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Community Engagement - Perspectives on reaching, enrolling and retaining Brazil - Peru - México

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- ★ Community mobilization supports the response to the HIV epidemic to MSM and TGW
- ★ There are underlying issues that serve as obstacles to accessing and utilizing health care services such as the high level of discrimination which limits access to and utilization of services. Marginalization, cultural resistance, historical institutional discrimination. In some cases, laws and policies themselves have become barriers to accessibility of services by men who have sex with men and to transgender people (MSM/TGW)
- ★ Such issues need to be addressed by combining an effective community mobilization strategy that is contextual, taking into account the **nature of the epidemic, capacity of the partners, existing policy and legal frameworks, dynamics of the socio-cultural environment** and other contextual issues



Where do we come from? Community Component within the ImPrEP Initiative Context



- ★ Community mobilization is **a key strategy** for **increasing demand on the use of health services.** It makes it possible to:
 - (1) help communities to **identify their own needs and to respond to and address these needs**
 - (2) increase participation of community members which **helps providers raise awareness both of health issues at the community level** and of social and cultural issues that may promote or inhibit use of information and/or health services
 - (3) improve **the understanding of** key populations of the **methods of prevention** and /or services being offered
 - (4) link health institutions and structures to communities
 - (5) foster greater access and equity in health care
 - (6) enhance **sustainability** as communities are empowered and capable of addressing their own needs



Where do we come from?

Community Component within the ImPrEP Initiative Context





- ★ Each country has a community component that consists of communication team & community engagement coordinators from MSM and TGW
- ★ In Brazil we have a CAB Community Advisory Board (7 members)
- ★ In Brazil we have 23 Peer Educators allocated in each of the Study sites

Where do we come from?

Community Component within the ImPrEP Initiative Context



- → Developing countries
- → Stigma
- → Institutional discrimination
- → **Poverty** of overall population
- → Extra high vulnerability of TGW (illiteracy or low education, poverty, discrimination, non-respect or obliviousness of gender identity status, non access to body modifications policies)
- → Fear of stigmatization for taking PrEP





























Community mobilization: Demand Creation allied with Communication strategies

- ★ Linkage to community mobilization with marketing and promotion activities can have an increased effect in the outreach of community audience
- ★ Videos, Applications and Social Medias awareness campaigns
- ★ Mainstream media awareness and information providing
- ★ **Demand creation** through dialogue processes with civil society and communities
- ★ Events, talks and activities for raising awareness about PrEP and combination prevention amongst organized civil society members and community members
- ★ **Direct approach** to community members
- ★ Peer educators as conveyors of informations and links to the services



Community engagement in the ImPrEP Project Community mobilization: Demand Creation allied with

















Community engagement in the ImPrEP Project Community mobilization: Demand Creation allied with Communication strategies

















Community mobilization: Demand Creation allied with Communication strategies



Brazil - Peru - Mexico

Meetings to present the Study for members of organized civil society and LGBTQI+ community in the regions of implementation of the services

Constant consultation of local CAB









Community engagement in the ImPrEP Project Community mobilization: Demand Creation allied with Communication strategies



Brazil - Peru - Mexico

Focus groups with TGW to understand their perceptions of the idea of PrEP and combination prevention





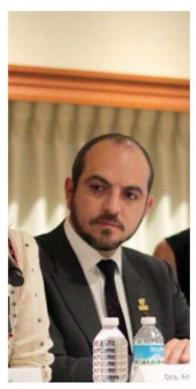


Brazil - Peru - Mexico

strategies

Community
Engagement
Coordinators are
recognised leaders
within and peers
from the key
populations of the
ImPrEP Project









Community mobilization: Demand Creation allied with Communication



strategies

Brazil - Peru - Mexico

Special events,
training and talks
with partners,
members of health
services, HIV
organizations and
communities, aiming
for demand creation











Campaigns during carnival and commemorative dates of LGBTQI+ Community

Visual identity and language of the materials created for campaigns in social media are prepared with consultation of peers and members of the communities





Community mobilization, Demand Creation allied with Communication strategies











Community mobilization: Demand Creation allied with Communication strategies



Capacity-building in HIV/Aids, combination prevention and Human Rights for organized civil society

Meetings and training of influencers within the MSM and TGW community













strategies

Brazil - Peru - Mexico









PrEP no contexto das populações vulneráveis







Community engagement in the ImPrEP Project Community mobilization: Demand Creation allied with Communication strategies



Brazil's Peer Educators as an asset to mobilization

- Peer educators are members of society with ability to convey information in a critical way to key populations, especially the hard to reach, poor and less educated members of the MSM and TGW groups
- We count with the presence of 23 Peer educators of both key populations in all Brazil's ImPrEP sites working with the teams











Community engagement in the ImPrEP Project: Community mobilization, Demand Creation allied with Communication strategies

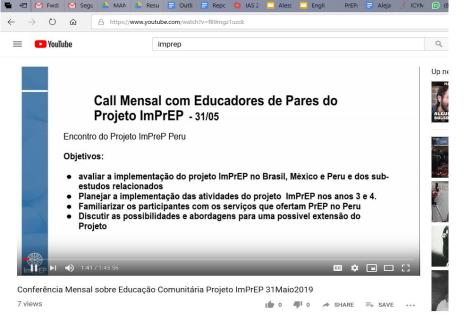


Brazil's Peer Educators as an asset

To insure that this extremely qualified team of specialists continue to do their work we offer **continued** assistance, training, tools for capacity-building, support from the communication and community engagement coordination teams for appropriate awareness raising endeavours and demand creation conditions.









Community engagement in the ImPrEP Project: Community mobilization, Demand Creation allied with Communication strategies



Brazil's Peer Educators as an asset to mobilization

- To do so, some **tools** and **methods of registering** their activities and channels of communication are essential, such as:
 - ★ A comprehensive Work Plan;
 - **★** Biannual seminars
 - ★ Semi-weekly **one-to-one conversations** with community coordinators
 - ★ Monthly web-calls with the entire team;
 - ★ Trimestral Reports consisting of 3 main focuses (demand creation, retention and friendly environment creation)



Community engagement in the ImPrEP Project: Enrolling and Retaining



Some **measures** we are taking to ensure that we have participants of PrEP still enrolled after starting treatment:

- Guaranteeing a welcoming environment through team training in health services
- Calls and reminders of visiting days
- Apps reminding the daily use of PrEP
- Continually providing information about combination prevention
- WEBSite and bulletins

Community engagement in the ImPrEP Project: Challenges



- → MSM and TGW communities in the Americas and their special risks and vulnerability at an individual, social, and programmatic level
- → Community mobilization and participation projects do not follow a "one size fits all" model—each scale-up is to require a local adaptation of processes and methods.
- → Keeping community engagement process-focused rather than impact-focused
- → Reaching less educated, people in poor areas, people of color, and/or of original communities
- → Reaching TGW by getting past invisibilization processes, access to body modification policies and gender identity status recognition



Thank you! Gracias! Obrigado!





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