



Reproductive Health Association of Cambodia



Entertainment Workers, a group highly vulnerable to STIs and HIV/AIDS

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❖ Introduction


- ▶ Socio-economic growth, an open market economy, globalization, peace and stability in Cambodia, lead people to engage more in leisure time activities.
- ▶ The rapid growth of Entertainment establishments in the country especially in Phnom Penh, Siem Reap and Sihanouk Ville, are providing employment opportunities to thousands of young people particularly women of reproductive age.
- ▶ The knowledge about reproductive health, STI, and HIV/ AIDS amongst entertainment workers is crucial in prevention the infection.
- ▶ Health education and facilitate to access health care services of this highly vulnerable labor force in Cambodia is important.

Description

Objectives:

- To provide information about STIs, HIV/AIDS, reproductive health, and bad effects of drug use.
- To provide information about the availability of appropriate health services at the RHAC clinic and government health facilities.
- To promote condom use for safe sex.
- To facilitate access to health care services.

Strategies

- ▶ Set up a coordination network with the Provincial Health Department, local authorities and establishment owners,
 - ▶ Guided by existing national guidelines and policies,
 - ▶ Continuously provide information on reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, STIs, drug use, and other related topics using different approaches,
 - ▶ Organize coordination meetings with all stakeholders on a regular basis,
 - ▶ Establish a referral network,
 - ▶ Make available quality and friendly STI and VCCT services to the target population free of charge.
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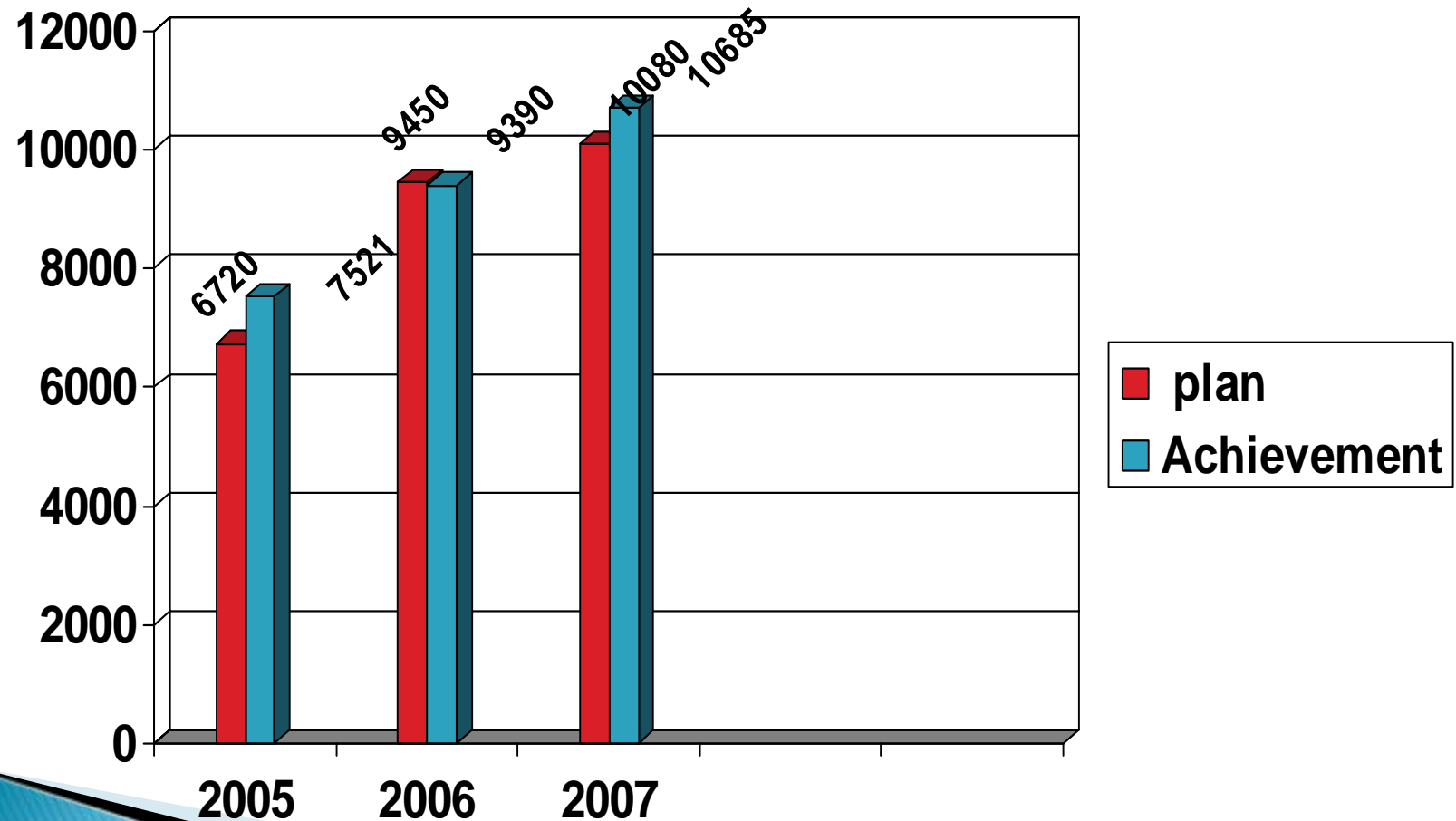
Number of Establishments and EW covered by the program, 2007 (PP,SHV,SRP)

