



## **MEXICO**

In Mexico, EDUCAIDS was launched as a collaborative partnership between the Ministry of Education (MoE), UN agencies, civil society and young people in June 2007. The main objective of EDUCAIDS in Mexico is to elaborate a national strategy for HIV-related sex and relationships education in schools. The strategy will be launched at the International AIDS Conference in Mexico City in August 2008.

## **Activities**

In order to elaborate a national strategy and action plan for HIV-related sex and relationships education in schools, a multidisciplinary task team was created. It includes representation from the MoE, UN agencies (UNFPA, UNICEF, PAHO/WHO, UNIFEM), civil society and young people. The task team is responsible for drafting the national strategy and action plan.

- A consultative workshop with a daily participation of approximately 30 task team members was held on 24-28 September 2007 in Mexico City. The aim of the workshop was to decide on the contents of the national strategy. Topics discussed included: curriculum planning and design, teacher learning, workplace policies, stigma and discrimination, nonformal education, and vulnerable groups such as migrants. The workshop was attended by a wide range of partners such as government departments (MoE, Ministry of Health, Institute for Youth, Ministry of Labour), NGOs and civil society, UN agencies, educationalists, HIV and AIDS experts and young people. The last day of the workshop resulted in the first draft of a national strategy document.
- A draft of the national strategy document was presented at the National Conference for HIV/ AIDS/STIs along with a consultative workshop to collect input and feedback.



Consultative workshop on elaboration of a national strategy for HIV and sex education held on 24-28 September 2007 in Mexico City, Mexico.

• The next steps are to elaborate further versions of the strategy document. It is anticipated that the final document will be presented at the International AIDS Conference in August 2008.

## **Lessons Learned**

- Establishing a coherent task team and getting members involved from the very beginning fosters ownership of the drafting process.
- It is important to make the explicit link between sex education and HIV and AIDS.
- Activities such as curriculum revisions and content revisions of educational books must be included in the strategy drafting process.
- It is important to encourage task team members and curriculum planners to join efforts and work as one consolidated group.