INITIATIVE

JAMAICA selected as one of the world’s first EDUCAIDS countries

EDUCAIDS is the new global initiative of the UNAIDS cosponsors that will provide support to targeted countries to strengthen the response of their education sectors to the HIV and AIDS epidemics.

The initiative was formally launched in mid-2005 and Jamaica was nominated as one of four countries to benefit in 2005. The other three countries in the first wave are Cambodia, Moldova and Namibia. Additional countries will be added each year.

EDUCAIDS will have two major thrusts. Firstly, providing quality evidence-based briefs to education sector policy makers and officials on the nexus between the epidemic and the delivery of educational services. Secondly, building capacity of the sector to effectively implement the necessary response.

For further information on EDUCAIDS, contact Michael Morrissey, m.morrissey@unesco.org.

UNESCO will collaborate with the education authorities and other UNAIDS cosponsors and donors in Jamaica in developing EDUCAIDS. UNESCO itself has committed USD200,000 as an initial contribution, through the Trust Funds of the Government of Japan. To prepare for EDUCAIDS in Jamaica, UNESCO has engaged international expert David Clarke to support the Government and UN team in an assessment of the current response of the education sector - this study began in August 2005 and the final report will be available in October. This assessment will provide the baseline for preparation of EDUCAIDS for Jamaica.

A copy of this assessment will be posted on the Caribbean Education and HIV/AIDS Clearinghouse when finalised (in October 2005).

NEW RESOURCES


- HIV/AIDS instructional materials appraisal instrument. UNESCO’s International Bureau of Education, IBE, has drafted instruments to support appraisal of instructional materials that cover HIV and AIDS. more page 4

- Education sector global HIV/AIDS readiness survey. 2004 report. The global survey of 71 Ministries of Education, including 10 in the Caribbean, is now available for download. More page 4

EVENT

Planning effective HIV & AIDS workplace training for Caribbean educational institutions, September 28-30, 2005

UNESCO and ILO are collaborating to develop Caribbean-appropriate workplace training materials for educational institutions that are fully reflective of the rights-based principles promoted by these organisations and other UNAIDS co-sponsors. Guidelines have been drafted for review by Caribbean stakeholders. Five countries will be involved in the review process on behalf of all CARICOM counties. There are Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, and Trinidad & Tobago. Representatives of the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labour, Teachers’ Associations, Employers, and National AIDS authorities have been invited from each country to a workshop in Kingston, Jamaica, September 28-30, 2005. This workshop will review and revise the draft instruments and
HFLE curriculum framework impact assessment

The Caribbean Regional Health and Family Life Curriculum Framework for ages 9 to 14 (see issue 9 of this Report) has been finalised. An electronic copy is available from Morella Joseph, CARICOM Secretariat, mmjoseph@caricom.org, or Elaine King of UNICEF, eking@unicef.org.

UNICEF is now working with the CARICOM Secretariat and the Ministries of Education of selected Caribbean countries in a study that will assess the teacher and student impact of the new HFLE curriculum.

A sample of schools will be selected in at least four Caribbean countries to begin the study in September 2005. Emphasis will be placed on the Sexuality/Sexual Health and Self/Interpersonal Relationship themes that include HIV and AIDS issues.

Training of trainers to be involved in the study was undertaken in St. Lucia, June 20-24, 2005.

Further information on the study may be obtained from Elaine King at UNICEF’s Eastern Caribbean Office in Barbados.

Planning effective HIV and AIDS workplace training for Caribbean educational institutions, September 28-30, 2005...

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... agree on preliminary plans for implementation in each country.

Following the workshop, the documentation will be revised, published and distributed to all English- and Dutch-speaking countries of the Caribbean, and to UNAIDS partners, by the UNESCO Office for the Caribbean and ILO.

For further information on this initiative, contact Michael Morrissey, UNESCO Kingston at m.morrissey@unesco.org, William Ratteree, ILO Geneva, at Ratteree@ilo.org, or Kaori Adachi, UNESCO HQ, at k.adachi@unesco.org.

First ever appointment to UNESCO/Commonwealth Chair in Education, HIV and AIDS

The University of the West Indies (UWI) has appointed its first professor to fill its new Chair in Education, HIV & AIDS, created in October 2004 (see issue 8 of this Report).

