

Hope for Vulnerable Children Association HOVUCA

key Messages – YV4CSE Project Campaign - Cameroon

- 1. Age-appropriate, factual, and evidence-based comprehensive sexuality education promotes equality, rights and develops young people's leadership potential. We call on the government to provide and support the rollout of CSE.
- Comprehensive sexuality education is a critical part of the HIV prevention toolbox, a shield for girls against unintended pregnancies, early or forced marriage, GBV, and gender inequality. Remove all barriers and integrate CSE into national policies for young people in and out of school.
- 3. Thousands of children, adolescents and young people are being denied access to CSE, are at risk, and are not reaching their potential. Adding your voice to the advocacy for CSE would convince the communities to get behind us and make this a success
- 4. In Cameroon, 10% of girls marry by 15, 31% by 18, and 24 girls per 9 boys are infected daily with HIV. 1.4% of women aged 15-49 have undergone female genital mutilation. Access to comprehensive sexuality education can help combat these harmful practices. The government and stakeholders should develop and disseminate friendly sensitization materials about CSE targeting young people.
- 5. Comprehensive Sexuality Education's life skills training aids children in recognizing and reporting inappropriate behavior, including child abuse, and cultivating positive relationships.
- 6. In a rapidly changing world, comprehensive sexuality education is more important than ever. It helps young people navigate complex issues such as online safety, cyberbullying, and healthy sexuality. Let's advocate for up-to-date and inclusive education that meets the evolving needs of young people.
- 7. Comprehensive sexuality education is an investment in the health, dignity, and future of Cameroon's youth. Let's mobilize resources and political will to ensure that comprehensive sexuality education is integrated into national policies and programs, reaching every young person across the country.



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- 8. CSE goes beyond biology lessons on reproduction and encompasses a holistic approach to sexuality education, including topics such as consent, gender identity, sexual orientation, and healthy relationships. Advocates should emphasize the importance of comprehensive and age-appropriate CSE that addresses the diverse needs and realities of young people in Cameroon.
- 9. Comprehensive sexuality education is a fundamental human right that empowers young people to make informed decisions about their sexual and reproductive health. Let's break the stigma, promote inclusivity, and ensure access to accurate information for all. Together, we can create a future where everyone has the knowledge and confidence to lead healthy and fulfilling lives.
- 10. Comprehensive sexuality Education empowers adolescents and young people to make informed decisions about their sexual and reproductive health and to prevent early pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV. It does not promote early sexual activity. Remove social, cultural and religious barriers impeding CSE so young people can access CSE and attend their full potential
- 11. Religious authorities have the potential to play a meaningful role in advancing CSE initiatives among youth. By incorporating CSE principles into their teachings, they can create a safe and supportive space where young individuals feel comfortable discussing and exploring their sexuality without apprehension.
- 12. Comprehensive sexuality education is essential for ensuring that young people have accurate information about their bodies, relationships, and sexual health. It empowers them to make informed decisions.
- 13. By promoting comprehensive sexuality education, we can help reduce unintended pregnancies, prevent sexually transmitted infections, and promote healthy relationships.