Type of establishment	Number of Establishment	Number of Workers
Beer Company	22	1154
Massage Parlor (1Brothel based)	13	389
Karaoke (Beer Garden)	73	1679
Restaurants (1 Night Club)	9	188
Sub-Total	117	3410
Peer Active		316

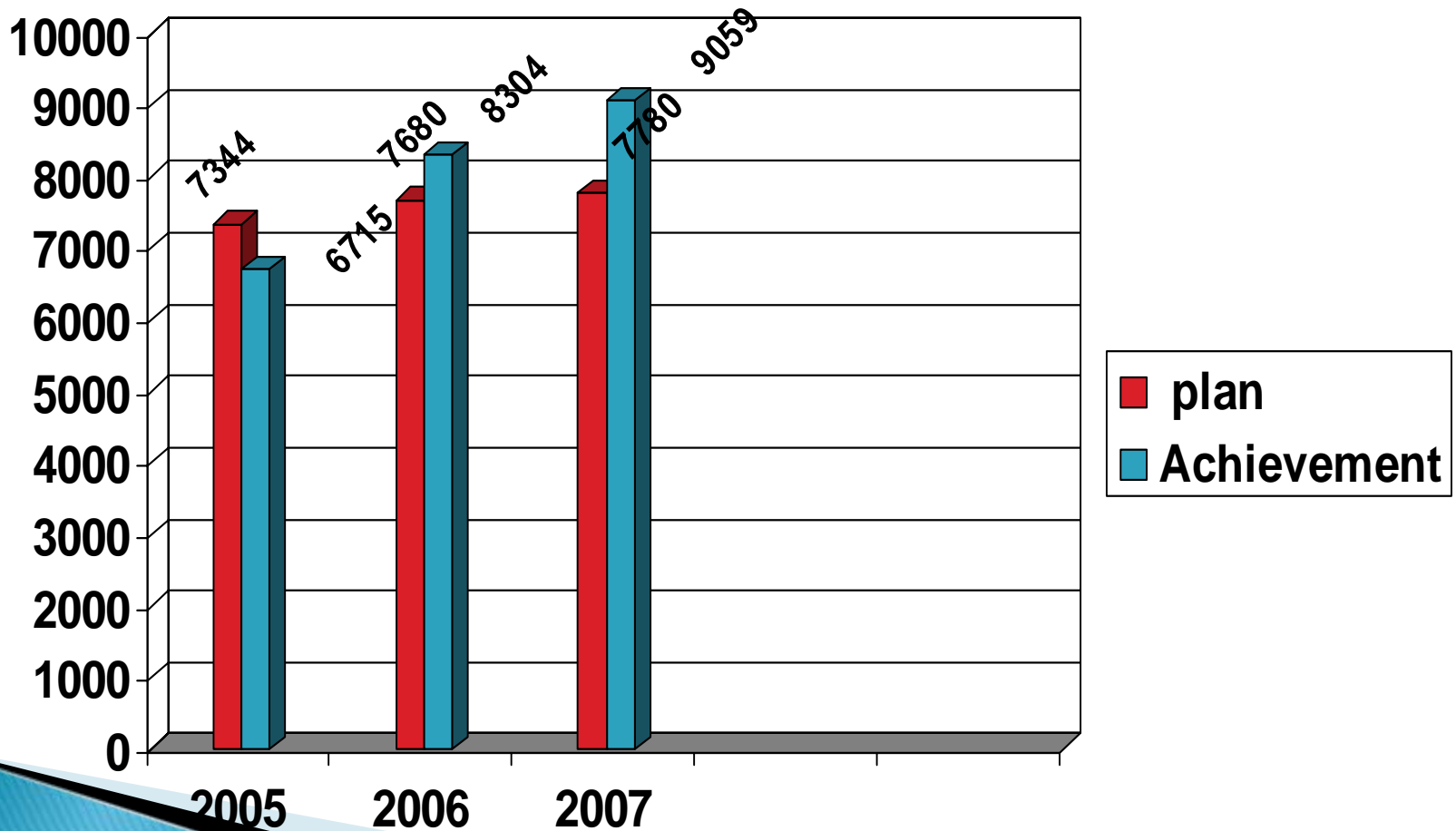


Results

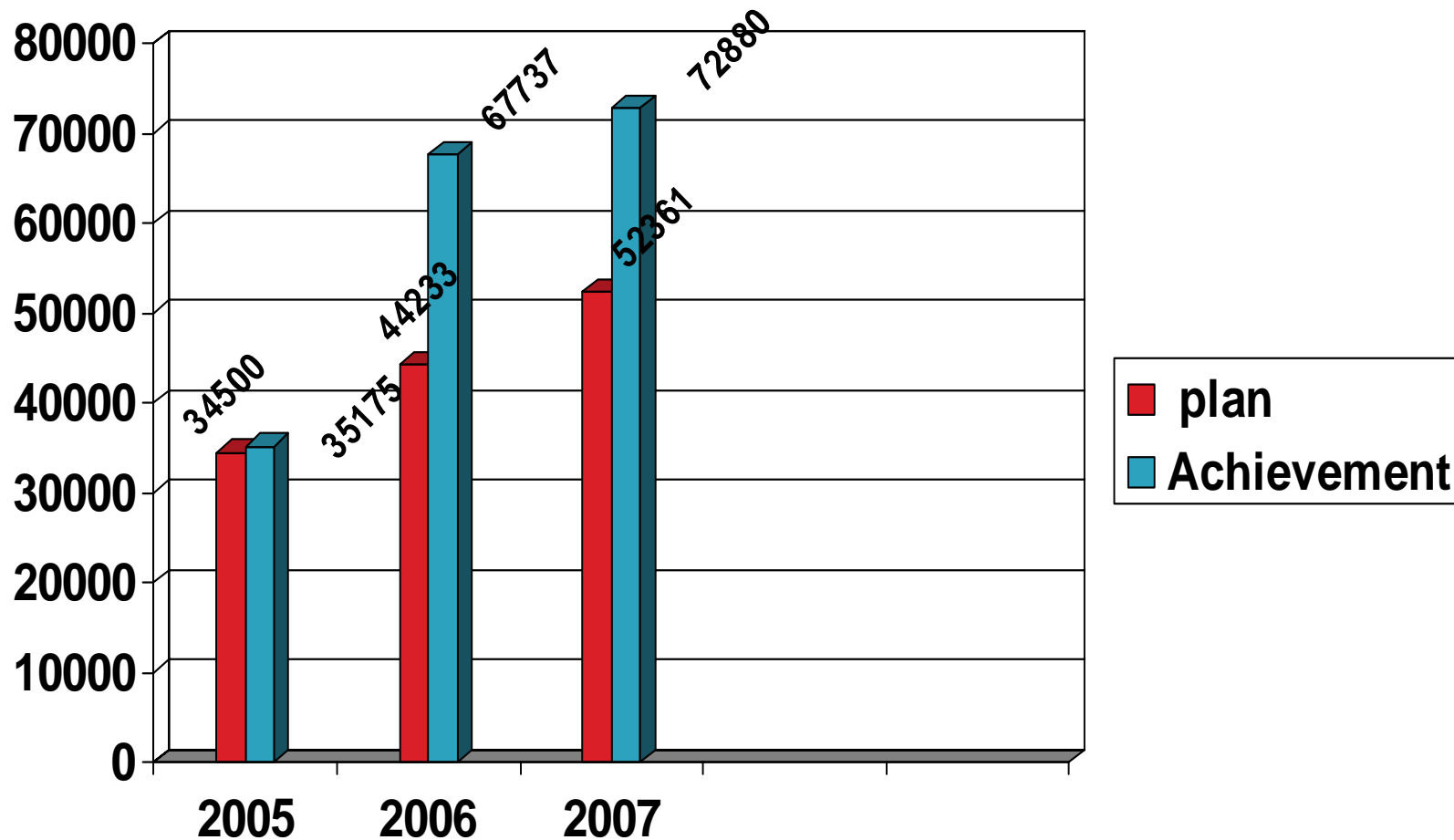
Number of entertainment workers reached through health education, 2005-2007



