Delivery of a Health development strategies reaching young girls with essential Health, social and Economic Assets in Rwanda

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Issues

- Rwanda has made a tremendous progress in increasing access and utilization of reproductive health services, although the progress have been made the adolescent girls in Rwanda encounter numerous challenges in regards to their sexual and reproductive health (SRH) as they transition into adulthood.
- 27% of pregnant girls aged 15-19 are HIV+ while those aged 15-24 are five times more likely than boys to be infected with HIV (Rwanda DHS 2016).
- Aim: the programme vision aimed at equipping the young girls with economic, health and social assets before they reach puberty. tools and assets, to enable them, to better exercise their rights.

Description

- The 12+ programme targeted the most vulnerable 10 – 12-year-old girls nationwide, but mainly was initiated by Imbuto Foundation in 5 main Districts in North: Rulindo, Gicumbi, Gakenke, Musanze, Burera and 5 Districts of West: Nyabihu, Karongi, Rutsiro and Rubavu.
- 300 meetings were managed to be organized at cell/ sector levels.
- Mentors served as a source of one on one guidance and advice for girls, they would encourage girls’ ambition, empower.
- Their confidence and keep them on track by helping them set goals and work towards achieving them.
- Data collection: Data was collected through monitoring routine.
- Data Analysis: Descriptive analysis have been generated using SPSS version 25 and Microsoft Excel.

Lessons Learned

- # of girls returned to school and awarded as the best performing.
- The programme completion rate is 99%.
- The average attendance rate for the 3 years is at 97% for girls.
- Next Steps

  - Since 2014, in total 187 girls have returned to school.
  - 17 girls from 12+ have been awarded as the Best Performing.
  - In total, 31,253 girls were recruited from 2014 to 2016.
  - 19,481/30,933 girls opened bank accounts
  - 22,333/30,933 girls have savings groups,
  - 90.8% of girls never been late in school,
  - 12+ implementation encountered a positive change in the lives of Adolescents girls in Rwanda especially on socio-economic and health aspects.
  - The project successfully created 554 trained mentors whom delivered 126 sessions every week and in 283 Safe spaces for a period of 30 months.
  - From the experience achieved of the last 3 years of 12+ implementation, we encountered a positive change in the lives of Adolescents girls in Rwanda especially on socio-economic and health aspects. from achieved girls’ assessments, testimonies from adolescent girls and their parents/teacher as well.
  - Imbuto Foundation aim to extend programme in health sector to enhance the achievement of 12+ programme, whom had to phased out and have a clear sustainability plan to maintain the programme achievements.
  - Key words: 12+ programme, Sexual and reproductive health, Mentorship.

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