

18 October, 2010

Dear Friends,

Thanks for all you do! Keep up the great work, and enjoy this Newsflash! We are glad to hear that it is helpful and are always welcoming of your feedback, tips, and resources to share with others.

Sincerely,
Firelight Team

- Karabo website
- Relevant CBO training courses
- Agriculture in Africa: The Oakland Institute's resources and reports
- Child Status Index toolkit
- Planning Support Tool for SRHR/HIV Prevention Interventions for Young People

Karabo website

Though directed for South Africans, this website has useful information about HIV/AIDS, terms and definitions, and resources that are useful for all countries and CBOs.

To visit, go here: <http://www.karabo.org.za/#home>

Relevant CBO training courses/awards

All Countries

~Regional AIDS Training Network: Trainings all over southern Africa on all topics.

For more information, go here: <http://www.ratn.org> and find their course trainings.

~Communication for Sustainable Social Change Award: Global competition for an annual award that appreciates the contributions made by individuals and organisations whose moral courage and extraordinary commitment to Communication for Sustainable Social Change expands the boundary of what is possible in this field. Deadline 1 May, 2011. For information, go here: <http://www.comminit.com/en/node/302117/38>

~Soul Beat Africa: Events calendar for all African countries for many different topics. For information, go here:

<http://www.comminit.com/en/section6/38/38%2C290>

Kenya

~Participatory Development Centre: Training courses for 2010 in Nairobi and Juba. Trainings range from topics like life skills to presentation skills to project proposal development. Courses are usually a week long and all fees are USD \$600. For more, go

here: http://pdcentre.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=111&Itemid=106

~Regional Capacity Building Partners (RECABIP): Trainings on HIV/AIDS, climate change, governance and leadership, and more in Nairobi. Courses are usually a week long and fees range from USD \$50-100 per day on a half-board basis. For more, go here: <http://www.recabip.com/courses.htm>

Rwanda

~Kigali Health Institute: Post-graduate counselling course that aims at training professional counselors in knowledge, skills, and attitudes in Kigali. Course is from 1 Feb- 28 Feb and costs USD \$545. For more, go

here: <http://www.khi.ac.rw/>

Uganda

~AIDS Information Centre (AIC): HIV Counselling and Testing Management course to improve skills of VCT service providers including counselling skills, sexuality and behavior, VCRT, etc. Course is from 1 Feb to 1 March and costs USD \$1,100. For more, go here: <http://www.aicug.org>

South Africa

~ Health Economics and HIV/AIDS Research Division (HEARD): Evidence for Impact workshop in Durban. Aimed at leaders and managers tasked with using research and evidence to develop and implement interventions, policies and programmes responding to HIV/AIDS and health systems. Applications are required from 3 or more people to work as a team from one organisation. Course is from 15 Nov- 19 Nov and costs R10,000 per delegate all inclusive (tuition, airport transfers, accommodation, meals- excludes flight costs). For more, go here: <http://www.heard.org.za/workshops/using-and-commissioning-research-to-inform-policy-and-practice>

Tanzania

~Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences School of PH/SS: Course on HIV and most-at-risk populations geared towards those working in the HIV/AIDS sector. Course is in Dar from 18 Oct to 29 Oct and costs USD \$1,250. For more information, go

here: http://www.irinnews.org/pdf/MARPs_course_announcement_onepager.pdf

Agriculture in Africa: The Oakland Institute's resources and reports

The Oakland Institute is a policy think tank whose mission is to increase public participation and promote fair debate on critical social, economic and environmental issues in both national and international forums.

The Oakland Institute's trademark is to work in coalitions and networks to strengthen social movements, especially as we forge multi-cultural, cross-border and cross-class alliances. As a policy think tank our work is unique (in that we are bringing new approaches to social change including the awareness of economic, social and cultural rights) as we work with grass roots constituency (faith-based, farm workers, immigrant rights groups, Black farmers, among others) and help bridge policy think tanks with activist networks and social movements.

Their website has many resources covering many topics. However, their work around agriculture in developing nations is enlightening and often highlights the indigenous voices never heard discussing such topics. Highly recommended is the report entitled "Voices From Africa: African Farmers & Environmentalists Speak Out Against a New Green Revolution in Africa " which depicts this sensitive and complex topic from many angles.

For reports and resources, go here: <http://www.oaklandinstitute.org/?q=node/view/444>

Child Status Index toolkit

The Child Status Index (CSI) toolkit assesses vulnerabilities, needs, and outcomes of orphaned and other children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS (OVC). CSI provides a framework for identifying these children's needs, creating service plans, and assessing outcomes.

CSI can be used to monitor children's well-being on a regular basis to provide routine data on the impact of OVC programs. This simple, reliable toolkit can be used by people who have not had specific monitoring and evaluation training. CSI will provide policymakers with better assessments of OVC programs as well as how resources should be best spent to meet these children's needs.

CSI was designed to gather information on individual children at provider level, not as a toolkit for aggregate data collection, although that is being investigated. The CSI tools are not intended as a requirement but rather as an example of good tools to use within a program that more broadly looks at children within the context of family centered care.

CSI was successfully field tested for inter-rater reliability and construct validity in Kenya and Tanzania. It has been in trial use in other countries, including Ethiopia, Rwanda, India, and Cambodia—with ongoing feedback from field workers about the applicability of the factors and ratings to their context. Further

evaluation is planned and welcome. CSI is being adapted and translated for use in different geographical, linguistic and cultural contexts.

For more, go here: <http://www.cpc.unc.edu/measure/tools/child-health/child-status-index>

Planning Support Tool for SRHR/HIV Prevention Interventions for Young People

A great tool from World Population Foundation and STOP AIDS NOW! to create or improve rights-based programming for HIV/STI prevention education.

"Organisations worldwide have designed programmes to address Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) needs of young people, including HIV/AIDS, STIs, teenage pregnancies, gender inequality and discrimination. Developing effective programmes is not easy. Experience and evidence gained from work done all over the world shows what does contribute to quality and what doesn't. This planning and support tool provides the most important evidence, in a way that is useful for organisations who are working in the day-to-day practice of SRHR education for young people but have limited time and resources. The tool can be used to plan new interventions, but also to analyse existing interventions.

The Intervention Mapping model, a model for systematic planning of health interventions, as well as a behaviour change model are explained and are key aspects of the tool. The evidence is documented in a checklist with 28 characteristics, with questions such as 'are young people involved in the planning of the intervention?'; 'do facilitators create a safe setting for young people to participate?'; 'does the intervention include interactive skills training?'. The tool was developed together with experts in sexuality education for young people and with organisations in Pakistan and South Africa.

As part of the Firelight Foundation's Capacity Building Program, Firelight provides "Newsflashes" to share relevant resources and information with our active grantee-partners via weekly emails and via post on a monthly basis. We hope that by facilitating access to information for grassroots, community-focused organizations, programming for children and families, as well as organizational development, is enhanced. Past editions of the Firelight Newsflash can be found on our website: <http://www.firelightfoundation.org/newsflash.php>.

We welcome your comments, feedback and ideas for upcoming Newsflashes at newsletter@firelightfoundation.org.