



Social and Community Listening (SCL)

SCL Insights Report: Q1-

Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) - 1 January to 31 March 2026

2026





This report presents the findings of a comprehensive social and community listening (SCL) study conducted to analyze social media conversations across East and Southern Africa (ESA) related to the topics of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Using a methodology grounded in qualitative and quantitative social media analysis, the research identifies key trends and narratives, country-specific nuances, as well as the risks and opportunities for UNICEF and partners associated with these critical topics. The report aims to inform actionable recommendations for advocacy and communication strategies to support objectives in the region. Please note that any views reported on as part of the social media landscape analysis do not necessarily reflect the views of UNICEF or partners.

This report is produced with support from 2gether 4 SRHR, a joint UN Regional Programme, in partnership with Sweden, which brings together the combined efforts of UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO to improve the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of all people in Eastern and Southern Africa. For a one stop shop of information and resources in Africa, please visit the [SRHR Knowledge Hub](#).

Due to public data privacy and ethical considerations, this report is not intended for public distribution.

Executive Summary

This SCL Insights Report analyses social media conversations across Eastern and Southern Africa on SRHR topics for Q1 2026 (January–March), produced under the 2gether 4 SRHR joint UN programme in partnership with Sweden, using Talkwalker across five languages, English, Portuguese, French, Arabic, and Swahili.

Crime and Violence dominated the conversation landscape throughout the quarter, consistently accounting for over 50% of share of conversation, reach, and engagement, often overshadowing preventive health and rights-based SRHR narratives.

HIV/AIDS was the leading health topic by volume, driven largely by enthusiasm around the Lenacapavir rollout in Kenya and Zimbabwe, representing one of the quarter's most positive and community-resonant stories, with clear potential for further amplification targeting the 18–24 age group.

A study on endocrine-disrupting chemicals in sanitary products sold in South Africa triggered widespread public anxiety and distrust, generating high organic amplification; this represents both a communications risk and an opportunity for partners to lead on product safety advocacy and legislative reform.

HPV vaccination content demonstrated the highest institutional reach of the quarter, a South Africa National Department of Health post reached over 2.2 million people, signaling that official health authority channels, paired with misinformation-specific messaging, can achieve significant scale, particularly in Malawi and Northern Kenya where HPV related vaccine hesitancy is visible.

Adolescent pregnancy, unsafe abortions, and GBV remain acute crises across Uganda, Kenya, South Africa, and Zimbabwe, with community voices and health workers expressing alarm; police interactions with SRHR-seeking populations, particularly adolescents, are compounding access barriers and generating strong institutional distrust narratives.

Mainstream media outlets (NTV Kenya, Citizen TV, and Standard Digital) dominated digital reach as well, underscoring the need for 2gether 4 SRHR partners to invest in formalised media partnerships and editorial collaborations rather than relying primarily on owned channels.

Funding anxiety is an emerging cross-cutting narrative across Uganda, Zimbabwe, and Angola, with communities and advocates explicitly referencing the impact of shrinking global aid and rising anti-gender movements on programme sustainability; a reputational and operational risk requiring proactive communication.

Tanzania stands out with its M-Mama referral system and Jiongeze Tuwavushe Campaign contributing to over 80% reductions in maternal and child mortality since 2016; structured learning exchanges with the reportedly seven countries already adopting its strategies represent a concrete regional opportunity.

Creative and community-led approaches, including Uganda's arts festivals, cross-generational dialogue platforms, and Ethiopia's women-led health extension programme, offer validated and replicable SBC models that partners could document, package, and scale across the region in 2026.

Methodology



This [social listening and community \(SCL\)](#) insights study was conducted in April 2026, covering 3 months of data between January and March 2026 across the Eastern and Southern Africa region in five languages (English, Portuguese, French, Arabic and Swahili). The study employed online social listening and community feedback data (where available) to analyze concerns, questions and potential misleading and harmful content from the public.

Social listening tool “Talkwalker” and community insights research were used to capture relevant conversations across target countries, with thematic categorization and sentiment analysis applied to structure the findings. While the dataset is extensive, the study acknowledges limitations, including restricted access to private data and potential bias inherent to SCL insights research.

Country snapshot section of this report includes summary and highlights from the nine countries with the highest results share.

Access the full Boolean Query used on [this link](#). The query contains colloquial terms and swear words that some readers may find offensive or insensitive.

Due to ongoing improvements in the data collection query, and resulting baseline shifts, presented data points in this report are not directly comparable to previous report.

Research Questions

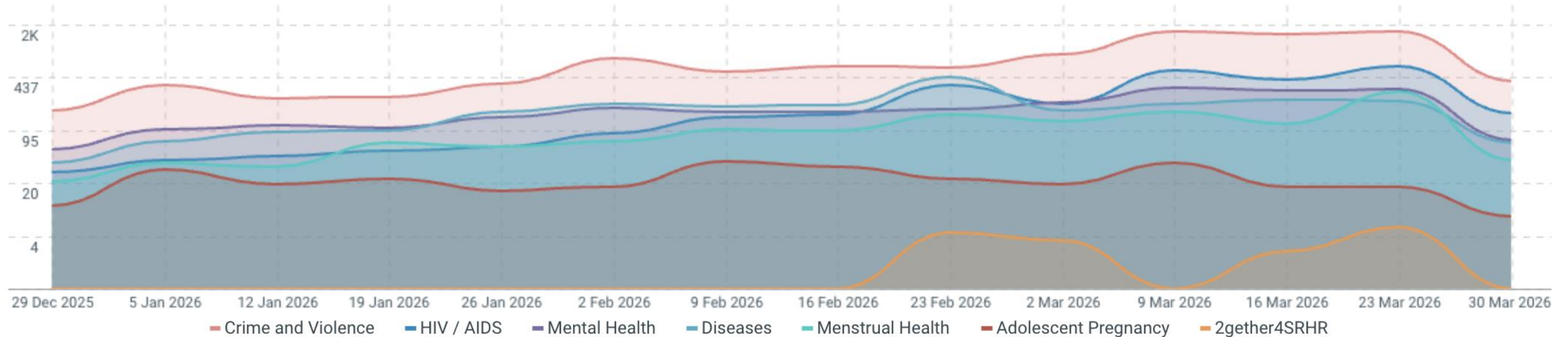
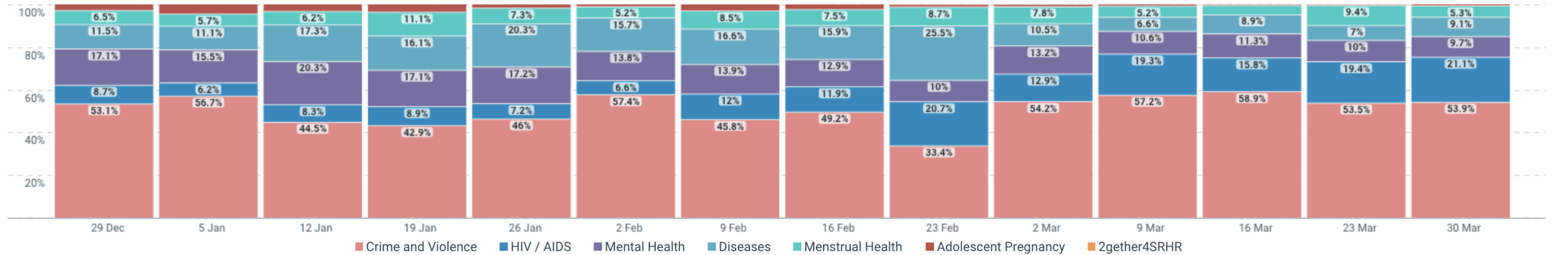
- What trends and issues are the most and the least visible online and in the media?
- What positive and negative narratives are emerging online?
- Misconceptions and Disinformation: what barriers exist to promote programme responses?
- What is the tone and language used to describe all issues selected?
- Which individuals and entities are shaping the debate?
- What are the major behavioral and communications risks, and opportunities to act based on insights provided in the report?
- Which resources can be used to provide a response?

