

# Adolescent girls and young women as end users of HIV prevention in sub-Saharan Africa: Mapping ongoing and planned research along the HIV prevention journey to inform product introduction

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## Background:

New HIV prevention options are needed and existing ones need to be successfully introduced and scaled to address the disproportionate number of new infections among adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) in sub-Saharan Africa.

For successful product introduction, a thorough understanding of factors that influence AGYW's awareness, acceptance, uptake, adherence and championing of HIV prevention is essential.

The landscape of AGYW and HIV prevention research is highly saturated, and a mapping of research along the prevention journey framework is needed to discover what is known, will be known and what gaps exist. Starting in 2017, the HIV Prevention Market Manager project began tracking ongoing and planned work. This mapping builds on a previously published analysis, identifying the full scope of work in this area and mapping research questions to the journey framework.

## Methods:

### PARAMETERS

Population | Adolescent girls & young women 13-29 <sup>1, 2</sup>

Geography | sub-Saharan Africa

Timeframe | Ongoing (not yet fully complete) & planned work <sup>3</sup>

Focus | Projects, studies and initiatives that include HIV prevention as a parameter or outcome <sup>4</sup>

A review of ongoing and planned research on HIV prevention and AGYW ages 13-29 in sub-Saharan Africa was conducted. The review maps research by study type, country and questions along the prevention journey framework—awareness, acceptance, uptake, adherence and championing. Structured interviews with product developers, researchers, marketing agencies, program implementers and surveys informed the mapping.

1. The work included in this review includes other populations when they are enrolled in projects covering AGYW.  
2. The work included in this review expands the age range where relevant or where projects include a wider range.  
3. The work included in this review also includes select completed work.  
4. Several projects included in this review are of relevance, but do not have an explicit focus on biomedical HIV prevention.

## Results:

The review identifies 84 organizations working on 104 ongoing and planned projects in 18 countries across sub-Saharan Africa. Research focuses primarily on acceptability and adherence, with oral PrEP the main product under study. The mapping found that South Africa, Kenya and Zimbabwe are the primary locations for research. Only 14% of all projects in sub-Saharan Africa gather information on those who influence potential HIV prevention users, with 54% of these projects including a focus on male partners, and only 4% including a focus on the health provider as influencer.

