

AFRICAN NETWORK OF ADOLESCENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT (ANAYD)



HIV SELF-TESTING AFRICA (STAR III) INITIATIVE

PROJECT CLOSEOUT REPORT MARCH, 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

HIV Self-Testing intervention has become the promising approach to reach the underserved and hard to reach populations especially for the Adolescents and Young People (AYP) in their diversities towards fast-tracking the 95-95-95 cascade target by 2030. In order to reach this ambitious and achievable targets, the John Hopkins University Affiliate (Jhpiego) rolled out the HIV Self-testing Africa (STAR) Initiative in Nigeria. The Goal of STAR III project is “to facilitate rapid HIV Self-Testing (HIVST) scale-up in Nigeria with the aim of increasing knowledge of HIV status and uptake of HIV care and treatment and ultimately reducing HIV-related mortality and morbidity”.

ANAYD with funding from Jhpiego is implementing the HIV Self-testing Africa Initiative (STAR III) Project in Lagos State; Targeting Adolescents and Young People (AYP) in their diversities. The STAR III project circle will last for a period of 4 months from October, 2021 - January, 2022 aimed at distributing 30,000 HIV Self-testing Kits (HIVSTK) among priority groups of AYP aged 15-24 years across 5 LGAs of coverage in Lagos State which include: Ajeromi-Ifelodun, Amuwo Odofin, Etiosa, Lagos Mainland and Ojo.

The project has witnessed high momentum with a range of in-depth activities from entry phase, through the intensive phase and down to the closeout; with tailored focus on the strategic objectives to: improving awareness and increasing uptake of HIVST among priority populations in the state and providing them with appropriate treatment, care and prevention services.

The activities started with advocacy/courtesy visits to garner stakeholders support and other collaborative partners towards achieving successful outcomes. Mapping of target community within coverage LGA was also done. Thereafter, Adolescents and Young People (AYP) were screened, selected and trained as Demand Creators (DCs) on a 2-day residential training, while the Social Media Influencers (SMI) were trained virtually on Zoom Platform; in line with the project's work-plan to equip them with the necessary knowledge of HIV and HIVST to facilitate seamless community engagement; afterwards, the project team was faced with full implementation having thus covered all prerequisites.

The full implementation, comprise both online and offline component which entails fully engaging AYP to increasing demand via online by Social Media Influencers (SMIs) and offline by the Demand Creators conducting peer-to-peer engagement. Other key activities that followed includes: community entry mobilization, mapping of hotspots/intervention sites to identify optimal community locations for reaching AYP populations with HIVSTK distribution and Existing facilities , youth friendly center, OSS for community sensitization and awareness on HIVST emphasizing HIVST benefits, potential risks,where

and how to access HIVST kits, correct usage and interpretation and what to do when the result is reactive, non-reactive, or indeterminate targeting 250 community members (50 persons per 5LGAs); 1day orientation training for 25 Health care workers on HIVST and to strengthen referral and linkage across 5LGAs; 1day HIVST Training for 25 social media influencers to support monthly social media engagement.

Monthly Review meeting were conducted to review and generate evidence data to improve program intervention.

In the course of these activities highlighted above, a total of 18,500 persons were reached with HIVST information while 18,500 HIVSTK have been distributed to AYP and results reported comprising 8, 797 males and 9,703 females. A total of 159 reactive results were reported with 137 confirmed cases: confirmed positive males 42 and females 69, while confirmed negative males 15 and 11 females.

Laudable successes were achieved throughout the program intervention with support from the key stakeholders and communities, including the AIDS Action Manger (AAM/LACA) of the respective LGAs, among other partners.

The African Network of Adolescents and Young people Development (ANAYD) has since its inception proven to champion advocacy for healthy choices among young people. As the fight against HIV continues, ANAYD has taken a bold action step with its latest project designed to increase awareness and uptake of HIV Self-Testing among Nigerian youths, as testing remains the entry point to accessing treatment and care.

The HIV Self-Testing Africa (STAR) Project in Lagos stat implemented by ANAYD is an Initiative funded by the John Hopkins University Affiliate (JHPIEGO) with support from UNITAID and other stakeholders. The project is aimed at reaching more young persons in their diversities with free HIVST, as well as PrEP services. With focus on five Local Government Areas in Lagos - Ajeromi-Ifeodun, Lagos Mainland, Eti-osa, Amuwo-Odofin and Ojo - this project is a peer-to-peer led intervention - wherein young people are trained to reach and drive demand among their peers.

The STAR project is also focused on addressing market barriers to HIV self-testing roll-out and establishing the structures, systems and oversight mechanisms necessary for the long-term sustainability of HIV Self-Testing and will facilitate the distribution of more than 30, 000 HIV self-test kits. It is a first of its kind intervention, addressing challenges of traditional testing faced by young people, run by young people - using social marketing as an approach to reaching and making HIVST and other lifesaving tools and services appealing to young people and in turn increase the uptake of these services.

Unlike the traditional method of testing, the HIV Self-Test Kit makes for convenience and ease of testing. The test can be carried out by participants assisted or unassisted as the instructional guide is easy to follow, the test can be carried out at one's convenience and uses oral fluid as opposed to blood samples. Providing these kits for free to these youths, it is believed that the barriers preempting low testing rate among youths have been removed and so it is hoped that the youths will have little or no hesitance in uptaking HIVST and knowing their status.

Social Marketing approach/communication strategy

Understanding the dynamics of youths in the 21st century and the role social media plays in influencing their decisions, the STAR project incorporates social media influencing marketing as its strategy for reaching young people. The project have facilitated on boarding training for the twenty-five selected Social Media Influencers and each week they are expected to put out strategic content on their platforms to drive engagement with their audience and so increase awareness and uptake of the HIVST services that the project provides.

The online marketing approach complements the offline engagement strategy, which is still a peer-to-peer approach. Since the target group consists of persons within the age range of 15 and 24, the key drivers' offline are the young Demand Creators who also fall within this age group, in order to ensure ease of access. Following a screening activity, five of them were selected out of the five LGAs making a total of twenty-five demand creators and trained on various facets there are to the project - the project overview, HIV and HIVST, the Monitoring and Evaluation components, as well as the communication strategy and referral linkage.

These demand creators are responsible for engaging with their peers, distributing the self-test kits, assisting with the test where necessary and collecting data. On an average, they are expected to reach twenty-five persons per day, four days in a week to ensure that the target set is met.

For the effective and youth-friendly linkage, the health care providers were not left behind, as they were trained to understand the target group better provide appropriate and suitable services to them.

Activities carried out.

For any project to be successfully carried out, one cannot undermine the relevance and role of the key stakeholders and partners.

The project team began the journey with a meeting with the Lagos State AIDS Control Agency (LSACA) to formally introduce the project and seek support. Following the approval gotten, other stakeholders and partners were engaged and briefed, partners like the Ministry of Youth and Sport Development, the Ministry of Health, NYNETHA, APYIN, EHRAAI and others. They agreed that this was a laudable project and pledged their support and commitment to drive this initiative within the state. The series of trainings for the health care providers, the social media influencers and the young demand creators followed afterwards, both virtually and physically.

Demand creation and distribution has since commenced and is still ongoing. The demand creators have and continue to seek out young people in their diversities to educate and empower with these services so they can take responsibility for their health. There have been significant collaborations with youth networks and NGOs to leverage on access to their audience, with monthly community outreaches held at hot spots within these five LGAs. For instance, for the World AIDS Day celebration, the project team collaborated with the University of Lagos Anti-AIDS club, joining them in their awareness campaign and distributing these self-test kits to the undergraduates.

As a core activity for the World AIDS Day commemoration, a novelty football match between the project team and the stakeholders was organized and held at the Odion Ighalo 0.2 Arena Stadium in Ajeromi-Ifelodun LGA. This was to strengthen the community support system and also encourage the youths around to take up these free services.

Challenges

It is believed that this is learning and as such, challenges are well expected. One good thing that stands out on this project is that the reception rate has been quite high, over 99% of the youths reached are willing to uptake the HIVST, especially when they realize it is free, thus sustainability for a market approach is a key area of concern despite the huge market potential and opportunity it may provide to young people.

However, there have been challenges with efficient data collation, as it relates to timing and meeting up with the target set. The Demand Creators have the tasks of counseling, assisting with testing, collating the participant's data, online data entry and follow up. Finding easier route around this has been challenging but these young DCs are confident in their doggedness to reach the goal by the end of the project duration.

MILESTONE ONE ACTIVITIES:

OBJECTIVE 1: IMPROVE AWARENESS OF HIVST AMONG PRIORITY POPULATIONS

COURTESY CALL/ADVOCACY VISIT: in order to gain smooth entry into the state for easy implementation of the STAR III project in Lagos state, the project management team took out to a courtesy call and advocacy visit to the Lagos State AIDS Control Agency (LSACA), the state lead agency in the fight against HIV/AIDS in Lagos state. The agency under the leadership of Dr. Monsurat Adeleke the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) accepted the warm Call-To-Action and received the team on their first visit at a pre-introductory meeting of the STAR III project held on the 27th, October 2021 at the agency's office.

