



## International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (The World Bank)

**Institutional Development Grant for fighting HIV and AIDS and promoting sexual health amongst males who have sex with males in South Asia Region**

**Project title: Fighting HIV/AIDS and promoting sexual health amongst males who have sex with males in South Asia**

**Implementing agency: India Naz Foundation International**

**IDF Grant No: TF057990**

## Narrative Report

**Period: January - June 2009**

**Date of report: 15<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

## Executive Summary

Providing technical support to MSM networks, groups and organisations towards enabling them to develop as community-based HIV service providers promoting sexual health amongst their constituencies, Naz Foundation International (NFI) has primarily worked in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Pakistan, with increasing request for such support from these countries, as well as from Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, and Myanmar.

The World Bank agreed to provide NFI with a 2 year Institutional Development Fund Grant beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> 2007 to achieve the following:

- Strengthened technical support capacity
- Developing knowledge management capacity
- Developing Advocacy capacity
- Strengthening financing and management capacity

Funding was channelled through NFI's India partner, India NFI to primarily support the above activities in India and the activities of the regional programme office.

## Strengthening technical support capacity of INFI

- Technical support programme expanded to cover additional partners in additional states of Bihar, Chandigarh, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, Uttarakhand, and West Bengal additional with support of the EU: *Supporting the scale-up of HIV services for male-who-have-sex-with-males (MSM) in India, by strengthening the capacity of community-based organisations of MSM, and others to address MSM and HIV issues*
- 25 district level India NFI partner MSM CBOs across India visited and providing on-site technical assistance and mentoring on a range of management and programmatic issues in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal. Assistance included project management, outreach methodologies, monitoring, and funding proposal writing – total number of partner staff involved: 147
- Technical support provided to 25 partners in produce reports for the relevant SACS and other donors. This included context, grammar, design, formatting and content.

- 29 exploratory site visits conducted at various key sites in Assam, Chandigarh, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Orissa and Rajasthan to develop new partners and identify key needs and issues
- Two day India meeting bringing together a range of MSM networks to discuss developing collaboration and forming a national process for electing community sector representatives for the Asia Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health from the India sub-region
- On-site training workshops provided in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. A total of 95 local staff engaged in these workshops (5 day training course on CBO development and management)
- 180 individuals sensitised around the issues of MSM and HIV including doctors, lawyers, NGOs and media persons in the above states

Further, a total of 1897 technical assistance enquires addressed during this reporting period from India NFI partners.

40% for assistance in resource mobilising

35% request for training packages

27% resource materials

8% miscellaneous enquiries regarding information needs

In addition, technical assistance and support to

- NFI country partners in Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka in developing the MSM components in their country proposals to the GFATM;
- Engagement in the development of the NFI led multi-country proposal for round 9 GFATM
- Support to APCOM Secretariat to develop its Asia Pacific programme including its programme for the 9<sup>th</sup> ICAAP
- Support for the Global Forum on MSM and HIV

## Developing knowledge management capacity

- Continued upgrading of NFI website
- Support to INFI for developing their website and a range of resources for dissemination to its partner agencies
- Finalising of the users manual for the MSM CBO computerised monitoring package. Once completed this will be promoted among INFI partners, and NFI country partners and others
- Finalising of the penultimate draft of the new manual on guidelines for MSM living with HIV in the South Asia context
- 3 new posters developed and disseminated to INFI and NFI partners
- A range of reports and presentations developed

## Developing advocacy capacity

*Note: NFI focuses on the following areas of advocacy work:*

1. *Addressing MSM human rights abuse, stigma and discrimination and promoting social justice*
2. *Promoting good practice in implementing MSM and HIV programming (see Annexe 2)*
3. *Increasing investment (both technical and financial) in MSM and HIV programming*
4. *Rapid scaling up of coverage of MSM and HIV services towards achieving Universal Access*

### India NFI

- Direct meetings held with 14 State AIDS Control/ Prevention Societies to advocate increased investment through NACP III and support community-based MSM HIV projects in their states. Issue of concern is the on-going support for composite programming by NGOs even when MSM CBOs exist.
- Discussions with these SACS are a part of the on-going process of engagement and negotiations undertaken with them, along with providing assistance to the SACS.
- 4 meetings continued with NACO regarding implementation support for MSM and HIV projects in NACP III, along with participation in the National Technical Resource Group for MSM. Also in regard to progressing the agreement in India NFI as the learning site for MSM interventions in the northern region.

- Advocacy training provided to 17 partner organisations on human rights and MSM
- Advocacy work with NACO and the GFATM CCM in regard to the NFI regional proposal for round 9
- Discussions held with UNAIDS India, regarding developing a pilot consultation to be held in UP in collaboration with UNAIDS towards engaging the police in HIV interventions and reducing harassment of MSM field staff and ‘clients’. Discussions have been held with relevant police and administration personnel in UP who have agreed to support such a consultation, which will be held later this year.
- National strategic meeting held with leading MSM CBOs providing HIV services, along with Alliance India, UNAIDS India, UNDP India towards developing a combined response to the issues of scaling up coverage of HIV services for MSM and MSM communities’ engagement in such provision.
- Meetings held with local NGOs in five states: Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, on mainstreaming MSM issues and possible partnerships and collaboration with INFI state and district partners.

