

The Experience of IPPF/WHR Providing Youth Reproductive Health Services

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IPPF/WHR -- Youth Program

IPPF/WHR promotes the right of young people to lead healthy and responsible sexual and reproductive lives. To this end, IPPF/WHR implements, along with its affiliates, programs that address young people's specific needs.

IPPF/WHR Overall Youth Program

- 33 of our 38 grant –receiving affiliates provide IEC or clinical services to young people
- 20 provide contraceptives through special youth programs
- 17 affiliates provide clinical SRH services through youth-only-clinics or special hours
- 6 youth projects funded by other donors in 14 countries

IEC Strategies

- use of new technologies
- school-based programs
- telephone hotlines
- community-based programs
- mass media

Strategies for providing clinical services for young people

- youth-only clinics
- youth programs in adult clinics: a separate physical space, special youth days or “youth hours”
- youth services integrated into adult services, all personnel have been trained on youth-friendliness (physical clinic space is shared by adults and youth)
- mobile units

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Project example



YES !! (Ya Estoy Segura)
Youth Empowerment
System
IEC and services
implemented by
INPPARES

YES Project

Objectives

- Increase the participation of youth within the institution
- Improve youth SRH KAP through an increase in access to information, education and services
- Increase the availability of IEC materials for youth

How the project works?

- 4 youth stations in metropolitan Lima
- Educational and service related activities provided by the stations
- Distribution and sale of condoms



How the project works?



- Multimedia area of the stations offers youth the opportunity to use interactive educational CD-roms designed and created by YES!! staff
- Station educators offer private counseling
- Referral system to INPPARES peripheral health clinics

Some results

- Development of CD-rom, posters, fliers, calendars and condom ruler
- Development of 8 board games dealing with issues of self-esteem, STI/HIV/AIDS and sexuality
- YES stations were particularly effective at reaching younger youth (10-14)
- Increase from 14% - 21% of staff in INPPARES that are youth (under 25 year old)
- 12.5% increase youth knowledge about the correct use of the condom
- 11% increase positive attitudes to prevent STI/HIV

Obstacles

- Condom distribution
- Security issues
- Referral system to clinics

Lessons learned

- Provided youth a space where they feel comfortable and have a sense of ownership at low cost
- Community mobilization efforts were an important component for the project's success, and should be initiated during the early stages of the project and systematically incorporated in all activities

Lessons learned (cont)

- Involvement of youth in project development, to ensure that design of the product is both appealing and appropriate
- Participation of Evaluation Officer in weekly meetings between Yes!! Project Coordinator and station coordinators result in use of data to improve project strategies and activities