

# COMMONWEALTH CIVIL SOCIETY POLICY FORUM 2023

Commonwealth Year of Youth

*Supporting young people for a safe, secure, happy and healthy future*



## CCSPF 2023 OBJECTIVES

- To raise awareness of identified issue of concern to young people across the Commonwealth which affect their health and wellbeing.
- To highlight effective strategies which promote the health and wellbeing of young people across the Commonwealth.
- To propose actionable recommendations for Commonwealth Health Ministers which will contribute to a safe, secure, happy and healthy future for young people across the Commonwealth.



# Commonwealth Health Professions and Partners Alliance

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## PROGRAM

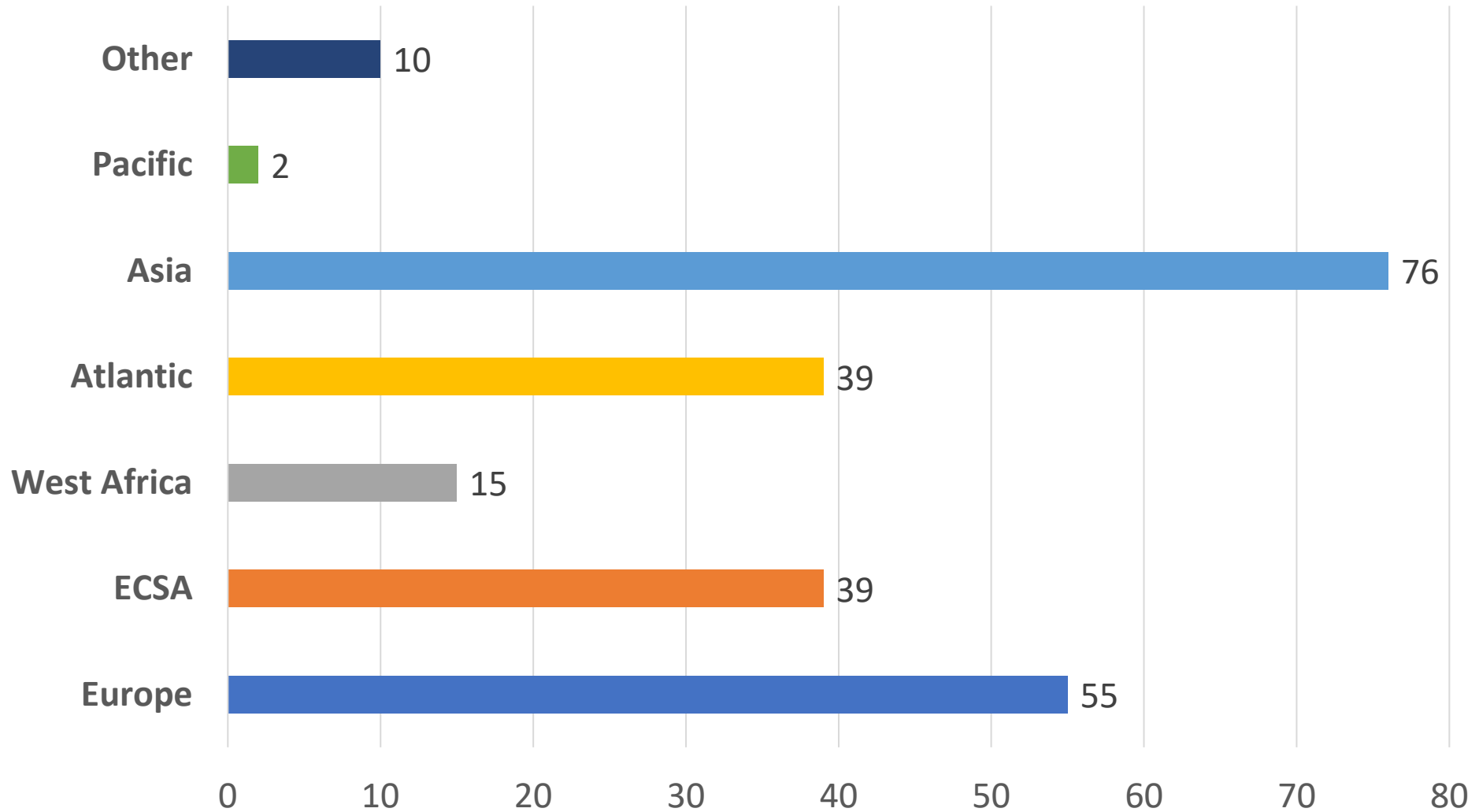
- Young People Speak Out: a role for the Commonwealth.
- Responding to the mental wellbeing of young people after the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Young people's concerns regarding climate change.
- Young carers and the Commonwealth Young Carers Charter.
- Youth action on leveraging technology and research to improve youth health.
- Innovation in tackling youth violence and exploitation.
- The impact on young people of substandard and falsified medicinal products.
- Young people's nutrition and the influence of the Commercial Determinants of Health.



- **236 PARTICIPANTS**
- **32 COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES REPRESENTED**
- **8 NON-COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES**



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# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMONWEALTH HEALTH MINISTERS

<http://www.chpa.co>

## **CCSPF 2023 RECOMMENDATION 1**

That Commonwealth governments commemorate the Commonwealth Year of Youth 2023 by actively partnering with the young people of their country, and the organisations that represent young people, to:

- establish a program of work led by young people for young people,
- address issues identified by young people of concern to them, and
- work with the young people to develop innovative solutions, and
- support them physically and financially to implement, evaluate and replicate the innovations.





## **CCSPF 2023 RECOMMENDATION 2**

That Commonwealth governments adopt the Commonwealth Young Carer's Charter, recognizing that young carers with the additional responsibility of caring for a family member or household, are children and young people first, and should be supported to develop emotionally and physically and to take full advantage of opportunities for educational achievement and life success.



## **CCSPF 2023 RECOMMENDATION 3**

That Commonwealth governments act on the Briefing Paper from the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association on substandard and falsified medicines and the paper's recommendations for national action plans to be developed; regulation and policy to be strengthened; and awareness and education of the impact of substandard and falsified medicines to be increased, particularly in relation to their effects on young people.

## **CCSPF 2023 RECOMMENDATION 4**

That Commonwealth governments, given the increase in mental health issues for young people identified by the World Health Organisation since the COVID-19 pandemic, re-evaluate mental health service delivery to young people and, given the generally inadequate mental health workforce skilled in providing mental health care to children and young people in most countries, explore different models of service provision, using existing community based youth services, providing them with education on specific interventions, directly supported and supervised by mental health professionals. Further, that Commonwealth governments explore the option of online assessment and consultation for young people to increase access to services.



## **CCSPF 2023 RECOMMENDATION 5**

That Commonwealth governments formally engage young people in developing communication messages, education programs, and preventive activities to mitigate the effect of climate change.



## **CCSPF 2023 RECOMMENDATION 6**

That Commonwealth governments partner with civil society to collect evidence on the effects, both positive and negative, of commercial entities on the nutrition of children and young people, given the vulnerability of children and young people to advertising, and identify and implement strategies that minimize the negative impacts of Commercial Determinants of Health and which foster health promoting commercial practices.



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# THANK YOU

The video link for the forum is: <https://youtu.be/nHJAL2OXjPg>

<http://www.chpa.co>