### **International advocacy work**

- Support for the NFI multi-country regional MSM proposal for round 9 of the GFATM
- APCOM and the Global Forum on MSM and HIV
- Meetings held with Hivos to support NFI’s work in India and the rest of the region, along with support for APCOM’s work in Asia and Pacific.
- On going discussions with UNAIDS Regional Support Team in Bangkok, and the UCCs in South Asia on a range of issues affecting MSM, including technical assistance for the NFI regional proposal for round 8 of the GFATM, as well as for APCOM work.
- Participation in key regional meetings
- On going discussions with UNDP and other co-sponsors of UNAIDS

### **Strengthening financing and management capacity**

- NFI led multi-country proposal for community strengthening of MSM organisations working on HIV in South Asia finalised and submitted with all countries endorsing the proposal (\$545 million USD)
- Resource mobilising for APCOM engagement with 9<sup>th</sup> ICAAP (\$160,000 achieved)
- Contract developed with European Union for 3 year project on technical assistance to INFI country partners (1 million Euros)
- NACO agreement on INFI as North India learning centre (22 lacs INR)
- FHI ARO agreement for NFI to provide technical assistance to FHI Pakistan (\$250,000 per year for 3 years.
- Futures Group, Pakistan agreement reached for NFI to provide technical assistance (\$150,000 per year for 3 years)

### **Finance Summary (direct expenses)**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Budget in US\$</b>	<b>Budget in INR</b>	<b>Expenditure in US\$</b>	<b>Expenditure in INR</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>68,793</b>	<b>2,751,720</b>	<b>79,263</b>	<b>3,170,537</b>

## Background

Populations of males who have sex with males<sup>1</sup> (MSM) are at very high risk of contracting HIV in India and other countries of the South Asia region, where growing evidence indicates that the prevalence rate is significantly increasing amongst them;<sup>2</sup> where, in parts of India, the prevalence of HIV among MSM has reached 15%; and where the odds ratio of contracting the virus can reach some 8 times that of the general population, particularly amongst MSM populations who are already marginalised because of their low income status. But precisely because they are marginalised and socially excluded, these populations have very limited access to appropriate HIV prevention and care and support services. This is also not least due to lack of attention, limited technical capacity, knowledge gaps, chronic under-funding, and poor observance of human rights.

India Naz Foundation International (INFI) has received 4 tranches of funds from the World Bank in support of its activities under IDF Grant TF057990, which it has been implementing since July 2007. The grant is intended to develop “Increased and sustainable capacity of MSM groups in the South Asia Region to promote sexual health and reduce the incidence of HIV – contributing to accelerate progress on the MDG for HIV and AIDS in countries of the region.” India NFI has been able to accomplish tasks as per the timeline described in the Grant proposal and has followed all prescribed procedures. It has undertaken several of the tasks under the Grant in close cooperation with and technical assistance of the Naz Foundation International (NFI) under whose aegis India NFI was set up.

India NFI was established to provide technical and developmental assistance to local sexual health projects working with males who have sex with males in India. India NFI supports knowledge management for the enhancement of evidence and understanding that would promote good practice in service delivery and develop advocacy that can address stigma and discrimination, while promoting increasing investments in MSM and HIV programming. In carrying out these crucial inputs, it would contribute eventually to the increasing coverage that is necessary to reach universal access of all to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support services. India NFI also provides NFI with back office and logistical support to work more effectively in the countries of South Asia. India NFI and NFI work closely together to provide technical assistance, knowledge management and advocacy. Beyond this, their collaborative activities also allows the sharing of knowledge and experience within broader regional and global alliances, such as the Asia Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health and the Global Forum on MSM and HIV.

The Institutional Development Fund Grant has enabled India NFI to work closely with NFI to strengthen MSM community development and responsiveness to HIV and sexual health needs in the South Asia region, thus contributing to the international goal of “Universal Access”; support requests for information and data on gender and the MSM issues, needs and concerns to help generate the evidence base for programmatic support; continued their work with low income groups of MSM to provide much needed interventions that result in better prevention and better health; work with various stakeholders to develop a more enabling environment for MSM to exist and survive; and finally, leverage funding from other donors and support from the government to highlight the health and social needs of MSM.

The Grant has helped to achieve the following institutional strengthening:

- Strengthening technical support capacity
- Developing knowledge management capacity
- Developing Advocacy capacity
- Strengthening financing and management capacity

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<sup>1</sup> While we use the term ‘males who have sex with males’ here it is within the context of understanding that the word ‘man’/‘men’ is socially constructed, whereas the word males indicates the biological framework. It use does not imply that it is an identity term referring to an identifiable community that can be segregated and so labelled. Within the framework of male-to-male sex, there are is range of masculinities, along with diverse sexual and gender identities, communities, networks, and collectives, as well as just behaviours without any sense of affiliation to an identity or community.

