

Prioritizing PEPFAR interventions for adolescent girls & young women (AGYW)

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Agenda

- Who is funding AGYW programs?
 - Global Fund
 - PEPFAR
- PEPFAR DREAMS Program Overview
- New US foreign policy landscape
- MER Indicators for AGYW
- **Participant participation:** New COVID-19 reality
- Wins to aim for in the COP rooms

Who is funding global AGYW programs?

- **Global Fund:** The AGYW Program



“The Global Fund Strategy 2017–2022 is committed to scaling-up programs to support adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) in 13 countries with the goal to reduce new HIV infection among females 15-24 by 58% by 2022.”

- **PEPFAR:** DREAMS Program



“A Public-private partnership to reduce rates of HIV among adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) in 15 highest HIV burden countries.”

These two programs are meant to complement each other!!

Global Fund AGYW interventions

- Primary prevention for AGYW in Global Fund districts
- Access to contraceptives for AGYW
- Social and economic empowerment activities

Elements to consider for COP21:

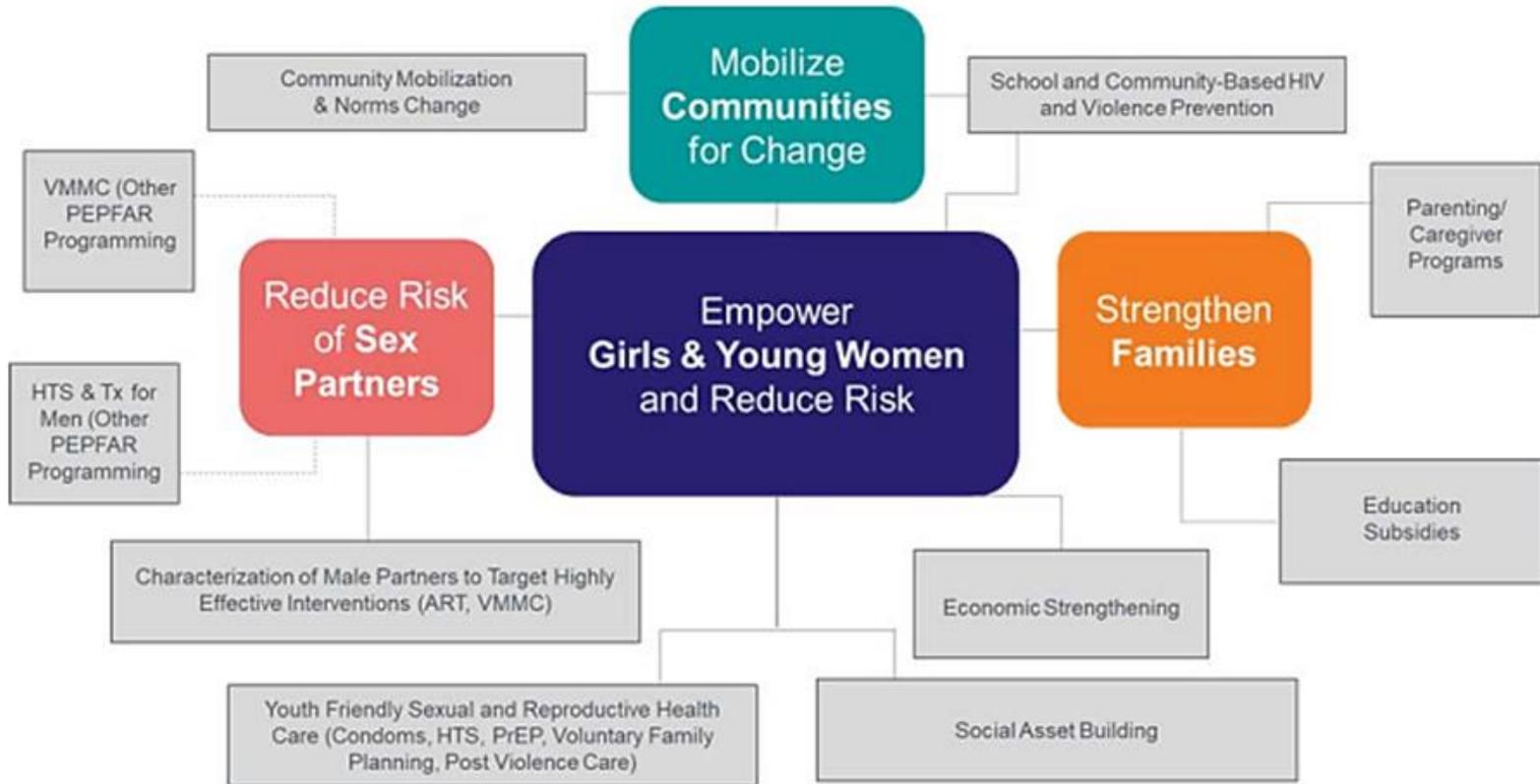
- “Emergency” COVID-19 window offers another resource stream
- Real-time tracking of COVID-19 program disruptions
- Coordination with DREAMS program - may be low or contentious in some countries
- Global Fund replenishment

