



ROADS II Countries: Zambia

Introduction

Corridors of Hope (COH) III/ROADS II began operating in 2009. The goal of the Project is to reduce HIV transmission, morbidity and mortality among the general population and most-at-risk populations (MARPs) along Zambian transport corridors, and to form effective linkages with communities to address issues of HIV through locally identified responses.

The Project is implemented in Chirundu/Siavonga, Chipata, Kazungula, Livingstone, Nakonde, Solwezi, Chililabombwe, Sesheke, Katete and Kapiri Mposhi.

Target Audiences

- People engaging in multiple concurrent sexual partnerships
- Discordant couples
- Truck drivers and other mobile men
- Uniformed services
- Commercial sex workers
- Older orphans
- Youth out of school
- Community men and women

Partners

With FHI 360 as the lead agency, the project is implemented through three national level NGOs: Afya Mzuri, Zambia Health Education and Communication Trust (ZHECT) and Zambia Inter-faith Networking Group on HIV/AIDS (ZINGO).

Key Project Activities

HIV Testing and Counseling and STI Management

This is done through Resource Centers and mobile outreach. To provide these services, the project has trained health care providers and counselors. The HIV testing kits and STI drugs are provided by the Ministry of Health.

Behavior Change and Social Mobilization

In order to provide a comprehensive approach to HIV prevention, in addition to HTC and STI treatment provided at the sites, COH III/ROADS II devotes significant resources to promoting individual and community behavior change.

Four years ago, COH adapted the REFLECT methodology developed by a Brazilian activist as the basis for its participatory strategic communication strategy. Using the tools, this approach encourages individuals and communities to assess their situations and resources, identify problems or issues to be addressed, and set goals and develop strategies for dealing with the problems identified.

New Initiatives

TB and Malaria Screening:

Conducted at two sites.

Reproductive Health and Family

Planning Services: This is conducted at all sites. Short-term FP commodities are provided by the Ministry of Health.

Male Circumcision: COH III/ROADS II has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Society for Family Health (local affiliate of PSI) to provide male circumcision at two sites. SFH provides the procedure; COH III/ROADS II provides the facility.

Radio Program: The Project worked with a village near Nakonde to develop radio programs in the local language which were broadcast on community radio. The topics, chosen by the community members, include drug/alcohol abuse, gender-based violence, and multiple concurrent sexual partnerships.

Most Significant Change Stories:

In three sites, the Project initiated an involving, participatory process to identify and collect stories of the significant changes that have taken place in the lives of individuals and communities.

Livelihood Component: For the first time, the Project has introduced a livelihood component. COH III/ROADS II is providing a step-by-step set of interventions with the goal of increasing household food and economic security. This is in the context of providing a comprehensive HIV prevention strategy. The program is initially targeting groups of sex workers, other community women, and out-of-school youth.

For more information, contact:

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