

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

John Johannes Wantania
Obstetrics and Gynecology Department, Faculty of Medicine,
University of Sam Ratulangi, Manado, Indonesia

World Bank. World Development Report 2007. Development and the next generation. Washington: World Bank; 2007.

Young people experience will determine the quality of the next generation of workers, parents, leaders and the future of their nations. The decision is not only made by them and their families but it's influenced by policies and institutions which affect the risks, the opportunities and the outcomes.

World Bank framework saw the Youth transitions through three lenses:

1. Broadening opportunities for young people to develop skills and use them productively.
2. Helping them acquire the capabilities to make good decisions in pursuing those opportunities.
3. Offering them second chances to recover from bad decisions, either by them or by others.

Investing in young people during youth transition by higher education and health services is not enough; it needs to be supported by good policies and well environment.

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

Work on young people must contribute to comprehensive development of adolescent and youth, including education, livelihoods, citizenship, and not only sexual & reproductive health.

UNFPA framework for action on adolescents & youth:

1. Supportive policy making that applies the lens of population structure & poverty dynamics analyses
2. Gender & life-skills based sexual & reproductive health education
3. Sexual & reproductive health services
4. Young people's leadership and participation

It needs to build alliances and forge partnerships with governments, development partners, civil society, organizations serving youth and media to achieve some special focus (including integration of young people's issues into policy and programming processes), particularly for those who are vulnerable and socially excluded.

WHO. Strengthening the health sector response to adolescent health & development. Geneva: WHO; 2009.

Adolescence is a time of opportunity but also one of risk. Investing in adolescent health will help prevent deaths including those due to traffic injuries, violence and suicide.

WHO contributes to the goal of improving adolescent health in two main ways: by recommending comprehensive, multisectoral and evidence-informed adolescence health approaches; and by delineating and supporting the critical contribution of the health sector. The 4-S framework:

1. Strategic information
2. Supportive evidence information
3. Services & commodities
4. Strengthening & supporting other sectors

uses two programmatic entry points: HIV prevention, care & support; and preventing early pregnancy and pregnancy related mortality and morbidity.