The C.E.O represented at the meeting by the project director of LSACA, Dr. Oladipupo Fisher welcomed the project team led by the ANAYD state program officer of the STAR project, Mr. Isaac Moses who briefly introduced ANAYD and the project in view to the agency following an overview slide presentation and strategic workplan. Thereafter, the LSACA team provided feedbacks bordering around: the criteria of LGA selection, follow-up and tracking strategy and quality data reporting to avoid double counting and as well as choice of referral facilities for treatment and care services. All the concerns were well attended and noted by the STAR project team.

The project team also sought the support of the lead agency to help facilitate a project introductory meeting with the government stakeholders and implementing partners, to use her statutory capacity to invite the line ministries and AIDS Action Managers (AAM/LACA) of the 5 intervention LGAs to a high level meeting, so as to achieve government buy-in both at the state and LGA levels and to build synergy support for an enabling environment for the project implementation within the state.

Dr. Fisher encouraged and applauded the team for the good work put together but further advised that the project documents be shared with the Agency on or before Friday 29th, October 2021 for further perusal so that they can get in-depth understanding of the project scope and deliverables. He also promised that the Agency will give the necessary support and guidance as her contribution to ensure that the overall goal and objective of the project is well achieved within the stipulated timeline.

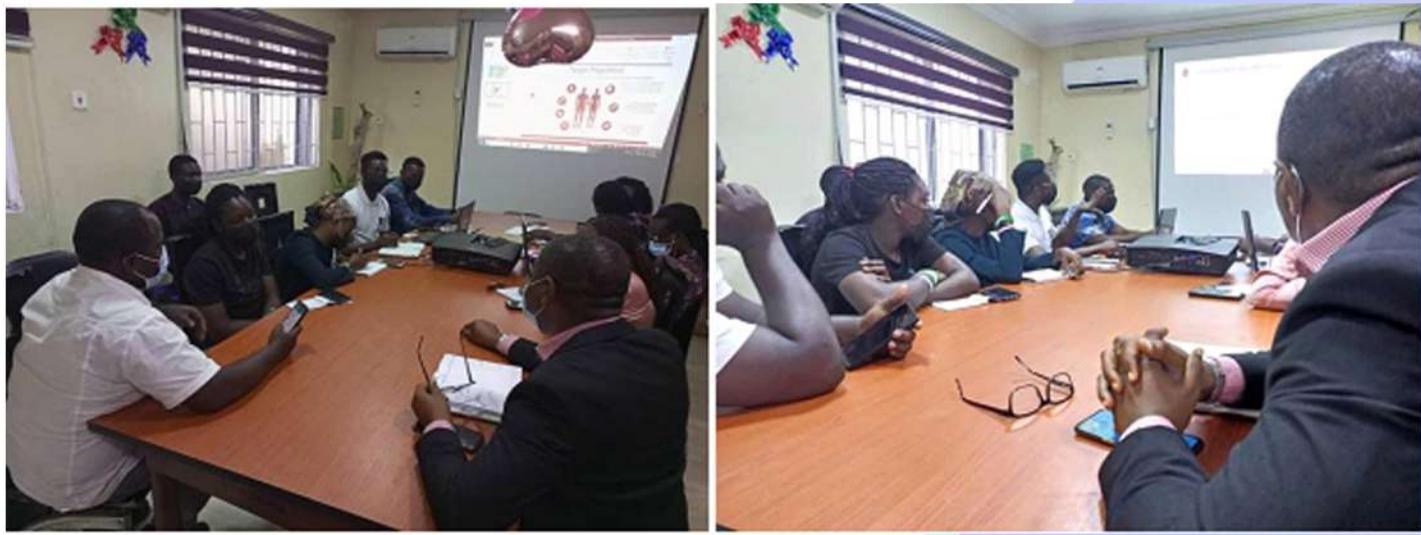


Figure 1&2: The ANAYD Lagos STAR Project Team and the LSACA Team during the first pre-introductory meeting at the conference room of the Lagos State AIDS Control Agency (Governor's Office) Lagos

Activity 1.1: Project introductory meeting with State Government Stakeholders

The Lagos AIDS Control Agency (LSACA) on behalf of JHPIEGO and her implementing partner ANAYD facilitated the project introductory meeting with other government stakeholders and partners in the state HIV and AIDS response. The aim of the meeting was to optimize support and opportunity for synergy to the project, so as to achieve the project goal and objectives. The meeting was held on the 12th of November, 2021 at the Conference Support Center of Lagos Chambers of Commerce and Industry (LCCI), Alausa Ikeja, Lagos.

The meeting was well attended by representatives of line Ministries and key stakeholders in the state HIV and AIDS response, the likes of: Lagos State Ministry of Health, Lagos State Ministry of Youth and Social development, Lagos State AIDS Control Agency, Heartland Alliance Nigeria, Jakin NGO, National Youth Network on HIV/AIDS Population and Development (NYNETHA), Association of Positive Youth in Nigeria (APYIN) and other state Civil societies networks represented. The purpose of the meeting was well achieved as all the stakeholders saw the project a welcome development and pledged their support for an enabling environment for the STAR project in Lagos state to reach the priority populations of Adolescents and Young People in their diversities.

The meeting amidst the media hype with LTV station, This Day and The Sun News ended on a good slate with goodwill messages from the stakeholders to the funder, JHPIEGO and the Governor of Lagos State for his relentless efforts and commitment towards prioritizing the needs of young people development for a greater Lagos.



ANAYD Team of Young Stars leading Strategic Initiative on the STAR III Project in Lagos State



Isaac Moses, Program Officer on overview of project during the stakeholder engagement



Mr. Sulaimon Rasaq, the LACA manager of Ajeromi-Ifelodun LGA, sharing insights on youth engagements



LACA manager Amuwo-Odofin LGA taking notes during stakeholders engagement in Lagos state



Afeez Muheeb, Monitoring and evaluation Officer presenting the project M&E plan during the stakeholders meeting

Activity 1.2: **Community entry, mobilization, selection and screening of Adolescents and Young People (AYP) Demand Creators in 5LGAs**

The STAR III project took her first entry into the community to mobilize, screen and select adolescents and young persons who will serve as HIVST demand creators within their respective LGAs. The overall process was conducted by the STAR project team with support of the community stakeholders led by the AAM/LACA of the respective LGA and was keenly engaging by the AYP, who took the screening test questions with thematic focus on: basic information on HIV/AIDS, effective communication and HIV counseling. The AYP also participated in the sensitization session on HIVST and background of HIV in the state, thus became motivated to take up initiatives as AYP champions to drive positive change in their communities.

A total of 75 AYP (15 per LGA) were mobilized and screened across the 5 intervention LGAs, while 15 of them (5 per LGA) were finally selected as demand creators to trained on HIVST service intervention for distribution of HIVSTK among the priority populations within their respective LGA.



Activity 1.3: **Mapping of hotspots/intervention sites to identify optimal community locations for reaching AYP populations with HIVSTK distribution**

Mapping exercise was conducted across the 5 LGAs by the demand creators and community stakeholders' supports to identify optimal community locations for reaching AYP populations with HIVST IPC and distribution and Existing facilities, youth friendly center, OSS for linkage and referral across 5LGAs.



Exercise at Lagos Mainland after field activity.



Amuwo odifin LGA team after their mapping exercise

Activity 1.5:

1day community monthly sensitization and awareness on HIVST

The first community monthly sensitization took place across the 5 LGA intervention on the 8th of November, 2021 with the aim of increasing knowledge and awareness on HIVST, emphasizing HIVST benefits, potential risks, where and how to access HIVST kits, correct usage and interpretation and what to do when the result is reactive, non-reactive, or indeterminate targeting 250 community members (50 persons per 5LGAs). The activity also had the demand creators present who were distributed HIVSTK to target AYP at such events.

A total of 3 community sensitization was conducted through the project period.



Community sensitization at Lagos Mainland



Community Sensitization at Etiosa LGA



Community sensitization session at the Federal College of Fisheries and Marine Technology, Victoria Island, Etiosa LGA.



Activity 1.6:

1day orientation training for 25 Health care workers on HIVST and to strengthen referral and linkage across 5LGAs of intervention

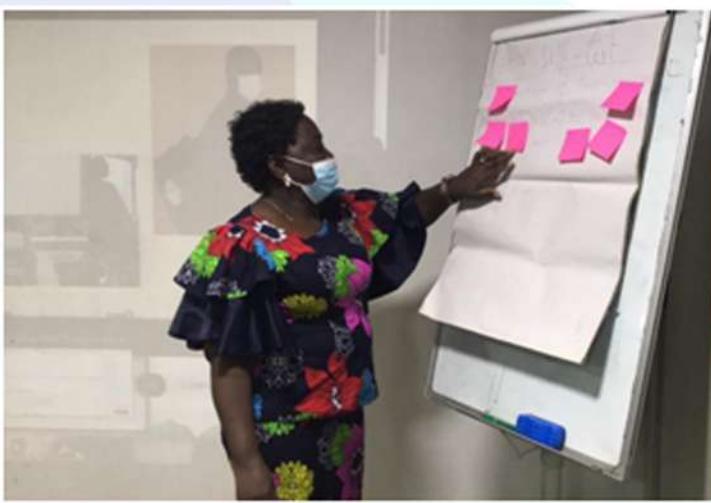
The orientation training of the health care workers was held on the 5th November, 2021 with 25 youth friendly health care service providers (5 per LGA) drawn across the 5 intervention LGAs. The aim of the training was to build their capacity in HIVST service provision to enhance access and uptake of HIV treatment, care and prevention services at the friendly facilities among AYP priority populations across the intervention LGAs.

