

Fertility, Family Planning and Empowerment: The case of adolescents

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Overview:

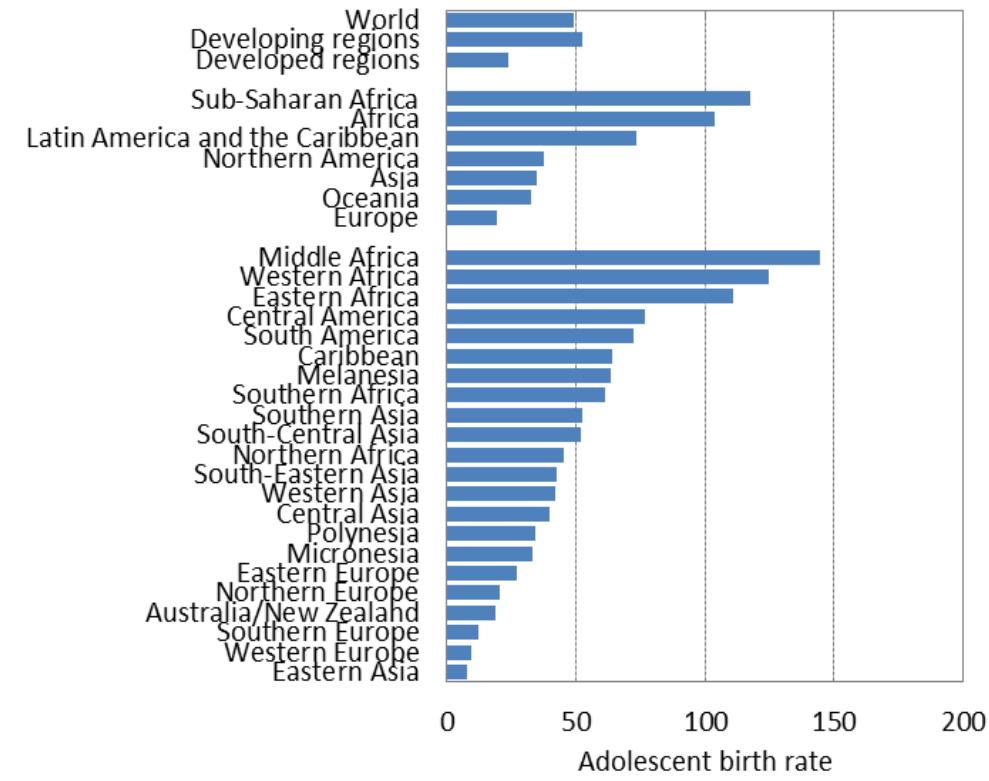
- Adolescent Reproductive Health
 - Fertility
 - Contraception

