

Addressing gender inequality & violence as a critical enabler in the HIV response

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Tackling the structural drivers of HIV

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Globally 34 million living with HIV

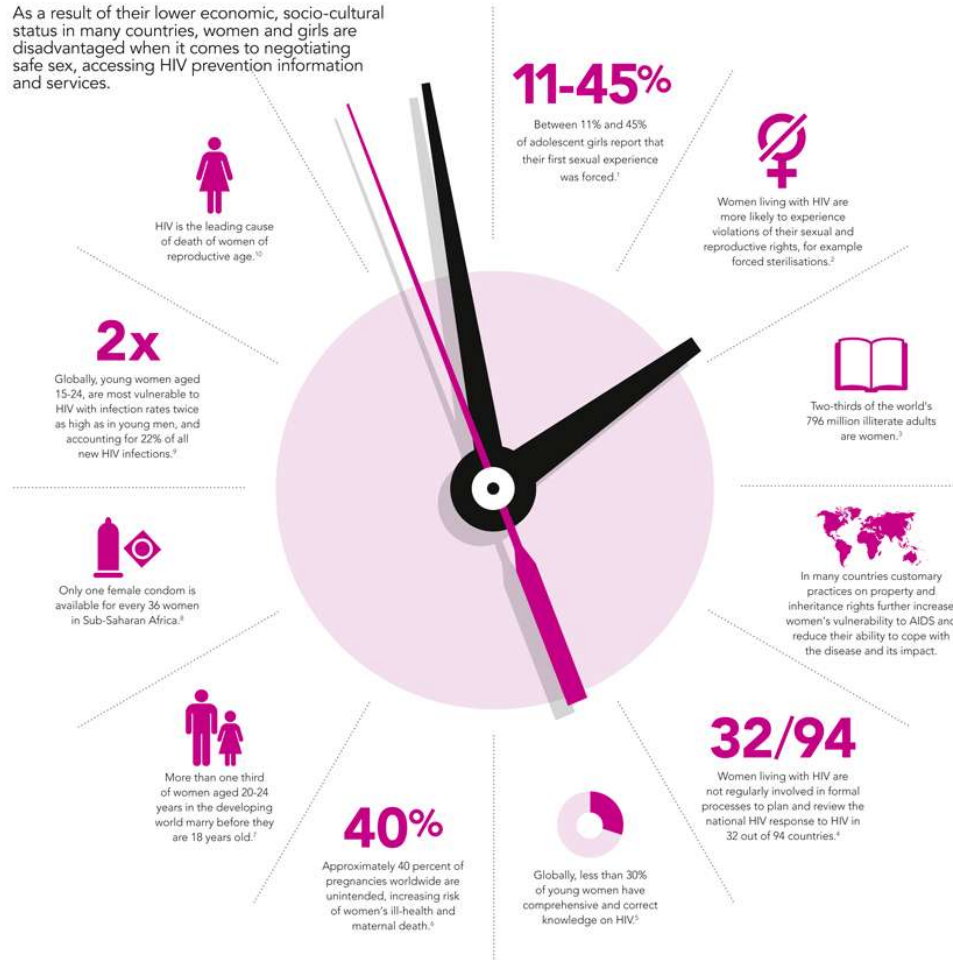
Adults and children estimated to be living with HIV | 2011



Total: 34.0 million [31.4 million – 35.9 million]

Every minute, a young woman is newly infected with HIV.

As a result of their lower economic, socio-cultural status in many countries, women and girls are disadvantaged when it comes to negotiating safe sex, accessing HIV prevention information and services.



Sources

- UNAIDS World AIDS Day report 2011
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- UNAIDS Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, 2010
- Singh et al., Adding It Up: The Costs and Benefits of Investing in Family Planning and Maternal and Newborn Health, New York: Guttmacher Institute, 2009
- UNICEF, The State of the World's Children 2011: Adolescence: An age of opportunity, New York, 2011
- UNFPA Media Fact Sheet: Comprehensive Condom Programming - July 2010
- UNAIDS World AIDS Day report 2011
- Women and health: today's evidence tomorrow's agenda, WHO, 2009

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How do these factors increase women's & girl's HIV vulnerability?