Key Insights

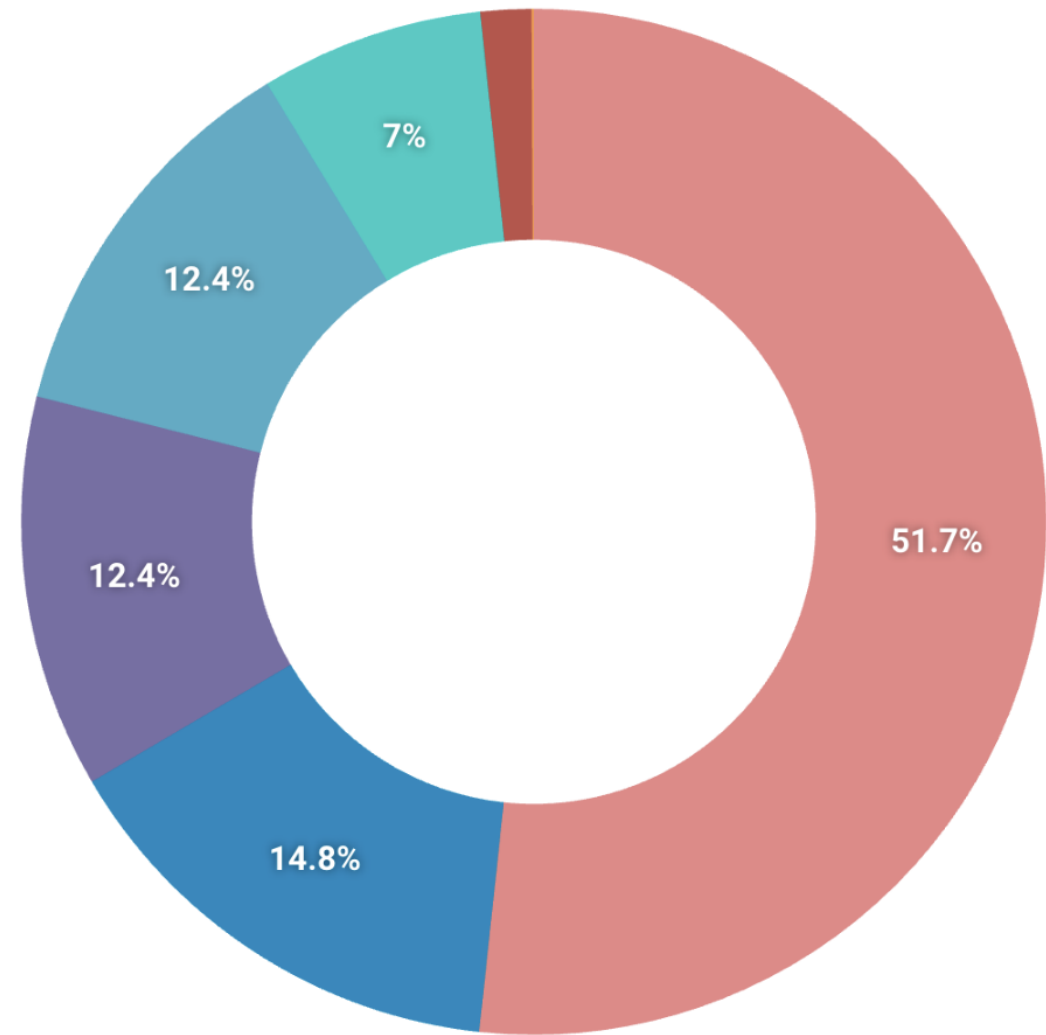


- Crime and violence framing continues to dominate SRHR-related conversations in ESA, often overshadowing preventive health messaging; this framing is driven by GBV incidents, sexual assault cases, and police conduct stories rather than health system narratives.
- Lenacapavir, the six-monthly injectable HIV prevention drug, emerged as a significant positive narrative across Kenya and Zimbabwe, generating excitement and serving as a rare example of an innovation story that cut through with both media and communities.
- A University of the Free State study on endocrine-disrupting chemicals in sanitary products sold in South Africa triggered widespread public anxiety, with communities expressing deep distrust of product safety and regulatory systems; this story had high organic reach.
- HPV vaccination campaigns drove some of the highest-reach institutional content of the quarter, with South Africa's National Department of Health post reaching over 2.2 million people, demonstrating that health promotion content can achieve significant scale when backed by gov.
- Adolescent pregnancy remains an acute crisis across Uganda, Kenya, South Africa, and Zimbabwe, with community voices and health workers expressing alarm at the volume of teenage deliveries and unsafe abortions.
- Police interactions with SRHR-seeking populations, particularly adolescents, are a significant barrier to access; high-profile incidents of unlawful arrest during medical consultations in Kenya generated strong negative sentiment and institutional distrust narratives.
- Parental engagement in SRHR is perceived by communities as essential but deeply constrained by cultural and religious norms, particularly around HPV vaccination, contraception, and comprehensive sexuality education.
- FGM remains a prominent conversation thread in Ethiopia and Eritrea, with notable positive signals around religious leaders issuing fatwas against the practice and survivor-led advocacy gaining visibility, though deep-rooted social norms remain resistant to change.
- Funding anxiety is an emerging cross-cutting narrative, with conversations in Uganda, Zimbabwe, and Angola explicitly referencing the impact of shrinking global aid and rising anti-gender movements on the sustainability of SRHR programmes.
- Tanzania stands out as a positive country narrative, with President Samia Suluhu Hassan recognised as Africa's Champion for Reproductive, Maternal, and Child Health, and maternal/child mortality reductions of over 80% since 2016 being proposed as a model for the continent.

