

Global Early Adolescent Study (GEAS)



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Welcome

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Global Early Adolescent Study (GEAS)



Phase 1 results

Morning session

December 1st, 2017

European Dissemination meeting in Ghent.

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Welcome & background

Robert Blum, MD, MPH, PhD

GEAS Principal Investigator

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, USA

THE GOAL OF THE STUDY

- Understand how gender norms evolve in early adolescence and how such norms predispose young people to subsequent sexual health risks and conversely that contribute to healthy sexuality so as to provide the knowledge base for adult caregivers and young people themselves to improve sexual and reproductive health outcomes.

WHY EARLY ADOLESCENCE?

- Adolescence is a period of transitions – physical, emotional, cognitive, social; yet poorly understood
- Differential health patterns emerge by sex
- Period of gender intensification=window of opportunity to intervene

WHY create new instruments?

- Objectives: Assess how gender norms, relates to empowerment and predicts health trajectories over time and across cultures.



- Very few studies among this age group
- Existing instruments developed in Western cultures

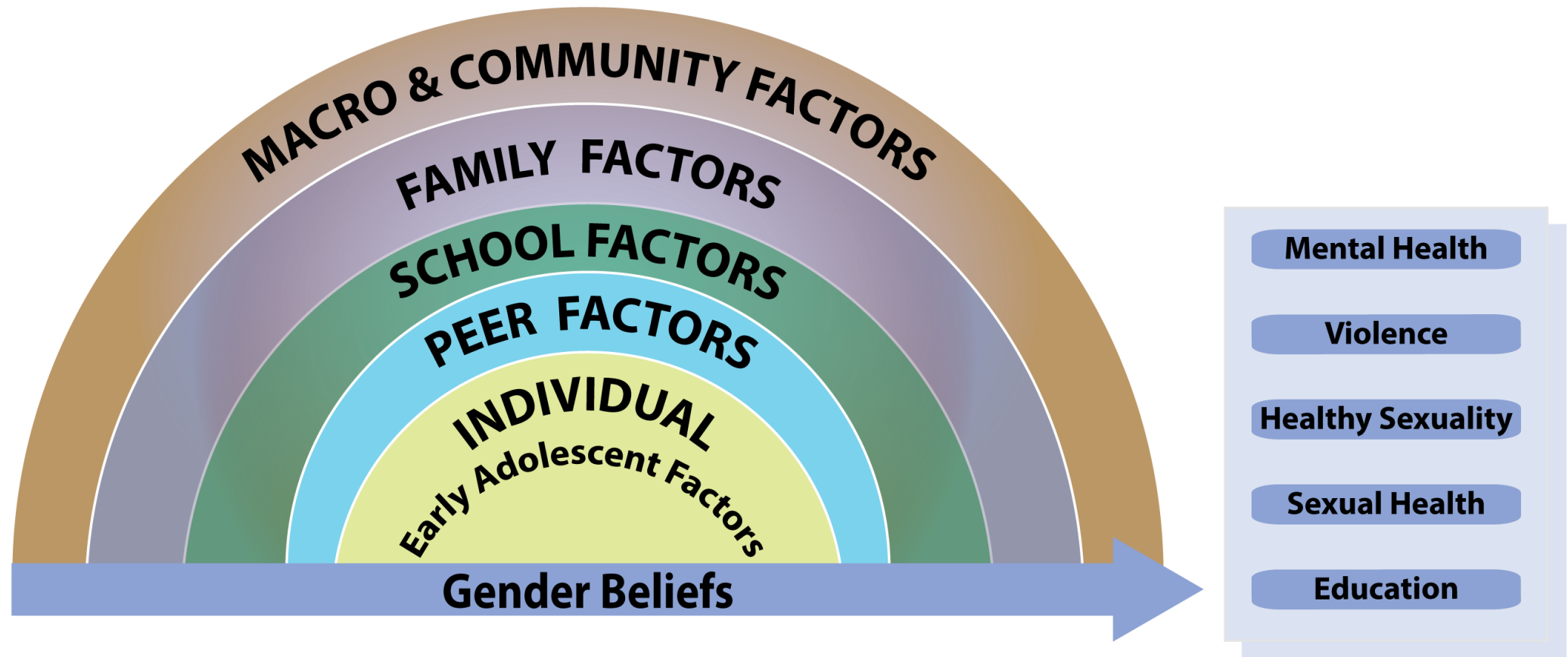


- Need **cross-cultural** instruments to assess gender norms, gender equality, empowerment and health outcomes in early adolescents

