

International Health Organization (IHO)



Regional AIDS Training Center & Network in Eastern India (RATNEI)

Faculty's Guide to RATNEI

(Version for U.S. Faculty)

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RATNEI

An IHO Initiative for Capacity Development and Advanced Training of HealthWorkers in India on HIV/AIDS

IHO is a Boston, US based non-profit organization incorporated in 1992 to help improve the health and well being of the poorest communities of South Asia, primarily India and Nepal. It is managed by a U.S. Board of Directors and Advisors whose members are drawn from leading U.S. institutions and organizations such as USAID, CDC, Harvard University, as well as leading AIDS Service Organizations and state Departments of Health. Likewise, IHO also has a governing board of directors of advisors in India comprising of a broad range of representatives from different communities, institutions, and grass roots organizations from the poorest states of India such as the eastern region. All members of the Board of Directors in both the U.S. and India have worked in South Asian countries or are Indian-Americans with expertise in the areas of international health, public health, clinical medicine, international development, medical sciences, health program & policy development, rural development and empowerment of the disenfranchised.

RATNEI is a project of IHO, USA aimed at strengthening the capacity of the health functionaries in several states of India to respond to the burgeoning HIV/AIDS epidemic in India. The project has been developed in response to the need for such training as expressed by leading experts and institutions in India, a “needs assessment” conducted by IHO, and in consultation with federal and state-level government AIDS control agencies in India. IHO has prepared a project which will enhance the capacity of AIDS-service organizations in eastern states in all areas pertaining to HIV/AIDS through **advanced trainings, technical assistance, resource and technology provisions, and establishing collaboration among participating organizations**. These activities would result in sustained development of an HIV/AIDS healthcare infrastructure, and facilitate the development of coordinated efforts to fight the AIDS epidemic – from surveillance to prevention and education, and eventually to care and support.

The RATNEI project will strengthen the capacity of health care workers in India to respond to the HIV/AIDS epidemic through the willingness of leading experts and institutions in India and the U.S. to combine their efforts to combat the epidemic. These experts and institutions have recognized IHO's capacity to coordinate and prepare such a project and have expressed their willingness to commit time and expertise to enhancing the capacity of hospitals and AIDS service organizations in India in areas pertaining to HIV/AIDS. Through the RATNEI program the participating persons and institutions will be able to coordinate advanced training, provide technical assistance, provide resources and technology, and establish collaborations among district health institutions in India's poorest states. The major strength of this project is that it seeks to bring together the individual and institutional expertise of AIDS experts in U.S. who have helped fight the AIDS epidemic in U.S. for over two decades and wish to extend their help and expertise for fighting the AIDS epidemic in India. RATNEI has the unique advantage that as a non-governmental organization in the U.S., it can rapidly and freely bring together the expertise of different individuals and entities without the bureaucratic hurdles otherwise experienced at academic or government institutions.

The Training Cycle

The training is expected to start in January 2007. The entire AIDS subject matter has been divided into six distinct stand-alone modules. Each of the six training modules takes place twice per year. For example, module one begins in January 2007 and repeats itself six months later in July 2007.

January 2007	AIDS Project Planning and Management <i>Epidemiology and Surveillance & Program Planning, Management, and Evaluation</i>
February 2007	AIDS Prevention and Education: Part I <i>Health Promotion and Social Marketing</i>
March 2007	HIV/AIDS Prophylaxis, Treatment and Support
April 2007	HIV Voluntary Counseling & Testing, and Laboratory Services
May 2007	AIDS Prevention and Education: Part II Advocacy, Activism and Human Rights Issues
June 2007	AIDS Anti-Retroviral Therapy

Certain modules will be taught at two tiers (levels), while others will be taught at either the medical *or* paramedical/non-medical level. For example, the HIV Prophylaxis, Treatment and Support; the AIDS Anti-Retroviral Therapy; and the HIV/AIDS Voluntary Counseling & Testing, and Laboratory Services modules will be taught only at the medical level. Level I (medical) will be the most advanced and will be taught in English with the help of U.S. and Indian faculty while level 2 (paramedical and non-medical) will be taught by Indian faculty only and will either be taught in English or Hindi. Each of these tiers/levels will be roughly a week-long course, i.e. each of these six topics to be taught each month will be taught at one or two different levels. There will be heavy emphasis upon integrating HIV/AIDS topics with other related issues such as:

- Hepatitis,
- STD,
- TB,
- Family Planning & Reproductive health,
- Substance abuse, and
- Other topics.

