UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

In July Beyond Sport held its Award ceremony in London and the STOP HIV program from ONOC was short listed in the category of best Project by a Sport Federation or Governing Body. After an inspiring trip to Moshi for the East Africa Cup (read more about the cup in this newsletter). We spent last weekend evaluating and planning, taking part in a session on sport for development and partnership with 50 new SCORE volunteers and the opening of the 60th years IAPESGW (International Association of Physical Education and Sport for Women and Girls) congress where Patrik Mweshi made a poster presentation about Edusports Go sisters programme. We are preparing for new seminars and working meetings. We are updating the website and supporting the users of the database. 1st of August there is the deadline for 2009 years photo competition. 16th-19th of August there will be held an interactive seminar on Community Coaching Education in Johannesburg involving members and associates from the African continent; this will be followed by a Kicking AIDS Out curriculum review meeting. In October week 43 a new Leader Level 2 course will be held parallel to the M&E working seminar. We hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter and want to thank Carol Nange who has volunteered to put it together for us this time! We also like to challenge you to send in more articles to the website and to use the database.

AND DONT MISS THE PHOTOCOMPETITION!
The Forum on Productive Youth Development through Sport in Africa

The Forum on Productive Youth Development through Sport in Africa, an initiative of the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace (UNOSDP) and the Jacobs Foundation in collaboration with the Swiss Academy for Development (SAD) and the Mathare Youth Sports Association (MYSA) was officially opened by Hon. Dr. Hellen Jepkemoi Sambili, Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports in Kenya.

Mr. Wilfred Lemke, Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace and Dr. Christian Jacobs, Chairman of the Jacobs Foundation gave welcome remarks on 15th evening that was followed by a Gala dinner at the Jacaranda Hotel in Nairobi. The Forum took place at the United Nations Offices in Nairobi from 16th to 18th June, 09.

The Forum brought together experienced practitioners and experts in the field of sport and productive youth development with majority coming from all the horns of Africa in order to actively share ‘good practice’ experience, discuss collaboration strategies and make recommendations on an improved cooperation between the most relevant players in Sport and Development. It also provided a platform for key stakeholders to discuss the potential and limits of sport as an instrument for Productive Youth Development (PYD) in Africa in order to set the using of sport as a tool for PYD. The input of the 60 invitees consisting of Practitioners; Program managers; Advocacy actors; Including researchers and consultants allowed the Forum to go beyond a thematic analysis of the social benefits of sports, into identifying ways to effectively share knowledge, resources and experience, illustrated by ‘good practice’ examples.

On the second day, Elimu Michezo na Mazoezi (EMIMA), Kicking AIDS Out and Swiss Academy for Development (SAD) presented their papers under the banner Innovative answers to resource sharing needs / creating understanding for information needs of different actors in PYD through sport in a panel discussion that was moderated by Kitso Masi, SEDYEL Botswana. The panel discussions allowed for the audience to first follow the experts’ line of argument in short 15 min presentations, and to then experience a controversial discussion amongst the panelists. This is where George Nange, the Kicking AIDS Out Training and Development Officer presented a paper on the Power of Partnership that focused on the Kicking AIDS Out! Network and its vision on partnership. Other network members who attended this Forum are: Sports in Action and Edusport Zambia, Right to Play, Coaching for Hope, SEDYEL, Botswana and MYSA Kenya.
Kicking AIDS Out Resource team at East Africa Cup June 2009

East Africa Here we are! Words by Edwin Wasonga kicked started the great week that was. The East Africa Cup brought together a total of 50 football teams and 4 cultural groups from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, and Rwanda in Moshi, Kilimanjaro-Tanzania from 22nd to 28th June, 09.

East Africa Cup Kicking AIDS Out Resource team (a new initiative by the Kicking AIDS Out Secretariat in fostering collaborative partnerships and relationship in regions) ran successful one week of Edutainment and fun based activities that were carried out during the East Africa Cup Kicking AIDS Out seminars. These seminars were done for all the different age categories thus Under 13 and Under 16 teams both boys in the tournament from Wednesday 24th June to Friday 26th. Apart from the Seminars, a One Stop Information and Recreational activities centre was established in the main ground to allow follow up and continued discussion from the morning sessions.

On the morning the 23rd of June, Team Rwanda and Team Uganda were entertained to a breath taking circuit of Kicking AIDS Out movement games. In fact these teams used these activities to take off the “jet lag” if I may say, and warm up for the tournament. The games were educative and participatory and above all fun based. The participants showed great appreciation and we believe that this made a high expectation between the players for the Kicking AIDS Out Seminar. In fact a majority of these players attended and participated in the seminars throughout the week.

“It is amazing that all the organizations in East Africa cup and the Secretariat are looking forward to use the East Africa Cup as a platform to enhance development in the region through the Kicking AIDS Out program. Having the Secretariat attending this year’s tournament gave the Kicking AIDS Out leaders an opportunity for learning and sharing the great plans for the region. I liked greatly the way the resource team worked and the realization that MYSA, EMIMA and CHRISC East Africa could develop themes and approaches of facilitation and learning thus forging collaboration opportunities was commendable and worth sharing with the East Africa Cup organizing committee. Follow – up of the learning’s and seminar should be part of the responsibilities of the local leaders who attended the tournament to encourage continuity and support beyond the tournament.”

