

Best practice case study:
*Turks & Caicos Islands is Advancing
the Work of HFLE for a More
Comprehensive Education Sector
Response to HIV and AIDS*

Health and Family Life Education is a comprehensive, life skills-based programme, which focuses on the development of the whole person. It seeks to:

- Enhance the potential of young persons to become productive and contributing adult persons.
- Promote an understanding of the principles that underlie personal and social well-being.
- Foster the development of knowledge, skills and attitudes that make for healthy family life.
- Provide opportunities to demonstrate sound, health-related knowledge, attitudes and practices.
- Increase the ability to practice responsible decision-making about social and sexual behaviour; and
- Aims to increase the awareness of children and youth that the choices they make in everyday life profoundly influence their health and personal development well into adulthood.

During the period April – September, 2011, AIDInc/Options, in collaboration with UNICEF Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean once again provided support to strengthen HFLE in the UK COTs. Following the first phase of HFLE strengthening which involved the revision of the **Healthy Living Curriculum** to be in alignment with CARICOM’s Health & Family Life

Education Regional Curriculum Framework and the and the training of teachers and guidance counselors in the delivery of life skills-based HFLE, with a specific focus on interpersonal relationships and sexuality and sexual health, Turks & Caicos Ministry of Education has moved swiftly to the second phase which involves policy development.

The overall goal of the draft Policy for HIV/STIs and Other Life Threatening Illnesses is to provide a framework for addressing HIV and AIDS within the education sector by adopting and implementing a multilevel and comprehensive response, as part of the national strategic plan to promote effective prevention strategies and mitigate the social impact of the epidemic on the entire country. Additionally, the policy seeks to incorporate the guidelines for the implementation of the life skills-based Health and family Life Programme which utilizes four thematic approaches with the application of interactive teaching and alternative assessment methodologies into the wider sector policy.



Deputy Director of Education, Mark Garland leading the session on Managing the HIV Response in the Education sector

Resources and further information

Full copies of the outputs produced from this assignment are available from memtage@aidincorporated.org. Arlene Husbands, the consultant who conducted this work can be contacted at: ahusbands@aidincorporated.org and Elaine King, UNICEF Adolescent & HIV/AIDS Specialist: eking@unicef.org