Effectiveness of Available Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) Materials for Male Involvement in Reproductive Health

Sophy Mabasa¹, Stubbs Maluleke², Saiqa Mullick¹, Mantshi Tefo-Menziwa¹, Dean Peacock²

¹Population Council and ²Sonke Gender Justice

BACKGROUND

Male involvement in sexual and reproductive health is key to ensuring the well-being of men and their partners and children; and it contributes to prevention of HIV and AIDS infection.

STUDY OBJECTIVE

The objective was to obtain men’s views regarding the available Information, Education, and Communication materials which target men. These views will inform the communication approaches to improve men’s sexual and reproductive health.

ANALYSIS DESIGN AND METHODS

• 15 focus-group discussions were conducted in 3 provinces (North West, Mpumalanga, and Free State) with 118 men ages 18–74.

• The groups contained 51% unemployed men including pensioners and church elders, 43% employed including professionals and self-employed, and 6% students. Most men were able to read and write in their own languages.

• Themes discussed included sexual and reproductive health awareness and knowledge, men’s perception of HIV risk, multiple concurrent partnerships, voluntary counseling and testing, prevention of mother-to-child transmission, antiretroviral treatment, care and support for men, and condom use.

• The effectiveness of available materials was assessed by questions concerning men’s current knowledge, practices, and beliefs; the sources of information; and the types of communication that could encourage behavior change.

RESULTS

The findings indicate that there are limited IEC materials specifically targeting men, hence the limited awareness of their own reproductive and sexual health needs, PMTCT, and ART. Many men indicated that general information regarding HIV and AIDS is available in the media and at health centers. However, men frequently perceive that information found at health centers is targeted to women. This finding highlights that most public health facilities do not cater to men’s reproductive health needs. Awareness and knowledge of condom use for pregnancy and HIV prevention was high, however; men also reported that practices are influenced by social issues such as alcohol abuse and partner expectations. The findings were supported by some of the following statements made by the participants:

ACNOWLEDGMENTS

This poster is made possible by the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

PHOTO CREDIT

USAID

SONKE GENDER JUSTICE

This publication was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This poster is made possible by the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

PHOTO CREDIT

USAID

SONKE GENDER JUSTICE

This publication was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

PHOTO CREDIT

USAID

SONKE GENDER JUSTICE

This publication was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

PHOTO CREDIT

USAID

SONKE GENDER JUSTICE

This publication was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

PHOTO CREDIT

USAID

SONKE GENDER JUSTICE

This publication was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

PHOTO CREDIT

USAID

SONKE GENDER JUSTICE

This publication was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

PHOTO CREDIT

USAID

SONKE GENDER JUSTICE

This publication was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

PHOTO CREDIT

USAID

SONKE GENDER JUSTICE

This publication was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

PHOTO CREDIT

USAID

SONKE GENDER JUSTICE

This publication was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

PHOTO CREDIT

USAID

SONKE GENDER JUSTICE

This publication was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

PHOTO CREDIT

USAID

SONKE GENDER JUSTICE

This publication was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

PHOTO CREDIT

USAID

SONKE GENDER JUSTICE

This publication was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

PHOTO CREDIT

USAID

SONKE GENDER JUSTICE

This publication was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

PHOTO CREDIT

USAID

SONKE GENDER JUSTICE

This publication was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

PHOTO CREDIT

USAID

SONKE GENDER JUSTICE

This publication was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

PHOTO CREDIT

USAID

SONKE GENDER JUSTICE

This publication was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.

PHOTO CREDIT

USAID

SONKE GENDER JUSTICE

This publication was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. We thank the organizations that recruited the participants and the men who gave up their time to be part of the discussions.