AIDS Community

COMMUNITY UPDATE

No. 2: 10 April 2006

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"AN ENCORE"

"Information itself is not so valuable - what is valuable is the tools to aggregate the information, manipulate it, synthesize it so you can draw conclusions which can assist in decisions" Prof. W. Tim G. Richardson

Dear friends

Its gives us great pleasure to present the community second update which includes brief on community activities as well as news from our members and partners.

Without sounding pompous, when Arthur C. Clarke said, *"Getting information from the internet is like getting a glass of water from the Niagara"* he had probably not heard of Solution Exchange!

The AIDS community is seeing a steady increase in the quality and quantity of queries posted by the members as well as the responses to the query. Solution Exchange, without doubt, has become an integral part of our work with an astounding membership of 1400 practitioners. Since we started on 21 October 2005 members posted 21 queries, which elicited large number of responses leading to stimulating discussion for all of us.

However, while it has been good going for our community, there is always scope for improvement. In this, I request members to post their responses within the stipulated time as otherwise, I find it difficult to incorporate their responses in the consolidated reply and the community misses valuable knowledge.

The purpose of these updates is to brief our members on community events and happenings. We intend to issue the update every three weeks and encourage members to send us any useful information that they would like to disseminate as well as suggestions on how we can improve our Updates.

We eagerly await your contributions!

Dr. E. Mohamed Rafique
Moderator and Resource Person
AIDS Community

Member Postings

Upcoming Events

XVI International AIDS Conference
Toronto Canada 13-18 August
(From Dr. Mohamed Shafi, Thiruvananthapuram)

The Conference theme is Time to Deliver and it will focus on the promises and progress made to scale-up treatment, care and prevention.
For more information please visit
http://www.aids2006.org/start.aspx

The Austrian Industrial Association, Vienna, Austria
19-21 April 2006

strategy, delivery, economics

For more information please visit:
http://www.meetingsmanagement.com/tbv_2006/

The 17th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm
Vancouver, Canada, April 30th, 2006
(From E. Thiruralluvan, Madurai)

The 17th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm will take place in Vancouver, Canada starting April 30th, 2006. The theme of the Conference is : HEAR + NOW: THE PEER CONFERENCE
For more information please visit: http://harmreduction2006.ca/about/A1_intro.htm

14th IUSTI Asia Pacific International Conference

14th IUSTI Asia-Pacific International Conference on Sexually Transmitted Infections and HIV/AIDS
27th-30th July, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

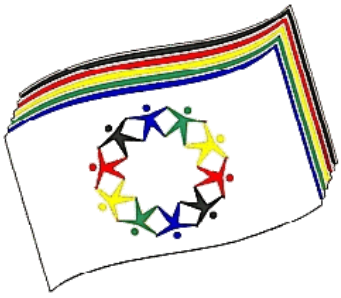
The AIDS Community action group formed a coalition of Civil society organisations as well as government bodies working to address issues of HIV related stigma and discrimination under the name AAROHII. This action group submitted a nomination for the Red Ribbon Award on stigma and discrimination. The Technical Review Committee will meet in June and select finalists who will attend the International AIDS Conference in Toronto, where the winners will be chosen.

Recently Held

ActionAid International organized a regional release of their report "Positive Voices - Emerging Governance Issues on HIV and AIDS in Asia" in Delhi on 7 April 2006, the World Health Day. The report launch was followed by a panel discussion on 'Achieving Universal Access: How far, How near'. The moderator of the AIDS Community presented the Summary of the Responses on

For details please visit http://www.iustiap.com/

Consultation on the participation of civil society in the processes related to the HIV/AIDS UNGASS Declaration of Commitment at country level
(From Gladson Paul, IPAS, Delhi.)



The International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO) is undertaking a project entitled ' stories from the frontlines: Lessons learnt in the involvement of civil society in the monitoring and reporting process on the implementation of the UNGASS declaration of commitment. Civil society organizations worldwide can send their experiences, success stories or challenges, before April 7, 2006 to ungass@icaso.org.
Read More...



