



AAA e-NEWS BRIEF –DECEMBER 2012

HIV/AIDS PREVENTION: VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IS VIOLENCE AGAINST COMMUNITY

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Learn About African Action on AIDS (AAA)

AAA is a tax exempt non-profit organization registered in the USA and operating under section 501(c) 3 of the IRS code. It is also registered in Cameroon (auth. No00174/A/MINAT/DAP/SDLP/SAC). It has special consultative status with the United Nations ECOSOC and the UN Department of Information.

AAA's work is based on 3 programmes:

"JUST KNOW" Campaign emphasizes:

- Knowledge of one's body
- Knowledge that leads to behavior change
- Knowledge that helps to visualize a future without AIDS

"Health before Wealth" Concept promotes:

- Testing for HIV
- Clean hands (hand washing stations)
- Clean water (drinking stations)
- Dignified toilets
- Fighting against Malaria (treated mosquito bed nets)
- Vaccination
- Anti worms medicine

"Women's economic autonomy" through our Scholarship Programme. This scholarship enables each teenage orphan girl to complete at least a secondary, general or technical education that will lead to financial and economic autonomy, greatly reducing the risk of being infected with HIV through sexual abuse and violence.

Cameroon remains predominantly rural, and agricultural food production remains a primary source of household and national food security. Agricultural labour-loss is especially significant among women. Indeed, while they make up the majority of those living with HIV/AIDS, they are also responsible for 50-80% of food production – including the most labour intensive work (planting, weeding, harvesting and marketing). The epidemic impact on agriculture production includes the following signs: farmers cultivate smaller areas, weeding is neglected, and fast maturing crops of poorer nutritional value often replace labor-intensive crops, i.e. substituting starchy root crops deficient in key micro-nutrients for nutritional leafy crops and fruits. HIV/AIDS not only reduces food production, but also the household's capacity to generate income to purchase food. Such job loss will impact household income and national food security. **Therefore, eliminating violence against women is not a women's issue, but a community/national issue!** HAPPY INTERNATIONAL DAY ON ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN!!! - Ruth BamelaEngo, AAA President



AAA President with women farmers – members of Caisse Villageoise d'Epargne et Credit Autogerées (CVECA) of the village of Ngalla – Nyong and Mfoumou Division. They came to market their food in Yaoundé

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