PEPFAR's Programs & Interventions for AGYW

- Primary Prevention for AGYW in DREAMS Districts
- Primary Prevention for AGYW in Non-DREAMS Districts
- Care and Treatment for AGYW
- Integration of Reproductive Health and HIV Services

PEPFAR DREAMS Program Overview

- Each DREAMS country develops its own multi-sectoral, comprehensive package of evidence-based interventions to reduce HIV incidence in AGYW according to age band (10-14, 15-19 and 20-24).
 - 15 DREAMS countries: Botswana, Cote d'Ivoire, Haiti, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe
- Core principle of DREAMS: **“Layering”** or providing multiple services from the DREAMS core package to each active DREAMS beneficiary.
 - Interventions address individual, community, and structural factors that increase AGYW’s HIV risk, including gender inequality, gender-based violence, and limited access to education and economic opportunities



DREAMS Approach & Core Package of Services

PEPFAR DREAMS Program Overview

- Expansion of DREAMS to new districts can only occur if an existing DREAMS district is saturated.
 - **Saturation** in DREAMS is achieved when 75% AGYW in a DREAMS SNU have completed the appropriate package of DREAMS interventions for their age group.
- *From COP21 Guidance:* “Countries without DREAMS funding should examine HIV incidence and prevalence in AGYW ages 9-24 years before dedicating significant resources to prevention in AGYW... If data indicate that AGYW should be a priority population, the OU should base activities for this population on the current DREAMS Guidance to the extent possible based on budget.”
- Outside DREAMS districts, PrEP should always be provided in the context of the full package of services including risk reduction education and condoms.

New U.S. foreign policy landscape

President Biden revoked the Global Gag Rule (also known as Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance or PLGHA) on 28 January, which directs all implementers of US global health assistance to:

- immediately waive any conditions in assistance awards that were imposed pursuant to the January 2017 Presidential Memorandum in any current grants;
- notify current grantees, as soon as possible, that these conditions have been waived; and
- immediately cease imposing these conditions in any future assistance awards.

Additional context: Recent transition in PEPFAR leadership & its potential impact on DREAMS & other prevention services

PrEP COP21 Guidance for AGYW

- All DREAMS OUs are required to include oral PrEP as part of their core package of services
- Oral PrEP should be integrated into family planning, antenatal care and HIV testing sites
 - COP21 Guidance prioritizes linking PrEP scale-up with HIV testing
- Expand PrEP targets for AGYW based on need and coverage estimates and support demand creation
- New biomedical HIV prevention options on the horizon:
 - Dapivirine vaginal ring (DVR)
 - Cabotegravir long-acting injectable (CAB-LAI)

MER Indicator Reference Guide 2.0

This is an incredible resource that defines the M&E metrics for PEPFAR programs & includes key programmatic details that will be helpful in the room.