<sup>2</sup> David Wilson, World Bank, presentation to the MSM pre-conference satellite at the XVII International Conference, Mexico City, August 2008

## Technical support

### In-country (India) technical support by India NFI

- Technical support programme expanded to cover additional partners in additional states of Bihar, Chandigarh, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, Uttarakhand, and West Bengal additional with support of the EU: *Supporting the scale-up of HIV services for male-who-have-sex-with-males (MSM) in India, by strengthening the capacity of community-based organisations of MSM, and others to address MSM and HIV issues*
- 25 district level India NFI partner MSM CBOs across India visited and providing on-site technical assistance and mentoring on a range of management and programmatic issues in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal. Assistance included project management, outreach methodologies, monitoring, and funding proposal writing – total number of partner staff involved: 147
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Inputs	July-Dec 2007	Jan-June 2008	July-Dec 2008	Jan-June 2009	Achieved
Recruitment of 2 Technical Support Officers	Recruited	Operational	Operational	Operational	
Equipment purchased to support technical support activities	Purchased	Operational	Operational	Operational	
Visits	43 days	87 days	92 days	99 days	321 days
Response to technical assistance requests	787	1460	1235	1897	5379
Training of Trainers course (1 per year)	1 <sup>st</sup> course conducted (December 2007)		2 <sup>nd</sup> course conducted (October 2008)		2

### Impact

- NACO is recommending INFI as a technical support agency to a range of SACS
- Partnership with Alliance India and other networks developing the India GFATM Round 9 proposal, along with piloting a technical assistance project as a precursor to the India GFATM Proposal
- Agreements reached with the SACS in 6 key states

- Strengthening networking and collaboration with other key regional and national MSM networks towards consensus building
- Agreements reached to provide technical assistance to the national networks of MSM and Human Rights Advocacy Network, and the national network of HIV positive MSM groups
- Funding support provided by the European Union for the INFI technical assistance programme
- Significant increase in the number of requests and enquires for INFI technical assistance, knowledge management, resource development
- Discussions initiated with a range of INGOs and NGOs to access INFI technical skills on MSM and community based organising to address MSM and HIV risks and vulnerabilities.

## **South Asia regional technical support**

A regional approach in South Asia to the issues of MSM and sexual health with regard to strengthening participation in service delivery by capacity building; address stigma and discrimination at institutional levels by policy development; advance knowledge generation and management; and promote increased investment and scale up coverage makes strategic sense, where replication of good practices becomes possible in the context of shared contexts of male-male sexualities and practices. Further it makes strategic sense for up-streaming advocacy and policy development, while engaging in national and regional bodies towards improving lives of MSM and provide support towards a movement to universal access.

This regional work takes place through NFI, which draws upon the expertise of its staff in the South Asia regional office who are engaged with this project, but not funded out of its proceeds. The organic collaboration possible between the India NFI, NFI, and its South Asia regional office adds great value to the work that has been funded in the region through this Grant.

During this reporting period, NFI was engaged primarily in developing the South Asia multi-country Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria Round 9 proposal which required constant engagement with its proposal partners, which included the four country partners (Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka), UNDP and PSI Nepal. Further as the regional proposal includes Afghanistan, Bhutan and Pakistan, where currently NFI does not have country partners, discussions were also held with their National AIDS Programmes to develop and design their specific components in the final proposal.

This also required visits to Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka to carry these discussions forward, meet with each of the GFATM Country Coordinating Mechanism, UNAIDS Country Coordinators, and other key stakeholders. In regard to Bhutan, discussions were conducted via email and telephone.

These visits and discussions also negotiated with the CCMS to finally obtain their endorsements, which all 7 countries in the proposal gave. NFI was able to submit the final proposal by the GFATM deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2009.

*Please see report section Resource Mobilising below.*

The second major activity conducted by NFI was its technical support and assistance programme for the Asia Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health, an advocacy institution to promote increasing investment in MSM and HIV programming, rapid scaling up coverage of MSM and HIV services, increasing strategic information to inform these services, and addressing legal barriers to effective HIV interventions for MSM, along with challenging stigma and discrimination focused on MSM. NFI not only provides technical assistance to APCOM, but fiscal management, while currently hosting the APCOM Secretariat at its Regional Office in Lucknow.

A key development activity that involved a significant amount of time was the process of engagement of APCOM with the 9<sup>th</sup> ICAAP to be held between 9-13 August 2009 in Bali, Indonesia. APCOM plans to host a one-day pre-conference as well as a number of activities during the conference itself. Along with this was the hosting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Governing Board meeting of APCOM held in February 2009, which included representatives from India and Bangladesh.

*Please see report section International Advocacy below.*

NFI, with back office and logistical support from India NFI conducted a number of technical assistance and advocacy visits to:

**Afghanistan:** Finalised the data analysis on MSM situational assessment in Afghanistan and write the report for dissemination. UNICEF, funders for the study have agreed to make this a UNICEF report for broader dissemination.

During the visit to Afghanistan to attend the CCM meeting on obtaining endorsement of the multi-country proposal, NFI also conducted a dissemination meeting on the findings from the Afghanistan MSM situational assessment, identifying key areas of concern and outlining a number of recommendations for action. Discussions were also held with a number of key stakeholders as the best way forward, and how a successful regional GFATM application would impact service delivery for MSM in the country

**Bangladesh:** Work with Bandhu Social Welfare Society to develop a funding proposal to be submitted to the Netherlands Embassy and advocate for this with the Dutch Ambassador. Further technical assistance provided in developing a proposal for SIDA.

Briefing and support to develop a resource mobilising strategy for Bandhu.

Conducted a visit to Bangladesh to engage with the CCM and the UNAIDS Country Coordinator advocating for the endorsement of the regional GFATM proposal. During this period also visited Bandhu's Dhaka project to review its programme activities, meet with the Dutch Ambassador for advocating for the continued funding support of Bandhu, as well as meet Bandhu's Technical Advisory Group.

