



# National Federation of People with Disabilities in Namibia

HIV & AIDS  
PROGRAMME



# NAMIBIA





# NAMIBIA: FACTS



- 1.8 Million People
- Prevalence disability 5%
- Prevalence HIV&AIDS 23%
- Majority deaths HIV&AIDS related
- Independent since 1990
- Legacy of apartheid



# NFPDN: FACTS



- Umbrella organisation disability movement
- Represents all disabilities
- Lobbying and advocacy work
- Capacity building programmes
- Networking
- Awareness building programme
- HIV&AIDS programme



# General problems PWD'S



- Negative attitudes
- Lack of education
- Low level access to information
- Poverty
- Low self esteem
- No access transport
- Low access health facilities
- No access labour market
- No access credit facilities



# Background HIV&AIDS Programme



- Request VSO to mainstream HIV&AIDS
- Small questionnaire pwd's
- Pilot workshop pwd's Okakarara
- HIV&AIDS and Disability Conference  
Windhoek, 2003

HIV & AIDS

and Disability

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# HIV & AIDS and Disability



## Conference

### Recommendations

- One designated person within NFPDN to establish HIV & AIDS Programme
- Establish Taskforce with participants different organisations
- Ensure adequate research and collection of data



- Ensure accessible information
- Promote networking between organisations
- Promote free speech, especially about sex, to erode prejudices and stigmas
- Encourage other organisations to accommodate pwd's



# Research



- Interviews different regions with pwd's and service providers
- Questionnaires pwd's
- Group discussions HIV&AIDS during other workshops
- Questionnaires HIV&AIDS service organisations
- Study visit DPSA Western Cape



# Specific problems pwd's related to HIV&AIDS



- Attitudes society: pwd's not supposed to have sexual relationships
- Low educational level: pwd's don't understand messages
- Lack of accessible information materials
- Pwd's outside society: not invited to participate in HIV&AIDS programmes
- Low access to condoms and femidons



# Objectives NFPDN



## HIV&AIDS Programme

- To train pwd's on issues regarding HIV&AIDS, especially prevention, voluntary counseling and testing, treatment, home based care and human rights issues related to HIV&AIDS
- To mainstream disability issues into HIV&AIDS organisations in order to create a conducive environment for pwd's to participate
- To develop, produce and distribute disability specific HIV&AIDS information materials



# Solutions: NFPDN

## HIV & AIDS Programme

### Information



- Develop Braille and audio materials for people with visual impairments
- Develop video for people with hearing impairments
- Develop leaflets without written text
- Distribute materials



# Solutions



## Training

- Train pwd's from all different regions as HIV&AIDS trainers
- Train pwd's, in co-operation with HIV&AIDS service providers, as HIV&AIDS counselors
- Train pwd's as peer educators
- Establish a small grant fund to provide funds for HIV&AIDS training on regional and local level





# Solutions



## Mainstreaming activities

- Provide disability awareness training to HIV&AIDS service providers
- Include an HIV&AIDS component in all training to pwd's
- Include HIV&AIDS in curriculum special education