

CASE STUDY

LOCALISATION OF A NEW GLOBAL NETWORK: THE CASE OF STREAM NETWORK CAMEROON

In December 2023, the HEDECS led the launch of the STREAM NETWORK in Cameroon a meeting to discuss and validate the strategic plan for 2024-2028, setting the stage for its effective localisation.

The STREAM (Cameroon) is a new network, borne out of the STREAM Network created out of a 4-day meeting held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 30 September to 3 October 2022, hosted by Positive Young Women Voices of Kenya. STREAM stands for Stepping Stones Trainers Engaging with Activist Movements. The Nairobi meeting brought together feminist women rights activists living with HIV from Argentina, Cameroon, India, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe. They came together with the aim of seeking to uphold and maintain the SRHR of women and girls in all our communities in the context of HIV, irrespective of our HIV status.

STREAM NETWORK Cameroon is a feminist activist's movement women-led, apolitical, non-profit, non-sectarian, non-governmental organization headquartered in Bamenda in the North West Region of Cameroon since 2023. It is borne from the Nairobi Kenya Meeting of 2022. The STREAM Network is a new network created out of a 4-day meeting held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 30 September to 3 October 2022, hosted by Positive Young Women Voices. STREAM stands for Stepping Stones Trainers Engaging with Activist Movements.

Mbzigha-a Beltivate, STREAM Focal Person for Cameroon was HEDECS representative in the Kenya meeting and a key driver of the technical review and high-level meeting. Localisation of the STREAM network has been an exciting and daunting task. Exciting as there is increasing interest to know more, to be part of the network, the Country Focal Person has been able to have 14 strategic members in the network and 12 are representing 7 Regions of the 10 Regions of Cameroon.

However, the localization schedule came at the time when national stakeholders including UNAIDS, UNICEF, CARE were busy with end of year programs/activities such that having meeting(s) suffered postponements. STREAM Global and Stepping Stones accompanied us in this process bringing their expertise to guide and coach.

Moving forward, HEDECS will continue with the STREAM Network localization and engage with community mobilisation, stakeholders buy in, resource mobilisations at national and international levels

Through the STREAM NETWORK, HEDECS is strengthening its commitment to improving health and empowering communities with strong community and partner engagements

QUOTES

We are so happy to have had you all to join us in launching our strategic plan today despite the busy schedules that we all had. We are still doing our best to see that this five years strategic plan really becomes a success in Cameroon as we are still looking for more local partners. So far we have members of the STREAM network in Northwest, Southwest, Litoral, Center, West, East, North. All this people are acting as focal persons for the region in other to help us run activities in that region smoothly and to bring in more persons. Thank you all for being there and continue to support STREAM Cameroon in any way that you can.

Bolima Nancy

It was a great time spent with you all sharing with you what STREAM Cameroon is all about and what we plan for the future. Thank you for making out time to be part of this launching today I greatly appreciate. We still have a lot of work to do together as a team. This is just the beginning. Thank you all.



Mbzigha-a Beltivate

Thank you all so much and congratulations to Cameroon. I am so happy that you have come this far and it a pleasure for me to have been of this launching today. Stepping Stones with children is also helps to facilitate the disclosure process between the caretaker and the child making it possible for the disclosure to be done and the child should accept it without any problem. One of the success stories of stepping stones with children is the case in Tanzania where why a mother who tried for so long to disclose the status of the child couldn't but with the help of the Stepping stones program, she successfully disclosed to the child and today they have a very good relationship.

Alice Welbourne



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