

Firelight Newsflash! January 21, 2008

We are pleased to introduce this Newsflash by sharing an excerpt from The Children in Need Network's Newsletter volume 11, issue 2, December 2007. The article: **Do You Know? Zambian HIV & AIDS Policy and Children** emphasizes the importance of knowing about national policies because, as its author rightly puts it, " We can't hold the government accountable if we don't understand the commitments that have been made."

On the same note, we would like to draw your attention on the "**Africa strategy 2008-2010**" from the AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth & Families. The strategy is available at:

http://www.aidsalliance.org/graphics/secretariat/publications/Africa_strategy_web.pdf

Brief synopsis from the Alliance's website: "The Alliance *Africa strategy 2008–2010* aims to support communities across Africa to increase their access to and use of HIV prevention, care and treatment services, focusing interventions in countries and areas with the widest access gaps. In so doing, it will contribute significantly to the national targets for universal access to comprehensive HIV services. The strategy calls for a more comprehensive approach to HIV programming. It recognizes that the current response in Africa is characterized by wide access gaps, both within and between countries. The Alliance aims to reduce these gaps through increasing the availability of services, reducing barriers to access, and increasing demand for and utilization of services."

CBO capacity analysis toolkit: *A toolkit for assessing and building capacities for high quality responses to HIV* is another interesting publication

from the AIDS Alliance. This toolkit is also based on a design developed by **Geoff Foster**, of Family AIDS Caring Trust in Zimbabwe (**and Firelight's advisory board member**) and with contributions from different organizations including CARE Rwanda. The toolkit is available at:

http://www.aidsalliance.org/graphics/secretariat/publications/CBO_capacity_analysis_web.pdf

Brief synopsis: "This toolkit aims to enable community based organisations to analyse levels of capacity in different organisational and technical areas. It can be used to identify capacity-building needs, plan any technical support needed by the organisation, and monitor and evaluate the impact of capacity-building support..."

TEARFUND's publications

ROOTS - Resourcing Organisations with Opportunities for Transformation and Sharing – provide detailed information on topics including: project management, advocacy, capacity self-assessment, fundraising, child participation, HIV/AIDS: Taking Action, reducing risk of disaster in your community, organizational governance. Publications available in English and French! See for instance:

1. Project management

English: Entire booklet Roots 5 at:

http://tilz.tearfund.org/webdocs/Tilz/Roots/English/PCM/PCM_E.pdf

Or view and download different section at:

<http://tilz.tearfund.org/Publications/ROOTS/Project+cycle+management.htm>

French – Livre entire Roots 5: Gestion du cycle du Projet. Voir lien suivant:

http://tilz.tearfund.org/webdocs/Tilz/Roots/French/PCM/PCM_F.pdf

Ou consulter et télécharger différentes sections en consultant lien ci-dessous:

<http://tilz.tearfund.org/Francais/ROOTS/Gestion+du+cycle+de+projet.htm>

1. Fundraising:

English - Entire booklet Roots 6 at:

http://tilz.tearfund.org/webdocs/Tilz/Roots/English/Fundraising/Fundraising_E.pdf

Different sections at:

<http://tilz.tearfund.org/Publications/ROOTS/Fundraising.htm>

French – Collectes de fonds - Livre entire Roots 6

http://tilz.tearfund.org/webdocs/Tilz/Roots/French/Fundraising/FUND_F.pdf

Différentes sections:

<http://tilz.tearfund.org/Francais/ROOTS/Les+collectes+de+fonds.htm>

1. Advocacy

English – Entire book Roots 1:

http://tilz.tearfund.org/webdocs/Tilz/Roots/English/Advocacy%20toolkit/Advocacy%20toolkit_E_FULL%20DOC_Parts%20A%2BB.pdf

Different sections:

<http://tilz.tearfund.org/Publications/ROOTS/Advocacy+toolkit.htm>

French – Livre entier Root1 Guide du Plaidoyer:

<http://tilz.tearfund.org/webdocs/Tilz/Roots/French/Advocacy/ADVKIT1F.pdf>

Différentes sections sur la pratique du plaidoyer:

<http://tilz.tearfund.org/Francais/ROOTS/Le+guide+du+plaidoyer.htm>

If above links do not work, go to:

1. <http://tilz.tearfund.org/Publications/ROOTS/>
2. Click on publications (on top green bar on your screen)
3. Find a publication (left side of your screen)
4. Scroll down to ROOTS
5. Select under ROOTS topic of interest

Pour consulter les documents en **Français**, allez sur la page d'accueil:

1. <http://tilz.tearfund.org/Publications/ROOTS/>
2. Cliquer sur Français
3. Sélectionner ROOTS (droite de votre écran et vers le bas)
4. Consulter différents thèmes cités sous ROOTS

Planning micro enterprises activities (available in French!) – this online publication teaches the importance of planning in micro enterprise development or in carrying out an IGA project. It starts by exposing four key reasons for having a plan before implementing an IGA project:

1. A plan shows you if your enterprise can expect to make a profit in future;
2. A plan shows you which part of your micro enterprise can improve;
3. A plan shows the creditors (*banks, NGOs, finance organizations, individuals*) how well your micro enterprise can expect to do in future; *and*
4. A plan shows you what money you can expect to come to and go out of your micro enterprise.

