

UNAIDS 2025

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# Result Area 7: Young People

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2024 Results Report



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### 2024 Expenditures and encumbrances for all Cosponsors against allocated funds (in US\$)

Core		Non-core		Total	
Core Allocated Funds	Expenditures and encumbrances	Non-core estimates	Expenditures and encumbrances	Total allocated funds	Total Expenditures and encumbrances
\$4 923 877	\$3 521 587	\$34 234 500	\$27 317 084	\$39 158 377	\$30 838 671

*High-level political commitments from ministries of education and health, among to scaling-up access to youth-friendly SRH services, economic empowerment, and quality education (including comprehensive sexuality education) mobilized through advocacy.*

The Joint Programme further contributed to sustaining and urgently translating global, regional and national political commitments such as a regional workshop on advancing the education, health, and wellbeing of adolescents and young people in eastern and southern Africa. This event brought together Ministries of Health and Education and youth leaders from 18 countries as well as regional economic communities and other UN agencies to collaborate on strategies for improving adolescent health and well-being through evidence-based solutions and youth engagement. As of November 2024, 14 countries had endorsed the renewed and extended Eastern and Southern Africa Ministerial Commitment on Health and Well-being of Young People, which is for accelerating investments and efforts to address SRH challenges faced by adolescents and young people in the region.

#### Indicator progress on young people (RA 7)

- **53 countries** scaled-up **multisectoral interventions** that align with ministerial commitments to increase access to youth-friendly SRH services, including CSE, to improve young people's well-being.
- **34 countries** developed and implemented **costed plans** to expand and institutionalize youth-led HIV responses.

The G20 Education Ministers' Declaration for 2024, adopted at the Global Education Meeting in Brazil, emphasized the importance of education as a human right and a public good. Known as the "Fortaleza Declaration", it calls for urgent action and innovative financing to ensure quality education for all, with a focus on inclusion, equity and sustainable financing.

Under the "Building Stronger Foundations" initiative, UNESCO, in collaboration with UNICEF, published a set of technical briefs offering evidence-based guidance to Ministries of Education, curriculum developers, policymakers, school managers, educators and other stakeholders. The briefs cover topics such as defining foundational education for health and well-being, designing appropriate content, involving the entire school, and practical classroom implementation.

As a result of work by UNESCO, 29 Member States enhanced their policies and programmes on safe learning environments that are free from all forms of school-related violence. To support this initiative, UNESCO published the flagship report "Safe to learn and thrive: ending violence in and through education." The report highlights the latest data on violence in education, its root causes and wide-reaching consequences, and it advocates for a holistic, systems-wide approach to create safe and equitable learning environments. It was launched at the Ministerial Conference on Ending Violence Against Children in Colombia and on the International Day Against Violence

and Bullying in Schools. Thanks to joint advocacy with UNICEF, WHO, and the governments of Colombia and Sweden, 44 countries made pledges on safe learning environments, including 27 countries from sub-Saharan Africa. The pledges include commitments to develop or strengthen violence prevention curricula, focus on teacher training, establish school-based services for responding to violence, and improve school governance and reporting mechanisms.

UNDP's "#WeBelong Africa" initiative successfully worked with five countries in southern Africa to integrate priority issues for young key populations in four areas of government action: health, gender, justice and youth. Government and community partners in Angola, Eswatini, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe were assisted to review progress in sectoral mainstreaming and to refine their future plans.

Thanks to the Joint Programme support, national health strategies increasingly integrate HIV programming for young people. SRH is also more integrated into national youth policies and plans in 99 countries supported by UNFPA. For example, in the Philippines, UNICEF supported local governments to mainstream adolescent health, including HIV, in local health and investment plans and the "Barangay Youth Development Plans". This included capacity-building to deliver comprehensive adolescent health packages, and adolescent-friendly health facilities' accreditation.

On World AIDS Day 2024, WHO launched technical guidance on [implementing WHO evidence-based interventions for adolescents and young adults living with and affected by HIV](#), to highlight and prioritize evidence-based interventions and recommendations that focus on adolescents and young adults across the HIV cascade. UNODC also contributed to the launch of a youth health learning package to address the high incidence of HIV among young key populations, particularly those in closed settings. In Uganda, UNHCR trained 415 healthcare workers to implement adolescent SRH services in the settlements. Almost 19 000 adolescents and young people were reached with awareness, education on and adolescent SRH services, HIV and sexually transmitted infection screening and human papilloma virus vaccination.

