

Uganda

ACCELERATING THE EDUCATION SECTOR RESPONSE TO THE IMPACT OF HIV/AIDS:

Presentation by, Aggrey Kibenge, Member HIV/AIDS Coordination Unit, Ministry of Education and Sports, Uganda

Background

- The national sero prevalence results (2005) put the current national prevalence at 7%

Orphan numbers

- National definition of Orphan – A child with one or both parents dead
- Approx 2 million orphans in Uganda, 50% as a result of HIV/AIDS
- EMIS data (2004) on orphans at Primary level
 - Male 636,284
 - Female 616,294
 - Total 1,252,578 (in school)/527,422 (out of school)
- Orphan data on PPET were not available

Teacher and Staff mortality

- EMIS 2004 - total number of teachers and staff 18,603
- Total deaths - 1,020
 - female - 328
 - male - 692
- Due to prolonged illness - 466
 - female - 198
 - male - 268

School attendance by gender

- Percentage school attendance by gender 2000-4 (not yet analyzed)

Wastage

cohort 1997 - 2003

- 24% boys
- 21% girls

cohort 1999 - 2005

- 31% boys
- 27% girls

Population of children out of school – (est. 800,000 to 1m)

SECTOR HIV/AIDS COORDINATION

- PS's office takes overall responsibility for coordination - delegated at Commissioner level
- Education sector strategy:
 - Prevention Education
 - Work Place Programme
 - Capacity for management of the response

- Universal Primary Education declared in 1996, commenced in 1997
- Sector wide HIV/AIDS Policy and strategic plan in place
- Work Place Policy exists

Program components include:

- Prevention education
- Treatment, care and support
- Impact mitigation
- Succession planning
- Legal Support
- Wellness program

HIV/AIDS intra ministerial committees

- Coordination team
- Focal Point officers forum
- Work Place Committee
- Primary and Post Primary HIV/AIDS Working Groups
- HIV/AIDS Unit in place

Sector Coordinator -Part Time

Deputy - Part time

Technical Adviser - Full Time

Administrative Assistant - Full Time

Driver - Full time

Budget Provisions

- 2003/04 - less than 1%
- 2004/05 - 1.45%
- 2005/06 - 1.25%

Note: Most of the funding is project support

HIV/AIDS and Education Networks

- People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), supporting teachers living with HIV/AIDS, anti stigma/treatment advocacy
- Uganda Young Positives, supporting students to open up, advocacy for VC, anti stigma, peer education and support
- The AIDS Support Organization (TASO), all interventions including training of teacher counselors, school interventions for behavior change
- AIDS Information Center (AIC), Youth friendly HIV/AIDS activities, school support programmes for information and services
- Uganda Counselors Association (UCA), quality assurance on materials for training teacher counselors including support for training

HIV/AIDS Curriculum

- Primary school curriculum reviewed to include HIV/AIDS and life planning skills. Now examinable at P7
- Integration of HIV/AIDS and Life skills in the secondary school curriculum underway
- Some universities and tertiary institutions have stand alone compulsory modules on HIV/AIDS while others have adopted the course unit integration approach
- School Health Programme in place focusing on:
- Deworming, water and sanitation, sexual maturation, girl's empowerment and PIASCY

- Environmental and body hygiene promotion
- HIV/AIDS monitoring is within the overall EMIS and tracks proxy indicators for HIV/AIDS e.g absenteeism (by reason), drop out rates (by reason), transition rates, illness and death, teacher attrition by reason, orphan numbers . DEMIS designed to support further collection of data (ref to DEMIS form)

Innovative programmes

- Teacher to Teacher mentor programme for Life skills
- PIASCY based on “the whole school approach model” and “talking compounds”
- Child to child approaches for behavior change and life skills promotion
- Peer education and counseling among students
- Girls Empowerment Movement
- Training of school based teacher counselors
- Work Place initiatives at all levels

Critical Challenges

- Scope of the sector is wide, limited funding for HIV/AIDS due to budget ceiling on sector funding
- Sustainability of donor funded programs
- Attainment of a fully mainstreamed response
- The “condom debate” at primary and secondary schools
- Coordinating local and external partners

“FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY”

I thank you all