



# Prevention of sexual transmission of HIV/AIDS among politicians

**Author:** Jaro Philip Dangoji (JP),  
Inter-African Committee (IAC) Nigeria,  
Taraba State Chapter,  
Jalingo, Taraba State,  
Nigeria.

## Affiliations:

- Taraba State Action Committee on AIDS (SACA)
- National Action Committee on AIDS (NACA)
- Actionaids International
- Family Health International



# Objectives



- To increase knowledge, skills and attitudes that will enable politicians adapt a broad-based comprehensive approach to HIV/AIDS prevention,
- To design, implement and evaluate preventive interventions that actively promote gender equity and equality,
- To discourage sexual infidelity and immorality among politicians.



# Methodology



- Advocacy
  - Visits
  - Meetings and
  - Follow-up
- Training workshops
  - Train the trainers model with analytical approach on:
    - Historical angle describing the history and the sexual transmission of HIV/AIDS
    - Factors responsible for sexual transmission
    - Methods of prevention
    - Beneficiaries of safer sexual behaviours
- Monitoring and evaluation
  - Pre, on-going and post evaluation of implementation activities of the organization (IAC) and the trained peer educators.



# Results



- Level of knowledge of trained HIV/AIDS educators improved by 60%
- Reduced harmful cultural taboos against women and children
- Reduced prevalent rate of HIV/AIDS infection from 7.5% to 6.1% in Taraba State.
- Reduced stigmatization of people living with HIV/AIDS
- 22,462 peer educators trained by the trained HIV/AIDS educators,
- More people seek to know their HIV status
- More VCCT centres established.



# Capacity building activities



- A member trained as monitoring and evaluation officer on NNRIMS,
- Members trained on reporting and record keeping,
- Project accountant trained in financial records and banking reconciliations,
- Project manager and project secretary trained on project procurement.



# Networking



- State Action Committee on AIDS (SACA)
  - supervises and provides technical and managerial assistance
- National Action Committee on AIDS (NACA)
  - Provides funding for project implementation activities
- Actionaids International
  - Trained the project manager on budget tracking on HIV/AIDS
- Family Health International
  - Trained a member as a consultant on supervision of project implementation.



# Conclusion



- One year's funding is too short a period to completely cover the selected local government areas
- Politicians identified as vulnerable group and easy prey to HIV/AIDS
- Firm foundation established by IAC/Nigeria Taraba State Chapter for HIV/AIDS prevention
- The organization's strategy recognized the importance of considering the mentality of the target group, the degree to which they have access to information and education on HIV/AIDS and their understanding of spirituality.
- Politicians are directly or indirectly affected by HIV/AIDS and the accompanying stigma characterized by silence, fear, discrimination, and denial which fuels the epidemic.



# Acknowledgements



- I wish to acknowledge the immense assistance received from Mr. Jethro Z. Yakubu, the CMO of Taraba SACA, Engr. Enoch Dangoji who took time to read the manuscript and the final production of the abstract. My unreserved gratitude goes to Dr. Victor P. Dangoji who laboriously ensured the transmission of this abstract and other documents to Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. I thank my beloved wife whose sleep had to be interrupted very frequently in the process of my collecting facts for the project.
- Thank you all.