A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH INTERVENTIONS: TALK 2 ME CASE STUDY

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INTRODUCTION

- Over the years it is making more sense that countries should localize strategies with changes that suite their native settings.
The idea was to use peer educators to facilitate discussions in secondary schools on sexuality, HIV/AIDS, STIs and other reproductive health issues.
The innovative strategy was to get the stories of students as they were discussed and published them in a newsletter (Talk2Me) on a monthly basis.
The major tool used in gathering information were questionnaires and focused group discussions. Participants shared personal stories which were published. An editorial committee gathered the reports from the different groups and produced them as a newsletter (Talk2Me) on a monthly basis.
RESULTS

The young people were very excited about the project and so looked forward to every meeting. A total of 10 schools participated in which 1000 youths benefited directly with over 5000 indirectly through the newsletter.
Peer educators reported an increased confidence and better relationship with students, since they came for counseling and asked personal questions. The stories shared increased because everyone wanted to show their family and friends the newsletter.
CONCLUSION

- Young people are fun-loving, so every intervention targeting them should put this into account.

- Traditional teaching methods should be scaled-up to more innovative and participatory methods to improve youth-friendly services.
THANK YOU