

[Module 3: Evidence based approaches to health service provision to adolescents - Adolescent health and development with a particular focus on sexual and reproductive health - Assignment](#)

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## **Reality of Adolescent friendly health services in Nigeria**

In Nigeria, Adolescent friendly health service centres are also called youth friendly services centres. This write up will capture the reality of adolescent friendly health services in Nigeria. The challenges to these services are:

- **Availability:** young people constitute majority of the population in Nigeria. This group of people faces several challenges in their life. As a result of these, there should be facilities where this group of people can visit to have a heart to heart talk with qualified personnel. But unfortunately, these services are not readily available.
- **Accessibility:** in most cases where the services are available, they are not accessible. The youth friendly centres are mostly available in the urban area.
- **Acceptability:** the young people in most cases do not accept these services. Some of them complain that the centres are not well equipped in terms of personnel and available facilities.
- **Lack of skilled personnel:** some youth friendly service centres do not have qualified and skilled personnel, which prevent young people from visiting the centres.

## **Comments on the potential utility and feasibility**

The establishment of youth friendly service centres by the government of Nigeria with the involvement of other nongovernmental organisations will help in achieving the goal of improving the health and development of adolescent with the utilization of these youth friendly services centres by adolescents, especially in the underserved areas. For effective utilization of these services by the adolescents, the challenges mentioned above; (accessibility, acceptability, availability and quality of personnel) should be properly addressed. For these strategies to be feasible, there should be a sustainability plan put in place by the government of Nigeria and the nongovernmental organisations involved.

## **Review of the case study on Mozambique**

This document provided information similar to the Nigeria situation regarding reproductive health. It discussed the Mozambican approach to the issues and challenges of adolescent reproductive health. The approach which was multisectoral, was branded Geração Biz which means busy generation. It resulted to the formulation of policies and actions that supported their national youth policy and national strategic plan of action on HIV/AIDS. While young people

have the potential to bring positive change to the country and contribute to a vital workforce, they are also among the hardest hit by the economic, educational and health conditions in Mozambique. The strategies and the guiding principle of the document included to create a supportive, cohesive social environment for behavioural development and change among in- and out-of-school youth and their social networks and also strengthen the capacities of partners both government and nongovernmental organizations to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate multisectoral ASRH interventions. Some important comments on the document include:

1. The involvement of the multi-sector including the health, educational and economic institutions of governments and youth associations will go a long way in addressing these issues.
2. The programme keys into existing government mandate. This has the potential of ensuring sustainability in terms of interest and finance.
3. The document also revealed that the intervention had good potential for sustainability and expansion and there was evidence that the programme had a significant impact on adolescents' knowledge, attitudes and behavior.

## Assignment documents

1. [WHO Department of Child and Adolescent Health and Development. Improving the quality and expanding the coverage of health services for adolescents. WHO's approach. Paper presented at: Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research; 2010 Sep 11; Geneva.](#)
2. [WHO Department of Child and Adolescent Health and Development. The evidence base for our approach to improve the quality and expand the coverage of health services for adolescents. Paper presented at: Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research; 2010 Sep 11; Geneva.](#)
3. [WHO, Pathfinder International. From inception to large scale: the Geração Biz Programme in Mozambique. Geneva: WHO; 2009.](#)