The project officer of ANAYD/JHPIEGO STAR III Project, Mr. Isaac Moses presented the project overview to the participants giving in-depth and simplified explanation of HIVST background and understanding HIVST service intervention package, the various delivery approaches and distribution channels of the HIV Self-Testing Kit (HIVSTK). Strong emphasis was stated that HIVST is not a stand-alone package but an additional strategy to complement the existing HIV Testing Service (HTS) thereby fast tracking the 95:95:95 target by 2030. It was also clearly stated that HIVST is triage test that will close the service access and uptake gap to reach the underserved and hard to reach populations and thus, a confirmatory test is required at the facility by individuals using the HIVSTK.

Mr. Afeez Muheeb the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) officer conducted the plenary session on Referrals/linkage, prevention, care and treatment, where the participants deliberated on the barriers and facilitators to AYP access to treatment, care and prevention services at existing friendly facilities and recommendations which translated into group work and presentations by the participants. A total of 25 participants comprising of 6 males and 19 females had their capacity built with enthusiasm to deliver quality and friendly services to priority AYP populations in their facilities within their respective LGAs.



Participants at the orientation training of the Youth Friendly Health Care Providers on HIVST, effective Referrals and Linkages at LCCI, Alausa, Ikeja, Lagos.



One of the HCW making a group work presentation during the training at LCCI.

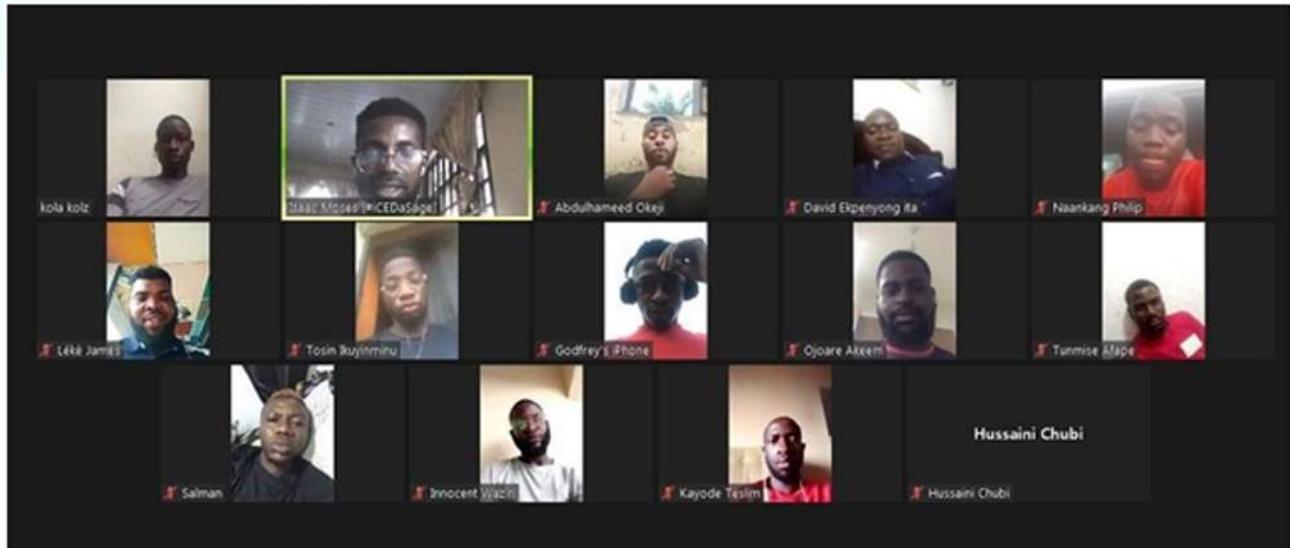


Mr. Michael Essien, the Asst. Project Director, LSACA during the training admonishing the HCW on proper documentation of referral records and registers for easy follow-up and tracking.

Activity 1.7:

1day HIVST Training for 25 social media influencers to support monthly social media

The training of Social Media Influencers (SMI) was conducted virtual via zoom platform on the 3rd November, 2021 with the aim of building the capacity of the AYP social media influencers to support monthly social media engagement to increase knowledge and awareness and demand generation via online platforms. The 25 SMIs comprises 20 males and 5 females. The hashtag for the social media strategic campaign was given #Test4STARs. Key issues discussed involved: HIVST Communication Messages and Content Development, Human Interest Stories and Picture stories development, Effective Social Media Engagement Strategy, Digital media influence monitoring and impact evaluation.



Social Media Influencers during the Online training on HIVST and Social Media Campaign Strategy development.

Activity 1.8.1: Monthly radio/TV tune in program to create demand for HIVST and visibility for the project

The role of media in social marketing cannot be undermined; hence media engagement is prioritized on this project as one of the strategies to reach the project's goals. In addition to the social media engagement which targets the youths specifically, the project explores the benefits of reaching wider demographics using terrestrial radio and TV platforms.

As a first point of call, we stopped at the Nigeria info FM 99.3 on Saturday, the 15th of January, 2022 for the GX-Morning show for Young Adults. In attendance were the programs officer, Isaac Moses; the communications officer, Jennifer Oriaku, others were Richard Oghenekome and Esther Abilawon. The ANAYD team was also hosted on the Wazobia TV/Radio Good Morning Naija show with Edewor Ajueshi on the 2nd of February, 2022. In attendance were the programs officer, Isaac Moses; the communications officer, Jennifer Oriaku, others were Richard Oghenekome, Oladimeji Hafeez and Adenekan Ifeoluwa. Behind the scenes, were the other project staff members who were on ground, connecting to the official ANAYD social media accounts (Facebook and Instagram) for real-time online live-streaming.

Free airtime to choice network was used as incentives bonus to the first five (5) callers on the show to stimulate and increased youth friendly engagements. HIVST demands recorded from this platform were met following our DSD approach.



(L-R) Miss Jennifer Oriaku, Communications officer, STAR III Project; Onyinyechi Ekumankama, Host, Nigerianinfo FM, and Mr. Isaac Moses, programs officer, STAR III Project during the radio show.



Graphics flyer for the media event.

on the Extreme ends (L & R) are other ANAYD team members: Miss. Esther Abilawon and Oghenekome Richard; in the studio streaming live real-time online on from the ANAYD Social Media Handle (Facebook and Instagram).



A screenshot of one of the livestream session on ANAYD facebook handle during the radio show programme.



L-R: Jennifer Oriaku, Communication Officer; Isaac Moses, Programme officer and Edewor Ajueshi, Host on Wazobia TV Gudu morning Naija Show, during the TV Talk Show.



A cross-section of ANAYD program team at Wazobia Studios during the TV/Radio Program in Lagos state.

Activity 1.8.2: TV Press Conference to introduce/lunch STAR-III Project in Lagos state to give credence and visibility

In line with our work-plan activity 1.8.2 TV Press Conference to introduce STAR-AYP project in Lagos state to give credence and visibility, thereby improving awareness and demand for HIVST services, we held the media conference on Wednesday, the 16th of February, 2022 at the conference hall of the Lagos State AIDS Control Agency (LSACA), Lagos.

The event had in attendance: Executive Director, Mr. Aaron Sunday; Program Officer, Mr. Isaac Moses; Communications Officer, Jennifer Oriaku; assistant Associate Communications Officer, Mr. Richard Oghenekome, Monitoring & Evaluation Officer, Mr. Hafeez oladimeji, the Associate M&E Officer, Mr. Gefta, and some of the DCs. Members of the press includes journalists from the Guardian Newspaper, LTV, PLUS TV etc.

The ED, Mr Aaron Sunday in his reading of the press statement acknowledged those present and expressed gratitude to the partners and stakeholders. He went on to expound on the justification upon which the HIV Self- Testing Africa (STAR III) project is premised. He highlighted the key strategies employed - our online and offline methodology and their effectiveness in helping us reach our target audience. He further expressed gratitude to the state government and the funding partners, using the opportunity to call on more partners to consider investing in more youth-led intervention especially in the HIV programming space as the youths have proved through this project that they are capable of



Aaron Sunday, Executive Director ANAYD and Communication officer, Jennifer Oriaku, addressing the press conference hosted at the Lagos State AIDS Control Agency, in Lagos State.



NEWS NOW

Cross section of ANAYD program management team after the press conference in Lagos.

Follow target link to view video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LgnXEFy_HaY

PROGRESS REVIEW AND ROLL-OUT PLANNING MEETING.

The Executive Director of ANAYD, Mr. Aaron Sunday, held a rollout planning and review meeting with the state project team during his visit to Lagos to monitor the progress of the activities and to participate at the project introductory meeting with the government stakeholders in Lagos State.