- ***Poverty & transactional sex:***
 - young girls have sex with older men to access resources. This seeds HIV into younger age groups
- ***Gender inequality & violence:***
 - women have difficulty negotiating sex or condom use when economically dependent on partner & fear violence
- ***Limited livelihood opportunities:***
 - Women's economic dependence on partner
 - Labour migration, separation of families
- ***Stigma & discrimination:***
 - prevents those most vulnerable to HIV from accessing or supporting HIV programmes

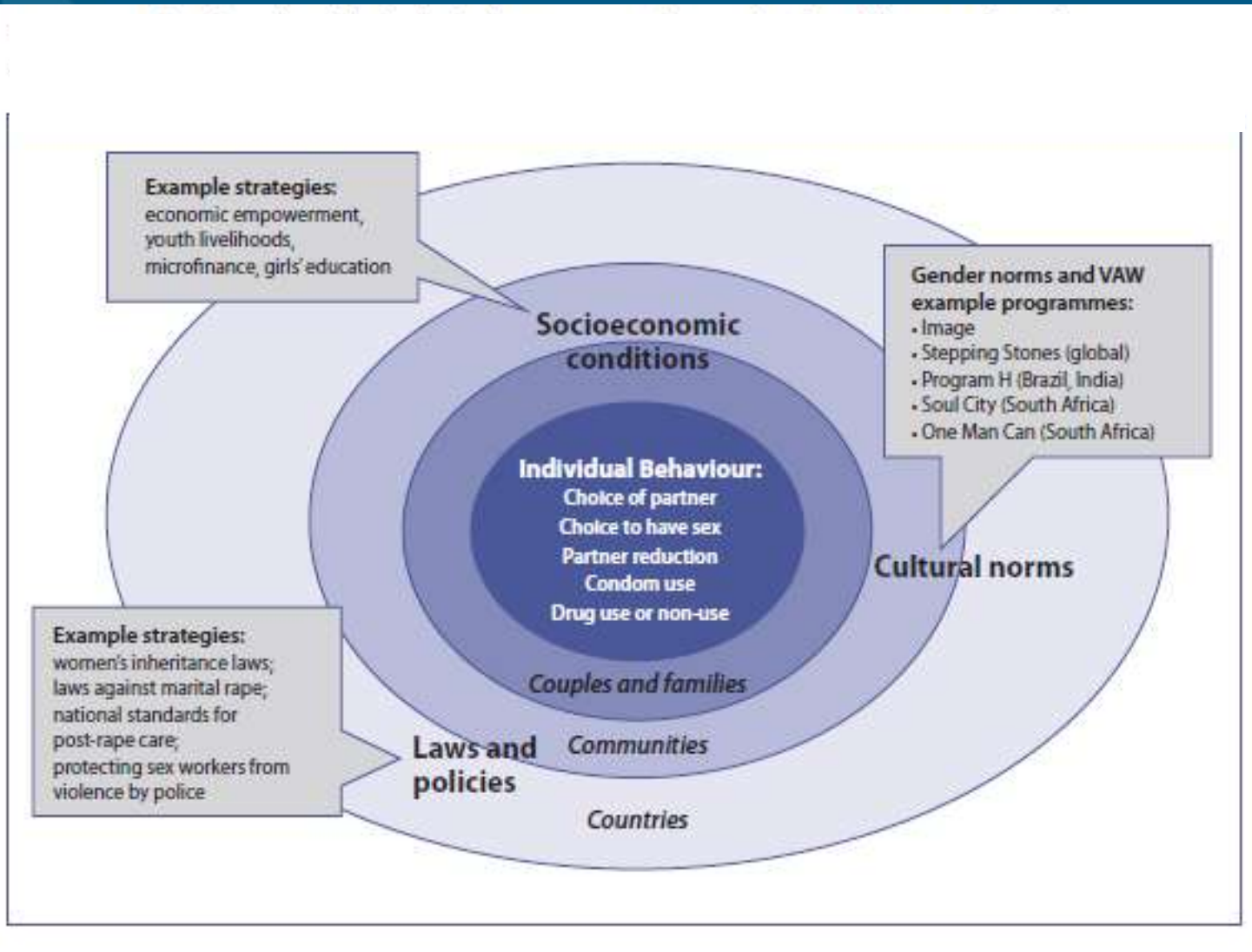


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Multiple levels of intervention



Example 1

Zomba cash transfer program, Malawi: Paying girls to stay in school



Impacts both on HIV & other outcomes

Investment

Cash transfer scheme to keep girls in school – Zomba, Malawi

\$10/month provided to in and out-of-school girls (13-22 yrs)

(Baird et al., 2010 & 2012)

Outcomes

35% reduction school drop-out rate



40% reduction early marriages



76% reduction in HSV-2 risk



30% reduction in teen pregnancies



64% reduction in HIV risk



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Ex 2: The Intervention with Microfinance for AIDS & Gender Equity (IMAGE Study)



