

## SWHAP Southern Africa Newsletter June 2012

### “Battle of the Truckers”- Scania Truck Driver Outreach

Truck drivers are a vulnerable community, the combination of disposable income, mobility and long hours spent on the road away from family’s means many have relations with sex workers putting them at increased risk of contracting HIV. In May, Scania Namibia and Scania Botswana organised an outreach through a competition for truck drivers from various companies, which saw 23 and 27 participate in Namibia and Botswana respectively. The drivers were tested on their skills in safe and economic driving as well as manoeuvring abilities using Scania trucks. During the competition awareness was raised on obesity, HIV, general health and wellness. Scania organised VCT as well as screening for diabetes and blood pressure. In Botswana Tebelopele was on hand to offer counselling and post test support to those drivers that required it.



Namibia Outreach



Entertainment at Scania Botswana Outreach

The outreach in Namibia was also attended by SWHAP Programme Coordinator John Viner and Regional Coordinator Edith Maziofa who were in the country meeting with partners.



Scania Namibia Team with the Regional Coordinator

### Sandvik Celebrates 150 years

The 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2012 marked 150 years since Göran Fredrik Göransson’s company was formed in Sandviken Sweden. Sandvik now operates in 133 countries around the world. Events were held worldwide to commemorate this special day and in Zimbabwe Sandvik Mining and Construction organised a Family Wellness Day at the Norton Country Club. It was a chance for fun, games and interaction for employees, their families and invited guests. Also in attendance were children from SOS Children’s home, whom Sandvik has been supporting as part of its community outreach programme for the last 3 years. Childline an organisation dealing the protection of vulnerable children provided a special booth where children and their carers could discuss issues of concern in confidence. VCT, diabetes and blood pressure screening were available to the participants. Speaking at the occasion, Regional Coordinator for Southern Africa, Edith Maziofa noted the great job that Sandvik was doing in its community outreach programme and encouraged employees to take responsibility for their health urging couples to get tested together. The celebrations in Zimbabwe

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exemplified Sandvik's core values of Open Mind, Fair Play and Team Spirit and celebrated Sandvik's key asset, its people.



*Sandvik Celebrations*

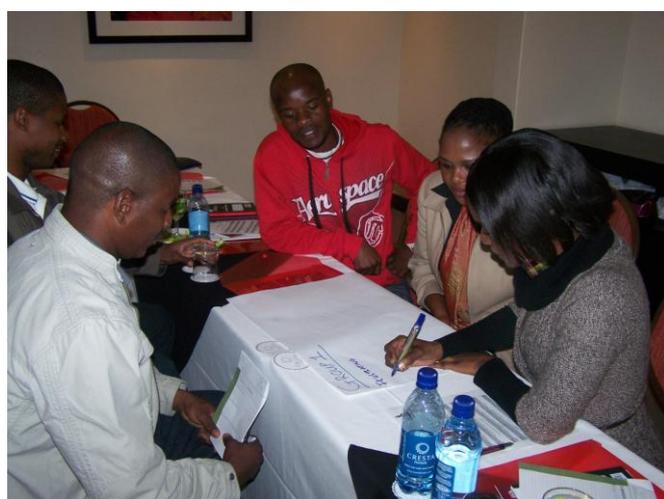
### **Networking**

In continued efforts to bridge gaps in knowledge between men and women on issues related to HIV & AIDS, SWHAP regularly organises network meetings for spouses of employees. As SWHAP programmes are implemented at largely male dominated workplaces spouses attending network meetings are predominantly female, this means issues pertaining to women's sexual and reproductive health can be discussed in great detail. In February the Spousal Peer Educators from Zimbabwe came together at the Harare Holiday Inn to discuss, the signs and symptoms of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) with participants being urged to seek early and competent treatment and disclosure of HIV & AIDS issues to minors. The network meetings have been instrumental in empowering women with knowledge and many reported that they have been able to offer counselling and advice to their families, churches and communities thus enabling SWHAP to have an impact beyond the workplace.



*Spousal Peer Educators take notes during training*

Peer Educators in Botswana held a network meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May. It was an opportunity to address the challenges facing Peer Educators in the workplace as well as recap on the qualities and activities that allow for effective peer education, with particular emphasis on monitoring and evaluation. Mr John Viner, Programme Coordinator for SWHAP, was in attendance and praised the Peer Educators for the good work they were doing in their individual workplace programmes. He further emphasised the importance of collecting quality data in monitoring and evaluation as this information provides a general picture of how programmes are progressing.



