The challenge of HIV/AIDS communication in the Islamic community in Thailand

Development of workshops for communicating about HIV/AIDS with Islamic communities

- Religious leaders
- Academics
- Local networks

CONTENT

- Participants examine their own attitude about HIV/AIDS and their risk behavior
- Case studies from Islamic history
- Process of sexual awakening amongst youth
- AIDS is a chronic disease and can be treated

ISLAMIC PRINCIPLES

Quran: Surah 49, Al-Hujurat 10. The believer are taught to be one than brothers. Therefore make peace between your brothers and observe your duty to Allah that haply ye may obtain mercy

LESSONS LEARNED

- We need to integrate Islamic principles into the curriculum
- Involve religious leader from the beginning
- Start with people who are concerned about the issue
- Empower the local team for sustainability
- Support the local team as needed

IMPLEMENTATION

- Try out the curriculum
- Training in appropriate areas, according to requests by communities where it is possible to link with religious leaders
- Participatory training process

TARGET POPULATION

- Islamic leaders
- Youth
- Local NGOs
- Community representatives (especially women)

CURRENT SITUATION

- Stigma and discrimination
- Less access to care and treatment
- Recent increase in rate of HIV infection in pregnancy in predominantly Muslim areas

Total Population: 65 Million
Nationwide: 5% Muslim
In the deep south: 80% Muslim