

MAP

(Men As Partners®)

Hiwot Ethiopia Newsletter

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1200 youth and adults involved in MAP group education

Hiwot Ethiopia and Engender health, in partnership, conducted Men As partners® (MAP) project activities, in the month of March, 2010 in three youth clubs and 10 community idirs (community based organizations). These community based organizations (CBO) undertook several series of group peer discussions based on standardized MAP group education manuals.

When the series of group discussions came to an end in September 2010, it was confirmed that all the 200 target youth have completed the full 19 MAP sessions (topics). Meanwhile, out of the 1000 target idir members (adults), 900 attended the full sessions and the rest managed to complete 12 sessions. Within six months, a total of 266 group discussions were conducted both at youth clubs and Idirs. The discussions were facilitated and led by 115 trained MAP peer educators. The target individuals intensively discussed male gender norms for the prevention of HIV and gender based violence (GBV). The group discussions were conducted in a participatory manner with lively discussions among participants on MAP topics like learning about gender, act like a man, levels of HIV risk, alphabets of prevention, getting tested for HIV, from violence to respect, sexual consent...etc.

Most of the participants appreciated the well tailored

approach of MAP to challenge and change harmful male gender norms that are intensifying the spread of HIV and GBV. Some of remarkable changes observed were:

- Socially defined gender conceptions understood and individuals started to question and challenge harmful gender norms.
- Participants initiated open discussions with family members (husband and wife, parent and child), and with community members (boys and girls).
- Men's partnership or involving men acknowledged as highly relevant for the prevention of HIV & GBV in particular and achieving gender equality in general.
- Parallel to the group discussions, community wide events were also conducted in project locations (Bole, Arada, and Kirkos sub-cities). As of September 2010, a total of 3,860 people were reached by MAP focused drama performances.
- Coordinated effort made by Hiwot Ethiopia, EngenderHealth, youth clubs, idirs and government offices produced visible achievements.

Currently, attention has shifted to in-school interventions, after timely completion of activities in youth clubs and Idirs.

MAP in-school intervention launched

The core objective of Men As Partners® (MAP) project intends to develop and implement a secondary school program to address negative gender norms that contribute to the HIV epidemic among youth (ages between 13 to 23) in schools. To facilitate for this activity, the project has partnered with selected six schools in Arada and Kirkos sub-cities. Following this, a familiarization workshop was conducted on September 30, 2010 for 27 participants from major stakeholder entities.

Organizations including Addis Ababa city and sub-city level education bureaus, target schools, HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Office (HAPCO), Bureau of Youth, Sports and Culture, Women and Children Affairs Bureau, and Sheger 102.1 FM radio participated in this program. In this event, participants were introduced to male norms initiative in general and MAP in particular with a presentation by Hiwot Ethiopia's MAP project coordinator.



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ሕይወት ኢትዮጵያ
Hiwot Ethiopia

ለትምህርት ቤት ሃላፊዎች፡ መምህራን ፡ እና ተማሪዎች ስልጠና ተሰጠ

ከኢንጅነር ሄልዝ ኢትዮጵያ ማርፕስ (MARPs) ፕሮጀክት በተገኘ የቴክኒክ እና የገንዘብ ድጋፍ የወንዶች አጋርነት ፕሮጀክት ትግበራ በኢ.አ. በተመረጡ 6 ት/ቤቶች በመስከረም 2003 ጀምሯል። ከት/ቤቶቹ ለተወጣጡ 30 ሃላፊዎች የሁለት ቀናት እንዲሁም ለ30 መምህራን የ3 ቀናት ስልጠና በሕይወት ኢትዮጵያ ባለሞያዎች ተሰጥቷል። ስልጠናው ትኩረት ያደረገው ወንዶችን አጋር በማድረግ ጎጂ የስርዐተ-ያታ አስተሳሰቦች እና ልምዶችን በመቀየር ኤች.አይ.ቪ/ኤድስን መከላከል ስለሚቻልበት ሁኔታ በቂ ግንዛቤ እንዲያገኙ ማስቻል ነው። ተመሳሳይ ስልጠና የክፍል ውስጥ የአቻ ለአቻ ውይይቶችን ለሚመሩት 35 የክፍል አለቆች/ተማሪዎች ለ4

ቀናት ተሰጥቷል። ስልጠናዎቹ ላይ የተካፈሉት የት/ት ቤት ሃላፊዎች እና መምህራን ለአምስት ወራት በክፍል ውስጥ የሚካሄደውን የወንዶች አጋርነት ትምህርት በማስተባበር ተሳታፊ ይሆናሉ።

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- 1859 የዘጠነኛ ክፍል ተማሪዎችን የሚያሳትፍ የቡድን ውይይት ይካሄዳል። በነዚህ ተማሪዎች በኩል ሌሎች 15000 ወጣቶች ራሳቸውን ከኤች.አይ.ቪ.ለመከላከል የሚያስችላቸው መረጃ ያገኛሉ።
- የኤድስ እና የነጭ ረባን ቀኖችን በማስመልከት ሁለት ትላልቅ የግንዛቤ ማስጨበጫ ፕሮግራሞች ይካሄዳሉ።
- ለት/ቤቶች ሚኒሚዲያ የአቅም ግንባታ ድጋፍ ይደረጋል።

Why Men As Partners®?

