



ANNUAL REPORT

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# **AFRICA REGIONAL SEXUALITY RESOURCE CENTER**

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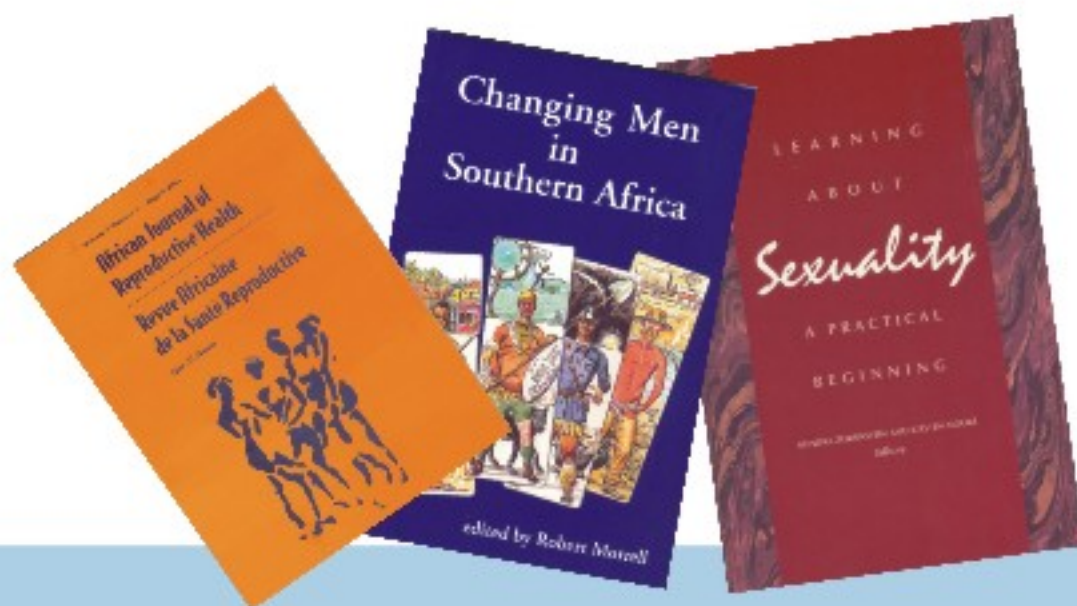
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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Africa Regional Sexuality Resource Centre (ARSRC), is a project of Action Health Incorporated established in 2002, as one of the four sexuality resource centres set-up around the world under the Ford Foundation-funded initiative “Global Dialogue on Sexual Health and Well-Being”. The aim is to promote more informed and affirming public dialogue on human sexuality and to contribute to positive changes in relevant policies and programmes, by creating mechanisms for learning and advocacy at local, regional and global levels. Activities under the initiative focus on four of the most populous countries in Africa: Egypt (North Africa), Kenya (East Africa), Nigeria (West Africa) and South Africa (Southern Africa).

In the first year of project implementation, broad consultations and briefing meetings with key stakeholders across the continent guided the development of a strategic

agenda for the resource centre. Partner institutions were also identified in each of the focal countries as well as a Pan-African Advisory Council. The Advisory Council held its inaugural meeting in June 2003 to finalize the initial two-year work programme for the Africa Regional Sexuality Resource Centre.

The ARSRC offices located within the Action Health Incorporated headquarters complex in Lagos were also equipped with the necessary information and communication technology tools as well as furniture and other infrastructure to ensure smooth running of the resource centre and accessibility by the stakeholders in the four regions. All national staff have been employed and fully implementing the project activities. A functional website has also been developed and will soon be made accessible to the public. Harnessing the inputs, support and participation of stakeholders and contacts in the focal countries, the process of identifying, sourcing and acquiring important resource materials has been initiated and is on-going.

The ARSRC has faced a number of challenges since its inception, the foremost being the search for a suitably qualified director to manage the centre's work programme. Fortunately the centre will be joined in the coming year by Dr. Richmond Tiemoko as its first Director. Also, because of the regional scope of the project, and the need to ensure equity in the centre's



*Nike O. Esiet, Executive Director, Action Health Incorporated*



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (cont'd)



resource collections and other activities, one of the biggest challenges lies in building trust, commitment, and ownership and to a degree, the spirit of volunteerism across cultural, social and religious spaces.