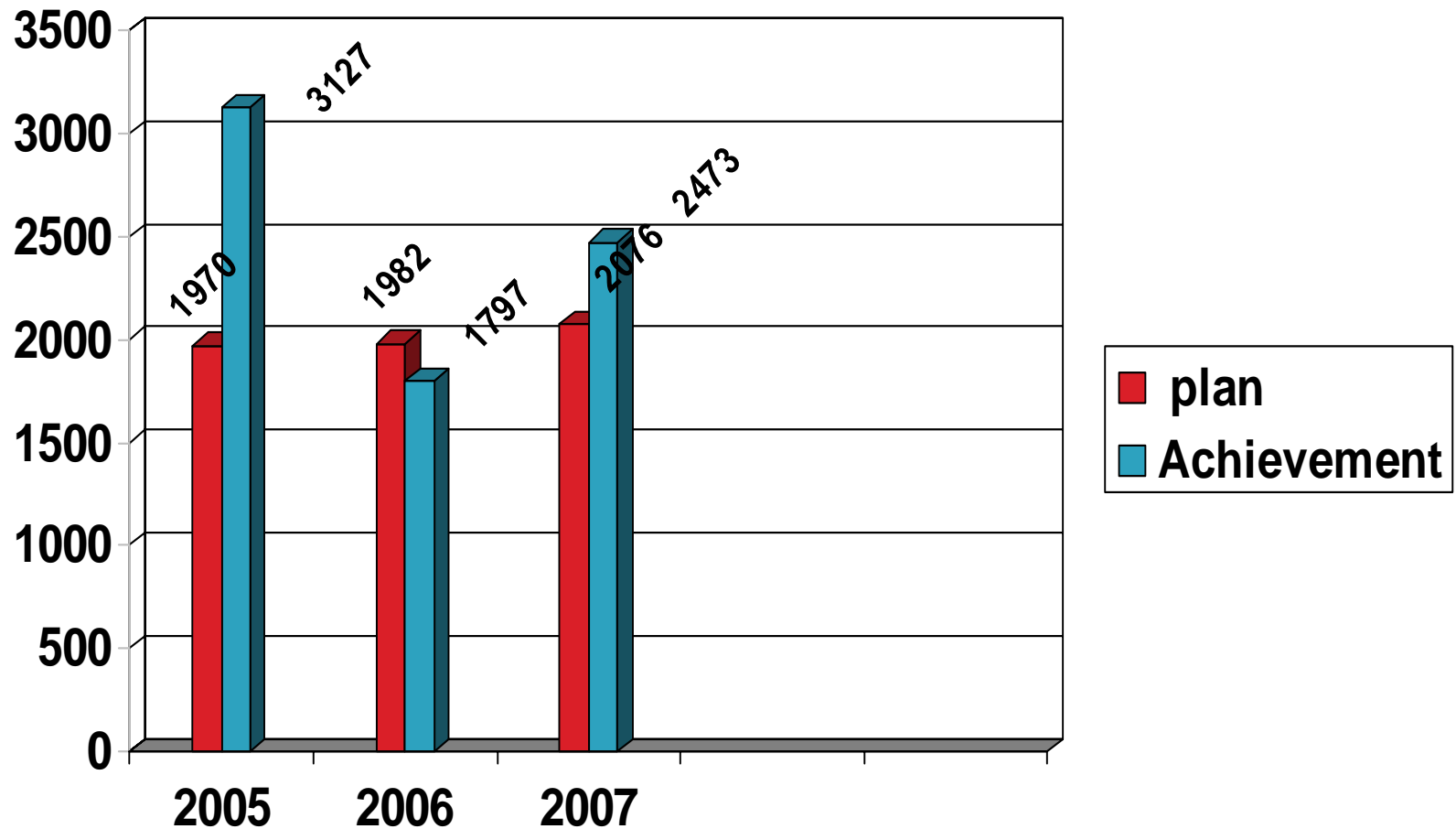
Number of entertainment workers reached through One on One talk by peer educators, 2005–2007