“We can all think of a million examples where if we provide men with a little more information, a few more skills, a bit more encouragement, they themselves can be more supportive, communicative and caring for sexual partners and family members”. Margaret Greene

Major achievements of MAP

- 115 peer educators trained;
- 1200 youths and adults of 3 Sub-cities involved in group Discussions;
- 84 youths tested for HIV

USAID Beneficiary’s testimony



Fetene Mesgun , /Age 21, member of Melekte youth club.

“My neighborhood is known for its several bars and night clubs. Each of these bars hosts many young ladies as commercial sex workers (CSW). As many of my friends, I used to believe having sexual intercourse with bar ladies would make a young boy to be a **real man**. For a long time, I accepted the idea of having sex with bar ladies develops the **strength of manhood** in sexual issues. Before having a girl friend (lover), I was in a competition with my peers to develop and prove my sexual strength. Since April 2010 I started participating in MAP group peer education .

I’ve been able to participate in different group discussions which raised topics like sexuality, HIV risks, act like a man, gender...etc. All the discussions I attended have helped me to question the harmful attitudes & beliefs I had regarding sexuality and gender. As a beneficiary of MAP project I now realize that my past experience has made me vulnerable to HIV and other related problems. I believe that MAP peer discussions have changed me completely. I have stopped having sex with CSW and have tested for HIV. “ Now, I am happy because I’ve developed my skills and acquired knowledge to live a healthy life.”

Men As Partners® (MAP) Project Peer educators (PE) training



On the far left; opening speech by Ato Mesele Teka chairman of A.A. idirs council. In the middle; participants of PE training, and on the Right;; "Act like a man" to resolve any conflicts, a role play performed by trainees



A MAP Community Education Training organized by Hiwot Ethiopia and Engender Health was held for a total of 100 individuals selected from 10 idirs in Arada and Kirkos sub-cities. The core Idir members were trained on male norms through group education for the prevention of HIV transmission and gender based violence. The trainees have stated the significance of the training in enriching their facilitation abilities.

Furthermore, the trainees have acclaimed the training for enabling them to gain valuable knowledge they have gained in discussing with other fellow idir members. The training was conducted in four rounds. 25 trainees in each round attended a five-day training session. After being trained, these MAP peer educators coordinated and facilitated group peer educations for

Training for Youth in Bole Sub city

With partnership of Engender Health and Hiwot Ethiopia, 15 youth in Bole sub-city attended peer educators training for seven days. These peer educators who have led peer discussions in 3 youth clubs were trained on male norms in group education for the prevention of HIV transmission and gender based violence.



Tesfaye Shewaferaw / peer educator/ Age 22 / member of Temealet youth club.

"For me, cooking was a shameful act if carried out by men. I thought men should distance themselves from the kitchen so as to not to lose their dignity. If a young boy engaged in kitchen activities in my community, he will be gossiped and considered weak. Taking part in MAP project enabled me to think critically about male gender norms. What I found is that many of my thoughts and the way I was acting was wrong. Now, with the help of my family, I'm becoming good at cooking and I'm sharing my belief. Cooking is the simplest activity a man can do either for himself or for his family. I consider myself as lucky since I now have a positive outlook towards cooking thanks to MAP project"



Men and HIV/AIDS

Worldwide, the behavior of many adult and adolescent men puts them and their partners at risk of HIV infection. On average, men have more sexual partners than women. HIV is more easily transmitted sexually from man to woman than from woman to man. An HIV infected man is likely to infect more persons than an HIV infected woman. Engaging men more extensively in HIV prevention has a tremendous potential to reduce women's risk of HIV.

In many parts of the world, it is young and adult men who largely control when and under what circumstances sex will take place and whether a contraceptive method will be used. For many men, sexual experience is frequently associated with initiation into manhood. Men may experience peer pressure to be sexually active and have multiple partners to prove that they are manly, which increases their risk of exposure to HIV. Accordingly low levels of consistent condom use among sexually active men are associated with a variety of

factors, including low self-risk perception, lack of, or limited access to, condoms, and the belief that unprotected sex is more pleasurable and that pregnancy is proof of masculinity and fertility.

In many settings, only a small number of men participate in HIV services (voluntary counseling and testing, antiretroviral treatment or preventing mother to child transmission). This is due to a variety of reasons, including limited access to health services and the common perceptions among men that clinics are "female" spaces and that "real men" do not participate in health care. Gender norms also place a disproportionate burden of HIV and AIDS-related care on women. Men generally do not participate as fully as women do in caring for children or family members with AIDS.

