UNESCO Activities at the XIX International AIDS Conference

Washington D.C., 22-27 July 2012

Starting with Education • Commençons par l’éducation
Empecemos por la educación • Начиная с образования
انطلاقاً من التعليم • 从教育入手 • Começando pela Educação!
UNESCO Supported Activities at the XIX International AIDS Conference

Sunday 22 July

“Getting Real with Youth-Friendly Services in Africa”

Population Council youth satellite, with UNESCO participation

Venue: Mini Room 6, 09:00 – 11:00

Youth are at the center of the HIV epidemic in Africa, and because they represent such a large proportion of the epidemic, trends among youth tend to shape overall trends in Africa. The past response has failed young people by too often applying a one-size-fits-all approach. Recent studies show that more must be done to meet the unique needs of young people, from defining locally appropriate prevention programs, to integrating sexual and reproductive health services, to fighting stigma and discrimination. During this session, researchers, donors, and affected youth will discuss how HIV policies and programs should be and are being shaped to be more youth-friendly. The panel will highlight current gaps and present evidence on new solutions to reach this diverse population.

Monday 23 July

“Leading the Way in Asia - Mapping, Mobilizing and Building Capacity of Young Key Affected Populations”

Leadership & Accountability Development Workshop

Venue: Mini Room 3, 14:30 – 18:00

G. Ompad, Youth LEAD Technical Working Group, Manila

In Asia and the Pacific, where most countries are experiencing concentrated HIV epidemics, there is increasing emphasis on working with and for young key affected populations (YKAP) in national responses. But how do we do this and what difference does it make anyway? This highly participatory and interactive workshop combines medical, educational and rights-based paradigms to profile YKAP issues. It draws on experience in mapping, mobilizing and building capacity of YKAP in Asia and the Pacific, and specifically aims to: build knowledge about strategic information (and gaps), including risks and vulnerabilities among YKAP; showcase regional experience in working with and for YKAP, and core components of success; assess participants’ individual/institutional capacity to respond to YKAP needs; and share resources/mechanisms for strengthening capacity.

“Lokuka - Akha Prevention Television Drama”

Venue: Screening Room, 17:45 – 19:00

D. Feingold, Ophidian Research Institute

The Akha ethnic minority spans five countries in Asia – China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam. Lokuka is a research-based drama that engages young Akha people and addresses their HIV needs as identified through research undertaken by the Akha Creative Group and UNESCO. Scripts were written by an Akha author, and performed by Akha actors. The drama (in Akha with English and Thai subtitles) addresses statelessness (in Thailand), non-traditional drug use, unsafe migration and HIV vulnerability. It draws on the UNESCO 12-Step Methodology for making culturally and ethnically appropriate materials.

“Leading the Way in Asia - Building Capacity among Young Key Affected Populations”

Global Village Workshop, 18:30 – 20:00

Location: Youth Pavilion

Skand Amatya & Thaw Zin Aye, Youth LEAD, Bangkok
• J. Sass, Asia-Pacific Interagency Task Team on HIV and Young Key Affected Populations, Bangkok
In Asia and the Pacific, where most countries are experiencing concentrated epidemics, there has been increasing emphasis on working with and for young key affected populations (YKAP) in the AIDS response. But how do we do this and what difference does it make anyway? This workshop will draw on the experience of many partners in mobilizing and building capacity among YKAP. The workshop aims to: build awareness of YKAP issues, including risks and vulnerabilities; examine the needs of YKAP at different levels; and share resources and mechanisms for strengthening capacity.

**Tuesday 24 July**

**“Forever Lost Moon” screening**

Venue: Global Village Asia-Pacific Networking Zone, 10:00 – 12:00

D. Feingold, Ophidian Research Institute • H. Peters, Consultant

Forever Lost Moon is the first HIV and AIDS television prevention drama series produced in the Wa language in China. It is the result of a collaboration between the Center for Disease Control, Cangyuan, China; Yihai Cultural Communication Company; and UNESCO. Featuring real and engaging characters, Forever Lost Moon is an action-packed, dramatic and emotional drama based on real life stories of the situations facing the Wa ethnic minority. It addresses relationships between HIV and AIDS, drug use, exploited labor, mother to child transmission, unsafe migration and stigma in a frank and open manner. The session will display an English-subtitled 60 minute version of the original 10 episode series; include a discussion importance of producing culturally and linguistically appropriate prevention materials; and refer to the UNESCO 12-Step Methodology for making these materials.