He applauded the team for the work done so far but noted that the most important output for the project is to effectively distribute the test kit and follow up on referral and linkages with improved outcomes. The M&E officer, Mr. Afeez Muheeb also expressed concern on the delay of training of the demand creators to empower them with the right skill-set and competence, especially the use of ODK application and to deliver the objective given the target population (AYP) for the organization. This he stated as the reason for the delay to commence the intensive phase of the project to roll-out for HIVSTK distribution and follow up referrals and linkages.

The program officer, Mr. Isaac Moses also reported to the ED that the few HIVSTK distributed so far were integrated into the entry activities with support by the program personnel and some demand creators. He further assures the ED that as soon as the DCs are successfully trained, the roll-out of kit distribution will be massive with strategic collaborations to drive active case finding among the AYP priority populations and presumptive TB cases in the mapped out hotspots/intervention sites within the coverage LGAs and hopeful to get good yields while closing the milestone gaps.

Mr. Aaron Sunday in his final feedback advised that the team should deploy both assisted and unassisted onsite approach, so as to increase the reporting/returning rate and as well minimize losses to follow up. He also encouraged the team to gear up innovative efforts in engaging the DCs for scheduled community outreaches towards closing the milestone target gaps. He finally assures the team that effort will be intensified by the HQ team to fast-track request and release of milestone two funds from our Jhpiego partners, in order to accelerate the progress of the project to achieve the desired goal and objectives within the stipulated timeline.



Executive Director of ANAYD, Mr. Aaron Sunday and the Lagos STAR project team, during the Progress review and rollout planning meeting in Lagos State.

Activity 2.1: Monthly community AYP Demand Creation and HIVSTK distribution

The community outreaches were geared towards reaching young people with HIVST information emphasizing HIVST benefits, potential risks, where and how to access HIVST kits, correct usage and interpretation and what to do when the result is reactive, non-reactive, or indeterminate with our 25 AYP DC each targeting 25 AYP peers per session, 100 AYP peers per week and 400 Peers per month across the 5LGAs with the possible outcome to increase number of AYP who know their HIV status via the use of HIVSTK and providing appropriate referrals to treatment, care and prevention services.

Throughout the implementation period, ANAYD leveraged on partnership with other NGOs like JAKIN NGO, Equal Health and Rights Access Advocacy Initiative (EHRAAI), Lagos State TB Team, Rotaract Club of Lagos, Youth Network on HIV/AIDS Population and Development (NYNTEHA Lagos) and other community structures that have youth audience and youth networks like school bodies (secondary schools and higher institutions), brothels, beaches, and events, religious camps to engage their audience and deliver the HIVST services. Other modes of distribution include, differentiated service delivery using dispatch distribution to deliver kits to AYP demanding services on line and as well following via remote and virtual tool (WhatsApp/SMS Chat) to provide referral supports.

A cumulative total of 18,500 HIVSTK have been distributed to AYP and results reported comprising 8, 797 males and 9,703 females. A total of 159 reactive results were reported with 137 confirmed cases: confirmed positive males 42 and females 69, while confirmed negative males 15 and 11 females. Appropriate treatment, care and prevention services were provided.





Picture Spread of community HIVST demand creation and distribution

Activity 2.2: Conduct 1day Bi-weekly social media demand creation engagement on HIVST with 25 social media influencers

Online, the Social Media Influencers were actively engaging across their social media platforms such as Twitter, Instagram and Facebook, posting informational graphics and the project with their captions having strong Call-To-Action (CTA) for the AYPs to demand for the services.

The outcome recorded is a total of over 500,000 reached with HIVST Information through digital media and remote tools (online). There were also distributions achieved via online demand generation. AYPs who demanded online were excited that their HIVSTK were delivered to them expressing their appreciation to the project for prioritizing the need of young people in more friendly approach. Results for most of the online delivery were self-reported through photo verification via WhatsApp with appropriate counseling and referrals done on same virtual platform.



Pictures of young people who demanded online and got their kits delivered and voluntarily shared their testimonials; at Eleko, Ibeju Lekki (Directly assisted) and Victoria Island (Unassisted) respectively.

See target links of online engagements by various social media platforms: Instagram, facebook and twitter respectively.

<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/test4stars/?hl=en>

<https://web.facebook.com/hashtag/test4stars>

https://twitter.com/search?q=%23test4stars&src=typed_query

Activity 2.3: 1day monthly HIVST Online Video competition to strengthen peer led social media knowledge engagement with cash incentive for winners at

For this activity, we continued with the monthly video contest, launching and managing the contest from season I, II and III of the HIVST Video Challenge. We had videos that were quite creative in form of drama skits, IG reels, spoken word, announcements and even dance videos. The general message was "Get a free kit and know your status". We had customized hash tags to push awareness such as #HIVSTVideochallenge01, #Test4STARs, #Jhpiego with instructions for them to tag the @anayd_africa handles across the social platforms. For each contest, we had three winners emerge based on their total engagement rate with their social media peer audience, the winners were given their prizes of N10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Naira Only) and they made videos to acknowledge receipts of their prizes.



Activity 2.4: WORLD AIDS DAY 2021 ACTIVITIES, STAR III NOVELTY FOOTBALL MATCH:

Nigeria joins the rest of the world to commemorate the World AIDS Day, 2021 with the theme set forth by the National Agency for the Control of AIDS (NACA) which reads: "End Inequalities, End AIDS, and Through Sustainable Financing" In same light, the African Network of Adolescents and Young People Development (ANAYD), implementing the STAR III Project in Lagos State with funding from the John Hopkins University Affiliate, Jhpiego; took her strategic initiatives to break New Grounds at the Odion Ighalo 0.2 Arena Stadium in Ajeromi-Ifelodun LGA.

As part of the objective to strengthen Local AIDS response for Adolescents and Young People diversities, at the grassroots through Community Led Actions (CLA); Hon. Fatai Ayoola Adekunle, the Executive Chairman of Ajeromi-Ifelodun LGA, together with his Local Action Committee Against AIDS (LACA), led by the Medical Officer for Health (MOH), Dr. Ahmad Amina bello and the able AIDS Action Manager (AAM), Mr. Sulaimon Rasaq; Hosted Government stakeholders and partners in the state HIV and AIDS response at the Jhpiego ANAYD STAR III NOVELTY FOOTBALL MATCH to celebrate the WORLD AIDS DAY 2021 in grand style. The match between the team of Adolescents and Young People, ANAYD STARs Versus government stakeholders, LGA LACAs ended 2-1.

Adolescents and Young People had access to the HIV Self-Testing Kits, treatment, care, prevention and other lifesaving services amidst fun as they yell, Test4STARs. ANAYD's key message to the government stakeholders and partners was that: "An Investment on Young People is a conscious step to secure the future".



Team LGA LACAs wins the WAD2021 STAR III Novelty Football Match, beating team ANAYD STARs with 2 goals to 1.



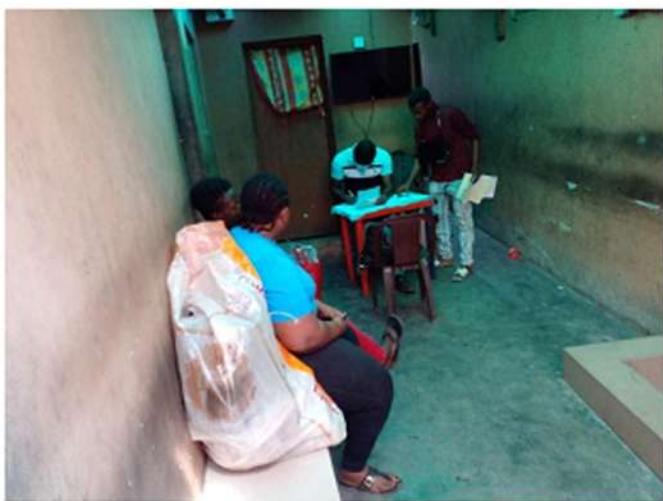
Team ANAYD STARs



Team LGA LACA

OBJECTIVE 3, Activity 3: Referrals and linkages of clients accessing HIVST to HIV prevention and treatment services:

The reactive cases found were referred and linked for confirmatory testing with some of the DCs providing escort services to facilities which include: Ajeromi General Hospital, Amuwo PHC, CPHI Dod clinic, Mushin OSS, Ojo PHC, Oshodi Isolo General Hospital, and Equal Health and Right Access Advocacy Initiative (EHRAAI) providing Community ART (CART) services to those confirmed positive. On the other hand, those with negative HIVST results were provided with prevention services which include either one or more of the following: PrEP, STI, TB, FP, Condoms, post-counseling information and risk reduction provided as a follow up service.



EHRAAI Community ART (CART) Team providing Confirmatory Testing, ART, PrEP and Urinalysis Services during one of the outreaches in KP community, Amuwo Odofin LGA.

