

HIV/AIDS and food and nutrition security

The Netherlands, 12 – 30 April, 2010

Course focus

As the causes and consequences of AIDS epidemics become clearer, so does the fundamental importance of food and nutrition security to address these. In most countries the response on the HIV/AIDS pandemic has come from mainly the health sector. However, agriculture is the main source of livelihood for the majority of people globally affected by HIV. Agriculture as a sector is particularly threatened by the epidemic, given the implications of reduced labor power for the ability of affected households, particularly the vulnerable, to feed themselves. Food and nutrition insecurity is a main problem in families with PLWHA.

An adequate nutritional situation, especially for PLWHA, is important to maintain quality of life and limit the effects of opportunistic infections. Responses to the HIV pandemic need to be holistic, multi-sectoral and be grounded in the three fundamental principles: prevention, care and treatment, and mitigation of the effects for people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. This course aims to provide professionals working on HIV/AIDS and food and nutrition security with the knowledge, skills and motivation, to strengthen, design and implement programmes and interventions to mitigate the negative effects of HIV/AIDS on their livelihood.

Aims and objectives

New insights about:

- Medical aspects of HIV/AIDS and their relation to nutritional status
- Nutritional aspects of HIV/AIDS
- Nutrition promotion, education and advocacy.

Strengthened competence to:

- Design a programme or intervention to address the negative impacts of HIV/AIDS

- Facilitate a participatory planning of interventions for PLWHA.

Clear ideas for:

- Incorporating nutrition security concerns in interventions for PLWHA
- Lobbying/advocacy to mainstream HIV/AIDS in policies and programmes
- Developing a nutrition promotion intervention for PLWHA.

Training methods

The course is job-oriented and the training approach is interactive, experience as well as evidence-based: it provides the participants with the possibility to learn from expert facilitators as well as from each other. Transfer of knowledge goes hand in hand with case studies, working groups, etc. A mix of participants with different backgrounds, yet common interests, will provide a good basis for the exchange of experiences.

Who can participate?

The training programme targets staff of governmental and non-governmental organisations in the following positions:

- Policy and planning staff at the national and sub-national level with responsibility for promoting community and household food and nutrition security within different sectors (agriculture, education, health, community development, local government, planning, etc.)
- Staff working at management and co-ordination level in the planning, management, implementation of community food security and nutrition programmes or rural development programmes with a HIV/AIDS component



- Staff working in action-oriented research, advisory and teaching positions directly relevant to HIV/AIDS and food and nutrition security.

Requirements for admission

Applicants should meet the following requirements:

- BSc. (as a minimum) or its equivalent in the field of food and nutrition, food science, home economics, agriculture, medicine or a related field of study professional position with tasks related to the theme of the course
- At least three years of professional experience related to the theme of the course
- Competence in the English language.

Course programme

This course focuses on the different aspects of HIV/AIDS and the need for a holistic approach to mitigate the effects of HIV/AIDS. The training addresses the following topics:

- Nutritional aspects related to HIV/AIDS (nutritional care, PMTCT, nutritional needs)
- Nutrition promotion, education and advocacy and how this applies to people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS
- Lobby and advocacy
- Developing a nutrition promotion intervention directed to PLWHA.

Certificate

Participants are granted a Certificate of Attendance.

Fees and accommodation

The tuition fee for this course is **€ 3500**. This includes administration costs, lecture materials and field trips, but excludes board and lodging and travel expenses. Participants will be accommodated at the Hof van Wageningen (formerly Wageningen International Conference Centre) on basis of full board and lodging. Prices are available on request.

Fellowships

A limited number of fellowships are available from the Netherlands Fellowship Programme (NFP) for nationals of certain countries. NFP-candidates must **FIRST** apply to Wageningen International for admission to the training.

Acceptable candidates will receive a PROVISIONAL LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE from Wageningen International. Candidates can then apply for a NFP fellowship through the Netherlands Embassy or Consulate in their own country. Applications for NFP fellowships should be submitted to Wageningen International before **1 November 2009**.

More information: www.cdic.wur.nl/UK/Courses , www.nuffic.nl. *Wageningen International can NOT provide any funds to finance the participants and is also unable to assist applicants in obtaining sponsorship.*

Application

The admission deadline for application directly to Wageningen International, with funding other than a NFP fellowship, is **12 March 2010**. Early application is recommended. For additional information and online application, go to: www.cdic.wur.nl/UK/newsagenda/ and click on the course of your interest.

