

# STRATEGY FOR THE MAINSTREAMING OF HIV/AIDS IN HIMA ACTIVITIES NJOMBE DISTRICT

## **Background.**

Like in all other districts of Iringa region, HIV/aids in Njombe district is rampant and 10 out of 25 wards have been identified as highly infected with the epidemic. Out of these four are within the HIMA priority areas. As the result, the disease has caused much delay due to often postponement to many of the project activities because of deaths related to HIV/AIDS cases. A situation prompted the project intervention to the problem hand in hand with district council strategies.

Njombe district council has the programme on HIV/AIDS control executed jointly with various NGOs like SWAAT,(Society of Women and AIDS in Africa Tanzania chapter) RUCA,(The Rural Community Advancement Association ) TAHEA,(Tanzania Home Economic Association) and DSST (Diocese of Southwest Tanganyika -Anglican) working in the district. These organisations provide various support to people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWA) including orphans. The support provided are such as school uniform, school materials as well as emotional and spiritual support. The strategies used are drawn from those already outlined by the district. HIMA intervention proposals are to go into similar lines with main focus to the villages it operates and resources available. This could be easily possible by making use of the annual village plans developed by the villagers themselves.

## **HIV/AIDS activities in HIMA-Njombe**

### **The approach**

The project shall follow its traditional approaches used to implement other project activities to ensure that HIV/AIDS are mainstreamed and do not become separate/isolated activities. The participatory, catchment area approach which refers to the population living within priority areas and gender shall be adhered too.

### **The main strategies**

Base on Danida mission to support HIV/AIDS activities through HIMA programme, Hima Njombe propose to incorporate the HIV/AIDS issues in normal project activities. ie holistic study, annual village planing, local leaders meetings, staff training,and farmer training.

### **Holistic Studies**

As for year 2001 HIV/AIDS issues have been incorporated in the holistic studies to take stock of the situation in the villages and assist in formulating longer term coping strategies collaborating with district council plans. Holistic study were conducted in six villages

### **Annual village plans:**

As for the year 2001 farmers will identify problems and activities related to HIV/AIDS epidemic this shall be carried out in all project villages in Lupembe, Imalinyi and Wanging'ombe divisions. Priority will be given to villages in the identified high-risk wards already identified by District AIDS Co-ordinator (DACC) and included in the district council plan.

### **Awareness meetings and seminars:**

The annual village planning above has to be preceded by sensitisation meetings and seminars with the aim at creating a broader awareness among staff, leaders and farmers on the status of the pandemic within their respective areas and measures to counter the problem. This shall be carried out at village,

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ward and district levels and will draw on a broader spectre of staff than normally involved in HIMA activities i.e. NGOs active in the areas and health staff.

Local leaders meeting that is Village Government, Ward development Committee, and District Management team should address the magnitude, spread and control of HIV/AIDS strategies.

### **Capacity building:**

District staff and those at ward and villages have to be capacitated so that their performance in implementing activities aimed at combating HIV/AIDS problems in the district is raised. This may involve relevant staff from district council. The trained staff will facilitate sensitive village planning on HIV/AIDS activities, which will involve strategies on how the community itself will support orphans and people with AIDS in their villages.

There is limited access by the district council to educational materials. Therefore training materials related to HIV/AIDS problems and awareness will be requested from outside or developed locally. Facilitators for some of the training to be planned.

For the time little staff knowledge of the HIV/AIDS problems, how to address it in a village context and how to address it within the normal activities like those in agriculture and natural resources is useful.

### **Promotion and Protection to Specific Groups**

#### ***a) Youth:***

Knowledge about HIV/AIDS, however is not in itself sufficient to control the spread of the disease to youth.

In collaboration with school teachers and youth organisations HIMA would promote the involvement of young people in reducing the spread of HIV.

HIV/AIDS prevention strategies to youth would not be addressed in isolation but combined with sports and cultural activities. Selected primary and secondary school teachers from priority area will be trained on HIV/AIDS to help bring about and sustain changes in attitude and sexual behaviour within their schools. Each trained teacher is expected to train other teachers and people within the community who in turn will influence others. This work will be done in collaboration with District Education officer, District Youth & culture officer and District AIDS Control Co-ordinator.