- Empowering adolescents

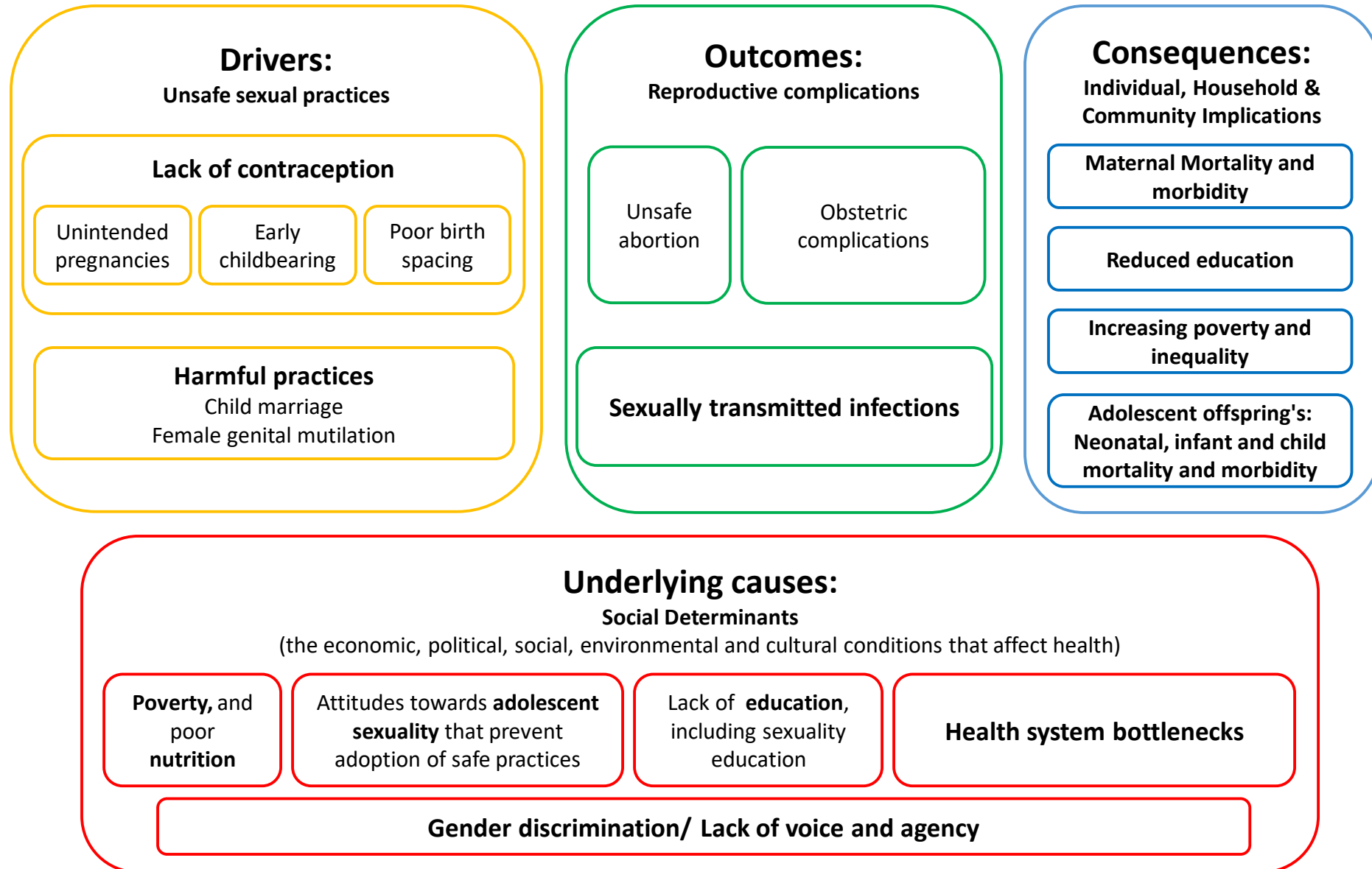


Adolescent Fertility: Key Facts

- Universal decline in adolescent birth rates since 1990
 - Global Adolescent birth rate 44/1000 15-19 year olds
- ...Yet.. is still high in many LMICs
- Decline more slowly than TFR in some areas
- Sexual initiation before marriage is almost universal
- Not all childbearing in adolescence is intended
- High levels of adolescent fertility are associated with high proportion of unsatisfied demand for family planning
- Early marriage remains a strong underlying factor
- Longer school duration linked to lower levels of adolescent childbearing

