

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.

The report provides points for reform to improve the health of youth, those points include giving opportunities to young people like education and access to health services. Secondary empower youth with required capability to choose among the present opportunities with guarantee that they are taking the right decision and lastly provide an opportunity for second chance in case they've made the wrong decision or just unlucky. Investing in youth today does not limit on giving education with emphasis on quantity but also advanced skills are required, education about various disease they risk to develop and get employed timely before their employment affect the economy. The high number of youth population compared to the rest of the population is an advantage to the way that some countries profit of the active workforce in youth , however this can be a disaster to the economy growth in case there is no investment in youth. Policies and institutions that maximize the opportunities for the youth to develop their human capital and use it productively in work are to be developed. Education as the most criteria for future job enrolment is with challenges to youth; the majority attends and completes the primary education but can't enroll in secondary education not because they are weak but because of lack of schools, financial means for the continuation, early pregnancy or the three associated. The problem is that with the current job market more higher education is required than basic skills. Another challenging condition with education is the poor quality of primary education where children do not learn as much as they should, this affect and limit the youth opportunities. The transition toward a productive working life is not always easy, breaking into job market without considerable experience and then facility to upgrade their career and wage by getting new jobs are all challenges for youth development.

As solution; one the side of risky behaviors youth get engaged like smoking, alcohol; sex with consequence that appear later in life. It is important that youth get knowledge about the long-term consequences of their behavior, get access to all prevention material and services "prevention is better than cure" at their age. Countries have to invest in youth early before adolescence by revising their education system with more technical and behavior skills. Then another intervention has to emphasize on the provision of more opportunity for employment and facilitate mobility. It is important to sufficiently inform them and enhance their capability to take the right decisions and offer them opportunity for second chance in case of mistake.

UNFPA. UNFPA framework for action on adolescents and youth. Opening doors with 4 keys. New York: UNFPA; 2007.

The framework gives an overview on the existing situation that makes investing in young people a priority. Various rationales including demographic, public health, economic and human right rationales live no doubt about the utmost need to invest in adolescent currently. There is a clear gap with regard to the effort made to meet the MDGs targets and investment in young people

though it is time to act on young people. The UNFPA framework aims also at showing the advantage of investing in young people to reduce poverty and its contribution towards the MDGs on poverty reduction, education, gender equality, maternal health and HIV prevention.

The vision of UNFPA, is to create a world fit for adolescent, promoting and protecting their right, a world in which girls and boys have optimal opportunities to develop their full potential, to freely express themselves and have their views respected, and to live

free of poverty, discrimination and violence. To meet the vision the Fund provides support to the government and partners while investing in areas that empower the adolescent. The Fund emphasizes on four keys areas and describes them clearly as the areas to focus strategically to make its vision become a reality. The four keys area includes:

- 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 Peoples' Leadership and Participation

Four principles that will guide policy and programmatic actions are also clearly described within this framework.

As conclusion this framework does not contain all details for implementation but it provides overall guidance for actions. It provide the highlights points where to invest and thoughtful thoughts are necessary to make specific guidelines.

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

This framework WHO document that defines adolescence as a period of various physical and psychological changes that can expose the adolescent to various developmental and healthy risks. It describes the existing public health, economic and human rights reasons for investing in the health and development of adolescents right now.

This framework proposes 4 strategies to strengthen health sector response to adolescent health and development.

Among various sectors which have to be involved for the improvement of adolescent health; the health sector is the most crucial. The health sector has to collaborate with government, NGOs and private institution to achieve the need. The four strategies to strengthen the health sector response to adolescent health and development include:

- gathering and using strategic information;
- developing supportive, evidence-informed policies;
- scaling up the provision and utilization of health services and commodities; and
- strengthening action and linkages with other government sectors.

The framework studies problems being addressed by the health sector to improve the adolescent health. On each strategy, implication for action by health sector is described.