Zimbabwe update
FutureLife-Now! Task Team ~ Feb 2021
2020 Highlights

• Capacity building of school leadership, teachers and parents on COVID 19
• Provision of PPE and wash equipment to schools
• Provision of food packs to 160 learners vulnerable learners at each FLN school
• Installation of solar power in FLN schools
• Implementation of the bi-directional SMS messaging programme
• Broadcasting of COVID 19 and FutureLife-Now! radio programmes with assistance from MoHCC
Effects of COVID-19 on Schools

• **Disruption to teaching and learning:**

  • During the first term schools closed on 24 March 2020, a week before the end of the term.
  
  • The whole of term 2 was missed as schools were still closed.
  
  • During the third term schools were re-opened in 3 phases with other grades/forms attending school for only 30 days.
  
  • Overall exam classes missed 70 learning days, those who opened in the second phase missed 90 days and those who opened last missed 100 days.
  
  • Due to limited contact time with learners, learning areas such as Life Skills Education and Guidance and Counselling which embraces CSE were given less time as focus was now on examinable learning areas.
Effects of COVID-19 on Schools

• Ministry tried to minimize disruptions by:
  • Provision of Open Distance Learning modules and study guides to schools
  • Facilitating accessible and affordable online platforms for learners
  • Broadcasting radio lessons for learners in key learning areas.
  • Provision of learning guides and modules to learners who had no access to radio

• Partnership support to improve school infrastructure and COVID responsiveness:
  • Partners worked with MoPSE in COVID response through the COVID 19 Education Cluster.
  • Some of the partners included UNICEF, Save the Children, Plan, World Vision CAMFED
Effects of COVID-19 on Schools

• Information on the following was collected from September to December 2020 and MoPSE is in the process of compiling the data from district up to national level

• Number of teachers not returning to school after re-opening of schools (national, by sex, reason):

• Number of learners not returning to school after re-opening of classes (national, by sex):

• Number of female learners returning to school pregnant after re-opening of classes:

• Number of female learners NOT returning to school after re-opening of classes because of pregnancy:

• Number of school-going children who entered early marriages:

FutureLife-Now!
Effects of COVID-19 on Adolescent Health

Noticeable changes in young people’s engagement in health access.

There has been a marked decrease in the number of young people seeking medical assistance at designated health facilities since the country went into lockdown. This however cannot be attributed entirely to one reason but a number of factors.

Three main concerns around adolescent health during this time

1. Lockdown restrictions have largely prevented young people from accessing services at institutions of their choice.

2. Health facilities became overwhelmed with covid-19 issues such that other essential health services received less prioritisation unless it was a maternity or an emergency case.

3. With closure of schools there was limited access to information by adolescents.
Effects of COVID-19 on Adolescent Health (Cont)

How COVID affected efforts against HIV infection and transmission?

• The advent of Covid-19 greatly affected the delivery and accessibility of health services with a number of local clinics having to be shut down due to staff shortages as they were self isolating.

• This impacted negatively on the ability of communities to access voluntary testing and counselling, timeous collection of Anti Retroviral Therapy for those already on ART as well as other laboratory services for viral loads at their known nearest clinics.

• Furthermore, access to support services for example Adherence support groups became very limited.
## Effects of COVID-19 on Adolescent Health (Cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Outcomes during COVID Period</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of documented adolescent pregnancies between March 2020 and January 2021:</td>
<td>In 2019 national average rate of adolescent pregnancies was 22%. Information for 2020-21 is not available</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of new HIV infections among adolescents (15-19) and young people (20-24) between March 2020 and January 2021 (by sex):</td>
<td>Figures not yet available</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of young people seeking health services between March 2020 and January 2021; percent change from previous year (by sex):</td>
<td>2020 No figures yet 2019 Could not access the data</td>
<td>2020 No figures yet 2019 Could not access the data</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CSTL/FutureLife-Now! Structures

Have you had any national task team meetings in 2020? If yes, please indicate:

