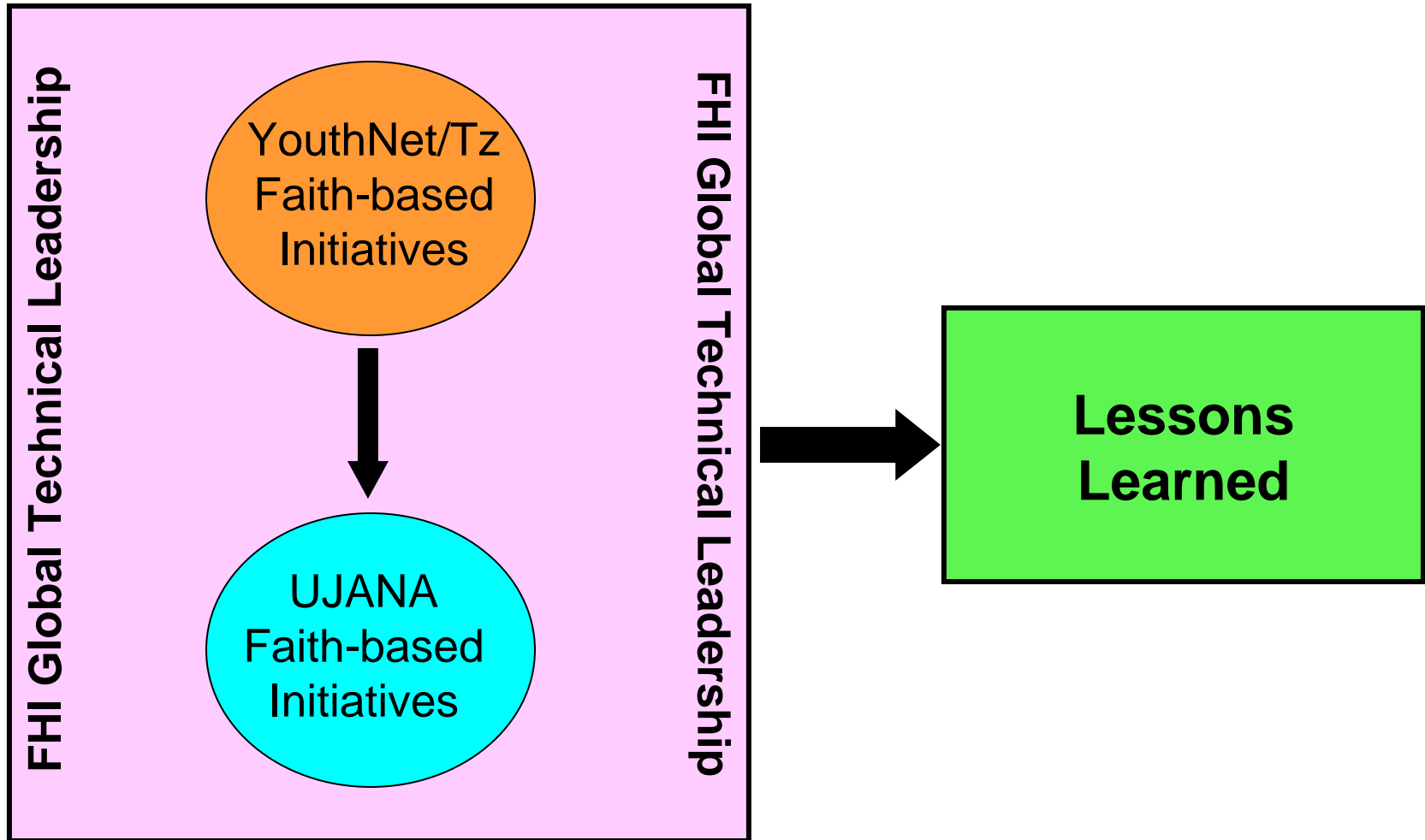


Supporting Faith-Based Organizations to Reach Youth in Tanzania

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Session Outline



YouthNet

Faith-based Initiatives

- Participatory learning and action (PLA) assessment
- Capacity-building for faith-based organizations (FBOs)
- Grants to 11 FBOs
- Collaboration on global tools
- Interfaith network

PLA Assessment

- Conducted PLA assessment with Christian and Muslim groups in six districts of Iringa
- Emphasized youth-adult partnerships
- 1,115 youth and adults reached by 48 trained facilitators
- Led to initiation/expansion of FBO work on issues identified during assessment

