Module 5: HIV/AIDS and young people - Adolescent health and development with a particular focus on sexual and reproductive health - Assignment

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The groups of young people in Sudan who should be targeted with HIV interventions

- Young people in the IDPs camps.
- Young people who are included in military.
- Young people working in the country borders.
- Homeless and vagrant young people.
- Young people in the prisons.
- Young ladies who work as tea sellers.
- Young vehicles and trucks drivers.

The factors (the 'drivers') which make them vulnerable

- For those who are in the camps, the living conditions, lack of knowledge and much spare time since most of them ceased their education. Also the absence of protection in most cases, as there is no any police stations in the internally displaced persons (IDPs) camps in my country.
- Young people who are working in army or police like the young people who are in prisons, tend to be abused by elder age groups especially if they have been in mission for a long time, same as prisoners whom their punishment is more than 1 year.
- According to my experience, I met some young adults who are trading in the border of one of our neighbors, who have been committed in sex excessively; they justified that because it is prohibited in our country by law.
- For the homeless young adults, they grow up in the streets; beside lack of knowledge, attitude, and undirected behavior they tend to practice sex hetero or homo especially at night.
- Most of the tea sellers tend to practice sex as sort of income generation. Since the law in my country criminalize sex work, however most of the tea sellers who joined sex work just learned it after they entered the market through customers who used to influence young girls emotion, beside using the cash as incentive.

• Drivers used to travel for a long distance, where they spend overnights in the stations and streets, they used to be absent from their home sometimes for months so that is why they practice sex with multiple partners.

The most important interventions which would contribute to achieving the UNAIDS goal

- Young people in the IDPs camps.
 - Protection, awareness sessions, youth development activities, and continue their education.
- Young people who are included in military.
 - Awareness and protection.
- Young people working in the country borders.
 - Raise their awareness, condom distribution, regular check for STIs and HIV.
- Homeless and vagrant young people.
 - Built especial houses for them, apply some vocational training, convince them by gaining their trust through psychological support, raise their awareness and distribute condoms, besides frequent check up for their health status.
- Young people in the prisons.
 - Protection, separation from adults, and awareness sessions.
- Young ladies who work as tea sellers.
 - Include them in other income generation activities; raise their awareness, condom distribution.
- Young vehicles and trucks drivers.
 - Awareness sessions, condom distribution.

Assignment document

1. <u>Ferguson J. HIV/AIDS and young people. Paper presented at: Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research; 2010 Sep 26; Geneva.</u>