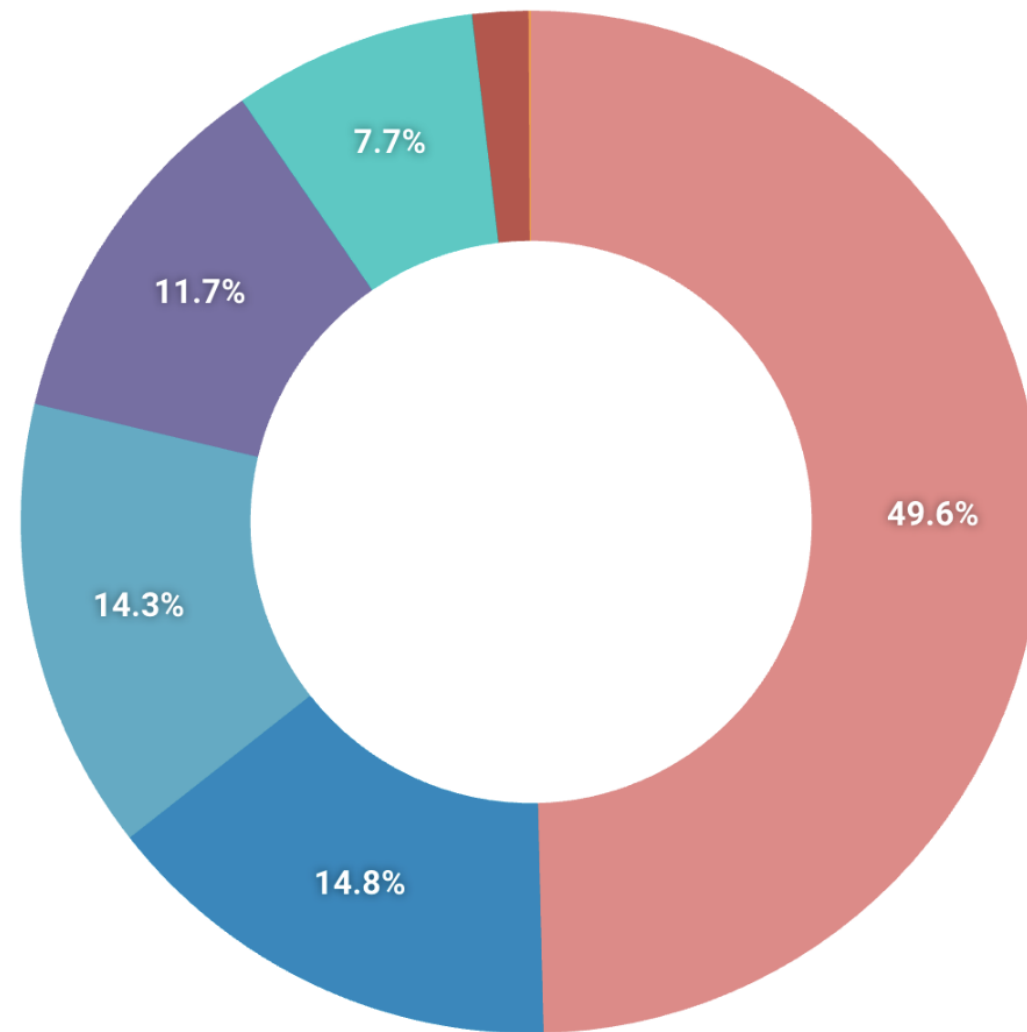
Topline Data



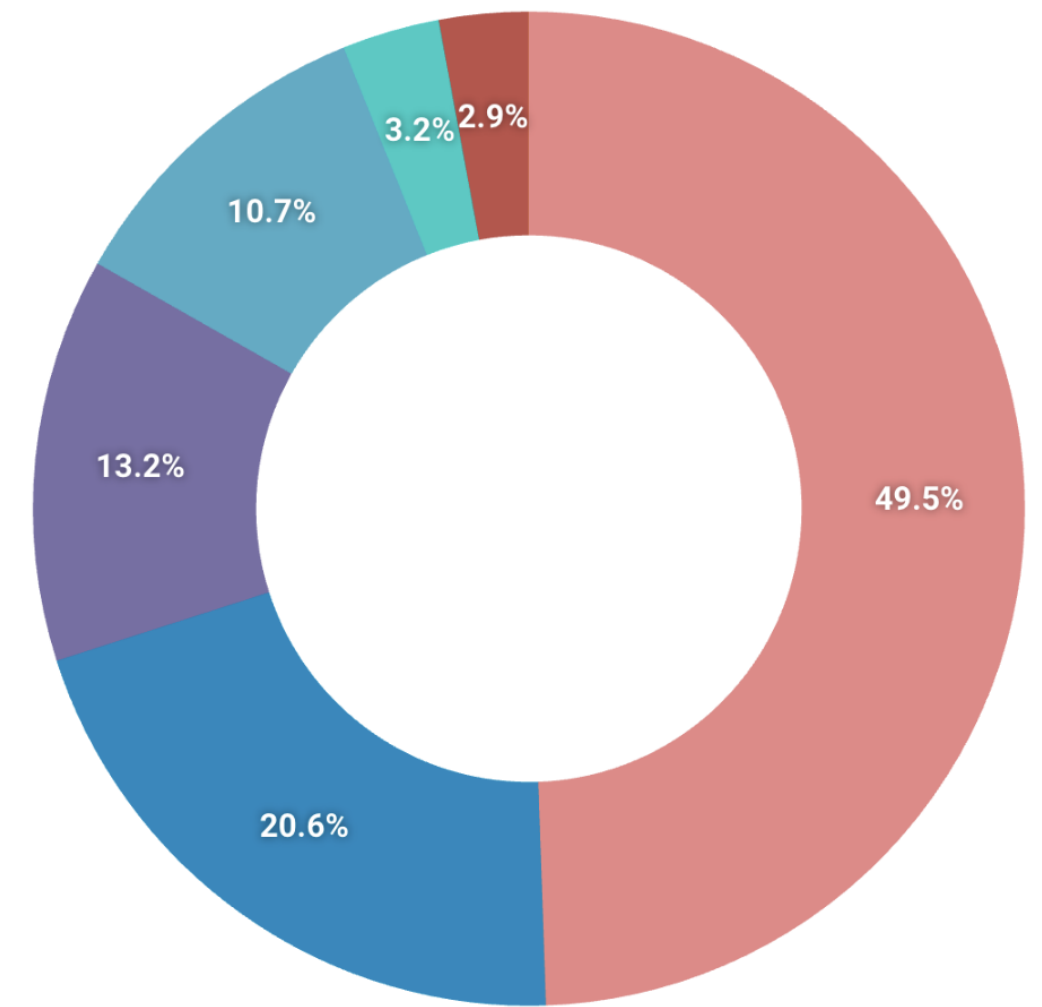
Topic Interest



Share of Conversation



Share of Reach



