



The AIDS Support Organization, TASO (U) LTD



TASO Experiential Attachment To Combat HIV/AIDS (TEACH), TASO Uganda Experience

HIV/AIDS capacity building summit

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Introduction

- TASO is the pioneer civil society organization and the largest indigenous HIV/AIDS service provider in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- The organization has over twenty years experience supporting people living with HIV/AIDS and encouraging them to live positively.
- TASO exists to contribute to a process of Preventing HIV infection, restoring hope and improving the quality of life of persons families and communities affected by HIV infection and disease.

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Background

- TASO Experiential Attachment To Combat HIV/AIDS Program was initiated in 2005 as a result of need and demand to share TASO's best practices in HIV/AIDS management with other organizations within Uganda and other African countries affected by HIV/AIDS.
- The aim of TEACH programme is to build the capacity of public and private African organizations involved in the provision of HIV/AIDS care and support services.

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Background cont'

With support from Swedish development agency SIDA the first phase was implemented from 2005-2008 and renewed in 2009 for another three years.

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Methodology

- TEACH 's objective is to improve HIV/AIDS service provider competence in Sub-Saharan Africa through an experiential one- month in-service apprenticeship
- Attaches are selected from Uganda and other African countries
- They are oriented and placed within TASO service centre's, spread across 11 districts in Uganda, Regional offices and the Headquarters; where they are mentored

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Methodology cont

- An evaluation workshop is held for each intake to discuss the lessons learnt.
- Upon returning to their home country, TEACH graduates are expected to apply best practices in HIV/AIDS programming and service delivery models
- University students and interns from Uganda and international are also attached to TASO centre's and supported to acquire skills.

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TEACH Achievements

In the first phase of the programme (2005-2008) TEACH trained 687 HIV/AIDS practitioners from Sub-Saharan Africa in HIV/AIDS best practices in service provision.

TEACH Phase II, TASO hosted 179 attaches (89 males and 90 females). 2010 was the second year of the TEACH II project and 189 attaches (96 males and 93 females) were hosted in the various TASO Centers.

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Achievements cont

These include

Uganda, Tanzania, Sudan, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Swaziland, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Democratic Republics of Congo, Sierra Leone and Liberia.

Attaches had varying backgrounds ranging from medical personnel, administrators financial personnel, public relations officers, IT specialists, youth mobilizers, military personnel and legislators.

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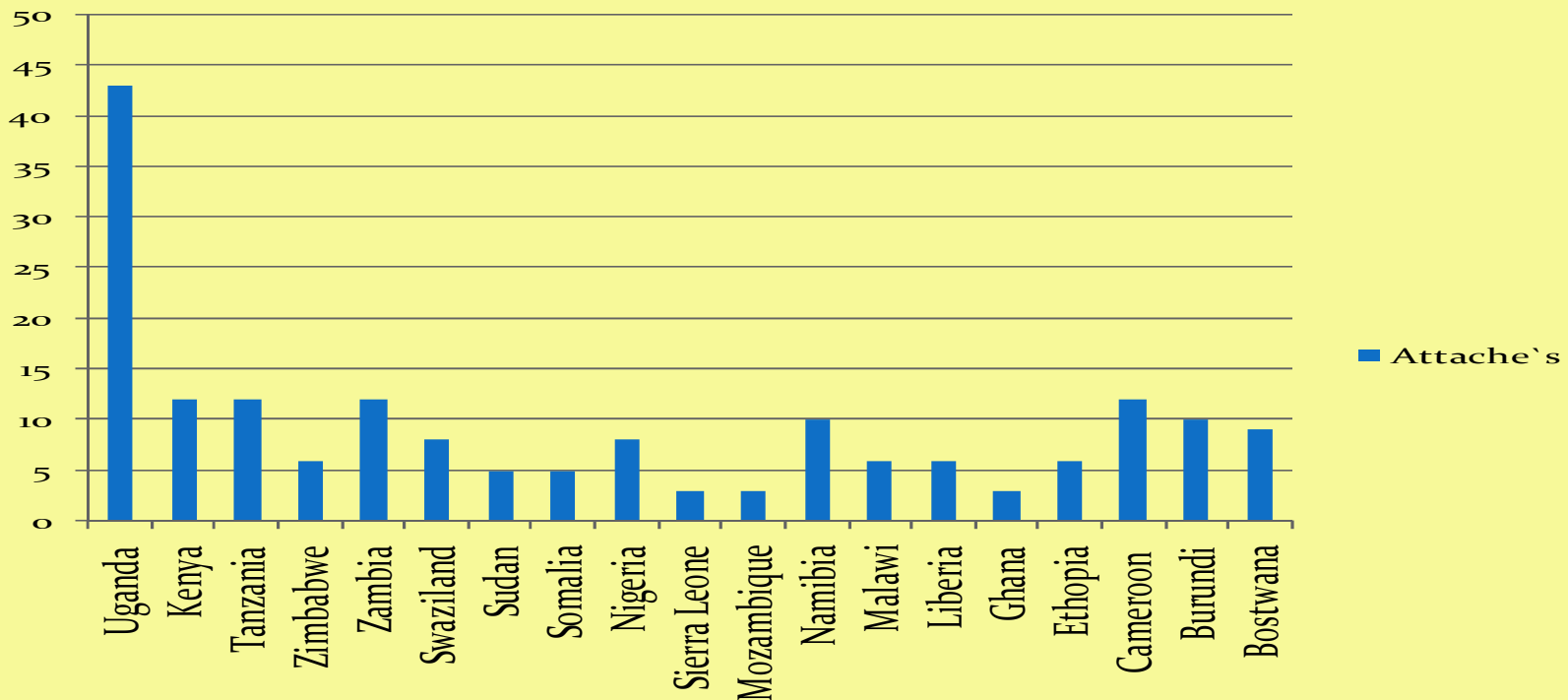
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Graphical presentation

TEACH Attachés in 2009 per country

Attache`s



(Lynette Opendi,2010)

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ACHIEVEMENTS CONT



Skills attained by TEACH attachés

- Community mobilization
- Memory book writing
- ART case conferencing
- Data management
- Counseling and listening, including child counseling
- Lobbying and advocacy
- Public relations and customer care skills

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Challenges and counter –strategies

- Partner organizations are not able to sponsor attaches,
- high numbers of applicants
- full scholarship is given to successful participants

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Lessons Learnt

- TASO models were replicated in many attaches organizations. (evaluation report)
- Experiential learning is very effective in transferring knowledge and skills causing fundamental transformation within the individual affective domain
- Cross country sharing of experiences improves HIV programming- improvement made continuously
- Others lessons include:
 - Community mobilization and sensitization through drama

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Lesson learnt cont

- The community ART and service delivery model
 - The counseling model, in particular couples, community and family counseling
 - The “positive living” model
 - Memory book and will making
 - Client appointment system
 - Information management system
 - HIV/AIDS integrated service delivery model

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A group picture of TEACH attaches at a graduation ceremony



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Conclusion



Partner institutions should provide attachments to others HIV/AIDS service providers' so that best practices can be replicated in most parts of Sub Saharan African,

With TEACH model, a critical mass of effective service providers has been built as evidenced by TEACH Evaluation report 2005-08

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Acknowledgements

- TASO Uganda Ltd
- TASO Clients And Staff
- TEACH Alumni
- TASO Donors
- Other HIV Implementing Partners

Thank You

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