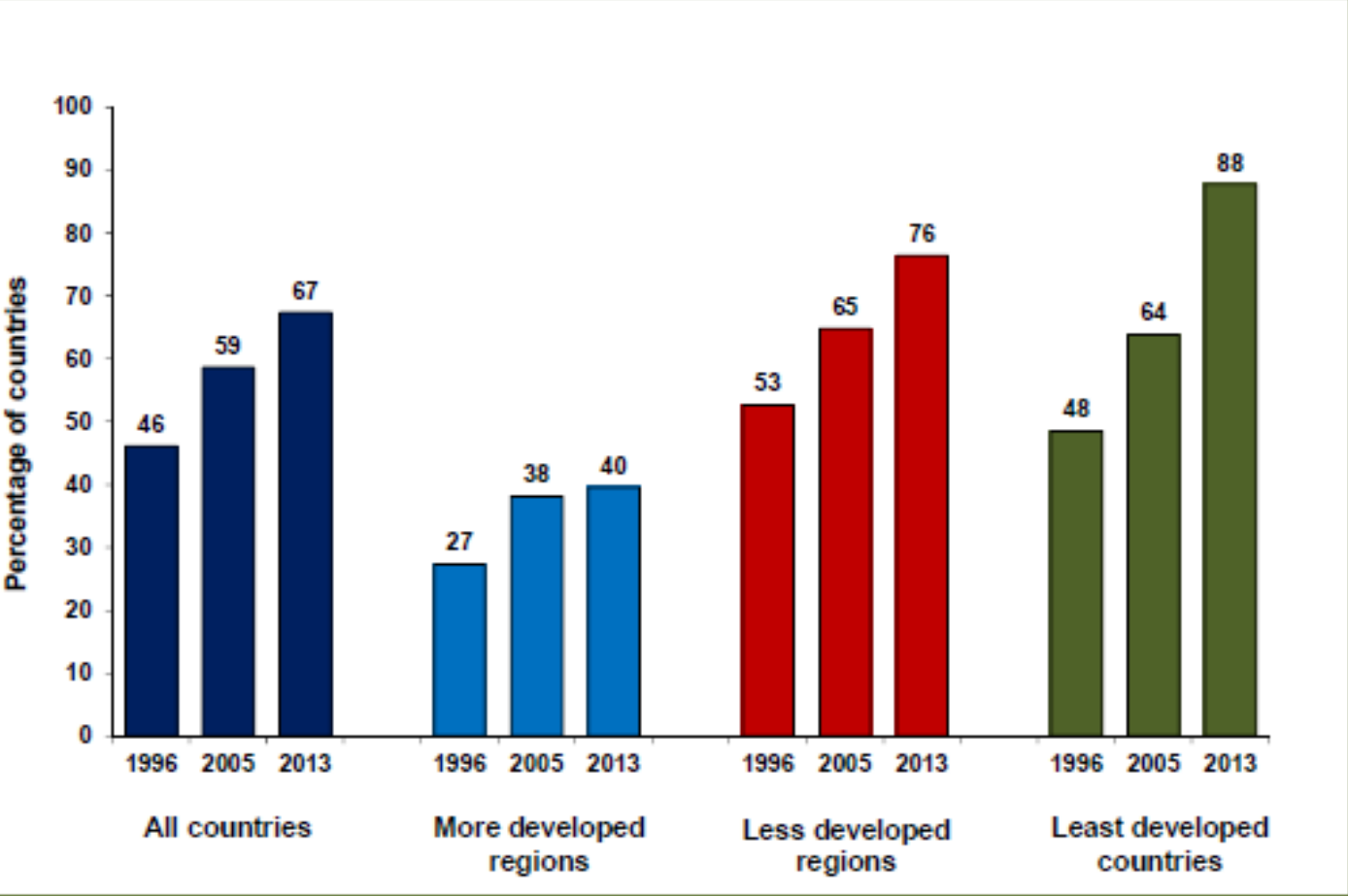


Analytical framework for adolescent reproductive health



Most LMICs consider Adolescent Fertility a major concern

Figure III.3 Governments considering the level of adolescent fertility as a major concern, by level of development, 1996–2013



Contraception

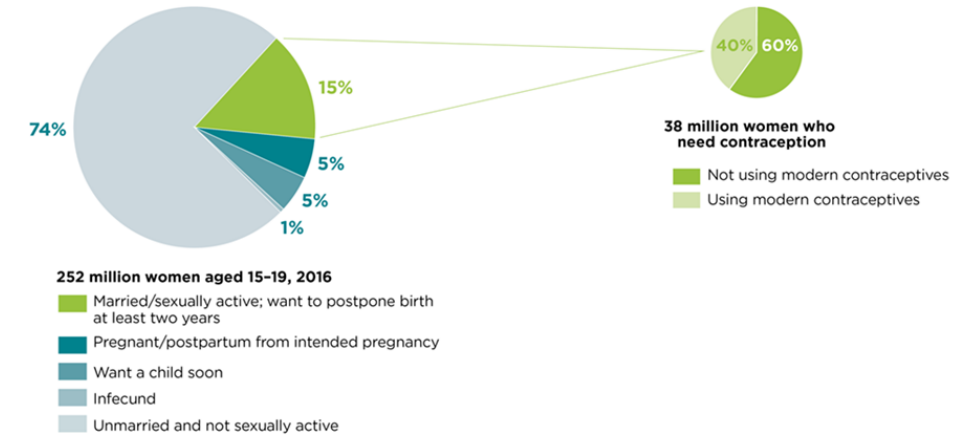
- Contraception is key to achieve declines in teen pregnancy
- 23 Million aged 15-19 in LMICs have an unmet need for contraception (Deitch & Stark, 2019)
- Meeting this need by 2030 would (Biddlecom et al, 2018):
 - Avert 7.1 million unintended pregnancies
 - Additional 300,000 unintended pregnancies if method mix reflects more LARCs