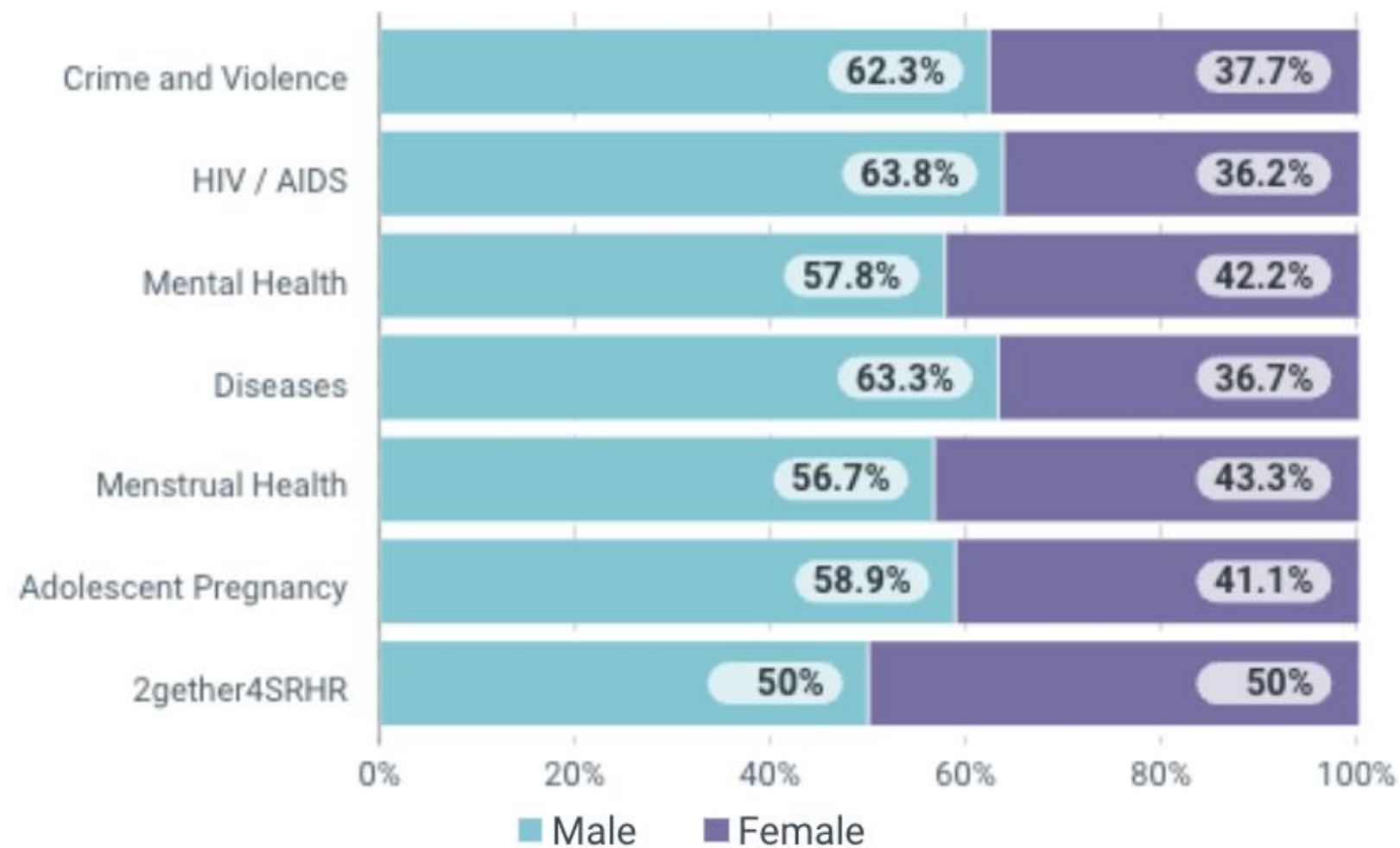
Share of Engagement

● Crime and Violence ● HIV / AIDS ● Mental Health ● Diseases ● Menstrual Health ● Adolescent Pregnancy ● 2gether4SRHR

