Community Education in family planning/ contraceptive service provision and HIV Prevention: Lessons from Baho Neza Project in Rwanda

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Issues

- Despite Rwanda's efforts, obstacles remain. According to the DHS, just one in every two sexually active unmarried women uses contraception, and the nation continues to encounter religious and cultural barriers to contraception usage.
- The Imbuto Foundation aims to bolster national efforts to address the unmet need for family planning and sexual reproductive health.

Lessons Learned

- The campaign's interactive and educational content was primarily utilized to communicate FP/SRH messages to an estimated 3,745,356 Rwandans.
- Targeted people using long acting reversible contraceptive methods within our areas of intervention.
- However, because Covid-19 disrupted outreach campaigns, the foundation chose to use digital content to continue spreading public health messages. To date, the creative industry has proven to be a great methodology for educating society through plays, talk shows, drama series, and social media campaigns; through one drama series, 8,643 people received contraception.
- People received Family planning and sexual reproductive information through digital content (YouTube).

Description

- Rwanda has achieved great progress in terms of improving its citizens' health, particularly expanding access to and use of family planning. According to the DHS (2019-2020), women's contraceptive use grew from 53% to 64% between 2015 and 2020, with 58% using contemporary techniques and 6% using archaic methods.
- Imbuto Foundation, in collaboration with implementing partners, aims to improve knowledge and attitudes to make informed decisions in sexual reproductive health-related matters. Family planning through community mobilization.
- Community-based outreach campaigns have been used to disseminate different family planning and SRH prevention and facilitate community-based SRH and family planning services accessibility to adolescents, young adults and the community in general.

Next Steps

- The Foundation will keep working on raising awareness on FP/SRH and HIV through leveraging creative industry and working with community based organizations.
- The Foundation is governed by the philosophy that “A seed well planted, watered, nurtured and given all the necessary support successfully grows into a healthy plant, one that reaches high and stands tall.” Imbuto Foundation envisions this for all its current initiatives and those in the future.
- For more information: www.imbutofoundation.org

Data collection:
- Project M&E Indicators on monthly basis.
- Data was collected through routine monitoring data.

Data Analysis:
- The results were generated using Microsoft Excel.