

## **USAID HIV/AIDS E-Newsletter**

### **October 15, 2002**

-----  
*This newsletter provides regular updates on the U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of HIV/AIDS and partner activities to prevent and mitigate HIV/AIDS across the developing world. We encourage you to circulate this publication to colleagues.*  
-----

#### **CONTENTS**

**Recent Events**

**Upcoming Meetings and Events**

**Announcements**

**Publications and Resources**

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **RECENT EVENTS**

##### **The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria**

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria is holding its third board meeting October 10-11 in Geneva. USAID's Assistant Administrator for Global Health Dr. Anne Peterson gave an update on the Global Fund at the biannual meeting of the Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid on Wednesday, October 9. To read this speech and access other information about the Global Fund, see:

[http://www.usaid.gov/pop\\_health/aids/Funding/globalfund.html](http://www.usaid.gov/pop_health/aids/Funding/globalfund.html)

##### **The Next Wave of HIV/AIDS**

With the publication of a report by the National Intelligence Council, the AIDS epidemic in five populous countries (Nigeria, Ethiopia, Russia, India and China) was the topic of a conference sponsored by the Center for Strategic and International Studies. USAID's Dr. Anne Peterson spoke on USAID's efforts in these five countries at the conference. To access the report, see <http://www.odci.gov/nic/pubs/index.htm>. To view a webcast of the conference see: [www.kaisernet.org](http://www.kaisernet.org). To learn more about USAID's work in these five countries, see: [http://www.usaid.gov/pop\\_health/aids/Countries/index.html](http://www.usaid.gov/pop_health/aids/Countries/index.html)

##### **Congressional Briefing on Preventing Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV**

USAID's Dr. Anne Peterson spoke at a Congressional briefing on preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV on September 25. Other speakers included members of Congress and representatives of the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, Boehringer Ingelheim, Catholic Medical Mission Board, and Family Health International. To read her speech or view a web cast of the briefing see:

[http://www.usaid.gov/pop\\_health/aids/TechAreas/mtct/index.html](http://www.usaid.gov/pop_health/aids/TechAreas/mtct/index.html)

##### **USAID Sponsors "ABC" Experts Technical Meeting**

USAID sponsored a one-day technical meeting on behavior change approaches to the primary prevention of sexual transmission of HIV, sometimes called the "ABCs" of AIDS prevention: Abstain (or delay of sexual debut), Being faithful to one partner or using Condoms (ABC). Approximately 130 people attended, including representatives of USAID's cooperating agencies, UN agencies, foundations and university researchers. For more information, see:

[http://www.usaid.gov/pop\\_health/aids/TechAreas/prevention/index.html](http://www.usaid.gov/pop_health/aids/TechAreas/prevention/index.html)

##### **USAID Sponsors Two-Day Technical Meeting on Male Circumcision**

USAID sponsored a two-day experts' meeting, September 18-19, on an emerging issue of importance to epidemiologists and, increasingly, program staff in some regions of Africa and elsewhere: the relationship between male circumcision and HIV transmission (as well as other health aspects, such as penile and cervical cancer). For more information, see:

[http://www.usaid.gov/pop\\_health/aids/TechAreas/research/index.html](http://www.usaid.gov/pop_health/aids/TechAreas/research/index.html)

### **YouthAIDS Launched at Dinner in New York**

Population Services International hosted a dinner to launch YouthAIDS, a global initiative to raise funds and awareness to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS among the world's youth on Monday, October 7, at New York City's Tribeca Rooftop. Special guests included J Records superstars, Mario and Lanya. Awards were presented to Levi Strauss & Co. and its chairman Robert D. Haas; MTV Networks International and its president William H. Roedy; the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and its president Patty Stonesifer; and to the Elton John AIDS Foundation and Sir Elton John. For more information see: [www.youthaids.org](http://www.youthaids.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS**

#### **Addressing the Challenges for PVOs and NGOs**

The PVO-USAID Steering Committee on Multisectoral Approaches to HIV/AIDS, a joint initiative of USAID's Bureau for Africa and approximately 20 private voluntary organizations, is hosting a two-day conference, *HIV/AIDS: A Humanitarian and Development Crisis: Addressing the Challenges for PVOs and NGOs in Africa*. The conference will be held at the Academy for Educational Development conference center in Washington, DC, October 16-17, 2002. Interested participants should register at: <http://sara.aed.org/pvo-aids>. For more information on the conference, please contact either Nithya Mani at USAID, [nmani@afr-sd.org](mailto:nmani@afr-sd.org) or Rebecca Nigmann at AED, [rnigmann@aed.org](mailto:rnigmann@aed.org).

