UNESCO Permanent Delegations
Information Meeting on HIV and AIDS

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UNESCO’s Response to HIV and AIDS

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Global Coordinator for HIV and AIDS and
Director, Division for the Coordination of UN Priorities in Education
Revised UNESCO Strategy for Responding to HIV and AIDS

• Benefits from extensive consultation throughout UNESCO

• Guiding principle of universal access to prevention, treatment, care and support

• Reflects UNAIDS division of labour
Contribution of UNESCO Sectors

• Education Sector – comprehensive education sector responses to HIV and AIDS through EDUCAIDS and the Inter-Agency Task Team (IATT) on Education

• Natural Science Sector – accurate and up-to-date content; engages institutions of higher learning

• Social and Human Sciences Sector – research and policy development addressing human rights, discrimination and vulnerability
Contribution of UNESCO Sectors

- Culture Sector – supports the consideration of socio-cultural issues and the use of the arts and creativity
- Communication and Information Sector – builds the capacity of media, communication and information professionals
- Bureau for Strategic Planning – supports the integration of gender equality
Mainstreaming

Education Sector
supports the establishment and intensification of comprehensive education sector responses to HIV and AIDS through EDUCAIDS and the UNAIDS IATT on Education

Social and Human Sciences Sector
supports research and policy development addressing discrimination and human rights and the structural causes of vulnerability, particularly among young people

Communication and Information Sector
builds the capacity of the media, communication and information professionals and vulnerable groups to produce, disseminate and use accurate content

Bureau for Strategic Planning
supports the integration of gender equality and youth perspectives into all stages of the programme cycle, from conceptualisation to evaluation

Natural Science Sector
supports scientific content that is accurate and up-to-date and engages institutions of higher learning to integrate HIV and AIDS in their scientific programmes

Culture Sector
advocates for and supports the consideration of socio-cultural issues and the use of knowledge management, programmatic guidance, and capacity development through UNESCO Clearinghouses and institute programmes

Universal access to prevention, treatment, care and support

Regional, Cluster and Country Offices expand the base of technical assistance to support national responses to HIV and AIDS
Education for All (EFA) and HIV & AIDS

• EFA cannot be achieved without addressing HIV and AIDS

• Central role of education to enable individuals, communities and nations to respond effectively to the challenges of the epidemic
• UNAIDS Global Initiative on Education and HIV & AIDS
• One of 3 core EFA priorities of UNESCO
• Supports comprehensive education sector responses to HIV and AIDS
• Planned and delivered in partnerships
• Used in planning, assessments and training and as an impetus for intensified work
Greater Attention to Regional and Country Impact

- EDUCAIDS capacity-building meetings and workshops in every region, 6 events involving 39 countries
- Technical consultations: HIV-positive teachers in East and Southern Africa; schools as centers of care and support in Southern Africa
- EDUCAIDS implementation support materials, with shift to support country use
- Revamped HIV and AIDS web-portal
- 4 new regional AIDS advisers
Greater Impetus for Working in Partnership

- EDUCAIDS as a partnership framework
- Brazil and Portuguese-speaking Africa
- IATT on Education
- Partnerships with ILO, WHO, UNHCR, UNICEF
- Country case studies of inter-agency coordination
Greater Emphasis on Coordination

• Internal coordination
  – EFA core initiatives, UN Priorities in Education, Sectors, Institutes, Regional Bureaux, Field Offices & National Commissions

• External coordination
  – EDUCAIDS, IATT in Education, UNAIDS
Social and Human Sciences Sector

- Based on UNESCO’s Integrated Strategy to Combat Racism, Discrimination and Related Intolerance
- HIV-related stigma and discrimination exacerbate discrimination related to sexuality, gender, race and poverty
- Youth Initiative
- Mainstreaming of HIV issues into the International Coalition of Cities against Racism and Discrimination
Culture Sector

• Cultural approach to HIV and AIDS prevention and care
• Tailored strategies grounded in cultural contexts of particular groups, and mobilising cultural resources for social development
• Application of arts and creativity
• Manual and interactive programme on Theatre, HIV & AIDS
Communication and Information Sector

• Goals:
  – increase access to information
  – build capacity of communication professionals
  – create networks and share best practices
• Global Network of Young TV Producers on HIV and AIDS
Gender

• Gender equality is a UNESCO global priority

• Clear connection between Strategy on HIV and AIDS and promotion of gender equality

