

Report

State Level Consultation with NGOs On AIDS Alliance



20th March 2009
Hotel Palaash, Bhopal

Organised by :
MPSACS

Technical Support : TSU
Collaboration : Bhopal AIDS Alliance

Report of the State Level Consultation with NGOs On AIDS Alliance 20th March 2009, Bhopal



Background

NGOs and civil society organisations have made significant contribution in reaching out HIV prevention and care services to the highly vulnerable population groups in the National AIDS Control Programme. With a further scale up of the programme under NACP III, their greater involvement and participation is sought at District, State and National level in providing different services such as home-based care, setting up community care centres, addressing stigma and discrimination associated with HIV/AIDS etc. National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) conducts different programmes to build linkages and Civil Society Partnership Forums. It promotes civil society organisations, including NGOs, CBOs, Red Ribbon Clubs, PLHA networks, private sector organisations and academic institutions working for HIV prevention and care in the district to become members of the District Forum.

In an effort towards **building a network of organizations in the non-health/HIV sector and expanding their scope of work to address HIV issues across the State** a State level Consultation with NGOs on AIDS Alliance was organized in Bhopal M.P. on 20th March 2009 at Hotel Palaash. **The consultation was joint effort of MPSACS/ TSU and Bhopal AIDS Alliance.** The programme schedule of the Consultation is attached in Annexure 1. The funding support to the consultation was provided by MPSACS. NGO representatives from 41 districts of

M.P. participated in the consultation. A list of the participants is included in Annexure 2.

State Level Consultation on AIDS Alliance

The consultation was inaugurated by Mr. Omesh Mundra, Project Director MPSACS. Other dignitaries who were present for the workshop includes Ms. Shraddha Bose, Joint Director IEC, MPSACS; Dr. D.M. Saxena, State Epidemiologist MPSACS; Dr. Yadav, Joint Director Blood Safety, MPSACS and Dr. Parshuram Tiwari, TSU-MPSACS. Ms. Archana Sahay of Bhopal AIDS Alliance convened the inaugural session.

Fr. Mathew briefed the participants about the background of Bhopal AIDS Alliance. He said that the Alliance was formed in Nov 2008 with the support of nine organizations with the larger goal to spread awareness in order to halt and reverse the epidemic of HIV AIDS in the State. A ten day long *Pakhwada* programme was organized by the Alliance beginning from 1st Dec 2008 (World's AIDS Day) till 10th Dec 2008. During this period different competitions of poster, debate and essay were organized in colleges and schools. Road show and *nukkad natak* were organized during the culmination of the programme at different spots of Bhopal. He informed the group that Ms. Ulka Upadhyay, Commissioner Health Services Bhopal was present during the occasion. He also informed the group that the financial support was provided by CRS, Bhopal while the technical support was given by MPSACS. He said that the different organizations that are a part of the Alliance include: AARAMBH, Asha Niketan Welfare Center, Bhopal School of Social Services, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Family planning Association of India (FPAI), Gandhi Bhavan Trust, M.P. Samaj Sewa Sansthan (MPSSS) and World Vision. In the end he shared the objectives of Bhopal AIDS Alliance with the group and said that this consultation is the second step towards building the Alliance towards achieving its goal.

Ms. Shraddha Bose Joint Director IEC, MPSACS congratulated the members of the Alliance and acknowledged that Fr. Mathew (MPSSS), Ms Archana Sahay (AARAMBH) and CRS are three important pillars of Bhopal AIDS Alliance. She stressed that this is the first time in the history of M.P. and under the leadership of Mr. Mundra PD MPSACS that organizations from over 41 districts have come together to form an Alliance against AIDS. She said that the initiative would also gain great appreciation at NACO. She shared with the group that this consultation is organized in order to develop stronger relationships with the

members of the Alliance and to develop a comprehensive plan to move from one district to other districts and to the State level.

