



International MSM and AIDS in Asia Consultation (IMAAC)

23-26 September 2006, New Delhi, India



Back to Front

Why Back to Front as the theme?

“Back to front” will be the theme of the consultation, signifying that MSM programming and interventions have taken a backseat position in the Asia-Pacific region, and need much more prominence and come to the forefront.

What is the purpose?

To bring together governments, policy-makers, donors, researchers, grassroots and community based organisations across the Asia-Pacific region to provide a space for dialogue, learning, networking, and skills building, to enable expansion, strengthening and scaling up of strategies addressing male sexual health and related HIV vulnerabilities.

In addition, the consultation will provide an opportunity to inform and develop strategic advocacy initiatives and deliberate on key policies related to these issues.

Objectives

- Generating knowledge and learning on technical, social and policy issues relevant to male-to-male sexual behaviours and HIV risk and vulnerability in the Asia-Pacific region;
- Informing the formulation of strategies for scaling-up advocacy, policy development, promotion of rights and social justice, and access to programmatic resources; and
- Improving and expanding MSM-specific prevention, treatment and care programmes and services.

The larger objective

The larger goal of this consultation is to catalyse and enhance coordinated responses through increased commitment among national and international stakeholders, in tandem with the real needs of men-who-have sex with men. This would lead to intensified AIDS and sexual health interventions with appropriate and supportive policies and adequate funding.

Who is this consultation for?

- Programme managers, coordinators, and key staff from MSM interventions, particularly CBOs
- Policy and decision-makers
- National AIDS Councils representatives
- Donors, researchers and activists

From 31 countries

What will they do?

Review research findings, legal and policy frameworks, state of the art knowledge and good practices, as well as countries' AIDS operational plans, and discuss gaps, needs and recommendations for strategising and programming for MSM to reduce risk and vulnerability and improve sexual health. During this consultation, successful community-based interventions themselves will be able to provide a wealth of evidence of what works, what does not, and what more is needed.

Anticipated Outcomes

- A Declaration of Commitment by policymakers and donors
- An agreed set of principles on male sexual health relating to HIV and AIDS
- An enhanced knowledge base on the technical, social and policy issues relevant to male-to-male sexual behaviours in the Asia-Pacific region, which may take the form of technical resource kits

Anticipated Outcomes

- Recommendations for action regarding issues such as resources allocation, epidemiology, intervention strategies, rights and legal issues. In short: strategies that will facilitate and assure inclusion of male-to-male sexuality in national and sub-national AIDS frameworks for action.
- Identification of key strategic advocacy initiatives and policies that need to be developed and maintained in relation to MSM, sexual health and HIV vulnerabilities.

Anticipated Outcomes

- A pan-regional network of organisations and institutions to generate region-wide coordinated advocacy for policy change, social justice, rights, and an equitable allocation of public resources for HIV interventions, care, treatment and other services. This network will ensure that MSM issues remain on the AIDS agenda in the region and at all relevant national and regional AIDS conferences and meetings.

Programme Outline

Saturday 23 September 2006: Registration

Sunday 24 September 2006

Masculinities, Sexualities and male-to-male sexual behaviours and HIV risks and vulnerabilities in Asia

Monday 25 September 2006

Policy, advocacy, social justice and human rights for MSM

Tuesday 26 September 2006

HIV/AIDS prevention to care continuum - increasing coverage and scaling up

Organisers

Naz Foundation International

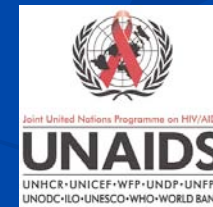


Bharosa



Sexual Health Resource Centre/DFID

Technical Support: UNAIDS



Co-Sponsors (currently)



World Bank, DFID