

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT AND EMERGENCY ORGANIZATION
KENYA PROGRAMME

A NIWANO PEACE FOUNDATION REPORT

**INTER RELIGIOUS EFFORTS TO REDUCE HIV/AIDS AND MITIGATE
ITS EFFECTS IN BUTULA DIVISION, BUSIA DISTRICT, WESTERN
KENYA.**

African Development and Emergency Organization (ADEO) through the support of Niwano peace foundation has increased the efforts of involving the religious leaders and faith based organizations to reduce infection and mitigate the effects of HIV. This was not the case earlier as the Government had spearheaded such efforts, leaving behind the faith led organizations.

The success of the program was based on the involvement of all the mainstream churches in Butula division, train the leaders in HIV/Aids management and sensitize their followers on the need to fight stigma and discrimination, offer support to those affected and infected and protect themselves from getting infected.

HIV/Aids was for a long time looked at as a medical condition that was a punishment from God for promiscuous people. Religious leaders were busy ostracizing people living with Aids at the same time conducting burial rights for the dead in large numbers.

The issue of condom use was out of the question as the religious group preached abstinence and being faithful for married couples, even where it this was not practical with the social set up.

This intervention has achieved allot in sensitizing the religious leaders themselves by understanding that if they don't take an active role and change their attitudes and those of their flock, soon the churches will be empty, due to illness and death occasioned by HIV/Aids.

The intervention was a first step, and continuity is strongly recommended for changes to be long lasting.

Prolonged illness and eventual death of parents have profound psychosocial effects on children but these receive less attention than physical needs. Illness and death of parents is extremely traumatic and may leave serious psychological scars. Interventions aimed at alleviating the physical conditions of people affected and infected as well as psychosocial needs of orphans. The intervention targeted infected parents to help them play normal parental and social roles and to give children opportunities to discuss their fear and dreams. Memory books were developed for this purpose. Psychosocial support interventions within HIV/AIDS program included

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formation of peer education clubs, peer counselors and formation of church counseling groups.

Planned activities	Achievements	Expenses in Kenya shilling Exchange 1USD=Ksh 74
<p>A planning workshop organized for all the religious leaders in Butula division, so that the various religious groups familiarize with each other, and get to know the areas covered by each to avoid duplication of resources and time.</p>	<p>District officer, area councilor, local administrative leaders and other opinion leaders sensitized on the project. 10 religious leaders from all the mainstream churches were trained for three days on counseling, psyc social support and HIV/Aids management.</p>	<p>Facilitation cost to sensitize the project to Government officials Fuel for ADEO vehicle 20 litres X ksh 72 = 1,440 Food and accommodation Ksh 1,500 X 10 X 3 = 45,000 Facilitators fees Ksh 1,520 X 3 X 3 = 13,680 Stationery for workshop Ksh 6,080</p>
<p>Translation of information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials into local languages and distributing to the religious groups. Since most of the population doesn't understand English, this translation is necessary for those who can read the local language.</p>	<p>10 translators hired to translate five books, twenty posters, thirteen brochures and six pamphlets into local language. The translated books duplicated into 20 copies and distributed to the religious leaders. Twenty translated posters duplicated to 20,000 copies Thirteen translated brochures duplicated into 13,000 copies. Six translated pamphlets duplicated into 6,000 copies.</p>	<p>Purchase and designing of IEC materials 5 books@ Ksh 450 X 5 = 2,250 IEC materials development Cost of pre-testing = 15,000 Cost of proof reading =10,000 Cost of production = 20,000 Hire of translators Ksh 1,520 X 10 days X 10 = 152,000 Cost of duplication of 49,000 copies X Ksh 1 = 49,000</p>
<p>12 Bicycles for outreach mobilization, distribution of IEC</p>	<p>12 bicycles were bought and distributed to the following locations</p>	<p>Purchase of 12 bicycles</p>

