



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



PEPFAR
U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief

YOUTHPOWER

YouthPower Action and Learning

HIV/AIDS and Young People

With increasing recognition of the high and growing burden of HIV and AIDS among young people, as well as the various unique challenges related to testing, treatment and ongoing care among youth, this important population has been a growing priority for USAID.

Some thirty percent of new HIV infections globally occur among young people aged 15-24 years. According to UNICEF, in 2015, 670,000 young people between the ages of 15 to 24 were newly infected with HIV, of whom 250,000 were between the ages of 15 and 19. Adolescent girls and young women are at greatest risk—more than four out of 10 new infections occur among girls and women ages 15 to 24.

Not only do young people face disproportionately high number of HIV infections, but so too are they dying of HIV and AIDS-related causes at higher rates than other populations. According to WHO, between 2005-2012 HIV-related mortality for all age groups decreased by 30% globally, while adolescent mortality from HIV increased by 50%.

HIV knowledge and testing among young people also remain challenges. In sub-Saharan Africa, only one in five adolescents aged 15-19 know their HIV status. Other challenges relate to ensuring HIV-positive youth enroll in care and adhere to treatment plans.

How YouthPower Can Help?

USAID's YouthPower program supports cross-sectoral, positive youth development (PYD) investments that empower youth to reach their full potential. YouthPower Action and YouthPower Learning are two complementary and reinforcing projects that combine evidence and best practice in youth development with recommended approaches to programming, including HIV prevention, testing, treatment and care.

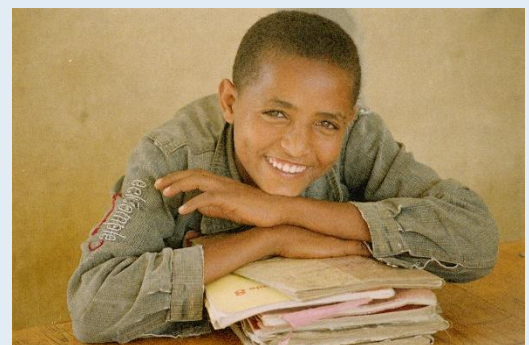
YouthPower Action, which focuses on program implementation, can design, pilot and implement comprehensive and multi-sectoral approaches that are developmentally appropriate and meet the needs of adolescents and young adults.

YouthPower Learning, whose mandate applies to research, evaluation and learning, can provide capacity building and technical assistance across these broad areas of work; develop and advise on monitoring and evaluation systems; design and implement process and impact evaluations, as well as lighter-touch assessments to inform program adjustments or future program design; and conduct formative, implementation or operations research.

YouthPower Action and YouthPower Learning

YouthPower Action is led by FHI 360 and its consortium of partners with a wide range of technical and geographic expertise. The full consortium includes: Management Systems International, Restless Development, Aga Khan Development Network, Marie Stopes International, TechnoServe, BBC Media Action, Inveneo, INJAZ Al-Arab, the Trust for the Americas, Youth Business International, IRH Georgetown, Stepping Stones International, NCBA CLUSA, and World University Services Canada. Small business partners include: Block by Block, Connexus, International Media Solutions, and LTG Associates.

Making Cents International leads YouthPower Learning, in collaboration with its partners the International Center for Research on Women; Results for Development Institute; Khulisa Management Services; Social Development Research Group at the University of Washington; Royal Children's Hospital Academic Centre at the University of Melbourne; Young Americas Business Trust, and the YP Foundation.



FHI 360

For more information on YouthPower Action and YouthPower Learning, please contact Elizabeth Berard (eberard@usaid.gov), Laurie Rushton (larushton@usaid.gov), and Calvin Robinson (crobenson@usaid.gov).

As a highly flexible buy-in mechanism that ends in 2020, YouthPower provides cross-sectoral expertise related to a wide range of youth-related issues and can provide a range of support to missions and operating units. Activities below provides some examples of what YouthPower Action and YouthPower Learning could be contracted to do. YouthPower Action can focus on design, technical assistance, capacity building and implementation. YouthPower Learning can evaluate, research and disseminate independently or in coordination with YouthPower Action, as well as design projects and provide



Making Cents International

technical assistance and TA related to evaluation and research. By jointly working on design, monitoring & evaluation, and implementation, these two projects can create greater synergy between learning and programming, add to the fidelity of implementation and evaluation, ensure that programs build on and potentially add to the evidence based, and ultimately provide more effective use of investments in supporting youth globally.

Illustrative YouthPower Activities:

- PEPFAR 3.0 programs to meet UN 90, 90, 90 goals including:
 - expanding existing testing services to meet the needs of adolescents and youth including key populations
 - introducing evidence based strategies to improve retention and adherence to obtain viral load suppression that could be adapted for young people living with HIV
- Innovative approaches to mainstream youth and gender into existing HIV services.
- Behavior change strategies and create messages for delivery via multiple communication channels, including mobile phones, social media and community based platforms.
- Capacity building and technical assistance to youth-led or youth-serving organizations to implement HIV programming, and to government and civil society partners on youth engagement.
- OVC programs geared to developmental needs of 10-18 year olds.
- Capacity building to improve the quality of health workforce and to prepare youth to enter into the health workforce.
- Multi-sectoral programs such as workforce and livelihoods programs for youth who are vulnerable to HIV.
- Comprehensive positive youth development programs that include mentoring, parenting, life skills programs, youth engagement for populations vulnerable to or effective by HIV/AIDs.
- Assist in the development of country strategies and implementation approaches for Ministries of Health and bilateral programs to expand HIV services across the continuum for young people