Following a rigorous international recruitment process, Professor David Plummer, an Australian, was selected. He is expected to take up the position - the first of its kind in the world - by October 2005, and will be based at the St. Augustine Campus in Trinidad.

Professor Plummer will report to the Vice Chancellor and his mandate is to lead research and capacity building in this field for the entire university system and the 15 Caribbean countries of UWI.

Professor Plummer, with doctorates in both medical science and sociology, brings to the Chair and the Caribbean 20 years of experience in HIV/AIDS and its interaction with society. A copy of his curriculum vitae is available on UNESCO’s website at http://hivaidsclearinghouse.unesco.org/ev_en.php?ID=2676_201&cID2=DO_TOPIC under the caption: UNESCO/Commonwealth Chair.

In addition to his publication on HIV/AIDS, Professor Plummer is the author of a widely-acclaimed work on masculinities, One of the Boys: Masculinity, Homophobia, and Modern Manhood (1999).

This seminal work took a fresh look at the formation of modern male sexual identities and the widespread nature of homophobia, its diverse forms and its far-reaching behavioural and social consequences. The contents of this book can be viewed at, http://fchps.une.edu.au/Fl/de/health/books/OneoftheBoys.html
In early 2005, JICA reviewed its cooperation with Jamaica’s Ministry of Education, UNESCO and other agencies in building capacity to respond to the epidemic through primary and secondary schools.

JICA’s initiative and related multi-agency cooperation were viewed as a promising model for replication elsewhere in the Caribbean and beyond.

The seven JICA volunteers assigned to Jamaica’s HIV/AIDS Response Team have worked in close cooperation with counterpart Health Promotion Specialists funded by UNESCO through Japan Funds-in-Trust. Further details of the JICA assessment may be requested of Mr. Nobuhiro Kumagai, Visiting Expert, JICA.

UNESCO-World Bank dialogue on accelerating the Caribbean’s education sector response

The Director of the UNESCO Office for the Caribbean, Hélène-Marie Gosselin, and senior Project Officer, Michael Morrissey, met in Washington, DC, with World Bank senior HIV/AIDS, Health and Education programme managers for the Caribbean on June 17, 2005, to review the response of the region’s education sector to the epidemic.

The meeting agreed on actions to accelerate the response of the sector across the region, building on existing UNESCO initiatives - such as the UNESCO/Commonwealth Chair in HIV & AIDS at the University of the West Indies - and Bank loan instruments for education development and HIV/AIDS prevention and mitigation.

Preliminary proposals were formulated for a high level meeting of CARICOM’s education ministers in early 2006. The aim of the meeting will be to strengthen political resolve and action, and include presentations to Ministers of specially-commissioned research on HIV and the education sector, and examples from the Latin American & Caribbean regions of success stories in formal and non-formal education.

For further information, or suggestions, contact Michael Morrissey, m.morrissey@unesco.org, or Mary Mulusa, Senior Public Health Specialist/Latin America HIV/AIDS Regional HIV/AIDS Focal Point at the World Bank at mmalusa@worldbank.org.

JICA extends its support to Jamaica’s HIV/AIDS Response Team to 2007

As a result of the positive assessment, JICA has agreed to support the work of the HIV/AIDS Response Team, for the period 2006-08.

The current Volunteer Coordinator, Mr. Shinya Matsuura, made a presentation on this JICA initiative at the 7th International Congress on AIDS in Asia & the Pacific (ICAAP), July 1-5, 2005, as a model worthy of international consideration. For further information, please contact Mr. Matsuura at m.mizuno@unesco.org.

Michael Morrissey, Senior Project Officer with UNESCO’s Office for the Caribbean, met with JICA high-level officers in Tokyo on August 12, 2005, on JICA-UNESCO collaboration in education and HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean, and prospects for expanded cooperation. A copy of his presentation is available from Maki Mizuno, m.mizuno@unesco.org.

First book for Caribbean teachers on HIV & AIDS to be published early 2006

As a direct outcome of the UNESCO/CAPNET Conference Publishers Against AIDS (see issue 9 of this Report), Macmillan Caribbean, a leading textbook publisher for the region, is to publish a Caribbean edition of its textbook for teachers “Teaching About HIV and AIDS”. The cover of the African edition, first published in June 2005, is shown below right.