*Group work during the Botswana network meeting*

### **Reaching Supply Chains**

Atlas Copco Zambia has embarked on an ambitious Supply Chain programme involving 6 companies employing over 6000 people. This is a capacity building exercise that targets companies transacting with Atlas Copco, to develop, strengthen and sustain their workplace HIV & AIDS programmes. Atlas Copco hopes to change the employee's behaviour, and improve the quality of life of the infected and affected through the creation of supportive workplace environments that are free of stigma and discrimination.

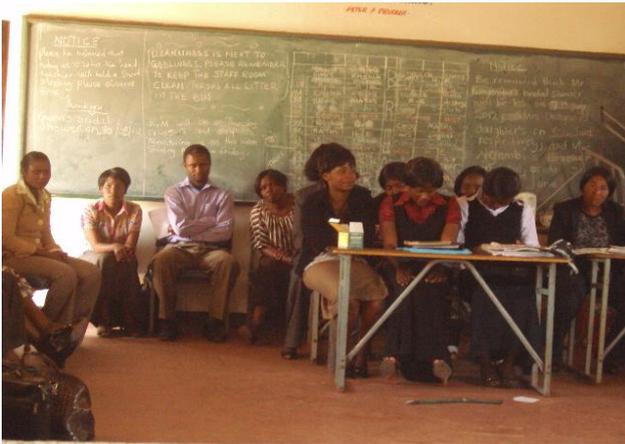
To launch the programme sensitisation was conducted on the 20<sup>th</sup> of April. Management from the participating companies met in Chingola to share in the project concept and objectives. A platform was created for stakeholders to explore experiences related to HIV & AIDS programs and to promote collaboration amongst all parties. Many acknowledged that they have programmes in place

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but are failing to perform due to structural and technical limitations.

May was a busy month for the supply chain programme, focal persons and coordinating committees were identified and trained. Atlas Copco Peer Educators underwent training aimed at enhancing their mentorship skills and cementing their knowledge on HIV & AIDS, health and wellness. Already KAP surveys have been completed in four of the supply chain companies.



*Participants in Atlas Copco Supply Chain Training*

### **Making all Opportunities Count**

SWHAP partners regularly make use of existing frameworks in their organisations to promote awareness on issues around HIV and AIDS. In Botswana ABB uses all inductions to share information on HIV and AIDS, giving statistics that are relevant to the area of the country where employees will be stationed. While in Zimbabwe in the last quarter Revco have used the Long Standing Awards Ceremony to impart information on domestic violence and how it intersects with HIV and AIDS.

These strategies are particularly useful where time and money to conduct awareness sessions are an issue.

### **Welcome to new SWHAP Partner**

SWHAP Southern Africa would like to give a warm welcome to ABB Zimbabwe who are the newest addition to the SWHAP partnership. ABB is an electrical engineering firm employing 10 people. In the first week of May SWHAP held a sensitisation meeting with ABB to bring them up to speed with the prevailing HIV and AIDS situation in Zimbabwe

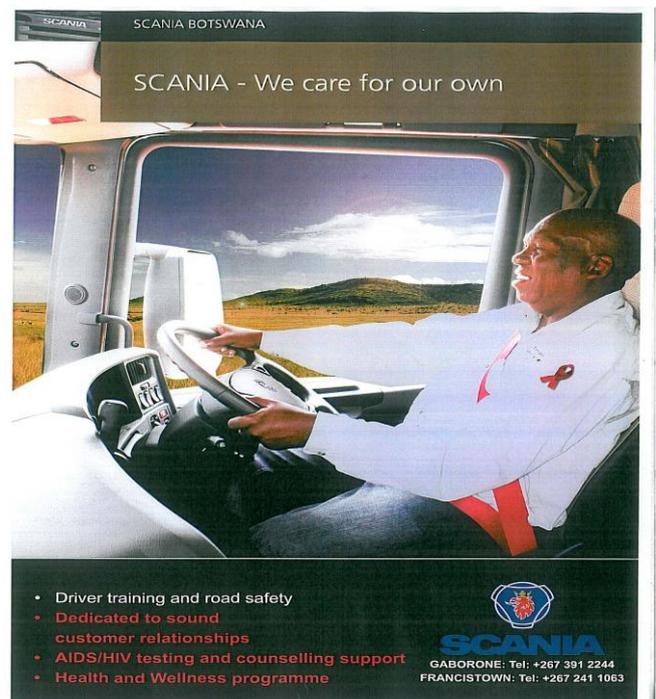
and to explain the benefits of SWHAP as well as highlight the business case for HIV & AIDS and Wellness workplace programmes. Already in Southern Africa SWHAP is working in partnership with ABB Botswana and ABB South Africa.



*ABB Sensitisation Meeting*

### **Scania Cares**

Congratulations to Scania Botswana who have recorded another disclosure this reflects positively on their workplace programme, which strives to create an environment that is supportive and free from discrimination for their positive employees.



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