OBJECTIVE 4: MONITORING AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES

Monitoring and Supervisory field visits

The ANAYD project management team conducts weekly supportive supervisory visits to monitor the quality of intervention and service provision by the field officers and volunteers during their outreaches. Technical support and feedback were usually provided where applicable to help the field personnel improve on their work. The Jhpiego project team was on ground providing technical support at intervals to ensure effective program implementation in targeted communities. In December, for the World AIDS Day commemoration in Lagos Mainland, the project team was joined by some members of the Jhpiego project staff and supervised the engagement process as well as getting feedback from AYP participants.

Monthly Data Review Meeting:

The first general monthly data review meeting is usually conducted with the aim of reviewing the program data, identifying gaps, challenges and recommendations including best practices to address grey areas of concern. The programs officer, Mr. Isaac Moses addressed the issue of proper data documentation, using the documentation tools like response referral cards accurately. He asked for prompt ODK entries and reported results, emphasizing on not leaving unassisted distribution unattended to for a long time - participants who leave with the kits need constant follow up to use the kits and report result as fast as possible. Issues round primary and secondary distribution, assisted and unassisted distribution, reactive and non-reactive results were also addressed following the program cascade.



Mr. Aaron Sunday admonishing the DC during the review meeting in Lagos.



Role play session to demonstrate and critique the ways the DCs approach their clients on file.

Other Notable Events:

- ☒ Valentine's Day Celebration in University of Lagos (UNILAG) and Lagos State University (LASU).
- ☒ Integrated HIVST outreach with the Lagos State TB Team and JCI LASU



THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY OUTREACH REPORT

It is often cringe-worthy how most societies view the female gender. The woman is faced with a lot of stereotypes as to how she is and how she ought to be. She is in fact usually treated with inferiority in relation to her male counterpart. It is with the view to correct this bias that the 8th of March, 2022 has been stipulated as a special day to pay recognition of the struggles and victories of women all over the world. The International Women's Day has over the years sought to bridge the gap and publicize the strength of women generally and show how the woman/girl-child is unlimited in her capacities.

This year, the theme “Break The Bias” emphasizes the need for women to step up and break these stereotypes that have held them bound for long and for the men to treat women with the due respect they deserve as significant members of the society.

As a gender-inclusive organization with even a higher percentage of females on board, it served as an opportunity to celebrate and extend our celebration to Adolescents Girls and Young Women (AGYW) in our immediate community.

Hence, we went out on the streets of Ajeromi-Ifelodun to celebrate females around - we sampled their thoughts on the female experience in Nigeria, how they feel being women and their words of appreciation to women all over the world.

A total of 50 AGYW and 40 male counterparts were reached and gifted free HIV Self-Testing Kits to help them know their HIV status, thereby providing them the opportunity to take responsibility for their sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Overall, we were received warmly and a few women were receptive to our interviews. [see video]



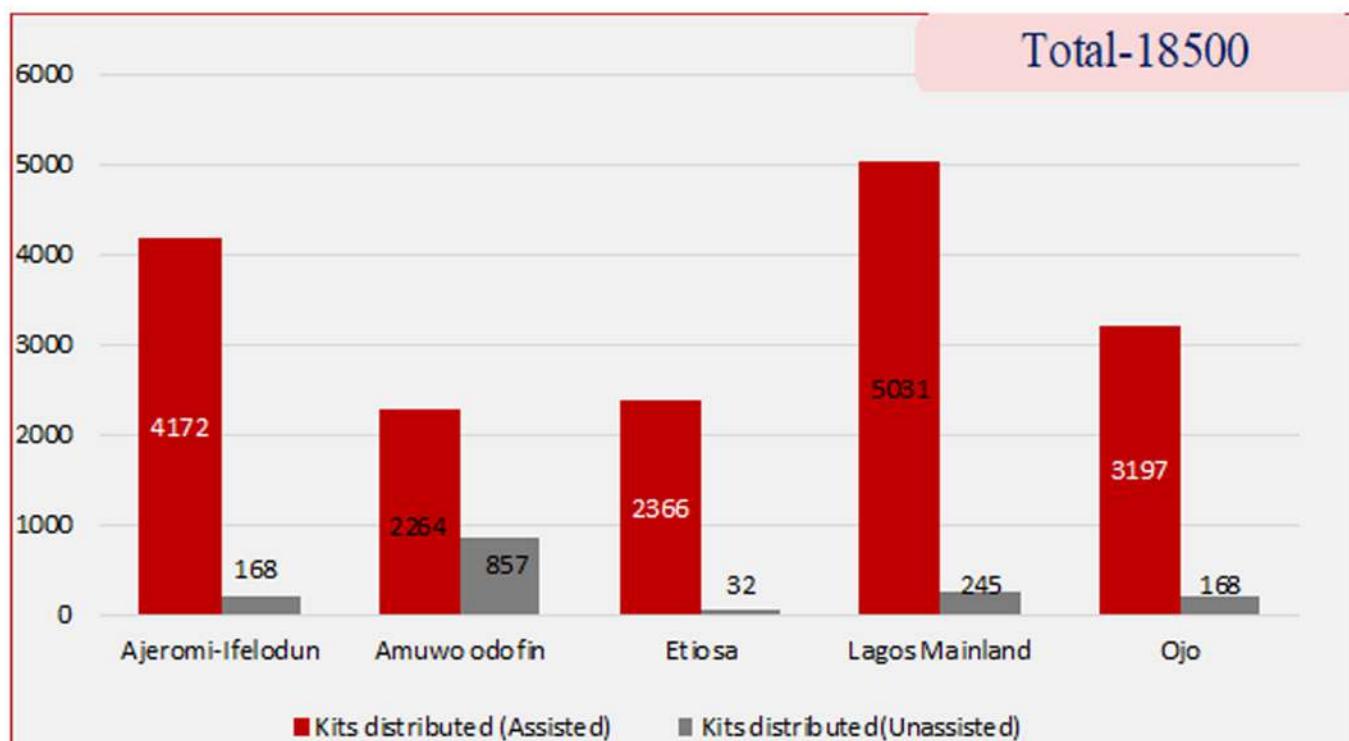
AGYW DC reaching out to their Peers gifting HIVSTK and Information to commemorate international Women's Day (IWD2022)

Target link to video: <https://www.instagram.com/p/Ca-oC8ygGJU/>

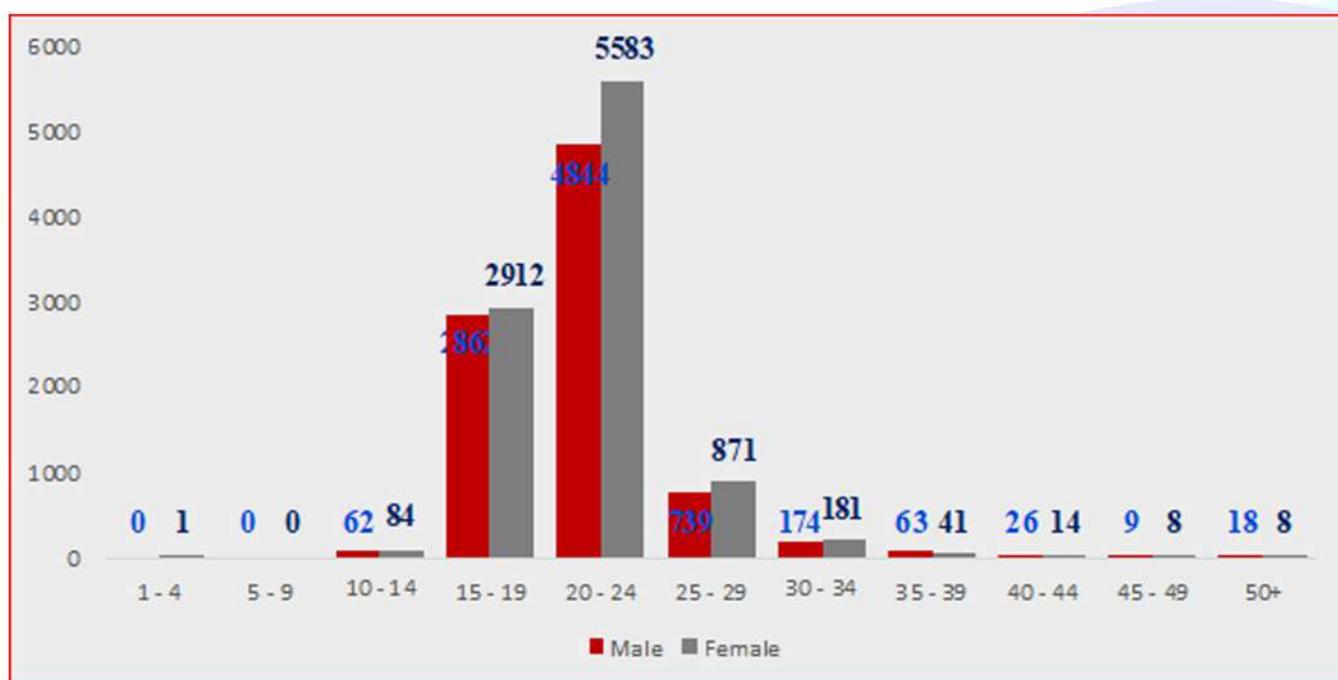
Distribution Modalities Table

Distribution Modality	Total Distributed	Total returned Result	HIV reactive	Referred for confirmatory test	Confirmed for HIV	Positive Result	Placed on PreP
Door to Door	414	414	1	1	1	0	4
Motor parks/Transport Hubs(Bus, Trucks, intercity)	152	152	4	4	2	2	9
Bars/Restaurant/Clubs	5539	5539	65	65	55	38	128
Prisons/correctional facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
IDPs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug users spots	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Testing at other "Male dominated Spaces" e.g Betting houses,sport event, fitness centers etc)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Outreaches (Fixed point) Student communities(High school and colleges)	3145	3145	51	51	47	40	60
Religious houses	3407	3407	7	7	5	3	95
AYP online crowdsourcing	912	912	0	0	0	0	0
Market	15	15	0	0	0	0	0
Hotels and Brothels	4916	4916	31	31	29	28	238
Ophanages	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Okada Parks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tricycle parks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Taxi parks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	18500	18500	159	159	139	111	534

