

# Youth-led accountability and community Engagement for reproductive health supplies in Lusaka and Petauke Districts of Zambia

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# Who are we?

- Copper Rose Zambia is a Youth-led organization that envisions a world in which every young person is happy, healthy, and living to their full potential.
- We exist to build a conducive environment for all young people to thrive in all aspects of their lives.
- Main areas of work are ;
  - a. Health and Wellbeing
  - b. Gender Equity
  - c. Youth Development&Leadership



# What did we do?

- Copper Rose Zambia developed and utilized **scorecards** to monitor Reproductive Health commodity supply in 3 health facilities (1 in Lusaka and 2 in Petauke) and assess District Health Office efforts in addressing stock-outs and bottlenecks in the supply chain.
- The scorecards were employed by Youth Peer Educators and District Health Offices in Lusaka and Petauke districts with the involvement of the community and various stakeholders.

They were used to:

1. Evaluate the **availability** of Adolescent and Youth-Friendly Health Services and supplies at Facilities.
2. Assess the **accessibility** of health services and supplies for adolescents and young people.
3. Facilitate **participation** of youth in various decision making activities to champion Reproductive Health agenda.

OUTCOMES	OUTPUT INDICATORS	LUSAKA SCORE		PETAUKE SCORE	
		Q1	Q4	Q1	Q4
Availability of SRHR commodities at district health medical stores (MS)	The district has not recorded stockouts of SRH commodities.	5	5	4	3
	The district has timely requests of SRH commodities from MS	5	4	3	4
	The district has received requests for SRH commodities from target facilities.	4	5	4	4
	The district has approved and issued and issued SRH commodities to target facilities.	4	4	4	4
Availability of SRH commodities in the target health facilities	The facility has requested for SRH commodities from the district.	4	5	2	4
	The facility has received adequate SRH commodities.	3	3	2	4
	The facility has allocated SRH commodities to the YFHS.	3	5	2	4
	The facility has not recorded stockouts of SRH commodities.	2	2	4	4
Availability of SRH commodities in all the target YFHS	The YFHS has requested for SRH commodities from the facility	4	4	1	5
	The YFHS has received adequate SRH commodities	2	3	4	4
	The YFHS has not recorded stock outs of SRH commodities	2	3	4	5
	The YFHS is providing quality SRH services to young people	3	3	1	4

**Table 1: District and facility commodity supply scorecard**

**KEY:** 1 – Not complying, 2 –below Average, 3 – Average, 4 – Exactly according to plan, 5 = Higher than planned.

Outcomes	Output Indicators	Lusaka score		Petauke score	
		Q1	Q4	Q1	Q4
Adolescents and Young people are represented in district health and facility FP, ADH meetings and annual health planning and budgeting processes.	Number of AY are part of the decision-making processes at facility and district level	1	3	3	3
	Number of AY are supported to attend all policy and decision-making meetings at facility and district level	1	3	2	3
	Facility and district decision making meeting agendas have AYSRH specific items	1	3	3	3

**Table 2: Adolescents and youth participation in decision making at district and health facility Scorecard**

*KEY: 1 – Not complying, 2 –below Average, 3 – Average, 4 – Exactly according to plan, 5 = Higher than planned.*

# What were the results?

- There was generally good supply at district level (scoring 4-5) compared to facility and YFHS level (1-3).
- There was an improvement in supply across the 3 districts overtime.
- In 67% of facilities, the scorecards facilitated community accountability which generated political will to address stock-outs in Reproductive Health supplies. E.g Some government departments supported transportation of commodities to the health facilities.
- Youth engagement in various decision making bodies such as District Adolescent Health Technical Working Groups and Neighborhood Health Committees increased by 20%.



# Lessons Learnt

- **Young people** can bring about change within their context when given the means and opportunity to do so.
- **Data-driven** advocacy and accountability proves more effective in addressing Reproductive Health challenges even at community level.
- The availability of supplies at National and Sub-national level does not always mean supplies are available at community level i.e Youth Friendly Spaces.
- Sometimes the commodity supply issues are beyond health facility level, there are stock outs at central level. In these instances, advocacy is not enough, its a domestic financing issue.
- This youth-led advocacy and accountability approach can be adapted to the needs of other marginalized groups or areas such as Menstrual Health supplies.

# In summary....

- Youths can do it!
- Data, data, data!
- Youth-led accountability and community involvement is key in advocacy.
- The information gathered was not just numbers; it was a powerful narrative illustrating the felt needs and aspirations of youths.





Thank you!  
Questions???



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