

# Global Visions

Quarterly update from SPW International, May 2010



Welcome to Global Visions - May 2010

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## Students Partnership Worldwide rebrands to become...

As you may be aware, we have been involved in a global rebranding process for the past 3 years, in a collective effort to develop a new name and brand for our organisation which better captures our youth-led mission and ambitions.

Very excitingly, we have now finished the process and would like to tell you about it! We will be holding open door events at our offices in Westminster which we would love to invite you to. Please RSVP to Liz (liz.west@spw.org) if you are interested in attending.

## Triathlon a tremendous success!

Sunday April 18 saw 200 competitors swimming, cycling and running their way around Hyde Park to raise money for SPW. This was the fourth year of the event and competitors and spectators were lucky with a beautifully sunny day! The sprint race involved a 400m swim followed by a 15km cycle and finished with a 5km run and a big congratulations and thank you needs to go to all those who took part. **A special mention and thank you should go to this year's highest fundraiser, Angelique Vidoletti, who has raised £1,200 to support SPW's global work with young people.**



SPW CEO, Eric Levine, starts the race

Watch this space in the next newsletter to see how much the event raised for SPW!

*"I am so glad that I was able to take part and about the amazing amount that was raised for charity. It was a very enjoyable day though somewhat tiring and I look forward to my next attempt at a triathlon."* - Charlotte Hurley

## Be a Superhero for SPW!

Do you like dressing up? Looking for a fun way to support SPW? Haven't got much time?

SPW will be entering runners into the 5km 'Superhero Fun Run', taking place in London (on Sunday June 13) and Manchester (on Sunday 26 September). Participants will need to pay a £20 entry fee and will be asked to fundraise a suggested target of £100 for SPW.



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Please do not hesitate to contact us! We will be very happy to answer your questions, provide more information on aspects you have special interest in, and discuss any of our programmes with our supporters.

Contact: Liz West, [liz.west@spw.org](mailto:liz.west@spw.org), 0207 808 1793

# Youth Participation & Leadership

SPW's Objective: *Young people will take up significant roles in the policy-making processes which affect their lives*

## Youth Participation & Leadership achievements in numbers

These are the key highlights of SPW's youth-led programmes in quarter two for the area of Youth Participation & Leadership, extracted from our Monitoring and Evaluation systems:

- 37 advocacy meetings organised or facilitated by SPW, with relevant government, donors, International and national Non Governmental Organisations to advocate for the inclusion of young people in policy formulation process and operations
- 273 events led or organised by Young People through SPW support at district, provincial or community level
- 2574 young people reported attending workshops, seminars, talks or session organised by SPW on gender issues

## SPW India petition for water

SPW operates 'phased' programmes in order to make them sustainable. In Phase I Volunteer Peer Educators (VPEs) carry out a needs analysis of the local community and initiate the implementation of programmes. During Phase II (usually after one year) VPEs build the capacity of the local community and work *together with* locals (e.g. teachers, community leaders etc) to deliver programmes. Phase III sees VPEs withdraw from the delivery of the programmes and continue to build the capacity of the local community in project delivery and planning. In Phase IV the local community assume complete ownership of the projects.

Srikalikapuram Thiruvallore is a district in South India and is currently in Phase II of their Youth Empowerment Programme, which is designed to empower young people to live healthy lifestyles and take an active role in their communities. The young people the VPEs are working with identified a lack of clean drinking water as an emerging need for their community. In India, unclean drinking water, especially in rural communities, is life-threatening and diarrhoea (caused by drinking unclean water) is the second major cause of death amongst children.



Having identified the need, the young people petitioned the Panchayat President to erect two additional water pumps to provide easy access and sufficient water to the community members. The petition was accepted by the Panchayat and resulted in two pumps being erected in the community.

The Panchayat President, who appreciated the young people for bringing the people's need to his notice, sent a letter to SPW India office commending the work of SPW club members in the school and stating that SPW clubs are needed throughout India.

# Sexual and Reproductive Health

SPW's Objective: *Young people will make responsible decisions regarding their Sexual and Reproductive Health*

## Sexual and Reproductive Health achievements in numbers

These are the key highlights of SPW's youth-led programmes in quarter three for the area of Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH), extracted from our Monitoring & Evaluation systems:

- 939 awareness campaigns (workshops, rallies, talks, street shows, sports etc.) organised with SRH focus
- 7744 SRH lessons organised (disaggregated by classes/schools/community)

## Football teaches HIV in Sierra Leone

Volunteer Peer Educators (VPEs) held a football gala designed to sensitize young people on how HIV is transmitted from person to person in Gobaru, one of SPW Sierra Leone's communities of operation in the Pujehun District.

Before the match, VPEs in Gobaru conducted several planning meetings with stakeholders to plan how the match should be organised. They organised outreach campaigns in nearby communities before match day and advertised it on the radio alongside young people discussing HIV/AIDS issues. This outreach and advertising meant that young people from not only Gobaru but also nearby communities attended the match and learnt from the HIV sensitization message.

Community board members and other stakeholders were very supportive and provided refreshment for the participants during the football match. VPEs used these refreshment breaks to talk to the spectators about HIV transmission. To make it easier to understand, they used the visual image of footballers passing the ball to each other as how easily HIV can be transmitted from one person to the other without protection.

A quick end of the match question and answer session showed that of the 700 spectators, a large number understood how HIV is transmitted from person to person. Condoms were then distributed and one football club team manager addressed all the spectators and said: ***"HIV information should be accessed by all, especially the youth, who are more active in sex."***



*There are currently 55,000 people living with HIV in Sierra Leone and young people are the most vulnerable.*

# Life skills and livelihoods

SPW's Objective: *Young people will have improved life skills and livelihood opportunities*

## Life skills and livelihoods achievements in numbers

These are the key highlights of SPW's youth-led programmes in quarter three for the area of sexual and reproductive health from our Monitoring and Evaluation systems:

- 1683 lessons organised on life skills for young people (disaggregated by classes/schools/community)
- 348 Volunteer Peer Educators and Ex-VPEs reported participating in events/activities to build their management skills

## Career Days in South Africa & An Empowered Self Help Group in India

### SPW South Africa - Career Days

SPW South Africa run Youth Development Centres (YDCs) which provide a base for young people in the community to access information and counselling on careers, sexual reproductive health and to develop life skills. Research has shown that young people are more likely to aspire to live healthy lifestyles if they are supported in developing livelihood opportunities, and these centres are designed to provide a holistic approach to catering for young South Africans' needs. The centres are manned by an SPW South Africa staff member and Volunteer Peer Educators (VPEs) who reach out to local young people through schools and the community.



Two of the centres in Tsolo and Libode ran Career Information days during March. In Tsolo over 700 young people attended from 5 local schools, as well as 50 students from the YDC itself. The focus was on providing options for young people to consider when they graduate high school. Information was presented on various Eastern Cape universities and further education institutions. In Libode over 150 high school graduates attended the information day. The focus was on education options after high school and well as tips on finding work.

### SPW India - Self Help Group (SHG) Empowered to think beyond savings

Megala, an SPW India Volunteer Peer Educator, has made a huge difference for the Self Help Group (SHG) in her community (Minnal in the Tiruvallur District) by empowering a them to think beyond savings and lending money. She supported the SHG to create awareness of Government schemes available for Sanitation and Health to all the other SHGs in their villages and to community members. The SHG has now been selected the best SHG in the District and are going to receive an award of Rs.300,000 from the government of Tamil Nadu to carry on their good work.