**Wednesday 25 July**

**Celebrating the Frontline - The Red Ribbon Award for Innovative Community Responses to AIDS**

Award Special Session
Venue: Conference Room 2, 13:00 – 14:00

The Red Ribbon Award (RRA) is the World's leading award on innovative and outstanding community work in the AIDS response. The RRA Special Session will celebrate the deserving winners of the 2012 Awards through a combination of inspiring talks by exceptional global personalities, the presentation of the awards and remarks from the winners themselves. The Special Session aims to provide a pivotal policy platform for grassroots to be heard at an international AIDS forum and inspire communities, policy makers and programme planners.

**Expanding Covering and Quality: Approaches to Scaling-Up**

Oral poster Discussion Session, 13:00 – 14:00
Venue: Mini Room 3

C. Castle, UNESCO Paris • J. DeJong, American University, Beirut

While there is now a large body of evidence on what interventions are effective within an AIDS response, there is less clarity about how to scale-up those interventions efficiently. It is therefore essential to understand what scaling-up strategies have worked and in what contexts. Following oral presentations of posters on approaches to scaling-up coverage and quality, UNESCO will co-chair a moderated discussion.

**Poster Exhibitions**

**Monday 23 July**

**A Tale of five Provinces: Health-Seeking Behaviours and Perceived Quality of Care among Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) and Transgender (TG) in Thailand”**

Venue: Exhibition Hall, Level 2, 12:30 – 14:30

J. Sass, UNESCO Asia-Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, Bangkok • P. Sanchaisuriya, Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen • T.T. Ojanen, Center for Health Policy Studies, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities, Mahidol University, Bangkok • R. Jommaroeng, Purple Sky Network, Bangkok • P. Chaiphosiri, P. Tonprasert, T. Pansap, J. Longkul, S. Rattanadilok, J. Chaiyakhan, R. Mephol, Khon Kaen University, Thailand • S. Gater, UNESCO Asia-Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, Bangkok

To inform Thailand’s national strategic AIDS plan 2012-2016, a qualitative study with 100 men who have sex with men and (MSM) transgender people was conducted in 5 sites to assess health-seeking behaviours and factors influencing access to sexual health (SH) services. While progress has been made in expanding prevention, obstacles to health-seeking remain among MSM, and services are not adequately addressing the needs of transgender people. Efforts to safeguard confidentiality and
privacy (particularly for counselling) are required, as are those to ensure non-stigmatizing attitudes of clinic staff.

**Wednesday 25 July**

**“Leading the way: NewGen Asia builds young key affected populations’ (YKAP) capacity”**

*Venue: Exhibition Hall, Level 2, 12:30 – 14:30*


In 2011, the Asia-Pacific Inter-Agency Task Team for Young Key Affected Populations developed a highly-interactive short course for young leaders from key affected populations, called NewGen Asia. The process included scoping and planning consultations, a young writers’ workshop, a sampling course, and a full pilot in the Philippines. The outcomes of the process demonstrate that young people from key affected populations can be leaders in identifying and meeting capacity-development needs.

**Thursday 26 July**

**Evidence-based planning of HIV and sexuality education: comprehensive analyses of mandatory school programs in Senegal, Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau as a basis for further interventions**

*Venue: Exhibition Hall, Level 2, 12:30 – 14:30*

X. Hospital & U. Kalha, UNESCO-BREDA • C. Castle, UNESCO Paris

UNESCO has developed a *Sexuality Education Review and Analysis Tool* (SERAT) to analyze sexuality education programs in depth, to uncover gaps and strengths in mandatory primary and secondary school programs and to inform subsequent capacity strengthening and advocacy. Pilot applications of the tool were conducted in three countries - Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde and Senegal. The tool enabled a participatory approach to reviewing and identifying gaps in programs. The SERAT gives clear guidance as to where the programs can be strengthened. It takes into account local needs and international guidance on what is effective in HIV programming for young people. Results uncover critical aspects of HIV education that need to be addressed when planning new efficient, country-specific interventions.

In 2011, the Asia-Pacific Inter-Agency Task Team for Young Key Affected Populations developed a highly-interactive short course for young leaders from key affected populations, called NewGen Asia. The process included scoping and planning consultations, a young writers’ workshop, a sampling course, and a full pilot in the Philippines. The outcomes of the process demonstrate that young people from key affected populations can be leaders in identifying and meeting capacity-development needs.

Effective prevention requires culturally and linguistically appropriate interventions, and is significantly enhanced by an understanding of temporal factors in both vulnerability and receptivity to information. Using GIS (Geographic Information Systems) to map detailed ethnolinguistic, demographic and HIV incidence data, it is possible to infer ethnic minority impacts of the virus and plan successful interventions using temporal-cultural constructs. The UNESCO HIV and Trafficking Project used GIS for epidemiological and vulnerability mapping for Thailand, Laos and Cambodia as well as for trans-border population and migration mapping. Coupled with detailed ethnographic and survey research in highland areas, the project has obtained a spatial context for delineating the cultural factors in the prevention and transmission of HIV.
Resources


This CD-ROM contains over 200 recent resources produced by UNESCO’s sectors, institutes, regional bureaux, cluster and country offices and partners. Included on the CD-ROM are policy documents, case studies, reports, tools, curricula, and other materials from a range of settings and in several languages. These resources are one part of UNESCO’s support to countries so they can reduce people’s risk and vulnerability, improve care for the infected and affected, and build individual and institutional capacity for more effective responses to HIV and AIDS.

