



# Targeting Young People and HIV

**Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS**

**North Secretariat - New York**

**South Secretariat - Accra, Ghana**



# MDG 6 & UNGASS:

## **Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases**

**Target 6.A: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS**

**6.1 HIV prevalence among population aged 15-24 years (by sex)**

**6.2 Condom use at last high-risk sex (by sex)**

**6.3 Proportion of population aged 15-24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS (by sex)**

**6.4 Ratio of school attendance of orphans to school attendance of non-orphans aged 10-14 years (by sex)**

**Target 6.B: Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it**

**6.5 Proportion of population with advanced HIV infection with access to antiretroviral drugs (disaggregated by age, sex)**

# UNGASS Indicators: Is data capturing the realities of young people's lives?

- Only six indicators out of 25 targeted at young people.
- All for countries with generalized epidemics.
- Vietnam example

10) Percentage of young women and men aged 15-24 who correctly identify ways of preventing sexual transmission of HIV and who reject major misconceptions about HIV transmission.

\*\*MO

11) Percentage of young women and men who have had sex before the age of 15

12) Percentage of young women and men aged 15-24 who have had sex with a non-marital, non-cohabitating sexual partner in the last 12 months.

13) Percentage of young women and men aged 15-24 reporting the use of a condom the last time they had sex with a non-marital, non-cohabitating sexual partner.

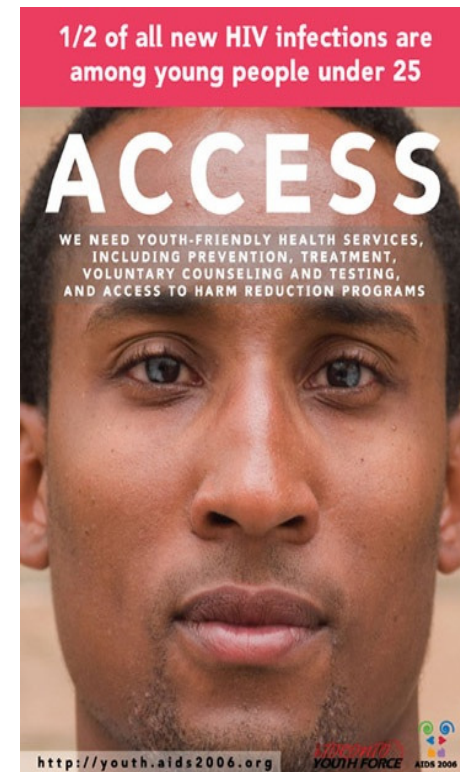
14) Ratio of current school attendance among orphans, aged 10-14

15) Percentage of young women and men aged 15-24 who are HIV infected

\*\*MO

# Young people are the face of HIV

- 5.4 million aged 15-24 (16% of 33.2 million)
- About 40% of new infections are in young people (5,000 per day)



Source: UNAIDS, AIDS Epidemic Update, November 2007

- Youth are not a homogenous group; modes of transmission vary.
- Young women are exposed most commonly through heterosexual sex.
- In four out of six regions, more young men living with HIV.

**Table 1: Young people (15-24) living with HIV and AIDS (2)**

|                             | Main Modes of Transmission        | Female            | Male              | Total     |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| East Asia and Pacific       | IDU, SW, MSM                      | 110 000 (18%)     | 450 000 (79%)     | 570 000   |
| Eastern Europe (CEE/CIS)    | IDU, SW                           | 100 000 (29%)     | 240 000 (71%)     | 340 000   |
| North Africa & Middle East  | Heterosexual unprotected sex, IDU | 47 000 (58%)      | 35 000 (42%)      | 81 000    |
| Sub-Saharan Africa          | Heterosexual unprotected sex      | 2 500 000 (78%)   | 780 000 (24%)     | 3 200 000 |
| Latin America and Caribbean | MSM, Heterosexual sex             | 140 000 (33%)     | 280 000 (67%)     | 420 000   |
| South Asia                  | Heterosexual sex, IDU, SW, MSM    | 270 000 (38%)     | 440 000 (62%)     | 710 000   |
| Totals (Non-Ind. Countries) |                                   | 3 100 000 (57.4%) | 2 200 000 (40.7%) | 5 400 000 |

## **Indicators must take into account:**

- **Leadership and participation**
- **Access to sexual and reproductive health services and information**
- **Barriers to accessing VCT (parental consent)**
- **Attitudes of health care providers**
- **Early marriage, non-monogamy, multiple partners**
- **Clean needles**
- **Access to comprehensive sex education**

## **Access to Information: HIV knowledge levels falls far short of the UNGASS target of 95% by 2010**

In 2007, national surveys found that 40% of young men and 36% of young women had accurate knowledge of HIV (UNAIDS, 2008).

### **Case Study: India**

2008 UNGASS Country report claims 79% of secondary schools provide life skills based HIV education.

However, 12 out of 29 states banned sex education in schools.

### **Recommendations:**

- Sensitize local level government officials, teachers and parents to sexual and reproductive health of young people.
- Implement out-of-school programs with strong referral systems such as the Red Ribbon Express -- locomotive train that delivers HIV education to the masses.
- Incorporate sex education component on national standardized tests.

## **YPLHIV: Treatment and Support.**

- **3 million people on ARVs in low and middle income countries - no clear data for young people.**
- **Need special services - psychosocial, SRHR, employment.**
- **Must be involved in decision-making that affects their lives.**

# Recommendations:

- **Disaggregated data by gender, age, sub-population**
- **Sustainable youth leadership and participation in decision-making processes facilitated through substantive training and guidance, particularly for YPLHIV.**
- **Sensitize local leaders on SRHR and HIV policies.**
- **Female and male condom promotion within marriage.**
- **Accessible needle exchanges as part of broader harm reduction program.**
- **Access to treatment, support, and employment for YPLHIV.**



***THANK YOU***

