

Responding to HIV/AIDS –

**A Practitioner's Guide to Mainstreaming
in Rural Development Projects**

IMPRESSUM

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ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviations

ABET	Adult Basic Education Training	LAHU	Land and Housing Unit
ACORD	Agency for Co-operation and Research in Development	LRAD	Land Redistribution for Agricultural Development
ACAT	African Co-operative Action Trust	LATU	Labour Training Unit
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome	M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
AMREF	African Medical and Research Foundation	MTCT	Mother-to-Child-Transmission
ART	Anti-Retroviral Treatment	NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
ARV	Anti- Retroviral	PEP	Post-exposure-prophylaxes
CBO	Community Based Organisation	PLWHA	People Living with HIV and AIDS
CDEU	Community Development and Environmental Unit	PSP	Partner Support Programme
CPA	Communal Property Association	RDSP	Rural Development Support Program
DFID	Department for International Development	SAP	Sustainable Agricultural Programme
ECARP	East Cape Agricultural Research Project	SDC	Swiss Development Cooperation
EDP	Entrepreneurial Development Programme	SHSLP	Shire Highlands Sustainable Livelihoods Programme
ESTA	Extension of Security of Tenure Act	STD	Sexual Transmitted Disease
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations	TRIPS	Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
FGM	Female genital mutilation	UIF	Unemployment Insurance Fund
GU	Gender Unit	UDAC	District Union of Farmers' Associations and Cooperatives
HBC	Home Based Care	UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
HIV	Human Immuno-deficiency Virus	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
IP	Integrated Support to Sustainable Development and Food Security Programme (FAO)	VCT	Voluntary Counselling and Testing
ISNAR	International Service for National Agriculture Research	WHO	World Health Organisation
		WOFAK	Women Fighting AIDS in Kenya
		WTO	World Trade Organisation

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FOREWORD

Foreword

The HIV/AIDS pandemic continues to deepen in Africa. In Asia and Eastern Europe it is progressing with alarming speed. To the countries of Eastern and Southern Africa most affected by HIV/AIDS, the epidemic has become a major development threat, causing serious economic losses and far reaching socio-demographic changes.

Since rural economies in these countries are mainly characterised by subsistence oriented small-scale farming and informal survival activities basically built on family labour, they are particularly affected by the epidemic. The effects of HIV/AIDS on rural families lead to increased food insecurity and reinforces poverty.

In a position paper on AIDS of 1997 the German Bishops have urged solidarity with those affected by HIV/AIDS. In an ecumenical response the Christian churches in Kenya have emphasised the churches' strength and credibility in bringing healing, hope, and support to all those affected by HIV/AIDS.

It is generally recognised thinking that HIV/AIDS is a fundamental development issue and must therefore become everybody's business in the field of development. The mobilisation of all actors in every sector of society according to their specific professional expertise and comparative advantage commonly described as “mainstreaming” has therefore become an important strategic weapon in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

It is against this background that Misereor developed the manual **“Responding to HIV/AIDS - a Practitioner's Guide to Mainstreaming in Rural Development Projects”**. It is our hope that the manual will help Misereor's partners in rural development make a significant contribution to combating the epidemic.

We also hope that the Practitioner's Guide will strongly serve to bring real change to the lives of individuals, families and communities affected by HIV/AIDS.



Dr. Martin Bröckelmann-Simon
(Managing Director of Misereor)

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Sabine Dorlöchter-Sulser,
Dorothee Zimmermann
and Rolf Goldstein
(editorial team)

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

Practitioner's Guide - background

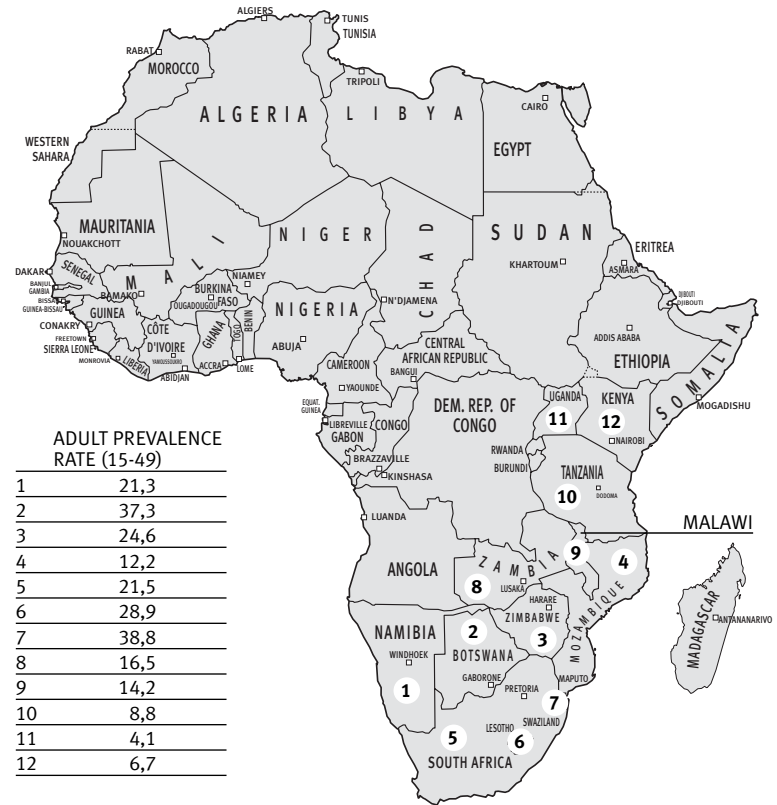
An estimated 25 million people in sub-Saharan Africa were infected with HIV in 2003. This region has just over 10% of the world's population, but is home to two thirds of all people living with HIV (UNAIDS, 2004a:10). Eastern and southern African countries remain the hardest hit, with a prevalence rate exceeding 25% in some cases (see map). In 2003 alone, UNAIDS estimated that around 3 million people in the region would be newly infected. In the same year, 2.2 million people in sub-Saharan Africa died of AIDS, 75% of the deaths counted globally. (UNAIDS, 2004a:30).

