

[Module 1: Introduction to adolescence and to adolescent health - Adolescent health and development with a particular focus on sexual and reproductive health - Assignment](#)

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[World Bank. World Development Report 2007. Development and the next generation. Washington: World Bank; 2007.](#)

Changes in primary school completion and health of young people have been seen as an accomplishment. Yet there are still problems in quality of education, basic life skills and health. Addressing these challenges will tackle problems of the future, as the current young people are workers, parents, and leaders of the next generation. Though such decisions are partly of young people and their families, policies and institutions have great roles to play. So if governments of countries invest and make the foundation of young people in a good way the countries will have productive workers, family heads, citizens, and community leaders in the future if not the consequences will be costly to correct. Thus, the report focuses on the five transitions that the young undergo in learning, work, health, family, and citizenship. It describes managing these transitions need governments, policy makers and programme managers support. This World Development Report also offers a framework and provides examples of policies (like three lenses focus policies — Opportunities, Capabilities and Second chances) and programs to address these issues.

[UNFPA. UNFPA framework for action on adolescents and youth. Opening doors with 4 keys. New York: UNFPA; 2007.](#)

The Executive summary of the document describes different problems the young people are facing, but central message of the document is that it is time for action with holistic approach that addresses their problems in totality rather than in fragments.

Thus, to achieve this approach, UNFPA will use the following four key components of framework of action:

- Supportive policy making that applies the lens of population structure and poverty dynamics analyses
- Gender-Sensitive, Life-Skills-Based Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) Education
- Sexual & Reproductive Health Services
- Young People's Leadership and Participation

These Keys are highly useful for focusing on its programming areas like reproductive health, gender, and population with adolescents and youth. The fund will also work on at policy and programme levels for Adolescents and Youth agenda within the context of poverty reduction. The document describes briefly the strategic policy & programme direction and the underlying principles of the Framework of action and steps the Fund can take to improve delivery of its policy and programme commitments.

[WHO. Strengthening the health sector response to adolescent health & development. Geneva: WHO; 2009.](#)

Adolescence is the second decade of life, a period in which major physical and psychological changes occur. It is a time of opportunity and risk. Reasons for investing in the health and development of adolescents are public health (to prevent health problems), economic (to get healthy, competent adolescents as work force for the future), human rights (countries signed the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child) and to prevent problems in the next generation. The health sector, through government bodies, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sectors, has a major role to play for improving adolescents' health and development. Therefore, WHO/CAH through the 4-S framework:

- Gathering and using strategic information
- Developing supportive, evidence-informed policies
- Scaling up the provision and utilization of health services and commodities
- Strengthening action and linkages with other government sectors

is using two programmatic “entry points” (National SRH and HIV programmes) to strengthen the health sector response to adolescent health and development. Ministries of health should also take the initiative and facilitate actions of the 4-S framework by the health sector in order to improve the quality of health services for adolescents and achieve clearly defined health outcomes.