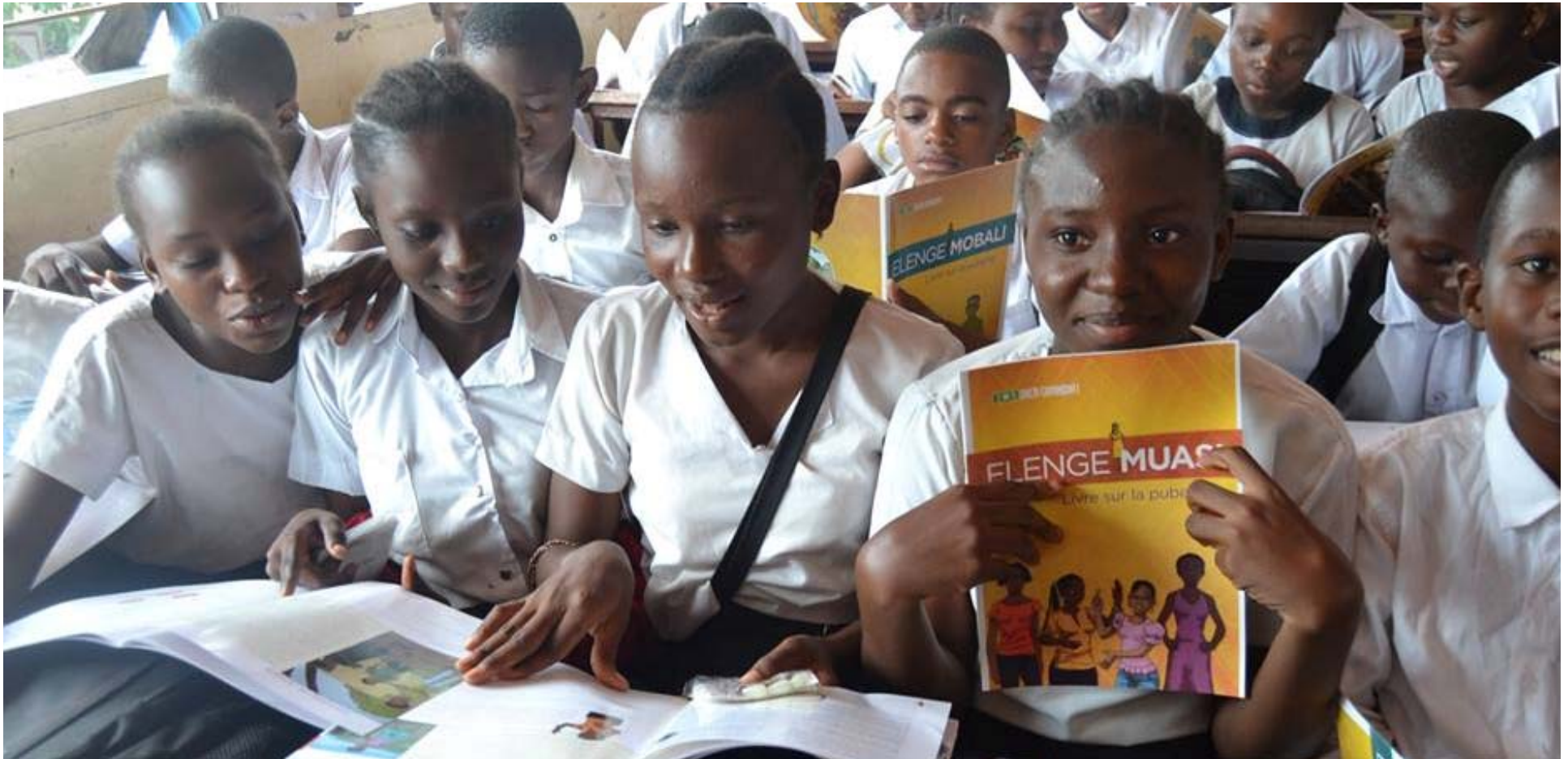




Save the Children.

