



Executive Report Hong Kong Initiative

“CANALES DE ESPERANZA” CHURCH

Execution Period for the Initiative:

August 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007

Person in Charge: Alba Castillo. Christian Commitment Coordinator
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Fund allocated: \$20,000

Project Number: 182969

INTRODUCTION

World Vision Guatemala mainly works so that each boy and girl would enjoy a plenty life and develop his/her potentialities at the most in the context of his/her family, community and nation. The methodology of the Canales de Esperanza church in the frame of the Hope Initiative has become a strategy through which contribution has been made in the awareness and prevention of the impact of HIV and AIDS. All this through the establishment of associates, with social key actors such as the Church and Faith based Organizations.

As a contribution to the strategic action and strengthening of church relations and faith based organizations, financial support from Hong Kong was available for the execution of training workshops. Target population is formed by: Christian leadership, representatives from Christian communication means, teachers from Theological Bible Institutions and leaders related with ADPs.

For the accomplishment of key activities, there was coordination with each one of the represented institutions as well as with the net of facilitators from World Vision and the Christian AIDS Bureau Foundation.

The net is formed by staff from World Vision Guatemala, Dios Evangelio Completo Church and Christian Mission Sión.

Project Goal: Reduce the impact of HIV and AIDS in Guatemala through the association with Christian Churches, Theological Bible Institutions, key communication means with national coverage and staff representative of ADPs.

Direct Beneficiaries

Awareness training workshops support different key population related with Churches and Faith based organizations with representation within the national context.

The following is the detail of outcomes from the awareness process:

- 290 persons from key Christian leadership, 30 youth boys and girls, participated in the training workshops.
- 21 representatives of Christian communication means, (managers and editors).
- 26 key representatives of theological Bible institutions.
- 42 persons from Christian leadership from churches functioning in the communities supported by the ADP were included in the awareness process.

Outcome Comparative Chart

EXPECTED OUTCOMES	OBTAINED OUTCOMES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 persons from key Christian leadership from two churches at a national level with invitation power. • 25 representatives of Christian communication means from the nine main communication means at a national level. • 25 members, teachers of Theological Bible Institutions. • 30 key persons, members of the ADP staff and leaders from churches related to the pilot ADP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 290 persons from Christian leadership, out of which, 30 are young boys and girls, participated in the training workshops. • 21 representatives of Christian communication mean (managers and editors). • 26 key representatives of Theological Bible Institutions. • 42 persons from Christian leadership, staff from the ADP.

By comparing the above data, it can be noticed that the expected outcomes were surpassed.

Other outcomes obtained:

- Participants assumed commitments, through a written statement, on the prevention of HIV and AIDS.
- They also developed plans to reduce the stigma and prevention of HIV and AIDS, in coverage areas.
- Participants acquired competencies for the reduction of stigma and prevention of HIV and AIDS.
- The prevention of HIV and AIDS was included in all mechanisms established within the structure of its institutions and influence areas.
- Christian communication means were empowered for the HIV and AIDS approach, especially on the prevention.

Each one of the commitments is reflected in the plans elaborated in the workshop. Some churches and Christian radio broadcast are multiplying the information on HIV and AIDS in their communications.

Church, Theological Bible Institutions and Communication Means Representation Chart

CHURCHES	EDUCATIVE INSTITUTIONS	FAITH BASED ORGANIZATIONS (OBF in Spanish)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ God's Church, Central Territory ❖ God's Church, Quiche Sacapulas ❖ Monte Gerizim Church ❖ Sion Mission Church ❖ El Cordero Christian Center ❖ Maranatha Mission ❖ El Alba Church ❖ God's Church My Lord Adonai ❖ Sion Petapa Church ❖ Clamando Abba Padre Church ❖ Fuente de Agua Viva Church ❖ Nazarene Church ❖ National Presbyterian Evangelical Central Church ❖ Grace Rain Church ❖ Verb Ministries ❖ Peace Prince Ministries ❖ Nazareth Church ❖ God's Assemblies ❖ Christian Fraternity ❖ Union Church Guatemala ❖ Baptist Church ❖ Central American Church ❖ Catholic Church ❖ Peniel Church ❖ El Shaddai Church ❖ Prophecy Universal Church ❖ Prophecy God's Church ❖ Strong Rock Church 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Presbyterian Evangelical Seminar -God's Assembly Theological Seminar -Central American Theological Seminar -Nazareth Fraternity Church -Monte Basan Bible Institute -Presbyterian Theological Seminar -Nazarene Theological Seminar -Christian Leadership School IDEC -Monte Basan Group -Peace Prince Seminar -Verb / UPANA Ministries -SETECA -IDEC Seminar -Neo. Pan. Inter. Seminar -Christian Fraternity Faculty Guatemala -CEDEPCA -Central America Church Council / SETECA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Evangelical Alliance Guatemala -Hearts in Action International -Koinonia Magazine -Radio broadcast -University -Rhema Stereo -Communicators, S.A.