Demographics

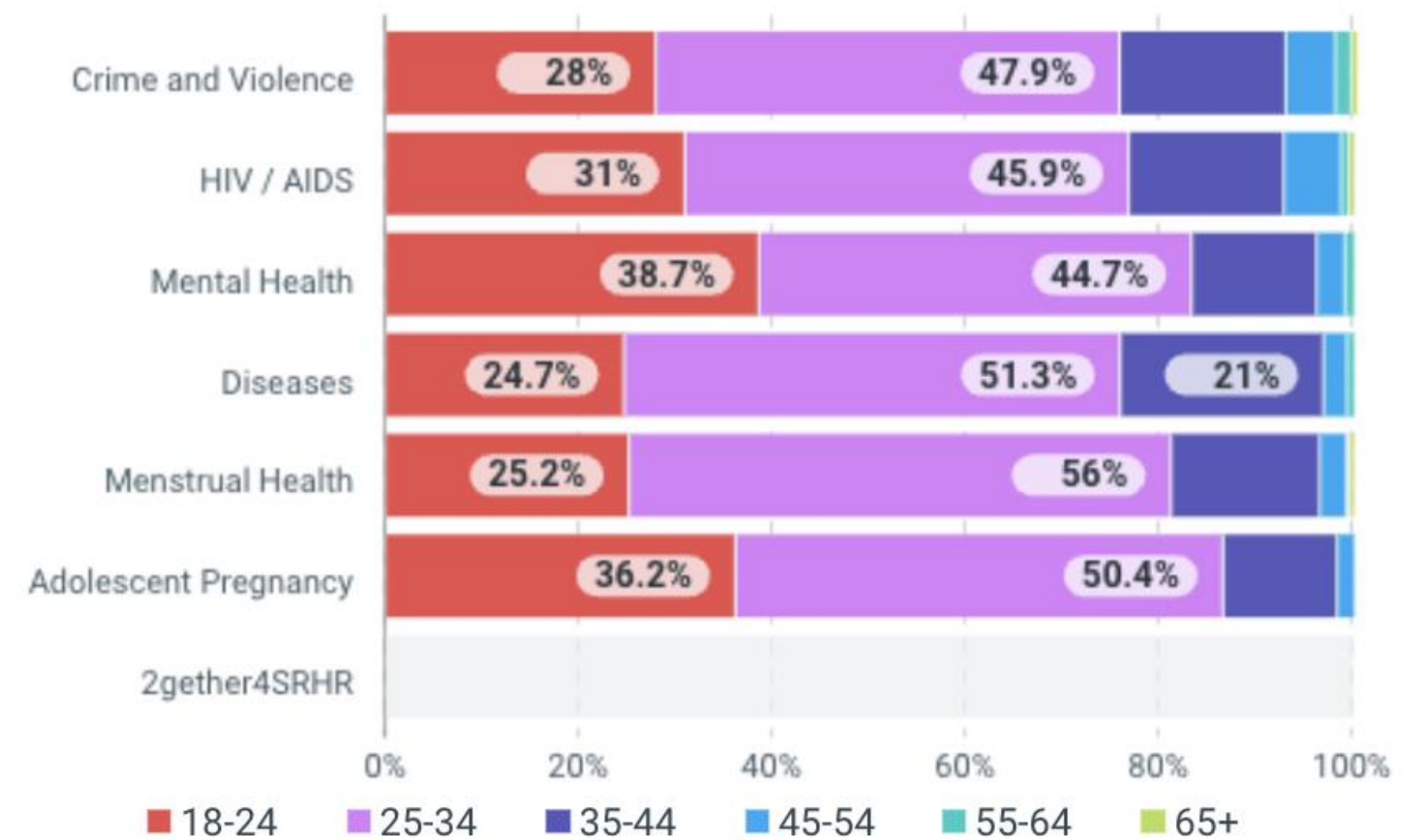
GENDER

by filter

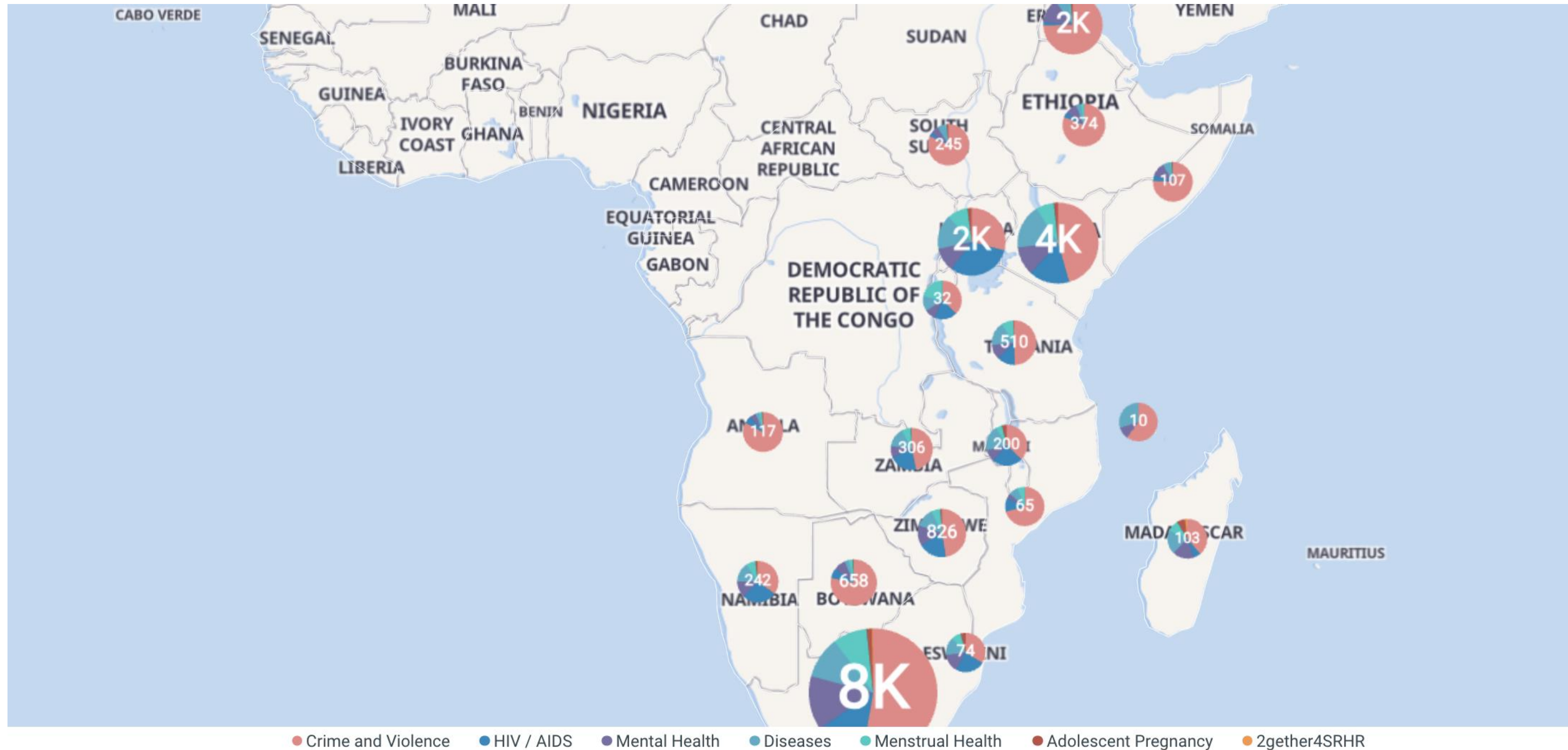


AGE

by filter



Geographic Distribution



Location data can be spoofed or faked, use with caution.

Trend: SRHR Narratives in Media



Menstrual Health and Chemical Safety

Widespread media attention on a University of the Free State study revealing endocrine-disrupting chemicals in sanitary pads and pantyliners sold in South Africa, sparking public anxiety and debate about women's health rights[12][13][14]. Official responses emphasize low risk and regulatory action, but advocacy groups and social media amplify concerns about bodily autonomy[15][16][17][18] [19].

Creative Storytelling and Youth Advocacy

Coverage of initiatives like Uganda's Leesu Film Festival underscores the power of film and arts in amplifying adolescent girls' voices on SRHR, gender-based violence, and resilience [20] [21] [22][23]. East African creatives are gaining international recognition, using storytelling to challenge stigma and promote dialogue on women's health [24][25][26][27].

HIV/AIDS Prevention and Youth Engagement

Media outlets highlighted innovative HIV prevention methods, such as Zimbabwe's introduction of lenacapavir, a six-month injectable drug, as a major advancement for vulnerable communities. [1][2][3]. Persistent focus on youth, with alarming infection rates among ages 15-24 driving campaigns for condom use and youth-friendly safe spaces in Kenya, Malawi, Zambia, and Uganda[[4][5][6]. Malawi is recognized for progress in adolescent SRHR, though coverage notes ongoing challenges that threaten sustainability[8][9]. SADC's leadership in HIV response is celebrated, but media also report concerns about funding gaps and service delivery [10][11].

Cervical Cancer Prevention and Vaccine Uptake

Commentators stress the urgent need for early

Screening, HPV vaccination, and community engagement to combat cervical cancer mortality in Kenya and South Africa [28][29][30]. Malawi's success in surpassing HPV vaccination targets is highlighted, while myths and mistrust in regions like Northern Kenya and Ghana are reported as barriers to vaccine uptake [31][32][33][34]. Innovative approaches, such as HPV self-sampling and sports-based awareness campaigns, are covered as promising solutions [35][36][37].

