

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR'S RESPONSE TO AIDS

A TRAINING MANUAL FOR AGRICULTURE SECTOR WORKERS

9

MODULE

**Developing AIDS Policies
in the Agriculture Sector**



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AIMS

The aims of this module are the following:

1. To develop an understanding of the role and importance of AIDS policies in the agriculture sector.
2. To present the participatory policy development process and its key steps.
3. To identify the main elements of the agriculture sector policy implementation process.

OBJECTIVES

Upon completing the module, the learner should:

1. Have a deeper understanding of the role of AIDS policies in the agriculture sector.
2. Know key steps in the participatory policy development process.
3. Be familiar with principal elements of the implementation process.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. Why is an agriculture sector AIDS policy necessary?
2. How should the agriculture sector be defined and what should it include?
3. What would happen if the agriculture sector does not have an AIDS policy?
4. Should such a policy be binding to the entire agriculture sector or just to the segment managed by the Ministry of Agriculture?
5. What are the key challenges in developing and implementing an AIDS policy?
6. Should a policy be implemented at all levels of the sector? Why?
7. Should a policy be systematically monitored, evaluated and regularly reviewed and adapted? Why?

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

This module presents the learner with an overview of the role of AIDS policy in the agriculture sector and introduces the participatory policy development process. To facilitate its wider use, the focus of the module is on the technical side of policy making, while country-specific policy clearance mechanisms are not explicitly addressed.

READINGS: AN OVERVIEW OF DEVELOPING AIDS POLICIES IN THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR

1. The role of policy

The role of policy is to frame and guide practical action. Good, flexible and responsive policies are central to the development of a comprehensive response to AIDS. In its original meaning, the term “policy” was synonymous with wisdom and prudence: these are the qualities that should characterize any policy of substance.

The AIDS epidemic changes some of the basic assumptions upon which agricultural policies are designed and implemented – for example, it significantly alters the size and demographic structure of the agricultural labour force. The agriculture sector has at its disposal a number of policy tools that could be effective in reducing vulnerability to HIV infection and in building resilience to the socio-economic impacts of the epidemic.¹

The overall aim of an agriculture sector AIDS policy is to:

- Guide a comprehensive and explicit agriculture sector response to the epidemic.
- Integrate this response within a national AIDS policy framework.
- Bring the response in line with international agreements, conventions and principles.

While an agriculture sector policy must acknowledge and be informed by national policy frameworks and guidelines, its primary goal is to deal with issues that are specific to the agriculture sector. This means that the general features of a national AIDS policy – which are often modelled on a health sector approach – should be expanded to specifically address the functions and structures of the agriculture sector. It is also important for such policies to be aligned with international agreements and conventions, which now inform many aspects of policy-making, including workplace policies and commitments to gender equality and human rights. Any policy that does not explicitly take into account these issues is likely to be judged incomplete and inadequate by the international community.

An agriculture sector AIDS policy should take into account all aspects of the agriculture sector. In particular, the policy should make routine management of agricultural matters sensitive to HIV, with an emphasis on protecting and responding to those infected and affected by the epidemic. To attain this, the policy should lay down a number of achievable goals, objectives and guidelines that make planning, budgeting, managing, monitoring and reporting at every level of the agriculture sector sensitive and responsive to both direct and indirect impacts of HIV. A related, but no less important, feature of an AIDS agriculture policy will be its capacity to contribute to the existing policy goals of the agriculture sector, such as increasing production and strengthening rural livelihoods. Thus, from the agriculture sector's point of view, having an AIDS and agriculture policy is a win-win proposal in the long run.

1.1 Defining the agriculture sector

If an agriculture sector policy on AIDS is to be relevant to the needs of the entire sector, then it has to be based on a consensus on what the agriculture sector includes and excludes. In

¹ See du Guerny 1999, Topouzis 2003, Jayne et al. 2003 and Rau et al. 2008.

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most countries an agriculture policy on AIDS will be institutionally “hosted” by the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), in which case the policy should reflect the MoA’s mandate. It needs to be emphasized that the functions and responsibilities of a MoA vary from country to country:

- In nearly all countries the MoA’s mandate covers the basic dimensions of agriculture: crop management, agricultural engineering and mechanization, extension services and agricultural education, agricultural policy and planning. Furthermore, many MoAs are mandated to manage agricultural cooperatives and other agriculture-related organizations.
- Other technical areas – such as land use and land development, livestock and/or animal production and veterinary services, forestry, fisheries and water affairs – may or may not be part of the mandate of the MoA. Similarly, nutrition issues and matters related to agricultural trade may not necessarily be assigned to the MoA.

Every country needs to agree on an operational definition of its agriculture sector for the purposes of policy development and for defining levels and sub-sectors to be included in the sector’s policy on AIDS.