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<p>materials and home visiting.</p>	<p>Bujumba, Bumala, Elukhari, Marachi central and Marachi East. Each location received two bicycles while the coordinator got one and the youth representative got one.</p> <p>So far 41 community outreach group meetings conducted; there have been role-plays, bible story telling and discussions on sexual and reproductive health information. Home visitations are done on Sundays and Wednesday. Over 500 homes have been visited.</p>	<p>Ksh 4,000 X 12 = 48,000</p>
<p>The various religious groups will mobilize people in the areas they cover and distribute the IEC materials while giving talks on the dangers of HIV/Aids. Each religion has a common stand on sexuality and behavior change and this message will go across the whole division.</p>	<p>23 mobilization meetings were held and distribution cells created for distribution of IEC materials as well as collection of donations both food and clothing.</p> <p>Each location has an elected church representative to coordinate outreach activities giving talks and advocating behaviour change. Reports are submitted monthly.</p>	<p><i>Cost of IEC distribution Fuel for office vehicle(ADEO) 60 litres X Ksh 72 = 4,320</i></p>
<p>Home Visiting and</p>	<p>A counseling refresher</p>	<p><i>Cost of refresher course</i></p>

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<p>counseling: The members from all the religious will organize visits to the homes of those affected and infected by HIV/Aids. In these homes, they will pray, counsel the sick and family members in how to cope with HIV/Aids.</p>	<p>session was conducted specifically for 60 church community members who will head home visitation. 1,000 memory books were purchased for the purpose of family support. Area and timetable for all the churches developed to avoid duplication of activities.</p>	<p>120,000 (ADEO)</p> <p>Cost of memory books Ksh 45 X 1,000 = 45,000</p>
<p>The religious groups will initiate and continue with the church related projects as their input into the programme. These small projects will involve donation of clothing and food to the most need, kitchen gardens etc. This will provide for sustainability of the project when funding ends.</p>	<p>Increased collaboration between the churches and the community has led to increased support for the people infected and affected by HIV/Aids. Seven bales of clothes collected for the orphans so far. 30 sacks of 90kg of maize and beans collected so far. Through the help of church members each homestead in Butula division has a kitchen garden. Locational agricultural officers, helping in development of seeds and proper planting methods.</p>	<p>Cost of collaborative meetings(ADEO) Letters drafting and delivery Ksh 15,000 Tea and snacks Ksh 20,000</p> <p>Collection of donated items Fuel for office vehicle (ADEO) 60 litres X ksh 72 = 4,320 per week X 20 weeks = 86,400</p> <p>Initial seeds given out to the agricultural officers for demonstration plots(ADEO) Ksh 20 X 100 = 20,000</p>
<p>Encourage church members to know their status earlier in order to access antiretroviral</p>	<p>Voluntary Counseling and Testing 440 clients have been screened for HIV. So far</p>	

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<p>early.</p>	<p>conducted 33 outreach sessions to encourage the church members to go for HIV testing.</p> <p>Post Test clubs Post-test clubs has been formed in all the churches. These are for both positive and negative cases and are based at the churches. Some meet on Thursday while others meet on Mondays. Over 300 clients who have been screened for HIV have enrolled into these clubs.</p> <p>People living with AIDS (PLWAs)</p> <p>Eight community sensitization sessions have been conducted in Butula division by ADEO to enable clients who are positive and affected by the AIDS scourge to come out openly. Posttest club members are assisting in this exercise. ADEO in close collaboration with the churches is giving out nutritional information in the division and referral to MSF Busia for antiretroviral.</p> <p>Re-infection is also discouraged by this intervention.</p>	<p><i>Cost of conducting sensitization campaigns for VCT (ADEO)</i> <i>Printing of T-shirts</i> <i>100 X ksh 250 =25,000</i></p>
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Cost of monitoring	Four visits by ADEO officials	<i>Hotel accommodation(ADEO) Ksh 2,000 X 4 = 8,000 Transport costs(ADEO) Ksh 1,500 X 4 = 6,000</i>

BUDGET SUMMARY

AMOUNT DONATED BY DONOR		AMOUNT SPENT SO FAR	
407,700		407,456	
AMOUNT CONTRIBUTED BY ADEO		AMOUNT SPENT SO FAR	
304,000		304,720	

SHORT TERM GAINS REALISED SO FAR

Increased involvement in fight against HIV by religious groups.
 Increased number of people sharing information on HIV within religious groups.
 Increased number of people wanting to know their HIV status
 Increased number of people turning up in churches, mosques, temples etc and seeking divine intervention.