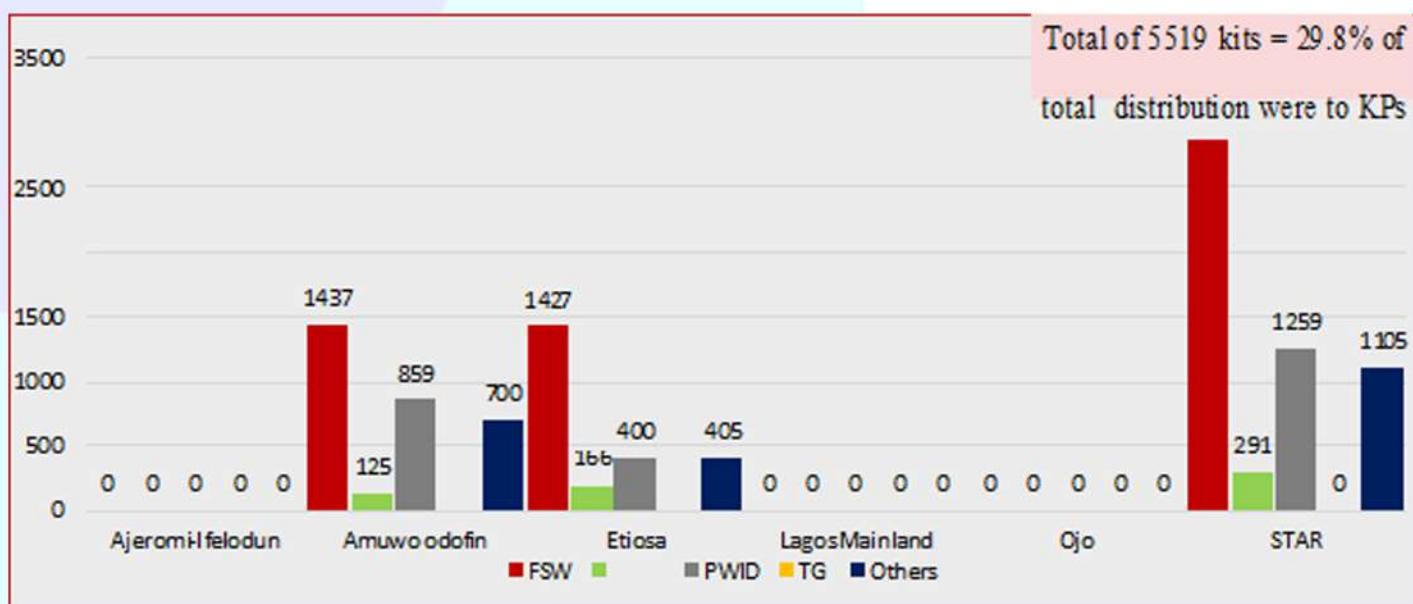
COMMUNITY DISTRIBUTION DATA SETS:
HIVST kits distributed-Cumulative (2nd Nov, 2021 - 10th Mar, 2022)