1.2 Key players in the agriculture sector

While MoAs have both the mandate and the responsibility to optimize food production, foster sustainable use of agricultural resources and ensure food security for all, there are many other key players in the sector with significant capacity, responsibility and influence. These groups may include farmers’ organizations, private and independent producers, workers’ unions, civil society organizations active in rural areas, researchers and members of agricultural teaching institutions, funding agencies and other development partners. Although the situation will vary from country to country, it can be expected that some (or all) of these players will add value to the policy making process. In turn, they are likely to be pivotal in implementing an agriculture sector AIDS policy – or opposing it in the event that they are not engaged or consulted in the policy making process.

1.3 Policy development as an advocacy intervention

The process of policy development, adoption and implementation should be seen and conducted as a national advocacy intervention. For instance, the launching of a policy on an issue as important as HIV in agriculture, backed by an achievable action plan for implementation, often represents a signal of great importance. Such an intervention, among other things, can greatly help in generating support for addressing social and economic vulnerabilities in rural settings and mobilizing funding from both national and international sources.

1.4 Flexibility of an adaptive policy framework

It is well known that the impacts of HIV and AIDS change over time and vary from one geographic area to another. These dynamics suggest the need for a flexible policy framework with built-in provisions for regular revision and change. In many countries this implies a departure from the traditional way of formulating policy and therefore it may take time to be accepted. While many MoA officials may have reservations about regular (e.g. annual) policy review, it is important to build the policy as a flexible and responsive guiding framework that allows context- and time-specific implementation and decentralized delivery.

1.5 Comprehensive approach to policy themes

There is now a general consensus that AIDS policies need to address the whole continuum of prevention, treatment, care and support. They also need to address workplace issues and response management, as well as agricultural production, food security to rural livelihoods. It is imperative for the agriculture sector to move from a narrowly defined focus on a small number of isolated interventions towards a more comprehensive approach. There needs to be a focus on ensuring political will and technical capacity to manage the response process. Specifically, there is a need to rethink and advance the role of agricultural policy in the national response to AIDS. Jayne et al. summarize this role as follows:

“One of the most important ways in which agricultural policy can contribute to reducing the spread and consequences of AIDS is to contribute effectively to poverty reduction. Risky sexual behaviors are at least partially related to limited opportunities to earn a livelihood through other means. Moreover, raising households’ and communities’ living standards over the long-run through productivity-enhancing investments in agricultural technology generation and diffusion, improved crop marketing systems, basic education, infrastructure, and governance will improve their ability to withstand the social and economic stresses caused by the disease. Greater focus on these productivity-enhancing investments is likely to be a critical part of an effective response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic (...).”²

1.6 Follow-up steps

Developing a draft agriculture sector AIDS policy is only the first step towards policy implementation. Any draft policy must be reviewed within the MoA, the wider government and, in some cases, development partners. The process may need significant time and changes may need to be made to the draft policy document before official approval and ratification can take place. Those leading the policy development process need to be prepared to respond to such requests swiftly and effectively.

2. Quick guide to the participatory policy development process

Experience shows the significant advantages of a short, proactive and participatory approach to policy development and its implementation. The recommended process steps are described in detail in the subsequent sections. It is important to stress that innovation and speed are of the essence and that a good policy does not necessarily need a long preparation period. It has been documented that speed and innovation, if properly managed, do not reduce the quality of outputs.

2.1. Ensure support of key stakeholders

The first step in developing a policy should be to obtain support of key stakeholders, including upper-level managers of the Ministry of Agriculture. This is crucial to ensure that the policy development process, as well as the action plan produced to implement the policy, have broad sponsorship, legitimacy and sufficient resources allocated. In practical terms, this means establishing a stakeholder group broadly representative of the MoA and other important key players. As a rule of thumb, this stakeholder group should have a maximum of

² Jayne, T. S., Villarreal, M., Pingali, P. and Hemrich, G. 2005. HIV/AIDS and the agricultural sector in eastern and southern Africa: anticipating the consequences. Rome, FAO.
(<http://www.ifpri.org/pubs/books/oc50/oc50ch08.pdf>).

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40 members and for credibility's sake not less than 20. The composition of this group is critical and requires the utmost political sensitivity.

Once this stakeholder group has been established, consensus should be reached on the goals, scope and objectives of the policy development process, as well as on the decision-making processes and procedures to be followed. Discussing various aspects of the policy development process within the stakeholder group is very important to ensure transparency and buy-in from all stakeholders. The following questions will help to structure the policy development process:

- Who will lead the policy development process (e.g. officials from one or more concerned government ministries or agencies, or external consultants)?
- What will be their specific roles and responsibilities?
- How will other stakeholders be involved (e.g. as part of the stakeholder team or as a source of information)?
- Will international organizations be involved? If yes, how?
- How will coordination and transparency be ensured?
- What resources (financial and human) are required and available? If there is a shortfall in available resources, how will this be addressed?
- What is the expected time frame?

