

Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

Organisation	Publication Date	Reporting Period
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Hague	May 2020	reports received between 1 October 2018 - 30 September 2019
Budget Holder: COT		

Result area 1 - Better information and greater freedom of choice for young Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

RESULTS

In Benin, good results have been achieved in providing youth (and adults) with comprehensive, correct information on sexuality, HIV/AIDS, STIs, pregnancy and contraception through the collaboration between UNFPA, APESSE, Ministry of secondary education, traditional and religious leaders, youth organisations and the Embassy in the preparation and development of a school curriculum for Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE). The prudent approach and active involvement of professionals (e.g. Rutgers) and constant consultation and seeking agreement with traditional and religious leaders, has lead to the formal adoption of the CSE curriculum by the government in 2018. This started a process of intensifying teacher training in CSE, on introducing CSE manuals for out of school CSE carried out through CSO's. Other development partners (notably Belgium) joined in the process and introduced an on-line CSE tool: ' My life, my choice'. Dialogues on sexuality between parents and children are being promoted which has clearly taken the discussions on sexuality and the prevention of child marriage out of the taboo atmosphere. At the same time, while providing CSE, UNFPA, in collaboration with the Ministry of health, has intensified the provision of information and services to improve the delivery of youth friendly SRHR access and services throughout the country. Awareness on SRHR has risen, youth are better informed and tend to claim access to SRHR services and products. With respect to the prevention of child marriage, it is to be noted that government, CSO's and development partners have established a national partnership to end child marriage.

INDICATORS	Baseline	Target	Result	Source
ST_# of health facilities that adopt and implement youth-friendly SRHR and HIV/AIDS services	0	8	8	29626
ST_# of young people reached with comprehensive, correct information on sexuality, HIV/AIDS, STIs,	77591	2579800	656662	29626; 4000001420
ST_% of women (20-24yr) who were married or in union before ages 15 and 18	31.1	25	26	4000001430

Assessment of the results achieved across the entire result area 1

Assess achieved results compared to planning:	C. Results achieved poorer than planned
Reasons for result achieved.	Results achieved in the # of youth reached with CSE is lower than the set target. This can be explained by the fact that the CSO's with which the embassy is working, had to limit their activities because of administrative and financial reasons. Furthermore, young people who have been reached with CSE through other initiatives than those directly supported through the Netherlands, have not been included. The same goes for the large number of youth who have had access to social media CSE messages and programmes, are not included. Results regarding the availability of CSE to the young population in Benin have been achieved through the dedication of the Ministry of Secondary Education, that is vocal about the impressive results of bringing down teenage pregnancies amongst school girls.
Implications for planning.	We have decided to intensify our support to UNFPA in order to ensure acceleration of CSE training for teachers which will result in a faster roll-out of the CSE curriculum in Beninese schools.

Result area 2 - Improved access to contraceptives and medicines Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

RESULTS

The results achieved are far below the set target. This is due to several reasons: interruption of programme implementation of the Consortium for a few months due to administrative/financial challenges, accessibility to modern contraceptives limited due to geographical location, financial situation of families, ignorance about (financial) consequences when not using modern contraceptives. Also, inequality in decision making on using contraceptives within families often pose barriers to women to use modern contraceptives. Very often, the husband does not agree.

INDICATORS	Baseline	Target	Result	Source
ST_# of additional women and girls using modern contraceptives	25787	152273	94272	29626; 4000001420
ST_# of couples protected by various contraceptives over a 1-year period (couple-years protection)	104799	1702800	197990	4000001420

Assessment of the results achieved across the entire result area 2

Assess achieved results compared to planning:	D. Results achieved much poorer than planned
Reasons for result achieved.	there are several reasons: inactivity of the Consortium for a few months, inaccessibility to contraceptives (geographical location, poverty), ignorance about positive consequences of using modern contraceptives, gender inequality in decision making at family level.
Implications for planning.	Discuss with the Consortium to carry out an analytical exercise into the reasons for low results and adapt strategies if feasible.

* Find more information on the projects on Openaid.nl with the activity numbers listed under 'Source'