PLA Findings (1)

- Many FBOs involved in care and treatment; few engaged in HIV prevention, especially for youth
- Youth want to learn about HIV/AIDS and RH issues from trusted adults
- Many FBOs do not feel equipped to educate youth on sensitive issues, e.g., sexuality
- FBOs are sustainable structures for reaching youth with prevention messages

PLA Findings (2)

- Both youth and adults recognized HIV/AIDS and pregnancy as serious problems for youth
- Tension between church teachings and community realities, i.e., on condoms
- Need for collaboration between technical assistance groups and FBOs

Capacity Building for FBOs

Conducted workshops on:

- Design and implementation of youth HIV prevention programs
- Proposal development – both technical and financial aspects
- Effective behaviour change communication interventions, e.g., family life education
- Monitoring and evaluation

Grants to FBOs (1)

- **ELCT Njombe**

- Trained pastors, teachers, and choir leaders in youth HIV prevention
- Reached congregants with youth HIV messages through sermons
- Conducted outreach to young people and parents
- Conducted workshops for young married couples

Grants to FBOs (2)

- **Dhi Nureyn Islamic Foundation**
 - Trained sheikhs, imams, and maalims in HIV prevention and youth-adult partnerships
 - Led HIV/AIDS and RH information sessions in madrasas, schools, and mosques
 - Reached youth in street camps with HIV/AIDS and RH sessions

Collaboration on Global Tools (1)

- YouthNet/HQ identified need to:
 - Help move FBOs beyond care and treatment
 - Equip FBOs with knowledge and skills to implement youth HIV/AIDS programs
 - Provide faith leaders with concrete tools for reaching youth with interventions

Collaboration on Global Tools (2)

- YouthNet/HQ developed Christian and Muslim family life education manuals (CFLE/MFLE) to teach adults to communicate with youth about HIV/AIDS and RH issues
- YouthNet/Tanzania built on global leadership by field-testing manuals and identifying appropriate verses from the Bible and Quran

Interfaith Network in Iringa

- Brought FBOs together to enhance collaboration and share knowledge, skills, challenges, and resources
- Aimed to increase impact of work done by individual FBOs for similar beneficiaries
- Provided opportunities to conduct technical trainings in key areas – peer education, development of print materials, youth-adult partnerships

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Faith-based Initiatives

- Interfaith network expansion
- Grants to FBOs
- Adaptation of resources for FBO use
- Capacity building for FBOs

Interfaith Network Expansion

- Initiate networks in Morogoro and Zanzibar
- Promote coalition building and sharing of successes, lessons learned, and challenges
- Promote sustainability of FBO youth HIV prevention programs
- Provide technical support and share global tools and best practices
- Promote FBO links to youth-friendly services and information

Grants to FBOs

- **Anglican Church of Zanzibar**
 - Train pastors, choir leaders, teachers, and young couples in youth HIV prevention
 - Conduct youth peer education
- **Christian Council of Tanzania** (pending)
 - Train pastors, youth leaders, and choir leaders to use CFLE
 - Implement peer education using “Stepping Stones” curriculum
 - Conduct support sessions with parents
- **Others will be added starting July 08**

Resources for FBOs

- Translate and adapt CFLE manual into Swahili for Christian FBOs
- Translate and adapt MFLE manual into Swahili for Muslim FBOs
- Support translation of *HIV/AIDS & Islam* into Swahili (from Positive Muslims)
- Develop materials focusing on abstinence and faithfulness, especially given dearth of materials for youth on “B”

Capacity Building for FBOs

- Implement training to strengthen FBO capacity to use CFLE/MFLE manuals
- Conduct targeted technical workshops, e.g., peer education, behaviour change communication, youth-adult partnerships, gender integration
- Link FBOs with youth PLHA to reduce stigma and discrimination and enhance HIV prevention efforts

Lessons Learned (1)

- Involving FBOs in helping to assess the needs of the communities they serve and determining where they can best affect change leads to greater ownership and sustainability
- Implementation of FBO youth programs must be accompanied by technical and organizational capacity building

Lessons Learned (2)

- FBO networks can help strengthen the ability of individual members to advocate for change and positively impact beneficiaries and social norms
- Youth programs are more effective when partnerships are forged between FBOs and technical assistance organizations at the global and local levels