2.2. Define guiding principles

An agriculture sector AIDS policy must be guided by a set of principles that reflect the rights and responsibilities of all key players in the sector. In addition, the principles must correspond to the country's national AIDS policy or guidelines, and must be in line with international conventions, guidelines and regulations, as well as to national laws and policies. In particular, the principles must take into account gender equity objectives and recognize the universality of human rights. To be effective, these principles should address all key issues in the agriculture sector. For example, the Malawi forestry sector strategy for 2007-2011³ is based on the following guiding principles:

- Multi-sectoral approach and partnerships
- Greater involvement of people living with HIV
- Good governance, transparency and accountability
- Openness, non-stigmatization and non-discrimination on the basis of HIV status
- Interrelatedness of interventions
- Motivated, strong and dynamic leadership

2.3. Undertake a situation analysis

The purpose of this step is to:

- a) Examine how the AIDS epidemic affects the agriculture sector.
- b) Assess how various parts of the sector are responding to these impacts and what the effects are of those responses.

³ See Annex 1.

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- c) Identify promising entry points for policy intervention in the areas of prevention, support and impact mitigation.

The situation analysis will also provide a baseline of the current situation, which will be useful to subsequently measure and evaluate the impact of policy interventions.

The following tips could be useful when undertaking the situation analysis:

- Consult different stakeholders: Different institutions will have relevant information to contribute to the review and analysis of the existing situation. Government ministries or agencies involved in the agriculture and food sectors, public health, trade and development planning are likely to have important information. The food industry, academic and scientific institutions, as well as civil society organizations may also have useful views and insights.
- Take stock of existing reports, evaluations and assessments: Many countries have already assessed the interlinkages between the AIDS epidemic and various aspects of agriculture. In some cases, a lot of relevant information may have already been gathered, in which case the main task will be to review, analyze, and synthesize this information. Making use of existing reports and assessments will save time and resources.
- Use different techniques to gather and analyze information: Information can be collected and analyzed in different ways, depending on needs and the availability of time and financial resources. Possible methods to gather information include: desk review of documents and reports, key informant interviews, focus group discussions and field surveys.
- Double-check information and emphasize confidentiality: Double-checking information collected from different sources is necessary to ensure accuracy. Emphasizing confidentiality may help to increase access to all relevant information, including information that is considered sensitive.

In most cases the outcome of the situation analysis will consist of an analytical paper with data and findings regarding the links between AIDS and agriculture, as well as a list of entry points for policy interventions. The paper should be detailed but not too technical so that it can be read and understood by all relevant stakeholders. It should provide a set of preliminary, yet carefully thought-out recommendations on what types of policy action would be required to improve the current situation.

2.4. Define policy themes and desired outcomes

To be comprehensive, an agriculture sector AIDS policy must address four internationally recognized policy and implementation themes:

1. Prevention
2. Treatment, care and support
3. Workplace issues
4. Management of the response

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By addressing all four of these themes, the risk of disproportionately focusing on just one and excluding the others will be avoided. It is likely that many of the interest groups involved will have a single-theme focus. However, within the wider stakeholder group these partisan interests are likely to merge and thus make it possible to develop a comprehensive perspective, within which each of the four themes can be adequately addressed.

One important clarification is needed here: In terms of an agriculture policy on AIDS, “prevention” means reducing vulnerability to HIV by addressing the underlying context in which risk behaviours take place. It needs to be stressed that agricultural policy measures to reduce vulnerability can influence the risk of HIV exposure, but do not eliminate it. It follows that “policies to reduce vulnerability do not replace policies to reduce risk, but should create positive synergies”⁴.

The following tips can be useful in defining desired outcomes of an agriculture sector AIDS policy:

- Focus on the future (without neglecting the current issues): A goal for each theme should be established, which will describe the “desired outcome” once the policy is implemented. The goals, taken together, should portray an improved situation in the agriculture sector, brought about by the successful implementation of the AIDS policy at every level and in every area. In other words, the desired outcomes will be the result of achievements during the planned implementation period. Achieving the desired outcome requires that: (a) everyone plays their part, (b) adequate resources are available, and (c) an effective monitoring and reporting system is in place.
- Consult key stakeholders and other concerned groups: It is recommended to include representatives of all key stakeholders in the discussions about desired outcomes. This can also contribute to the development of a set of shared expectations, which could later help to ensure that these stakeholders are committed to taking the necessary steps to achieve desired outcomes.
- Use facilitation where there are many diverging views: It is important to be aware that stakeholders may have very different views about the “desired outcomes”, reflecting their particular action agendas, roles, interests and concerns. Therefore, professional facilitation (from inside or outside the country) may be necessary to promote open discussion and enable diverse views to be voiced. Encouraging particular categories of stakeholders to elaborate their own vision separately before trying to reach consensus on one vision may also assist the process.
- Consider experiences and lessons from other countries: During the discussions about desired outcomes, it may be helpful to consider what can be learned from other countries. Consulting case studies may be useful in this regard.