**Bhutan** Discussions held with the Bhutan National AIDS Programme regarding their inclusion in the regional GFATM proposal and the specific components of this inclusion. Also advocating for Bhutan CCM's endorsement of the proposal.

**India** Work with INFI in regard to the development of the MSM component of the India GFATM Round 9 proposal, as well as the NFI multi-country regional proposal.

Five capacity-building workshops for INFI staff.

Provide assistance and technical support in developing and implementing the European Union assisted project: *Supporting the scale-up of HIV services for male-who-have-sex-with-males (MSM) in India, by strengthening the capacity of community-based organisations of MSM, and others to address MSM and HIV issues.*

Bimonthly briefing and debriefing meetings held with key INFI staff.

Support to develop a range of presentations (posters and powerpoints) for INFI for the 9<sup>th</sup> ICAAP. Included in the agenda and support to host a Muslim MSM caucus meeting at this conference.

Technical support and funding for INFI to host national advocacy meeting on networking, consensus building and developing advocacy framework around the argument between strengths and weaknesses in regard to composite versus CBO HIV programming.

Nepal	<p>Technical assistance and facilitation provided to Blue Diamond Society in addressing key questions of resource allocation under Nepal's GFATM Round 7 funding, where a dispute had arisen between BDS and the Principal Recipient. Issue was resolved.</p> <p>Visit to Kathmandu to engage with BDS, PSI Nepal and the Nepal CCM to advocate for endorsement of the regional proposal.</p>
Pakistan:	<p>Discussions held with a number of key gay-identified men in Pakistan towards developing a meeting to develop a national technical assistance team which would eventually become NFI's country partner. Meeting to be held later this year.</p> <p>Visit to Islamabad for discussions with UNAIDS Country Coordinator, FHI Pakistan, CCM, and Director, National AIDS Control Programme towards gaining endorsement for the regional proposal.</p> <p>Discussions with Futures Group and FHI regarding developing contracts for NFI to provide technical assistance to these agencies in terms of the MSM and HIV components of their Pakistan programmes. Contracts signed but will come into affect later this year.</p>
Sri Lanka	<p>During the visit to Sri Lanka for engagement with the CCM, a review was conducted of Companions on a Journey as a part of the technical assistance programme to its country partner. The review was to explore problems that COJ was having with its donors, restructuring its MSM and HIV programme, as well as design its first national MSM and HIV consultation meeting to be held in November 2009.</p> <p>Discussions with the CCM, director of the National AIDS Programme, the UNAIDS Country Coordinator and other stakeholders to gain the endorsement of the regional proposal.</p>

#### Other technical support and assistance

##### APCOM

In his role as the Chair of APCOM, the Chief Executive of NFI was engaged in a number of Asia Pacific meetings as technical expert and community sector representative. These included:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Governing Board Meeting of APCOM, Bangkok
- Steering Committee meeting of the Global Forum on MSM and HIV, Amsterdam
- UNAIDS Regional Forum on Engaging Police Forces in the AIDS Response in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok
- WHO-WPRO/UNDP/UNAIDS regional Asia and Pacific consultation on the Health Sector Response to MSM HIV epidemic, Hong Kong – Agreement on developing an APCOM Standing Committee on Health Sector engagement with WHO
- India sub-regional meeting towards developing consensus and strengthened network between the various MSM and HIV networks in the country. Obtain agreement on the process for selecting the India community sector representative for the Board of APCOM, Lucknow
- South Asia regional meeting towards strengthening regional networking and obtain agreement on selection process for South Asia community sector representative on the Board of APCOM, Lucknow
- UNDP/UNAIDS/UNESCO/WHO-WPRO/ASEAN regional consensus meeting on developing a comprehensive package of services to reduce HIV among MSM and transgender populations in Asia Pacific, Bangkok

Further NFI assistance to APCOM through its Chief Executive

- Developing an MSM and transgender mapping strategy for APCOM and its sub-regional sectors
- Provide technical assistance to develop and chair APCOM's Governing Board meeting, along with producing a range of briefing papers for the Board

- Provide secretariat and technical support and assistance towards developing APCOM's engagement at the 9<sup>th</sup> ICAAP along with providing logistics support for this engagement

GFATM regional proposal development involving engagement with all country partners

- Final proposal development meeting with GFATM proposal partners to review penultimate proposal draft, New Delhi
- Visit Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka for presentations to each of the CCMs to obtain endorsement (successfully achieved)
- Management of proposal development and review

Others

- Presentation given on MSM and gender variance to the Global Symposium on Engaging Men and Boys in Gender Equality, held in Rio de Janeiro towards developing an understanding of "toxic masculinity" and its impact on increasing HIV risks and vulnerability for MSM
- Hosting the Site visit by World Bank

## Impact

The development of the Asia Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health (APCOM) by NFI and the engagement of NFI through its Chief Executive as the Chair of this institution has enabled NFI to significantly strengthen and upstream its advocacy work, with governments, donors, INGOs, national NGOs, and MSM and HIV groups and organisations, not only in South Asia, but also across Asia and the Pacific. This has been possible because both NFI and APCOM share the same advocacy objectives.

It has also led to the deepening engagement of the Regional Office of UNDP in supporting NFI's country activities, including the first national MSM and HIV meeting in Sri Lanka, developing an MSM technical resource team for Pakistan, hosting the India and South Asia meetings in Lucknow, as well as financial resources and input into the NFI GFATM regional proposal.