FIGURE 2

CONTRACEPTIVE NEED AND USE

In developing regions, 38 million adolescent women need contraceptives to avoid an unintended pregnancy...

...but more than half are not using an effective method.

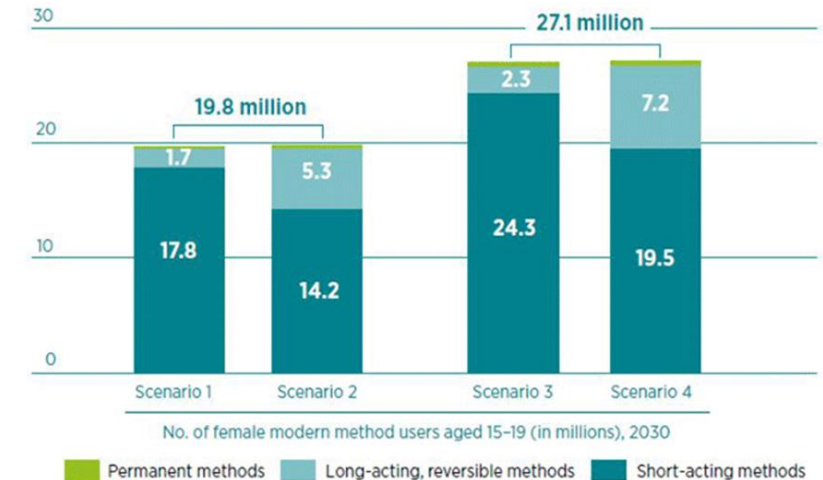


SOURCE: reference 10.