2.5. Define priority areas for policy intervention

Once there is agreement on the desired outcomes, the next step is to define priority areas for policy intervention. For each overarching theme goal, a set of objectives and activities should

⁴ du Guerny, J. 1999. AIDS and agriculture in Africa: can agricultural policy make a difference? *Food, Nutrition and Agriculture*, 25: 12-17. (<ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/X4390t/X4390t03.pdf>).

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be listed to address each key issue and focus attention. A checklist should also be included for implementation. The output of this step will be a comprehensive list of activities that would be required in order to achieve desired future outcomes.

The following tips can be useful in defining priority areas for policy intervention:

- Propose as many reasonable alternatives as possible: When it comes to addressing AIDS in the agriculture sector, there is no “silver bullet” solution. Those involved should feel comfortable to share ideas without any obligation or commitment. Involving an external facilitator may help stakeholders identify priority options they may not have otherwise considered.
- Review the costs and benefits of the various options identified: Costs and benefits can be considered in qualitative and/or quantitative terms. It is often difficult to measure the costs and benefits of interventions against the AIDS epidemic. This is because it is basically impossible to quantify the cost of a life or to put a monetary value on the aggregate social and economic benefits of HIV prevention and impact mitigation. The same is true for malaria⁵ and many other diseases of poverty. However, it should be noted that controlling the spread of HIV was number one when, in 2004, the world's top nine economists ranked 17 categories of development interventions in terms of cost-benefit analysis.⁶
- Actively communicate and advocate the rationale and the content of the policy: Informing high-level officials about the outcome of the situation analysis is important, as is the need to inform them about the policy that was developed. It is essential to clearly explain and highlight the benefits to be achieved through the implementation of this policy. Involving the national media (e.g. inviting newspapers or television stations to report on the preparation of the policy) can support communication and advocacy efforts. Organizing a half-day workshop or having a signing ceremony for representatives of the main stakeholder organizations involved can also be useful to promote and visibly demonstrate high-level endorsement.

Country-specific examples of agriculture sector AIDS policies are presented in the Annexes. These examples reflect large differences in the scope and extensiveness of the policy interventions developed in different countries. The reader is invited to spend some time studying these examples and to consider their structure and components, clarity and internal consistency, the types of interventions included, their relative importance, differences in descriptive detail, as well as strong features and possible shortcomings.

3. Implementing an agriculture sector AIDS policy

The work invested in developing an agriculture sector AIDS policy will be of little value if steps are not taken to ensure that at least some of its major thrusts are implemented. On the other hand, it is usually unrealistic to expect full implementation of all of the recommendations in the policy document. The process of formulating a policy should itself

⁵ Packard, R. M. 2009. "Roll back malaria, roll in development"? Reassessing the economic burden of malaria. *Population and Development Review*, 35(1): 53-87.

⁶ Duddy, J. 2008. What role does cost-benefit analysis play in development issues? Association for Women's Rights in Development. (<http://www.awid.org/eng/Issues-and-Analysis/Library/What-role-does-cost-benefit-analysis-play-in-development-issues>)

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include elements for the implementation stage, and for that purpose it is helpful to be aware of the mechanisms of policy implementation while designing the policy document.

Principal elements of the implementation process include:

- Communicating the policy both “vertically” (to different actors within the agriculture sector) as well as “horizontally” (to actors in other sectors).
- Developing a medium-term implementation plan, from which short-term (e.g. annual) implementation plans can be formulated.
- Establishing an implementation secretariat or some other high-level committee designated with the responsibility to manage and monitor the execution of the policy.
- Mobilizing the necessary resources (human, financial, etc.) and support both within the country and internationally.
- Executing the policy courageously, keeping in mind that implementation requires persistence and a long-term commitment on the part of those involved.

Even with the best of intentions, the policy implementation process may encounter a range of obstacles along the way. One of the keys of successful implementation is a carefully structured implementation monitoring system that enables frequent and rapid reporting to the implementation secretariat on progress and problems in each of the areas of the policy. The implementation secretariat needs to have the authority to take measures to accelerate the implementation process in areas where progress is slow or delayed – or to recommend such measures to higher authorities (e.g. the cabinet).

Policy implementation is a continuing effort. While a solid launch of the policy is important, maintenance and concerted implementation is vital. The policy itself must be kept relevant. If suitable controls and feedback mechanisms are built into the implementation process, then a policy can have tangible consequences. If no corrective mechanisms are put in place, then the policy risks becoming irrelevant and ineffective.