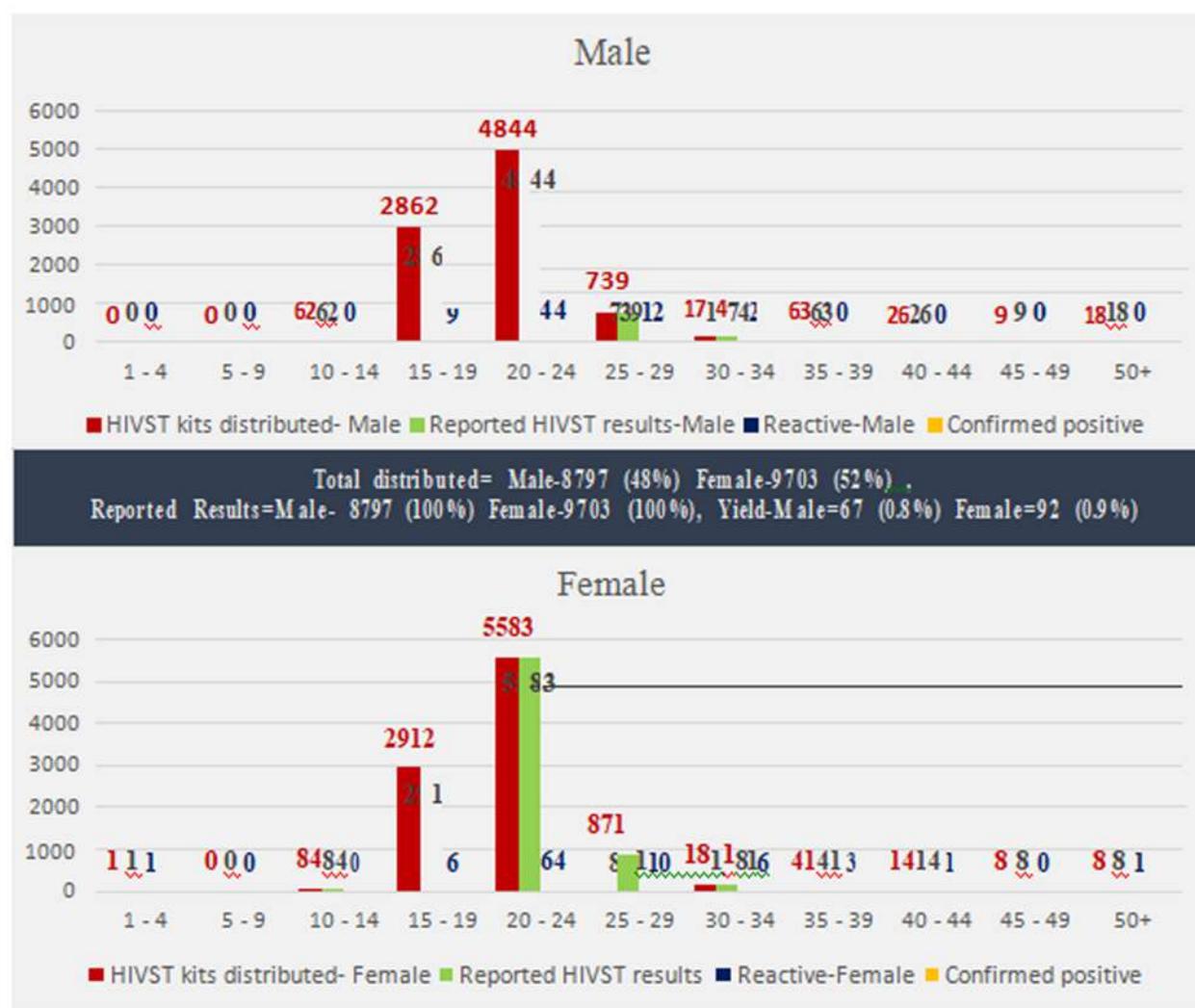
HIVST distribution by age and sex



HIVST kits distributed-KP typology



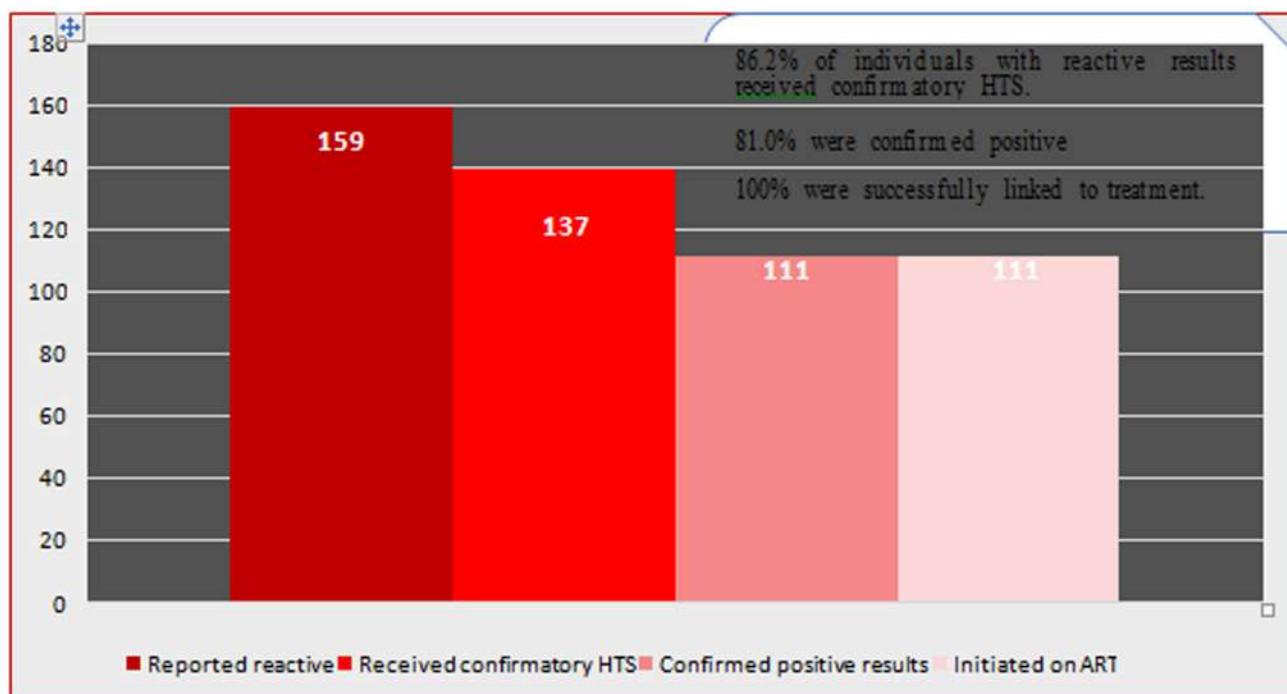
Reported Results



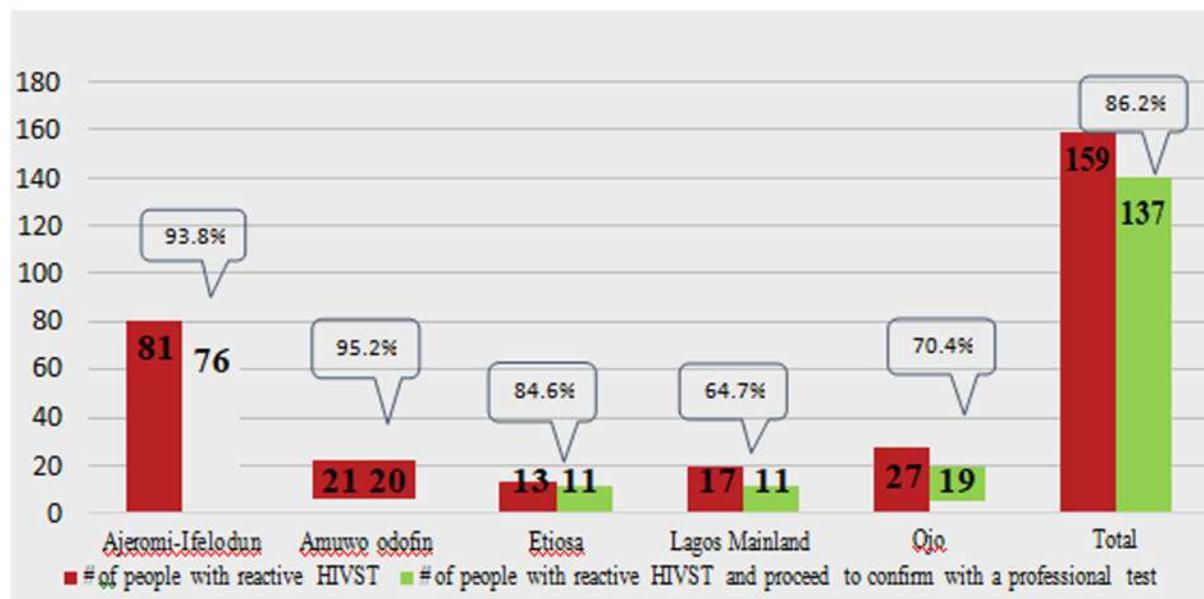
HIVST Data by LGA

LGAs	HIVST kits allocated	HIVST kits distributed to clients	HIVST results reported by clients	Clients with reactive HIVST	Clients with confirmed positive results	Clients successfully linked to treatment
Ajeromi-ifelodun	4000	4340 (108.5%)	4340 (100%)	81 (1.9%)	67 (82.7%)	67 (100%)
Amuwo odofin	4000	3121 (78.0%)	3121 (100%)	21 (0.7%)	17 (81.0%)	17 (100%)
Etiosa	2500	2398 (95.9%)	2398 (100%)	13 (0.5%)	11 (84.6%)	11 (100%)
Lagos mainland	4000	5276 (131.9%)	5276 (100%)	17 (0.3%)	8 (47.1%)	8 (100%)
Ojo	4000	3365 (84.1%)	3365 (100%)	27 (0.8%)	8 (29.6%)	8 (100%)
TOTAL	18500	18500 (100%)	18500 (100%)	159 (0.9%)	111 (69.8%)	111 (100%)

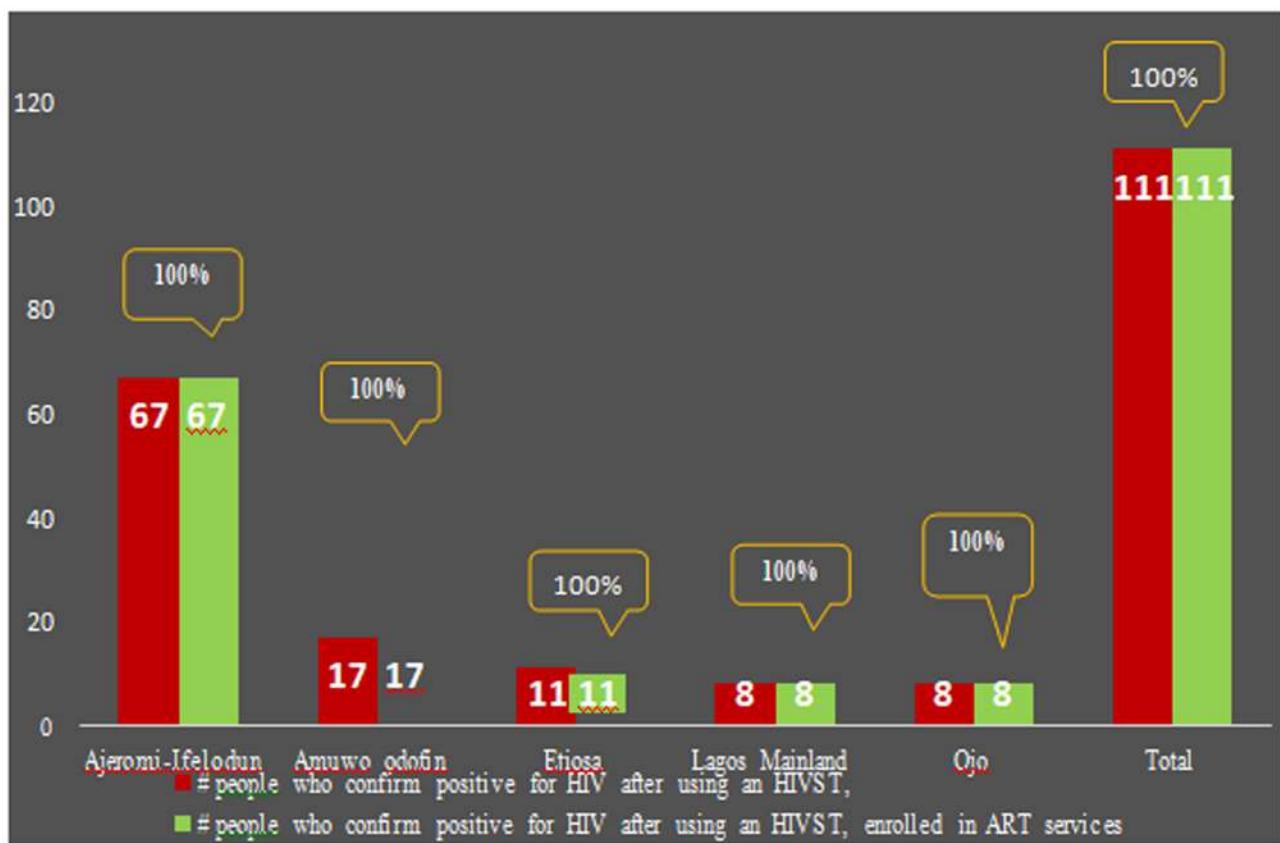
Linkage-Confirmatory HTS and Initiation to ART