These were the words that were expressed in the journals. The facilitators expressed satisfaction with the Seminars, but also hinted that there was room to do and plan better. The involvement of all Kicking AIDS Out member organizations within East Africa region was considered to have brought a new light and life to the seminars. The participants in all this sessions and seminars were well engaged despite some of them being confused and not understanding what was going on. It was a journey for many and a few exceptional ones could be given reference to of their personal growth as they started the week on a low note to becoming the best participants at the end of the week. Such were awarded and encouraged to step up and stay there.
Celebrate Life Girls Tournament!

Sport is a vital tool for facilitating positive change and development in our society. It brings individuals and communities together bridging cultural and ethnic divides. This was witnessed during the 6th MYSA international girl’s tournament this year during the Easter holidays as from 10th to 13th April 2009. 83 teams were divided into different group stages by their age groups. 26 under 12, 29 under 14, 11 under 16 and 17 over 16 respectively. 74 teams were derived from Nairobi province, 9 teams from Mombasa, Nyanza, Eastern, and central province. The teams from Tanzania and Uganda due to unavoidable circumstances didn’t participate.

In 12 different football grounds, the players displaying talents in an overwhelming crowd of approximately 1000 fans. They were kept busy participating in different recreational activities that were conducted by different groups running concurrently with the sport activities. The MYSA trained KAO leader level 1’s and peer leaders conducted movement games activities to the teams participating by linking sports skills and life skills messages and debrief after the sessions. The teams were also engaged into group discussions on reproductive health, HIV and AIDS, drug abuse and other social related issues. The peer leaders also distributed Information Communication and Materials (ICSM) use a condom and the dribbling, passing and ball control skills were displayed by the talented players. The players, coaches and the spectators had an opportunity to know their HIV status by visiting the mobile VCT tents that were few meters from the playing pitch courtesy of Liverpool VCT Centre (MYSA partner Organization). A total number of 510 young people were tested. The MYSA HABA NA HABA art and culture edutainment group kept the crowd on their toes dancing to traditional tunes, drama, and skits on HIV and AIDS and social skills.

The winners were awarded with trophies and medals and celebration ended it all as the theme suggested) and demonstrated the way to “Celebrate life”
In the land of hills and horses, and cool breeze, Mahae Mokhehle Jobo and Thaisa Hlapane Leader Level 2’s organized a magnificent Kicking AIDS Out Leader Level 1 Course from 27th April to 1st May, 09. The CHRISC East Africa regional director Mr. Michael Wachira on his official opening speech on 15th April, challenged the enthusiastic leaders as thus...“In this era of HIV/AIDS, if youths are not given information and opportunity to develop, where will they be in 20 years time? Therefore this training is to equip, empower and build the participants to contribute positive changes in their communities......” The co-facilitated were Paul Otieno and Irene Nasana both Kicking AIDS Out Leader level 2’s and were assisted by Alex Ngaa; Kaddu John Bosco and Elly Omondi all Leader Level 1’s.

CHRISC began in 1993, in the context of providing opportunities for sports and play for the underprivileged and idle youth in Uganda. in collaboration between KRIK / Stromme Foundation. Later launched as an organization in East Africa in 2004, spreading to Tanzania, Kenya, Southern Sudan and Rwanda. using sport and education as a tool for sustainable development. Aiming at - provide information, education and communication on HIV and AIDS and life skills education in workshops, seminars, awareness raising programs, integrating them to sports activities.

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A new Associates – Right To Play

We are happy to announce that Right To Play is formally an Associate of the Network. Right To Play is an international humanitarian organization that uses sport and play programs to improve health, develop life skills, and foster peace for children and communities. It trains local community leaders as Coaches to deliver its programs in countries affected by war, poverty, and disease in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and South America. Currently, Right To Play works in 23 countries: Azerbaijan, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, China, Ethiopia, Ghana, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Mali, Mozambique, Pakistan, Peru, occupied Palestinian territory, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, Thailand, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates and Zambia.

Read more about Right To Play on the website www.righttoplay.com. We are looking forward working closer with Right To Play to reach shared objectives in our common Geographical areas of work.

A member - Football for all Vietnam (FFAV)

The project was established in 2001 in Hanoi and moved in 2003 Hue. Its aim is to train instructors, referees, primarily in the education system in the provinces of Hue, Haiphong, Quang as well as establishing grassroots soccer in primary and secondary schools.

1000 coaches, referee and leaders were trained by the end of 2008. Within FFAV they have managed to form 86 grassroots football clubs one of them catering for children with disabilities, and 7 clubs in Haiphong for integration of children affected and infected with HIV/AIDS.

Teams from FFAV are now participating in international level. The cross border team from Hue under 14 team participated in Norway in 2007 and 2008.
DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

In Somalia and Senegal the HIV prevalence is under 1% of the adult population, whereas in Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe around 15-20% of adults are infected with HIV.
In three southern African countries, the national adult HIV prevalence rate has risen higher than was thought possible and now exceeds 20%. These countries are Botswana (23.9%), Lesotho (23.2%) and Swaziland (26.1%).

West Africa has been less affected by AIDS, but the HIV prevalence rates in some countries are creeping up. HIV prevalence is estimated to exceed 5% in Cameroon (5.1%) and Gabon (5.9%).

Until recently the national HIV prevalence rate has remained relatively low in Nigeria, the most populous country in sub-Saharan Africa. The rate has grown slowly from below 2% in 1993 to 3.1% in 2007. But some states in Nigeria are already experiencing HIV infection rates as high as those now found in Cameroon. Already around 2.4 million Nigerians are estimated to be living with HIV.

In others the HIV prevalence appears to have stabilized and in a few African nations - such as Kenya and Zimbabwe - declines appear to be underway probably part due to effective prevention campaigns.

Enjoy your reading and get more informed

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