COMMUNITY VOICE: South Africa

"They are really trying to kill us. Mind you, I'm on my period right now. Which explains why every time my cycle is over, I always have a bad rash and pimples. Yoh, they want to finish us."

Trend: Police Perception in SRHR



Institutional Barriers and Enforcement Abuses

Despite progressive legal rulings affirming reproductive rights (e.g., abortion access for survivors of sexual violence in Kenya), police actions often undermine these rights through unlawful arrests and enforcement abuses, fueling institutional stigma and deterring access to safe services [50]. High-profile cases, such as the arrest of a 16-year-old seeking emergency care, highlight ongoing mistrust and fear among vulnerable groups, especially adolescents [50].

Criminalization and Deterrence

Current laws in Kenya and other ESAR countries criminalize consensual sexual activity between adolescents, with police enforcement seen as punitive and counterproductive [51]. Human rights organizations argue that fear of prosecution by police deters youth from seeking

essential reproductive health services, infringing on privacy and fundamental rights [51]. Advocacy groups are pushing for legal reforms to shift from punitive policing to restorative justice and education, but resistance from conservative sectors persists [51].

Role in Gender-Based Violence Response

Police are recognized as critical actors in supporting survivors of gender-based violence (GBV), with initiatives like child-friendly courts and gender desks improving evidence gathering and survivor care [52]. Collaborative models involving police victim-friendly units, health, and social services are seen as vital for creating safe environments, especially for adolescent girls [53]. In Zimbabwe and Angola, police participation in multi-sectoral workshops and protection networks is viewed positively, empowering girls with life skills and knowledge

of available services [53][54].

Trust and Survivor Support

While police involvement in GBV response is essential, trust remains fragile; many girls hesitate to seek help due to fear of stigma, mishandling, or lack of sensitivity from police [52]. Integrated approaches that include police, justice, and social action services are perceived as more effective in breaking cycles of violence and fostering community trust [54].

COMMUNITY VOICE: KENYA

“Despite her constitutional right to emergency [abortion] treatment, plain clothes police officers stormed the clinic, arrested [her] from her hospital bed, and detained her for two nights without further medical care.”

Trend: Perceived Role of Parents in SRHR



Critical Role in Education and Prevention

Social media and news outlets perceive parents as essential partners in SRHR, with governments and NGOs urging them to engage in open, age-appropriate conversations about sexual health, contraception, and gender-based violence at home [55][56][57]. Community campaigns and youth-friendly health centers emphasize parental involvement as key to preventing adolescent pregnancy and supporting girls' menstrual health, helping to dismantle harmful norms and stigma [58][59][60][61][62].

Bridging Generational Gaps

Initiatives like Uganda's Koi Koi Fireside Conversations and Brave Girls Festival foster cross-generational dialogue, bringing parents and youth together to share experiences and address SRHR challenges [63][64][65][66]. Parents are encouraged to listen and support their children, with youth expressing appreciation for safe spaces where their voices are heard and respected [67][68][69].

Facing Cultural and Religious Barriers

Many parents express struggle with cultural and religious beliefs that hinder acceptance of SRHR interventions, such as HPV vaccination and contraceptive use, leading to low uptake and persistent myths [70][71][72][73]. Public health campaigns highlight the need for parental education to counter misinformation and promote evidenced practices [74][75][76][77].

Navigating Stigma and Misinformation

Parents reported social stigma when supporting their children's reproductive health choices, especially regarding contraception and abortion [78][79][80][81]. Media suggests that restrictive laws and societal attitudes can make it difficult for parents to access accurate information and safe services for their families [72][73][78].

Plight Amid Service Gaps and Policy Challenges

Parents have reported frequent stockouts of contraceptives and limited access to quality

maternal and reproductive health services, undermining their ability to protect their children's health [72][73][82][83][84]. Advocacy groups call for policy reforms and improved health infrastructure to support parents in their caregiving roles [85][86][87][88][89].






































Responding to Teen Pregnancies and Abortions

Self-reported parents are alarmed by the rise in teen pregnancies and unsafe abortions, expressing concern over lack of comprehensive family planning education and supportive policy [90][91][92][93]. This crisis is not limited to teens; adult women and mothers, are affected, highlighting broader SRH challenges [91][92][93].

COMMUNITY VOICE: UGANDA









“It is deeply concerning that most of the abortion cases we are receiving in our health facilities involve adolescents between 15 and 19 years”

Highest Reach Influencers

Influencer 	Network	Posts	Sentiment	Reach ↓	Reach per mention	Engagement	Engagement per mention
 NTV Kenya http://www.facebook.com/		13		79.5M	6.1M	2.5K	194.2
 Standard Digital http://www.facebook.com/		18		77.3M	4.3M	897	49.8
 NTV Kenya  @ntvkenya		14		74.6M	5.3M	89	6.4
 2026 independent online and affiliated compani... http://iol.co.za/		46		67.1M	1.5M	21	0.5
 Citizen TV Kenya http://www.facebook.com/		6		49.8M	8.3M	1.2K	192.2
 National Department of Health (South Africa) http://www.facebook.com/		23		49.5M	2.2M	2.8K	121.3
 Citizen TV Kenya  @citizentvkenya		7		47.8M	6.8M	32	4.6
 SA Police Service   @SAPoliceService		30		40.8M	1.4M	2.5K	83.9
 The Standard Digital  @StandardKenya		15		40.7M	2.7M	166	11.1
 Daily Nation  @NationAfrica		9		38.3M	4.3M	71	7.9

Individuals and organizations listed here may not be supportive of the SRHR agenda and may sometimes have low programme relevance.

Most Engaging Influencers

Influencer 	Network	Posts	Sentiment	Reach	Reach per mention	Engagement 	Engagement per mention
 Kalemba http://www.facebook.com/		23		24.8M	1.1M	62.2K	2.7K
 Rumi  @ledekrepp		1		9.2K	9.2K	28.3K	28.3K
 Duma FM http://www.facebook.com/		6		4.8M	791.9K	21K	3.5K
 Televisão Pública de Angola - TPA "Oficial" http://www.facebook.com/		4		5.8M	1.4M	19K	4.8K
 New Era Newspaper http://www.facebook.com/		7		4.1M	580K	17.4K	2.5K
 Open Chats Podcast http://www.youtube.com/		1		324.1K	324.1K	13.6K	13.6K
 U.S. Embassy Zimbabwe http://www.facebook.com/		1		113.7K	113.7K	10.2K	10.2K
 Eric  @amerix		2		4.7M	2.4M	10K	5K
 Kenyan Report http://www.facebook.com/		3		2M	655.6K	8.5K	2.8K
 Hon. Njeri Maina  @Hon_Njeri_Maina		2		50.3K	25.1K	6.6K	3.3K

Individuals and organizations listed here may not be supportive of the SRHR agenda and may sometimes have low programme relevance.