PHASE #1 Objectives

- A systematic review of the gender socialization literature globally as it pertains to young adolescents;
- A narrative on two generations gendered transitions into adolescence,
- Development of cross-cultural instruments to assess: a) gender norms, b) gender norms in relationships, c) empowerment and d) sexual behaviors & sexual health outcomes

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK



GEAS INSTRUMENTS

Suite of **Gender norms** instruments

- Narrative of gendered transitions into adolescent (Qualitative)
- Gender norms scales (quantitative)
- Gender vignettes (quantitative)

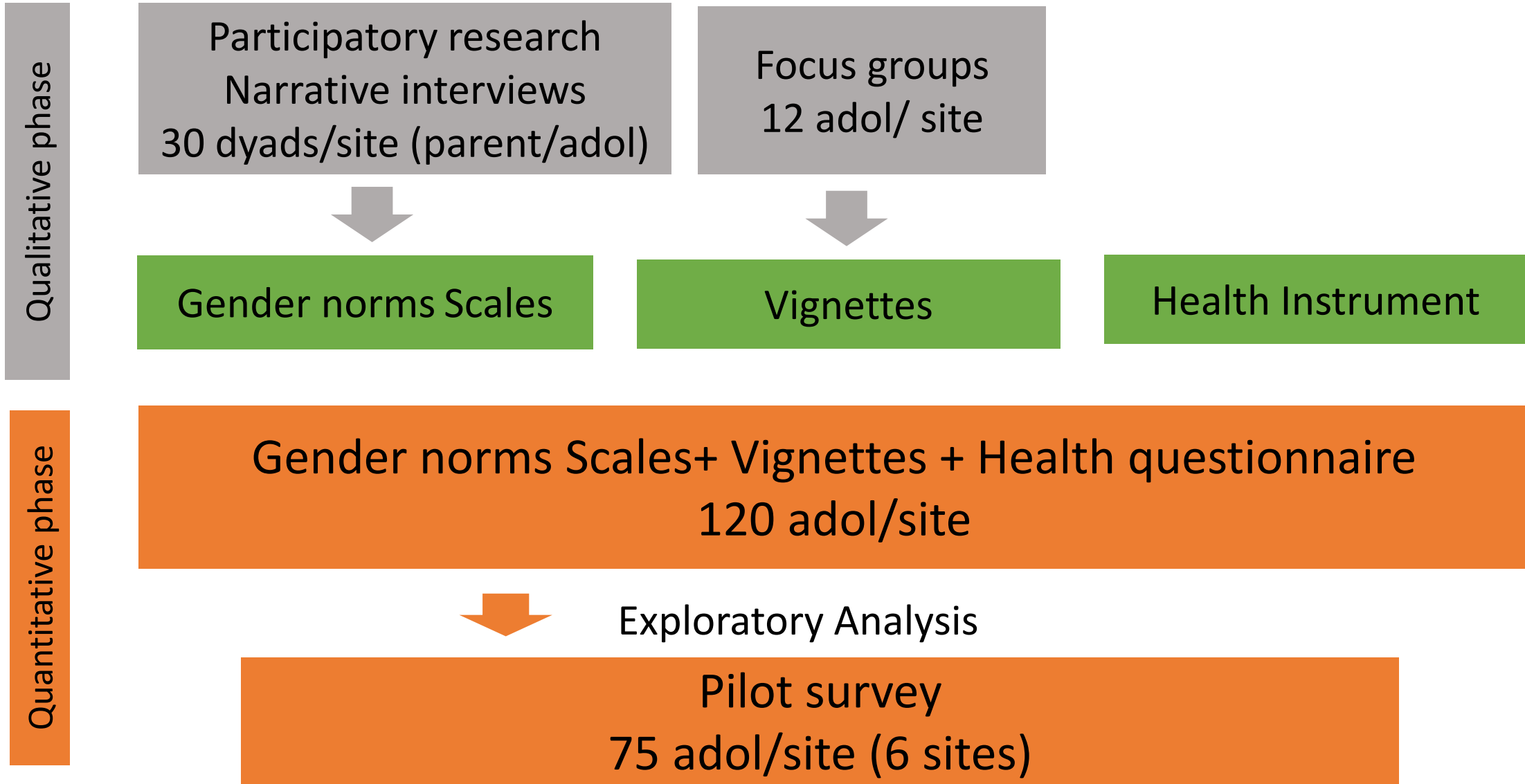
Empowerment scales (quantitative)

Health instruments (quantitative)

