

## Project No. 41

### CARITAS HIV/AIDS PROGRAM

#### Principle:

Adequate and timely prevention measures can save our nation from the epidemic of HIV/AIDS.

#### Objectives of the Project:

- To make adolescents and youth and aware of the risk of HIV/AIDS; and to motivate them to decrease stigma and discrimination towards PLHA (People Living with HIV/AIDS); and
- To include HIV/AIDS related initiatives in its existing projects.

#### Background:

The project started in November 2003. This is the second half of the third year of the first three-year project phase and the first half of the present three-year program phase. The present phase of the program started from January 2009 and will end in December 2011.

**Staff Strength:** Total-4 (Male-1, Female-3)

**Donors:** CAFOD, England and Wales

**Expenditure:** a) Foreign Partner's Contribution Tk. 3,061,984

a) **Beneficiaries (No.)** Direct: Male: 2416, Female: 3507, Total: 5923  
Indirect: Male: 3857, Female: 5392, Total: 9249

b) **Beneficiaries contribution: Projected:** nil **Actual :** nil

#### Target and achievements:

The target and achievements are furnished below:

Sl.	Items/Activities	Achievements as on June '08	Performances in FY 2008-2009			Cumulative as on June 2009
			Target	Achievements	% of Achievement	
1.	Training on counseling on HIV/AIDS	29	-	-	-	29
2.	Seminar on HIV/AIDS, Gender & Sexual Health for Caritas staff	929	100	90	90	1019
3.	Inter-religious leaders workshop	48	-	-	-	48
4.	Awareness session on HIV/AIDS, Gender & Sexual Health for FYTP, MAWTS, RTS, MTS, School, Madrasa, Formation House, College/University students, BARACA, Parents & other organizations	5485	1,000	3,348	334.8	8,833
5.	Peer Education Training on HIV/AIDS, Gender & Sexual Health	40	40	31	78	71

Sl.	Items/Activities	Achievements as on June '08	Performances in FY 2008-2009			Cumulative as on June 2009
			Target	Achievements	% of Achievement	
6.	Clinical Management of RTI/STI and Basics of HIV/AIDS-Module-2 & 3	46	16	13	81	59
7.	World AIDS Day observation	10,035	3,500	3,074	88	13,109
8.	PP formulation & Orientation Workshop & training on monitoring & monitoring system design	-	24	26	108	26
9.	TOT training on STDs, HIV/AIDS Basic for Coretrainers	-	13	18	138	18

From the above Table we can see that 99 Caritas staff attended the seminar on HIV/AIDS, Gender and sexual Health while 3,348 students of different organizations and 31 Peer Educators attended the awareness sessions on HIV/AIDS, Gender and sexual Health. Besides, 13 Core Trainers completed clinical management of RTI/STI and HIV/AIDS Module-2 and 3 and 3,074 participants observed World AIDS Day. Eighteen Core Trainers completed TOT on STDS, HIV/AIDS Basic.

- Peer Educators are educating their own groups on prevention of HIV/AIDS.
- Twenty Core Trainers and young people, who participated in the awareness sessions are disseminating their learning among the groups members, colleagues, friends and family members.
- Caritas HIV/AIDS Program involves PLHA for awareness of the people and also supports them and their children.

### **Conclusion:**

HIV infections are increasing in Bangladesh day by day. This epidemic has become a threat to many families resulting in isolation from society. There is a strong social discrimination and stigma concerning HIV/AIDS. People are afraid of talking freely about this matter. With these challenges Caritas since 2003 has been implementing preventive activities on HIV/AIDS and STI at different levels through awareness raising session/seminars/training, day observation, etc. The Catholic Church gives high emphasis on HIV/AIDS prevention education for all communities in Bangladesh. As a faith based organisation Caritas is playing a vital role to change the risk behaviours and attitude of people on HIV/AIDS and STIs.