Through the joint Education Plus initiative, co-led by the Secretariat, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN Women, the importance of access to secondary education as an important HIV-related strategy for adolescent girls and young women gained greater visibility. The Education Plus Secretariat supported policy advocacy at regional and global levels. The African Union's Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA 2026–2035) now includes 20 new objectives that reflect Education Plus priorities. Education Plus also prioritized actions to increase young women's leadership, end gender-based violence and support school-to work-transitions. As of 2024, 15 countries have committed to undertake actions to implement Education Plus recommendations. In Uganda, for example, a supported campaign promoted secondary education for girls as a protective factor from HIV, child marriage and early pregnancies. Over 15 000 community members, including faith-based and traditional leaders, joined the campaign's advocacy and actions towards realizing young women's SRH.

UN Women supported national frameworks for HIV prevention and treatment for adolescent girls and young women. In Rwanda, it partnered with the Biomedical Centre to create a programme action plan with a gender-responsive monitoring framework, including a tool to track HIV testing and treatment for pregnant women and young mothers living with HIV. In 2024, UNICEF supported countries in Africa to develop national strategies and budgets for sustainable, defined packages of HIV prevention services for adolescent girls and young women in partnership with the Global Fund's Adolescent Girls and Young Women Strategic initiative. UNICEF and partners in

Malawi used the Risk and Vulnerability Tool to identify over 1,350 adolescent girls and young women at high risk of HIV infection and promptly link them to appropriate services.

*Strengthened youth leadership and youth-led responses, including engagement in decision-making, organizational capacities, monitoring and research, advocacy and service delivery through advocacy and country-level guidance.*

The “UNITED!” movement, with over 100 youth leaders from 14 countries in eastern and southern Africa, was created in 2023 with the support of UNICEF, UNFPA, the Secretariat and the African Youth and Adolescents Network. It has continued to elevate the voices of young people who are engaged in HIV and SRH activities. Over 300 young advocates from various networks across 14 African countries now have strengthened capacity after skills-building sessions that focused on advocacy, leadership and movement-building. “UNITED!” has also amplified youth-led advocacy at country and regional levels by supporting 130 young advocates to engage in key high-level advocacy forums. An online compendium of “UNITED!” resources is available, and its visibility and influence were expanded through media engagement which reached over 9,000 users via social media driving. This has strengthened peer learning and exchange and sustained momentum for youth-driven change. In 2024, UNICEF signed the first youth-led partnership agreement with “UNITED!” to reinforce structured support for youth-led networks.

At the UN General Assembly and the Summit of the Future in September 2024, with UNAIDS support, young social media influencers living with HIV called for greater investment to enable young people to drive change as future leaders. UN Women fostered the leadership skills of young women and created space for young leaders’ meaningful engagement in 19 countries in 2024. In South Africa, support from UN Women helped the “Young Women for Life” movement grow to over 3000 members and reach over 10 000 other young women with information about HIV services.

The WHO Youth Council includes youth representatives of organizations and movements who amplify the needs and experiences of young people in relation to public health and provide advice to the WHO Director-General. In 2024, it launched its first [Youth Declaration on Creating Healthy Societies](#), which includes calls to action that were developed by young people from around the world and that are geared at empowering youth to play central roles in creating healthier and safer societies for all.

UNFPA, ActionAid Global Platforms and the Regional Youth Engagement Reference Group provided youth-centred, and culturally sensitive training to 115 youth leaders from across sub-Saharan Africa to empower multidisciplinary leadership for adolescent and youth SRH within humanitarian, peace and development contexts.

The World Bank has continuously enhanced the availability of data and evidence regarding adolescents needs to inform more tailored interventions. For example, “Pathways to prosperity for adolescent girls in Africa”, a joint report of the World Bank, the Centre for Global Development and the Population Council, applied urgent focus to girls who are being left behind and presented targeted policy solutions for reducing HIV vulnerabilities.

In 2024, UNESCO continued to promote the global research agenda on CSE, highlighting young people's voices, by developing two major studies: (a) exploring the needs and experiences of adolescents and young people in low- and middle-income countries in relation to school-based CSE to inform more effective and relevant

sexuality education programmes which contribute to HIV outcomes; and (b) examining the broader positive impacts of CSE beyond well-established outcomes.

UNICEF and partners, in collaboration with Y+ Global, developed an SRH and HIV toolkit for adolescents and young people for improved access to information and resources for health decision-making. Resources are intended for adaptation and use across multiple social behaviour change platforms, including “Internet of Good Things” (IoGT) pages, quizzes, an updated social media pack and peer counselling. In 2024, the SRHR IoGT pages were accessed over 1.1 million times. UNICEF operationalized the Adolescent Meaningful Participation Toolkit in four regions of Namibia, to advance uptake of services for adolescents and young people.

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