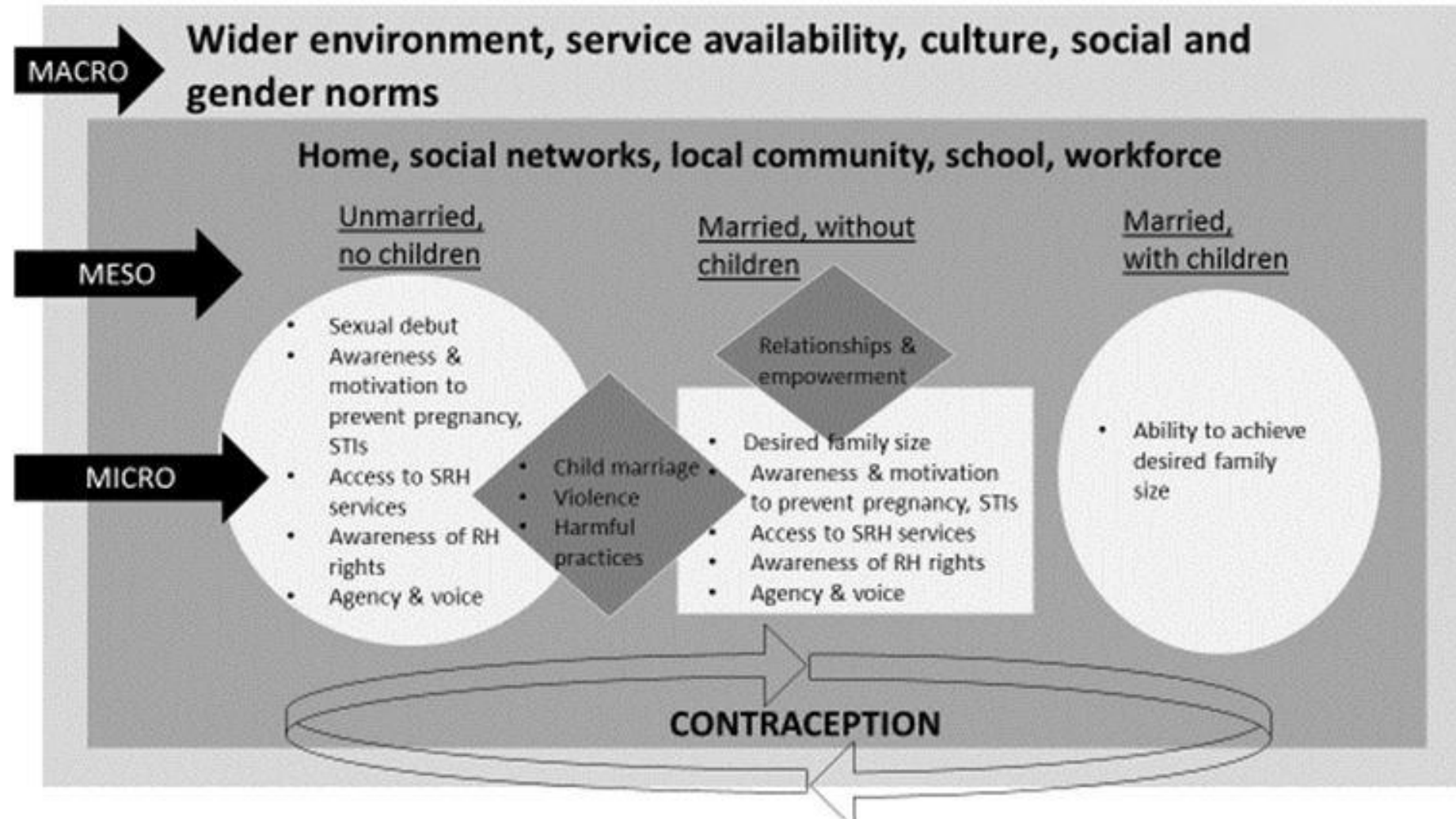
www.guttmacher.org

FUTURE MODERN METHOD USE

The number of adolescent modern contraceptive users in developing regions is expected to reach almost 20 million in 2030.



Conceptual Framework: Adolescent contraceptive journey



Adolescent Empowerment



Approaches:

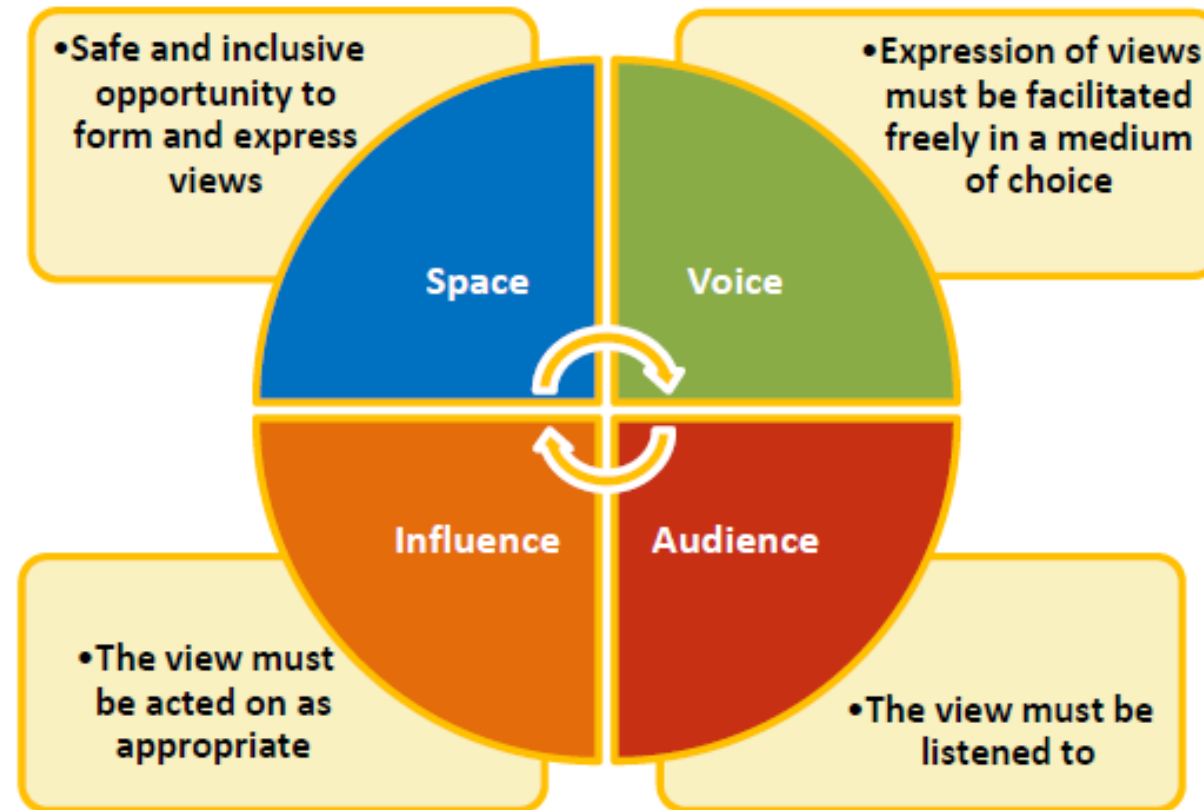
- Asset building
- Economic
- Attitude & capability
- Conditions & Opportunities