#### **Global Health Council Holds Congressional Briefing in October**

The Global Health Council is holding a Congressional briefing on Wednesday, October 16 on "The Diminishing Effectiveness of Drugs to Treat Infectious Diseases" from 12 p.m. – 1 p.m., Room B369 of the Rayburn House Office Bldg. For more information contact: Alex Klein (202) 833-5900 ext. 3214.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **New Staff Join Office of HIV/AIDS**

USAID's Office of HIV/AIDS welcomes four new staff members: Vathani Amirthanayagam, Charlene Brown, Mary Freyder and Mary Jordan. Vathani Amirthanayagam is working in the Strategic Planning, Evaluation and Research division. She is a Foreign Service Officer, who recently arrived from Ethiopia, where she served as the Chief of the Office of Health, Population and Nutrition for USAID. Dr. Charlene Brown is an American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellow, and will serve as the HIV voluntary counseling and testing advisor. A physician, Dr. Brown completed her MD, MPH and clinical training in internal medicine at Harvard University. Mary Freyder is a monitoring and evaluation fellow, and comes to USAID from the Whitman Walker Clinic and AIDS Action in Boston. Mary Jordan is a senior technical advisor, focusing on public-private partnerships and joins the office after 20 years in the pharmaceutical industry.

#### **USAID Awards \$127 Million for Global Health Communication Project**

The Global Communication Partnership led by the Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs has been awarded \$127 million by USAID to implement a five-year global project designed to use strategic communication to fight infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, TB, and Malaria; improve maternal and child health; and reduce fertility in the developing world. The award will fund activities such as large-scale use of mass media linked to community mobilization and outreach programs promoting healthy behaviors by both individuals and communities. In addition to Johns Hopkins University, the Partnership includes the Academy for Educational Development, Save the Children, the International HIV/AIDS Alliance, Tulane University's School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

#### **Takalani Sesame adds HIV Positive Muppet**

In September, *Takalani Sesame*, the South African *Sesame Street*, added a new muppet to its family. Kami is HIV positive, and was added to the program to promote age appropriate messages concerning the humanization, de-stigmatization and acceptance of people living with HIV and to open discussion about issues such as coping with illness and loss. Kami's name is derived from the word "acceptance" in

Setswana, which carries with it a sense of belonging, hope and optimism. USAID/South Africa is partner of Takalani Sesame. For more information, see: <http://www.sn.apc.org/usaidsa/press69.html>

#### **Nominations for 2003 Gates Award Being Accepted**

The Global Health Council is accepting nominations for the 2003 Gates Award for Global Health. The Council serves as the administrator of the Gates Award for Global Health, which is presented annually to organizations that have made major and lasting contributions in the health field. The deadline for submissions is December 5. More information about the 2003 award can be obtained at: <http://www.globalhealth.org/awards/GatesIntro.php3>

#### **New Ugandan Medical Drama Premieres This Month**

A new medical drama series, Centre 4, premiered last week on one of sub-Saharan Africa's largest television networks and features a cast of Ugandan characters facing life and death challenges. The 13-part series is not only entertaining but presents messages about how Ugandans can lead healthier lives. The Delivery of Improved Services developed the series for Health II Project, a partnership between the Ugandan Ministry of Health and a group led by Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs. USAID and the Ford Foundation provided financial support. The Mediae Company, a Kenyan communications organization, participated in the production. The show will air every Wednesday on TV Africa in Uganda and in more than 20 other African nations with similar health problems. TV Africa has a potential audience of more than 110 million people.