However, beyond these teething problems in laying the foundation to facilitate these continent-wide collaborations and networking, structures have been put in place to ensure a rewarding and results-oriented second year of operations. The centre has received significant moral support from various stakeholders who consider the ARSRC initiative to be of high priority and a necessary project for the Africa region, which, historically has suffered from the lack of learning centers that pool together researched and documented bodies of knowledge and that can provide prompt and user-friendly access to information when required.

It would not be appropriate to end without thanking key partners who have been instrumental to the progress accomplished over this one year. I would in particular like to thank member of the Ford Foundation Programme Officers in the four sub-regional offices of the Foundation in Africa; Dr. Babatunde Ahonsi, Dr. William Okedi, Dr. Maha El Adawy and Dr. Mary Ann Burris, who guided the initiation of this project and continue to inspire its development. I also thank our institutional partners and Advisory Council members who have greatly contributed to developing the centre's work programme during the last one year, as well

as, AHI's Board of Trustees and ARSRC staff for their commitment and support.

As the Centre opens to the public both its physical and virtual services, the second year of operation promises to be rewarding and exciting, opening up vistas of opportunity for collaboration in research and knowledge networking between the Centre, its partner institutions as well as clients around the African continent.





## ABOUT THE ARSRC

### Background

The Africa Regional Sexuality Resource Centre (ARSRC) is one of the mechanisms designed to achieve the goals of the Ford Foundation's "Global Dialogue on Sexual Health and Well-Being Initiative". Specifically, the ARSRC seeks to promote informed public dialogue on human sexuality and contribute to positive changes in relevant programmes on the African continent. The four focal countries targeted for the initiative are among the most populous in Africa: Egypt (North Africa); Kenya (East Africa); Nigeria (West Africa) and South Africa (Southern Africa).

### Mission:

To contribute to the emergence, on the African continent, of a large and increasingly influential community of sexuality professionals; a wider adoption and implementation of comprehensive sexuality education programmes and productive cross-sectoral partnerships and networking around issues of healthy, responsible and pleasurable, sexuality

### Goal:

To promote more informed and affirming public dialogue on human sexuality and to contribute to positive changes in relevant policies and programmes, by creating mechanisms for learning and advocacy at the regional and global levels.

### Objective:

#### Fig 1: What is Sexuality?

Sexuality is a central aspect of being human throughout life and encompasses sex, gender identities and roles, sexual orientation, eroticism, pleasure, intimacy and reproduction. Sexuality is experienced and expressed in thoughts, fantasies, desires, beliefs, attitudes, values, behaviours, practices, roles

and relationships. While sexuality can include all of these dimensions, not all of them are always experienced or expressed. Sexuality is influenced by the interaction of biological, psychological, social, economic, political, cultural, ethical, legal, historical and religious and spiritual factors (World Health Organization definition adopted as the operational definition for the ARSRC).

Over the five-year period of this initiative, the ARSRC's efforts will be geared towards:

1. Expanding and shaping the discourse, thinking and action on sexuality in the region in favor of healthy, respectful, responsible and pleasurable sexuality
2. Nurturing and building professional capacity in the emerging field of sexuality
3. Building links between kindred organizations and individuals in Africa working on sexuality issues

### Strategies:

1. Promote regional consultations and alliance-building
2. Establish / maintain resource centre facilities
3. Promote information exchange and public education
4. Facilitate capacity building, training and leadership development

### ARSRC Staff

Arit Oku-Egbas, Programme Officer Research and Documentation; Segun Sangowawa, Programme Officer Information Services; Olatunbosun Oluwunmi, Programme Assistant.

## PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS



At project take-off, broad consultations were held with key stakeholders across the four countries in Africa to brief them on the initiative and also to include their perspectives and inputs in programme development. Stakeholders consulted in the four countries included staff of academic and research institutions, non-governmental organizations, donor and international agencies as well as policy makers. The outcome of these consultations provided the framework for drawing up the programme and focus of the ARSRC Initiative. One of the exciting outcomes of the wide-ranging consultations and briefing meetings in the Africa sub-regions is a wealth of resource materials that include books, journals and gray literature collected by country during the regional consultations and are available in the ARSRC library.