NFI's engagement with the Global Forum on MSM and HIV is also having a similar impact in strengthening its advocacy and technical assistance role, providing opportunities to disseminate NFI's work and develop links with MSM and HIV agencies who wish to replicate NFI's model of regional technical assistance in their parts of the world, including sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America.

NFI's support for INFI has also assisted in the development of consensus building among the various state and national MSM networks which in the past have been somewhat acrimonious. This has seen a greater engagement of all these networks in working together to achieve common goals.

## Knowledge management

During this reporting period the Knowledge Management Unit moved into enhanced premises (at the same address) which provides a better environment for both managing the resources and library as well as for users. This was possible because of funds from the European Union support project.

Regular work of the Unit includes:

- Classification and cataloguing of books and documents
- Updating library listings
- New documents and resources downloaded
- Web searches
- Checking media for useful reports and articles
- Editing Pukaar
- Updating mailing list
- Provide graphic design support for India NFI and other partners needs
- Provide support to library visitors
- Management of NFI website

Requests for information from the Knowledge Management Department

Internal (NFI)

321

External (NFI partners)	197
External (Others)	423

#### Website development and management

Significant improvements continue to be implemented, including enhancing the home page, and adding a new section on latest news and updates. The website is reviewed on a 3 monthly basis to see how it can be improved visually and strengthen its knowledge base.

Website activities during this reporting period,

Visits	Pages accessed	Files downloaded	Hits
81,342	401,162	172,416	430,242

A strategy is being developed to promote the website internationally, which includes bulk mailings and regular postings on other websites.

Development of new resources for partners and others

#### *Internal*

- Continued INFI website design
- Finalising of the users manual for the MSM CBO computerised monitoring package. Once completed this will be promoted among INFI partners, and NFI country partners and others
- Finalising of the penultimate draft of the new manual on guidelines for MSM living with HIV in the South Asia context
- 3 new posters developed and disseminated to INFI and NFI partners
- INFI staff and induction manuals developed in Hindi
- New brochures for INFI and NFI developed to be used at the 9<sup>th</sup> ICAAP
- Design of INFI posters accepted for 9<sup>th</sup> ICAAP

#### Under development

- Fieldworkers Guide
- Various language versions of current posters, booklets and leaflets. It is intended to have these resources in 8 primary South Asian languages. To this end, a regional network of translators has been developed to support this work.
- Facilitators Guide to the Training of Trainers course on MSM CBO development
- Facilitators Guide to the workshop on gender variance and MSM
- Advocacy Tool-kit
- MSM hotline manual
- Cartoon booklet/poster promoting condom usage to reduce risk

#### *External*

- January and April 2009 editions of Pukaar developed and uploaded. July edition under development
- Powerpoints for APCOM 3<sup>rd</sup> governing board meeting included:
  - APCOM reorientation
  - 2008 achievements
  - Board structure
  - Strategic partners
  - Secretariat functions
  - APCOM planned activities at the 9<sup>th</sup> ICAAP
  - Strategic directions
  - 2008 Finance report
  - Communications plan
  - Meeting agenda
- Afghanistan MSM data analysis completed
- Report on the *Rapid assessment on male vulnerabilities to HIV and sexual exploitation in Afghanistan*
- Powerpoint on the Afghanistan report

- Powerpoint presentation *Gendering the Phobia* for the Global Symposium on Engaging Men and Boys in Gender Equality
- *Male-Male sexualities* – presentation for BDS national sexual minorities and human rights meeting
- Country specific powerpoint presentations on the regional GFATM proposal: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
- Report on the South Asia/India meeting on *Strengthening networking of networks of MSM and HIV community-based organisations towards more effective engagement in policy making and community systems strengthening*

## Impact

It is anticipated that the new user-friendly design of the new website and its visuality, along with the significant scale up of documentation uploaded, will increase use of the website which was uploaded at the end of this reporting period.

New resources have been developed for India NFI partners and country partners of NFI, along with support for the regional activities of NFI.

Inputs	July-Dec 2007		Jan-Jun 2008		Jul-Dec 2008		Jan-Jun 2009		Total	
Recruitment of Knowledge Management Officer	Recruited		Operational		Operational		Operational			
Website consultant	Recruited and initiate local website management and redesign of the website		New design of website uploaded and continued website management		Continued website management		Continued website management			
Equipment to upgrade knowledge management unit	Purchased		Operational		Operational		Operational			
Response to requests for knowledge management support	Internal	125	Internal	244	Internal	208	Internal	321	Internal	898
	(NFI partners)	52	NFI partners	162	NFI partners	194	NFI partners	197	NFI partners	605
	Others	211	Others	319	Others	420	Others	423	Others	1328

## Advocacy development

*India NFI and NFI focus on the following areas of advocacy work:*

1. *Addressing MSM human rights abuse, stigma and discrimination and promoting social justice*
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### India NFI advocacy

- Direct meetings held with 14 State AIDS Control/ Prevention Societies to advocate increased investment through NACP III and support community-based MSM HIV projects in their states. Issue of concern is the on-going support for composite programming by NGOs even when MSM CBOs exist.
- Discussions with these SACS are a part of the on-going process of engagement and negotiations undertaken with them, along with providing assistance to the SACS.
- 4 meetings continued with NACO regarding implementation support for MSM and HIV projects in NACP III, along with participation in the National Technical Resource Group for MSM. Also in regard to progressing the agreement in India NFI as the learning site for MSM interventions in the northern region.