Growing Up GREAT

Very young adolescent programming in urban settings

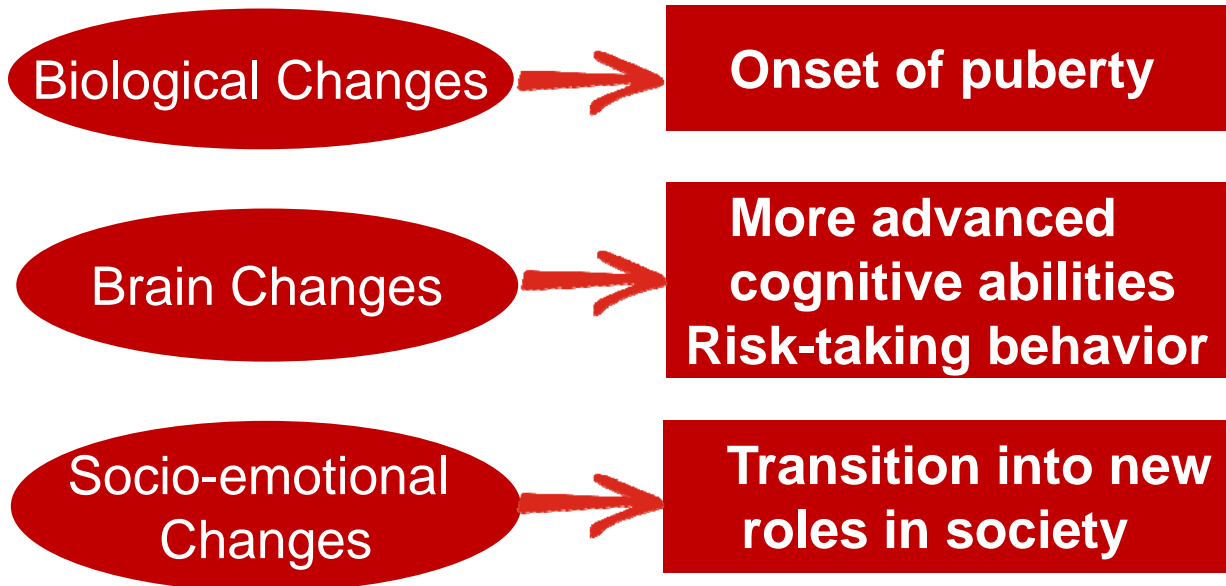


Melanie Yahner, MPH, Senior Specialist for Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health

November 20, 2017

Why very young adolescents (VYAs)?

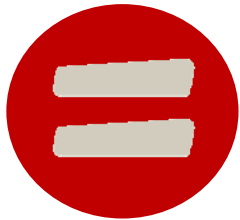
Between the ages of 10 and 14...



Save the Children's VYA approach



Apply an ecological approach



Address social and gender norms



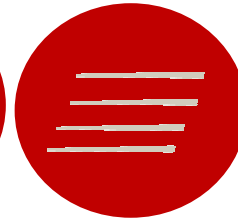
Provide age-appropriate information



Apply principles of behavior change



Use fun, interactive activities



Ensure scalability



Build local capacity

The Passages Project and Growing Up GREAT

- Partnership led by the Institute for Reproductive Health at Georgetown University
- Funded by USAID and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Longitudinal evaluation through Global Early Adolescent Study (Johns Hopkins University)

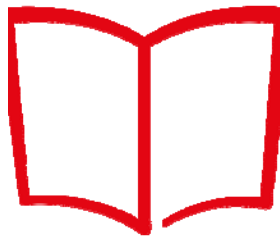


Kinshasa context

- Estimated population of 12 million
- 13% of girls have started childbearing by the age of 19
- 50% of VYA boys and girls live in a household with both parents
- 12% of girls and 9% of boys are not in school



