



**INVESTING IN YOUNG PEOPLE'S HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT:
RESEARCH THAT IMPROVES POLICIES AND PROGRAMS
An International Conference**

SKILL-BUILDING WORKSHOPS

**SUNDAY, 27 APRIL 2008
9:00A-4:00P**

WHAT WORKS TO PROMOTE YOUTH HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT? EVALUATING THE IMPACTS OF YOUTH INTERVENTIONS

University of California at Berkeley

Location TBD

Contact Person: Temina Madon, tmadon@berkeley.edu

The workshop will introduce a range of impact evaluation methods, including the strongest (most rigorous) evaluation designs as well as the shortcomings of weak evaluation methods. It will provide an overview of policy analysis and organizational change theory, to help participants a) establish a culture of evaluation within their organizations and agencies; and b) ensure that evidence-based practices and programs are adopted by the youth services community. Overall, the course will prepare attendees to participate in a rigorous impact evaluation. The objectives are to: 1) build impact evaluation capacity of people working with youth organizations, through provision of short-term training in evaluation methods for program managers, policy-makers, and researchers; 2) develop long-term research collaborations between UC Berkeley/UC San Francisco faculty members and training participants, to expand the practice and use of rigorous program evaluation; and 3) establish and support a network of African evaluation professionals (in government ministries, NGOs, community-based organizations, and universities) who are committed to understanding and using impact evaluation to improve youth health and development outcomes.

The workshop is targeted to program managers, researchers, and policy makers with minimal or no prior experience with rigorous impact evaluation. It is expected that participants will have mixed experience with quantitative and qualitative evaluation methods; therefore, the curriculum will focus on basic concepts in evaluation, examples of high quality impact evaluation projects, and models for promoting organizational and policy change as part of the evaluation process. The workshop will include lectures, case studies, and small group exercises. Case studies will highlight actual examples of field experiments, including common pitfalls that arise in poorly designed studies. A small fee of 500 Naira will be charged for this workshop.

SUNDAY, 27 APRIL 2008
1:00-4:00P

HOW TO REACH POLICY MAKERS THROUGH YOUTH-LED ADVOCACY

Advocates for Youth

Location TBD

Contact: Haben Fecadu, haben@advocatesforyouth.org

Reaching policy makers is critical to ensuring youth-friendly policies are adopted and promoted by the government. Youth can be inspiring and effective advocates for issues that affect them directly. However, they may be inexperienced in how to reach and communicate with policy makers. Organizations who wish to partner with youth to disseminate their message must learn how to work with youth.

Through this workshop, participants will be able to: 1) Articulate benefits of youth-adult partnerships and youth-led advocacy for influencing policy makers on youth reproductive and sexual health funding and policies, 2) Identify key components for working in partnership with youth to identify and advance youth reproductive and sexual health policy priorities, 3) describe components of a sample training for youth leaders.

This workshop is targeted to program managers and youth and will use a combination of presentation and participatory methods based on experiential learning to teach the skills.

WEDNESDAY, 30 APRIL 2008
9:00A-12:00P

EXPLORING DIMENSIONS OF MASCULINITY AND VIOLENCE WITH YOUNG MEN

International Center for Research on Women

Ballroom 1

Contact: Aparna Jain, ajain@icrw.org

Existing evidence suggests that in order for programmatic efforts to achieve desired outcomes, it is essential to acknowledge and address gender and sexuality as fundamental components of reproductive health and rights. The International Center for Research on Women & CARE developed the Inner Spaces, Outer Faces Initiative (ISOFI) to focus on gender and sexuality as important factors that influence reproductive health outcomes on multiple dimensions. The ISOFI model was adapted to a gender-based violence prevention project with young men in post-conflict countries of the Balkans. Using the experiences in Bosnia, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia as examples, participants will learn the four-step ISOFI approach, which includes:

- (1) preparation of staff to address gaps in staff's conceptual understanding around sensitive issues like gender, sexuality, and violence and to address discomforts like embarrassment and anxiety when speaking about sex;
- (2) implementation of a participatory and learning action (PLA) research with the target population to better understand gender norms and expectations related to violent behaviors
- (3) development and implementation of innovative and creative interventions; and
- (4) monitoring and evaluation.

Workshop participants will also explore ways of using innovative participatory methodologies to illicit qualitative data around sensitive issues like gender, sexuality, and violence. Examples of PLA methodologies that will be reviewed include claymation (the use of clay to construct models of the "ideal"

man or woman), three-dimensional modeling exercises around gender, and a 'values' exercise adapted from the gender-equitable men scale and other tools called "voting with your feet". The workshop is targeted to anyone implementing reproductive health programs and will use presentation and exercises to illustrate the concepts.

YOUTH AS MENTORS: USING CASCADING MENTORSHIP MODELS FOR YOUTH PROGRAMS

Population Council

Ballroom 2

Contact: Eva Roca, eroca@popcouncil.org

The Population Council has worked with a "cascading leadership" model of programming in several of its projects with vulnerable adolescent girls in different parts of the world, including both rural and urban areas. This method of programming trains older adolescent girls from within marginalized communities (the Mayan Highlands in Guatemala; Kibera slum in Nairobi, Kenya; urban slums in Ethiopia; and peri-urban areas of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa) and supports them to mobilize and run their own groups for younger adolescent girls in their community. The "safe spaces" that they create—both physically and in terms of social support—supply the base for providing girls with an array of activities, including reproductive health/HIV education, financial education, and personal skills/self-esteem development. It also gives girls access to peer mentors in the community and strengthens their social networks. Furthermore, by investing in local capacity, this model creates young female leaders in the community, who themselves are able to benefit from their roles and change community attitudes about girls' abilities.

