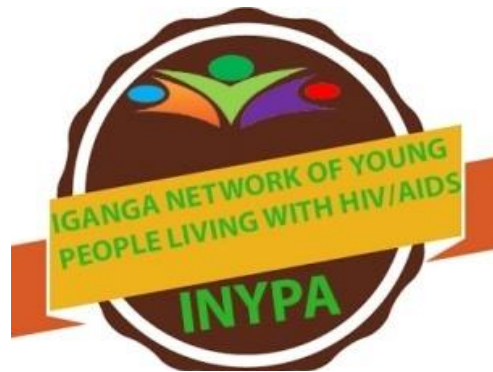




“turning desparate lives into a beautiful future”

WORLD for LIFE ORGANIZATION

AND



IGANGA NETWORK OF YOUNG PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS

PROJECT CONCEPT NOTE

“ACT WITH HER”

www.worldforlifeuganda.org

info@worldforlifeuganda.org

WORLD FOR LIFE FOUNDATION AND IGANGA NETWORK OF YOUNG PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS CONCEPT NOTE

TITLE: ACT WITH HER (AWH) PROJECT

THEME: TOGETHER, WE CAN END PERIOD PROVERTY OF ADOLESCENT GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN.

Background.

While the country has made remarkable socio-economic progress, too many adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) aged 10-24 are still vulnerable to child, early or forced marriage, lack of sanitary pads, violation of their SRHR, wrong information and knowledge, unwanted pregnancies, gender inequality and gender-based violence. Their voice, health and education are often more limited compared to boys due to the continuous challenges they face in their daily life.

Every week, about 200 adolescent girls and young women continue to face child, early or forced marriage, lack, stigma around menstruation, violation of their SRHR, unwanted pregnancies, gender inequality and gender-based violence or miss school due to lack of sanitary. In eastern Uganda, the adolescent girls and young women are married off by their parents or caretakers, miss 3-5 days from school due to lack of sanitary feminine products and have their SRHR violated as a result of several inter-related biological, behavioral and cultural factors.

While acknowledging that women are at higher risk and face several intersecting challenges, the male counterparts don't meaningfully involve themselves in addressing the challenges adolescent girls and young women face. There is an urgent need to scale up effective programs that meet the address these challenges. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 place a core emphasis on promoting gender equality by addressing the needs of women and girls through multiple commitments.

With population in the country mainly made up of youths, violation of SRHR, unwanted pregnancies and much more among AGYW is projected to increase by 40% over the next decade if not acted upon decisively now. Progress towards reducing new rates of social challenges faced by AGYW would be greater if more men are reached by preventive strategies and information. Deconstructing harmful gender norms and stereotypes among men and boys is critical as it improves their risk perception towards AGYW.

Upon this background, World for Life Foundation (WFL) and Iganga Network of Young People Living with HIV/AIDS (INYPA) are to implement an initiative with the aim of distributing sanitary pads to vulnerable girls and bring men and boys on board to address challenges like forced marriage, unwanted pregnancies, stigma around menstruation, gender inequality and gender-based violence faced by AGYW. WFL and INYPA are to partner with stakeholders, AGYW and boys to catalyze positive shifts in gender and social norms and to ensure that AGYW have allies and support in addressing the continuous challenges faced by AGYW.

Topics to be covered include a wide range of menstrual hygiene management and making of reusable pads, SRHR, unwanted pregnancies, early or forced marriages, gender inequality and gender-based violence.

Project Scalability.

The project will be implemented in Iganga district targeting AGYW, boys and men, teachers, stakeholders, community members and local leaders.

Project Time Flame

The project is expected to take 24 months with activities conducted bi-monthly for two years.

Overall Objective.

The main objective of the project is to improve and strengthen gender equality and empower AGYW and male counterparts to address issues faced by AGYW across six domains and themes of SRHR, menstruation, gender and gender equality, unwanted pregnancies, gender-based violence, amplify their voice and early and forced marriages as well as engage boys, families, and communities to shift inequitable gender norms.

Specific Objectives.

- To increase gender equitable attitudes, behaviors and norms throughout among AGYW, families and communities.
- To end / reduce on the rates of period poverty among AGYW through distribution of sanitary pads and production of reusable pads for sustainability.
- To increase responsiveness and access to high-quality health services for AGYW.
- To engage men and boys more broadly as supporters of gender equality and sexual and reproductive health of AGYW for health services and information like treatment, care, support and counselling.
- To catalyze positive shifts in gender and social norms through gender transformative activities with boys, men and communities.
- To ensure that men and boys are included in health education alongside AGYW and content is appropriately tailored to their respective needs.
- To help men and boys understand the negative impacts of traditional ideas of masculinity and the benefits of ending violence against women.
- To provide information on sexual orientation and gender identity.
- To create awareness among the AGYW and boys in school and out of school through health education to provide information about issues faced by AGYW in the schools and communities.

Activities.

To attain the above objectives, the following activities will be conducted:

1. **Community outreaches:** The organization and the implementing partners will conduct community outreaches to provide health education through peer-to-peer education for community members.
2. **School outreaches:** The organization and the implementing partners will conduct school outreaches in selected schools so that school going young people will be provided with information through health education programs, establishment of talking compound on issues facing AGYW.
3. **Media Projects:** The organization and the implementing partners will use a variety of media to educate young people about issues faced by AGYW through social media platforms to create awareness online for educational purpose.

Current Activities

- Engagement of girls in sports activity to address reduce the level of school dropout rate among girls due to their poverty family background.
- Making of reusable pads
- Menstrual hygiene management.

Inputs and materials to be used.

- IEC materials.
- Manila paper.
- Flip Charts.
- Markers.
- Sanitary pads.
- Knickers.
- Buttons.
- Cotton cloth.
- Scissors.
- Needles.

- Threads.

Impact.

2000 adolescent girls and boys reached with health education information.

2000 adolescent girls and boys equipped with advocacy skills.

2000 adolescent girl supplied with a sanitary pad and equipped with skills of making reusable pads.

Output.

- Increased visibility of the work of Iganga Network of Young People Living with HIV/AIDS and WORLD for LIFE Foundation within the district.
- Increased efforts and programs to reach men and boys with information to reduce child, early or forced marriage, stigma around menstruation and gender-based violence faced by AGYW.
- Conduction of comprehensive sexual health education activities in and out of school for the provision of health education information about issues AGYW face (child, early or forced marriage, stigma around menstruation and gender-based violence).
- Engagement of men and boys and other community actors (teachers, elders, religious leaders, health workers, parents etc.) in addressing issues faced by AGYW.
- AGYW become confident and assertive to amplify their voices confronting the issues they face.
- Empower AGYW with skills to make reusable sanitary pads.