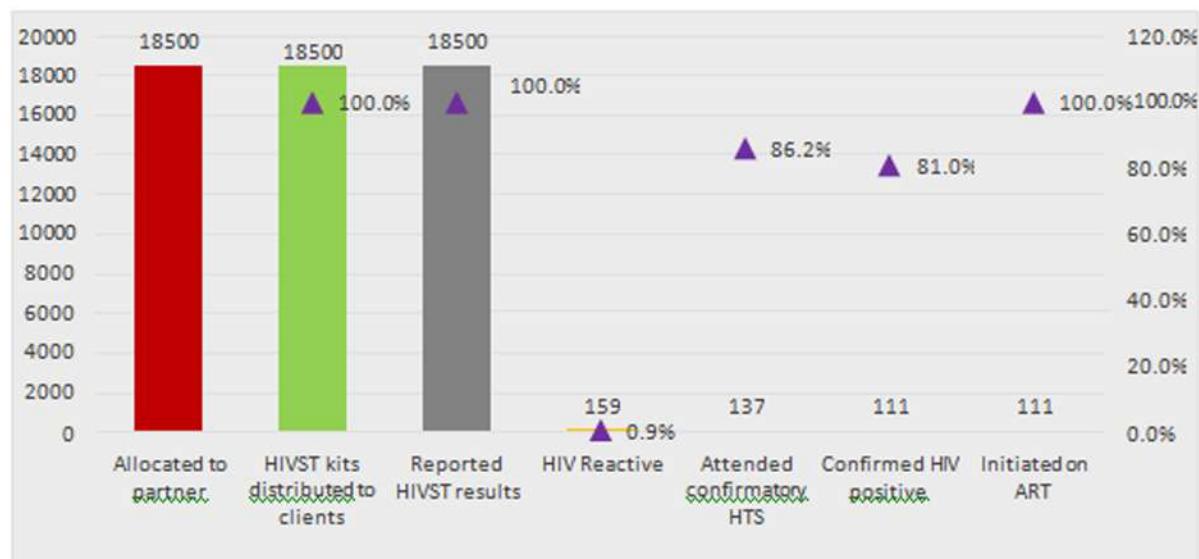
% of people with reactive HIVST who link for confirmatory testing



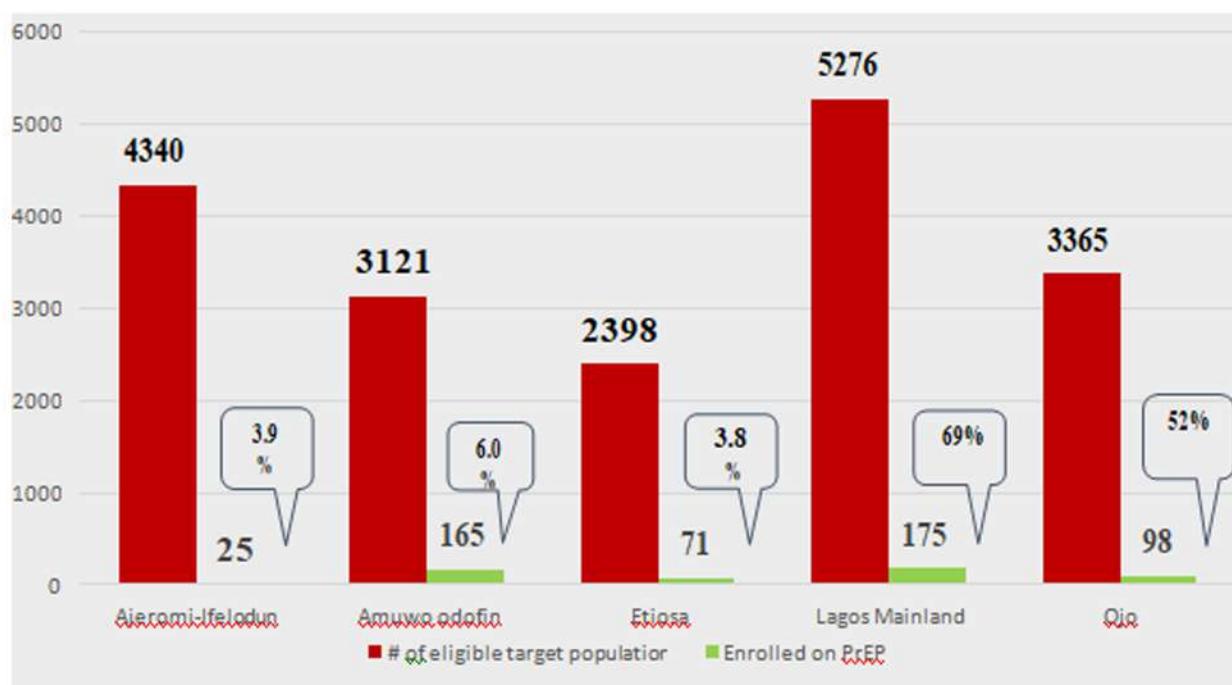
% of people who confirm positive for HIV after using HIVST, enrolled in ART services



Outcome Cascade



HIVST and PrEP Uptake



ACHIEVEMENTS:

- ☒ Government and community Stakeholder support gained for an enabling environment leading to fruitful outcomes.
- ☒ Available human resource capacity built to deliver HIVST and related services
- ☒ Improved awareness and demand of HIVST services among AYP priority population
- ☒ Improved youth social engagement on HIVST and SRHR demand generation via online platforms.
- ☒ A total of 18,500 HIVSTK have been distributed with appropriate referral and linkages provided
- ☒ 100% enrollment into ART for confirmed positive cases.
- ☒ Media hype of the STAR project in Lagos gained via engagement with LTV media coverage, The Sun and This Day news publications.

Collaborations:

- ☒ Lagos State AIDS Control Agency (LSACA)
- ☒ Youth Network on HIV/AIDS, Population and Development (NYNETHA) Lagos State Chapter
- ☒ Equal Right for Health and Advocacy Initiative (EHRAAI)
- ☒ University of Lagos (UNILAG) Anti AIDS Clubs
- ☒ Lagos State University, Ojo, JCI
- ☒ Rotaract Club of Lagos
- ☒ Lagos State TB Control Team.

Best Practice

- ☒ Targeted testing and risk assessment/stratification with client
- ☒ Engagement of Data entry clerks and volunteers to complement the workforce
- ☒ Online engagement improved online demand and service provision through Differentiated Service Delivery.
- ☒ Strong emphasis on precautions/SOP in using the test kit to improve the quality of test results.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- ☒ Provisions for condoms and lubricants to enhance demand and uptake for AYP
- ☒ Need to scale up tailored awareness and demand generation for PrEP among AYP
- ☒ Continuous follow-up with unconfirmed reactive clients and discordant clients and if possible retarget them through self-testing again to elicit yields.
- ☒ Flexible financial compliance procedures should be considered when working with young people.
- ☒ Need to explore self-testing in Traditional Births Attendants Clinics targeted at AGYW to also improve awareness.

NEXT STEPS

- ☒ Mobilize funding and resources to sustain and scale up demand for HIVST services among priority diverse population

The HIV Self-Testing Africa (STAR III) Project is a four-month project funded by the John Hopkins University Affiliate (jhpiego) to be implemented in Lagos, Nigeria by the African Network of Adolescents and Young People Development (ANAYD) to increase awareness and uptake of HIV Self-Testing among Nigerian youths, as testing remains the entry point to accessing treatment and care. The project lays strong emphasis on its being an AYP-led intervention, with its entire component being designed, managed and executed by the Adolescents and Young People. The project has helped immensely with building capacity for these youths as they engage, enlighten and influence their peers to take responsibility for their health by up-taking the free HIV self-testing services being provided.

The youths have driven this project so well, leveraging on their influences online, via social media and offline, using community integration activities to reach their peers and the general population with information that improves their health consciousness and well-being. Significantly also, the project has enjoyed tremendous support from the media in propagating awareness, with media appearances on various media platforms vis-a-vis television, radio stations and newspapers.

For some of these amazing youth behavioral change-drivers, it is their first time getting involved in a project like this and this opportunity has improved their confidence in their capacities and capabilities to influence change from their own corners. It has also provided them a learning curve to learn, unlearn and relearn various skills, capacities and nuances.

Speaking on her experience, Miss Jennifer Oriaku, the associate communications officer says, "This project has pushed me out of my comfort zone, it has helped me develop my skills as a

communications strategist. I remember applying for this role afraid, I kept thinking "isn't this too big a role for a young person?" but I did anyways and I am glad I did. I have improved on my critical-thinking skills, coming up with strategies that work; my problem-solving skills, I got to approach problems as challenges that could be solved and this view helped to put my creativity to test. I have also learned how to manage people better, I was mostly incharge of the online team, managing the micro social media influencers was quite the daunting task. I think managing people generally is daunting but when it comes to virtual management, you have to be more patient and professional. I am glad for the experience, more so as I look at our successes and it is all worth it - thousands of youths now know their HIV status and I helped to make that happen, sure worth it."

The best part of using young people to address young people's challenges is that it fosters trust among the peers, they feel more comfortable relating with their peers without the fear of being stigmatized that is common with youth-adult interaction. Also, seeing that young people like they are have capabilities of making impact to evoke a sense of can-do attitude amongst their peers, they start wanting to get involved too; this is a step in the right direction if we have more youths interested in being positive change agents, there would be a decrease in vices and whatnot.

"My friends and peers these days reach out to me for information on SRHR, HIV testing services and even job opportunities. They trust me to a large extent and the fact that they are interested to get involved in legitimate and impact driven projects shows that the nation has hope for the future and it is great that young people are already leading the change; they see us and want to be like us. Simply great!" – Oriaku Jennifer.

Indeed, we believe with this young lady that the future is bright and as we always say: Together we can!