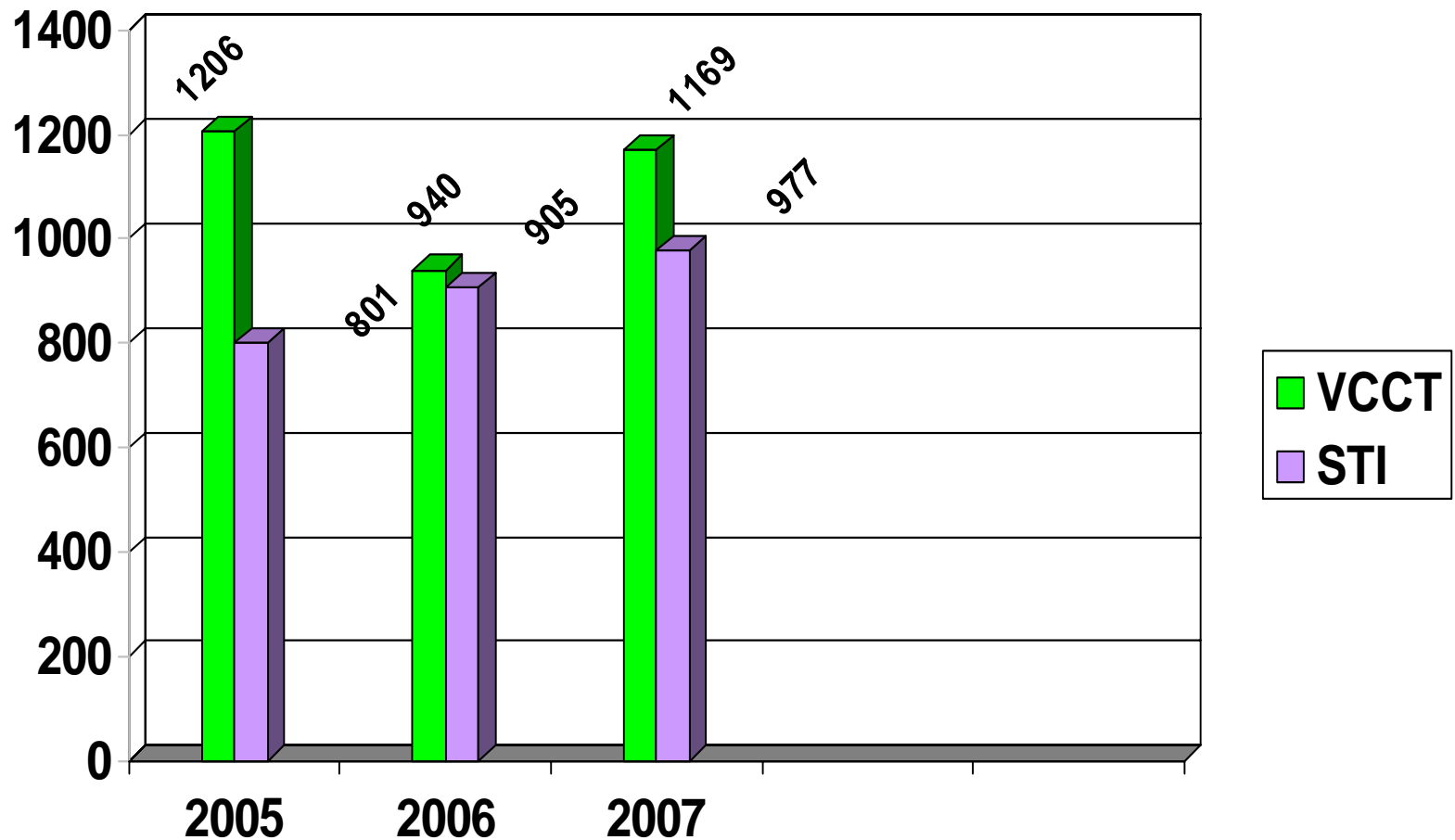
Number Condom distribute, 2005–2007



Entertainment workers seek health service (STI and VCCT) at RHAC clinic, 2005–2007



Entertainment workers seek STI and VCCT services at RHAC clinic, 2005–2007



Knowledge of EW regarding STI, HIV/AIDS and drug use 2005–2007

	2005	2006	2007
Knowledge on STI signs at least 3	34.9%	20.7%	55%
Knowledge on HIV/AIDS prevention at least 3 methods	62%	-	97%
Knowledge on bad effects of drug use at least 3	76%	72%	71%

Consistent condom use amongst EW 2005–2007

	2005	2006	2007
Consistent condom use with sweetheart	55.4%	38.5%	52%
Consistent condom use with client	85.8%	89.8%	92%

➤ **Lessons learned**

Close relationship and trust amongst RHAC staff members, peers educators, establishment owners and target group are the keys to success.

Once being covered, all establishments were provided full package: education and health services.

Field work linked to the clinic via a well coordinated referral network better cover and increase access to quality health services.

➤ **Recommendations:**

Establishments and entertainment workers need to be covered as close as 100% by both prevention and care services.

All organizations should not compete each other for its own piece of meal, but should complement each other for better coverage and service quality.

Thank you for your attention