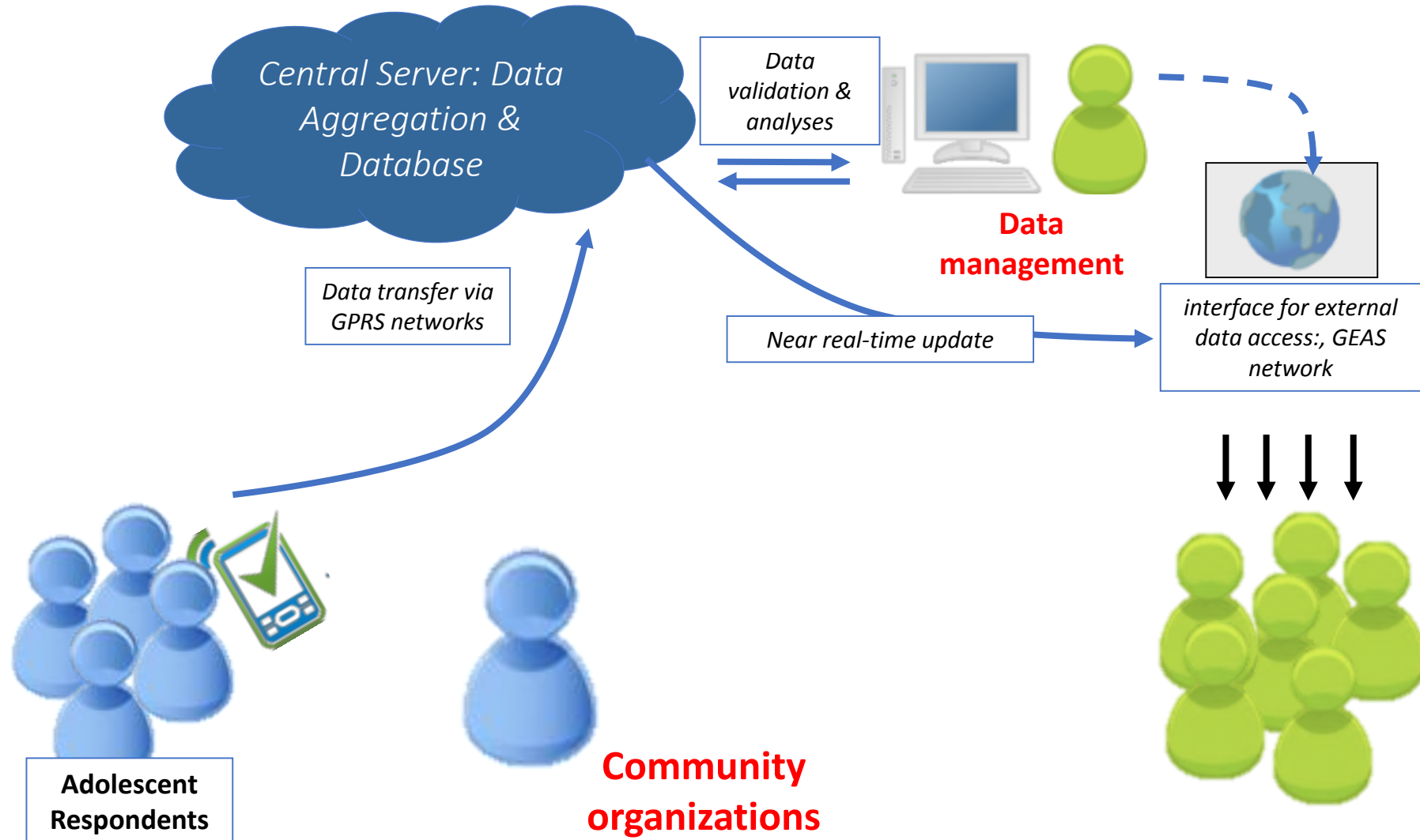
- Mental health
- Healthy sexuality: Body image, comfort with Pubertal development
- Violence (interpersonal, IPV and gender based violence)
- Relationships and Sexual health

QUANTITATIVE INSTRUMENT DEVELOPMENT

Grounded in the voices of young people



QUANTITATIVE DATA COLLECTION: ODK Platform



PILOT TESTING

Face validity study of survey instruments

- 20 adolescents 10- 14 years/ site
- Reading & comprehension

Pilot: quantitative survey

- Pilot 1: 120 adolescents 10- 14 years/ site, in 13 sites
n=1944
- Pilot 2: 75 adolescents/ site
in 6 sites, n=434



GEAS sites