**Agenda-setting:** Another key outcome of the sub-regional consultations and briefing meetings is a comprehensive strategy document titled: “Report of the Regional Consultation for the Africa Regional Sexuality Resource Centre” which sets out in clear terms the key issues and priority themes for each region as well as recommendations for actions.

**Identification of Partner Institutions:** Key

and strategic institutions in each sub-region of Africa were identified and their collaboration sought in the implementation of the initiative. Partner institutions of the ARSRC include:

### **1. International Islamic Centre for Population Studies and Research, Al Azhar University, Cairo, Egypt**

The International Islamic Center for Population Studies and Research was founded at Al-Azhar University in cooperation with the United Nations Fund for Population Activities. The objectives of the center includes conducting population studies and research in the Muslim World and to add credibility to the population information obtained before its dissemination in Muslim countries. In addition, the center aims to dispel misconceptions about Islam and certain population policies which can be adopted in the Muslim World. Furthermore, it functions as an inter-regional organization with a view to serve the whole Islamic World.

The center conducts a wide range of activities related to population issues in the context of Islam, among which are the following:



1. This document is available on request



## PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS (cont'd)

- Organising international conferences and seminars with a clear relevance to some aspects of human welfare and progress from the Islamic view point and philosophy
- Travelling seminars to discuss and clarify the population issues from the Islamic point of view.
- Training and human resource development for service delivery in reproductive biology and family health.

### **2. Kenya Association of Professional Counselors, Nairobi, Kenya**

KAPC was registered in 1991 and its mission is: to facilitate the creation of a social climate where society, communities, organizations, families or individuals can better embrace change. Thus, KAPC aims to create a climate for change and provide a helping service for people who are undergoing change.

Since 1991, KAPC has developed and diversified its activities in response to changes in society. As problems of HIV/AIDS, marital breakdown, alcoholism, drug addiction, career guidance, and educational choice have become more pressing KAPC has responded by providing the following help services:

- Counselor research
- Counselor training at certificate, higher diploma and M.A. level
  - Adolescent studies and reproductive health education
- An adolescent newspaper 'Straight Talk'



- KAPC has also been instrumental in founding the Eastern and Southern Africa Counseling Association (ESACA).

### **3. Department of Community Health, University of Lagos, Nigeria**

The Department of Community Health, College of Medicine of the University of Lagos was one of the very first Departments established with the College in 1962. The start-up of the Department benefited from generous support of the Ford Foundation.

The main objective of the Department is the facilitation of the achievement of the overall goals and objectives of the College of Medicine which is to produce doctors of high quality to meet the health care needs of the Nigerian population at all levels of the health care delivery system.

Since 1980, the Department commenced a Master of Public Health Degree Programme which has remained the leading postgraduate training programme in Public Health in Nigeria and enjoys the recognition of both the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria and the National Postgraduate Medical College of Nigeria.





In pursuing the goals of the College and the Department, students are involved during their training, in community health practice and other health promotion activities. The Department is also a part of the Lagos University Teaching Hospital and through this Hospital is able to provide clinical and community services for the promotion of maternal and child health including reproductive health services.

**4. Health Systems Trust, Johannesburg, South Africa.**

Health Systems Trust is an independent non-governmental organization established in 1992 to support the transformation of the South African health system. The Trust actively supports the current and future development of a comprehensive health care system through strategies designed to promote equity and efficiency in health and health care delivery. HST conducts and supports research conducted by other organizations. It is also an advocacy organization, aiming to promote evidence-based health systems development, improve the scientific literacy of the public, media and parliamentarians and campaign for greater equity and social justice.

HST's goals are to facilitate and support district health systems development; support and commission research to foster health systems development; build South African

capacity for health systems and policy research, and actively disseminate and share information about health systems development, health care delivery and equity.

**Pan-African Advisory Council:**

The ARSRC's Advisory Council, made up of distinguished sexuality professionals from each of the four regions, has been inaugurated. The Advisory Council held its first meeting in Lagos Nigeria, from 9-13th June, 2003 and participated in the formal launching of the resource centre and interviewing of candidates who applied for the position of resource centre director.





## PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS (cont'd)

**Fig. 2 Key Issues Identified by Region**

EGYPT	KENYA	NIGERA	SOUTH AFRICA
Adolescents' need to access sexuality education through the school curriculum	Addressing sexuality in "silenced spaces" especially young people's access to factual and positive information about their sexuality	Adoption of a holistic/comprehensive approach to sexuality programming by actors in the field	Exploring interactions between sexuality and HIV/AIDS
Sexual health needs of married adolescents and women undergoing reproductive surgeries	Addressing sexuality as a lifelong experience and avoiding limiting the focus to the period of adolescence only, and	Promoting wider implementation of programmes that can effectively address sexuality and access to sexuality education	Understanding violence against women and the child sexual abuse "epidemic" being witnessed in the country
Understanding and addressing the growing practice of "secret marriages" among youth in the country	Taking sexuality discourse beyond health to broader themes of the expression of sexuality without guilt, fear or ill-health	Mobilizing wider support among audiences who may be and are opposed to sexuality programming, as well as addressing the social, religious and cultural diversities inherent in the country	Rethinking masculinities and men's socialization and Creating social space and programming to meet the needs of gays and lesbians

### **Inaugural Meeting of the**

**Advisory Council:** The meeting was held from 9-13th June 2003 and was attended by all the Council members or their representatives except for one of the members representing East Africa who was unavoidably absent.

The key issues discussed included:

1. Roles of Advisory Council Members
2. Funding of Country-Level Programmes
3. The Fellowship and Summer Sexuality Institute
4. Materials Acquisition Guidelines
5. Sub-Regional Themes and Implementing Country-Level Agenda
6. Language and Translation Issues

The Advisory Council agreed that materials produced by the resource centre would be in the three African languages of English,

French and Arabic, while recognizing the challenges and constraints that would be encountered while working to meet this objective. Similarly, it was agreed that the ARSRC Fellowship Programme and the Summer Institute will be initially conducted in English while resources will be sought to ensure that programmes are conducted in all the languages in subsequent phases of the project.

The importance of ensuring that the ARSRC's programming took cognizance of national and regional diversity was also stressed. To further guide programme implementation in line with the ARSRC's mission, the World Health Organization (WHO) definitions of Sex, Sexuality, Sexual Health and Sexual Rights (see Attachment A) were also adopted.



**Launching Ceremony:** The resource centre was officially launched on June 11, 2003 at a ceremony that attracted national and international stakeholders, renowned sexuality professionals across the continent, ARSRC Advisory Council Members, policy makers and representatives of the major media organizations in Nigeria.

Guest speaker at the occasion was Dr, Nahid Toubia, the first woman surgeon in Sudan, and President, Research Action and Information Network for Bodily Integrity of Women (RAINBO). Other speakers included Senior Programme Officer in the Ford Foundation Office for West Africa, Dr. Babatunde Ahonsi. Professor I.O. Orubuloye from Nigeria, Dr. Amal Abd - El Hadi of the New Women Research Centre, Egypt, and Dr. Lola Dare of the African Council for Sustainable Health Development reviewed Dr. Toubia's paper and provided further illumination to the issues of sexuality in Africa.

The well-attended launch was aired on primetime television in Nigeria further drawing attention to the issues of sexuality. Some

of the broadcasts featured one-on-one interviews with Advisory Council Members and they highlighted some of the key issues of concern on the African continent.

**A Unique-Africa Centred Sexuality Collection:** The ARSRC's resource materials acquisition process is set up to ensure equitable representation of each sub region in the resource collection being compiled and to ensure that the most critical and important materials are acquired.

In addition to the materials generated during the regional-level consultation meetings, the ARSRC embarked on a massive drive to



**Fig 3: What is the State of the Field of Sexuality in Africa?"**

In her keynote address titled "What is the State of the Field of Sexuality in Africa", Dr. Toubia noted that "while sexuality is very poorly addressed in academic and intellectual circles in Africa, reality has forced us to take action on problems that arise partly from neglecting to address sexuality as a matter of public concern and responsible governance".