Specific objectives of the consultation:

- *To introduce the participants to the global and National scenario of HIV/AIDS*
- *To orient the participants with the components of NACP III*
- *To share best practices with the participants being implemented in the field of HIV/AIDS*
- *To prepare an action plan with the participants for future interventions with their ongoing programmes*

In his inaugural speech Mr. Omesh Mundra PD MPSACS said that the efforts put in by the Bhopal AIDS Alliance till now is a welcome step towards reversing the epidemic of HIV/AIDS at State level. The presence of 41 NGOs from different districts of M.P. is also appreciable. He encouraged the group and said that the efforts put in by the Alliance members would be extremely important in curbing the rates of HIV/AIDS in the State. He emphasized on the role that the group would play towards the goal, in dissemination and implementation of AIDS Control Programme in the State.

Session 1: Basics of HIV/ AIDS

This session was conducted by Mr. Jojo Thomas. Dr. Yadav, JD Blood Safety MPSACS chaired the session. The main topics covered during this session were history of the virus, HIV, AIDS, difference between HIV and AIDS, immune system, meaning of HIV positive, HIV-transmission, comprehensive HIV-AIDS care, HIV-AIDS scenario (global and in India) and HIV-AIDS situation in Indian States.

At the end of the session Dr. Yadav emphasized on the M.P. scenario and added on a few points which include ART centers, ICTC, HIV transmission, mother to child transmission, window period and district-wise prevalence. He explained the group that the window period of the virus is different for different tests being applied, depending on the sensitivity of the test. The PCR test is the most sensitive test and can identify the presence of virus in 5-6 days. He said that it is very important to give 'knowledge vaccine' to the youth.

He explained the group that the thick body fluids such as blood, semen, vaginal fluid and breast milk (proteinous in nature) have affinity for the virus, thus the viral load is high. He said that mother to child transmission is another area of great concern. He said that it is to be noted that the transmission rate is 30 to 40 percent (10% during pregnancy; 10% during



delivery and 10% during breast feeding). A few precautions if taken can save the child from acquiring HIV/AIDS from mother. It is very important that all pregnant mothers are tested for HIV/AIDS. In case the mother is positive delivery by caesarian section reduces the risk. Nevaprin drug should be given to the mother at the time of delivery and to the child within 48 hrs of delivery.

He shared with the group that there are 88 ICTC centers in M.P. and four ART center in Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur and Ujjain Medical College and three more likely to be opened at Rewa, Gwalior and Burhanpur and linked ART centers in Hoshangabad, Sagar, Satna, Sivni and Balaghat.

Session 2: Experience sharing and case study: VISHWAS Khandwa

During this session St. Lizy Thomas of VISHWAS Khandwa shared her experience of comprehensive care and support being provided by her organization to people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHA). Introducing her organization she said that VISHWAS is a humanitarian initiative of Pavitra Aatma Sevika Sangh, started in the year 2003 at Indore and in the year 2006 at Khandwa District of M.P. She said that the objective of the initiative is four fold:

- Improved health of PLHA
- Economic self reliance of PLHA
- Integration of PLHA into families & society
- Organization of PLHA for Mutual Support and Advocacy

Sharing the figures of registration of PLHA she said that 600 and 257 PLHAs have been registered so far in Indore and Khandwa VISHWAS respectively. Other services that are provided at the center includes: testing, family visit, counseling, nutritional support, medicinal support, educational support to children of PLHA, and Income generating activities. Other than this a



mutual support group has also been formed to support the PLHAs. Linking with social-welfare schemes and legal aid is also provided to the PLHAs.

Session 3: NACP III (2007-2012) and services for TI in M.P.