LEARNING REINFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Activity 1: Analysis of different agriculture sector policies

Look at the country-specific examples of agriculture sector AIDS policies presented in the Annexes. Consider their structure, scope and internal consistency, and answer the following questions:

1. What kinds of interventions are included?
2. What is their relative importance and what are their differences?
3. Which are in your opinion the strongest features?
4. Can you identify any possible shortcomings?

Write down your answers on paper. In groups compare your answers and discuss areas of agreement and disagreement.

Activity 2: Identification of interest groups within the agriculture sector

Consider the agriculture sector in your country. Agree on a definition and list interest groups within the sector.

1. What are their capacity, responsibility and power?
2. How can they add value to policy making?
3. Can they have a role in implementing an agriculture sector AIDS policy?
4. How can they be involved in the process?

SUMMARY REMARKS AND LESSONS LEARNED

This module is based on the viewpoint that in AIDS-affected countries with agriculture-based economies, an agriculture sector AIDS policy is an indispensable instrument of good governance. The importance of such a policy stems from the fact that the epidemic is first and foremost a management challenge. The policy development process should be approached as an opportunity to build on the comparative advantage of the agriculture sector to respond to long-standing systemic and structural problems, particularly those related to socio-economic inequalities and dysfunctions within rural societies.

Policy development in the era of AIDS is the business of every stakeholder and not just the government. The involvement of sectoral partners in interactive consensus-building can add significant value to the policy development process. Furthermore, it presents an opportunity to make effective use of participatory policy making methods, strengthen partnerships between stakeholders, and thus increase the agriculture sector's potential to respond to the epidemic.

The development of an agriculture sector AIDS policy must be seen as a reinforcement of the wider national policy framework of each country, and must be compliant with international policies, conventions, guidelines and protocols.

What may be less evident is the utmost importance of linking the agriculture response with policies and strategies developed by other sectors – in other words, with other government ministries and agencies, such as national AIDS commissions. A multi-sectoral context is critical for building a truly holistic response to such issues as household vulnerability, food security, and ART roll-out.

Lessons learned

1. Good, flexible and responsive policies are vital for a comprehensive AIDS response.
2. An agriculture sector AIDS policy should take into account all aspects of the agriculture sector. It should address issues of prevention, treatment, care and support, as well as workplace issues and response management, agricultural production, food security and rural livelihoods.
3. An agriculture sector AIDS policy should be informed by national policy frameworks and guidelines. It should be in line with international agreements, conventions and principles, while dealing with issues that are specific to the agriculture sector.
4. In addition to the Ministry of Agriculture, it is important that other key players in the sector are included in the policy development process as this will facilitate commitment from the entire sector. Communication is essential in this regard as it ensures transparency as the policy is developed and implemented.
5. Key elements of a successful policy development process include: (a) ensuring buy-in from all key players in the sector; (b) defining key principles to guide the policy; (c) conducting a situation analysis in order to have a baseline of the current situation, upon which impacts of policy interventions can also be measured; (d) defining policy themes, desired outcomes and priority areas for policy intervention.

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6. An implementation plan, with short and long-term objectives, should be developed to ensure timely execution of the policy. This should also include feedback mechanisms in order to respond to changes in the situation.

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AFFLS	Adult farmer field and life school
AIDS	Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
ART	Antiretroviral therapy
ARV	Antiretroviral [medicines]
ASLM	Agriculture sector line ministry
CBO	Community-based organization
CSO	Civil society organization
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
JFFLS	Junior farmer field and life school
LGA	Local government authority
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
NGO	Non-governmental organization
TB	Tuberculosis

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

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ANNEX 1 – Malawi fisheries HIV and AIDS strategy (2007-2011)⁷

Goals: 1. Prevent and control the spread of HIV and AIDS. 2. Reduce the negative impact of HIV and AIDS on the fisheries sector. 3. Improve the livelihoods and quality of life of those infected and affected by HIV and AIDS, their families and the society to which they belong.		
Priority areas	Actions	Indicators
1. Improved policy framework	• Link the fisheries policy framework to the HIV and AIDS policy.	• Fisheries Policy is consistent with National HIV and AIDS Policy.
2. Strengthened programme leadership	• Enhance commitment to implement the HIV and AIDS strategy in the fisheries sector	• Functional Management Committees in place at all levels. • Management appraisal systems in assessing performance in delivery of HIV and AIDS Strategy put in place and adopted.
3. Effective programme coordination and partnerships	• Establish and strengthen mechanisms for coordinating the implementation of the strategy in the sector.	• Existence of HIV and AIDS Coordination Units in the fisheries sector that are functional.
4. Capacity building	• Build institutional and individual capacity to effectively implement the strategy at all levels in the sector.	• Number of HIV and AIDS units established and functional. • HIV and AIDS programmes incorporated and integrated in policies and programmes. • Reduced levels and incidences of stigma and discrimination amongst employees and communities. • Partners working in Fisheries sector include HIV and AIDS in their programmes.
5. Prevention of further spread of HIV infection	• Protect workers and communities from HIV and AIDS through improved knowledge and behavioural change.	• Number of concrete initiatives developed and implemented to protect workers and communities. • Improved knowledge, attitude and practices to prevent HIV and AIDS amongst workers and communities.
6. Improved access to HIV and AIDS treatment, care and support services	• Make HIV and AIDS treatment, care and support services more accessible to fisheries workers and	• More employees and their spouses are provided with nutritional and medical support. • Partnerships with service providers and

