In sub-Saharan Africa, seven in 10 young women do not have comprehensive knowledge about HIV. Studies in sub-Saharan Africa show that girls who don’t finish high school are twice as likely to be infected with HIV.

In the least developed countries in the world, six out of 10 girls do not attend secondary school.

Providing integrated HIV and sexual and reproductive health services prevents HIV infections, prevents unwanted pregnancies and helps ensure safer deliveries.

The HPV vaccine given to girls between nine and 13 years, before they become sexually active, prevents cervical cancer.

The HPV vaccine costs as little as US$ 8.

The number of children aged 0–14 years on antiretroviral therapy globally has increased fourfold in the past 10 years.

The number of deaths of children aged 0–14 years on antiretroviral therapy is still unacceptable.

Providing information on gender and power results in lower rates of sexually transmitted infections and unintended pregnancies.

Studies in sub-Saharan Africa show that girls who don’t finish high school are twice as likely to be infected with HIV.

Women with more education tend to marry later, bear children later and exercise greater control over their fertility.

In sub-Saharan Africa, seven in 10 young women do not have comprehensive knowledge about HIV.

In the least developed countries in the world, six out of 10 girls do not attend secondary school.

Empowering community health workers can increase access to antiretroviral therapy.

High mortality due to AIDS among women.

AIDS is still the main cause of death among women of reproductive age globally.

In high HIV prevalence settings women experiencing intimate partner violence are 50% more likely to have acquired HIV than women who have not experienced violence.

One in three women experience intimate partner violence globally.

One in three women experience intimate partner violence globally.

Many children are diagnosed late with HIV, leading to high infant mortality.

Globally, cervical cancer claims the lives of 300,000 women each year.

Zero tolerance for violence against children.

Violence can increase survivors’ risk of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections.

Violence against children.

Early marriage.

Girls and women are at the centre of the AIDS response. Factors including age, ethnicity, gender inequities, disability, sexual orientation, profession and socioeconomic status compound to influence girls’ and women’s ability to protect themselves from HIV.

Programming efforts must recognize the complexity of the everyday lives of girls and women as they mature and grow and build the response around their needs. Placing the individual—not the virus—at the centre of all our efforts creates the space for inclusion of the diverse opportunities and needs of girls and women and improves HIV outcomes.