the age of 40 – but this is not translating into actual presence in the political sphere or in their voting practices. Some research has suggested that even youth who want to vote are confused about how to vote.</p>

<p>Scenario 4 (India)</p>	<p>In rural communities in Tamil Nadu, indigenous Dalit (low-caste) mothers are impoverished, working in unreliable manual labour jobs. They are a marginalised group in society. They currently live below the extreme poverty line, struggling to meet the basic needs of themselves and their families.</p> <p>Their health is poor, some are having to pay loans to high interest lenders as a result of medical needs when they do not have the funds to pay medical bills. Their children are often sent to work themselves rather than be educated.</p>
<p>Scenario 5 (Ghana)</p>	<p>In a village in Northern Ghana, more than 58% of the women are illiterate. It is only in the last few years that girls in the community have started attending school, following work from local NGOs. The upcoming generation of girls will have higher literacy levels, but the women who have already completed school face limited job and income generation opportunities.</p> <p>The local language is Dagbani. However, the national language is English. Not only can these women not read or write, they also cannot speak English. Though the community has come round to the idea of educating girls, many of the women's husbands are showing some resistance to the idea of their wives being educated, thinking it will distract them from the housework and raising their children.</p>
<p>Scenario 6 (Ghana)</p>	<p>In a district of Kassena-Nankana, Northern Ghana, most women are unable to access maternal health care, despite a new policy which means it is free to all. For this district, where many live below the poverty line and rely on a wage that comes in day-to-day from the market, there are still financial obstacles to accessing health care, including the need for upfront payments (which are returned on insurance).</p> <p>Similarly, there are a lot of very rural communities in the district, and mothers from these communities struggle to access transport to the hospital, firstly due to cost but also because of the poor road conditions.</p> <p>This means that many expecting and new mothers cannot access basic health check-ups - let alone more severe care - which can result in difficulties in childbirth or for the child's health as they grow up. It also means they do not receive vital nutritional information to support their child in the best way on their limited income.</p>

Scenario 7 (Ghana)	<p>A community in the Tolon District, Northern Ghana, is experiencing high numbers of teenage pregnancies. The community is highly religious and believes that abstinence is the only form of sex education that should take place in school. Girls who fall pregnant are forced to drop out of school, greatly restricting their future opportunities, while the fathers of their children can continue attending school.</p> <p>The Chief (community leader) has tried to implement various strategies, including a ban on teenagers socialising outside of school. However, not only has the problem not improved, there is now a lot of resentment between the teenagers and adults in the community.</p>
Scenario 8 (Ghana)	<p>People with physical and mental disabilities suffer great disadvantage in Ghana, especially in rural regions with high levels of extreme poverty. Schools and other infrastructure are not equipped to support them, and families and communities see little value of putting them through education, meaning they experience high levels of illiteracy and associated limitations.</p> <p>With agriculture as the main form of livelihood, they have little opportunity to get a job or contribute to the community. All of these factors contribute to social exclusion and discrimination by their community and wider society. Women and girls with disabilities are especially at risk of associated violence as they are already a marginalised group in society.</p>