• BSP/WGE participates in inter-sectoral consultation
Partnerships with the Private Sector

• UNESCO-GBC agreement (January 2006)


• Expansion of “Hairdressers of the World against AIDS” programme in partnership with L’Oréal (ongoing from May 2005)
Hairdressers of the World against AIDS

- Africa, Baltic States, Brazil, China, Europe, India, Mexico, Thailand and U.S.A.
- Training module with simple, factual and accurate information on HIV
- Estimated to have reached 50,000 learners by the end of 2006
- Awarded a GBC 2006 Award for Business Excellence
Technical Consultation on Schools as Centres of Care and Support

- Botswana, April 2007
- 7 Southern African countries
- To identify elements of effective school-based HIV and AIDS care and support
- Confirmed that universal access to prevention, treatment, care and support is consistent with EFA
UBW Extra-budgetary Funding

- $23M in applications, but only resources to fund a third
- UBW not supposed to be sole source of extra-budgetary funding
- Emphasis on country level resource mobilization
- Training workshop (Bangkok, September 2007)
UBW Regional Breakdown 2008-2009

- Africa: 32%
- Asia-Pacific (includes Central Asia): 22%
- Latin America & Caribbean: 16%
- Europe: 9%
- Middle East & N.Africa: 3%
- Global: 18%
In Closing

Our work in HIV and AIDS

• Contributes to a global response
• Strategic, inter-sectoral
• Country-focused, delivered in partnerships
• Requires resources, particularly at the country level
Implementing EDUCAIDS: Lesotho’s Experience

Mr. Lethola Mafisa
EDUCAIDS Country Project Officer
Coordinator, HIV and AIDS Unit,
Ministry of Education and Training (MOET), Lesotho
HIV & AIDS in Lesotho

- National HIV prevalence estimated at 23.2%
- 60% of HIV-positive young people are young women
- 180,000 children are estimated to be orphaned in Lesotho
- 157,000 of OVC were in schools in 2006
- Free Primary Education introduced in 2000
UNESCO Windhoek Cluster’s Objective

To radically enhance national HIV and AIDS prevention and mitigation by helping Governments to implement comprehensive, nation-wide education programmes for young people.
The Beginning of EDUCAIDS in Lesotho

- Stakeholders meeting to introduce the project - Feb 06
- Mapping exercise of existing interventions
- Project Launch - April 06

“We are regrouping with a clear objective to win a bitter fight with the pandemic”
Hon. Mohlabi Tsekoa
The Minister of Education and Training
Planned Activities: Awareness Raising

- Among policy and decision-makers in leadership positions
- Conducting an advocacy campaign to promote rights-based approach to prevention, treatment, care and support education
- Printing and distribution of psychosocial support materials in Sesotho
Planned Activities: Capacity Building

- Training of newly elected local government councillors
- Training of programme officers engaged in decentralised EMIS-DEMIS processes
- Training of ministry personnel in the “Three Ones”
- A workshop for developing a comprehensive HIV & AIDS plan for the education sector
- Training of teacher trainers and student teachers
Achievements to Date

Awareness Raising

• 56 policy and decision-makers including media practitioners
• 600 copies of Sesotho psychosocial support materials have been printed
Achievements to Date

Training

• 82 community councillors trained in psychosocial support and care for OVCs
• 20 district officers and 32 teachers trained in DEMIS
• 8 Ministry of Education Officers trained on “Three Ones” Principles
• 299 pre-service teachers trained in Lifeskills Education Curriculum
Results

- Understanding and acceptance by Ministry and UN agencies on comprehensive education sector response
- Engagement of MOET in national task groups, National AIDS Commission and UN theme groups
- Education Sector HIV and AIDS Forum
- Partnerships between MOET and the different stakeholders built and strengthened
- Education Sector HIV & AIDS Policy (UNDAF)
Partners

Education sector and UNESCO

• The Ministry of Education and Training
• National Commission for UNESCO
• Windhoek Cluster Office
• Other line Ministries and civil society

UNAIDS & UN Country Team on AIDS

• The Joint UN Team on AIDS
• UNESCO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNAIDS Secretariat
Lessons Learned – Success Factors

- Ownership by Ministry of Education of EDUCAIDS
- Continuous Technical guidance and support to the CPO’s
- Participating in consultations that serve as both sharing and learning forums.
- Deployment of UNESCO regional AIDS Advisor
- Strengthened regional partnerships (e.g., SADC, AU, Commonwealth)
The End

Thank You