

Humana People to People India Newsletter

Ambassador, Embassy of Finland, New Delhi, at HPPI's Green Energy Biogas inaugural event 'BIOGAS FOR THE ENHANCED QUALITY OF LIFE' in Dausa, Rajasthan

The event announced commencement of a 400 family sized, Biogas plant model project in Dausa. It was a great platform to discuss resources to prompt global collaboration in addressing the importance of renewable, sustainable energy within India.



Livelihood Project - Farmers Club Badaun



Farmers Club Badaun organized farmer's seminar on 9th October 2014 on 'benefits sharing' of FAO's project 'Seeds of Life'. More than 300 farmers participated in the event and discussed the benefits and results of reducing losses of agricultural biodiversity and its impact on their lives.

Farmers Club Unnao organized farmers seminar on 31st October'14 to discuss FAO and HPPI's collaborative project and its benefits to farmers in Unnao. The event discussed pertinent issues like seed banks, seed production, enhancing production through SRI & improving wheat cultivation. More than 350 farmers attended the event.



Livelihood project - Farmers Club Unnao

EDUCATION: Batch of 450 pre-service student-teachers graduate from DIETs and GETTIs across Haryana.



450 NeTT program, pre-service teachers graduated from DIETs and GETTIs across Haryana on 11 November'14. Special convocation program were organized at various DIETs and GETTIs to commemorate the occasion. Through the ceremony DIET encouraged graduating students to adhere to teachers' ethics and values and passed on the baton of a vital role in future development of Indian education system.

Symptomatic male urethral discharge cases have been utilized to monitor safe sex practices in the Migrants' HIV Prevention Project of Humana People to People India, in India

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Migration & HIV – Indian scenario

Source: Dept. of AIDS Control, Ministry of Health, Govt. of India.

• HIV prevalence in migrants – 3.0%, 10 times of the HIV prevalence among the general population.

• Around 5% male migrants and 13% female migrants reported sexually transmitted infections, nearly double the national average.

• Among men reporting sex with a non-spousal/unpaid female sex partner in the past year, only 19% of men reported consistent condom use. Only 25% reported condom use in paid sex.

Migrants are at high-risk of HIV/STIs

• Insufficient awareness on HIV/STIs

• Low risk perception

• Lack of economic and social security

• Easy access to paid sex services

• Peer pressure

• Alcoholism, drugs

Responses of Humana People to People India in protecting migrants from HIV/STIs

HPPI initiated HIV prevention project in Rohtak city of Haryana, India.

Rohtak is a growing business cum commercial centre with influx of large numbers of migrants (mostly single males) from Eastern and Northern states of India.

Sex work is common from available in Rohtak including sex workers coming from neighboring state Rajasthan.

Highlights: Migrants HIV Prevention Project of Humana People to People India (HPPI)

Project name: Prevention of New Infections among 10,000 Migrant Workers (MWW) with Targeted Interventions (TI)

The project had started in 2009, supported by State AIDS Control Society, Haryana.

Between 2009 – 2011, the project had registered and covered 5000 male single migrants. Since 2012, 5000 additional and previously not intervened MWW added. Total registered and covered migrants at present – 10,000 male single migrants in 16 identified spots.

Profile of the migrants who are covered in the Project

Origins: Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal

Average age: 18-45%, school drop out, illiterate, 87% bonded laborers

Living conditions: Unhealthy in terms of poorly ventilated rooms occupied by 6 – 10 persons.

Entertainment wise: Watching movies (including pornographic films), smoking, alcohol and playing cards.

Knowledge about HIV/AIDS, STIs and safe sex: Inadequate and incomplete, especially among the new migrants who are included in the project.

Key activities of the Project

Medical services: STI symptoms management & screening, partners' treatment

Peer outreach: Condom promotion & distribution, linkage to VCT & TB services, health education, enabling environment

One of the major challenges of the project: Persistently inadequate and irregular supply of 'free' condoms

Condom distribution in the project

Year	Free condoms (thd)	PAID condoms	Free condoms (thd)
2011	10000	1000	1000
2012	10000	1000	1000
2013	10000	1000	1000
2014	10000	1000	1000

Measuring impact of safe sex practices among migrants: METHODS

Monitoring condom distribution found in HPPI projects doesn't indicate much about safe sex practices on ground.

The project has been monitoring symptomatic male urethral discharge cases to know about safe sex practices among migrants.

Symptomatic male urethral discharge (UD) cases generally indicate recent unprotected sexual activities with infected partners.

The symptoms taken into account: White mucous-purulent urethral discharge without urinary burning. The number of such cases were collected from project's health clinic records.

National annual incidence of urethral discharge cases were calculated and monitored to see the trend from 2011-14.

Monitoring indicator used: Annual incidence of symptomatic urethral discharge cases per 100 sexually active single male migrants.

It is assumed that around 20% of 10,000 male single migrants who are registered in the project (2000) are sexually active; as reflected in project's daily counseling and personal interview records.

In the project has registered all 10,000 migrants to provide free STI services, it is assumed that the symptomatic migrants receive treatment from the project only.

About Humana People to People India (HPPI):

HPPI is a not-for-profit, secular and non-political development organization, linked to the international Humana People to People Foundation. HPPI has been working for holistic development of the under privileged and marginalized people in rural and urban India for the past 16 years. HPPI's main focus areas: livelihood & Community Development, Health & HIV/AIDS, Education, Environmental Sustainability, and Microfinance.

HPPI's key approaches in HIV interventions in India

HPPI Centres: The 'Hope' Centres of HPPI have adopted Targeted Intervention (TI) approach of National AIDS Control Program aiming to HIV prevention in high-risk groups like associations, DTIs, AWGs, TIC, migrants.

TCP (Total Control of the Epidemic): In this approach, every household of the operational area is visited by field officers who teach people of the household to assess their own risk for HIV, motivate them for HIV testing, link HIV positive people to treatment facilities, and help people to develop their plan for HIV prevention.

Incidence of UD or bacterial sexually active migrants

Year	Incidence of UD or bacterial sexually active migrants
2011	1.5
2012	2.2
2013	5.7
2014	14.4
2015	17
2016	24
2017	1.5
2018	1.2

the graph shows rise of UD cases in 2012 – 13 with irregular and insufficient supply of free condoms from Govt. The rise of UD cases was most likely due to addition of 5000 new & un-intervened migrants population since Feb/12. Low supply of condoms between 2012-13 equally hampered BCC activities of the project, especially with the new migrant groups.

How project responded to issues like rise of UD cases and low supply of 'free condom'

Intensified interventions, through peer outreach and frequent HIV/STI awareness generation campaigns, especially in new migrant sites.

Enhancing supply of 'socially marketed condoms' in the project and demand for 'free' condoms.

Conclusion

This is an on-going monitoring mechanism helping project staff to know the results of safe sex promotional activities in the project and take mid-course corrections as per clinical findings of urethral discharge cases.

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HEALTH: Humana People to People India was invited to present a scientific poster on HIV/AIDS at the 18th IUSTI Asia-Pacific Conference from 11-14 November'14 in Bangkok, Thailand. The event was hosted by Consortium of Thai Training Institutes for STDs and AIDS, to open discussion on core theme of "STI, HIV and Sexual Health Global Collaboration for Effective Prevention". The poster represents the research, study, approach and implementation of HPPI's HIV/AIDS targeted intervention program in their several projects.

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