



PROMOTING GREATER CAPACITY,
SELF-CONFIDENCE AND HOPE FOR
THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE

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FutureLife-Now!

Country update

FutureLife-Now! Task Team ~ Feb 2021



2020 Highlights

- Distribution of food packs to learners during the COVID-19, reprinted and distributed FLN Posters to all 350 sec schools countrywide
- COVID- 19 capacity building trainings for learners, educators and parents/caregivers.(Including provision of masks)
- Radio talk shows: COVID-19, Youth Talks and Family talks for continued reaching youth with awareness/ information even during the pandemic.
- Webinars to continue sharing lessons and experiences across the region for reopening of schools and access to SRHR
- Hon. Deputy Minister officiated a handing over ceremony of COVID-19 support equipment to schools, food parcels, water tanks, handwash soaps, Infrared Thermometers and face shields from MIET and GLOHOMO.
- CSTL Capacity building sessions for Task development of National Model for Lesotho.
- Installation of Solar system in Schools.
- Procurement of IT equipment for 10 FLN Schools



Effects of COVID-19 on Schools

- **Disruption to teaching and learning:** (experienced 1st hard lockdown in 2020 Schools closed from 19th March 2020 thus impacted negatively on the delivery of the curriculum and quality education. 2nd hard lockdown occurred in February 2021 for 3wks. Colour code –orange which allows only external classes to reopen. External exams are on going until 31st March 2021. All grades have been promoted to the next class. There are remedial strategies and envisaged bridging courses between basic education and tertiary to recover the lost time.
- **Disruptions to CSE:** include negative impacts on access to HIV/SRHR services, education, and products for adolescents and young people. Learners missed CSE lessons
- **How has MOET minimized disruptions?:** MOET offered alternative modes of curriculum delivery using media platforms: TV & Radio (well developed lessons by teachers were delivered) and online platforms such as WhatsApp and Google classrooms by individual school).
- **Partnership support to improve school infrastructure and COVID responsiveness:** MIET AFRICA/GLOHOMO support with handwash stations, handwash soap, sanitisers musk etc. UNICEF, World vision, World Bank through GPE funding supported schools with WASH facilities, Water Tanks, Tippy-taps, as well as Protection kits.
- For 10 FLN Schools all teachers returned to school after the reopening of external classes.



Effects of COVID-19 on Schools

- Number of teachers not returning to school after re-opening of classes (national, by sex): 3 Males and 5 Females
- Number of learners not returning to school after re-opening of classes (national, by sex): 313 boys 332 girls
- Number of female learners returning to school pregnant after re-opening of classes: 26
- Number of female learners NOT returning to school after re-opening of classes because of pregnancy: 22
- Number of school-going children who entered early marriages: 5

Loses Nationwide	Teachers	Deputy Principal	Principal	School board	Inspector	DRTs	
Primary school	21	1	6	9	1	2	
Secondary school	3	1	1	3			
TOTAL	24	2	7	12	1	2	



Effects of COVID-19 on Adolescent Health

- **Have there been noticeable changes in young people's engagement in health access?** Yes, There has been a decline in health access seeking behaviour by young people. Ante natal Care services data is also missing which is significant that such essential services were not provided to adolescents and youth in some of the Health facilities.
- **What have been the Three main concerns around adolescent health during this time?**
 - ❖ The longer learner stays out of school, the higher their risk of not returning when schools reopen, or of falling pregnant, forced into child marriage, or being exposed to domestic violence, exploitation and other forms of abuse
 - ❖ Early and unintended pregnancy, leading to child marriages
 - ❖ Increased HIV infections and sexually transmitted infections
 - ❖ There is going to be High Drop out of children due to teenage pregnancies due to lack of access to SRHR education.
- **How has COVID affected efforts against HIV infection and transmission?:**
 1. Reduced clinic attendance: Reduced HIV Testing Services and Viral Load testing
 2. Human resource in clinics shifted support to focus on COVID – 19 pandemic related

Effects of COVID-19 on Adolescent Health

Health Outcomes during COVID Period	District Level	District	FLN Clinics	FLN Clinics
	Female	Male	F	M
Number of documented adolescent pregnancies between March 2020 and January 2021:	569 (4 districts) (Jan-Dec 2020)		238 (10 schools) (Jan-Dec 2020)	
Number of new HIV infections among adolescents (15-19) and young people (20-24) between March 2020 and January 2021 (by sex):	No data recorded			
Number of young people seeking health services between March 2020 and January 2021; percent change from previous year (by sex):	2020 4,430 (Jan-Dec) 2019 No data	2020 2,013 (Jan-Dec) 2019 No data	2020 1818 (Jan-Dec)	2020 825 (Jan-Dec)

CSTL/ FutureLife-Now! Structures

- **Has there been any task team meetings and How Many?** Held 6 Task team meetings and 6 CSTL Task Team Capacity building sessions in 2020, attendance was satisfactory it was either 1 or 2 apologies.
- Data for online connection and stipends supported attendance.

