Advocating for Adolescent Girls in Africa & Latin America
Adolescent Girls: A Marginalized Demographic

- 25% live in extreme poverty
- 70% out-of-school youth
- Maternal mortality is top killer (15-19 years)
- $0.50 of every $100 in funding directed to adolescent girls

Sources: UNFPA, UNICEF, Human Rights Watch, Nike Foundation
Adolescent Girls: Powerful Opportunities

- Girls’ education leads to later marriage and fewer children
- Educated girls spend 90% of income on their families, compared to 35% for boys
- Increased contraceptive use could reduce adolescent maternal mortality by 35%

Sources: Nike Foundation, Advocates for Youth, Center for Global Development
Latin American Context

- 43% of unsafe abortions are young women ages 15-24
- 49% of births in Honduras are to adolescent mothers
- 20% of indigenous girls in Guatemala complete primary education

Sources: UNFPA, Nike Foundation, World Bank, World Health Organization, Population Council, Advocates for Youth
African Context

- 75% of HIV+ African youth are female
- 28% of African girls have given birth by 18
- Ethiopia CPR = 15%
- 75% of women in Liberia have been raped, > 50% youth
- Malawi TFR = 5.6

Sources: UNFPA, Nike Foundation, World Bank, World Health Organization, Population Council, Advocates for Youth
Best Policy Practices to Improve Girls’ Health

- Implement a comprehensive health agenda for adolescent girls
- Ensure that HIV prevention efforts address the needs of adolescent girls
- Prioritize secondary-school completion & job training for adolescent girls
- Ensure parity in elementary education
- Eliminate marriage for girls younger than 18

Source: Center for Global Development
AGALI

- International Health Programs (IHP) of the Public Health Institute (PHI)
- Funders: UN Foundation & WestWind Foundation

- Focus countries
  - Africa: Liberia, Malawi, Ethiopia
  - Latin America: Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Mexico
AGALI

Goal
Strengthen capacity to advocate for socio-economic and educational opportunities for adolescent girls, increase girls’ access to quality health services, and empower young women to advocate for policies and programs.

Partners
Multi-sectoral teams of civil society leaders, policymakers, advocates, social change agents in Africa & Latin America

Strategies
1. Capacity building workshops
2. Seed grants
3. Technical assistance
4. Institutional strengthening
5. Dissemination & outreach
Capacity Building Workshop

• Strengthen civil society capacity to advocate on behalf of adolescent girls

• Share knowledge & best practices

• Develop advocacy strategies to advance girls’ education, SRH, human rights, socio-economic wellbeing
Seed Grant Funding

IHP/PHI awards grants to support AGALI graduates’ strongest advocacy projects.
Technical Assistance

IHP/PHI provides TA to AGALI participants:

• Proposal development
• Advocacy strategy implementation
• Networking and outreach
Institutional Strengthening

IHP/PHI conducts ongoing Institutional Strengthening workshops for AGALI participants and their organizations on a wide range of topics:

- Girl-centered programming
- Media advocacy
- Political mapping
- Forming networks
- Budget advocacy
- Monitoring & evaluation
Dissemination & Outreach

Participants build local capacity and commitment by conducting trainings for local organizations and for girls’ groups.
Improved educational, economic, and health for adolescent girls

Critical mass support for adolescent girls’ equality

Adolescent girls realize their full potential and human rights

Achieve Millennium Development Goals 2, 3, and 5

Improved governmental accountability for adolescent girls’ needs

Decrease maternal mortality, improve ASRH, achieve parity in education & employment

Increased capacity on adolescent girls’ issues

Empowered adolescent girls developing solutions

Improved laws, policies, and funding for girls

Strengthened civil society sector

Funding for advocacy strategies

Advocacy network

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & CAPACITY BUILDING

AGALI FELLOWSHIP

Advocacy Training Workshops

Dissemination & Outreach

Technical Assistance & Coaching

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Seed Grants & TA Funds

Institutional Strengthening Workshops

BUILDING A MOVEMENT FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS THROUGH:

• AGALI FELLOWSHIP
• ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & CAPACITY BUILDING
AGALI & The Millennium Development Goals

MDG 2: “Achieve universal primary education”

MDG 3: “Promote gender equity and empower women”

MDG 5: “Improve maternal health”
AGALI Achievements

• 50 Latin American and African leaders advocating for improved laws, policies, and programs for adolescent girls

• Invested $120,000 in advocacy projects:
  - Increase girls’ access to education and livelihoods
  - Promote girls’ democratic participation
  - Reduce sexual violence and early marriage

• Created international networks that are actively advocating for girl’s needs

• Reached 500+ youth with advocacy training
Grantees’ Advocacy Results

• Passage of two ballot initiatives to promote teen pregnancy prevention and youth-friendly services

• Expansion of girl-centered programs, including municipal budget allocation for girls’ programs

• Implementation of a Sexual Violence Protocol, with integrated care for adolescent girls survivors

• 100+ adolescent girls who have the capacity to advocate for their own needs
Thank you!

Questions??

www.agaliprogram.org