- Advocacy training provided to 17 partner organisations on human rights and MSM
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- Meetings held with local NGOs in five states: Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, on mainstreaming MSM issues and possible partnerships and collaboration with INFI state and district partners.

## Impact

India NFI organised and/or participated in 24 advocacy events:

- Mobilising support and media advocacy on Section 377
- Advocacy on strengthening and increasing resources for MSM HIV programming
- Ensuring implementation on NACPIII
- Developing understanding of stronger MSM community engagement and ownership in HIV service development towards encouraging SACS to support MSM CBOs.

Inputs	July-Dec 2007	Jan-June 2008	Jul-Dec 2008	Jan-Jun 2009	Total
Recruitment of consultant	Recruited	Operational	Operational	Operational	
Five visits per year 60 days	19 advocacy events	27 advocacy events	22 advocacy events		68 advocacy events
60 days of visits	43 days	87 days	150 days		280 days
National meeting per years		Delayed till September 2008	December 2008 (difficulties in getting key people together)	June 2009	2
Equipment	Purchased	Operational	Operational	Operational	

## International advocacy work

With back office support of India NFI and the knowledge management unit, NFI was able to undertake visits to conduct advocacy work in South Asia and elsewhere.

### Support for the NFI multi-country regional MSM proposal for round 9 of the GFATM

During this reporting period, NFI conducted a range of visits to Kabul (Afghanistan), Dhaka (Bangladesh), New Delhi (India), Kathmandu (Nepal), Islamabad (Pakistan) and Colombo (Sri Lanka) to advocate for the endorsement of the NFI led multi-country regional GFATM round 9 proposal. Discussions were also held with the appropriate Bhutan stakeholders for this. This direct engagement with each of the CCMs, UNDP and UNAIDS Country Coordinators was essential to ensure such endorsements.

### APCOM and the Global Forum on MSM and HIV

While India NFI's advocacy work involves down-streaming and up-streaming advocacy work in India itself, this is also supported by the up-streaming of NFI's advocacy through regional and global initiatives. NFI continues to provide technical assistance and support, while taking the lead role for the

on-going development and programme implementation of the Asia Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health (APCOM), while supporting the Global Forum on MSM and HIV through providing inputs and active participation in its Steering Committee/

APCOM is a coalition of community-sector, donors, and government sector, and UNDP, UNESCO and UNAIDS in advocacy on key India NFI/NFI goals and objectives, namely

- Increasing investment (technical and financial) for MSM and HIV services
- Rapid scaling up of HIV services coverage for MSM across the countries of the region (including South Asia)
- Bridging the knowledge gaps that affect MSM and HIV programming (socio-ethnographic, behavioural and epidemiological)
- Addressing stigma, discrimination and criminalisation

The Global Forum on MSM and HIV was developed to follow the same goals as NFI and APCOM. In place of being a coalition of different stakeholders, is made up of technical experts on MSM and HIV programming from different regions across the globe, including NFI.

APCOM: [www.msmasia.org](http://www.msmasia.org)

Global Forum: [www.msmandhiv.org](http://www.msmandhiv.org)

Management of the Asia Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health (APCOM)

Provided management and technical assistance to APCOM. This involved:

- Management of APCOM development and its Secretariat
- Development work and resource mobilising for APCOM engagement with the 9<sup>th</sup> ICAAP to be held in Bali, Indonesia, August 2009
- Advocacy with the LOC of the 9<sup>th</sup> ICAAP to support APCOM's engagement in the conference
- Resource mobilising advocacy with a range of donors to support this engagement
- Engagement of key speakers with global and regional influence to be a part of APCOM's engagement in the 9<sup>th</sup> ICAAP
- Technical expertise provided to the WHO/UNDP meetings on engaging with the health sector and consensus consultation on developing a comprehensive package of HIV services for MSM

Global Forum on MSM and HIV (MSMGF)

- As a representative on the Steering Committee of the Global Forum am regularly involved in a range of email and teleconference communications in developing a proposal and activities to promote the goals and objectives of the Global Forum.
- Participated in the Steering Committee Meeting held in January 2009, in Amsterdam

## **Hivos**

Meetings held with Hivos to support NFI's work in India and the rest of the region, along with support for APCOM's work in Asia and Pacific.

## **UNAIDS**

On going discussions with UNAIDS Regional Support Team in Bangkok, and the UCCs in South Asia on a range of issues affecting MSM, including technical assistance for the NFI regional proposal for round 8 of the GFATM, as well as for APCOM work.

## **UNDP and other cosponsors of UNAIDS**

On going discussions with UNDP in role as one of the co-sponsor of UNAIDS that has taken on the leadership role on MSM and HIV. These discussions also involve the development of the gender guidance notes for National AIDS Programmes that will include "sexual minorities", and the UNDP advocacy and policy development component of the regional proposal for round 9 of GFATM, as well as global and regional staffing focusing on MSM and HIV issues. Further UNDP now willing to support a range of NFI/APCOM initiatives.

## Impact

- Final draft of proposal for developed and submitted and all the CCMs in each of the 7 countries involved in the NFI led multi-country proposal for round 9 of GFATM have endorsed the proposal.
- Developing new contracts with Hivos for NFI work in South Asia, and support for APCOM.
- A range of key speakers have agreed to speak at the APCOM pre-conference meeting to the 9<sup>th</sup> ICAAP.
- Consensus statement developed on a comprehensive package of services for MSM and transgenders with UNDP, WHO, UNAIDS and ASEAN.
- Agreement developed with WHO on developing an MSM and HIV Health Sector Response Standing Committee as a part of APCOM.