UNESCO Library of materials on sexuality education

This CD-Rom offers a compendium of resources to support planning and implementation of comprehensive sexuality education. It includes the International Technical Guidance on Sexuality Education; Cost & Cost-Effectiveness of Sexuality Education; Review of Policies and Strategies to Implement and Scale-up Sexuality Education in Asia and the Pacific; Comprehensive Sexuality Education: The Challenges and Opportunities of Scaling-up; Good Policy and Practice on gender, HIV and education; Positive Learning: Meeting the Needs of YPLHIV; Sexuality Education Review and Analysis Tool and many more tools, guidance and policy documents. Some of the documents on this CD-Rom are available in several languages (English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese and Portuguese).

UNESCO’s Strategy for HIV and AIDS

The strategy for HIV and AIDS articulates UNESCO’s contribution to the UNAIDS objectives outlined in the strategy Getting to Zero, and calls for the need to accelerate universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support. It acknowledges that the global AIDS epidemic is changing; treatment is helping people live longer and healthier lives with HIV, and now is the time for context-specific, targeted approaches based on evidence and good practice.

Positive Learning: Meeting the needs of young people living with HIV (YPLHIV) in the education sector

Young people living with HIV are experiencing stigma, discrimination and challenges in balancing their health and treatment needs with their education attendance. GNP+ and UNESCO collaborated to identify and document the needs of learners living with HIV and develop a set of recommendations for action. The recommendations are simple, practical and feasible, and are intended to give guidance to educators, policy- and decision-makers as well as activists and professionals working with young people to enable YPLHIV to realise their personal, social and educational potential.

Good Policy Practice in HIV and Health Education Series

This series addresses key themes of UNESCO’s work in HIV and Health Education. Booklet 1 of the series provides an overview of why HIV and AIDS are important issues for the education sector, identifies weaknesses in current policy and programming responses, and highlights evidence gaps. Booklet 2 discusses issues affecting learners in the context of HIV and AIDS, including rights and access to education, protection, knowledge and skills, and care and support. Booklet 3 discusses issues affecting educators in the context of HIV and AIDS, including training, conduct, and care and support. Booklet 4 concentrates on the role and importance of strategic partnerships in developing education sector responses to HIV and AIDS, while Booklet 5 focuses on the topic of effective learning using illustrative examples. Booklet 6 discusses the key role of pre-service teacher training for the delivery of effective sexuality educations and HIV prevention education. Booklet 7 illustrates the links between gender, HIV and education, and highlights current thinking and experiences, innovative approaches and lessons learned, in order to inform policy and programming. Booklet 8 lays out the context, extent and impact of homophobic bullying and synthesizes lessons learned as well as good policies and practices for an education sector response to homophobic bullying. While these booklets are mainly intended for education sector policy-makers, planners and managers, we hope they will also be useful for school governing bodies, administrators, head teachers, teachers and other educators who are tackling some of the challenges to create healthy learning environments.
UNESCO’s Response to HIV and AIDS

UNESCO’s work on HIV and AIDS focuses on three key priorities:
– Building country capacity for effective and sustainable education responses to HIV;
– Strengthening comprehensive HIV and sexuality education; and
– Advancing gender equality and protecting human rights.

UNESCO is a UNAIDS cosponsor and supports countries' responses to HIV with advocacy, policy and programmatic guidance, and technical and strategic support, convening and coordination. This work is carried out in accordance with the bold strategic goals outlined in Getting to Zero, the UNAIDS roadmap to 2015.

The Organization supports responses to HIV and AIDS that are inclusive and sensitive to the needs of all people and, in particular, key populations especially vulnerable to HIV and young people in school settings.

UNESCO also supports responses that are gender and age responsive, culturally appropriate, evidence-informed, grounded in human rights, and involve people living with HIV and vulnerable populations at all stages.

UNESCO plays a leading role in EDUCAIDS and the UNAIDS Inter-Agency Task Team (IATT) on Education, which are part of the UN’s global effort to ensure all people have universal access to HIV and AIDS prevention programmes, treatment, care and support. UNESCO’s response to HIV and AIDS is founded upon the Millennium Development Goals, Education for All (EFA) and the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, adopted at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS (UNGASS) in 2001.

For more information on UNESCO’s response to HIV and AIDS, please visit our website at www.unesco.org/aids

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