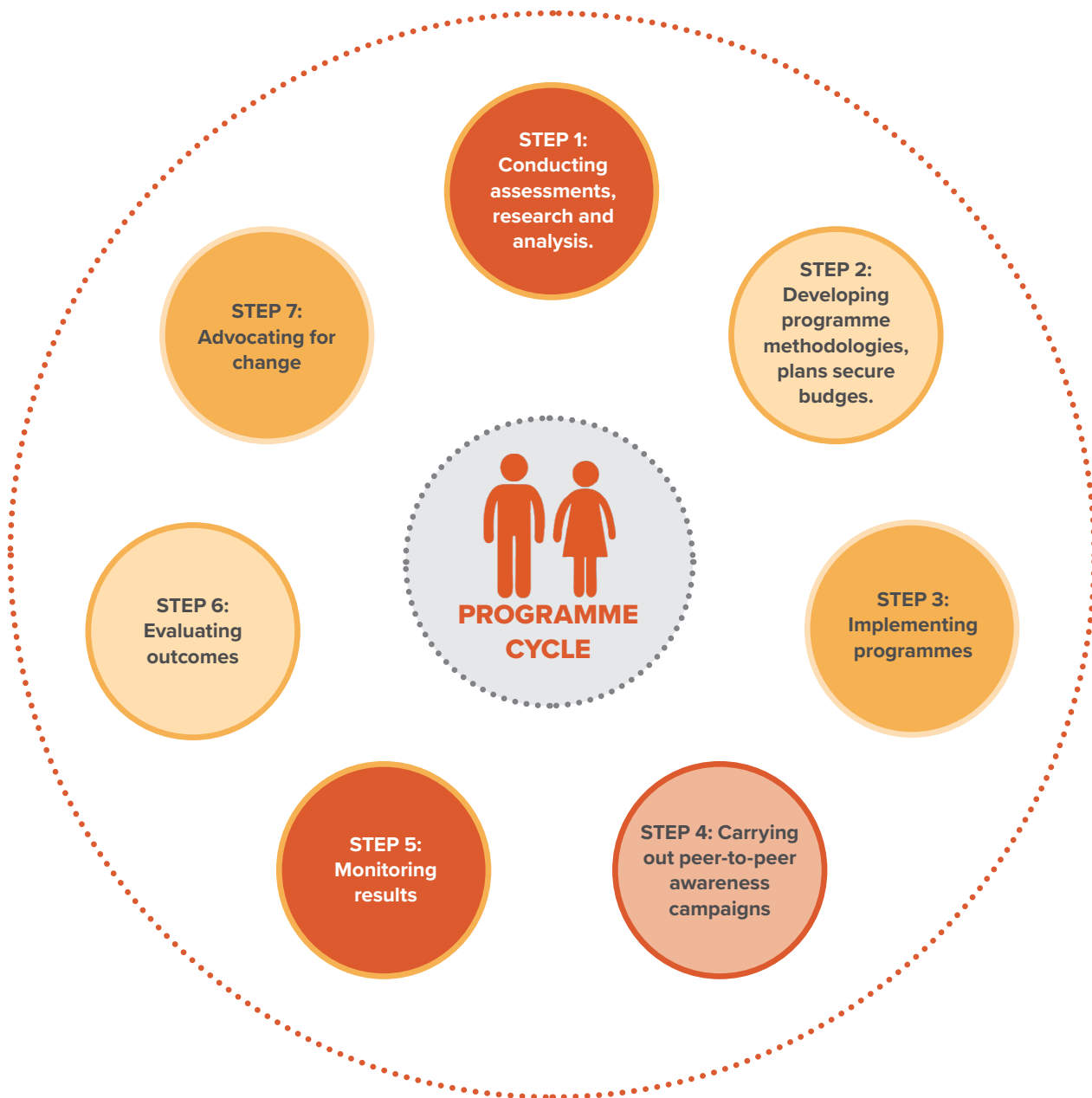


# ANNEX D: Key Actions to Increase Young People's Engagement in the Project Cycle

This is a tool referenced in the [Participation Tools](#) section of Chapter 3: Meaningful Participation. This resource outlines the steps needed to increase youth engagement in the project cycle.

## Key Actions To Increase Young People's Engagement In The Project Cycle



STEPS	INDICATORS
Step 1: Conduct assessments, research, and analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct an analysis of your (proposed) target group with a focus on the desirability, feasibility, and extent of young people's engagement, as a whole and per programme component</li> <li>• Support young people-led research of programmes aimed at, and including, adolescents and youth</li> <li>• Support ongoing research and the pursuit of evidence relevant to developing effective young people-appropriate programmes and services</li> <li>• Data should be disaggregated by age, sex, and ability. The assessment should also look at the extent that existing programs and services have benefitted different vulnerable groups of young people.</li> <li>• Assess specific needs—including a gender lens—by consulting and mobilising young people wherever they are</li> </ul>
Step 2: Develop program methodologies, plans, and secure budgets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consciously build ownership of all programme components among young people. Determine which components are more conducive to young people's engagement for your target group, and start with those. Review and adjust as you go, always keeping in mind that it is a long, but worthwhile, process.</li> <li>• Earmark (through a budget line) a fixed amount or percentage of annual funds to young people's engagement. Identify at least one person in the programme/organisation as the "go to person". This person is tasked with promoting young people's engagement in the organization (organise/conduct training, assess levels of young people's engagement, incorporate young people's engagement into the Constitution). Avoid abusing the agenda to access cheap, docile human resources.</li> <li>• Plan and budget in consultation with young people to ensure transparency</li> <li>• Create common open spaces for young people and humanitarian partners to meet, listen to young people, and make the programme relevant to them</li> <li>• Consider giving a delegation of young people a seat in program meetings, and/or forming a group/taskforce of beneficiaries to regularly brainstorm on ideas for new activities</li> </ul>
Step 3: Implement programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Involve young people in the implementation of programmes as volunteers, paid staff, and youth groups</li> </ul>
Step 4: Carry out peer-to-peer awareness campaigns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support young people to conduct peer-to-peer awareness campaigns, based on action research and planning that involved young people</li> <li>• Could also be linked to a broader advocacy agenda</li> </ul>

STEPS	INDICATORS
Step 5: Monitor results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Document, assess, and adjust the elements of young people's engagement in the programme. Determine current and desired levels per component and develop plans of action for improvement—including tools and mechanisms, key partners, tasks, and timelines.</li> <li>Revisit the level of young people's engagement regularly. Expect different and changing levels in terms of capacity, readiness, and enthusiasm to cooperative approaches.</li> </ul>
Step 6: Evaluate outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support young people-led evaluations of programmes aimed at, and including, adolescents and youth</li> </ul>
Step 7: Advocate for change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young people's engagement will develop best in a conducive environment where key stakeholders—including donors, programme management, and staff members—actively promote it.</li> </ul>

Source: [Adolescent and Youth Engagement Toolkit](#) (No Lost Generation, 2018).