

**USAID HIV/AIDS E-Newsletter**  
**October 20, 2003**

-----  
*This newsletter provides regular updates 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.*  
-----

**CONTENTS**

**News**

**Announcements**

**Upcoming Meetings and Events**

**Recent Events**

**Publications**

**Online Resources**

\*\*\*\*\*

**NEWS**

**United States to Grant \$7 Million to Curb Mother-to-Child HIV/AIDS Transmission in Ethiopia**

The United States announced last month that it will give \$7 million to fight mother-to-child HIV transmission in Ethiopia as part of the Bush administration's effort to prevent vertical transmission in developing countries. The program will be run jointly by the Ethiopian Ministry of Health and the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Office, in conjunction with USAID, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the United Nations Children's Fund. For details, see: [http://www.thebody.com/kaiser/2003/sep9\\_03/mtc\\_ethiopia\\_grant.html](http://www.thebody.com/kaiser/2003/sep9_03/mtc_ethiopia_grant.html).

**Global Fund Offers Côte D'Ivoire \$18 Million to Fight HIV/AIDS**

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Malaria, and Tuberculosis will provide \$18 million to nongovernmental organizations and other groups in Côte d'Ivoire for HIV/AIDS activities. The money will be disbursed over a two-year period. Depending on the Global Fund's assessment of activities conducted the first two years, another \$37 million is to be disbursed over the next three years. For more details, visit: <http://www.irinnews.org/AIDSreport.asp?ReportID=2578>.

**Abstinence, Condoms Help Cut HIV in Zambia**

A combination of abstinence and condom use has helped Zambia either stabilize or reduce HIV prevalence among young adults through a youth-centered communication campaign that uses such catchphrases as "Abstinence is cool" and "Virgin Power, Virgin Pride." For details of the campaign, implemented by Population Services International and the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health/Center for Communication Programs, with the active participation of Zambian young adults, see: [http://www.usaid.gov/pop\\_health/aids/News/successpdfs/zambiastory2.pdf](http://www.usaid.gov/pop_health/aids/News/successpdfs/zambiastory2.pdf).

**Zambian Documentary Series Addresses HIV and AIDS Stigma**

A new documentary video from Zambia, "Tikambe" (Let's Talk About It), shows the struggle of two families as they attempt to live positively with HIV and AIDS. Composed of a two-film set, "Tikambe" demonstrates how stigma and discrimination start within the family. The Zambia Integrated Health Program (ZIHP), the Network of Zambian People Living with HIV, and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health/Center for Communication Programs produced both films. ZIHP is a joint effort of the Government of Zambia and USAID. For more information, see: <http://www.jhuccp.org/pressroom/2003/09-24.shtml>.

**Population Services International Promotes HIV Status Awareness and Testing in Zimbabwe**

Population Services International's New Start voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) centers are helping Zimbabweans take control of their sexual health. In a country where 1,500 people die every week from AIDS-related causes, VCT centers provide education and support in a discreet setting, and encourage people to acknowledge the HIV/AIDS epidemic and to know their HIV status. The New Start centers receive support from

USAID. Since 1999, the Zimbabwe VCT program has been the second largest of its kind in Africa. For more information, visit: <http://www.psi.org/news/0303a.html>.

\*\*\*\*\*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **International AIDS Economics Network Calls for Papers**

The International AIDS Economics Network has issued its third “Call for Papers,” open to individuals conducting research on the issue of HIV/AIDS and economics. Accepted papers will be presented during a two-day symposium in Bangkok, Thailand, immediately prior to the XV International AIDS Conference, July 11–16, 2004. For more information, see: <http://www.iaen.org/announcements/index.php?view=detail&id=11232>.

### **CORE Initiative Launches Small Grants Program in Southern Africa**

The CORE Initiative is accepting applications for its Small Grants Program in Angola, Lesotho, and Mozambique. CORE encourages community- and faith-based groups with projects that focus on reducing HIV and AIDS-related stigma and discrimination to submit proposals. The application deadline is October 22. For more information, visit: [www.coreinitiative.org](http://www.coreinitiative.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

## UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

### **USAID to Host Workshop**

The USAID Office of HIV/AIDS will host “Working with USAID: An Introductory Workshop for Community and Faith-based Organizations,” November 5–6, in Washington, D.C. For information and registration, go to: [http://www.synergyaids.com/announce/FBO\\_Workshop\\_2003.htm](http://www.synergyaids.com/announce/FBO_Workshop_2003.htm).

### **Conference for People Living With AIDS Set for December**

The 6th International Home and Community Care Conference for People Living With HIV/AIDS will take place December 8–11, 2003, in Dakar, Senegal. The conference theme is “More Care for Better Living.” The registration deadline is October 31. For information and registration forms, visit: <http://www.dakarvih2003.sn/>.

### **7th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific Rescheduled**

The 7th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific, which was slated for November this year, has been postponed until 2005. For a full announcement, see: <http://www.icaap7.jp/>.