Country Snapshots

South Africa

HPV Vaccination Drives: Media and health officials are highlighting the success of school-based HPV vaccination campaigns, which are credited with reducing cervical cancer rates among girls, though challenges remain in reaching all communities and dispelling vaccine myths.

HIV/AIDS Myths and Stigma: Social posts reveal ongoing struggles with harmful beliefs—such as the myth that sleeping with virgins cures HIV—and call for comprehensive sexual education to address misinformation and reduce stigma, especially among youth.

Teenage Pregnancy Crisis: News outlets and advocates are calling for urgent action as adolescent pregnancy rates remain high, with officials urging parents, schools, and communities to intensify prevention efforts and support for young mothers.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV): Both media and social voices stress that GBV remains a national crisis, with calls for more funding, stronger support systems for survivors, and open family conversations to break the culture of silence.

Kenya

Lenacapavir Rollout: News and social media are excited about Kenya's pioneering use of Lenacapavir, a twice-yearly HIV prevention injection, with the first doses prioritized for high-burden counties and hailed as a major step in HIV prevention.

Contraceptive Shortages: Reports highlight a severe national contraceptive stock-out, sparking concern over women's access to family planning and the risk of increased unintended pregnancies, especially among youth.

Teen Pregnancy and GBV: Rising cases of teenage pregnancy and gender-based violence are prompting experts and advocates to call for open conversations, comprehensive sexuality education, and youth-friendly health services.

Menstrual Health Advocacy: Social campaigns emphasize that menstrual health is a matter of dignity and equality, with efforts to break stigma, distribute sanitary products, and keep girls in school gaining traction.

Ethiopia

International Health Partnerships: News outlets report on Ethiopia's \$1.6 billion health cooperation agreement with the U.S., aimed at strengthening maternal health and disease control, though concerns remain about funding sustainability and health system gaps.

FGM and Child Marriage: Social media and news sources highlight community mobilization against FGM and child marriage, with international support (e.g., the Dutch-funded Future4Binti program) and local advocacy driving change, but deep-rooted social norms remain a barrier.

Women's Health Extension Workers: Ethiopia's Health Extension Program is praised for training women as CHWs, improving access to family planning and prenatal care in rural areas, and serving as a model for grassroots healthcare.

Persistent Harmful Practices: Conversations mention that despite progress, FGM affects 65% of women and child marriage remains high, prompting calls for stronger legal protections, education, and healthcare access to address gender inequality.

Country Snapshots

Eritrea

Religious Leaders Challenge FGM: In 2025, Islamic scholars in Eritrea joined regional counterparts in issuing a fatwa declaring that female genital mutilation (FGM) has no basis in religion, empowering activists and communities to challenge the practice more confidently.

Survivor-Led Advocacy: Stories from FGM survivors, like those shared by youth advocates across East Africa, are gaining traction in Eritrea, helping to foster open dialogue and encourage girls to speak out against harmful traditions.

Legal and Policy Progress: Eritrea's government is reinforcing its commitment to children's rights through national laws and adherence to international treaties, such as the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, which indirectly strengthens SRHR protections.

Community Engagement: Strategic policy frameworks and grassroots initiatives are being highlighted as key to safeguarding children's welfare and promoting SRHR, with a focus on social protection and inclusion.

Uganda

Teen Pregnancy and GBV Crisis: News outlets report that nearly a quarter of deliveries at some hospitals are to teenagers, with high rates of gender-based violence and limited access to care fueling mental health issues and school dropouts among teen girls.

Youth Empowerment Initiatives: Projects like the Protect SRHR Consortium's Brave Girls Festival and peer education programs are spotlighted for fostering open dialogue, reducing stigma, and empowering youth to advocate for their rights.

Cross-Generational Dialogue: Platforms such as Reach A Hand Uganda's Koi Koi Fireside Conversations are praised for bridging generational gaps, reducing misinformation, and promoting mutual understanding on SRHR topics between elders and youth.

Funding and Access Concerns: Shrinking global aid and restrictive policies are raising alarms about the sustainability of SRHR programs, with advocates stressing the need for continued investment and expanded access to condoms and reproductive health services.

Tanzania

Presidential Leadership Recognized: President Samia Suluhu Hassan has been named Africa's Champion for Reproductive, Maternal, and Child Health by the Africa CDC and African Union, reflecting Tanzania's leadership in SRHR.

Dramatic Health Improvements: Media highlight the success of initiatives like the Jiongeze Tuwavushe Campaign and the M-Mama emergency referral system, which have contributed to an over 80% reduction in maternal and child mortality since 2016.

Regional Model for SRHR: Tanzania's strategies are being adopted by at least seven other African countries, positioning the nation as a model for advancing SRHR and reducing mortality rates continent-wide.

Community-Led Change: Programs such as Amref Health Africa's Future4Binti are addressing harmful practices like FGM and child marriage through survivor-centered care and community engagement, with positive results in Tanzania and neighboring countries.

Country Snapshots



Zambia

Public Attitudes on Autonomy: Surveys and commentary show strong public support for women's autonomy in marriage and reproductive decisions, and widespread endorsement of sex education in schools. However, there is notable opposition to unrestricted access to contraceptives and abortion, reflecting ongoing social debates.

Community-Led Empowerment: Initiatives like Safe Spaces under the Spotlight Initiative are empowering girls to address gender-based violence and advocate for their rights, with stories of personal transformation and increased community awareness gaining traction in local media.

Regional Collaboration: Zambia is actively participating in regional efforts, such as the SADC SRHR scorecard, to monitor and improve progress toward 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, with media reporting both advances and setbacks.

Cross-Border SRHR Programs: News outlets are covering programs targeting vulnerable youth and migrants, emphasizing the need for cross-border solutions to improve SRHR results in Southern Africa.

Zimbabwe

Adolescent Health Challenges: News and social posts highlight persistent issues of child marriage, teenage pregnancy, and gender-based violence, with limited youth-friendly health services hindering adolescent girls' rights and well-being.

Breakthrough HIV Prevention: The government's launch of lenacapavir, a six-month injectable HIV prevention drug, in vulnerable communities like Epworth is widely praised as a step toward equitable healthcare access.

Funding and Policy Uncertainty: Discussions show concern impact of shrinking global aid and rising anti-gender movements on the sustainability of SRHR programs, with calls for greater investment and political will to protect recent gains, especially in emergencies and for adolescent girls.

Debate on Abortion Law Reform: The proposed Medical Services Amendment Bill, which would broaden access to safe abortion, is sparking intense debate. Doctors and rights advocates support the bill for aligning with constitutional rights, while religious leaders strongly oppose it on moral grounds.

Angola

Parliamentary Commitment: Angola's National Assembly has reaffirmed its support for the Sweden-funded SRHR and AIDS Governance Project under the SADC Parliamentary Forum, signaling strong institutional backing for SRHR initiatives.

Regional Progress Tracking: Angola is featured in the SADC SRHR scorecard, with media discussing both progress and ongoing challenges in health and gender equality across Southern Africa.

