

World AIDS Day 2009



NRI HIV related research and activities
2007 –2009

December, 1 2009

Venue: PNG National Research Institute

NRI HIV Research Profile



- NRI has a HIV workplace policy and a HIV committee was created in 2007
- In March 2007 the NRI published a HIV bibliography
- After discussions with the ADB in 2006; a behavioural specialist was seconded to NRI at the SESD in March 2007 to support development of BSS research
- Student placements UPNG with HIV behavioural mapping and support of the HIV seminar series 2007 - 2008

NRI HIV seminar series

- The NRI HIV Seminar Series started on April 25th 2007. From 2007 to 2009, had forty four NRI HIV seminars.
- Some seminars are videotaped and the DVD's of these seminars are available at NRI library and PowerPoint's available as links on www.nri.org.pg
- The HIV research seminar series is part of the NRI policy research and information dissemination to stakeholders and the public. Seminars and research dissemination provides opportunities for policy makers, HIV stakeholders and the public to engage with HIV related research.
- Supported through the NRI Research Development Budget Research cadet / Project Officer 2008 and Research Cadet and BSS team members, and Divisional Secretary 2009

Other Dissemination



- HIV electronic library (Ready for depositing in NRI library ongoing updates)
- HIV Bibliography (final draft for publishing Feb 2010)
- Reproduction of DVDs Dec 2009 with complete sets of DVDs to be launched and disseminated in January 2010 (research institute, universities and NAC)
- Available NRI library

NRI HIV Research



- 2007 NRI HIV seminar series began to increase opportunities for dissemination of HIV related socio-behavioural research
- 2008 HIV was integrated into the NRI Research Development Budget and integrated into SESD Annual Work Plans (support seminar series, development of electronic library and further development of bibliography)
- MOA was signed between NRI and NDoH in April 2008 to create a BSS Unit to supports the implementation of the PNG National HIV, AIDS and STI Surveillance Plan 2007-2010, and supports surveillance systems with the collection of behavioural and bio-behavioural data

NRI BSS team



- The BSS Unit at NRI began to be staffed casually in June 2008 (13 casual staff), with the hiring of 5 fulltime BSS team
- End of July 2009 8 fulltime BSS staff (1 recruitment) strategy to support the casual staff to become permanent workers to maintain the development of capacity of the team. Casuals hired for different pieces of data collection
- 2008 – 2009 Completed collection of 5 pieces of BSS research at 2 Development enclaves, 1 STI and ANC clinic and sample with higher risk youth at border area
- Data used for monitoring surveillance behavioural trends overtime, create baseline and monitoring of behaviour change programs other partners and inform policy and advocacy strategies

NRI BSS research supports the NRI Corporate Plan 2009-2013 and is situated under the Collection, Analysis and Dissemination of HIV Social Behavioral Research theme of the Social and Environmental Studies Division.

Also supports a variety of government priorities:

- The Papua New Guinea National Strategic Plan on HIV/AIDS 2006 – 2010, Focal Area 3: Epidemiology and Surveillance and Focal Area 4: Social and Behavioural Change Research strategy
- The NDoH Health Sector Strategic Plan for STI, HIV and AIDS (2008-2010)
- The NACS National Research Agenda
- National HIV Prevention Strategy (2009 – 2015)





NRI BSS Research 2008

Support NDoH sentinel data collection, BSS team collected surveys at sentinel STI and ANC clinics July 2009:

- Survey sampled 300 male and female in Lae at Lae Friends STI clinic
 - Current status: Report disseminated to stakeholders and downloadable from NRI website / awaiting publishing
- ANC survey sampled 307 Antenatal women/mothers in POM: Survey site: PMGH Antenatal Clinic
 - Current status: Report disseminated and downloadable from NRI website / awaiting publishing
- Reports raise policy issues around HIV testing, increases understandings of behavioural characteristics of these populations and presents data for STI & PPTCT programs

NRI HIV BSS 08-09



Development enclave BSS surveys include:
Oil Search Limited (across 5 sites) and 463
workforce members sampled using random
(employee list) for BSS

- Current status: Preliminary results disseminated OSL public health and further dissemination end year with management
- Report editing - completion December 2009
- Workplace policy issues at both sites of different nature

NRI HIV BSS 08-09



WR Carpenter Limited: Tea and coffee plantation workers

- 460 workforce members sampled (employee list) and stratified by type of work and gender
- Current status: Dissemination of preliminary results HIV project staff with other dissemination in December
- Report writing – December final draft

NRI BSS 2009 - 2010



Vanimo Youth RDS:

- Sampled 373 more at risk youth using respondent driven sampling in Vanimo Green District
- Current status: Data Entry completed and verification for export to data base
- Report April 2009
- Policy issues around harm reduction strategies

NRI HIV BSS 2009 - 2010



Round 3 BSS - repeat of 1st BSS (2006) and surveys in WHP, Madang and Morobe will create trend data to look at changes in people's practices overtime with populations targeted

1. 2X RDS with people exchanging sex in Mt Hagen and Lae,
 2. 3X Surveys with Port workers in Lae, Ramu Sugar Workers at Ramu Agri Industries and Highway truck drivers in Mt Hagen
- Stakeholders consultations completed in Port Moresby (Sept), Lae (late Sept-early Oct) and Mt Hagen towards end of October
 - Research Protocols completed / reviewed NACS RAC Nov 30th
 - Pilot and questionnaires to be completed December, use of new technology PDA / training Feb (2 sites) and data Collection Jan-March 2009

NRI HIV technical support



- Have NAC RAC representatives from NRI and BSS team
- Representatives on the National Surveillance Technical Working Group
- NRI supported the development and writing of: The National Surveillance Plan, 2007 Estimation Report, the UNGASS Report 2007, the National HIV Prevention Strategy, and the design and ethics for National IBBS
- Broadly consulted with and attend workshops and forums
- 2009 International and national presentations 9th ICAAP, Medical Symposium, Rural Enclaves HIV Prevention Project Annual meetings, Data Collectors Workshop, NRI seminars...

Universal Access and Human Rights

- NRI highlights important pressing policy issues
- Provide opportunities for policy advocacy (WABHA and WAD 2009)
- Involvement of PLHIV in research and presently BSS team supporting the IGAT Hope with their stigma and discrimination Index
- Data collected BSS contributes to data on attitudes on stigma and discrimination across all BSS sites
- BSS helps to understand the drivers of the epidemic

