

# YouthNet

## Utilization of Knowledge : Regional Forums in Africa and Latin America

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# Knowledge Utilization and Sharing: Two Directional

*Traditional Dissemination*



*Utilization/Sharing*



- Technical Meetings
- Regional Forums
  - Latin America
  - East Africa



# Technical Meetings

- New Findings from Intervention Research: Youth RH/HIV Prevention (with FRONTIERS and Horizons)
- HIV Prevention for Young People (with USAID/OHA and Institute for Youth Development)
- Youth Services: Best Practices



# Regional Forum in Nicaragua: August 2004

Adolescentes y Jóvenes

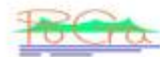


“Por la Salud de la  
Juventud”: Caminemos  
Juntos”

YouthNet  
Partners in Reproductive Health and HIV Prevention



FNUAP  
Fondo de Población  
de las Naciones Unidas



PROSILAIS

Programa Salud Reproductiva,  
Equidad y Derechos SARED,  
financiado por el Gobierno de  
Finlandia





# Nicaragua: Plenary Sessions

## *Background/context*

- Information/services young people need
- Situational analysis of YRH in LAC
- SRH practices in region
- Epidemiology of HIV in LAC
- Access barriers for SRH among young

## *Interventions*

- Contraception and youth
- School-based education
- Prevention of STIs/HIV among high-risk youth
- Integration of FP and HIV programs for youth
- BCC



## Nicaragua: Results/Follow-up

- State of the art information, materials and tools shared
- Informal networks formed
- Key problems/challenges identified
- **Country plans developed to address key problems**
- Follow-up on country plans by PAHO and YouthNet





# Africa Regional Forum on Youth RH and HIV

- YouthNet/FHI, with RHR/WHO, FRONTIERS/Population Council
- National, regional, and international researchers, youth, donors, program managers, and policy makers from nine African countries
- Focused on critical issues in youth RH and HIV programming in sub-Saharan Africa



# Africa Regional Forum: Objectives

1. Share the latest research results and program evidence
2. Share findings and methodologies of promising interventions for youth along with new program and technical tools
3. Identify gaps in existing research, programs, and policies in youth RH and HIV prevention
4. Explore monitoring and evaluation methodologies and desired outcomes for youth programs



# Africa Regional Forum: Conclusions

- Learn from the past, improve programs based on evidence and experience, and scale-up activities which have proven to be effective.
- Give more attention to developing culturally appropriate programs.
- Renewed commitment to stronger linkages between programs and research.



# Africa Regional Forum: Outputs

- Summary report including recommendations from working groups, with CD ROM of documents
- Searchable CD ROM of all presentations, summary report, and supporting documents forthcoming
- All presentations posted to YouthNet website:  
*[www.fhi.org/en/Youth/YouthNet/NewsEvents/index.htm](http://www.fhi.org/en/Youth/YouthNet/NewsEvents/index.htm)*





# Lessons Learned

- Partnering/Collaboration – presentations and discussions can move the field forward
- Catalyst for next steps – sharing information, materials, networking stimulates more ideas, research, action
- Forming country action plans – need designated funding, country buy-in, technical support