Adolescent Participation as a Fundamental Right

Adolescent girls and boys (individually and/or collectively) forms and express their views and influence matters that concern them directly and indirectly

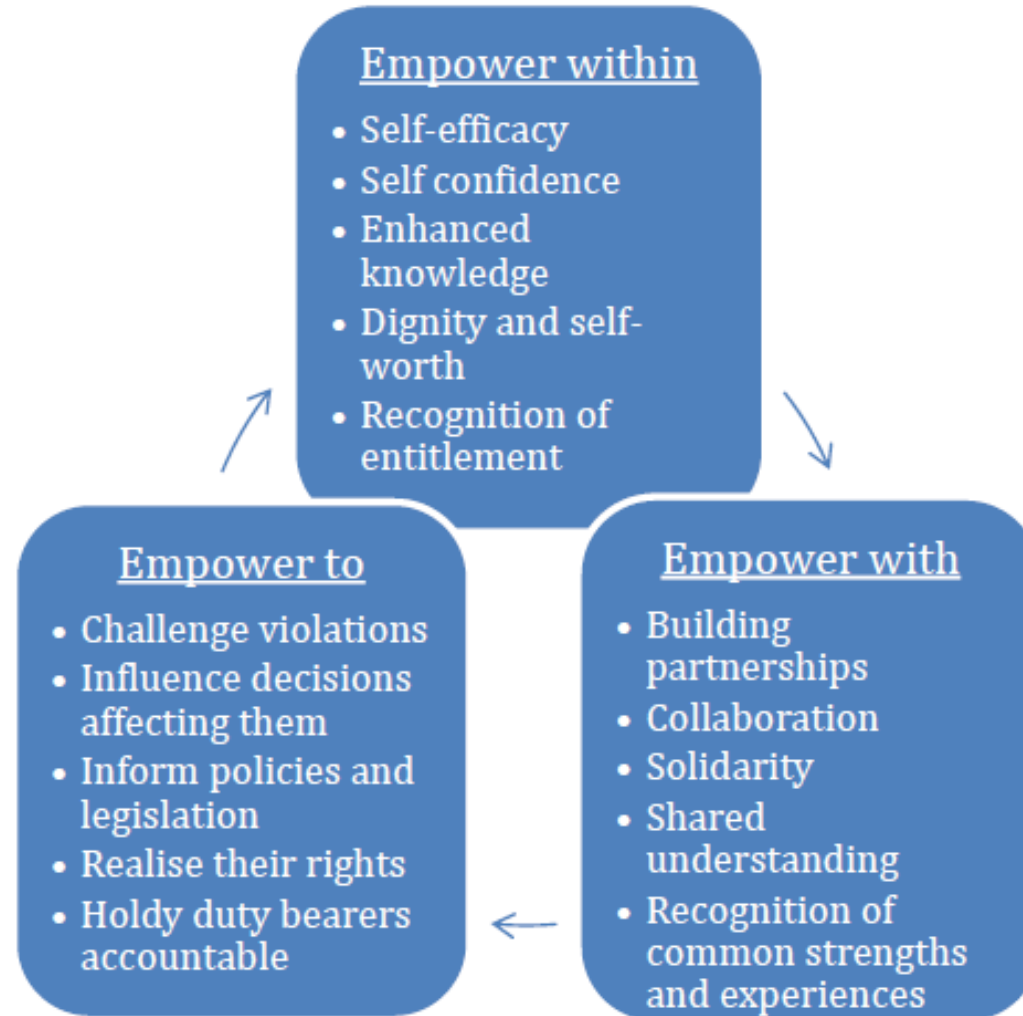
1. Participation in the context of CRC
2. Participation in relation to evolving capacities
3. Participation in relation to protection
4. Participation in relation to empowerment

