Every day, about 1,000 adolescent girls and young women are infected with HIV.

Girls and young women account for 74 percent of new HIV infections among adolescents in sub-Saharan Africa.

Today there are nearly 100 million more 15- to 24-year-olds in sub-Saharan Africa than in 1990.

PEPFAR, along with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Girl Effect, Johnson & Johnson, Gilead Sciences, and ViiV Healthcare, implements the ambitious DREAMS public-private partnership to help girls develop into Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, and Safe women. The complementary DREAMS Innovation Challenge supports innovative approaches to meet their complex needs, which specifically put them at risk for HIV infection.

In the 10 African countries (63 districts) implementing PEPFAR's DREAMS partnership, the majority (65 percent) of the highest-HIV-burden communities or districts achieved a 25-40 percent or greater decline in new HIV diagnoses among young women, and new diagnoses declined in nearly all DREAMS intervention districts.

DREAMS is not a moment, it is a movement. The government of South Africa created She Conquers, a national campaign that will extend DREAMS beyond the five PEPFAR-supported districts. Swaziland has expanded its DREAMS interventions for adolescent girls and young women to reach near national coverage. Malawi is also expanding beyond DREAMS districts.

DREAMS activities have been integrated into country operational plans in all 10 DREAMS countries, and DREAMS-like activities were added to 5 additional countries: Botswana, Cote D'Ivoire, Haiti, Namibia, and Rwanda.

“DREAMS is just about that – encouraging girls to dream.”

Ntokozo, Young Woman, South Africa DREAMS Ambassador

The Challenge

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DREAMS’ Impact

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