One of the realities that the continent has had to grapple

with is the issue of the HIV/AIDS pandemic. The HIV/AIDS epidemic, Toubia said "has put sexuality - or more appropriately the need for low risk sexual behavior at the center of policy concern". But she also affirmed that sexuality "cannot and should not be equated to sexual behavior be it risky or safe". Toubia's address underscored the need to view issues of sexuality in a broader context. "Sexuality is a social, political and economic concern around which much of our traditional and modern societies are structured", Toubia said.



## PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS (cont'd)

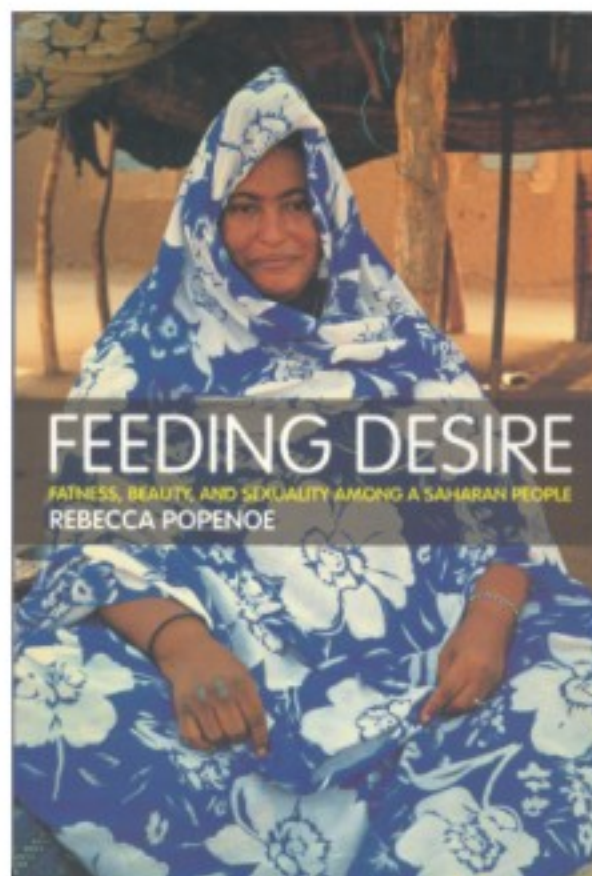
source and acquire gold standard and other critical materials in September / October 2003. The methodology used is described below:

- (1) Letters and resource material templates (see Appendix B) were sent out to key partners in the regions requesting their participation in the sourcing of the most critical materials from respective regions
- (2) Staff of the ARSRC also surfed the web using thematic headings based on a classification system generated in-house that covers all the critical areas of sexuality for the continent
- (3) Identified / suggested resources were collated and again sent to key and renowned African sexuality professionals to further prioritize and sharpen the search for the most critical resources

This process, though rigorous, is meant to ensure that the resource centre does not just duplicate materials already available elsewhere and to guarantee that the ARSRC develops a collection that is truly Africa-centred. However, while the objective is to concentrate on resources on Africa, the ARSRC aims at stocking what may be considered gold standard resources; reference materials and 'must reads' in the field of sexuality.

### **Global Dialogue /**

**Collaborations:** The ARSRC maintained active contact and involvement with all other components of the "Global Dialogue on Sexual Health and Well-Being" Initiative in order to learn from the



processes that were being implemented. Specifically, Action Health Incorporated's (AHI's) Executive Director participated in the three coordination meetings held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Cape Town, South Africa and New York, USA in March, June and October 2003, respectively.

The result of participation in these processes has been the development of a synergistic relationship as well as an opportunity to contribute to the decisions at these forums. Some of the outcomes of this level of cooperation include:

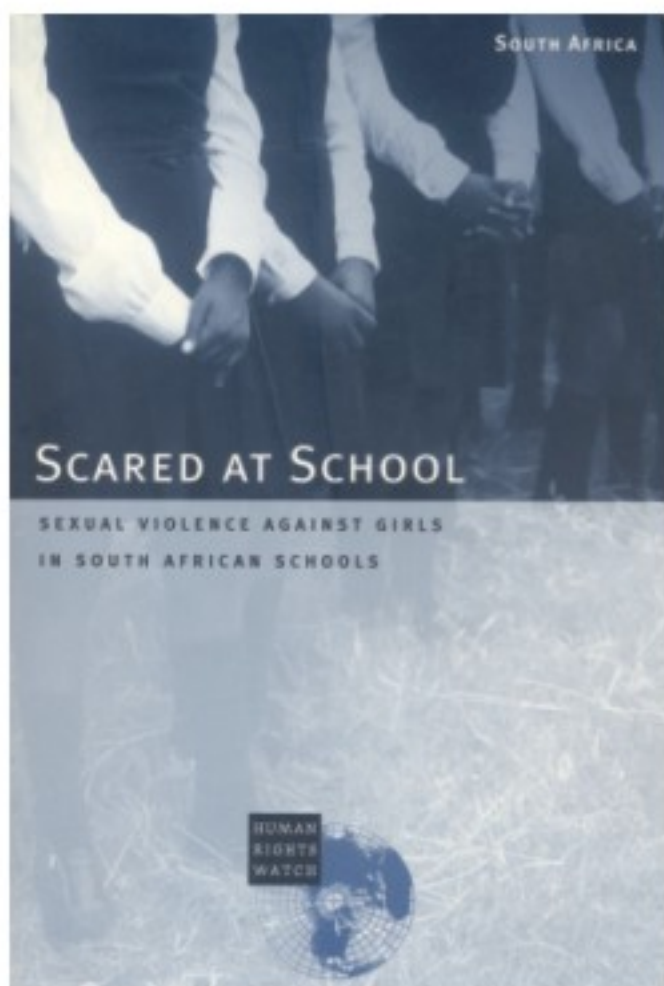
- Participation of two ARSRC Information Technology (IT) consultants, Mr. Niyi Omotoyinbo and Mr. Adedoyin



Onasanya at a meeting convened to discuss the Web / Information Technology strategy of the four sexuality resource centres. The meeting took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on March 18, 2003. During the meeting, representatives of the four resource centres, from Africa, Latin America, Asia and the United States shared experiences on the information technology component of their work. In particular, it was an opportunity to learn from the experience of the US-based resource centre in developing a functional website and to also explore areas of collaboration.

One of the recommendations that emerged from this trip was that in order to reduce overheads, the ARSRC did not necessarily need to have an in-house Webmaster. The suggestion was that the ARSRC could have an inhouse content manager who most likely would also be a staff member with knowledge of sexuality issues. The content manager would then be trained on how to edit web content and update information on the website. The need to have in place a web content management team was also emphasized in order to ensure that the continuous development of the website is not held up by the absence of one individual. The resource centre website hosting and maintenance would also be outsourced to an organization that does this as its core business, to reduce overhead costs.

- Development of a collaboration between the International Working Group (IWG) secretariat and the ARSRC wherein staff from both components of the initiative can work together to initiate the development of an African region bibliographic database on Sexuality; and on



Sexuality Professionals and relevant NGOs in the region.

### **A Modern, User-Friendly Resource Centre**

**Resource Centre facilities:** The ARSRC facility located in Lagos, Nigeria has been set up to meet the needs of today's sophisticated researcher and library user. Structures were laid down during the year to provide a modern, and work-friendly facility equipped with comfortable furniture and uninterrupted power and water supply. Also available are state-of-the-art computers all with fast Internet connectivity to the World Wide Web. The resource centre facility is cool, quiet and conducive for



## PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS (cont'd)

research and writing. The library is being set-up to enable facility users have access to computers and card catalogues that allow for stress-free, individual research. Staff are at hand to provide back-up services and respond with minimum delays to enquiries and requests made to both the physical and virtual libraries.

