



USAID HIV/AIDS E-Newsletter



March 16, 2004

A monthly update on activities of the U.S. Agency for International Development Office of HIV/AIDS and its partners to prevent and mitigate HIV/AIDS across the developing world. We encourage you to circulate this publication to colleagues.

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NEWS

State Department Releases HIV/AIDS Strategy

The State Department's Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator released its five-year strategy for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief in late February. At a press briefing attended by Ambassador Randall Tobias, Secretary of State Colin Powell, Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy Thompson, and USAID Administrator Andrew Natsios, Natsios pointed to USAID's longstanding funding and disbursement mechanisms as means to move the money as fast as possible. "We're using the existing religious institutions at the local level, the NGO communities, the missionary hospitals, the ministries of health, and other mechanisms that already are in place..." he said. [Press Conference Transcript](#). [Five-Year Strategy](#).

POLICY Project Supports New Workplace Initiative in Zambia

With funds from The POLICY Project, the Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Management Program will provide technical assistance and support to Konkola Copper Mine and Dunavant Zambia Limited to develop workplace HIV/AIDS policies and programs. [More](#).

Postal Campaign Spreads AIDS Awareness in Nepal

In Nepal, Population Services International (PSI) has kicked off an HIV/AIDS prevention campaign that places a sticker bearing the message "Protect yourself and others from HIV/AIDS" on every piece of domestic and international postal mail in the country. This campaign aims to reach rural Nepalese who often do not have access to television, radio, and newspapers, and, therefore, may have not been exposed to PSI/Nepal's mass media campaigns. PSI/Nepal has printed six million stickers that will be disseminated throughout the entire country. [More](#).

USAID and Coca Cola Bring Television Drama to West and Central Africa

Population Services International (PSI) is leveraging corporate funds to further the health impact and reach of its USAID-funded television drama "SIDA dans la Cité," or "AIDS in the City." The broadcast of the series' third season in ten western and central African nations was made possible by the Coca Cola Africa Foundation and enables millions of people to learn about issues related to HIV/AIDS. The series was produced by PSI/Côte d'Ivoire. Its four separate stories promote responsible behavior change among the sexually active, prompt increased demand for and use of voluntary counseling and HIV testing services, and aim to reduce stigmatization of people living with HIV/AIDS. [More](#).

Horizons Launches New Study on Adherence to Antiretroviral Treatment

As part of the Horizons Program's ongoing portfolio of operations research on HIV/AIDS treatment, a new study in Zambia will examine the effects of engaging and educating communities about antiretroviral drugs on rates of patient adherence to treatment, and on levels of AIDS-related stigma in the community. The Horizons Program is funded by USAID. [More](#).

Transcending Boundaries to Improve Food Security of AIDS-Affected Households in Rural Uganda

In most of sub-Saharan Africa, the HIV/AIDS epidemic is crippling the economic systems of households, jeopardizing income flow, and threatening food security. With support from the Horizons Program, the International Center for Research on Women, the National Agricultural Research Organization, and The AIDS Support Organization have launched a new endeavor to

improve household food security in rural Ugandan communities affected by HIV/AIDS. The project will strengthen partnerships between communities and specialists in HIV/AIDS, agriculture, and nutrition to improve households' abilities to meet their food security needs. [More.](#)

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Synergy's HIV/AIDS Program Planning Course Set for May 2004

The "Essentials of HIV/AIDS Program Planning Course," conducted by The Synergy Project and funded by USAID, will take place May 17-22, 2004, in Cape Town, South Africa. The course is designed to build capacity at the country level to manage expanded resources. Program managers will learn to formulate effective intervention strategies for HIV/AIDS, address priorities for rapid scale-up, use research-to-practice approaches to inform programming decisions, and establish systems for strategic information on surveillance, program improvement, and health information monitoring. Applications are due by March 31. [More.](#)

Health and Human Rights Course Offered for Africa-Based USAID and Other U.S. Government Partners

The François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights of the Harvard School of Public Health, in collaboration with The POLICY Project, will offer the Health and Human Rights Course May 25-27, 2004, in Cape Town, South Africa. [More.](#)

RECENT EVENTS

Seminar Discusses ABC Approach from Research, Policy, and Program Perspectives

The Horizons Program and InterAction, a network of 160 humanitarian and development organizations, held a seminar in February to discuss lessons learned about targeting the ABC approach to specific audiences and making individual messages operational, and the effect of the ABC approach on changing risk behavior. (ABC refers to **A**bstinence, **B**e faithful, and **C**ondom use.) The seminar also included an update of ABC-related legislation and its impact on resource allocation. [More.](#)

PUBLICATIONS

Storybook Brings Education to More Children in Namibia

With funding from USAID, Family Health International helped Catholic AIDS Action to publish "Kuana's Birthday Wish," an instructional storybook that provides advocacy information to help orphans and other vulnerable children receive a free primary education in Namibia. [More.](#)

IMPACT/Cambodia Produces Self-Care Booklets for People Living with HIV/AIDS

The "Self-Care" series provides practical advice for people living with HIV/AIDS and for individuals caring for HIV-positive family members or friends. The topics covered are universal, so organizations working in other countries can adapt these materials for local use. [More.](#)

Youth InfoNet No. 4 Now Available Online

Youth InfoNet No. 4 includes summaries and links to 11 programs that focus on orphans and vulnerable children, young refugees, nonconsensual sexual experiences of young people, new training materials, and more. Research summaries from Kenya, Mali, Vietnam, and other countries highlight the continuing need for education, condom accessibility, and a consideration of the holistic lives of youth. [More.](#)

USAID Evaluation Project Publishes Working Paper

USAID's MEASURE Evaluation Project announces the publication of "Explaining Inconsistencies Between Data on Condom Use and Condom Sales." [More.](#)

Horizons Releases Research Summaries of School-Based Studies

Four summaries based on Horizons Program research examine the effects of school HIV/AIDS-prevention programs in Mexico, Thailand, and South Africa.

- Programming for HIV Prevention in Mexican Schools. [More.](#)
- Programming for HIV Prevention in South African Schools. [More.](#)
- Programming for HIV Prevention Among College Students in Thailand. [More.](#)
- The Impact of Life Skills Education on Adolescent Sexual Risk Behaviors. [More.](#)

USAID Synergy Project Issues Technical Report

"Women's Experiences with HIV Serodisclosure in Africa: Implications for VCT and PMTCT," considers gender issues regarding the disclosure of HIV serostatus in sub-Saharan Africa. [More.](#)

ONLINE RESOURCES

Synergy Resource Center Highlights What's New

The Synergy Resource Center contains 3,208 searchable online documents relevant to HIV/AIDS project management and research, and reproductive health issues. New publications in the collection are highlighted each month. [More.](#)



The Synergy Project publishes this newsletter on behalf of USAID's Office of HIV/AIDS.

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