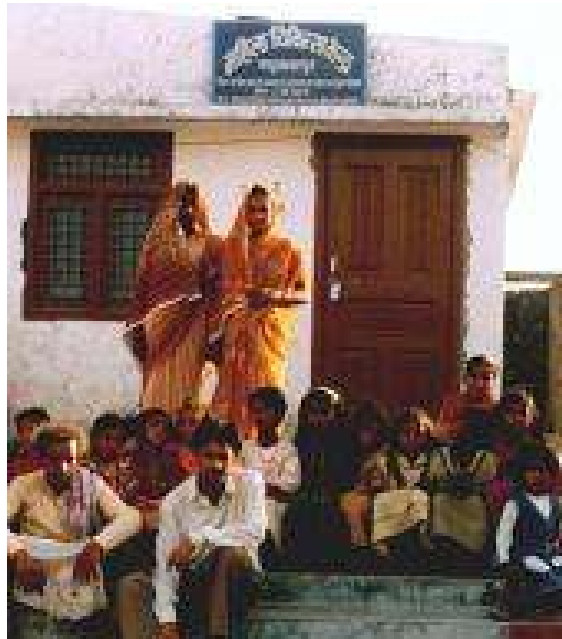
These trainings will be evaluated internally and externally.

Compensation, Coordination, and Scheduling

IHO will provide all expenses for guest faculty's round-trip to India including a modest honorarium. For both U.S. and Indian faculty, IHO will provide for all expenses including but not limited to travel, per diem, boarding, and a modest honorarium. Faculty may choose to make themselves available from a few days to a few weeks, depending upon individual convenience. These would need to be closely integrated and coordinated with other faculty teaching the same course.

Learning objectives for each module are available and can be obtained by emailing Jessica Kraft at jkraft@ihousa.org. Once faculty is determined, they will work with IHO advisors to finalize a teaching plan, distribution materials, and flight and accommodation logistics. Ideally, faculty would also be involved in the evaluation process, both through internal and external evaluation methods.

IHO values the time and effort faculty provide and will do everything in our effort to make participation in this project a valuable and pleasurable experience.



One of the Bihar Health Centers where RATNEI training takes place

IHO RATNEI Faculty Response Sheet

Name: _____ Phone #: _____
Affiliation: _____ Alt. Phone #: _____
Address: _____ Email: _____

Alternate Address (if any): _____

Best way to contact you: _____

Preferred Training (check all that apply) and availability. Your availability for 4-5 days per module would be ideal. Please indicate YES, NO, MAYBE, or specify which dates available if you have partial availability

AIDS Program Planning, Management and Evaluation (January 2007)

_____ Introduction and Overview of Key Concepts	_____ Epidemiology and Surveillance
12/30 through 1/6: _____	1/6 through 1/13: _____
1/13 through 1/20: _____	1/20 through 1/27: _____
1/27 through 2/3: _____	

AIDS Prevention and Education I – Health Promotion and Social Marketing (February 2007)

2/3 through 2/10: _____	2/10 through 2/17: _____
2/17 through 2/24: _____	2/24 through 3/3: _____

HIV/AIDS Prophylaxis, Treatment and Support (March 2007)

3/3 through 3/10: _____	3/10 through 3/17: _____
3/17 through 3/24: _____	3/24 through 3/31: _____

HIV Voluntary Counseling & Testing, and Laboratory Services (April 2007)

3/31 through 4/7: _____	4/7 through 4/14: _____
4/14 through 4/21: _____	4/21 through 4/28: _____

AIDS Prevention and Education II – Advocacy, Activism, and Human Rights (May 2007)

4/28 through 5/5: _____	5/5 through 5/12: _____
5/12 through 5/19: _____	5/19 through 5/26: _____

AIDS Anti-Retroviral Therapy (June 2007)

5/26 through 6/2: _____	6/2 through 6/9: _____
6/9 through 6/16: _____	6/16 through 6/23: _____
6/23 through 6/30: _____	

I am willing to participate as a Faculty in RATNEI training programs in India. I understand that this is a good faith agreement and that some aspects of RATNEI may need to be adjusted or changed as per the circumstances and that both IHO and its faculty will make every attempt to adjust to the faculty's and IHO's change in circumstances.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Thank you! Please mail or fax to the IHO office as soon as possible.

IHO appreciates your efforts in determining your availability for the coming months and understand that your indicated preferences on this form are subject to change. Should any information change, or if you have questions, please email Jessica Kraft at jkraft@ihousa.org or call the IHO office at (617) 254-5077 to leave a message.