Extracted from "The ACUIRE project/EngenderHealth and Promundo 2008"

በወንዶች አጋርነት የአቻ ለአቻ ውይይት መሳተፌ የኤች.አይ.ቪ. ምርመራ እንዳደርግ አስችሎኛል።



ሀይለማሪያም እምዖ፡ እድሜ 22 ፡ የመልዕክተ ወጣቶች ክለብ አባል እና ሊቀመንበር

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ጨምሮ 15 ወጣቶችን የኤች.አይ.ቪ. ምርመራ እንድናደረግ አነሳስቶናል። የጥሩ ወንድ ወንድነት መገለጫ ብዬ አስባቸው እና አደርጋቸው የነበሩ አንዳንድ ድርጊቶች ከባድ አደጋ ሊያመጡብኝ እንደሚችሉ ቆም ብዬ እንዳስብ በር የከፈተልኝ ማጥ ነው።

በክባባችን የማጥ ትምህርትን የተከታተልን ወጣቶች ከቤተሰቦቻችን ጀምሮ ለጓደኞቻችን ለጎረቤቶቻችን እኛ ያገኘነውን መረጃ ለማዛፈል ጥረት ጀምረናል። እንደ መልዕክተ ወጣቶች ክለብ ሊቀመንበርነቴ በዚህ አጋጣሚ ሕይወት ኢትዮጵያ እና ኢንጅነርሄልዝ ክባባችን በወንዶች አጋርነት ፕሮጀክት እንዲሳተፍ ስላደረጉ አመስግናለሁ።

ንቁ የወንዶች አጋርነት የኤች.አይ.ቪ. ችግሮችን ለመከላከል እና የስርዓተ-ፆታ አኩልነት ለማስፈን ወሳኝ ሚና አለው።

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በወንዶች አጋርነት የኤች.አይ.ቪ. እና የስርዓተ-ፆታ ትምህርቶች በድራማ እና መዘቃ ፕሮግራሞች ለህብረተሰቡ ይተላለፋሉ።



Stamp of change



ለባለድርሻ አካላት የተዘጋጀ የማጥ ፕሮጀክት ማስተዋወቂያ ወርክሾፕ

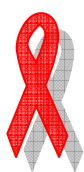
If men and boys are privileged by existing gender hierarchies, where is the incentive for them to work towards gender equality?

While men as a group do exercise power over women and other men, at the individual level many men feel powerless. The abundant ways in which men experience coercion in their lives, irrespective of their identity, suggests that men are not always the “winners”. Men may be orphans or refugees, they may be unemployed or homeless or they may be dying of AIDS.

The famous gender promoter and writer, Gary Baker, noted the following “for every young man who recreates traditional and sometimes traditional versions of manhood, there is another young man who lives in fear of this violence. For every young man who hits his

female partner, there is a brother or son who cringes at the violence he witnesses men using against his sister or mother”. Men are also vulnerable in other, more subtle, ways. There are many potential costs for men who conform to, or try to conform to, rigid social expectations of “masculinity” (the culture specific ideas, roles and behaviors that men are supposed to live up to in order to become accepted members of their own communities). Perceived to be income providers for the family, many men are ending their journey on the streets.

Extracted from Gary Baker’s ‘working with boys and men 2005’



MAP youth tested for HIV



Engender Health in partnership with Hiwot Ethiopia found that a total of 84 youths or 42% of discussion participants have tested voluntarily as result of their involvement in MAP, according to reports collected from youth clubs. This is a clear indicator of how addressing male gender norms increases knowledge, improve attitudes and practices of vulnerable youths, and consequently contribute to HIV prevention. It is expected that the awareness created by addressing harmful male gender norms will help beneficiaries to develop safer sexual practices and behaviors.



Youth attending Men As Partners ® (MAP) Project In-school Intervention Class Monitor Training organized by Hiwot Ethiopia and Engender Health



Trained high school teachers from six target schools posing for a camera

“I used to believe that my mother and my sisters were solely responsible for carrying out all household activities, including washing my clothes. After getting involved in MAP peer discussions, I realized that I was wrong. Thanks to MAP project now I’m very proud and happy in sharing equal responsibility in undertaking household activities”.

Ashenafi Dereje (peer), Age 23, member of Raey youth club

ሕይወት ኢትዮጵያ

ስ.ቁ 011 1574431
011 1550238
ፋክስ 011 1114955

ፖ.ሳ.ቁ 27743 ኮድ 1000

Email :hiwotethiopia@ethionet.et
www.hiwot.org.et

በኤች.አይ.ቪ/ኤድስ እና በስነ-ተዋልዶ ጤና ነፃ የምክርና የመረጃ
አገልግሎት ከፈለጉ 936 ይደውሉ::

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Prepared by: Solomon Girma soldagmawi@yahoo.com



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ሕይወት ኢትዮጵያ
Hiwot Ethiopia