

PrEP Technical Working Group Engagement

OPTIONS CONSORTIUM

Through its in-depth work in Kenya, South Africa, and Zimbabwe, OPTIONS collaborates closely with in-country technical working groups (TWGs) to identify gaps OPTIONS can help fill to move PrEP implementation forward.



Kenya

10

national PrEP TWG meetings attended by OPTIONS October 2016–May 2017

~50

representatives, including young people, attended each meeting

3

policies/guidelines developed by the TWG with OPTIONS support

Collaboration and Support

OPTIONS engaged with five TWG subcommittees and was part of the secretariat for developing the *PrEP Implementation Framework* and national PrEP launch in Kenya. We also supported the National AIDS and STI Control Programme (NASCOP) to convene a meeting with youth to learn about their views and communications needs and inform improved demand creation for PrEP.

NASCOP and the PrEP TWG used the *Plan 4 PrEP Toolkit* to make investment decisions about where and how to roll out PrEP, track lessons learned from demonstration projects, prioritize areas for further research, and provide an assessment tool to enable districts/counties to consider readiness and areas of investment for PrEP.

The national PrEP research agenda and the service delivery package for providers and users also include input from OPTIONS.



South Africa

8

national PrEP TWG meetings attended by OPTIONS October 2015–November 2019

~30

representatives, including civil society, attended each meeting

2

policies/guidelines developed by the TWG with OPTIONS support

Collaboration and Support

OPTIONS worked closely with the National Department of Health (NDoH) in South Africa to address the TWG's research priorities, including:

- Conducting the *ACCESS study* and provider knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) study and sharing findings in real time to inform the national training for PrEP sites
- Conducting a landscape analysis of oral PrEP for adolescent girls and young women

OPTIONS also developed Youth Zone Standards for youth-friendly clinics and supported the NDoH She Conquers Campaign by developing:

- *We Are the Generation* information, education, and communication materials
- *myPrEP* website
- *PrEP 4 Youth* public service announcements
- *Youth Dialogues*, including six dialogues in four provinces with 59 young people who are currently on PrEP or were past PrEP users



Zimbabwe

16

national PrEP TWG meetings attended by OPTIONS January 2016–December 2019

~30

representatives, including three young people, attended each meeting

5

policies/guidelines developed by the TWG with OPTIONS support

Collaboration and Support

In the early stages of PrEP introduction in Zimbabwe, OPTIONS catalyzed action and served as the TWG's secretariat. OPTIONS supported TWG meetings and contributed resources to accelerate planning, including analyses from the *Plan 4 PrEP Toolkit*. OPTIONS carried out implementation science research and conducted interviews and group dialogues with stakeholders and end-users to support the development of the *Comprehensive National HIV Communications Strategy* and improve the national PrEP program.

<https://www.prepwatch.org/prep-planning/policies-plans-budgets>
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