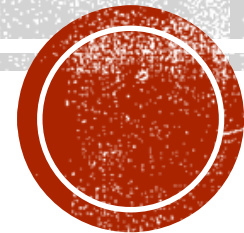


IMPORTANCE OF FUNDING FOR COMMUNITIES IN THE HIV RESPONSE

Nicholas Niwagaba
Executive Director, UNYPA

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THE Y+ BEAUTY PAGEANT

- An annual event, focusing on “beauty with zero discrimination”
- Fighting stigma and discrimination against young people affected and living with HIV and AIDS

Aims:

- ✓ To advocate for a stigma free environment for young people living with HIV in Uganda
- ✓ To provide stakeholders with a clear understanding to meaningful involvement of YPLHIV in programs that are meant for them
- ✓ To empower YPLHIV as Ambassadors of change and with advocacy skills



SUCCESSSES SINCE 2014

- 8.5 million people reached with information on HIV prevention, and the effects of stigma and discrimination
- 6 million IEC materials disseminated to give young people information on how to access SRHR and HIV services
- 8 pageant winners awarded bursaries to further their education and improve skills
- 860 contestants over the last 5 years, and growing every year
- 120 "Ambassadors" speaking up against stigma and discrimination and supporting YPLHIV to access healthcare in 16 districts
- Winner of the "Fast Forward Award" at AIDS2018, and recognised nationally by the Uganda AIDS Commission as a success to fight stigma and discrimination amongst YPLHIV in Uganda.













ACT!2030

- A youth-led initiative which engaged young people with advocacy and accountability around the implementation of the SDGs in 12 countries.
- ACT!2030 was a collaboration between IPPF, UNAIDS and The PACT, a coalition of youth organizations working in the HIV response
- Over 500 young people were trained on advocacy, accountability, the 2030 Agenda, and how to conduct research and data collection in their communities
- Young people were invited to participate in high level events – HLM, IAC, HLPF
- Strengthened relationships with decision-makers



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Capacity building in areas such as service provision, social mobilization, project management, monitoring and advocacy
- Training in special technical areas such as child protection, social protection, gender mainstreaming, working with criminalized or marginalized communities, providing integrated TB/HIV services, drug resistance, community audits
- Development of accountability and governance for the network
- Development of systems for M&E and other data collection of community led action, sharing of information, and integrating this information with national monitoring systems



CONCLUSION

- The concept of community involvement in improving health outcomes is not a new one. It has its roots in the action that communities have always taken to protect and support their members.
- Further progress is now needed to bring community actors and systems into full partnership with national health and social welfare systems and in particular to ensure that their work for health is better understood and properly funded.