IAEN Call for Papers
Last Date : 28 April 2006

The IAEN is announcing its "Call for Papers 2006". This Call is open to individuals conducting research on the issue of HIV/AIDS and economics. Accepted papers will be presented during a 2-day Symposium in Toronto on 11-12 August, 2006 (immediately prior to the XVI International AIDS Conference). For more information please visit : http://www.iaen.org/announcements/index.php?view=detail&id=16117



BETA LAUNCH OF HIV Atlas /INDIA
(From Jagdish, HIV Atlas, India)

HIV ATLAS connects Wants and Haves in the field of HIV/AIDS with a local perspective and global mindset. HIV ATLAS-INDIA is part of a worldwide initiative of HIV ATLAS which comprises of one global HIV/AIDS portal (www.hivatlas.org) well complemented by country/region specific portals like (www.hivatlas.org/INDIA). For details please visit WWW.HIV.ORG.IN

Universal Access e-Discussion carried out by the AIDS Community for the National Stakeholder Workshop. Download the Powerpoint on Universal Access.

From other Solution Exchange Communities

Decentralization Community Visioning Workshop was organised is Delhi from 7 April 2006- 8 April 2006 at Hotel Crowne Plaza.

From our Partners



"More, better and faster..."
UNAIDS organized an Asian Stakeholders' Consultation on confronting HIV, TB and Malaria in New Delhi from 4 April 2006- 7 April 2006

Job Opportunities

Finance Assistant, UNAIDS.
Read More

Programme Coordinator – National eForums Team

The International AIDS Candlelight Memorial Campaign
21 May 2006

The International AIDS Candlelight Memorial is a program of the Global Health Council that encourages communities and individuals around the world to become more involved with HIV/AIDS work through participation in a worldwide memorial. For details please visit: http://www.candlelightmemorial.org/



Download PDF of this poster

Recommended Readings

Desperately Seeking Targets: The Ethics of Routine HIV Testing in Low-Income Countries
(From Dr. Santosh Bagali, Bijapur.)

This article, from the Bulletin of the World Health Organization (WHO), considers the ethical challenges of massive scale-up of HIV testing required in order to achieve ART (antiretroviral therapy) targets. WHO and UNAIDS have recommended an "opt-out" testing policy, where routine HIV testing is justified and ethical if certain conditions are met.
Available at: http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/84/1/52.pdf

UNGASS: Monitoring Civil Society Perspectives - Panos Global AIDS Programme
(From Dr. A.R. Ramasubbu, Nagercoil)

The Panos Global AIDS Programme is working with partners to monitor progress on the Declaration of Commitment targets from a civil society perspective. The project aims to compliment

Location: Chiang Mai, Thailand
Application deadline: 20 April 2006

Read More

Resource Corner

Call for Journals *(From Renu Addlakha, Indian Journal of Gender Studies, New Delhi)*
The 'Indian Journal of Gender Studies' is a biannual peer reviewed journal of the Centre for Women's Development Studies, New Delhi published by Sage. It is desirous of publishing full-length papers/articles on HIV Gender and HIV. Please send your work/queries to renu@cwds.org
For details please visit www.cwds.org

Alternatively you may use the postal address given below to mail your work:

Indian Journal of Gender Studies,

the official review and will produce reports on Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Haiti, Malawi, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
Available at: http://www.panosaids.org/ungass/overview.htm

HIV, Health and Your Community - A Guide for Action, by Reuben Granich, M.D., M.P.H. and Jonathan Mermin M.D., M.P.H.
(From Dr. E. Mohamed Rafique , Moderator)
Designed for confronting HIV in places with few medical resources, this comprehensive manual is accessible to people without technical knowledge or prior training in HIV prevention or in the care of people with HIV/AIDS. Topics include: biology of HIV, prevention strategies, counseling and testing, low-cost care for people with HIV and their families, and guidelines for using ART and treating opportunistic infections.