Mapping of assets: Key findings



Challenging school system

School enrolment is variable

Few established clubs or other school platforms

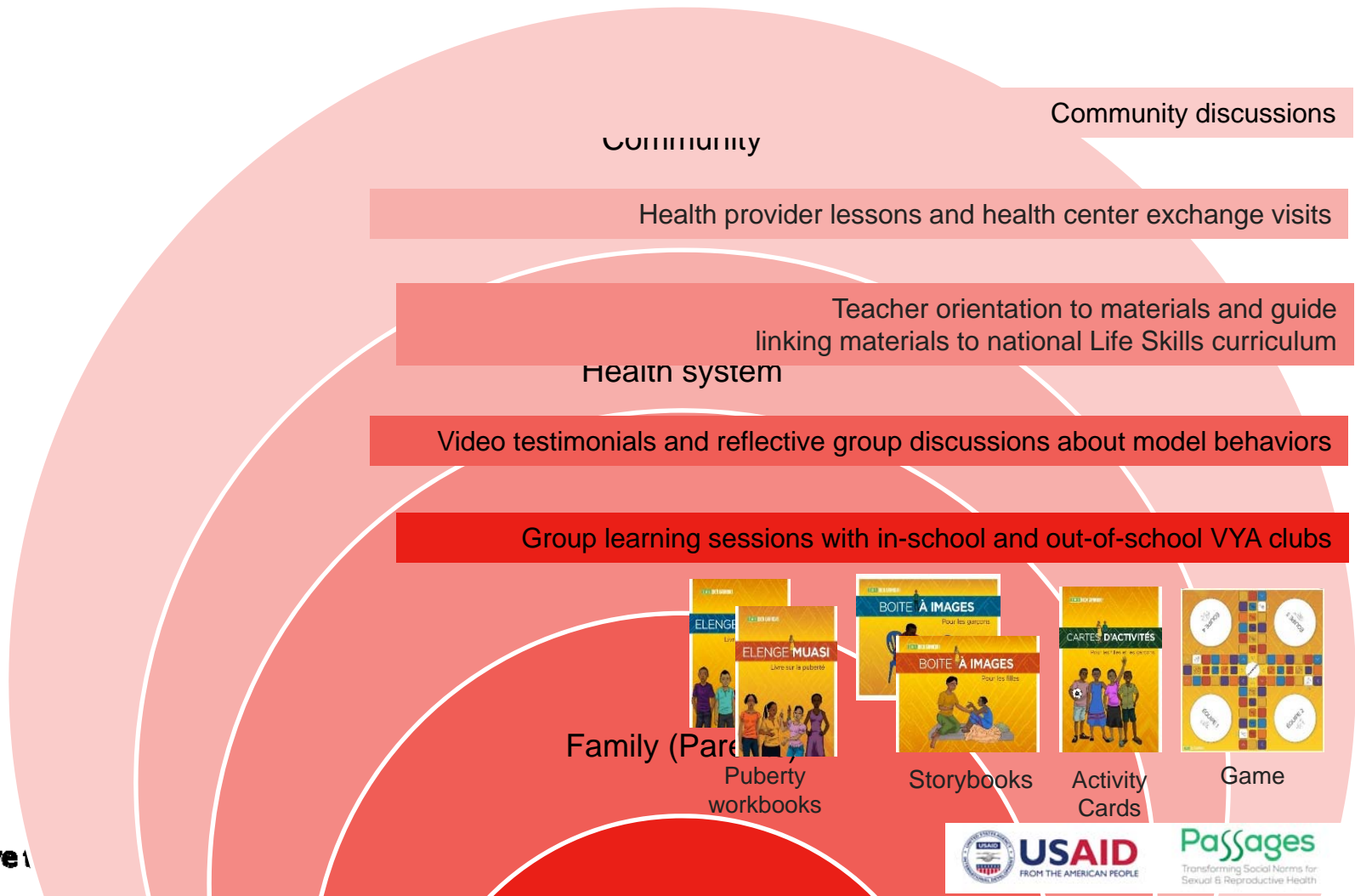
Close proximity to health services

Limited quality

Limited local capacity for VYA programming

No organizations experienced in sexual and reproductive health work

Growing Up GREAT program design



Adapting materials to an urban setting

Adapted parent and community engagement components

Images






Terminology

In-school versus out-of-school variations

- Public spaces include church and market instead of school
- References to extended family rather than nuclear family
- Future hopes and dreams



Progress and challenges in the urban context

Individual 	Family 	School 	Health Center 	Community 
<p>Equal and active participation of girls</p>	<p>Availability of male and female caregivers to participate</p>	<p>Tailor approaches for different school types</p>	<p>Quality of existing health services</p> <p>Concerns about privacy and confidentiality</p>	<p>High visibility of new behaviors</p>

Conclusions



THANK YOU



Save the Children