

Strong Enough Girls' Empowerment Initiative (SEGEI) Commitment



Narrative:

Since 2016, SEGEI has worked with the Federal Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific Cultural Organization (UNESCO), community leaders, adolescents and young people and other civil society organizations to advance the sexual and reproductive health of young people in Nigeria. We have implemented projects aimed at changing harmful social norms, attitudes and behaviors at community and individual levels; preventing new HIV infections among young people; keeping girls in school; educating young people on comprehensive sexuality education (Family Life and HIV /AIDS Education); promoting young people's access to sexual and reproductive health services; and advocating for girls', children's, and women's rights to education and safety, including an end to child marriage and female genital mutilation. We have implemented these projects in several underserved communities including Waru, Kurudu, Orozo, Gbagalape, Kabusa, Apo, Kpeyigyi etc through monthly outreaches to adolescents in schools and to out-of-school adolescents and young people while engaging key opinion leaders (community, religious, traditional) to secure support for women and girls access to SRHR (including family planning) and prevention of sexual and gender based violence and harmful practices. We have extended our activities to internally-displaced persons (IDP) camps (Kuchigoro, Apo) and SEGEI practices inclusiveness by extending projects to people with disabilities (PWDs) and HIV. Most of our work has been in the Federal Capital (Abuja) where we take the nationally approved Comprehensive Sexuality Education curriculum to vulnerable adolescents via school and community outreaches and address girls' pressing questions in a society where girls don't have an open/easy communication with their mothers/guardians.

By 2024, in line with the Nigeria Family Planning Blueprint (2020-2024) and our commitment to the Generation Equality Forum, SEGEI commits to:

- Expand access to Family Planning information and services across Nigeria through training our staff and volunteers, in addition to young people, on modern contraceptive methods during community outreaches and commemorative day programs (including World Contraception Day);
- Increase knowledge about and implementation of the National Policy on Adolescent Health and Development across the 6 geopolitical zones in Nigeria;
- Support collation of age and sex-dissaggregated data to improve FP service provision in select states within the six geopolitical zones in Nigeria;
- Work alongside other civil society organizations (including youth-led and focused organizations like AfriYAN and Education as a Vaccine) and government parastatals to bring quality Comprehensive Sexuality Education to at least 3000 in- and out-of-school girls - including girls with disabilities and/or with HIV, and those living in rural/remote areas and IDP camps - to help promote the rights of girls, increase access to mentorship and skill acquisition to ensure that girls have access to life saving decision-making skills;
- Utilize social/new media platforms to target and engage diverse groups of young people, and provide information on age-appropriate and youth-friendly SRHR services;
- Advocate for the prevention of harmful practices against adolescent girls and women by

engaging traditional and faith leaders and advocating for boys to get involved and support girls/women's rights;

- Prepare staff and volunteers to mobilize during a crisis event using curricula such as the MISP Distance Learning Module.

Outcomes:

1. Increased knowledge and use of modern contraception among adolescent girls and young women by directly reaching 1000 more girls/women with CSE and Family Planning information through our projects/outreaches and indirectly reaching 5000 young girls and women from 2022-2023.
2. Reduction of unmet need for modern methods of contraception among adolescent girls aged 15-19, currently at 12.2% (married/in-union) and 65.6% (unmarried/not in union) based on WHO 2020 data
3. Increased use of modern contraception among sexually active unmarried adolescent girls aged 15-19 from the current 22.2% based on WHO 2020 data
4. Improved enabling socio-cultural and political environment in the communities we work in that supports young people's access to quality SRHR information and services, including family planning
5. Greater involvement of boys and men in Family Planning decisions and service utilization by including them in trainings and outreaches
6. More inclusive programming that addresses the SRHR needs of marginalized populations, including those in rural and remote communities, young persons with disability, young people living with HIV, and those in IDP camps.