Paul Pronyk, Julia Kim, Tanya Abramsky, Godfrey Phetla, James Hargreaves, Linda Morison, Charlotte Watts, Joanna Busza, John Porter

SEF
Small Enterprise
Foundation



Intervention combined Microfinance with participatory training on gender, violence & HIV



Significant impacts on violence & HIV risk behaviours over 2 years

Among participants:

- Past year experience of IPV reduced by 55%
- Households less poor
- Improved HIV communication

Among younger women:

- 64% higher uptake HIV testing
- 25% less unprotected sex

No wider community impacts

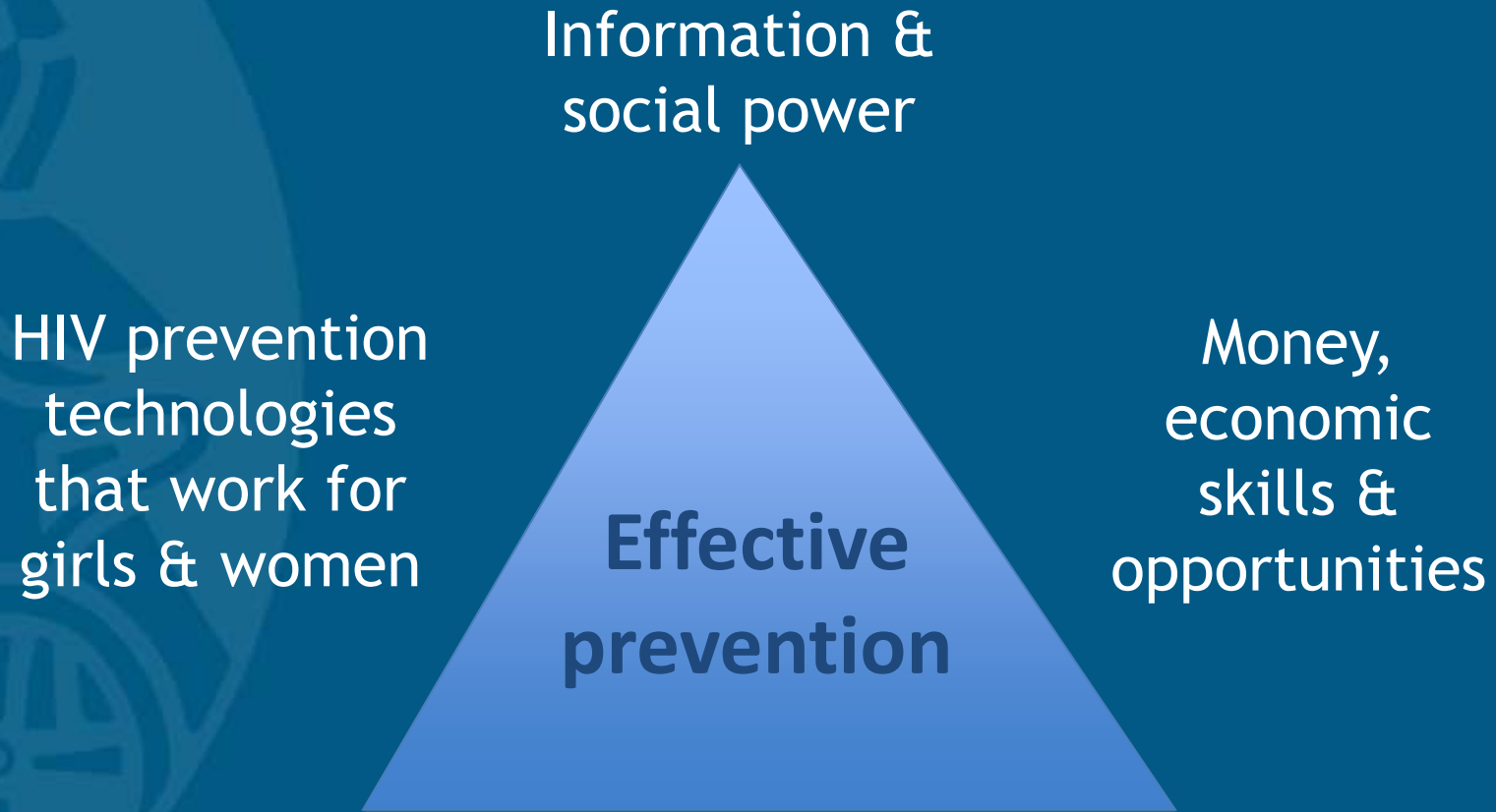


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Building an effective response for women & girls



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