During the last decade, HIV/AIDS has come to be seen as a complex “medical, social, economic, political, cultural and human rights problem”. (UN Declaration of Commitment, 2001 cited by Kamminga et al., 2003:7). As a fundamental development issue, HIV/AIDS now concerns everybody in the development field.

Many rural development programmes funded by Misereor are confronted with HIV/AIDS in their daily work. HIV/AIDS endangers the achievement of project goals and forces us to question the appropriateness of project concepts. However, many Misereor partners in rural development are still looking to make a meaningful contribution in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

The HIV/AIDS mainstreaming approach enables development agencies at all levels to view project environments through an 'HIV/AIDS lens' and to take appropriate action. It is not simply a matter of adding HIV/AIDS components to the project, but of searching for appropriate and effective contributions while focusing on the project's comparative advantages and professional competence. For example, by addressing the effects of traditional mourning periods and funerals costs in one area, a rural development project may have a significant impact on food security and poverty. In another area, it might be more beneficial for a project to promote

MAP 1:
HIV/AIDS ADULT PREVALENCE RATE IN THE HARDEST-HIT COUNTRIES
IN EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA



SOURCE: UNAIDS, 2004:
REPORT ON GLOBAL AIDS EPIDEMIC, GENEVA

sustainable and less labour-intensive agricultural practices for the growing number of single-headed households.

Purpose

This Practitioner's Guide assists projects and development agencies in their search for meaningful responses to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. The step-by-step approach is designed to enable rural development projects to identify important fields for mainstreaming.

INTRODUCTION

The methodology can be adopted by project staff without outside assistance. The methods presented can be applied directly, without major modification.

Target group

The Guide has been developed with and for Misereor's partners in Africa who are working in the field of rural development. It also addresses a wider public interested in practical approaches to HIV/AIDS mainstreaming, including other development agencies and rural development projects. The Guide is intended for the use of both managers and field staff.

Evolution

The need to focus more closely on HIV/AIDS in rural development projects has been a recurring theme in the ongoing and open dialogue between Misereor and its partners. Misereor therefore commissioned a consultant to compile a bibliography of practical mainstreaming approaches in rural development. The lack of relevant and simple practical material became apparent in the course of this task (compare report on CD-ROM). As a result, a consultancy process was launched in 2004 together with 3 of Misereor's main partners in South Africa; two missions were undertaken by consultants and project staff. The aim was to develop a simple step-by-step approach that enabled projects to identify relevant areas for HIV/AIDS mainstreaming. The methodology developed forms the centrepiece of the Practitioner's Guide.

Content and structure

The Practitioner's Guide provides comprehensive information on HIV/AIDS mainstreaming and shows how to translate the mainstreaming approach into practice. It is structured as follows:

- Chapter 1: background on the mainstreaming concept
- Chapter 2: overview of the root causes of HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa and the impact of HIV/AIDS on rural societies
- Chapter 3: step-by-step approach to identifying suitable areas for HIV/AIDS mainstreaming

Chapter 4: good practice examples of HIV/AIDS mainstreaming

Chapter 5: institutional arrangements for enhancing HIV/AIDS competence in rural development projects, lobbying and advocacy approaches in the broader policy dialogue

Use

Readers who are already familiar with the HIV/AIDS theme may choose to focus their attention on individual chapters. Each chapter is conceived as a stand-alone unit and can be read on its own. However, projects intent on launching a complete HIV/AIDS mainstreaming process are advised to proceed through the Practitioner's Guide step by step.

The Practitioner's Guide is accompanied by a CD-ROM. This contains a series of documents on HIV/AIDS and mainstreaming (a literature review compiled for Misereor, various background materials, addresses of institutions operating in the area of HIV/AIDS mainstreaming).

Readers can use the attached postcard to order more copies of the Guide, to provide feedback, or to inform us about their own experience of mainstreaming in other projects. All comments will be very welcome.

To all readers intending to launch mainstreaming processes, Misereor wishes them every success in developing sustainable and effective responses to HIV/AIDS.