This workshop will describe this model and the tools used to create and implement it. Participants will come away with an understanding of these programs activities, as well as develop their skills through practice working with the tools. The workshop is targeted to program managers, youth, researchers and students and will share experiences to illustrate the model.

FAITH-BASED WORK WITH YOUTH: USING NEW CHRISTIAN- AND MUSLIM-BASED CURRICULA

Interagency Youth Working Group/Family Health International

Ballroom 3

Contact: Karah Fazekas, kfazekas@fhi.org

Faith-based institutions remain an important part of many young people's lives, yet many faith leaders are either reluctant to address sexuality or lack tools to do so. This workshop builds on the faith-based panel at the conference, "Faith-Based Groups Help Parents and Others Approach Taboo Subject of Sexuality through New Curricula," where projects in Tanzania and Namibia describe the development and implementation of new faith-based curricula that address reproductive health and HIV issues for youth, and how the World Council of Churches has used these tools. The workshop will review the curricula in an experiential education process, so that participants understand how the curricula are designed to be used. Then, participants will be guided in identifying the needs in their own situation and developing program activities that might utilize these curricula or similar ones. The full six-session curriculum for working with adults to communicate with youth may be appropriate in some situations, while in others, relying on an adaptation of the shorter participant manual might be more appropriate. The workshop will help participants explore such options.

HEALTH SECTOR RESPONSE TO ADOLESCENT HEALTH

World Health Organization

Meeting Room 1

Contacts: Jane Ferguson, fergusonj@who.int or Bruce Dick, dickb@who.int

WHO is working to strengthen the capacity of Ministries of Health to systematically respond to the health needs of adolescents. The emphasis is on strengthening action in four areas in which the health sector has a principle role: Strategic Information, Supportive Evidence-Informed Policies, Services and Commodities, and Strengthening Other Sectors. These four areas (the "4Ss") provide a framework that countries can use to develop and implement integrated health sector activities for adolescents, as a contribution to national comprehensive and multisectoral adolescent health strategies/programmes. The

workshop will introduce participants to the approaches and programme support tools that have been developed by WHO, in a participatory way, and provide opportunities for participants to share their own ideas and experiences!

WEDNESDAY, 30 APRIL 2008
1:00-4:00P

MONITORING AND EVALUATION FOR ADOLESCENT HEALTH PROGRAMS

International Center for Research on Women

Ballroom 1

Contact: Janna McDougall, jmcdougall@icrw.org

The current cohort of youth ages 10 to 24 is the largest ever the world has seen. Over the last 15 years, there has been increased attention to the need to address reproductive and sexual health issues specifically for young and adolescent women and men. Community-based NGOs often implement the resulting youth programs, yet typically do not have the mandate, capacity, time or finances to monitor or evaluate their programs rigorously. Further, academic M&E models often are not feasible for NGO staff with minimal research training to implement. As a result, little is known or documented about *what works* to improve youth reproductive health or *how* to most rigorously, yet realistically, assess youth programs. Through the M&E concepts, processes and tools presented and discussed at this workshop, ICRW experts will provide participants with strategies and tools to monitor and evaluate youth reproductive health programs that maintain scientific rigor while respecting the realities of working in the field and with the knowledge necessary to create and implement their own M&E systems. Specific sessions will focus on assessing capacity and choosing an M&E model or approach; developing a measurement framework; implementing and managing program monitoring and evaluation activities; using M&E data through systematic data management and data analysis packages; and ethical issues in conducting M&E for youth programs. Each session will include examples from well-designed youth reproductive health programs with strong M&E components. These will include ICRW's programs as well as other programs held up as gold standard examples in the field.

The workshop is targeted to: 1) Program-oriented NGOs who conduct youth reproductive and sexual health programs and are interested in monitoring and evaluating their programs; 2) researchers and research partners of programmatic NGOs who are interested in building NGO capacity to conduct feasible yet rigorous M&E, 3) donors interested in building M&E into program funding in ways that are feasible and sustainable for program NGOs.

COMMUNICATING RESEARCH TO EFFECT CHANGE

Guttmacher Institute

Ballroom 2

Contact: Leila Darabi, ldarabi@guttmacher.org

Scientific evidence—when reliably collected and analyzed, compellingly presented and systematically disseminated—can make a difference in policies, programs and practice. But most researchers have been trained to communicate about methodology more than impact. This interactive workshop will share straightforward tools and techniques for getting audiences—policymakers, journalists, even other researchers—to understand and act upon research findings.

WEDNESDAY, 30 APRIL 2008

1:00-4:00P

CONTINUED

PEER EDUCATION: WHAT PROGRAM PLANNERS NEED TO KNOW AND DO

Interagency Youth Working Group/Family Health International

Ballroom 3

Contact: Karah Fazekas, kfazekas@fhi.org

While large investments are being made in youth peer education (YPE), more rigorous attention is needed in planning, managing, and monitoring this type of intervention. Using interactive methods, the workshop will provide participants with information and guidance based on YPE program experiences in Kenya and Tanzania. Resources available in the peer education toolkit developed by Family Health International (FHI), UNFPA, and the Y-PEER project will also be used. Participants will be guided in identifying needs and developing an action plan for their situation with emphasize on using elements of the toolkit.

Anyone involved in planning, managing, or supporting YPE programs is encouraged to attend. Please note that the panel presentation Youth Peer Education in Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS: How to Build Effective Projects, scheduled for Monday, April 28th at 10:45am, provides further information to complement this participatory workshop.