You can preview & download this book in its entirely by visiting: http://www.hesperian.org/publications_download.php#hiv

From Seema Kochhar, Research Associate
Economic Security for Women Fight AIDS, Global Coalition on Women and AIDS
This paper argues that economic security is a major factor enabling women to protect themselves from HIV-infection. And programmes need to increase women's access to and control over economic assets
Available at:
http://data.unaids.org/pub/BriefingNote/2006/20060308_BN_GCWA_en.pdf?preview=true

Centre for Women's Development Studies
25 Bhai Vir Singh Marg
Near Gole Maket
New Delhi 110001

From Seema Kochhar, Research Associate
NAM is currently updating the HIV AIDS Services Worldwide Directory for the 2006/2007 edition. The new directory will be published both on paper and on the Internet and aims to promote communication between organizations and to foster the exchange of information. Every organization listed will receive a free copy of the directory and registration is free.
To view the directory online, click here.

News Items
A HIV positive woman denied assembly ticket in Assam.
Read more

Testimonials
From P. Kousalya, PWN+, Chennai
It is really a joyous experience to receive a set of good suggestions on the three sub-sections of the query on reaching and empowering positive women. One suggestion that I cannot forget is that it is critical to place the issue of women living with HIV at the heart of the women's movement as the fight for gender equity and the struggle against gender-based violence can be the apt platform to

address the structural factors that make women vulnerable to HIV. Thanks to the AIDS community it helps us to rededicate ourselves to the task unfinished.

Network Activity

Completed Queries (From 1 February 2006 to 31 March 2006)

Universal Access, from Alliance India & AASRA, (Advice)
Posted: 23 January 2006
Consolidated Reply issued: 7 February 2006

Clarifying the concept, identifying, barriers in scaling up treatment, and flagging action needed for Universal Access, to help inform national and global consultations and develop an action plan

Download the CR *Size: 181 KB*

Posted: 11 January 2006
Consolidated Reply issued: 16 February 2006

Examining issues facing State-level integrated approaches to Information Education and Communication, including synergies with the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)

Download the CR *Size: 173 KB*

Building management capacities of CBOs, from TCIF, (Comparative Experiences)
Posted: 1 February 2006
Consolidated Reply issued: 28 February 2006

Examining elements of Community Led Structural Interventions, including empowerment issues, monitoring and evaluation needs, constraints and possible ways to overcome them

Download the CR *Size: 275 KB*

Interventions for Uniformed Services, from UNAIDS, (Experiences) Posted: 9 February 2006
Consolidated Reply issued: 10 March 2006

Initiatives and experiences to reduce vulnerability of uniformed personnel, and interventions to address problems faced by NGOs, community networks etc. from law enforcement agencies

Download the CR *Size: 302 Kb*

Traditional Cures for HIV, from SHELTER, (Experiences)
Posted: 18 February 2006
Consolidated Reply issued: 14 March 2006

Ascertains the effectiveness of traditional medicines on treating HIV and lists studies and documents already available on Traditional Cures and treatment of HIV, TB and OI.

Download the CR *Size: 202 KB*

Sex Education in Schools, from Reliance, Punjab (Experiences) Posted : 1 March 2006
Consolidated Reply issued**:** 22 March 2006

Provides insights on the curriculum framework for sex education in schools as well as suggests innovative ways of reaching out to the youth

Download the CR *Size: 263 KB*

Women and HIV, from PWN+, Chennai (Advice)
Posted : 8 March 2006
Consolidated Reply issued: 28 March 2006

Creating awareness about HIV among young girls and women and redefined roles of the government, peer educators and family for attaining women empowerment.

Download the CR *Size: 200 KB*

Non-Allopathic Care providers for STI, from London School of Tropical Medicine (Experiences/Advice)
Posted : 11 March 2006
Consolidated Reply issued: 31 March 2006

Arguments for and against using non-allopathic HCP for syndromic management of STI and bring changes at policy level to all them to prescribe medicines for STI

Download the CR *Size: 148 KB*

Open Queries

Send your replies to aids-se@groups.solutionexchange-un.net.in

Mandatory Testing for HIV, from ANP+, Guwahati (Advice) REPLY BY: 16 April 2006

Many thanks to all those who contributed to the issue

If you have items to feature in this News Update, please send it to Solution Exchange for the AIDS Community in India at aids-se@solutionexchange-un.net.in

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