Enhancing human security through gender equality in the context of HIV/AIDS



UN Trust Fund for Human Security



Fast Facts

Country: Global

Duration: October 2002 to March 2006 **Implementing UN Agencies:** UNIFEM

Other Implementing Partners: National Ministries; national and local

NGOs, civil society groups; women's groups

Budget: \$3,030,000

Key Words: HIV/AIDS; gender; capacity-building

BACKGROUND

By 2002, the global spread of HIV/AIDS presented a critical threat with female infection rates rapidly reaching parity with those of men. Violence, poverty and discrimination were some of the factors that not only increased women's exposure to infection but also

affected their ability to cope with the impact of the epidemic. In order to reverse this trend, it was vital to advance gender awareness as a central aspect in HIV/AIDS education together with prevention strategies at the local, national and regional levels.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The project's overall objective was to bring about greater understanding of the interlinkage between gender inequalities and the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Consequently, the project aimed to (i) promote gender awareness and integrate women's rights into legislation and policy frameworks at the local, national

and regional levels; (ii) facilitate the participation of women living with HIV/AIDS in decision-making processes; and (iii) enhance awareness on gender inequalities and HIV/AIDS through training and capacity-building.

BENEFICIARIES

The project established initiatives in Brazil, Honduras, Cambodia, India, Thailand, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal and Zimbabwe. Direct beneficiaries included women who were empowered through trainings and workshops and who obtained decision-making positions within their communities. Moreover, the

project was instrumental in forging new partnerships between Government agencies and civil society groups interested in analysing, implementing and monitoring HIV/AIDS policies in a gender-sensitive manner.