

Introduction

Project Title:	Out of School youth.
Lead NGO:	Parbat Social Welfare Association, Chilas
Partner NGO:	Anjuman, Falaho, Behbood, Chilas
Target Group:	Out of School youth
Location:	Chilas

AIDS is a growing threat for the whole of northern areas because of its proximity to china, India and central states. There is one confirmed case of AIDS who attracted the disease from the Middle East and has been repatriated to his native town of Chilas .because of social taboos the case has not been pursued actively and near relatives of the case has yet to be screened for any transmission of HIV.

The youth is involved in all types of business, keeping the risk factors in mind the present study s conducted to check and upgrade the level of awareness among youth regarding HIV and AIDS.

Objectives:

- To sensitize and mobilized the school youth on the prevention of HIV&AIDS
- Assessment of present awareness and sensitization level of out of school youth about sexually Transmitted Infection and HIV/AIDS.
- Designing and implementing sensitization and awareness raising program to bring attitudinal change in target group
- Identification and treatment of patients having STIs and proper screening of potential youth for HIV and AIDS..

Methodology

Following Strategies were used to conduct the study

- Rapid situational analysis
- Voluntary counseling & testing
- Behaviour change communication
- Peer education

Achievements

- Risk of HIV and AIDS and STI S transmission among targeted group reduced
- Health seeking behaviour was improved
- Religious leaders accepted the HIV&AIDS as an issue
- Stigma and discrimination regarding HIV & AIDS reduced

Challenges Faced

The main challenges faced were

- Participation of youth in project intervention
- Lack of social and institutional acceptance of HIV
- Influence of religious leaders on the participative approach

Lesson Learnt

- Involvement of Religious leaders can be effective in the project implementation
- Sustainability of the services provision net under project also needs strong well drafted advocacy
- Media can play a very vital role in educating youth regarding HIV&AIDS