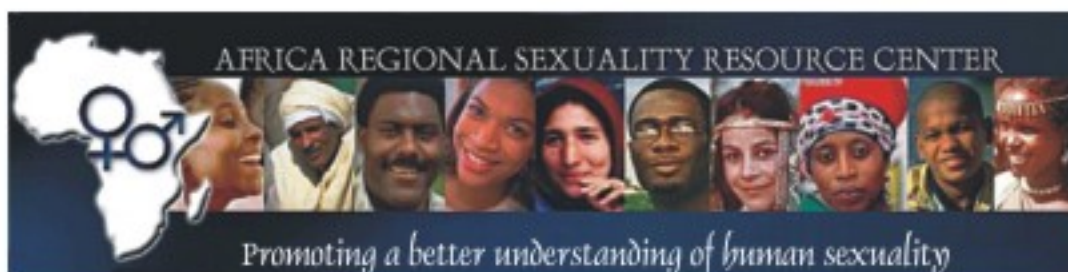
To facilitate these processes, the ARSRC contracted technical experts to provide consultancies to develop an appropriate operational policy and train staff in critical areas that will support day-to-day service provision including Cataloguing / Classification/ Abstracting /Data Entry to ensure that materials that have been ordered are professionally processed. Also to support both the physical and virtual services that the ARSRC will provide to the continent, arrangements have been made for the purchase and installation of appropriate library software and hardware that will facilitate storage of information in a variety of formats. The ALICE software was selected after a rigorous search process

because it has significant advantages over other available library software including supporting the installation of library facilities.

**ARSRC Website:** The website will serve as an information clearing house on sexuality, sexual health and rights information and will serve as ARSRC's window to the African continent and the world. It has therefore been designed to be aesthetically pleasing and inviting with colorful photos reflecting the diversity of the peoples of Africa. The domain name [www.arsrc.org](http://www.arsrc.org) has been registered and signed up for hosting and the site design has been completed.

The website has the traditional web pages such as the Home Page and others under headings including "Who We Are, Research, Opportunities, Issues in Focus, Discussion Forum, Sexuality Directory etc. More importantly, the website hosts the links to in-house library resources including critical bibliographic and other databases.





### Staffing Issues

Recruitment of Director and Other Team Members: AHI followed an rigorous process in recruitment of personnel. Management Strategies for Africa was engaged to advise on all aspects of the recruitment; define and elaborate the compensation package for the Centre Director in the light of international experience and practice. The consultant also developed comprehensive job specifications for the respective positions. The vacancies, especially the position of Director was internationally publicized among donor organizations, relevant international NGOs, United Nations agencies, individual professionals and others including relevant informal channels.

The original plan was to recruit the director first and then have the director participate in

the recruitment of the other staff. This plan had to be shelved when the recruitment of a Director ran behind schedule. All national staff have resumed work and they include the Programme Officer for Research and Documentation, Programme Officer Information Services, as well as the Programme Assistant. AHI's Executive Director Mrs. Nike O. Esiet has continued to provide technical direction to the project since its inception and the finance and administration departments of AHI oversee administrative and financial management of the centre's operations. Dr. Richmond Tiemoko a demographer with a PhD in Development Studies who currently works at the University of Sussex, UK has now been appointed to the position of Director is expected to resume work in the first quarter of 2004.

**Log on to [www.arsrc.org](http://www.arsrc.org) - your one-stop centre for sexuality, sexual health and rights information on Africa. Features include:**

- Links to selected Africa websites (as well as international links)

- Specialized news, databases, directories, chat rooms and listservs
- Calendar of events, workshops, conferences and lots more!



## CHALLENGES / OPPORTUNITIES

### Challenges

#### 4.1.1 Low Access to ICT

One challenge that clearly emerges with regard to the sub-Sahara Africa context is the problem of the gross underdevelopment of the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector which is critical to the success of a project such as the resource centre which will depend a great deal on web-based communication across the regions. In sub-Saharan Africa, access to ICT remains the advantage of very few elite. As elsewhere in the world, the numbers of those with access to the e-mail, the worldwide web and even the mass media continue to increase, but nevertheless, less rapidly in Africa. Lack of access to ICT, and in countries like Nigeria, poor electricity supply, is further compounded by high levels of illiteracy.

While the project beneficiaries for now will be largely academics, researchers and those in the NGO sector who may enjoy a reasonable level of access, effort will be made to provide hard copies of materials and to key-into distribution outlets that have wide reach. Within this context, the mass media appears to be a source of hope especially if information dissemination is strategic and planned. A major challenge will be seeking cost-effective ways to maximize use of the media and distribution outlets in the four countries. There is no doubt that networks, both informal and formal in the four countries will also provide a major source of knowledge and information gathering and dissemination.

