Adolescent-friendly Health Services in Burundi

Report by HAI, Twitezimbere and ABS Burundi | Download

Access to adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive health (AYSRH) services is a critical component of health systems. Limited access to AYSRH services can lead to early and unintended pregnancies, maternal mortality, HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and complications from untreated STIs, such as pelvic inflammatory disease, some types of cancer, and pregnancy and infertility problems. It is also crucial for a thriving society that adolescents and youth, a group that often faces additional challenges in accessing services, are able to access the sexual and reproductive health services they need to live healthy lives and protect themselves from major health risks. Unfortunately, Burundi faces many challenges related to the provision of AYSRH services.

This research was conducted to study the provision of AYSRH services and the attitude and/or behaviour of health personnel in the provinces of Cibitoke, Bubanza, Bujumbura Rural, Mwaro, Rumonge, Bururi, Rutana and Makamba in Burundi. This study used an adapted version of the HAI/WHO methodology and a cross-sectional survey. It collected information on the provision of AYSRH services in health centers in the health advocacy project area. Data were collected from 182 health facilities in the public, private, faith-based and associative sectors. The study focused on the provision and delivery of AYSRH services, policies, management and supervision of health centers, training, education and awareness-raising as well as the state of the structures visited.

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