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U.N. IN ACTION

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Programme No. 913  
Length: 3'33"

## UN ASSISTS FAMILIES LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS IN NICARAGUA

### VIDEO

YOUNG MAN COLLECTS EGGS  
(14")

EGGS FRYING (10")

HIV/AIDS VICTIM ON CAMERA  
(15")

VOLCANO, STREET SCENES (8")

### AUDIO

#### NARRATION

In a village in Nicaragua, as in many countries in Central America, HIV/AIDS is a sensitive issue. This young man collecting eggs for breakfast wants to remain anonymous. He is suffering from the disease but his family does not know.

#### NARRATION

Thanks to a UN-supported project, the chickens, and the eggs they produce, help him get better nutrition and supplement the family income.

#### VICTIM: (In Spanish)

"Up to now it has been working very well. The project has been magnificent and it has helped me a lot. It's about producing eggs and I sell them."

#### NARRATION

Not only is this province of Chinandega Nicaragua's poorest, it also has the highest number of people living with HIV/AIDS.

MEETING (12")

NARRATION

Governmental and civic groups have come together to assist this vulnerable population. But it's difficult for those affected by the disease to accept help, says UN Population Fund's Gloria Morales.

GLORIA ON CAMERA (16")

MORALES: (In Spanish)

"There is a natural aversion to dealing with strangers both by people affected by HIV/AIDS and by those who live with people with AIDS. They are scared."

TEOFILA WITH CHICKENS (17")

NARRATION

Teofila Zamora's son died of AIDS. But she is continuing to raise chickens and sell their eggs in an effort to benefit other families living with the disease. It's low technology but an important cash contribution.

TEOFILA WITH EXPERT (20")

NARRATION

A UN expert advises Teofila on how to incubate chicks at home to improve production. Supported by the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization, twenty households affected by HIV/AIDS are helped.

ZAMORA ON CAMERA (12")

ZAMORA: (In Spanish)

"We have to struggle to take this forward, get the benefits for myself and other sick people. Because other sick people really need help."

ACTIVIST COUNSELS YOUNG  
SEX WORKERS (16")

NARRATION

Another highly vulnerable group are sex workers. Lorna became a prostitute when she was only 12 years old. Now at 15 she and her friend are looking for a safer way to make a living. They have come to community activist, Ana Cuadra for help.

ANA CUADRA ON CAMERA (8")

CUADRA: (In Spanish)

"From a group of sixty girls I have been able to rescue fifteen. These are the ones I work with".

CHEDIEK WORKING IN HIS  
OFFICE (10")

NARRATION

Although HIV/AIDS is not as widespread in Nicaragua as it is in neighbouring countries, time is running out to combat the disease says UN Coordinator, Jorge Chediek.

CHEDIEK ON CAMERA (13")

CHEDIEK: (In Spanish)

"One of the few factors on the side of Nicaragua at the moment is timing. And because of that it is essential that there should be a national policy in order to avoid the spread of the epidemic."

ANA TALKS TO FAMILIES (14")

NARRATION

Armed with reliable information about HIV/AIDS, people will be better able to stop it spreading. It's a difficult subject but one that must be addressed by all Nicaragua's citizens if the disease is to be held in check.

UN LOGO (10")

This report was prepared by Richard Sydenham  
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