PROGRAMATIC DEVELOPMENT

The programmatic content respond to the programs suggested within the methodology. Basically the following topics were included:

- Devotional space based on guiding principles.
- “HIV and AIDS and ME”:
“HIV and AIDS – Beyond basics”
- “Living with HIV and AIDS”:
- “HIV and AIDS – A Christian Response”
- “HIV and AIDS - A Community Response”:
“HIV and AIDS – Planning and Commitment”

INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES

Radio broadcast listeners are included among indirect beneficiaries as an outcome from the commitment of Christian communication means, as well as families and members from different represented churches.

Life History

TESTIMONY

Rev. Oscar Roberto Ávila Domínguez
Admission Director Central American Theological Seminar
SETECA

“The wind bloweth where it listeth and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth; so is everyone that is born of the Spirit.”

Juan 3:8

As pastor, Bible teacher and educational manager, I have participated in many training workshops and seminars; but very few events have shaken my mind and heart as the “Channels of Hope, HIV and AIDS Workshop” did. When I came, my expectation was to participate in one more event that would leave new knowledge and some material to keep in my file. However, as the workshop developed and I heard conferences and testimonies, I realized that my ministry schemes were confronted to a reality that I cannot keep ignoring; renewing my Christology and ecclesiology committing my understanding.

I confess that my ministry schemes from and within the walls of a theological and an ecclesiastic institution are exclusive and shortsightedness before the HIV pandemic that threatens present and future generations. I can no longer live in this social blindness! I am involved and I have to do something! I am urged to make some ministry innovations changing my reaction into pro-action, with and in cooperation with my church and with the advisory of World Vision.

While I was listening the testimony of Juan and Maria (unreal names), a brave couple who met because of HIV and who are now working for the Lord, to my mind came the timely World of Mathew 25:40 “... Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me”. This is the Christ, present in the people in jail, the people suffering hunger, the thirsty, and the infected from HIV that theologians call “the Unknown Christ”. A Christ that cannot be seen because of our social myopia but a Christ that comes to us vulnerable in the people suffering consequences of AIDS. It is Christ who from the gospel turns us to his own

“Christophany” (Christ’s appearing) in the humanity of people infected who belong to the “world” that God Father loves and for whom Christ died (John 3:16).

My work in the church, until now centered in the people attending church and who are “people of good”, is challenged to give a turn to look for the lost sheep, that person suffering loneliness in his/her fatal experience and who needs a helping hand to drive him/her towards hope and church that is a community where love can be found; the same love with which Christ met lepers, publicans, women from the streets, and all sinners. A church that understands that “Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction” (James 1:27), and by extension to all people suffering directly or indirectly because of this calamity.

I thank World Vision because through the “Channels of Hope” Church, we are able to learn and be challenged and become involved. I thank in advance for the advisory and inputs offered to educate, involve, and equip the church and institutions in order to slow down this pandemic with the Power of the Holy Spirit. Here are my hands to do more than I say and “And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not” (Ga. 6:9)

CONCLUSIONS

1. The workshop methodology provides a quick and adequate assimilation of knowledge and awareness on respect to HIV and AIDS.
2. Short and middle term commitment was evident for the implementation of HIV and AIDS actions in respect to Churches, Theological Bible Institutions, and massive communication means.
3. The allocation of resources is required from each of the organizations represented in order to carry out action plans as an outcome of workshops.

BUDGET EXECUTION

WORLD VISION GUATEMALA
FINANCING UNIT

Hong Kong Funding to March 31, 2007

BUDGET	CORE FUNDING	EXECUTION	TOTAL
802 – Staff training	3,000	2281.67	718
810 – Office supplies	2,000	2768.45	(768)
815- Ministry Supplies	1,000	1215.79	(216)
820 –Travel	800		800
860- Accommodations	13,200	13715.30	(515.30)
Total (USD)	20,000	19,981.21	18.79

Guatemala April 2007

