

## CAMBODIA

EDUCAIDS was initiated in Cambodia in 2006 to support the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) in its response to HIV. Efforts have focused on strategic planning for comprehensive HIV programming, building capacity to implement formal and non-formal HIV preventive education, developing instructional materials for HIV prevention activities, and disseminating accurate and timely information on HIV through the media. Specific attention has been given to addressing the interconnections between gender and HIV, including the feminization of the epidemic and the marginalization of sexual minorities.

### Activities

UNESCO's HIV and AIDS efforts in Cambodia, guided by the EDUCAIDS Framework for Action, are helping to build the knowledge, skills and policy environment of the MoEYS to respond to the epidemic.

UNESCO has supported the following activities in Cambodia:

- Development of the MoEYS Strategic Plan on HIV, including supporting the MoEYS to conduct an impact assessment of its HIV programme in 2007;
- Capacity-building efforts through the MoEYS leadership programme;
- Training managers and key officers of Community Learning Centres (CLC) from 23 of the 24 provinces;
- Technical assistance on the revision of the education sector workplace policy on HIV and AIDS;
- Development and production of curriculum materials such as teachers' manuals, textbooks, a flipchart on HIV preventive education and a toolkit for teachers;
- Production of a media guide on HIV and AIDS developed through the joint efforts of the National AIDS Authority, Policy Project, USAID and UNESCO.



Mobile learning van HIV session in a community learning centre

Planned future activities include supporting the MoEYS Interdepartmental Committee for HIV/AIDS (ICHA) to develop its annual costed operational plan, conducting a survey on adolescent sexual behaviour, and revising and finalizing the present draft Youth Policy to address issues specific to HIV and gender.

### Lessons Learned

In 1999, the MoEYS established the ICHA to coordinate the development and implementation of HIV programming by the fifteen MoEYS departments. ICHA has been a key mechanism for coordinating and mainstreaming HIV and AIDS within the education sector, as well as an important entry point for UNESCO and other partners.

Within the context of a post-conflict society, capacity-building is an integral part of HIV programming. In Cambodia, capacity-building efforts have focused primarily on the central level. In the future, more emphasis will need to be given to training at decentralized levels.