The session was taken by Dr. D.M. Saxena of MPSACS. He briefed the participants with the goals and objectives of National Aids Control Programme (NACP) III. He said that NACP III aims to halt and reverse the epidemic of HIV AIDS in India over the next five years. In order to achieve its goal NACP III follows eight principles Three Ones (one National Prog, one National Agency for implementation, and one Monitoring System); Equity; Respect for the rights of the PLHA; Civil society representation and participation; Creation of enabling environment; Improved access to services; Effective HRD strategy and Evidence based and result oriented programme implementation.

Explaining the salient features of NACP III with the participants he said that the districts of M.P. have been classified into A, B, and C categories on the basis of risk prevalence. In M.P. 5 districts namely Rewa, Panna, Balaghat, Harda, and Dewas are in 'A' category and 3 districts namely Bhopal, Indore and Mandasaur are in 'B' category. The key features of NACP III included:

- Continued emphasis on Prevention
- Significant up-scaling of activities (increased targets) to achieve MDG
- Focused approach in TI (Sex workers, MSM and IDU interventions)
- Empowering and capacity strengthening of CBOs to manage TIs
- Focused efforts on women, youth and children
- Emphasis on quality of care

- Increased access to ART, including resistance surveillance
- Increased focus of pediatric ART care
- Special efforts to address GIPA and impact mitigation
- Mainstreaming and partnerships with private sector
- Leveraging resources for sustainable response
- Performance Oriented Programme Management

He said that the NGOs have a key role to play in the prevention of spread of virus. This could be achieved by:

- Saturating the coverage of 3 High Risk Groups: Sex workers & their clients, Injecting Drug Users & partners, Men having sex with Men
- Expanding the coverage of two bridge populations- Truckers & Migrant workers
- HIV Prevention among the general population: highly vulnerable populations, women, youth & children
- Mainstreaming of HIV/AIDS

Other topics covered during this session include targets of NACP III and services provided in NACPIII. He also shared the Annual Action Plan of Target Intervention (TI) and said that based on the data obtained from mapping up-scaling of TI programmes has been done by MPSACS. He shared that in all MPSACS has initiated 68 TIs (18 old + 50 new) to



cover the high risk group population of Female Sex Workers (FSW); Men having sex with men (MSM) and Intravenous drug users (IDUs). Through these programmes MPSACS is covering 82.6% FSWs; 65% MSM and 56.2% IDUs. Other than this MPSACS is also working with male migrants and truckers.

Session 4: Action Plan

The participants were divided into four smaller groups of 10 each to prepare an action plan based on the following points:

- Mainstreaming HIV/ AIDS among Women SHGs
- Mainstreaming HIV/ AIDS among Youth
- Mainstreaming HIV/ AIDS in vocational training
- Mainstreaming HIV/ AIDS in RCH programme



The presentations made by the groups covered the following points:

- 1. Mainstreaming HIV/ AIDS among Women SHGs**
 - Orientation and Capacity building
 - Advocacy and networking
 - Linkages with local TI programme
 - Identification and encouraging regular check up of RTI and UTI
- 2. Mainstreaming HIV/ AIDS among Youth**
 - Identification and Networking with NGOs working with adolescents/youth
 - Formation of youth forums (college students, high school student, communities)
 - Identification of peer educators and their capacity building
 - Organizing awareness generation programmes
- 3. Mainstreaming HIV/ AIDS in vocational training**
 - Identification of vocational Institutions
 - Establishing Linkages

- Organizing awareness generation programmes
- 4. Mainstreaming HIV/ AIDS in RCH programme**
- Establishing linkages with RCH/ NRHM
 - Ensuring HIV/AIDS testing of pregnant women
 - Referring positive women to PPTCT

At the end of the session the participants were asked to specify their organization's role for future intervention in the AIDS Control Programme, M.P. with their ongoing programmes. The responses obtained are as follows:

S. No.	Name of the Organization	Name of the district	Involvement in ACP, M.P.
1	Navdisha Sahara Mahila Mandal	Chanderi and Ashok Nagar	Awareness programmes with youth, college students and weaver group.
2	Swastha Sanrakshak Samiti	Balaghat	Creating network (coaching class and ITI nurse center) and generating awareness
3	Manav Vikas Sewa Sangh	Sagar	Awareness programmes among SHGs (women, men, youth), Capacity building of SHG leaders, preparation of core group and networking with other NGOs.
4	Samaritan Social Service Society	Satna	Awareness programme with women SHG, nurses, laborers through various methods
5	MPSSS	Bhopal	Awareness programmes, training and capacity building
6	Viradhanpura Jan Kala Yuva Sangathan	Bhind	Awareness generation in SHG, Bedia Community, and 15 colleges through rally, workshops and competitions.
7	Sahayog: Support in Development	Sheopur	Awareness generation and reintegration of PLHA
8	Niharika Shiksha evam Samajik Vikas Sansthan	Indore	Awareness programmes in colleges and schools, mainstreaming HIV/AIDS in RCH prog
9	Shaktishali Mahila Sangthan Samiti	Shivpuri	Awareness programmes in girls hostel, among truck drivers in NH, linkages with TI prog, encouraging youth for blood

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			donation
10	SARTHAK	Tikamgarh	Awareness programmes
11	Shivangi Education and Development Society	Guna	Awareness programmes among adolescent girls, youth and pregnant women in block Bimori
12	SRIDA	Jabalpur	Formation of AIDS Alliance at Jabalpur, Orientation and Sensitization of SHG leaders and members
13	Abhinaytosh Mahila Bal Vikas Samiti	Sagar	Encourage testing, Awareness programmes among college students, truck drivers, linkages with ICTC
14	PAHAL Samaj Sewa Samiti	Hoshangabad	Awareness programmes, trainings and networking with ANM, ASHA worker and AWW
15	Kamal Kala Mahila Mandal		Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS in the programmes of the organization
16	Deepjyoti Samajik Shaishnik Utthan Samiti	Seoni	Formation of AIDS Alliance in Seoni, Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS in the programmes of the organization, organizing trainings with help of local TI
17	Asha Kiran	Katni	Awareness generation among platform children and rickshaw pullers
18	Dr. Ambedkar Bal Kalyan Sansthan	Mandsaur	Awareness generation among adolescents
19	Christian Hospital Community	Shahdol	Awareness generation among laborers, students and coal mine workers
20	Vivekanand Aashram	Sidhi	Awareness generation
21	FPAI	Bhopal	Formation of youth forum, training of peer educators
22	Chetna Samaj Sewa Shiksha evum Vikas Samiti	Chattarpur	Formation of AIDS Alliance in the district, Awareness generation
23	Shri Ram Kishan Sewa Sangthan	Khargone	Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS in the programmes of the organization
24	Kruti Sansthan	Rajgarh	Awareness generation
25	Pratibha Mahila Vikas Samiti	Ratlam	Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS in the programmes of the organization

26	Mamta Mahila evum Purush Vikas Kaushal Prashikshan Samiti	Shahdol	Awareness generation programmes in Shahdol, Annuppur, Umaria, Dindori with college students. Condom distribution on highway
27	Vinoba Gramodaya Pratishthan	Rewa	Formation of AIDS Alliance in the district, Awareness generation
28	Jagruti Nashamukti Kendra	Ujjain	Awareness generation in the center, support to PLHA

Session 5: Conclusion

At the end of the presentations Mr. Arun Trivedi of FPAI concluded by highlighting the main points that emerged during the Consultation. He also thanked the group for their active support and urged the group for taking forward the spirit of the Alliance at their district level.