Full DREAMS Indicator sheet on pg 209

AGYW_PREV	
Description:	Percentage of adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) that completed at least the DREAMS primary package of evidence-based services/interventions.
Numerator:	<p>The numerator is the sum of the following age/sex/layering disaggregates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of AGYW that have fully completed the DREAMS primary package of services/interventions but no additional services/interventions 2. Number of AGYW that have fully completed the DREAMS primary package of services/interventions AND at least one secondary service/intervention <p>Number of individual AGYW that have completed at least the DREAMS primary package of services/interventions as of the end of the reporting period</p>
Denominator:	<p>The denominator is the sum of the following age/sex/layering disaggregates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of AGYW that have fully completed the DREAMS primary package of services/interventions but no additional services/interventions 2. Number of AGYW that have fully completed the DREAMS primary package of services/interventions AND at least one secondary service/intervention 3. Number of AGYW that have completed at least one DREAMS service/intervention but not the full primary package 4. Number of AGYW that have started a DREAMS service/intervention but have not yet completed it <p>Number of individual AGYW that have started or completed any DREAMS service/intervention as of the end of the reporting period</p>
Indicator changes (MER 2.0 v2.1 to v2.4):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reporting period of indicator changed from cumulative to snapshot, reflecting AGYW service completion as of the past 6 months at Q2 and the past 12 months at Q4. • Reorganization of Numerator and Denominator disaggregates to better align with AGYW_PREV numerator definition. • Added denominator disaggregate to capture AGYW enrolled in DREAMS that have started but not yet completed a DREAMS service/intervention in the reporting period. • All disaggregates made mandatory as they are essential to understanding the success and quality of DREAMS programs. • Clarifying language added to the indicator reference sheet, including: defining enrolled, active, and inactive DREAMS beneficiaries; defining and differentiating between service, package, and DREAMS program completion; using AGYW_PREV data for program improvement; and updated visuals. • Changes made to guiding narrative questions.
Reporting level:	Community (Reported by USG team, not implementing partners)
Reporting frequency:	Semi-Annually
How to use:	This indicator reflects program data on how many AGYW are being served in DREAMS and whether all active DREAMS beneficiaries have received the intended layered services/interventions to ensure that they remain HIV-free. Specifically, this indicator will measure how many active DREAMS beneficiaries have completed the DREAMS primary package of services/interventions, the primary package plus any secondary services/interventions, and how many have not yet completed the primary package. <u>Of note, a DREAMS Beneficiary</u> is when an AGYW is enrolled in DREAMS and has started or completed at least one DREAMS service/intervention.

Impact of COVID-19 on AGYW services

Question to answer in the chat:

What are the ways COVID-19 has impacted service provision for AGYW?

COVID-19 responses that have / have not worked

Question to answer in the chat:

What responses to COVID-19 service disruptions for AGYW have or have not worked?

Wins to aim for in the COP rooms

- Continue to prioritize DREAMS -- even though Amb Birx is no longer in charge
- Leverage Global Fund / PEPFAR being in the same room
 - Increase coordination across the 2 AGYW programs
 - Complementary funding with existing and emergency COVID-19 funding
- Increase integrated service delivery service points
 - Contraception, prevention, and treatment within larger SRH landscape
- Multi-month dispensing of contraceptives, oral PrEP, ART for AGYW
- Invest in dissemination of accurate information about oral PrEP for AGYW
- Cease implementation of PLGHA (aka GGR)
 - US government agencies must communicate and provide guidance to all PEPFAR implementing partners (both prime and sub) about the policy
 - Adapt program materials accordingly
 - Re-engage with partners that were lost due to the PLGHA policy

Wins to aim for in the COP Rooms

- Remember we are fighting for 2 things in the rooms:
 - Integrated prevention services for AGYW
 - Integrated treatment services for AGYW living with HIV
- All AGYW receiving prevention or treatment services **must** be offered FP with method mix on-site with informed consent & client-centered counseling
- *Note:* PEPFAR will say they cannot procure FP commodities (besides internal and external condoms + lubricant)
 - Ask for a budget with site-level details of FP commodities other donors (like the Global Fund) are providing for distribution through PEPFAR service delivery platforms
 - Ask about training, supervision, and budget for human resources
 - Key MER Indicator for this integration is: FPINT_SITE

Thank you for your attention & participation!!!

If you have any questions about the information presented today, please feel free to reach out to any of the presenters!

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