

Results:

Supportive Environment

Discussion Group

June 10, 2006

What do we know, what are examples of what works?

- Segmentation and involvement of target group – identifying at each stage, who is benefiting and who is left out and make special efforts to engage these more vulnerable groups.
- Political commitment and policy support for enabling environments (Inter-ministerial-Kenya FPE, Uganda HIV)
- Collaboration, regular feedback and facilitated communication

What do we know, what are examples of what works?

- **Use existing national/local structures to build supportive environment**
- **Interlinked programs with consistent messages which support both services and school**
- **Involve target audience in research and then use it to inform programming**

Research, Programme and Policy

Gaps

- Change takes time, especially in creating supportive environment
- Supportive environment is hard to evaluate and lacks tools, indicators
- We know little about the effects of structural interventions, particularly the timing of expected benefits
- It is challenging to attribute costs and benefits

Research, Programme and Policy Gaps

- Researchers need to make results more readily available, more comprehensible – policymakers need to be open to using evidence in decision-making
- Multi-sectoral efforts are challenging because they involve many linkages and stakeholders
- Scale up has all the problems of multi-sectoral plus the resource requirements.

Way Forward: Recommendations for Action (Audience)

- **Foster participation and partnerships at all levels**
- **Learn from successful programs and use various strategies to share lessons learnt..**
- **Support the development and implementation policies that support youth**

Way Forward: Recommendations for Action (Audience)

- **Create facilitating mechanisms for bringing together diverse ministries: implementation plan and line budget**
- **Use research data to advocate for establishing supportive environments.**
- **Segment stakeholders into supporters and opponents to better understand the dynamics**

Way Forward: Recommendations for Action (Audience)

- **Build capacities of beneficiaries and stakeholders early in the process**
- **In scaling-up, build on existing groups in the community (with the support of advocacy groups and government)**