#### ***b) Orphans***

The district already has a lot of children under age of 18 who have lost one or both parents due to AIDS. Number of AIDS orphans continues to increase rapidly. The majority of these children are accepted and cared for by old and poor relatives.

Hima project would potentially mobilise communities to provide care and practical support to orphans who have lost both parents and living in acute problems.

#### ***c) Women***

To support widow to start small income generating projects such as fish farming, bee keeping, Garden farming. Widow will also be trained on labour saving technology. In some cases they will be provided technical support and materials such as construction of bio-gas, pull carts, ox-carts and plough. Women at high risk for example sexual workers will also be considered.

### **District networking.**

HIV/AIDS issues should be constituted into network of government, Non Government Organisations, Community Based Organisation. Organisations such as Christian communities, Youth clubs, women groups, and folk media groups in villages have a crucial role to play in this process.

Most of NGOs and CBOs their funds and materials resources are inadequate because virtually all members are volunteers and the amount of time they have available for community work is limited.

Support will be provided to organised local groups, NGOs and CBOs through their active participation in the control of HIV/AIDS spread. By the way awareness creation materials such as posters, leaflets and training materials would be provided. Also in special operational support for implementation of activities would be organised.

Hima would take initiative to organise the first meeting whereby all organisation dealing with HIV/AIDS will participate and discuss on how to go about.

HIMA-RPND Reg. No 21/11/01-2153		Date	Sign
REPO	Mulea.	27/11	[Signature]
CTA	SIMILAR STATUS REPORTS REQUIRED FROM ALL PHULS A.S.A.P.	24/11	De
AA	CAN I HAVE A COPY OF THIS PLEASE	24/11	GP.
CAAD	Seen, to be included in the compiled strategies	30/11	[Signature]

**NJOMBE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**DISTRICT HIV/AIDS ACTIVITIES**

**1. Mainstreaming of HIV/AIDS activities**

<b>Activity type</b>	<b>indicator</b>	<b>responsibility</b>	<b>timing</b>
<b>I Sensitisation to the Community</b> i. Preparation of materials ii. Arranging sensitisation meetings through:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District Management Team.</li> <li>• Ward Development Committee.</li> <li>• During other Structured Meeting.</li> </ul>	No. of message	HIMA/District AIDS Co-ordinator And The Community	Wk 3
<b>I Staff sensitisation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through Inter District Meetings.</li> <li>• Through Ward Development Committee.</li> <li>• Through other structured meetings.</li> </ul>	No. of events	HIMA/District AIDS Co-ordinator	accordingly
<b>III Staff training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification, Preparation and compilation of sensitisation materials.</li> <li>• Training of staff (Training of Trainers.)</li> </ul>	No. of training	HIMA/District AIDS Co-ordinator	Wk 8
<b>IV Addressing cultural norms</b> -Addressing cultural norms can be taken of during sensitisation meeting with. -Communities -Local Leaders.	No. topics covered	HIMA/District AIDS Co-ordinator And The Community	Wk 21,22 25

**2. Support to vulnerable groups**

<b>Activity Type</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Timing</b>
i. <b>Assistance to vulnerable group</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of the groups                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Orphans</li> <li>-Widow.</li> <li>-AIDS victim</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	No. of groups assisted	HIMA/and the community	Wk 21,22,25
ii. <b>Support to income generating activities for vulnerable groups:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Identification of the groups and individuals</i></li> <li>• <i>Establish type and nature of assistance needed according to their problems</i>                              e.g Petty business.                              Agriculture oriented.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bee keeping7 honey packing.</li> <li>- Buying and selling crops</li> <li>- Garden farming (fruits &amp; vegetable)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	No. of groups assisted	HIMA/and the community	Wk 25

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Fish ponds</i></li> <li>- <i>Sunflower oil processing.</i></li> </ul>			
iii.	<p><b>Labour saving technology for vulnerable groups:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Identification of the groups</i></li> <li>• <i>Establish type and nature of technology according to gender</i> e.g Improved saving stoves. Bio-gas Pull carts Ox-carts Donkey &amp; plough.</li> </ul>	No. of groups assisted	HIMA/and the community	Jan-Dec.

NB Activity 1iv,2I,ii would be done during holistic study and village planing