The highlights of the Consultation include:

- 1. The participants got introduced to the global and National scenario of HIV/ AIDS**
- 2. The participants got oriented towards the basics of HIV/AIDS and components of NACP III**
- 3. The participants got an opportunity for learning through sharing of the field experiences and case study.**
- 4. The participants prepared an action plan to include awareness programmes with their ongoing programmes.**
- 5. The participants also proposed to build networks at their district levels and replicate the Bhopal AIDS Alliance model in their districts.**

List of the Experts present during Consultation:

Mr. Omesh Mundra, Project Director MPSACS

Dr. D.M. Saxena, State Epidemiologist MPSACS

Ms. Shraddha Bose, Joint Director IEC, MPSACS

Dr. Yadav, Joint Director Blood Safety, MPSACS

Dr. Parshuram Tiwari, TSU-MPSACS

Mr. Jojo Thomas, Pulikunnel Care, Delhi (Consultant MPSACS)

St. Lizy Thomas, VISHWAS Khandwa

Ms. Archana Sahay, Director AARAMBH

Fr. Mathew, M.P. Samaj Sewa Sansthan (MPSSS)

Annexure 1

Consultation Schedule

Time	Sessions/Activity	Resource person/ Guest Speaker
10:30 to 11:00 am	Registration	AIDS Alliance
11:00 to 11:15 am	Welcome of participants and Introduction	Ms Archana Sahay, AIDS Alliance
11:15 to 11:20 am	Welcome to the guest	AIDS Alliance/ MPSACS officials
11:20 to 11:30 am	Introduction of AIDS Alliance	Fr. Mathew
11:30 to 11:40 am	Objectives of the Program	Mrs. Shraddha Bose, JD, IEC, MPSACS
11:20 to 11:30 am	Key note Address	Mr. Omesh Mundra, Project Director, MPSACS
11:50 to 12:00 pm	Tea Break	
12:00 to 1:30 pm	Presentation: Basics of HIV/AIDS and its Scenario	Mr. JoJo Thomas, Pulikunnel Care, Delhi
1:30 to 2:00 pm	Experience sharing and case study	St. Lizy Thomas, VISHWAS Khandwa
2:00 to 2:45 pm	Lunch Break	
2:45 to 3:15 pm	NACP -III and services for TI in M.P.	Mr. D.M. Saxena, Epidemiologist MPSACS
3:15 to 4:00 pm	Role of non-health/ HIV AIDS NGOs in prevention of HIV AIDS	Mr. JoJo Thomas
4:00 to 4:10 pm	Tea Break	
4:10 to 5:10 pm	Analysis of NGO Profile and presentation with regard to mainstreaming HIV/AIDS	Group Work Mr. JoJo Thomas
5:10 to 5:30 pm	Presentation of Action Plan	Participants
5:30 to 5:40 pm	Vote of thanks	MPSACS-Bhopal AIDS Alliance

Annexure 2 List of Participants

S. No.	Name of Participants	Designation	District	Contact No.	Email ID
1	Govind Choubey	Facilitator	Tikamgarh	9893955700	govindtkg@gmail.com
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6	Rajesh Prajapati	Promotion Coordinator	Satna	9981316702	
7	Umesh Ojha	Community Organizer	Sheopur	9993386432	
8	Sunil Dubey	President , Virdhanpura jan kalian yuva sangathan	Bhind	9826074764	vjkys@rediffmail.com
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10	Jeevandas Bhatiya	Secretary	Balaghat	9424924213	
11	SR. Shalini,	Secretary Asha kiran Carmel nivas, St.Paul's school campus Civil lines katni	Katni	9826683020	
12	Asma Parvin	President , Navdisha sahara mahila mandal , chanderi	Ashok Nagar	9425768508	Navdisha-sahara@yahoo.co.in

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52	Kamlesh	MPSACS	Bhopal		
53	Deepak	MPSACS	Bhopal		
54	Ms.Shraddha Bose	MPSACS	Bhopal		
55	Dr.U.C.Yadav	MPSACS	Bhopal		
56	Ms.Savita Thakur	MPSACS	Bhopal		
57	Dr. Parshuram Tiwari	TSU, MPSACS			
58	Dr.K.Singh Ucharia	Vivekanand Ashram, sidhi	Sidhi		