

Bridges, UBS and Tiko: Sexual And Reproductive Health

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CASE STUDY INNOVATIVE FINANCE

This case study is part of the [Innovative Finance](#) initiative by the Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship in partnership with the World Economic Forum, SK Group's Center for Social Value Enhancement Studies and an Advisory Group of 100+ leading organizations in innovative finance.

Project Background

In Kenya, limited access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services heavily impacts health and education of girls, as well as the economic development of the country. One in six adolescent girls between 15 and 19 years has experienced pregnancy; 78% of new HIV infections among 15–24-year-olds are adolescent girls and young women.

In 2023, [Bridges Outcomes Partnerships](#) and UBS Optimus Foundation launched an innovative blended finance initiative – SDG Outcomes Fund – in partnership with British International Investment, the US IDFC and others, to support outcomes-based partnerships tackling the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Kenya Health Outcomes Partnership (KHOP) is a collaboration between Bridges, the UN in Kenya (a consortium led by UNFPA, UNAIDS, WHO, and the SDG Partnership Platform), the Government of Kenya, the Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), and local nonprofit delivery organisation [Tiko](#).

Delivering Meaningful Outcomes

KHOP is designed to tackle the main barriers preventing girls from accessing SRH services: affordability, lack of information and distance to health facilities. Tiko operates a digital platform that works across ten Kenyan counties: It connects girls in underserved communities and multidimensional poverty to local public and private service providers, delivering SRH and HIV-related services for free. Girls can receive 'Tiko miles' for services delivered, redeeming these in stores (e.g. for sanitary pads).

Reducing unwanted pregnancies enables girls to stay in school for longer and gain a higher level of

education – improving their economic prospects and social mobility. Scaling this tech-enabled model is also achieving systemic impact –raising community awareness of sexual health issues, and ensuring facilities are built to deliver better services for girls.

Tiko supports girls to access SRH services in the community. It ensures the health facilities girls access meet high quality standards and provides them with choice. Crucially, the outcomes-based approach allows Tiko to continuously improve its service. By monitoring services used by girls, Tiko can understand where to target its support – from better training, to increased access. Payments are only made when proven impact has been achieved, incentivising activity towards delivering meaningful outcomes.

To date, 430,000 girls (15-19-years) have started this programme, delivering 600,000+ sexual health and HIV services to date (surpassing its HIV and family planning delivery targets nine months early).

Impact on public and private sector

The long-term effects of Tiko and the Kenya Health Outcomes Partnership's intervention go beyond individual health improvements. Avoiding unwanted pregnancies and increasing SRH awareness affords girls and women greater agency over their health, and contributes to lifting them out of poverty.

Studies show that better health boosts economies; healthy individuals are more productive workers who positively impact a nation's GDP. However, international development assistance in sub-Saharan Africa is levelling off and domestic health spend is not rising fast enough to make up for the decrease; challenges like the AIDS pandemic remain urgent.

An outcomes approach by nature addresses intersecting areas like health, community and the economy through collaborative, flexible and holistic interventions. These partnerships provide an opportunity to take a more iterative, creative approach to problem-solving.

Project Characteristics

Project name	Kenya Health Outcomes Partnership
OBF structure	Outcomes Partnership
Target sector(s)	Health
Launch date	August 2023
Duration	2 years
Country/region	Kenya
Target outcomes	Reach 300,000+ adolescent girls aged 15-19 years old Deliver 425,000 sexual and reproductive health services Deliver 135,000 HIV services
Investment	US\$4m
Investment terms	Repayment only if specified outcomes are achieved
Investor(s)	UBS Optimus Foundation, British International Investment, the US International Development Finance Corporation and others, managed via SDG Outcomes Fund
Outcomes funding	US\$7.3m to date
Outcomes payor(s)	CIFF and UNFPA
Intermediary	Bridges Outcomes Partnerships
Advisor	Kois (design advisor)
Service provider	Tiko
Beneficiaries	15-19 year old girls in 10 counties in Kenya
Evaluator	EDI Group (Mathematica)

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