• Six task team meetings were held in 2020
• Meetings were generally well attended as at least 7 members or more out of the 11 members attended each of the meeting
• Issues covered included: Reviewing and finalising baseline questionnaires
• Strengthening the FLN task team
• Reviewing COVID 19 IEC material
• Receiving an overview of findings of baseline as well as findings of policy system audit
FutureLife-Now! School-level Package of Support

• Main components of FutureLife-Now! and how envisioned to be implemented in schools:
  • HIV prevention and support and SRHR support
    ➢ Capacity building of teachers, parents, caregivers and communities to support Life Skills, Education that embraces CSE
    ➢ Provision of correct information and skills related to SRH, HIV prevention, care, treatment and support through school based activities
    ➢ Providing access to treatment, care and support for all learners
    ➢ Strengthening referral linkages among service providers on the Life Skills, HIV & AIDS
  • Targeted programming for male learners
    ➢ Co-curricular programming for boys and girls
    ➢ Boys Camps
    ➢ Building resilience in boys through sports, clubs, debates, etc
    ➢ Boys scouts
FutureLife-Now! School-level Package of Support (Cont)

• Climate change activities
  ➢ Youth dialogues between schools
  ➢ Making use of Blue Schools Toolkit
  ➢ Climate Change and disaster resilience clubs
  ➢ Greening schools programme in conjunction with Ministry of Environment and Climate Change

• Youth Empowerment clubs
  ➢ Strengthening guidance and counselling
  ➢ Initiating formation of junior school development committees
  ➢ Involvement of learners in career guidance

• Jamborees / service fairs
  ➢ Conduct high volume education focused events linking schools and their communities through service fairs
  ➢ Service Fairs – to be hosted by FLN schools
FutureLife-Now! School-level Package of Support (Cont)

• What has been done in 2020 to strengthen the linkages between education:
  • MoPSE and MoHCC worked out Modalities with Provincial Medical Directors on servicing schools by the nearest clinics
  • Representative of Ministry of Health and Child Care (MoHCC) was co-opted in the FLN task team
  • MoPSE and MoHCC held meetings on School health linkages
  • Peer educators in FLN schools made visits to clinics to familiarise on services offered by clinics to youth
## Country Partnership Mapping

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Adolescent Health</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Climate Change</th>
<th>Youth Empowerment</th>
<th>Other (please indicate focus)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNFPA</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MoECC</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth for Youth Initiative</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>MoHCC</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNESCO</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rare Diseases and Disability Africa</td>
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<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAMFED</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>GIZ</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Water provision</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Plans and Priorities for FutureLife-Now! 2021

• Implementing package of support in schools through clubs and co-curricular activities
• Providing capacity building to task team members, educators and communities on FLN programme
• Supporting implementation of bi-directional SMS messaging programme and radio programmes
• Advocacy with partners at all levels of the programme
• Continuation of training of teachers, parents and learners on COVID 19
Updates on Key Statistics National Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key FutureLife-Now! Statistics</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of new HIV infections amongst adolescents (15-19 years) and young people (20-24 years)</td>
<td>Figures not yet available</td>
<td>Information is not yet available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number and % of young people (ages 15-24) who have been tested in the last 12 months and know their current status</td>
<td>Percentage was 32.90%</td>
<td>Information is not yet available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of adolescents and young people on anti-retroviral treatment 12 months after initiation (or other ART Adherence indicator); disaggregated by sex</td>
<td>Males: 97.37</td>
<td>Information is not yet available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Females: 97.08</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Updates on Key Statistics National Level

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number and % of young people living with HIV (ALHIV) from outreach schools who are initiated on ART; disaggregated by sex</td>
<td>Percentage is not specifically for school going population but for the 15-24 age group: Males: 0.14% Females: 0.46%</td>
<td>Information is not yet available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incidence rate of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) among young people (ages 15-24) in outreach area; disaggregated by age, sex,</td>
<td>Males: 2.16% Females: 2.5%</td>
<td>Information is not yet available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drop out rates; disaggregated by sex</td>
<td>Males: Females:</td>
<td>Information is not yet available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank You!

How to find out more

For more information about the FutureLife-Now! Programme or to contact one of our In-Country Coordinators, email bashni@miet.co.za

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