

Youth Engagement

OPTIONS CONSORTIUM

Meaningful engagement of adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) is essential to developing PrEP programs that effectively reach and retain AGYW. OPTIONS engaged AGYW throughout the project to promote two-way learning between AGYW and project staff. As a result, OPTIONS' resources and activities reflected the power and optimism of AGYW and responded to their unique HIV prevention needs and concerns.



Consultation: We engaged AGYW to assess their PrEP awareness and concerns and get input on messaging and materials.



Capacity building: Through training and ongoing support, we helped AGYW be agents of change in their communities, and they helped us learn how to effectively reach young people.



Co-implementation of project activities: We worked hand-in-hand with AGYW to implement project activities and helped ensure they were actively engaged in PrEP implementation planning at the county and national levels.



CONSULTATION

8 AGYW in South Africa were consulted to develop and test five **PrEP 4 Youth videos** addressing key concerns related to PrEP.

50 young people participated in four focus group discussions in 10 counties in Kenya to inform PrEP rollout.

59 young people participated in six youth dialogues in four provinces in South Africa to evaluate PrEP materials and inform PrEP service delivery and rollout. The dialogues resulted in the creation of digital platforms such as **www.myprep.co.za**.

81 AGYW provided input on the content of the **HIV Prevention Ambassador Training for Adolescent Girls and Young Women**.

69 HIV prevention ambassadors and other youth were engaged in developing PrEP campaigns in Chitungwiza, Zimbabwe and Kiambu County, Kenya.

3,557 AGYW participated in polls on PrEP awareness before and after the **GarawaPrEPa campaign** launch in Chitungwiza.

9,500 young people participated in polls on HIV risk perceptions, PrEP perceptions, and knowledge of gender-based violence care services in South Africa.



CAPACITY BUILDING

19 young people in South Africa were trained to use data for advocacy. Following training, youth led advocacy activities, including a social media campaign for the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence.



174 AGYW were trained as HIV prevention ambassadors in Kenya, South Africa, and Zimbabwe. Ambassadors promoted PrEP for AGYW in their communities through awareness-raising activities, discussions with local health officials, and training their peers to be ambassadors.



CO-IMPLEMENTATION

3 youth representatives participated in the Zimbabwe national PrEP technical working group.

2 AGYW from the Kiambu County Youth Advisory Council for Health participated in county-level PrEP technical working group meetings.



38 HIV prevention ambassadors helped launch PrEP demand creation campaigns:

- **GarawaPrEPa** in Zimbabwe
- **Chagua PrEP, Chagua Life** in Kenya

Ambassadors participated in roadshows, linking peers to health facilities for PrEP and distributing >10,000 condoms and HIV self-test kits.

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