

Nigeria Business Coalition Against AIDS– Case Study



Nigeria Business Coalition Against AIDS

Launched in 2003 by the then President of Nigeria, Olusegun Obasanjo, the Nigeria Business Coalition Against AIDS - NIBUCAA brings together 35 large and medium-sized companies with the common goal of implementing workplace and community-based HIV & AIDS prevention education, care and support programmes.

NIBUCAA's vision is to help develop a private sector which is informed and committed to addressing the growing challenges of HIV & AIDS in the workplace and in the broader community. Member companies ensure that employees living with HIV are given the same rights, benefits and opportunities as their colleagues.

Activities include the conduct of a baseline assessment of HIV/AIDS policies and programs in private companies, the hosting of business meetings to introduce new activities and share good practices, awareness-raising events such as the World AIDS Day Float, and the Nigeria private sector GIPA programme.

NIBUCAA is co-chaired by Chief Executive Officers of leading companies and has a Secretariat with 6 technical staff. The Secretariat is hosted by one of its member companies in Lagos and is managing the website at www.nibucaa.org.

The Coalition is part of the larger Public Private Partnership Forum, which brings together employers, labour unions, the Federal Ministry of Labour and Productivity and the National Agency for the Control of AIDS, and development partners.

UNAIDS and ILO have supported NIBUCAA in the development of their business plan, the capacity-building of staff and the development and implementation of the GIPA programme, which is currently running in Small and Medium Enterprises through the Global Fund support.

Key findings:

- Addressing HIV and AIDS in the workplace is beneficial for the companies which are doing it. It boosts staff trust and productivity and improves the company image.
- The Nigeria Business Coalition Against AIDS adds value to the AIDS response as a platform for advocacy and the sharing of knowledge and good practices.
- The larger Public Private Partnership Forum is an essential instrument to help NIBUCAA foster the private sector response.
- The GIPA programme has demonstrated that the private sector is willing to self-fund innovative HIV prevention and support initiatives. Over 40 experts PLHIV have been trained as GIPA officers and more than 10 have been recruited so far into organizations and companies.

Testimonial:

"HIV or AIDS is not a moral issue; it is a sound business decision we all have to make in our workplaces, if we have not done so. (...) The earlier we mainstream our resources to turn the tide against it, the better it will be for tomorrow's business."

Olusina Falana, Executive Secretary of the Nigeria Business Coalition Against AIDS

Photo:

Prof. Babatunde Osotimehin, the Director-General of the National Agency for the Control of AIDS, is addressing the participants at an advocacy meeting organized by MTN, one of the NIBUCAA member companies. He is accompanied by the Executive Committee members of the MTN Foundation.



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