Essential Features for Meaningful Adolescent Participation

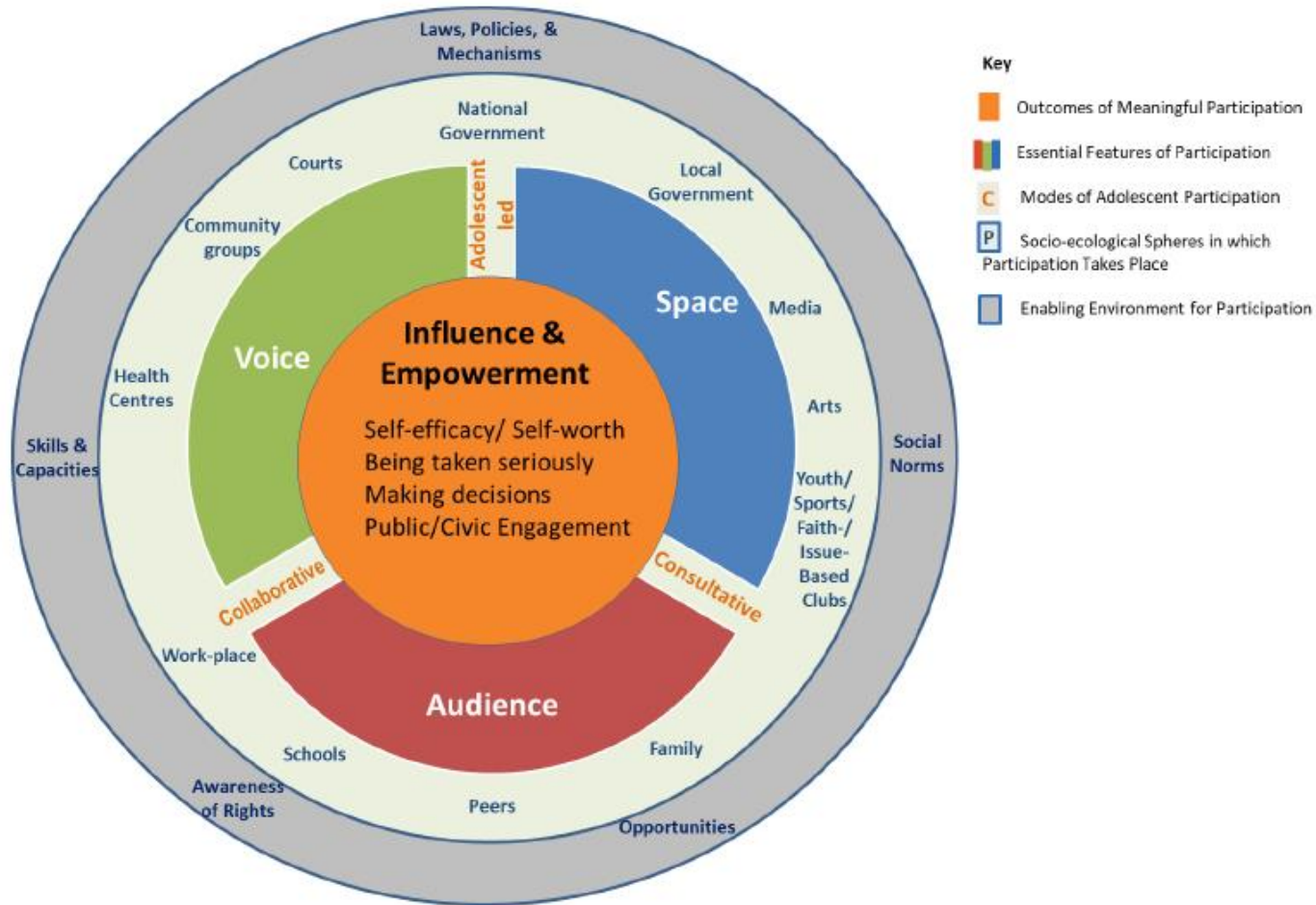


⁷ Lundy L. Voice is not enough: Conceptualising Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. *British Educational Research Journal*. 2007 Dec;33(6):927-942

Adolescent Participation and Empowerment



Framework for Measuring Outcomes for Adolescent Participation

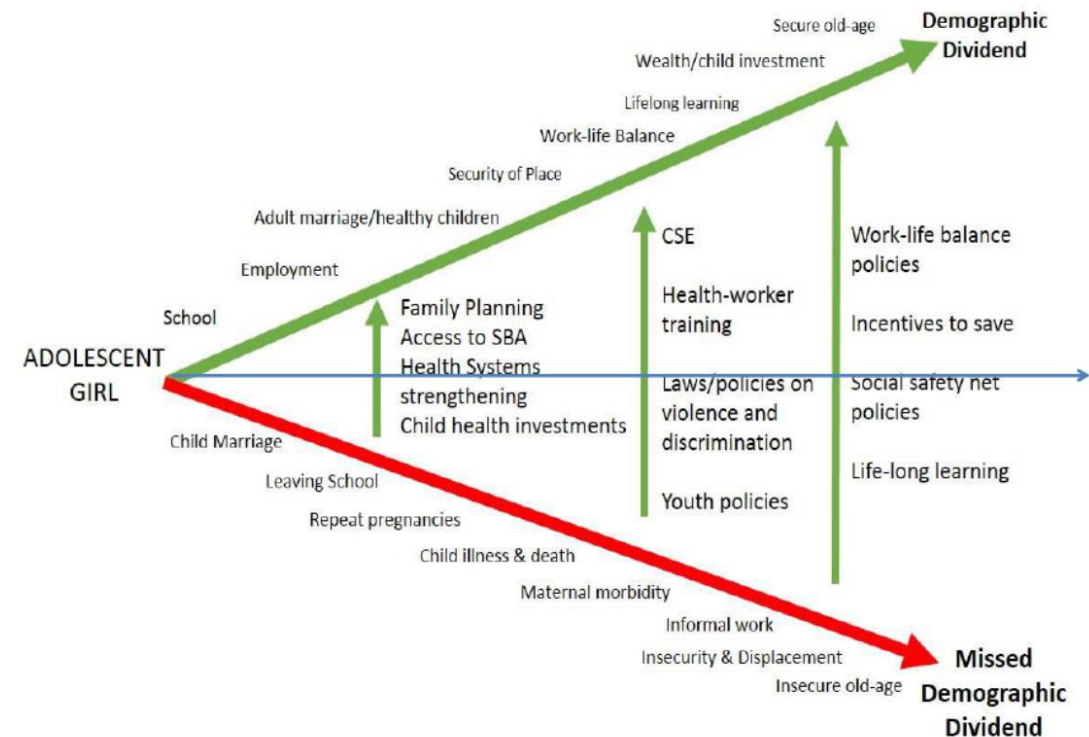


Adolescent Empowerment and SRHR

- Voice and agency in all SRHR matters
 - Consultative; collaborative; adolescent led
- Social determinants of ASRH
 - Gender norms; social influence; violence and harmful practices; child marriage
- Sexuality education
 - The roles of schools, communities, social networks, digital era

Benefits of Adolescent Voluntary Family Planning

- Healthier, more empowered and more educated young adults
- Decrease fertility, rapid population growth and poverty
- Harnessing the demographic dividend



What Needs to be Done in LMICs

- Continued education
- Comprehensive sex education
- Health systems' Universal health care for ASRH
 - Wide contraceptive access
- Adolescents' voice and decision-making power
- Abolish harmful practices including child marriage
- Gender equity

THANK YOU



<http://bixby.berkeley.edu>