⁷ The excerpts presented in the annexes are in original wording. The focus is on: (a) overall objectives, (b) strategies for achieving them, and (c) specific activities/actions. The full version of a strategy document generally also includes justifications of the various objectives, descriptions of guiding principles and the desired outcomes, lists of key actors for each strategic area, information on management and coordination arrangements, and so on.

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	communities.	support groups for people living with HIV and AIDS established. • Increased mobilization of NGOs and CBOs to provide homecare to people living with HIV and AIDS in fishing communities.
7. Sustainable impact mitigation	• Mitigate the impacts of HIV and AIDS in a sustainable way.	• Improved income and nutritional levels of infected and affected persons and their households.
8. Dynamic research on HIV and AIDS	• Strengthen and diversify research on HIV and AIDS in the fisheries sector to formulate and implement evidence-based policies and programmes.	• Action plan on research and HIV and AIDS developed and implemented. • More linkages and joint research with international research centres.
9. Financing	• Mobilize and effectively use resources to implement the strategy.	• Number of HIV and AIDS programmes and the extent of implementation. • Amount of funds allocated vs. disbursed.
10. Improved awareness	• Raise awareness through information, education and communication.	• More stakeholders are aware of the HIV and AIDS strategy. • Number of HIV and AIDS resource centres established. • Messages specific to the impact of HIV and AIDS in the fisheries sector developed and disseminated.
11. Monitoring and evaluation	• Effectively monitor and evaluate implementation of the strategy.	• Monitoring and evaluation system for HIV and AIDS developed.

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ANNEX 2 – Tanzania agriculture sector strategy for HIV/AIDS and other related chronic diseases (2006)

Objective 1: Empower orphans and vulnerable children in agricultural, pastoral and fishing communities and provide them with opportunities for long-term livelihood security	
Strategies	Key activities
Facilitate transferring agricultural knowledge, entrepreneurial skills as well as life skills to orphans and vulnerable children in agricultural, pastoral and fishing communities through Junior farmer Field and life Schools (JFFLS)	• In targeted districts, select JFFLS participants and local facilitators running the JFFLS • Adapt training materials and train local facilitators • Awareness raising at community level and establish school site • Run year-round curriculum with children, comprising practical field activities, agricultural topics, life skills, entertainment and school feeding • Assist graduates with youth associations and entrepreneurship skills
Build capacity of extension workers to consider and act on the children in terms of agriculture, health and community development	• Adapt training materials and select extension workers • Organize training workshops
Improve nutrition of orphans and vulnerable children through school feeding programmes and food rations for food insecure households that are taking care of orphans and vulnerable children	• Select schools and food insecure households in vulnerable and HIV/AIDS affected areas • Provide the necessary food ratios and monitoring intake
Objective 2: Empower rural widows and female headed households to reduce their vulnerability and to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS on their livelihoods	
Strategies	Key activities
Empower rural women and impart knowledge and skills related to agricultural production, agro-processing and marketing through Adult Farmer Field and Life Schools (AFFLS) for vulnerable and poor female-headed households affected by HIV/AIDS	• In targeted districts, select AFFLS participants and local facilitators running the AFFLS • Adapt training materials and train local facilitators • Awareness raising at community level and establish school site • Run year-round curriculum with children, comprising practical field activities, agricultural topics, life skills, entertainment and school feeding • Assist graduates with credit and saving schemes
Support existing women's cooperative and producers' groups with income generation activities such as livestock, small-scale aquaculture and horticulture, and with awareness raising on HIV/AIDS prevention	• Adapt training materials and train existing women's cooperatives and producers' groups in appropriate income-generating activities and HIV/AIDS prevention • Support the trained women with access to appropriate micro-credit and saving schemes • Support vulnerable female-headed households with information and access to farm inputs and tools
Facilitate social support at the	• Identify barriers for women's participation in

