



Peer Educators and School Support:
we need education and teachers to
support our work on ASRH arena



What is this work about?

- Young people's involvement in a nationwide sexual and reproductive health (SRH) program
- Evaluation of school-based strategies
- Public health and educational policies
- Commitment to sexual and reproductive rights: right to health (health as a right), rights with regard to sexuality



Geração Biz Program (GB)

Multisectoral, integrated interventions and strategies

- Client-oriented ASRH
- Community-based
- School-based



GB activities aim to improve young people's knowledge, skills, and abilities to adopt safe, healthy behaviours.



School-Based Activities

- Sensitized school community
- Trained teachers and peer educators (PE) in SRH
- Generated support for the implementation of peer education activities
- Created strong referral system to Youth Friendly Services (YFS) clinics
- Retained female peer educators
- Established youth corners (YC) at schools



Formative Evaluation of School-Based Intervention (FESBI)

A comprehensive evaluation of GB's school-based interventions using qualitative and quantitative methods

Objectives:

- Evaluate the coverage and quality of the school-based interventions
- Determine future direction for the program



FESBI: Questions

- **Has the work of GB been carried out with quality?**
- Have GB strategies been effective in improving knowledge, attitudes and practices related to SRH of young people?
- What standards and changes should be applied to GB schools based on the above?



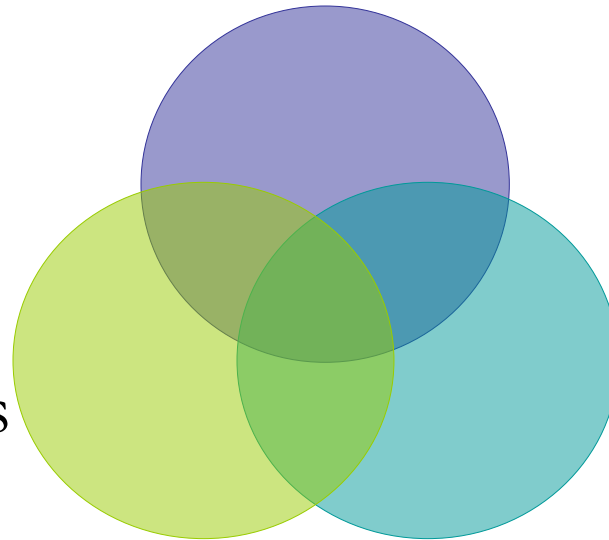
Phases of FESBI

Phase 1

Schools Profiles and quality study in 20 schools

Phase 3

Four KAP studies
Control group
Case study



Phase 2

Focus groups
with students at
GB schools



Phase 1: Instruments & sample

Interviews

- School Heads
- Teachers

**20 heads +
23 teachers**

Questionnaires
Peer Educators

131

Observation
checklists

20 schools



School-Based Strategies

Peer educators (the primary program implementers)
→ **training & knowledge**

Youth corners → **counseling**

Condom availability → **commodities**



Training & Knowledge Findings

- 89% of PEs could identify two forms and 65% three forms of HIV transmission
- 79% identified two out of a total of four correct steps of condom use
- PEs reported not being prepared to discuss subjects such as sexual abuse, GBV, transactional sex and intergenerational sex, masturbation.



Counseling Services: Youth Corners

- 15 of 20 schools had YCs
- Privacy was guaranteed in 14 of 20 schools
- Less than 10 YCs had a posted schedule for opening hours





PEs Activities and Counseling Services Findings

- Where activities happen:
 - 94% in classrooms (talks and debates);
 - 88% in YCs (counseling sessions);
 - 72% outside but on school property
- **Most requested topics** included STI/HIV and AIDS, pregnancy, condom negotiation, use of contraceptives and condoms, masturbation and abortion/post abortion care
- **Avoided topics during counseling sessions:** male and female genital organs, transactional and intergenerational sex

Causes of reluctance: not prepared to explain topic; students not interested; fear of giving wrong information

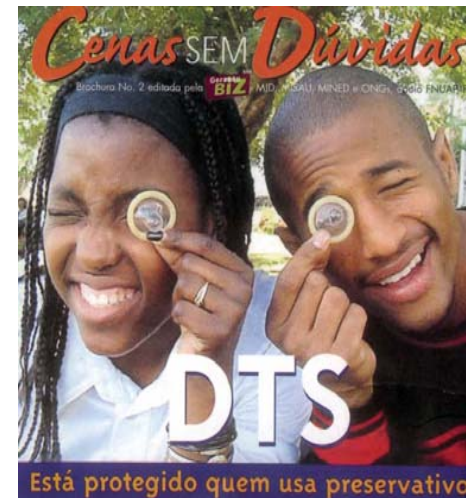


Condom and Material Availability Findings

- Most had SRH posters, IEC materials
- 16/20 had condoms
- Problems with supplies in rural areas
- Location of condom distribution varied among the schools

Requests

- Materials with: lower reading age
better visual format
- More ID cards for PE





Leadership & Program Performance

School director involvement in GB activities	Strong school	Weak school
Supervise GB activities	73%	27%
Available when peer-educators have difficulties or problems	46%	13%
Support the peer-educators' activities	82%	38%
Attend peer-educators meetings	36%	25%
Lead educational activities with peer-educators	18%	13%



Peer Educators' Knowledge Findings

- PEs at high-performing schools:
 - reported greater knowledge of SRH
 - more often seek help from others PEs and teachers and refer for SRH services
- However, HIV knowledge was still limited or fragmented in some aspects



Conclusion

- Success hinged on:
 - PEs' knowledge and approach to SRH topics
 - Director and teacher leadership and support
 - Condom availability
- Challenges: teachers and PE retention, consistent implementation, and constant provision of supplies
- Current GB data is good, still inconclusive to all questions of FESBI.



Thank you



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