### **Bangkok, Rio, Toronto to Host AIDS Meetings**

Bangkok, Rio de Janeiro, and Toronto will host the next global AIDS conferences. Bangkok, Thailand, will host the XV International AIDS Conference, July 11–16, 2004. The International AIDS Conference is staged every two years, alternating with the International AIDS Society Conference on Pathogenesis and Treatment, which will take place in 2005 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Toronto, Canada, will host the XVI International AIDS Conference in 2006. For details, go to: <http://www.ias.se/>.

\*\*\*\*\*

## RECENT EVENTS

### **AIDS Conference Closes, Nigeria to Host Meeting in 2005**

The 13th International Conference on AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections in Africa ended in Nairobi, Kenya, on September 26, with the organizers planning the next such conference in Abuja, Nigeria, in 2005. The week-long meeting closed with a triple agenda: that the next generation of children be free of HIV and grow up in a world without AIDS; that those who are living with HIV receive the care and support to which they are entitled; and that stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS be finally defeated. For full coverage of the conference, go to: <http://www.hdnet.org/home2.htm>.

### **USAID to Alleviate Impact of HIV/AIDS on Education**

African educators met in Swaziland earlier this month to discuss strategies for teachers and pupils to cope with the impact of HIV/AIDS, signaling a shift from thinking of the disease as only a health concern. "HIV/AIDS is a cross-theme issue. It affects all areas of education in Africa. What is encouraging is the response from communities, civil society, and governments," said Dr. Sarah Moten, division chief for Education Programs for the Africa Bureau of the USAID, which convened the conference in Swaziland. For more details, see:

<http://www.irinnews.org/AIDSreport.asp?ReportID=2583&SelectRegion=Africa&SelectCountry=AFRICA>.

### **IMPACT Project Holds Workshop for Religious Leaders in Nigeria**

Family Health International/IMPACT Nigeria organized an HIV/AIDS Planning Workshop for Theological Institutions, September 10, for religious leaders of six Christian denominations. The workshop was the first step toward creating an HIV/AIDS seminary training document called "The Life Line Curricula." It will be adapted and used as a standard feature of theological education in Nigeria. For details, see:

[http://www.fhi.org/en/HIVAIDS/CountryPages/Nigeria\\_HIV.htm](http://www.fhi.org/en/HIVAIDS/CountryPages/Nigeria_HIV.htm).

### **HIV/AIDS Program Planning Course Attracts 38 Managers**

The Synergy Project conducted its third annual "Essentials of HIV/AIDS Program Planning Course" in collaboration with the University of Washington Center for Health Education and Research, July 27–August 2, in Seattle, Washington. The course, based on the Synergy APDIME framework for assessment, strategic planning, project design, implementation monitoring, and evaluation of HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment interventions in resource constrained settings, attracted 38 HIV/AIDS program managers from 26 countries. Presentations and materials from the 2003 course are available at:

[http://www.synergyaids.com/Essentials\\_2003/Proceedings2003.htm?id=3748&type=18](http://www.synergyaids.com/Essentials_2003/Proceedings2003.htm?id=3748&type=18).

### **Policy Implications of Microbicides Discussed in India**

The Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH) Global Campaign for Microbicides and the Indian Council of Medical Research convened a "National Policy Meeting on Microbicides and HIV Prevention Options for Women" in New Delhi, India, September 29–30. The meeting, funded by USAID, brought together representatives of government, donors, researchers, nongovernmental organizations, international agencies, medical providers, and the pharmaceutical industry. For details, visit:

<http://www.global-campaign.org/inIndia.htm#Sept2003mtg>.

### **United Nations Holds General Assembly on HIV/AIDS**

The Kaiser Family Foundations has released Webcasts and transcripts of the U.N. General Assembly Special Session that updated members on the progress of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS set forth two years ago. To view the Webcasts and transcripts, which feature Dr. Peter Piot, UNAIDS executive director; Dr. Richard Feachem, executive director, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria; Kofi Annan, U.N. secretary-general; and Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa, go to: <http://www.kaisernetwork.org/healthcast/un/22sep03>.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **USAID Profiles its Projects for Children Affected By HIV/AIDS**

"USAID Project Profiles: Children Affected by HIV/AIDS" highlights initiatives funded by USAID to address the impact of HIV/AIDS on children and adolescents in developing countries. View the 2003 edition at:

[http://www.synergyaids.com/documents/Project\\_Profiles\\_2003.pdf](http://www.synergyaids.com/documents/Project_Profiles_2003.pdf).

### **FRONTIERS Unveils New Findings on Young People's Reproductive Health**

The Population Council's Frontiers in Reproductive Health Program (FRONTIERS) released five new Operations Research Summaries at the September 9 conference, "New Findings from Intervention Research: Youth Reproductive Health and HIV Prevention," cosponsored by FRONTIERS, Horizons, and YouthNet. The summaries of recent research results on adolescent reproductive health in Bangladesh, Cameroon, Kenya, Mexico, and Senegal are available at: [www.popcouncil.org/frontiers](http://www.popcouncil.org/frontiers). To view information about the conference, including the agenda and presentations, visit: <http://www.fhi.org/en/Youth/YouthNet/NewsEvents/researchmtg.htm>.

