

## Developing sustainable, international partnerships model to build capacity in HIV and STIs

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## HIV/STIs and Global Health

- › HIV/AIDS has an impact on the developmental outcomes
- › HIV/AIDS, a major public health challenge, leading to increased demand for enhanced educational and research skills
- › **AIDS Invented Global Health<sup>1</sup>** :
  - development of linkages between researchers, clinicians, public health officials and the affected community
  - No individual country can adequately address diseases in the face of movement of people, trade, microbes and risks

<sup>1</sup> Brandt AM. How AIDS invented global health. NEJM 368:23:2149-2152



## Capacity building: STIs and HIV

- › An adequately supplied and well-trained workforce is an essential component of the health care system
- › Effective public health responses in prevention and management of HIV/STIs require strong human resources, focused on the development and implementation of evidence-based policies, together with lifelong learning and the generation of new knowledge



## HIV/STIs Capacity building challenges

- › HIV is now a chronic disease requiring treatment for many decades, which has created a series of new challenges
- › Increased emphasis on country owned and sustainable programs
- › Dynamic nature of HIV prevention and management
- › Global relevance with local adaptation



## Postgraduate Program in HIV STIs and Sexual Health at the University of Sydney

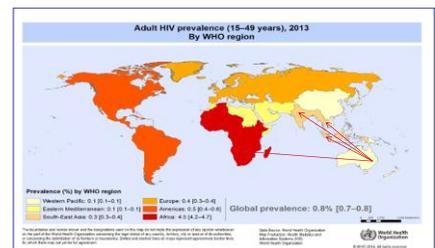
- › The University of Sydney has been delivering a Masters program in HIV, STIs & Sexual Health for over twenty years, and is able to draw on an extensive network of content experts, together with specifically designed online resources
- › We wished to explore how best to leverage Australian pedagogic and research skills along with the partnership approach in HIV/STIs into an Indian setting, in order to build human resource capacity



## Sydney - PHFI partnership

- › As part of the international development training partnerships were formed with overseas institutions academic, service and NGO sectors

Botswana  
Cambodia  
India  
Indonesia  
Myanmar  
Uganda  
Tanzania  
Zambia  
Zimbabwe





## Sydney - PHFI partnership

- › Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) was chosen as an institutional partner in India on the basis of its academic track record, extensive network of institutions and the broad background of Faculty members
- › PHFI aims to strengthen India's public health institutional and systems capability and provide knowledge to achieve better health outcomes for all
- › PHFI has a network of four Indian Institutes of Public Health (IIPH)

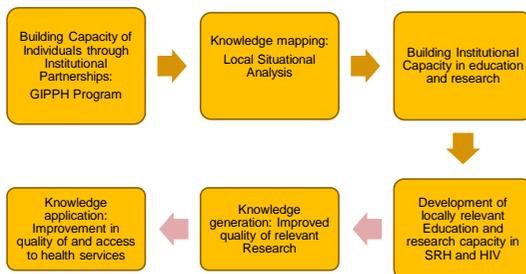


## Sydney - PHFI partnership

- › The aim of the partnership was to develop an sustainable educational program at the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) with which to build local capacity to strengthen human resources in the field of HIV and STIs, and to extend and strengthen India's response to HIV and STIs
- › Project started with scoping visits and training of core members of the academic team
- › Faculty at PHFI and affiliated organisations was trained through **Global Intensive Professional Program in HIV/STIs (GIPPH)**
- › A **Collaborative Partnership model** was developed



## Collaborative Knowledge Partnership Model



## GIPPH Program

- › To train current and aspiring leaders who will be in a position to advance key regional policy objectives in HIV/STIs prevention and control
- › To address educational needs and enhance research skills in various aspects of HIV/STIs
- › Components:
  - University Units of Study
  - Research training
  - Visits to Centres of Excellence
  - Work placements
  - Leadership development course
  - Australasian HIV and Sexual Health conferences



## Professional program in HIV/STIs in India

## Year 1 – Stakeholder engagement

- Formation of an Activity Advisory Committee with a meeting in Sydney
- Stakeholder survey involving more than 200 participants from academia, prospective students, community, Government and NGO sectors
- National stakeholder workshop in New Delhi to establish local needs attended by 43 stakeholders
- Pedagogic skills development through Sydney-based GIPPH program



## Professional program in HIV/STIs in India

## Year 2 – Feasibility and clarifying local need

- Curriculum mapping and development to reflect local educational priorities
- Developed with trained faculty from PHFI through GIPPH program
- Development of 6 month certificate course with online and contact phase
- Embedded in Evidence-based practice

| S. No. | Name of the Module                                     |
|--------|--|
| 1      | Introduction to STI & HIV/AIDS                         |
| 2      | Biology and Clinical Orientation                       |
| 3      | Epidemiology & Surveillance                            |
| 4      | Biomedical Treatment Strategies                        |
| 5      | Prevention Technologies                                |
| 6      | Working with Vulnerable Populations                    |
| 7      | Behaviour Change Communication and Advocacy Strategies |
| 8      | Project Management & Leadership                        |

**Professional program in HIV/STIs in India**

**Year 3- Operationalising**

- Pilot delivery in Indian Institute of Public Health, New Delhi
- 'Blended' model of delivery with online modular structure and a contact phase
- Contact phase delivered by academics from Sydney and local experts including academics, NGO, community and Govt representatives (NACO) to develop local network
- Followed by 2<sup>nd</sup> program that was delivered completely online with a focus on participants from North East of India for regional expansion

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**Certificate Course in STIs and HIV/AIDS**



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**Certificate Course in STIs and HIV/AIDS**

| Batch         | Enrolments | Male      | Female    |
|---------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| 2014 Batch I  | 19         | 14        | 5         |
| 2014 Batch II | 34         | 17        | 17        |
| 2015 Batch    | 29         | 18        | 11        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>82</b>  | <b>49</b> | <b>33</b> |

**Background of participants:**

- Medical : **56%**  
(Most have public health specialisation)
- Public Health and Social sciences: **27%**
- Other Health: **14%**
- Other: **3%**

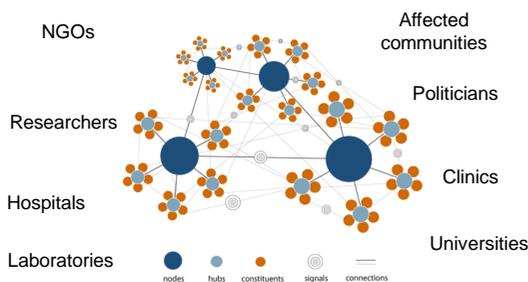
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**Lessons learnt**

- › Discussions with key internal stakeholders: Existing networks, Global Health office/International office
- › In depth discussions with key external stakeholders through survey and workshops
- › In-country meetings for clarifying local needs
- › Joint development of curriculum and jointly delivered program
- › May need more direct partnership with and involvement of Ministry of Health

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**Networking hub model**



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Two options:

Option 1. Do nothing



**CAN'T SOMEONE ELSE JUST DO IT?**

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## Option 2: Strive towards a goal



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## Way forward: Knowledge Network

- › Development of Knowledge Network in Sexual & Reproductive Health and HIV
  - Individuals
  - Institutions
- › Coordinated Regional Delivery of SRH and HIV education
- › Development of Research capacity: local generation and application of knowledge – research programs, research students

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