Figure 1. Mapping Project Geographies

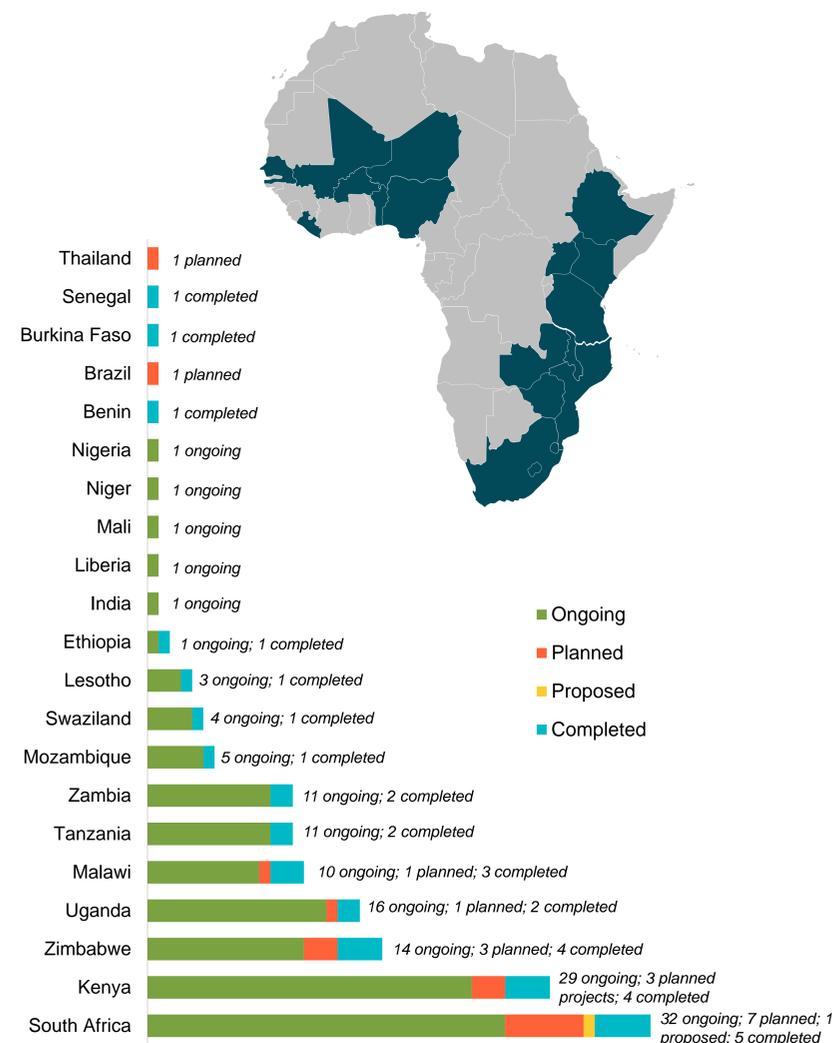


Figure 2. Charting projects by HIV prevention option

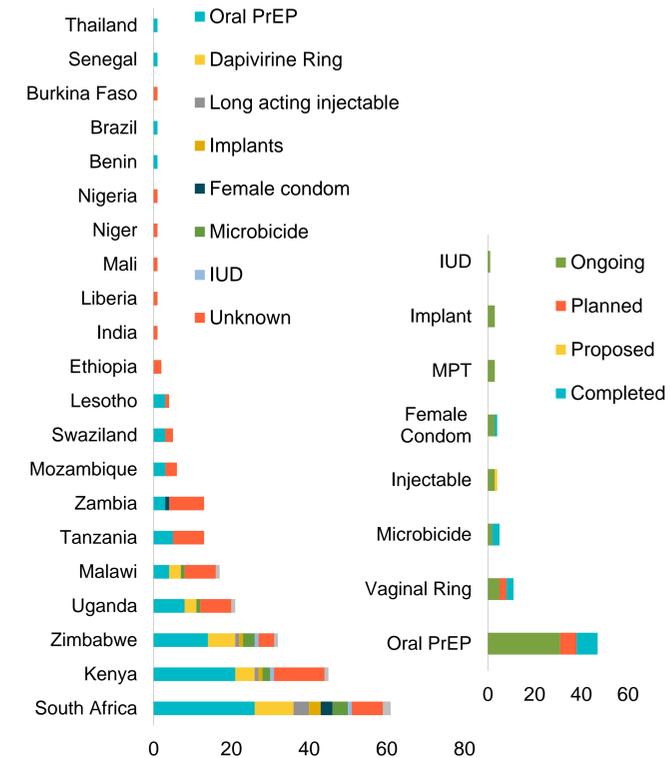
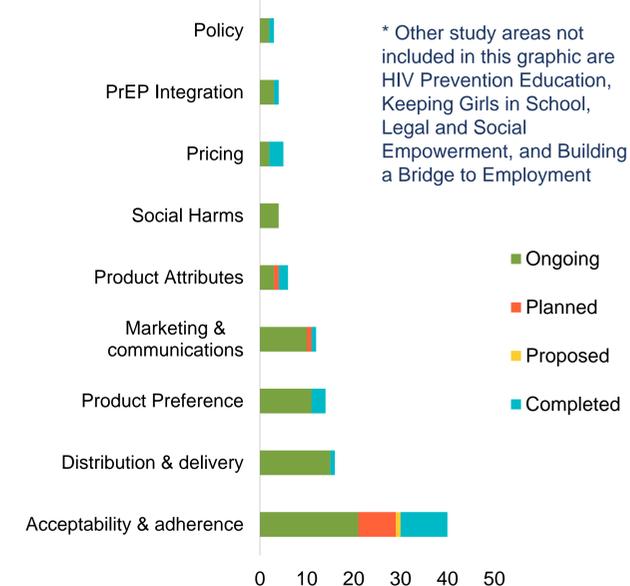
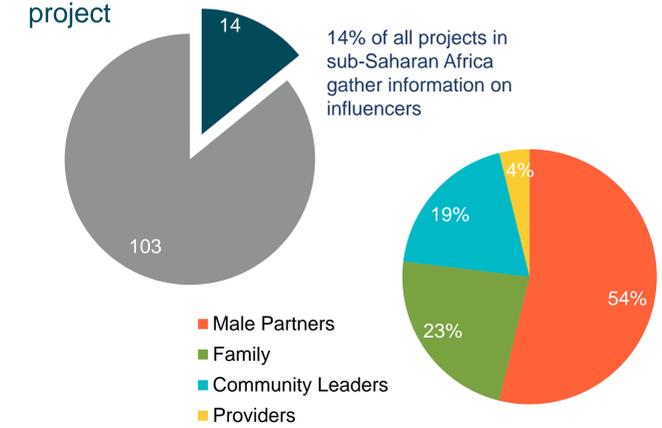


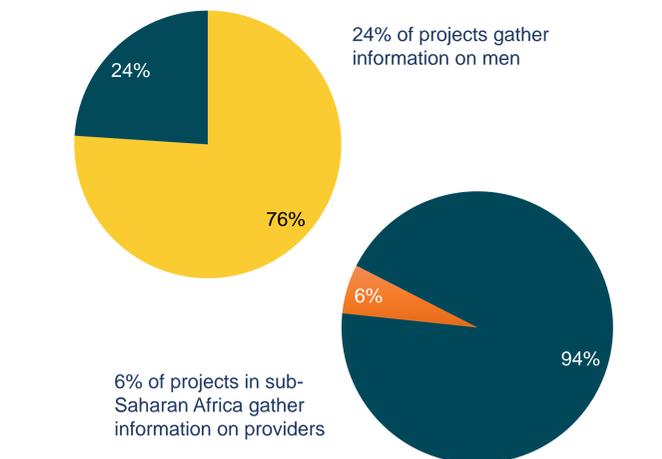
Figure 3. Mapping Project Study Areas



Figures 4 & 5. AGYW Projects that include information on influencers; Types of Influencer by project



Figures 6 & 7. Projects that include information on men; Projects that include information on providers



## Conclusion:

The mapping brought to light several gaps in research on AGYW as end users of HIV prevention products, such as the lack of research focused on providers. The mapping intends to be a living document, updated with new research on an ongoing basis, and can inform collaborations and act as a guide to funders and implementers when considering what is already happening, what gaps exist and what new work is needed to understand AGYW and HIV prevention.

**HIV Prevention Market Manager**

Accelerating Product Introduction  
Informing Product Development  
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