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community level that seek to overcome barriers to vulnerable rural women's participation in community based organisations, e.g. by promoting group labour and child care facilities	community-based organizations Identify and support appropriate mechanisms that would overcome these barriers
Objective 3: Improve access to and adoption of labour saving technologies and practices to overcome food security problems among HIV/AIDS affected households	
Strategies	Key activities
Promote and support the introduction of conservation agriculture as a farming system that potentially saves labour and resources in high impacted communities through farmer groups or farmer field schools.	- Identify and adapt existing conservation agriculture practices for different parts of the country - Organize exchange visits for farmer groups to expose them to conservation agriculture - Train farmer groups on conservation agriculture
Promote and facilitate adoption of labour-saving technologies that are appropriate to the diverse needs of men and women in order to increase agricultural productivity among vulnerable households.	- Identify existing and appropriate labour-saving technologies (i.e. small water pumps, drip-irrigation, simple water harvesting techniques, agroforestry, direct planting equipment such as jab planters, etc.) - Introduce the different technologies through group efforts, using existing channels such as the farmer field schools - Develop mechanisms through which HIV/AIDS affected households can access these technologies (grant, credit, etc.)
In collaboration with other sectors, promote and support the improvement of rural infrastructures such as feeder roads, storage facilities, dips and charco dams that can ease access to water and markets.	Provide support to ongoing infrastructure development initiatives
Objective 4: Increase disposable income and assets among households affected by HIV/AIDS	
Strategies	Key activities
Promote and support suitable group agribusiness enterprises among vulnerable and affected households	- Identify suitable enterprises for HIV/AIDS affected households that require low capital investment, are easy to manage, have low labour inputs, marketable, and have a quick rate of growth on return - Build capacity to improve entrepreneurial skills among rural men, women and children in agricultural, pastoral and fishing communities affected by HIV/AIDS - Facilitate their access to user-friendly grant and credit schemes to engage in income generating activities
Develop and improve appropriate marketing linkages through group marketing, market days, outgrowing schemes and rural enterprise centres	- Facilitate cooperatives and community groups with modern market equipment skills (e.g. setting up village business information centres to provide market information) - Develop market extension strategies that seek to commercialize low input, high value crops

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Objective 5: Improve the food and nutrition security status of HIV/AIDS affected households	
Strategies	Key activities
Enhance the nutritional status of HIV/AIDS affected households through nutritional education and physical access to a variety of nutritionally adequate food and diversified diets	• Introduce irrigated home gardens to vulnerable and affected households through farmer field schools and such other groups • Provide support to these home gardening groups with technical and nutritional training, drip irrigation, kits, small livestock and farm inputs • Support training and awareness at community level, including home-based care givers, related to nutritional care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS • Conduct gender-sensitive training for extension staff and health and nutrition personnel on food and nutrition improvement for people living with HIV/AIDS • Facilitate coordination between agricultural extension staff, rural health centres, home-based care organizations, community development workers, and social support organizations for nutritional support to people living with HIV/AIDS
Raise awareness on HIV/AIDS and nutrition linkages	• Develop information and communication materials to improve people's knowledge on nutritional needs of people living with HIV/AIDS, taking into consideration the needs of different groups • Disseminate information on nutrition and HIV/AIDS linkages using appropriate channels (e.g. leaflets, posters, rural radio)
In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, investigate the potential role of indigenous and traditional foods and medicinal plants to help alleviate HIV/AIDS related nutritional needs	• Support research and development on medicinal plants, herbs and nutritional crops that mitigate effects of HIV/AIDS • Collect existing information on the use of medicinal plants and herbs and disseminate using leaflets, rural radio and other channels
Objective 6: Strengthen social community support for households affected by HIV/AIDS	
Strategies	Key activities
Raise awareness about HIV/AIDS with emphasis on eliminating stigmatization and disseminate information on the links between HIV/AIDS, gender inequalities and food security, through media, posters, booklets and other suitable channels	• Collect and review existing information on HIV/AIDS, its causes and impacts and stigma • Develop and translate information briefs, posters and rural radio programmes to eliminate stigma in rural communities • Organize anti-stigma sensitization workshops at community level
Support community based social and economic safety nets to take care of vulnerable groups	• Identify and support appropriate community-based safety nets for vulnerable households (e.g. Mama Mkubwa) • Raise awareness of the importance of community safety nets in communities highly impacted by AIDS where no support is in place and assist in establishing appropriate safety net measures

