

SWHAP in 2013

- Approximately 292 workplaces were supported in over 115 companies (including 31 supply chain and mentored companies) in 10 countries, reaching over 27,600 employees, approximately 1,426 family members and 19,213 community members.
- Over 700 Peer Educators and 158 Spouse Peer Educators were trained.
- Over 9,000 workers attended some form of HIV & AIDS training
- 30 network meetings were held in 10 countries
- Average VCT uptake at the workplace was 61.2%

Scania Easter Road Safety and Wellness Campaign

Long distance truck and bus drivers are at a disproportionate risk of acquiring and transmitting communicable diseases such as HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs). Additionally, long hours on the job mean they have few opportunities to access health care services for the management of non-communicable conditions such as diabetes, cholesterol and blood pressure.

During the Easter period, Scania South Africa in partnership with SWHAP and other stakeholders ran a road safety and wellness campaign along the N1 in Polokwane, offering wellness checks for bus and truck drivers as well as free vehicle inspections by Scania technicians. Over 500 drivers from 229 companies participated in the initiative, some from as far afield as Zambia and Malawi. 418 were made aware of their HIV status for the first time and just over 15% tested positive. Over half of the drivers had higher than normal blood pressure, which if left unaddressed can lead to chronic high blood pressure and the added risk of heart attack or stroke.

Through this campaign Scania is promoting the importance of both machine and driver health to safety and sensitizing drivers and their employers on the necessity of taking responsibility for and managing health. All drivers who tested positive or had established health risks were given information on how to manage their risk and referred to health care centres.

World Malaria Day 2013

Malaria is a major health challenge in the DRC, with 100% of the population at risk of infection and over six million confirmed malaria cases in 2012 (World Health Organisation). In countries such as the DRC where malaria is endemic it can slow economic growth by 1.3% a year, and is responsible for decreased productivity, employee absenteeism and increased health care costs.

Malaria also has a negative impact on HIV as the diseases interact negatively with each other, with HIV increasing the risk of malaria infection and malaria increasing HIV viral load.

To commemorate World Malaria Day, held annually on the 25th of April, Ericsson in the DRC provided on-site malaria testing and distributed treated bed nets to employees. Ericsson have negotiated for rapid malaria tests and bed nets to be included in the company's medical insurance. Early diagnosis of malaria is important in reducing the spread of the disease and preventing deaths.

In the Zambian Copperbelt region where malaria is also endemic Sandvik and Atlas Copco distributed bed nets to employees and communities. It is estimated that proper use of treated bed nets can reduce malaria cases by up to a third.



Testing for Malaria at Ericsson DRC

Supply Chain and Mentorship Programme Update

Sandvik Zimbabwe launched their second supply chain programme in February. Three companies, Servcor, Dairyhill and Securico will be mentored by Sandvik to set up HIV and wellness programmes. Already management sensitisation and workplace policy development training has been conducted. Management from companies participating in the programme expressed their enthusiasm for the programme's focus on promoting proactive health seeking behaviours amongst their respective workforces.

SWHAP recently met with National Union of Metal Workers of South Africa (NUMSA) National Office

The Swedish Workplace HIV and AIDS Programme (SWHAP) is a long-term strategy to support the response to HIV and AIDS at Swedish-related workplaces in sub-Saharan Africa. SWHAP is a joint programme between the International Council of Swedish Industry (NIR) and the Swedish Industrial and Metalworkers' Union (IF Metall). It is financially supported by Sida and Norad.

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bearers to discuss the forthcoming union mentorship programme. The programme will be rolled out to all the regional offices including the head office in Johannesburg and aims to build capacity in addressing HIV and AIDS within NUMSA and to strengthen its internal programme.

On the 18th of April Raffia Bags Kenya organised a retreat and debriefing for Peer Educators from its supply chain programme. 25 Peer Educators from Raffia Bags, Athi River Mining and Shreeji Chemicals shared ideas and solutions for the challenges faced in their respective programmes. Additionally, Peer Educators discussed the importance of record keeping and completing the SWHAP Peer Educator Booklet, which promotes consistency in data capturing and analysis.

Atlas Copco Tanzania Policy Launch

Congratulations to Atlas Copco Tanzania who launched their HIV and Wellness Workplace Policy on the 25th of April. The launch was incorporated into the annual Baraza Day where employees had the opportunity to discuss the status of the company and plans for 2014. The policy was distributed to all employees at the different sites.



Atlas Copco employees with copies of their workplace HIV and Wellness Policy

Spouse Peer Educators Network Meetings

During April 80 Spouse Peer Educators from seven SWHAP-supported workplaces attended network meetings in Zambia and Zimbabwe respectively. The focus of the meetings was on creating a general awareness of non-communicable diseases, their prevention and management. Spouses in Zimbabwe also discussed the inter-related nature of environmental, financial and physical wellness, with a lack of balance in one area affecting other areas. During discussions on financial wellness, an expert facilitator presented information on wills, inheritance and the different marriages accepted under Zimbabwean law. Economic vulnerability is a driver of HIV risk. Promoting financial literacy amongst women builds capacity for responsible decision making and contributes towards addressing this vulnerability.

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Baseline Surveys

In May workplace employee health baseline surveys were conducted at Raffia Bags Kenya and at Tusilago in Zimbabwe. The purpose of the surveys was to establish the health status of the companies and to identify areas for improvement that can potentially impact productivity, reduce absenteeism and minimise health care costs. As well as Voluntary Counselling and Testing (VCT) employees were screened for diabetes, blood pressure and Body Mass Index (BMI).

In related testing news, congratulations to UD Trucks South Africa, who achieved 82% VCT uptake at their first wellness day. 80% of employees also participated in a range of wellness tests including eye checks.

Atlas Copco Round Table Meeting

Atlas Copco in Sweden hosted a round table meeting on business efficiency and how workplace HIV and wellness programmes can add value to business operations. The meeting was attended by Metso, Sandvik, Scania, SKF, and Volvo and moderated by Dr Anders Nordström, Ambassador for Global Health, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Key to discussions was the necessity of improving data collection on productivity and key performance indicators in order to calculate return on investment and build a stronger business case for investing in workplace wellness.

Metso South Africa in Sweden

Metso South Africa, recipients of the SWHAP Achievement Award for Most Comprehensive Programme 2013, were in Sweden this month showcasing their award winning programme. Since 2010, the company has made impressive progress in their workplace HIV and wellness programme. 93% of Metso employees are aware of their HIV status and more importantly 87.7% of their positive employees are registered and supported on the Employee Support Programme.



Metso Minerals with Mr Andries Oosthuizen, Counsellor at the South African Embassy, Stockholm

SWHAP 2014 Annual Conference

The SWHAP 2014 Annual Conference will be held in Lusaka, Zambia between the 22-23 October 2014. Invitations to the conference will be sent out in August.