## Resource mobilising

### Global Fund for AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis, Round 9

The submission of the final draft of the NFI led multi-country proposal for round 9 of the GFATM along with the endorsement of all 7 countries of the proposal, where the proposal had a range of external reviews. Total budget submission if \$45 million USD.

### Asia Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health

A total of some \$160,000 has been raised from a range of donors including Hivos, OSI, Pact, FHI, World Bank, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO to support the APCOM one day pre-conference MSM forum at the 9<sup>th</sup> ICAAP, along with other activities during the conference itself.

### European Commission

An agreement reached with the European Union for 75% funding support of the INFI/NFI India project: *Supporting the scale-up of HIV services for male-who-have-sex-with-males (MSM) in India, by strengthening the capacity of community-based organisations of MSM, and others to address MSM and HIV issues. Total amount for 3 years: 1 million Euros.*

### Hivos

Negotiations still under way with HIVOS for the balance of 25% of the EU supported project budget.

### Others

Continued discussions with the Futures Group on accessing NFI technical assistance for their work in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Further discussions with PSI in terms of technical assistance for the global programming around MSM and HIV.

Agreement reached with NACO on INFI in Lucknow as a North India learning centre. Funding would be 22 lacs INR per year.

Contract signed with FHI ARO for technical assistance on MSM programming in Pakistan, value \$250,000

## Impact

Resource mobilising initiatives both in-country and international, continue to be significantly strengthened. The Grant has made it possible for India NFI and NFI to gain support of key influencers such as UNDP and UNAIDS, and with the EU, and GFATM along with the support for APCOM and the Global Forum where back office support was provided by India NFI.

As an outcome of the strategic plan developed by the consultant, NFI is now engaged in continued development of a range of partnerships with INGOs operating in a variety of countries in South Asia as well as elsewhere to provide these international organisations technical assistance, capacity development, consultancies, as well as direct support for implementation work around MSM and HIV programming.

This World Bank supported enabled NFI to engage with the range of partners to develop and submit its GFATM round 9 proposal, to develop and obtain agreement with the European Union for project support, as well as strengthen NFI's technical assistance and resource mobilising for APCOM (NFI's gains 8% fiscal management support for any funding for APCOM).

Each of these contracts will generate income for NFI and its own work. Such partnerships are seen as an effective strategy towards scaling up NFI's own response to MSM and HIV capacity, advocacy and policy development needs. At the same time, INFI is also negotiating to generate its own income within India as well as abroad.

- 4 further applications submitted by India NFI to amfAR, Tides Foundation, NACO and UPSACS
- Agreement with EU: 75% funded over 3 years: 1 million euros
- Regional proposal for MSM for Round 9 GFATM where INFI is a partner, submitted
- India NFI participation in the Round 9 GFATM re-submission of the country proposal submitted by India

# Annexe 1

## Expenditure statement (Jan - June 2009)

	Item	Budget in US\$	Budget in INR	Expenditure in US\$	Expenditure in INR	Explanation
<b>1</b>	<b>Technical Support Office</b>					
	Consultants x 2	9270	370800	10500	420000	<i>Increase in fees from 30,000 INR to 35,000 INR due to selection needs</i>
	Travel	3090	123600	2891	115646	<i>Additional training provided-NFI resources</i>
	Per Diem	6000	240000	6272	250878	
	TOT	00	00	7887	315480	
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>18360</b>	<b>734400</b>	<b>27550</b>	<b>1102004</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Knowledge Management</b>					
	Knowledge Consultant	7687	307480	7425	297000	
	Website Consultant	1000	40000	1050	42000	
	<b>Sub - total</b>	<b>8687</b>	<b>347480</b>	<b>8475</b>	<b>339000</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Advocacy</b>					
	Advocacy Consultant	9671	386840	9390	375600	
	Travel	2575	1030001	2400	95992	
	per diem	6000	240000	5907	236296	
	National meeting	19000	760000	20891	835645	
	State level meetings	00	00	00	00	
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>37246</b>	<b>1489840</b>	<b>38588</b>	<b>1543533</b>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Strengthening financing and management capacity</b>		World Bank direct payments			
<b>5</b>	<b>Upgrading Information</b>					
	software for other computers	00	00	00	00	
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Audit &amp; Accounting charges</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>180000</b>	<b>4650</b>	<b>186000</b>	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>68,793</b>	<b>2,751,720</b>	<b>79,263</b>	<b>3,170,537</b>	

# APCOM at Bali

## I. The 2009 MSM and HIV Forum - a pre-9th ICAAP all-day satellite meeting

**Event name:** From 200 to Ø: Responding effectively to HIV among MSM in Asia Pacific<sup>3</sup>

**Event nickname:** “The 200 Forum”

**Date:** 08-August 2009 (Saturday)

**Time:** All day, including dinner for invited participants

**Venue:** Mercure Sanur Hotel

**Presenter:** Asia Pacific Coalition of Male Sexual Health (APCOM – <http://msmasia.org>)

**Participants:** By invitation and application to APCOM (limited to 200)

**Cost:** Free for pre-registered participants only - invitation to The 200 Forum includes admission, lunch and dinner as a community service by APCOM (and its funding partners).

