

Pilot Learning Woreda HIV/AIDS Fact Sheet: Goma, Oromia

REGIONAL AND LOCAL HIV DATA (2007 estimates)

	Adult HIV prevalence rates (percentage of adults (aged 15 – 49) who are infected with HIV)		Adult HIV incidence (percentage of uninfected adults (aged 15 – 49) who become infected in each year)
	rural	urban	
<i>Regional</i>	0.7	6.1	0.18
<i>National</i>	0.9	7.7	0.28

Source: Ministry of Health/HAPCO (2007) *Single Point HIV Prevalence Estimate*

HIV prevalence data from ante-natal clinics in or close to PLW (Ministry of Health (2004) *AIDS in Ethiopia, Technical Document for the Fifth Report*, Estimates for 2003):

- **To west:** Jimma Health Centre 10.2%

STAGE OF HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC IN COMMUNITY

Towns and more accessible rural areas: AIDS impacted (HIV prevalence rate and AIDS-related illnesses and deaths noted).

Rural areas: AIDS impending (HIV prevalence rate high but not yet heavily impacted by AIDS related illnesses and deaths).

SOURCES OF INFECTION I: HIV-risky environments

Agaro: centre for coffee harvest, elementary school, high school, agricultural TVET college, vocational centres.

Genbei: highly populated, coffee production area, many bars, local drinking houses (*tej*), elementary school.

Chochie: state farm: Goma 1 and 2 coffee plantations.

Limu Shay: many bars, market, pornographic film shows.

Bulbulo: bars, market, elementary school.

SOURCES OF INFECTION II: Bridging populations linking rural community to HIV-risky environments

People from rural community moving to external environment:

Long term: students, women to Genbei hydroelectric power station (cooks, commercial sex workers), young women migrate for employment (Jimma, Addis Ababa, Middle East).

Seasonal: youth.

Short visits: individuals for family visits, youths for socialising (stay away a few days), students (weekly), administrative services from *woreda* and BoA, community representatives.

Market-related movements:

Traders: sell grain, honey.

Farmers: sell produce at local markets, often socialise on market days.

Drivers: transporting produce and people to market.

People from external environment moving into rural community:

General: BoA staff, DAs, teachers, health care workers, administrative workers, politicians, returnees to community (ex-servicemen, people returning from working elsewhere/abroad), relatives, transport service providers, merchants, commercial sex workers.

Site specific: casual labourers for coffee harvesting (stay up to four months and assimilate with local community) and permanent workers on state coffee plantations, clothes merchants/contrabandists.

Market-related movements:

Coffee traders, brokers, merchants: visit during harvest and stay a few days.

Coffee truck drivers.

SOURCES OF INFECTION III: Traditions and cultural practices in community which may result in contact with virus

Unprotected sex with infected person:

- chat chewing followed by alcohol consumption, especially during coffee harvest
- reluctance to use and misinformation about use of condoms
- transactional sex (in return for clothes)
- widow inheritance (on decline)
- dancing, drinking at celebrations (weddings, Epiphany)
- polygamy
- secret extra-marital relationships
- multiple sex partners
- women may set up sexual relationships with traders
- lack of transparency to talk about HIV / AIDS in household, power imbalance between women and men
- marriage without HIV test

Contact with contaminated body fluids:

- circumcision of infant boys
- circumcision of girls before seven years of age (on decline)

Mother to child transmission:

- pregnancy
- birth
- breast-feeding

Traditions and practices which may reduce likelihood of unprotected sex

- Community dialogue in form of coffee ceremony

EVIDENCE OF AIDS IMPACTS

Youth vision: one to one relationships and abstain from sex before marriage.

Community response: information from *woreda* health centre and health officers rarely from religious leaders; men have better access to information than women or youth. No VCT services in rural areas; some awareness raising about condoms through radio but limited or no access to condoms. Mainly in state of denial about presence of disease in community.

Behaviour change: attendance at church and mosque has increased which discourages alcohol consumption and use of sex workers; alcohol banned in *kebele*; *sedeqa* stopped (a traditional practice in Muslim communities to slaughter livestock to feed guests at a burial ceremony) and resources saved for remaining family members. Women travel in groups to reduce risk of rape when collecting firewood. Now use one blade per boy when doing circumcision.

Change in composition of community: fewer polygamous marriages as a result of limited wealth to support more than one wife; increase in households headed by women, single men, orphans and grandparents as a result of death of key adults.

Livelihoods: brewing has decreased as result of alcohol ban.

Care of PLWHA: none; people do not disclose their HIV status.

Care of AIDS orphans: not known if status due to AIDS but they are cared for relatives or by HAPCO.

POTENTIAL VULNERABILITY TO FUTURE IMPACTS OF AIDS

Rich households: raise money for medication and food for PLWHA from savings or sale of assets. Hire labour to overcome labour or farm power shortages or start share cropping.

Middle wealth households: raise money during coffee harvest or borrow from neighbours. Mobilise family labour to assist and receive some help from friends, start share cropping.

Poor households: raise money during coffee harvest or borrow or request contributions from neighbours and community. Rely on *debo* (reciprocal labour) to mobilise labour to assist with farming. Exchange their labour with rich and FHHs who have coffee and maize crops.

Female-headed households: between 10% to 20% of total households. Widows tend not to remarry, unless young; widowers tend to remarry.

OPPORTUNITIES

Actions (see separate checklist):

- Raising awareness and understanding about HIV / AIDS
- Reducing risk of exposure to HIV infection
- Reducing vulnerability to AIDS impacts

Potential partners:

- Office of Agriculture
- Extension and home science desk
- *Woreda* Women's Affairs office
- *Woreda* HAPCO
- Cooperatives promotion desk
- Education Office
- Women and youth associations
- Anti-AIDS clubs eg Circus youth club
- *Mahibers* (local associations)
- PLWHA association
- Religious institutions
- DAs and FTCs
- Agriculture TVET college
- Home economics agents
- Coffee cooperatives
- Agricultural Input Supply Corporation
- Oromia Credit and Saving Institution