Uganda

ACCELERATING THE EDUCATION SECTOR RESPONSE TO THE IMPACT OF HIV/AIDS:

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Background

- The national sero prevalence results (2005) put the current national prevalence at 7%

Orphan numbers

- National definition of Orphan – A child with one or both parents dead
- Approx 2 million orphans in Uganda, 50% as a result of HIV/AIDS
- EMIS data (2004) on orphans at Primary level
  - Male 636,284
  - Female 616,294
  - Total 1,252,578 (in school)/527,422 (out of school)
- Orphan data on PPET were not available

Teacher and Staff mortality

- EMIS 2004 - total number of teachers and staff 18,603
- Total deaths - 1,020
  - Female 328
  - Male 692
- Due to prolonged illness - 466
  - Female 198
  - Male 268

School attendance by gender

- Percentage school attendance by gender 2000-4 (not yet analyzed)

Wastage

- Cohort 1997 - 2003
  - 24% boys
  - 21% girls
- Cohort 1999 - 2005
  - 31% boys
  - 27% girls

Population of children out of school – (est. 800,000 to 1m)

SECTOR HIV/AIDS COORDINATION

- PS’s office takes overall responsibility for coordination - delegated at Commissioner level
- Education sector strategy:
  - Prevention Education
  - Work Place Programme
  - Capacity for management of the response
- Universal Primary Education declared in 1996, commenced in 1997
- Sector wide HIV/AIDS Policy and strategic plan in place
- Work Place Policy exists

**Program components include:**
- Prevention education
- Treatment, care and support
- Impact mitigation
- Succession planning
- Legal Support
- Wellness program

**HIV/AIDS intra ministerial committees**
- Coordination team
- Focal Point officers forum
- Work Place Committee
- Primary and Post Primary HIV/AIDS Working Groups
- HIV/AIDS Unit in place

Sector Coordinator - Part Time
Deputy - Part time
Technical Adviser - Full Time
Administrative Assistant - Full Time
Driver - Full time

**Budget Provisions**
- 2003/04 - less than 1%
- 2004/05 - 1.45%
- 2005/06 - 1.25%

**Note: Most of the funding is project support**

**HIV/AIDS and Education Networks**
- People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), supporting teachers living with HIV/AIDS, anti stigma/treatment advocacy
- Uganda Young Positives, supporting students to open up, advocacy for VC, anti stigma, peer education and support
- The AIDS Support Organization (TASO), all interventions including training of teacher counselors, school interventions for behavior change
- AIDS Information Center (AIC), Youth friendly HIV/AIDS activities, school support programmes for information and services
- Uganda Counselors Association (UCA), quality assurance on materials for training teacher counselors including support for training

**HIV/AIDS Curriculum**
- Primary school curriculum reviewed to include HIV/AIDS and life planning skills. Now examinable at P7
- Integration of HIV/AIDS and Life skills in the secondary school curriculum underway
- Some universities and tertiary institutions have stand alone compulsory modules on HIV/AIDS while others have adopted the course unit integration approach
- School Health Programme in place focusing on:
- Deworming, water and sanitation, sexual maturation, girl’s empowerment and PIASCY
- Environmental and body hygiene promotion
- HIV/AIDS monitoring is within the overall EMIS and tracks proxy indicators for HIV/AIDS e.g. absenteeism (by reason), drop out rates (by reason), transition rates, illness and death, teacher attrition by reason, orphan numbers. DEMIS designed to support further collection of data (ref to DEMIS form)

**Innovative programmes**
- Teacher to Teacher mentor programme for Life skills
- PIASCY based on “the whole school approach model” and “talking compounds”
- Child to child approaches for behavior change and life skills promotion
- Peer education and counseling among students
- Girls Empowerment Movement
- Training of school based teacher counselors
- Work Place initiatives at all levels

**Critical Challenges**
- Scope of the sector is wide, limited funding for HIV/AIDS due to budget ceiling on sector funding
- Sustainability of donor funded programs
- Attainment of a fully mainstreamed response
- The “condom debate” at primary and secondary schools
- Coordinating local and external partners

“FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY”
I thank you all