**The ARSRC:** A Test of Knowledge/  
Information Networking in Africa:

Because of the regional scope of the project, efficient systems have to be put in place to tap the strength in e-networking and other types of networks. One of the biggest challenges lies in building trust, commitment, and ownership and to a degree, the spirit of volunteerism across cultural, social and even religious spaces. What kinds of collaborations and incentives will breed the level of cooperation required to make the Center a regional success and asset? This is a key question. Already partner institutions and individuals have been identified but there still lies the challenge of building regional and functional teams poised to respond at short notice to assignments such as:

- The sourcing and purchase of critical resource materials from the regions
- Continuous flow of communication and contributions to editorial as well as web content
- Criteria-setting, selection of Fellows as well as participants to the Summer Institute.

### Opportunities

The ARSRC Initiative has a lot going in its favor: The Centre has enjoyed the backing and financial support of Ford Foundation for an initial two years. Based on the results accomplished by the project within this period, it is anticipated that significant additional funding will follow. Thus far, current funding has allowed for the appointment of the right kind of human resource and the installation of essential operational tools such as computers, web access and access to other crucial ICT tools. The general consensus is that Africa more



than other regions urgently require the kind of services that the Centre offers.

Lack of access to researched and documented bodies of knowledge has remained the bane of many African governments, their agencies, researchers and institutions. This has often resulted in lack of planning and a tendency to continue to 're-invent the wheel', so to speak. The general consensus has been that it is easier to research on Africa using the facilities of libraries in Europe and the Americas than to do so on the continent. Essentially, the problem has not been the dearth or lack of these important resources or bodies of knowledge; rather the problem has been the absence of centers that pool together this vital information and provide prompt and user-friendly access to them when required.

So for stakeholders, the ARSRC initiative is generally felt to be a high priority and

necessary project. With this level of goodwill, the Centre is likely to enjoy the support of relevant stakeholders. Herein lies the source of its sustainability. Already, the Centre has made contact with strategic institutions and individuals in the focal countries. It is hoped that these relationships will make up for the spatial distance between the centre and its clients in the four regions.

The Fellowship Programme and the Annual Sexuality Institute planned for the second year of the project will provide the opportunity to develop more intimate and reciprocal relationships between the center and strategic stakeholders around the continent. These individuals are likely to become the centre's spokespersons and advocates to expand reach and impact of the centre's programmes.



## PAVING THE WAY FOR AN EVENTFUL 2004

Final Touches: In November and December 2003, the ARSRC worked on putting the final touches to the Centre to pave way for the opening of the Centre's doors and services to the public at the beginning of 2004. These included the following:

- Development of a Listserv of Africa Contact Persons
- Development of a survey questionnaire targeted at sexuality professionals and disseminated through the worldwide web and other networks to provide the necessary information for developing the ARSRC Database of Sexuality Professionals and NGOs working on the African continent. (See Attachment C)
- Commencement of the development of an annotated bibliography of materials sexuality, sexual health and sexual rights issues in Africa
- Announcements on the web inviting contributions to the maiden edition of the ARSRC's quarterly magazine Sexuality in Africa.

### Upcoming Events

- February 2004 : The ARSRC will host a panel discussion titled Research and Capacity Building for the Promotion of Sexual Health and Well-Being at the "Advancing Sexual Health and Rights in Africa Congress" in Johannesburg South Africa scheduled for February 25-28, 2004
- April 2004 : The first edition of the ARSRC's quarterly newsletter Sexuality in Africa - will be launched which will be disseminated via the web and also in hard copies
- July 2004: Sexuality Leadership Development Fellowship. Brings together, promising young African professionals drawn from Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa, to facilitate the development of a new generation of leaders in the field of sexuality.
- September 2004 : First Annual Sexuality Institute. A forum to share ideas on cutting edge issues and set agenda for middle and senior level professionals working in sexuality and allied fields

## ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS



**Gamal I. Serour (Egypt)**

**Amal Abd El Hadi (Egypt)**

**Don Balmer (Kenya)**

**Wangoi Njau (Kenya)**

**Nomonde Bam (South Africa)**

**Mary Crewe (South Africa)**

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