

# **Strengthening HIV Positive Women's Leadership in Cambodia**

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# Objectives of Presentation:

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- Background
- Project Goal
- Project Objective
- Core Achievements
- Constraints
- Lesson learned
- Conclusion and recommendation

# Background of CCW

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- CCW is WLHIV network -2004
- The empowerment of women living with HIV/AIDS to provide a united voice, promote HIV positive women's leadership at all levels, and improve the quality of life of HIV positive women throughout Cambodia.
- 16 SHG and 12 PPN+

# Project Goal

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The overarching goal is to strengthen HIV positive women's leadership in Cambodia so that women living with HIV can actively engage in planning and decision making in key areas of the national response.

# Project Objectives

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- To build leadership capacity of Cambodia's HIV positive women
- To strengthen national coordination
- To improve advocacy at the national level on areas of common concern

# Core Achievements

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- Capacity needs assessment and mapping of HIV positive women's groups and networks in Cambodia
- CCW steering committee
- Trained WLHIV on leadership, advocacy and Media
- Strategic planning workshop with HIV positive women leaders
- A National Platform for Action 2008-2012

# Core Achievements

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- Effective partnerships were built with several partners
- IEC materials developed
- Adapted advocacy training tool from WAPN+
- Jointed advocacy effort at National level with other network
- Coordinated 50 WLHIV in attending PMTCT training

# Core Achievements

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- 176 WLHIV among 5 groups gained knowledge and skill of advocacy, facilitation and communication
- Organized Pre-GIPA consultation meeting
- Representative voice of women living with HIV/AIDS in Cambodia had heard at international level
- Strong partnerships and good collaboration with key stakeholders

# Constraints

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- A set of training tools for HIV positive women leaders has been developed some parts.
- Limited staff in implementation of activities
- The skills on Project Management, Report Writing and English communication are the major concerns and both the CCW project staff and the steering committee members need to enhance those skills.

# Lesson Learned

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- It recognizes that new strategies need to be developed to respond to the different capacity needs of WLHIV groups
- Needs to foster opportunities for the steering committee to speak on behalf of HIV positive women at all levels
- At the community level, the CCW recognizes the need to scale-up its support to women's self-help groups in the provinces

# Lesson Learned

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- CCW also needs to work on expanding its membership nationwide
- Sensitization of the stakeholders and relevant partners on the CCW activities
- It recognizes that new strategies need to be developed to respond to the different capacity needs of WLHIV groups
- Profound and continued capacity building of the CCW staff is crucial for a project success

# Conclusion and Recommendation

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- The effective implementation of the leadership project tends to be enthusiastic in term of helping to create an enabling environment for HIV positive women to become strong role models
- Continued capacity building of HIV positive women leaders within the CCW is crucial to the project's success and to the sustainability of the CCW network over the medium and long term

# Conclusion and Recommendation

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- CCW should now focus on a priority area which coincided in the period of consultation meeting with women group and network insert to the National Platform for action on 2008-2012
- The International Community or donor agencies should continue its support for the future CCW effort, by technical advice and support, and funding.

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