The Caribbean edition is expected to comprise six sections:

- What every teacher needs to know about HIV/AIDS
- Laying the foundations – understanding our attitudes to HIV/AIDS
- Preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS
- Sex and sexuality
- Teaching about HIV in all areas of the curriculum
- Teaching children affected by HIV/AIDS

A team of Caribbean educators and textbook writers will gather in Kingston, Jamaica, in September, to review the African edition of the book and plan its adaptation to fit the Caribbean cultural milieu. The workshop is being organised by Diane Browne, a well known Jamaican author of children’s fiction, and textbook editor, who will prepare the Caribbean edition.

For further information on the project, contact Diane Browne, jeorge@cwjamaica.com, or Nicholas Gillard, Caribbean Publisher, Macmillan, n.gillard@macmillan.com.
NEW RESOURCES

UNESCO commissions DVD on edutainment for HIV & AIDS

A leading Caribbean ensemble, Ashe, and UNESCO are cooperating on production of a DVD to catalogue and inform on the multimedia approaches it has developed to HIV and AIDS education. The DVD will communicate to educators and NGOs in the Caribbean and beyond an example of ‘best practice’ in cultural approaches to HIV prevention.

The DVD will comprise three elements: First, the development of Ashe’s edutainment approach over ten years, its track record, its focus on young people, and the results of its work in HIV & AIDS education. Second, an introduction to Ashe’s EIC model - Excite, Involve, Commit to a healthy lifestyle. And third, a collection of music videos that Ashe has produced on rights, responsibilities and sexuality.

The DVD will be ready for distribution by UNESCO and Ashe by the end of 2005. For further information, contact Alwin Bully, Senior Programme Specialist (Culture), UNESCO’s Office for the Caribbean, a.bully@unesco.org, or Michael Holgate, Ashe’s Artistic Director, amadeodread@hotmail.com.

UWI HARP HIV/AIDS Conference 2005 papers

The University of the West Indies hosted its largest-ever Caribbean conference on HIV/AIDS in Barbados, May 5-8, 2005. Many of the presentations were of relevance to the response of Education. Conference papers and presentations are hosted on the UWHARP website, http://www.uwharpconference.org. A report on the Conference is available from Maxine Ruddock-Small maxran@cwjamaica.com.

Education sector global HIV/AIDS readiness survey: full report 2005

This important report on a global survey of 71 Ministries of Education, including four in the Caribbean, is now available for download from the website of the Inter-Agency Task Team on Education & HIV/AIDS (IATT). The link is http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=10967&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html.

Caribbean countries covered in the report are: Barbados, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad & Tobago.

HIV & AIDS instructional materials appraisal instrument

UNESCO’s International Bureau of Education (IBE), Geneva, has drafted instruments to support the appraisal of instructional materials that address HIV and AIDS issues. The instrument is of potential value to teachers, curriculum experts, publishers and others. Contact Christine Panchaud at IBE, c.panchaud@ibc.unesco.org, if you would like a copy of the draft to review and provide feedback.

The report summarises key presentations and provides recommendations for action.

Assessment of African HIV/AIDS instructional materials in Jamaica, 2005

A report on the suitability and potential of books published for sub-Saharan Africa for Jamaican children was commissioned by the Ministry of Education in 2004. Dian Browne planned the study and prepared the final report.

A copy of this report may be downloaded from UNESCO’s website at http://hivaidsclearinghouse.unesco.org/ev_en.php?ID=2676_2&IID2=DO_TOPIC.

The report on the highly successful conference organised by the Caribbean Publishers’ Network, Publishers’ Against AIDS, was released in June 2005 and is available on CAPNET’s website http://www.capnetonline.com.

The purpose of this e-report is to share information on support to the education sector by the UNESCO Office for the Caribbean and other UN entities in response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the region. It is not an official document of the organisation. If content of this report is used in another report or publication, acknowledgement of the source would be appreciated. To add or remove your name from the report’s distribution list, or to receive back issues, please contact Maki Mizuno m.mizuno@unesco.org. If you are unable to access a document online, please request it by email. We welcome your feedback.