See following link:

<http://www.scn.org/cmp/modules/mic-pln.htm>

- To find out more about why you need to plan, how to make a plan, steps in making a plan, and
- To Learn about a cash flow plan and how to make cash flow plan

- You may conclude this learning session by doing an exercise on preparing a cash flow plan (you can adapt it to an existing IGA project or save it for reference in the future!)

Activités de planification de micro entreprises : Vous pouvez lire ce document en consultant le lien suivant :

<http://www.scn.org/gcad/modules/mic-plnf.htm>

Cette publication souligne l'importance de la planification des activités de micro entreprises ou activités génératrices de revenu. L'auteur donne 4 raisons essentielles pour lesquelles il faut avoir un plan avant de lancer un projet générateur de revenu :

1. Un plan peut démontrer si votre projet des chances de faire des profits dans le futur
2. Un plan démontre quelle partie de votre projet est à améliorer
3. Un plan démontre aux créanciers (les banques, les ONGs, les organisations financières, les individus) si votre projet peut vraiment réussir à l'avenir
4. Un plan vous montre à l'avance l'argent que vous pouvez espérer faire entrer (ou recettes) et sortir (ou dépenses) de votre activité génératrice de revenu.

Consulter lien ci-dessus pour apprendre davantage sur :

- La nécessité d'avoir un plan, comment établir un plan, les étapes à suivre,
- La notion de plan du flux de la liquidité (argent liquide en caisse) et comment faire un plan de flux pour l'argent liquide à avoir en caisse
- Vous pouvez conclure cette session d'apprentissage en faisant un exercice sur la préparation d'un plan de flux de liquidités. Vous pouvez adapter l'exercice à l'un de vos projets générateurs de revenus ou vous y référez en cas de besoin !

Thank you

Do You Know?

Zambian HIV & AIDS Policy and Children
Bestone Banda, Information Assistant, CHIN

As we celebrate this year's World AIDS Day, we need to consider the 700,000 children who have lost one or both parents due to HIV & AIDS. The majority of these orphans live with extended family members or neighbours, with about 6% becoming street children and less than 1% living in orphanages.

Many orphans do not attend school or are forced to drop out of school. In most cases, grandparents are left to care for the young, and quite often grandparents have little or no source of income. Another disturbing development is the increasing number of child-headed households in Zambia. The rapid increase in the number of orphans continues to put tremendous strain on extended families and social services to provide them with necessary care, resources and social guidance.

Individuals, CBOs, NGOs and religious organizations are currently managing the response to orphaned children in Zambia. The government institutional framework in the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services and Ministry of Youth Sport and Child Development are involved in the provisions of services to orphans as well as the provisions of grants to child friendly NGOs and CBOs.

There are no standardized guidelines for orphanages on orphan and child care provision. In addition, there are few coping mechanisms for orphan care within communities. Poverty alleviation for orphans requires standardization of childcare provisions and the development and coordination of support services within communities.

In order to respond to the numerous challenges posed by the HIV & AIDS pandemic and in order to ameliorate its negative socio-economic impact, the government has been undertaking various initiatives. Among them are the following: (a) In 1986, the government established the National AIDS Prevention and Control Programme; (b) In 1987, an emergency short-term plan was developed to ensure safe blood and blood product supplies; (c) Between 1988-1992, the First Medium-Term Plan prioritized eight operational areas, e.g. TB and leprosy information, education and

communication, counseling, laboratory support, programme management and home-based care; (d) Between 1994 and 1998, the Second Medium-Term Plan, which was multisectoral in design and incorporated a mechanism for inter-sectoral co-ordination and collaboration, was implemented; and (e) Between 2001 and 2003, a National HIV & AIDS Strategic Framework was developed.

It has been acknowledged that the initial responses to HIV & AIDS were inadequate to contain a problem that was more than just medical in nature.

Programmes and strategies that were subsequently developed, therefore, sought to foster political commitment at the highest level and develop inter-sectoral approaches encompassing all government line ministries, the private sector and civil society, while fully involving people living with HIV & AIDS.

However, experience has so far demonstrated that coordination and collaboration between and among line ministries and civil society organizations have been weak. This is particularly the case at provincial and district levels.

Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of STIs and HIV has been a critical component of the government's response against HIV/AIDS and STIs. However, interventions have not been successful due to incessant shortages of testing kits for maternal syphilis screening programmes and drugs for ophthalmic neonatorum prophylaxis.

PMTCT has played a central role in preventing vertical transmission through the provision of ARVs and infant formulas. Currently, provision of ARVs is being scaled up in all provinces.

After this brief scan of our very detailed policy, one wonders whether the people for which the same document was done actually know what is contained therein. There is a great need for sensitization on the document; otherwise we will have another well written policy on the shelf.

There is also the issue of holding government and civil society accountable to their commitment and responsibilities, which cannot happen if the people do not understand the commitments that have been made.

“We can't hold the government accountable if we don't understand the commitments that have been made.”