### **HIV/AIDS Campaign is the Talk of Mumbai, India**

An HIV/AIDS campaign has created more than its share of discussion in Mumbai, according to a case study by Population Services International. With the catch phrase “Will Balbir Pasha Get AIDS?” seen on televisions, newspapers, and billboards across the city, the USAID-funded project targeted the population group most at risk, urban men aged 18–34 in the lower socioeconomic groups. The Balbir Pasha campaign sought to dispel HIV/AIDS myths, increase risk perception, generate discussion, and motivate people to access HIV/AIDS hotlines and voluntary counseling and testing services, and did so with significant consumer impact. Read more on the case study at: <http://www.psi.org/resources/pubs/balbir-pasha.pdf>.

### **Case Study Explains HIV/AIDS Helpline in India**

Population Services International has published a case study on its Saadhan Helpline for HIV/AIDS prevention in Mumbai, India, which gives recommendations for replicating a similar helpline and offers lessons learned. Funded by USAID, the helpline employs qualified counselors, uses customized software to better assist callers, and serves as a referral service. To download the report, go to: <http://www.psi.org/resources/pubs/saadhan-case-study.pdf>.

### **Research Documents Experiences of PLWHA in Malawi**

The Malawi Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS, which receives technical assistance from the USAID-funded POLICY Project, has released “Voices for Equality and Dignity,” a qualitative research report that documents the stigma and discrimination faced by people living with HIV/AIDS in Malawi. To download the report, visit: <http://www.policyproject.com/abstract.cfm?ID=1535>.

### **AIDSMARK Releases Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission Brochure**

The Population Service International AIDSMARK Project has released “The Social Marketing Approach to PMTCT,” a brochure that highlights PSI’s prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission (PMTCT) initiative in Haiti and Uganda. View the brochure at: <http://www.psi.org/resources/pubs/pmtct.pdf>.

### **MEASURE Releases Study Reports**

The MEASURE Evaluation Program announces the release of the following publications:

- “PLACE in Burkina Faso: Combating AIDS at the District Level” details the method and analysis of the Priorities for Local AIDS Control Efforts (PLACE) Study conducted in Burkina Faso. The full report is available at: <http://www.cpc.unc.edu/measure/publications/place/burkina.pdf>.
- “Sexual Behavior, HIV and Fertility Trends: A Comparative Analysis of Six Countries. Phase I of the ABC Study” reports on the prevalence of abstinence, fidelity, and condom use in Cameroon, Kenya, Thailand, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The full report can be downloaded at: <http://www.cpc.unc.edu/measure/publications/special/abc.pdf>.

### **Scientific Bulletin Highlights Research to Practice**

The latest issues of “Network,” Family Health International’s quarterly bulletin on family planning and reproductive health, focus on moving research to practice and on the use of the barrier method for contraception and prevention of sexually transmitted infections. Read more at: [http://www.fhi.org/en/RH/Pubs/Network/v23\\_1/index.htm](http://www.fhi.org/en/RH/Pubs/Network/v23_1/index.htm) and [http://www.fhi.org/en/RH/Pubs/Network/v22\\_4/index.htm](http://www.fhi.org/en/RH/Pubs/Network/v22_4/index.htm).

### **CEDPA Releases Training Manual Series for AIDS Program Managers**

The Centre for Development and Population Activities (CEDPA) has introduced a set of training manuals for program managers and trainers working on HIV/AIDS. The four-part series, “Integrating Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS for Nongovernmental Organizations, Faith-Based Organizations & Community-Based Organizations,” was produced under the Enabling Change for Women’s Reproductive Health project, funded by USAID. CEDPA also offers a new training manual on female condoms and dual protection. To access these training manuals and other reports, visit: <http://www.cedpa.org/publications/enable/>.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **ONLINE RESOURCES**

### **Kaiser Web Site Spotlights HIV/AIDS in Botswana**

Kaisernetwork.org's "Issue Spotlight: The HIV/AIDS Epidemic" features a new, in-depth focus on how the epidemic is affecting Botswana, with links to relevant news summaries, reports, Web casts, and other organizations' Web sites. For details, go to: <http://www.kaisernetwork.org/spotlight/hivaids/botswana>.

-----  
*The Synergy Project publishes this newsletter on behalf of USAID'S Office of HIV/AIDS. To subscribe, click on <mailto:listserv@list.s-3.com?Body=SUBSCRIBE%20SUBSCRIBE>. To unsubscribe, click on <mailto:listserv@list.s-3.com?Body=UNSUBSCRIBE%20SUBSCRIBE>, or go to [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 subscribe" or "unsubscribe subscribe" in the body of the e-mail.*

*USAID's Office of HIV/AIDS welcomes newsletter submissions from USAID Missions and partner agencies. Send information to [enews@s-3.com](mailto:enews@s-3.com) by the 2<sup>nd</sup> of the month.*