**Email:** [200forum@msmasia.org](mailto:200forum@msmasia.org)

## II. Satellites (2)

### A. MSM and HIV – Cross cutting issues

The session explores the cross-cutting issues that impact on male-to-male sexual practices, risks and vulnerabilities towards developing more coherent and comprehensive approaches to reduce such risks and vulnerabilities. The issues will include: MSM and Drug Use, MSM and Sex Work, young MSM/youth and MSM and female partners

- 10-August 2009 (Monday)
- Programme code: MoSm02
- FHP-APRO, WHO-WPRO and APCOM
- BICC, Westin Hotel
- 11 August 2009 (Tuesday)
- 4.00 – 5.30pm (16.00-17.00)

### B. Gender variance and male-male sexualities across the global south

This session will bring together experts from southern hemisphere regions (Asia, Latin America, Pacific Islands, Sub-Saharan Africa) to explore similarities and contrasts as they impact the delivery of HIV services for MSM and transgenders.

Development of global links and networking on these issues will increase and strengthen advocacy and educational efforts of participants.

- 11-August 2009 (Monday)
- Programme code: MoSm20 (ASAP #3)
- Hivos, NFI, ASAP and APCOM
- BICC, Westin Hotel
- 6.00 – 8.00pm (18.00-20.00)

## III. Symposium

### Overcoming legal barriers to comprehensive prevention among MSM and TG in Asia Pacific

- 11-August 2009 (Tuesday)
- UNDP Regional Centre for Asia-Pacific and APCOM

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<sup>3</sup> Everyday, nearly 200 MSM become infected with HIV in Asia. See Figure 2.16 in “Redefining AIDS in Asia - Crafting an Effective Response”. Commission on AIDS in Asia. Oxford University Press, New Delhi, India (2008); p 57

- Nusa Indah , BICC, Westin Hotel (WeSy20)
- 11 August 2009 (Tuesday)
- 4.00 – 5.30pm (16.00-17.30)

The session will contribute to the proposed UNDP regional study that analyzes de-criminalization strategies, related laws and practices in order to mitigate their adverse impact, specifically on MSM and MSM/HIV services. There have been some successes in the region in this regard, which will be reviewed, along and a keen focus on the adverse consequences of such laws so as to create an increased understanding of their negative impacts.

#### **IV. Caucus meetings (5)**

These sessions will provide the opportunity for new or emerging sub-region/area/issue-related networks to come together and discuss local issues, meet with others doing similar work and discuss best ways to begin building supportive environments. Exploring networking and how APCOM might help will be part of the informal agendas, which will be led by each community group. The following three caucus meetings will take place in the Kamasan Room at the Nusa Dua Beach Resort (next to the BICC):

**A. Pacific** – Pacific Sexual Diversity Network – launch of PSDN Strategic Plan and Website starting at 11.30 AM – lunch included. (Cook Island, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu)

**B. Being MSM, WSW, TG and Muslim** (A closed meeting) at 15.00 (3pm)

**C. Developed Asia** (Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan) at 18.00 (6pm).

Two sub-regional country/area caucus meetings will take place in the Asia Pacific Community Village Community Meeting Room. Meetings will be scheduled closer to the conference.

**D. South Asia** (excluding India – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka)

**E. Transgender** (region-wide)

#### **V. MSM networking focal point (exhibit booth in Asia Pacific Village)**

#### **VI. Photo exhibition – MSM in Asia and the Pacific (part of the Community Forum)**

#### **VII. Donor reception (invitation only, please – venue, day and time TBA)**

# UNDP Meetings in Lucknow - agenda

## Universal access for men who have sex with men and transgender people

A South Asia meeting on MSM networks and organisations

June 9<sup>th</sup> 2009

NFI Regional Programme Office

### AGENDA

Time	Agenda item
9.00 – 9.30	Registration, tea/coffee and networking
9.30 – 9.45	Briefing on the UNAIDS/UNDP paper UNAIDS Action Paper
9.45 – 10.15	Review of main components of the paper
10.15 – 10.30	Understanding the UN mandates
10.30 – 11.30	Develop national and regional partnership strategy
11.30 – 12.00	Tea/coffee break
12.00 – 13.00	Identify areas to support the implementation of the UNAIDS Global Framework in South Asia
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 14.40	Review experiences of engagement and advocacy with local CCM processes Bangladesh India Nepal Sri Lanka
14.40 – 15.30	Review areas which CCM are lacking on MSM/TG engagement and M&E
15.30 – 17.00	Discussion on how CCMs can be lobbied to increase and strengthen partnerships beyond health departments and identify entry points to increase CCM engagement and understanding of MSM/TG and HIV
17.00 – 17.30	Summary and closure

## **Networking of networks – representation within the Asia Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health**

June 10<sup>th</sup> 2009

NFI Regional Programme Office

### **Process**

Two sub-regions are represented at this meeting:

1. South Asia (excluding India) – the countries of Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka (Mongolia cannot attend)
2. India

Each group will discuss how best to select the appropriate community-sector representative and alternate to the APCOM Board. This process of selection will be produced as a document to be uploaded to the APCOM website.

In regard to the India sub-region, participants will also discuss strengthening networking amongst networks towards developing a common action agenda towards ensuring Universal Access.

Each group will develop their own agenda for their meeting as the opening session.