

FUTURE LIFE NOW SHARING MEETING

Virtual , 25th February 2021

Southern African Development Community

SADC Secretariat



SADC:HIV EPIDEMIOLOGICAL OUTLOOK

- Approximately 17M of SADC citizens are living with HIV representing 44% of PLHIV in the world.
- Every year an additional 600 thousand SADC citizens are infected with HIV.
- AGYW continue to carry the burden of HIV epidemic in the region
- 26% of new HIV infection in SADC Member States occurred among AGYW aged 15-24y
- In selected MS,AGYW are 5 to 14 times more likely to be infected with HIV as compared to their male counterparts
- Uptake of HIV care remain low among young male with high HIV mortality rate



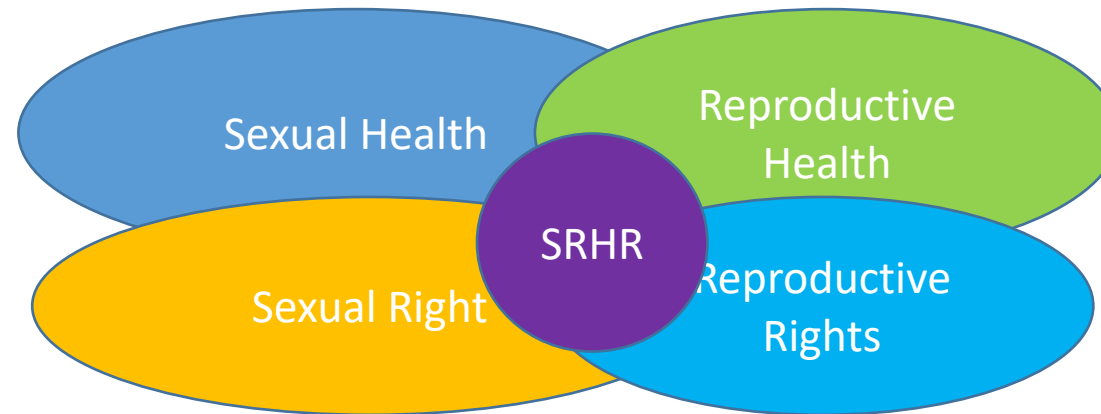
SADC:HIV EPIDEMIOLOGICAL OUTLOOK

- Restrictive and discriminatory laws hampering KP's access to health services are still common in SADC.
- Lack or paucity of data impedes elaboration and implementation of effective strategy and policies
- HIV prevalence among KP can reach up to 18 times prevalence among general population.
- Worldwide more than half of new HIV infections occur among KP



WHAT IS SRHR ?

- SRHR is an umbrella term for four distinct areas of interest: sexual rights, sexual health, reproductive rights and reproductive health (Starrs et al. 2018).
- These four areas are interlinked and influence each other, they are referred to collectively as SRHR.



AU AND SADC STRATEGY

- Over the past two decades, the African Union (AU) and SADC have increasingly integrated gender equality as a fundamental value in their policy documents,
- **At AU Level in the Agenda 2063;**The Agenda's sixth Aspiration is: "An Africa, whose development is people driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children" (African Union Commission 2015).



AU AND SADC STRATEGY

- Most recently in 2016, the AU adopted a revised Maputo Plan of Action (MPoA): “Universal Access to Comprehensive Sexual and Reproductive Health Services in Africa”
- The MPoA spells out a rather comprehensive agenda with ten strategic action areas among which we have specifically 2 points concerning SRHR :
 - ✓ Improving SRHR information, education and communication.
 - ✓ Investing in SRHR needs of adolescents, youth and other vulnerable and marginalised populations



SADC ACTIONS

- SADC SRHR Strategy for Sexual and Reproductive Health in the SADC Region(2019-2030) and Score card approved by Ministers.
- **Revitalization of Prevention Strategy**: in 2014 ,SADC Ministers of Health and Ministers responsible for HIV and AIDS directed the Secretariat to revitalise Prevention Strategy in the regions
- **Global Coalition** : SADC is a member of the Global Coalition for HIV Prevention



SADC:SRHR STRATEGY

- This Strategy provides a policy and programming framework for Member States to accelerate the attainment of sexual and reproductive health and rights for all people living in SADC.
- The vision of this strategy is to ensure that all people in SADC enjoy a healthy sexual and reproductive life, have sustainable access , coverage and quality SRHR services, information and education and are able to fully realize and exercise their SRH rights, as integral to sustainable human development in SADC.



Expected Outcomes of the SADC SRHR Strategy

- 1. Maternal mortality reduced to less than 70 deaths per 100,000 live births. (SDG 3.1.)
- 2. Newborn mortality reduced to 12 per 1,000 births in every country. (SDG 3.2.)
- 3. HIV and AIDS as a public health threat is ended by 2030. (SDG 3.3.)
- 4. Sexual and gender-based violence and other harmful practices, especially against women and girls, are eliminated. (SDG 5.1; SDG 5.2.; SDG5.3)
- 5. Rates of unplanned pregnancies and unsafe abortion are reduced.



Expected Outcomes of the SADC SRHR Strategy

- 6. Rates of teenage pregnancies are reduced.
- 7. Universal access to integrated, comprehensive SRH services, particularly for young people, women, and key and other vulnerable populations, including in humanitarian settings, is ensured. (SDG 3.7; SDG 5.6)
- 8. Health systems, including community health systems, are strengthened to respond adequately to SRH needs. (SDG 5.6) 29
- 9. An enabling environment is created for adolescents and young people to make healthy sexual and reproductive choices that enhance their lives and well-being. (SDG 4.7; SDG 5.6)
- 10. Barriers, including policy, cultural, social and economic, that serve as an impediment to the realization of SRHR in the region, are removed. (SDG 5.1; SDG 5 c)



WHY SHOULD WE ADDRESS SRHR IN SADC?

- **To Uphold human rights and gender equality:** The rights of key and vulnerable populations need to be upheld. This requires gender-sensitive policies to establish gender equality and eliminate violence.
- **To Ensure a coordinated and coherent response:** Attention to SRH priorities should be promoted within a coordinated and coherent response at regional and national level
- **To Reduce stigma and discrimination:** Vigorous legal and policy measures are needed to overcome these 2 issues



WHY SRHR IN SADC?

- **To Recognize the centrality of sexuality:** Sexuality is an essential element in human life and in individual, family and community well-being. Yet speaking of sex and sexuality to AGYW remains among the more challenging issues facing families, schools, communities and health services
- **To Place People including Key and Vulnerable population at the centre of the response:** to empower people through education and support – to make and enact decisions in all aspects of their lives, including in relation to sexuality and reproduction.



CONCLUSION

- SADC remains the most affected region by HIV and AIDS
- SADC Member States have committed to end HIV and AIDS by 2030 and through AU , MS have adopted the revised Maputo Plan of Action (MPoA)
- SADC Member States approved the SRHR Strategy as a tool to support National Effort in promoting SRHR and achieve SDG 3
- Now more than ever ,Political and effective implementation are required to achieve the 2030 targets



**THANK YOU
MERCI
OBRIGADO**

