

FINAL EVALUATION



EVALUATION OVERVIEW

KORA DUB - IMPROVING HIV, SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS SERVICES FOR YOUNG KEY POPULATIONS IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

Evaluators: Anne Boutin, Diane Mpinganzima, Réjane Zio
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Key project data

- **Countries:** Senegal, Burkina Faso, Mali, Burundi
- **Budget:** €2,258,686
- **Lead organization:** ANCS (Alliance Nationale des Communautés pour la Santé), Senegal
- **Start date:** 12/11/2018
End date: 30/11/2022
- **Partners:** IPC (Burkina Faso), ABS & RNJ+ (Burundi), ARCAD Santé (Mali), RAES (Senegal), UNESCO (Multisectoral Regional Office, Dakar)

Background

According to WHO estimates, one in five people globally are adolescents and 85% of adolescents live in developing countries, demonstrating the high proportion of young people in these countries. However, these young people and adolescents are facing considerable challenges, particularly with regard to their sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR).

Key populations (KPs) are also particularly vulnerable, and community organizations have often been at the forefront of prevention, care and psychological and social support for these groups.

In 2017, L'Initiative launched a call for projects on the theme "Access to care for vulnerable populations". The KORA-DUB (KD) project was selected as part of this call.

Project leads and implementation approach

The project was led by ANCS (i.e. they signed the agreement with EF), and implemented in parallel in four countries (Senegal, Burkina Faso, Mali, Burundi) by ANCS and their partners.

The project's intervention approach was to strengthen the skills and attitudes of public and community service providers, strengthen the leadership of young KPs, develop a self-training module on comprehensive sex education (CSE) and raise awareness among decision-makers in several sectors.

Numerous training and awareness-raising activities were carried out in the capital cities and in some secondary cities, as well as some regional workshops.

Project objectives

Overall objective

Improve access for young key populations to quality integrated HIV and SRH services to promote their human rights in high-prevalence cities in West and Central Africa.



Specific objective 1

Strengthen the capacity of public and community health actors to improve SRH care and service provision (including HIV) for key young populations.

Specific objective 2

Empower a new cohort of young leaders from key populations who are competent and involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of HIV programs.

Specific objective 3

Meet the needs of young key populations (and young people in West and Central Africa more generally) around comprehensive sex education through a smartphone application.

Specific objective 4

Promote access for young key populations to HIV-SRH services through advocacy with state and non-state decision makers.

Evaluation results



Relevance

The Kora Dub project has provided a tailored response to the needs of beneficiaries, such as public health facility staff, community actors, young key populations themselves and institutional sector decision makers, in alignment with Global Fund strategies.

Given the specific needs of the target groups and their level of vulnerability, issues relating to violence and sexual abuse (including internalized) should have been addressed more effectively.

Effectiveness

The project has generally achieved its objectives, despite the COVID-19 health crisis and the socio-political crisis in Mali and Burkina Faso. The indicators show that what was planned has been achieved quantitatively, but this does not reflect all results, particularly in terms of skills strengthening. However, these more qualitative areas were clearly visible during interviews conducted as part of the evaluation.

Efficiency

From L'Initiative's perspective, there were gaps in project monitoring in terms of communications and financial management.

ANCS's project management was generally efficient, to the extent that it enabled all activities to be implemented.

There were gaps in the quality of the monitoring and evaluation system and reporting (monitoring only quantitative areas, based on activity indicators), which did not enable the strengths of the project to be reflected.

Impact

Some observed areas of impact:

- At beneficiary level: (care providers at public facilities and community actors) their opinions about key populations have evolved in a positive way, which promotes greater consideration of their SRH rights and needs, and means services are more adapted to their needs.
- At youth key population level: self-esteem, leadership and ability to deliver messaging and work towards improving their general well-being and access to SRH/HIV services in particular.
- New projects planned by direct partners and by identity organizations established as part of the project.

Sustainability

Awareness raising and training of caregivers, community actors and young key populations themselves have enabled lasting changes in outlooks and attitudes. Representation of young KPs in national decision-making bodies and their participation in country dialogue will facilitate their needs being included in Global Fund funding requests. However, there is no mechanism to continue strengthening the skills of the main target groups, and quality learning and sharing is missing.

Learning

The LILO approach (Looking In, Looking Out) proved to be an important intervention approach, and activities relating to human rights and integrating SRH/HIV services were the backbone of the project. The diverse range of participants was particularly important and this contributed to agreeing and sharing common values. Putting actors at the centre of the process meant that the intervention approach was change-oriented and this led actors to implement strategies that were adapted to the context.

L'Initiative's added value

The Kora Dub project complemented Global Fund interventions and can be seen as having contributed to improving their quality. The project has made it possible to address the lack of consideration of the specific needs and features of young key populations in the four intervention countries in this sense. Kora Dub developed an intervention strategy that made it possible to meet the identified needs in terms of young population accessing their rights and quality SRH/HIV services.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations related to evaluation results:

- ▶ Future interventions should be focused on change-oriented approaches and principles, to strengthen the stakeholder-focused approach.
- ▶ Establish a more effective monitoring and evaluation system in relation to the logical framework, intervention strategy and the indicators.
- ▶ Expand the mechanism in relation to:
 - Strengthening the skills of care providers by also working with other provider types (e.g. pharmacists),
 - Integration of services (not just HIV+SRH),
 - Geographical coverage (more districts).
- ▶ Establish a system for monitoring and overseeing training for service providers, community actors and community organizations (in connection with health districts).
- ▶ Support and diversify advocacy activities undertaken by young KPs.
- ▶ Promote procedures for reporting cases and protecting victims of abuse, which are supported by the Global Fund but are not well known and are under-utilized.
- ▶ Promote platforms (such as steering committees) that will enable greater involvement of national actors in project implementation and encourage greater ownership by national authorities. CCMs should play a greater role as a forum for consultation.
- ▶ Continue to develop the "Hello Ado" application:
 - Explore the potential to have one version per country
 - Increase security around content moderation
 - Work towards greater knowledge and ownership among the various actors. Technical and financial partners should no longer support new applications and instead prioritize promoting this one.



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