Accountability for Gender Equality: Social media users are calling for greater accountability and legislative reforms to combat VAGBW, emphasizing need for multisectoral services and integrated action.

Continental Leadership: Angola's First Lady, as Vice President of OAFLAD, is recognized for her leadership in advancing women's and youth empowerment, reinforcing Angola's strategic role in SRHR advocacy.

Global Health Partnerships: Angola's upcoming role as host of the AU-EU Summit is spotlighted as an opportunity to strengthen health equity and resilience, with SRHR positioned as a key agenda item in international cooperation.

High Engagement Visuals



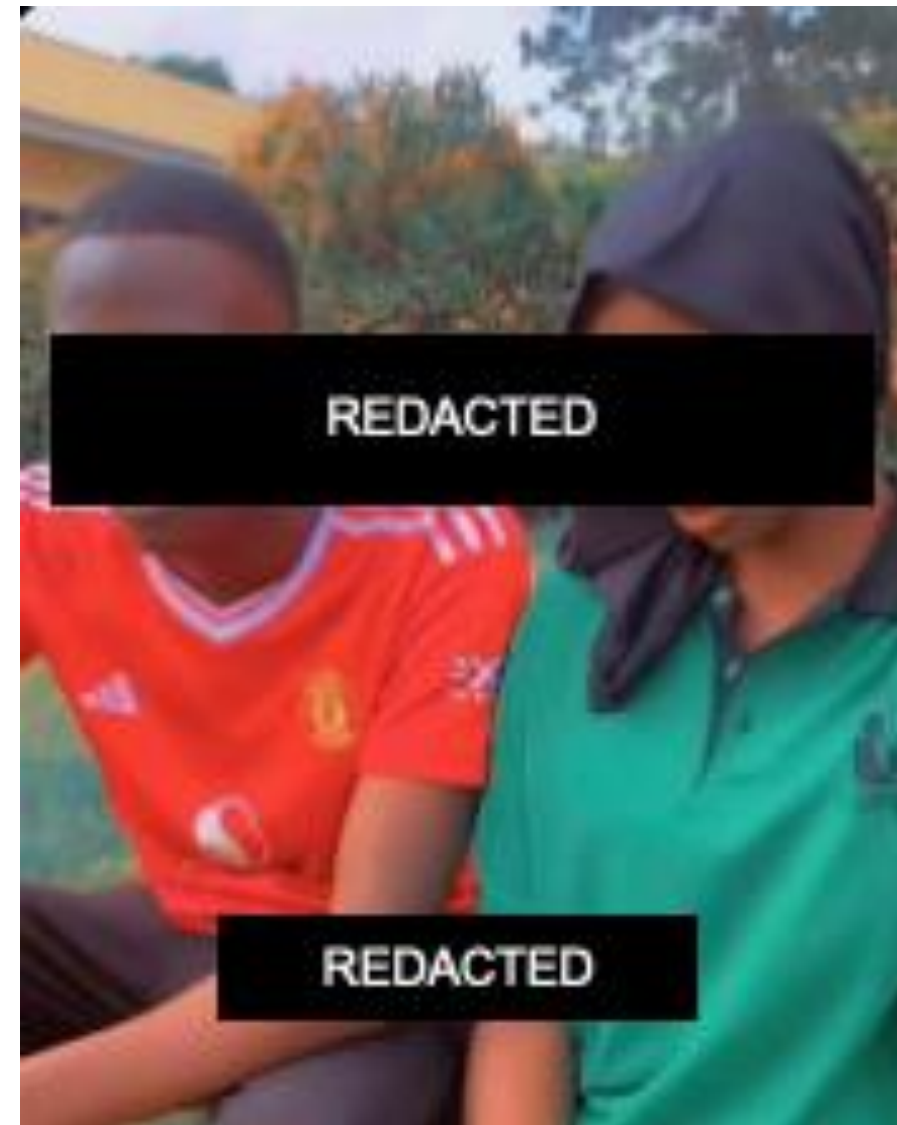
From orphanhood, HIV diagnosis, to becoming a Justice Minister. Story of Princess Kasune trended in Zambia.



Community members suspect sexual violence in the death of 3 girls in Angola, which caused shock and generated over 17,000 engagements.



UNICEF Mozambique's post on menstrual hygiene and distribution of sanitary items got 2,000 engagement, and reaching near 500,000 people.



Story about an 18 year old man being killed for an alleged relationship with a 14 year old girl trended in Uganda, generating over 1,500 engagements.

NATIONAL HPV VACCINATION

- WHERE**
Public Schools & Special Schools
- WHEN**
2 February – 27 March
- WHO**
Girls aged 9–15 years
- WHY**
To protect girls from developing cervical cancer later in life
- HOW**
Single-dose HPV vaccination schedule

Stop cervical cancer before it starts.

health Department of Health REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Botswana Experiences A Sharp Increase In The Number Of Sex Workers

duma Channel 919 on DSTV

This official social media post about HPV vaccination campaign reached over 2.2 million people in South Africa.

This story about the rise in number of sex workers, including minors, received almost 8,000 engagements in Botswana.

Opportunities to Act

- The Lenacapavir rollout presents an immediate opportunity to amplify a positive, community-resonant HIV prevention narrative across Kenya, Zimbabwe, and neighbouring countries, particularly targeting the 18–24 age group where HIV infection rates remain high.
- The sanitary pad chemical safety crisis in South Africa is an opening for UNICEF, Government, and partners not only to reassure community members on the safety of menstrual health products but also to advocate for broader legislative requirements on product safety and testing.
- HPV vaccination campaigns have demonstrated high-reach potential when communicated through official health authority channels; scaling similar content in Malawi and Northern Kenya, where vaccine myths persist, could meaningfully shift uptake.
- Creative storytelling and arts-based approaches, evidenced by Uganda's Leesu Film Festival and Brave Girls Festival, offer replicable, community-validated models for engaging adolescents on SRHR topics including GBV, reproductive rights, and menstrual health.
- The dominance of mainstream media in shaping online reach (NTV Kenya, Citizen TV, Standard Digital) signals a clear opportunity for 2gether 4 SRHR partners to develop sustained media partnerships and editorial collaborations rather than relying solely on owned content.
- Community trust in police for GBV response is fragile but not absent; structured engagement with police victim-friendly units, gender desks, and child-friendly courts offer a concrete pathway to shift institutional behaviour and community perception.
- Tanzania's nationally celebrated SRHR success story offers a strong peer-learning opportunity; sharing its M-Mama referral system and Jiongeze Tuwavushe Campaign methodology with the seven African countries already adopting its strategies could accelerate regional action.
- The abortion law reform debate in Zimbabwe, pitting constitutional rights advocates against religious opposition, presents a high-stakes communication opportunity to provide evidence-based, rights-affirming content that can support informed public discourse without further polarisation.



Thank You