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Objective 7: Address and prevent property grabbing, especially among widows and orphans	
Strategies	Key activities
In collaboration with the legal community undertake advocacy and sensitization work as regards the laws pertaining to property grabbing	• Conduct research and obtain and consolidate existing information on the extent and practices of property grabbing among widows and orphans • Develop and disseminate posters, pamphlets, rural radio programmes and other to raise awareness among communities and LGAs on the statutory laws pertaining inheritance and property rights of men, women and children
Support the implementation and review of land and inheritance rights legislations, particularly for affected households and vulnerable groups	• In collaboration with other sectors, support the review and amendments of statutory laws for difficulties among affected households and vulnerable groups in having access to and control over land and land tenure, credits and other resources • Ensure local law enforcement agencies are well informed of the existing inheritance and land rights legislations • Support training of local law enforcement agencies on these laws and on the importance of gender equal access to, and control over, land and property for affected households and vulnerable groups
In collaboration with other sectors support strategic litigation at community level	• Support meetings with community leaders to identify violations of statutory laws on land and inheritance and to determine ways of preventing these • Translate inheritance and land acts and publish and disseminate these in booklet form at community level • Sensitize rural communities on the importance of written wills • Train paralegal workers in the writing of wills
Objective 8: Build the capacity of agriculture sector line ministries (ASLM) staff to plan and respond to the challenges posed by HIV/AIDS	
Strategies	Key activities
Sensitize and build capacity of upper-level decision makers to enable them to integrate an HIV/AIDS dimension into existing policies	• Organize an appropriate short-term training programme for upper-level decision-makers on mainstreaming HIV/AIDS in the agricultural sector
Raise the awareness among ASLM staff and other agricultural service providers at regional levels, as well as their partners at the community level, to the nexus of HIV/AIDS, gender, agriculture production and rural livelihoods, and increase their capability for mainstreaming HIV/AIDS and gender issues into their programme and project formulation exercises	• Develop, adapt and translate existing training materials • Develop and organize a training programme for ASLM staff at different levels on HIV/AIDS, gender inequality and food security linkages • Build capacity of District staff to integrate HIV/AIDS and gender into their district plans • Build capacity of ASLM staff to develop proposals for the Global Fund for TB, AIDS and Malaria and other appropriate sources of funding

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Mainstream issues of HIV/AIDS and gender in agriculture training curricula and extension messages in agricultural training institutes	• Link agricultural training institutes and universities with those institutions that have an HIV/AIDS and gender curriculum. • Assist agricultural training institutions and universities to integrate HIV/AIDS, gender and agricultural linkages into their curricula • Support agricultural training institutes and universities with training and educational material development
Objective 9: Carry out action-oriented research on HIV/AIDS impact and mitigation for advocacy and planning purposes	
Strategies	Key activities
Develop a comprehensive research agenda on the linkages between poverty, vulnerability, food insecurity and HIV/AIDS	• Develop a conceptual framework for studying the impacts of HIV/AIDS on the agricultural sector • Develop appropriate research tools • Build capacity in research skills and gender disaggregated data analysis • Conduct relevant research on these linkages in different agro-ecological and livelihood systems, including pastoral areas, fishing communities, the commercial sector as well as cooperatives, water user associations and other rural institutions • Report writing and dissemination of results through appropriate forum • Use findings to inform action and policy review and formulation processes
Develop a comprehensive research agenda on the effectiveness of agricultural mitigation strategies	• Develop a monitoring and evaluation system for HIV/AIDS mitigation interventions • Identify promising and successful mitigation approaches and research their effectiveness and the capacity constraints for communities and households to undertake these interventions • Document and disseminate this information to inform future action • Research into technologies and other mechanisms to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS on food security

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ANNEX 3 – Uganda strategy for reducing the impact of HIV and AIDS on fishing communities (2005)

Goals	Objectives
Goal 1: To reduce HIV prevalence in fishing communities	Objective 1.1: Promote safe sexual behaviour among fishing communities Objective 1.2: Reduce the risk of blood-borne transmission in fishing communities and workplaces Objective 1.3: Reduce the prevalence of sexually transmitted infections in fishing communities Objective 1.4: Reduce the risk of mother to child transmission in fishing communities
Goal 2: To mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS in the fisheries sector and community	Goal 2a: Mitigate the health effects of HIV/AIDS and improve the quality of life of people living with HIV and AIDS in or from fishing communities • Objective 2a.1: Increase and expand access to comprehensive health care and support for people living with HIV and AIDS Goal 2b: Mitigate the psychosocial and economic effects of HIV/AIDS in fishing communities • Objective 2b.1: Reduce HIV/AIDS related vulnerability through protection against violence of rights • Objective 2b.2: Promote and provide psychological and economic support to orphans and vulnerable children, people living with HIV and AIDS and affected families in fishing communities Goal 2.c: Mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS on the development of the fisheries sector
Goal 3: To strengthen national capacity to coordinate and manage the multisectoral response to HIV/AIDS including in fishing communities	Objective 3.1: Strengthen coordination of the multisectoral response at national, local government and community levels Objective 3.2: Strengthen capacity to coordinate and undertake research related to HIV/AIDS in relation to fisheries and fishing communities Objective 3.3: Promote and strengthen capacity to manage strategic information for HIV/AIDS related to fishing communities