#### **Young Adult Reproductive Health Pilot Program Launched**

POLICY/Nigeria is pleased to announce the launch of a one-year young adult reproductive health (YARH) pilot project in Edo State, Nigeria. The aim of the program is to encourage approval of a statewide YARH strategic plan and increase funding for YARH programs in order to strengthen support for youth friendly HIV/AIDS and family planning and reproductive health services. For information see: <http://comminit.com/pdskdv92002/sld-6077.html>

\*\*\*\*\*

### **PUBLICATIONS AND RESOURCES**

#### **Report on Cross-Generational and Transactional Sexual Relationships**

Population Services International (through its AIDSMark project) and the International Center for Research on Women held a one-day conference on September 10 in Washington on "Innovations for Adolescent Girls and HIV/AIDS: Addressing Cross-Generational and Transactional Sexual Relations." A literature review on the topic is available at: [www.psi.org](http://www.psi.org) and <http://www.icrw.org/>.

#### **POLICY Releases Report on HIV/AIDS Policies in SADC Countries**

The POLICY Project has released a report on national and sector HIV/AIDS policies in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC). For more information see: <http://www.policyproject.com/abstract.cfm?ID=1032>

#### **JHPIEGO Develops Multimedia Tutorials on the Care of Women**

The JHPIEGO Corporation is developing education and training programs in HIV/AIDS for those who are working in limited-resource settings. One of the products that have been developed is a series of multimedia tutorials that are based on the Health Resources and Services Administration publication, "Guide to the Care of Women Living with HIV/AIDS." The guide is targeted to clinicians providing primary care in developed countries. This and other tutorials, are available at: <http://www.reproline.jhu.edu>. USAID, Health Resources and Services Administration, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Academy for Educational Development, national governments and other non-governmental organizations collaborated in this effort.

#### **New Technical Notes Series Now Available**

The Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project has released the second issue of the Technical Notes series, "Title II Evaluation Scopes of Work." The publication is designed to assist Title II private voluntary

organizations in constructing scopes of work for the mid-term and final evaluations of their development assistance programs. The document may be downloaded from: [www.fantaproject.org](http://www.fantaproject.org)

### **LINKAGES Releases Publications on MTCT and Infant Feeding**

The Linkages Project has released two reports on the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV. "Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV in Asia" focuses on the five most affected countries in the region, Cambodia, China, India, Myanmar, and Thailand, but presents technical background and lessons learned that are relevant for the rest of the region. This publication can be downloaded at: <http://www.linkagesproject.org/publications/pmtctasia.html>. "Meeting the Challenge of Infant Feeding in Communities Affected by HIV" focuses on the dilemma of infant feeding and HIV and discusses related LINKAGES activities. This publication can be downloaded at: [http://linkagesproject.org/pubs.html - breastfeeding](http://linkagesproject.org/pubs.html-breastfeeding)

### **HORIZONS Releases Online Survey**

The HORIZONS Project has released a research resource that includes questions targeted to youth about reproductive health and HIV/AIDS. The nine question categories include: sexual practices, social support, risk behaviors contraceptive use, social norms, and more. To access this resource, go to: <http://www.popcouncil.org/youthsurvey/index.html>.

### **HORIZONS Releases Report on MSM**

The HORIZONS Project released "Meeting the Sexual Health Needs of Men Who Have Sex with Men in Senegal." The researchers, including Horizons, the National AIDS Control Council and Cheikh Anta Diop University, used ethnographic and survey methods to elicit information about the behaviors, needs, knowledge, and attitudes of men having sex with men in the Senegalese capital of Dakar. To access the report, go to: <http://www.popcouncil.org/pdfs/horizons/msmsenegal.pdf>.

-----  
*This newsletter was formerly published as the Synergy Project HIV/AIDS E-newsletter. To subscribe, please fill out a subscriber form at [www.synergyaids.com/newsletter.asp](http://www.synergyaids.com/newsletter.asp). For those without web access, to subscribe **or** unsubscribe, send an e-mail to: [listserv@list.s-3.com](mailto:listserv@list.s-3.com) with "subscribe" or "unsubscribe" in the body of the e-mail.*

*USAID's Office of HIV/AIDS welcomes newsletter submissions from USAID Missions and partner agencies. Please contact Martha Lindauer at [Martha@tvassociates.com](mailto:Martha@tvassociates.com).*