What were the issues covered during the meetings:

- CSTL was introduced to the Task Team Members and capacity building sessions conducted on the Development of the National model for Lesotho.
- Task team reviewed and made inputs on COVID 19 IEC Materials, (posters and booklet).
- Updates were given to the Task Team members on FLN activities and the COVID 19 response activities that are under way
- Task Team members updated on additional FLN components (e-platform, radio, and SMS engagements) as alternative delivery modes during COVID-19.
- Task Team was to finalise the package of support for Lesotho to include, eg(different learners clubs, Youth dialogues, essays, debates competitions, capacity building workshops for learners and educators through e-platforms, jamborees, etc.).
- Task team was provided support and clarity on the reporting tool that should to be used.
- The baseline study report disseminated to the Task Team

What were the decisions made/ progress:

- Finalisation of the package of support
- Information inputs towards the development of CSTL National Model
- Agreements and approvals of COVID - 19 IEC materials (3 Posters, booklet)



FutureLife-Now! School-level Package of Support

- **Describe the main components of FutureLife-Now! and how envisioned to be implemented in schools.**

- Components of FutureLife-Now! Is to implement a package of support that will help develop learner agency.

This is envisioned to be implemented as follows in schools:

To hold different learners clubs, Youth dialogues, essays, debates competitions, capacity building workshops for learners and educators through e-platforms, jamborees, etc.

- **Describe what has been done in 2020 to strengthen the linkages between education and health or models that are being tested for such purpose:**
 - 2 Advocacy meetings at the health facility level held, at RLDF Clinic and Motsekuoa Health Facility
 - Established Partnerships for participation for Radio Programs as panelist when need arose
 - SMS messaging: collection of young people numbers from adolescents Health Corners as they come for services.
- **What are the remaining gaps ?**
 1. Further strengthen linkages between Health Facilities and Schools and capturing data.
 2. Climate change clubs that encourage youth-led climate change action.
 3. To access training materials from relevant partners that could be used for implementing some of FLN programme goals.

• **Plans to address these gaps**

1. Include Incentives to Health Facilities to address gaps on data capturing mandate.
2. Establish climate change clubs to ensure youth dialogues and debates on climate change issues
3. Hold More advocacy meetings with relevant partners to build partnerships and access



Country Partnership Mapping

<i>Partner</i>	Adolescent Health	Gender	Climate Change	Youth Empowerment	Other (please indicate focus)
MOH	Yes			Yes	
WHO	Yes			Yes	
UNFPA	Yes			Yes	
Gender Links		Yes		Yes	
UNICEF		Yes		Yes	
UNESCO		Yes		Yes	
Touch Roots Africa		Yes			
SafAids	Yes			Yes	
Karabo ea Bophelo	Yes			Yes	
Ministry of Energy and Metereology			Yes	Yes	
Prince Mchate Award			Yes	Yes	

FutureLife Now!



Plans and Priorities for FutureLife-Now! 2021

- Hold more partnership building, advocacy meetings with key partners that will contribute to FLN goals.
- Further strengthening linkages between Health and Education on going basis.
- Developing CSTL National model for Lesotho.
- Capacity building to trainings to learners, educators and parents or caregivers in all FLN Components, using schools as hubs for trainings while MOET still re-opening schools in phases
- SMS messaging- Increase coverage or reach through collection of more contacts numbers for young people.
- Organise at least one webinar with partners to offer platform to discuss key issues affecting young people in Lesotho.
- Continue reaching young people with information through Radio programs.
- Support MOET to further cascade e-platform to all schools in the future
- Managing safe schools during and beyond COVID-19, as well as Empowering communities and parents around schools on COVID-19 prevention strategies as core educators.

Updates on Key Statistics National Level

<i>Key FutureLife-Now! Statistics</i>	2019	2020	2020 FLN Clinics
Number of new HIV infections amongst adolescents (15-19 years) and young people (20-24 years)	30	15-19 Years=49 20-24 = 436	15- 19 Years= 21 20-24 years= 178
Number and % of young people (ages 15-24) who have been tested in the last 12 months and know their current status		49	21
Percentage of adolescents and young people on anti-retroviral treatment 12 months after initiation (<i>or other ART Adherence indicator</i>); disaggregated by sex		M= 6 F=43	M=3 F=18
Number and % of young people living with HIV (ALHIV) from outreach schools who are initiated on ART; disaggregated by sex			
Incidence rate of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) among young people (ages 15-24) in outreach area; disaggregated by age, sex,		M= 710 F= 978	M= 292 F= 401
Drop out rates; disaggregated by sex			

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INCLUDE
OUR VOICES -
ANYTHING
WITHOUT US,
IS NOT FOR US!

Thank You!

How to find out more

For more information about the FutureLife-Now! Programme or to contact one of our In-Country Coordinators, email bashni@miet.co.za

www.mietafrica.com
www.cstlsadc.com



address:
MIET AFRICA
59 Henwood Road
Morningside
Durban, South Africa

t: +27 31 313 3100